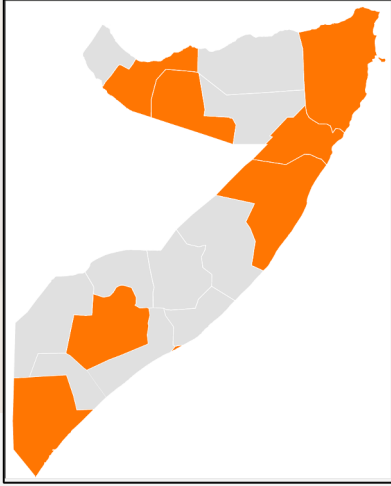


**SOMALIA AREAS OF OPERATION:  
DURABLE SOLUTIONS****CONTEXT**

Internal displacement in Somalia remains one of the most complex, prolonged humanitarian and development challenges in the world.

- Displacement is massive, protracted and concentrated in urban areas.
- IDPs are the most impoverished demographic group in urban centres.
- 3.8 m Somali people are internally displaced, alongside about 7,388 returning refugees from Kenya and other countries (UNHCR April 2023).

**OUTCOMES/IMPACT**

In 2023, NRC supported 132,334 people through durable solutions programmes, including:

- People assisted to secure land tenure.
- Individuals (50% female) relocated via government-led processes to integrated settlements equipped with basic services, and livelihoods support.
- Individuals supported with improved basic services and housing.
- Community action plans established to address displacement-related vulnerabilities.

For the latest updates, please visit:

[nrc.no/Somalia](https://nrc.no/Somalia)

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## HOW WE SUPPORT: DURABLE SOLUTIONS

Achieving durable solutions for displacement affected communities means they are no longer in need of protection or assistance related to their displacement, or these needs have been fulfilled by other actors. We support processes and programmes across Somalia to help achieve this goal.

### NRC's durable solutions approach

In Somalia, the search for durable solutions for the millions of displaced people is one of the greatest challenges facing the country. Addressing it requires truly integrated and multi-sectoral investment.

To achieve this, we promote three processes: safe and dignified returns and (re)integration, and local integration.

Our multi-year, multi-sectoral programmes are designed to ensure that displacement affected communities no longer have specific needs related to their displacement and can enjoy their rights as citizens without discrimination.

Reflecting on the needs, our approach focuses on strengthening government capacities to lead on durable solutions and implement area-based projects that improve land access to shelter and tenure security in urban and peri-urban areas; increasing access to sustainable basic services; promoting self-reliance for displacement-affected communities; and investing in preparedness activities to mitigate further displacement.

### Who we support

In Somalia, we support internally displaced persons, returnees, refugees, and vulnerable host communities, and have implemented durable solutions programmes in urban areas in Mogadishu, Kismayo, Baidoa, Garowe, Bossaso, Galkayo, Hargeisa and Burao.

## How NRC's efforts change lives

Since 2017, over 583,117 people (with 132,334 people in 2023) have benefited from our durable solutions support, and improved access to basic services. We use a range of tools and approaches, including:

- **Facilitating land tenure security:** Land tenure lies at the heart of durable solutions, specifically for displaced persons whose intentions and choices to return home rely on land access. NRC empowers local authorities to secure land tenure for displaced populations.
- **Access to sustainable services through area-based programming:** Through an integrated service approach and improved government-led architecture, NRC works across with humanitarian, development, peacebuilding, and private sector actors to implement area-based durable solutions programmes. This has improved access to housing, water, sanitation, education, and livelihoods.
- **Better monitoring, data and systems:** NRC implemented [forced evictions](#), and [displacement and protection risks](#), tracking helps prevent housing, land and property rights violations and protection incidents. Additionally, NRC contributes to development of innovative tools to measure complex processes, including sustainable (re)integration.
- **Shelter provision:** We focus on improving living conditions through settlement planning or re-planning, supplying socially acceptable transitional and/or permanent shelters, and building linked systems like solar street lighting as part of integrated urban regeneration.
- **Common vision for durable solutions:** National principles to guide durable solutions were endorsed by the Federal Government of Somalia in 2019. NRC works to put these principles into practice: Government-led; Area-based; Collective and Comprehensive; Participatory and Community-based; Rights- and Needs-based; and Sensitive to Gender, Age, Disabilities and Marginalisation.
- **Prioritising community needs via Community Action Plans:** We help local authorities prioritise responses according to community priorities and needs via participatory, inclusive processes. NRC and other partners supported municipalities in Baidoa and Kismayo to consolidate these into integrated, district-level plans.
- **Legal protection:** We support joint efforts towards new policies and legislation that ensure displacement affected communities can better enjoy legal protection. Somalia has made significant steps towards the adoption of displacement related policies and legislation.

While significant challenges remain, there has been notable progress towards a common durable solutions agenda in Somalia. This includes the development of a national strategy, increased engagement and coordination by stakeholders, a strengthened protective environment for displaced populations, large-scale successes with government-led relocation/resettlement schemes, and innovative examples of longer-term solutions – providing hope for the millions impacted by displacement in Somalia.



### “WE ARE NOT RETURNEES OR DISPLACED PEOPLE, WE ARE RESIDENTS.”

Maryan, a 36-year-old solo mother of three, fled Somalia's civil war to Kenya's Dabaab refugee camp.

In 2017 she returned but struggled to find somewhere to settle. She found herself residing in a tent in an informal camp, facing poor conditions.

Fortunately, Maryan was provided one of 734 NRC-supported permanent homes, with 180m<sup>2</sup> plots of land, private latrines and title deeds, in Midnimo, Kismayo – a new integrated settlement for 11,000 people.

NRC also provided communal water points, schools, and a legal aid centre, while other agencies built a police station, additional homes, health clinics, a market centre, mosques and shallow water wells.

Finally, Maryan and her family have found a durable solution, and a place to call home.



### Our partners



**DANWADAAG**  
Towards Durable Solutions to Displacement