

2020

IOM SOMALIA

PROGRAMMATIC

OVERVIEW



SOMALIA

 IOM  
UN MIGRATION



**Front-cover photo:** A group of residents from Barwaaqo 2 attend an information session with IOM in the community centre constructed in 2019 in Baidoa. © IOM/Foresight 2020

**Photo above:** A migrant mother and her child come to the IOM Migration Response Centre in Hargeisa to get health assistance and support. © IOM/Muse Mohamed 2020

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IOM SOMALIA

# 2020 OVERVIEW

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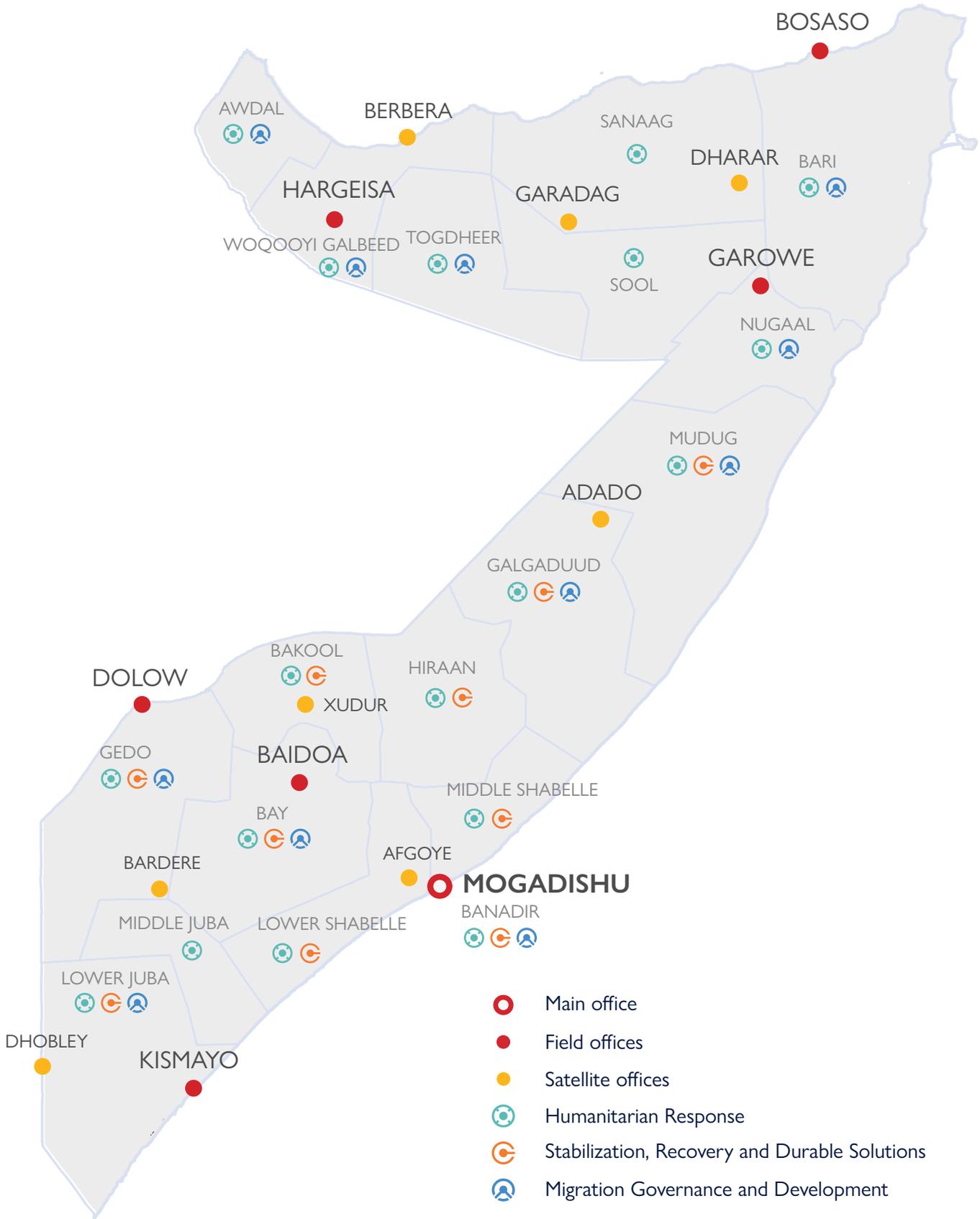
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# IOM'S PRESENCE IN SOMALIA IN 2020



# 1/ IOM SOMALIA

Established in 2006, IOM Somalia has set a strong record on the delivery of frontline services to crisis-affected populations, while steadily developing models and partnerships for longer term recovery and migration governance.

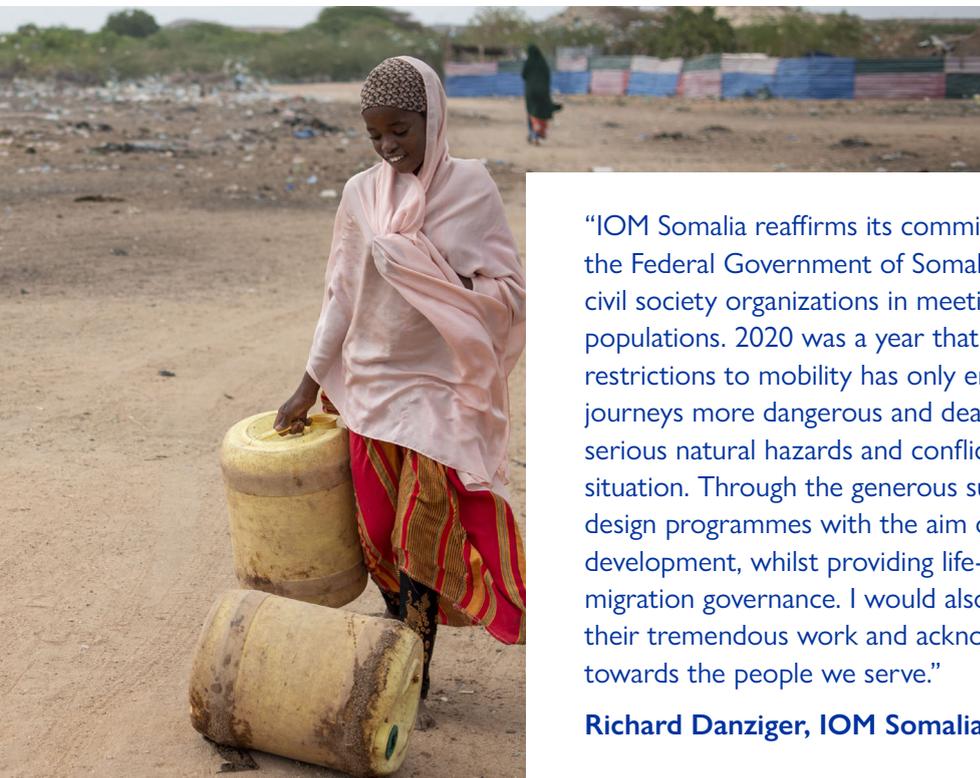
For the past 15 years, IOM Somalia has committed itself to the principle of humane and dignified treatment of crisis-affected populations in an ever-changing environment, while strengthening partnerships for improved resilience, recovery and migration governance.

Somalia has among the most complex migration landscapes in the world. Millions of Somalis have endured decades of crises driven by persistent insecurity and recurrent natural hazards, which have contributed to a constant flux of individuals from their communities. 2020 was a particularly difficult year for Somalia due to the triple threat of COVID-19, flooding and the desert locust infestation. The COVID-19 preparedness and response dominated most of the interventions in the country, whilst the humanitarian situation remained critical due to recurrent climatic shocks, ongoing conflict, and poor access to basic services and livelihood opportunities. These crises have forced people to be internally displaced, with over 2.9 million considered to be most vulnerable as many of them have exhausted their coping mechanism. On the other hand, thousands of Somalis are returning from the diaspora

and contributing to ongoing efforts in sustaining and rebuilding the country.

Furthermore, Somalia is a key source and, to some extent, destination country for migrants in the East and Horn of Africa, as well as the main transit country for migrants from Ethiopia en route to Yemen and onward to the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries. Every year, the thousands of Somalis and migrants who make hazardous journeys along regional migration routes are exposed to severe protection risks and violation of human rights.

To address the overall migration challenges in Somalia, IOM works closely with the Federal Government of Somalia, regional authorities, the UN, donors and civil society by implementing programmes through three pillars: (1) Preparedness and humanitarian response; (2) Long term recovery and durable solutions; and (3) Migration governance and development. With over 650 staff, IOM Somalia operates from its main office in Mogadishu, seven field offices and eight satellite offices, as well as the Nairobi Support Office in Kenya.



A young girl uses her feet to roll a jerrycan full of water home at the Kabasa IDP camp on the outskirts of Dolow, Somalia.  
© IOM/Tobin Jones 2020

“IOM Somalia reaffirms its commitment to working in partnership with the Federal Government of Somalia, regional authorities, humanitarian and civil society organizations in meeting the needs of mobile and vulnerable populations. 2020 was a year that ushered in new challenges. The rise of restrictions to mobility has only emboldened smugglers and turned many journeys more dangerous and deadly for migrants. This coupled with serious natural hazards and conflict displacement has created a tenuous situation. Through the generous support of our donors, IOM continues to design programmes with the aim of achieving sustainable, transformational development, whilst providing life-saving critical services and strengthening migration governance. I would also like to thank the IOM Somalia team for their tremendous work and acknowledge their commitment and dedication towards the people we serve.”

**Richard Danziger, IOM Somalia Chief of Mission**



A health worker stands at the entrance of the IOM supported maternal and child health centre in Garowe with a thermometer to check incoming patients for COVID-19 symptoms. © IOM/Tobin Jones 2020

# 2/ MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS



**491 IDP SITES** supported by IOM in Baidoa (282), Kismayo (99), and Dolow (110)



**182,190 CHILDREN** screened for MALNUTRITION



**196,178 MOVEMENTS** TRACKED from February to December 2020



**USD 1,585,000** Total TRANSFER VALUE through cash based interventions



**1,725,849 INDIVIDUALS** assisted with SAFE WATER from new and rehabilitated boreholes and shallow wells



**18 CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE** completed and benefiting **1,436,859 INDIVIDUALS**



**252 WOMEN** and **279 MEN** affected by conflict supported through rehabilitation centres



**118 SOMALI DIASPORA EXPERTS** assigned to institutions



**22 BORDER POSTS** supported 10 airports, 5 seaports, 7 land posts



**165 RETURNEES** assisted with IN-KIND and CASH SUPPORT for individual micro business start-up

IOM Somalia continued to support the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS), guided by the National Development Plan to respond to the needs of mobile populations and Somali communities. Despite the challenges posed by COVID-19, IOM was able to maintain and adapt its programming in support of the governmental response, while maintaining IOM's core humanitarian activities in the country.

The activities and achievements of 2020 are to the credit of the hundreds of IOM Somalia staff members that have worked tirelessly together with government counterparts and humanitarian partners. This ensured continuity of critical programmes to address the most urgent needs of mobile populations and communities in hard-to-reach areas.

## COVID-19 Response

To ensure that Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), migrants, communities in hard-to-reach locations, returnees and vulnerable populations were assisted, IOM built its response on existing partnerships with relevant actors across Somalia. The response aimed to address cross-cutting humanitarian and development needs through expansion of its programmes designed to engage directly with communities.

One of the most notable activities undertaken included the donation of ventilators and personal protective equipment, as well as the placement of medical professionals, to set up an Intensive Care Unit at De Martino Hospital, the main referral public hospital in the country for the treatment of COVID-19 patients. IOM

## New Chief of Mission

In June 2020, IOM Somalia welcomed **Mr. Richard Danziger, IOM Somalia's newly appointed Chief of Mission.** Mr. Danziger joined IOM Somalia with over 28 years of experience in the humanitarian and development sector.

"I am honoured to join the IOM Somalia team and will continue to support the efforts taken by the Government of Somalia to deliver the National Development Plan and to address migration challenges, including responding to humanitarian needs in the country, whilst finding durable solutions to protracted displacement."

was also the technical lead for the psychosocial support and the points of entry pillars. IOM reached over 35,000 people with COVID-19 information at seven Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) and trained border and health officials on screening, detection, prevention and control, as well as on COVID-19 and humanitarian border management to enhance prevention, cooperation and strengthen capacity during emergency crisis. Furthermore, IOM deployed psychosocial support specialists to provide technical support in the country's COVID-19 response.

Beyond the health consequences, the COVID-19 led to a major socio-economic crisis, especially impacting the country's informal economy which subsequently further exacerbated the vulnerabilities of displacement affected communities and other vulnerable groups. This included a reduction in remittances from the diaspora, a lifeline for thousands of families in Somalia - as many as 40 per cent of households in Somalia are heavily dependent on remittances.

Woman-owned businesses have been especially hard-hit by COVID-19, with disruptions in supply chains and reductions of cash flow and customers. In response, IOM partnered with Somalia's Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (MOLSA) to support 185 highly vulnerable women-led micro and small enterprises (MSEs) impacted by COVID-19 in Mogadishu with cash grants

and business training. For a more detailed summary of IOM's COVID-19 response in Somalia during 2020, please read the [COVID-19 response annual report](#).



IOM conducts a community outreach activity to inform stranded migrants and the community in Bosaso on COVID-19. © IOM 2020

## Humanitarian Situation

The humanitarian context of 2020 was one of concurrent crisis due to the triple threat of COVID-19, desert locusts and seasonal floods that risked reversing years of development gains in the country. Close to 840,000 people were displaced and more than six million people were affected by massive flooding during the Gu and Deyr rainy seasons that hit Somalia's central regions. Rainfall patterns are expected to be more unpredictable and increase their intensity in the coming years. This was already observed in 2020, when Cyclone Gati hit the northern parts of the country in November, bringing more than a year worth of rainfall in only two days, killing eight people and affecting over 60,000

in Puntland, 90 per cent of whom were internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees.

The rain also provided a breeding ground for the desert locust, and Somalia witnessed the worst invasion in over 15 years, threatening food security and livelihoods of thousands of people. Furthermore, with 2.9 million individuals still displaced in the country, the majority in Mogadishu, COVID-19 continues to pose an additional challenge in an already fragile context. Overcrowding conditions make practicing physical distancing to be nearly impossible and the disease could further hinder access to basic services, leaving the population highly vulnerable.



Migrant children at the Ethiopian Community Centre in Hargeisa. Children in the centre reported to have been exploited by smugglers and abandoned on the road after their money was taken away. © IOM/Muse Mohamed 2020

## Stranded Migrants

When COVID-19 became a worldwide health issue and governments shut down their borders, many migrants around the world, including those in the Horn of Africa, became stranded unable to continue or go back to their home countries. A lack of livelihood opportunities coupled with a widespread xenophobic and discriminatory narrative against migrants has created obstacles for these individuals to access essential services, including health, water and food.

Thousands of migrants, mainly from Ethiopia, continued to embark onto dangerous irregular migration journeys across the region and beyond. Migrants often travel with nothing except the will of finding a better future and are exposed to severe protection risks, including psychological abuses and extortion. Most of these migrants usually enrol into temporary jobs along the route to finance the transportation that will take them to the countries such as Yemen or Libya and onwards to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia or Europe respectively.

In 2020, an increase of border patrols, as well as a lack of casual labour opportunities, left hundreds of migrants stranded across Somalia, especially in popular transit cities such as Bosaso. Although the exact numbers of stranded migrants are unknown, IOM mapped internal routes of migration flows within Somaliland and Puntland along the Eastern Route and how they were affected by mobility restrictions. The information gathered was instrumental to understanding the impact that COVID-19 had on migration routes and enabled IOM to better design its response towards migrants.

Mobility trends continued in 2020: IOM observed 196,178 cross-border movements at 7 Flow Monitoring Points along the Somali borders in 2020, albeit smaller numbers in comparison to 2019 when IOM observed a total of 260,073 movements, the informal migration routes remained open.

During 2020, IOM assisted 159 Somali migrants to safely return to Somalia from countries such as Libya, Tanzania, Germany or the Islamic Republic of Iran among others.

While there have been some commendable measures taken to ensure the inclusion of stranded migrants in planning for the containment of COVID-19 and to ensure the protection of their rights and well-being, much more remains to be done.

IOM will continue to advocate for the inclusion of all migrants, including stranded migrants, regardless of nationality or migratory status, in all national COVID-19 response plans and advocates against quarantine centres, specifically for migrants and refugees, as a measure to enable discriminatory policies of arrest, encampment and/or detention.

## Paris Peace Forum

On November 2020, IOM attended the third edition of the Paris Peace Forum to present its groundbreaking project on Women, Peace and Security which is part of broader peacebuilding efforts in Somalia. Through this project, IOM engaged Somali women networks and organizations to support 150 women who made the risky decision to disengage from violent extremist groups.

The project, funded by the UN Peacebuilding Fund in Somalia and implemented in collaboration with the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia, actively contributed to strengthening governance structures in Somalia and simultaneously promoted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs 5, 10, 8, 6).

The event in France drew more than 10,000 participants, including heads of state, international organizations and civil society representatives.

# 3/ HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE



### 3/ HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

## Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)

IOM improves the living conditions and protection of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in sites and settlements and ensures equitable access to services and assistance of all persons in need in the regions of Kismayo, Dolow and Baidoa. IOM is the co-lead of the CCCM Cluster in Somalia.



**491**

**IDP SITES**  
supported by IOM in Baidoa (282), Kismayo (99), and Dolow (110)



**15,877**

**COMPLAINTS RECEIVED,**  
through the Complaints and Feedback Mechanism (CFM)



**5,945**

**INDIVIDUALS** reached  
with capacity building training



**207**

**ASSESSMENTS**  
conducted for IDP sites in Baidoa (66), Kismayo (64), Dolow (60), CCCM Cluster (17)

### CCCM Cluster

IOM is the co-chair of the CCCM Cluster in Somalia. In 2020, CCCM partners focused on delivering the following core objectives to IDPs living in IDP sites: strengthening safe access to multi-sectorial services at site level through improved site management and coordination; improving living conditions of displaced people through site development, care and maintenance and decongestion initiatives; and strengthening community self-management and access to information for displaced populations.

In 2020, the CCCM cluster held a total of 16 trainings and workshops for CCCM partners while achieving a new high in active CCCM partners with a total of 16 operating agencies. In total, 1,270,000 IDPs were reached by CCCM partners spanning a 1,009 IDP sites across Somalia. Under the cluster's leadership, CCCM partners commenced use of standardized tools such as the service map, site monitoring activity, safety audit and complaints feedback mechanism (CFM) with such operations occurring in a total of 21 districts.

### Forced Evictions

IOM conducted two eviction mapping exercises in Baidoa and two in Kismayo in 2020. IOM collected information from each site to understand the land tenure status, type of agreement and length of the agreement. When sites were deemed at high risk of eviction, IOM worked with local authorities and protection partners to find solutions for affected families. The lack of land tenure and the high risk of forced evictions continued to challenge the ability of partners to improve living conditions in sites.

sites to mark the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, and trained women on how to prevent GBV, report and access care, reaching a total of 1,110 people in the three locations.

### Improving safety in IDP sites

In 2020, IOM continued its Gender-Based Violence (GBV) referral services in IDP sites. Furthermore, in coordination with protection partners, IOM rolled out the 16 days of activism campaign in Baidoa, Kismayo and Dolow between November and December 2020. IOM conducted awareness raising campaigns on GBV in IDP

IOM conducted four safety audits in South West State, one in Kismayo and one in Dolow. They enabled humanitarian actors to observe, understand and evaluate site level protection and GBV risks associated to the camp layout, camp infrastructures and services such WASH, shelter, health, nutrition, education as well as safety, security and other services.

Additionally, IOM rolled out 135 community clean-up campaigns in Baidoa, Kismayo and Dolow to raise awareness to residents about the importance of hygiene and to encourage communities to take collective responsibilities in keeping the sites clean.

## Community Feedback Mechanism and Hotline

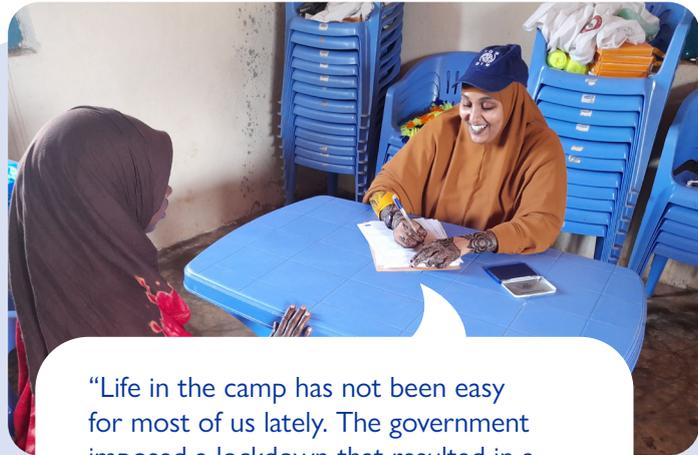
A total of nine information centres continued to be operational in Baidoa, two in Kismayo and two in Dollow. The centres received complaints and feedback from the community members regarding the services provided in the sites. IOM received 15,877 cases of different nature and addressed 87 per cent of the cases through referring and coordinating with humanitarian service providers. A complaint's data base was established and follow up was made to ensure all cases were responded.

Furthermore, IOM set up a toll-free emergency hotline to complement the help desk in IDP sites. This has avoided possible gaps in communication between the aid agencies and vulnerable families during the health crisis despite movement restrictions.

### Data collection

IOM conducted two IDP site verification exercises in Baidoa, Kismayo and Dollow respectively, in close collaboration with partner agencies and local authorities. The site verification exercise was carried out with the objective of highlighting the total number of active IDP sites in a district, in addition to collecting gender and age disaggregated population data.

Additionally, IOM conducted one service mapping exercise per month in Baidoa, Kismayo and Dollow which is to be updated and analysed by camp management partners and humanitarian partners. The mapping provides a comprehensive understanding of which actors are operating in different sections of the IDP site so that any gaps can be identified and addressed



“Life in the camp has not been easy for most of us lately. The government imposed a lockdown that resulted in a lack of livelihood opportunities. I couldn't work or support my family for months.”

### New Hotline Provides a Lifeline to Families Displaced in Somalia

When displaced individuals like Madina arrive to an IDP site, the first place where they seek help or information is at an information centre located within their settlement. IOM runs 14 information centres in major displacement sites in the cities of Doolow, Kismayo and Baidoa. These centres have greatly improved the community's access to information about services available from IOM and partners and have played a key role since the outbreak of the pandemic.

[Read full story here.](#)

### Flood response

IOM built a drainage system of 6,051m to protect 67 IDP sites from the flash floods in Isha village, Baidoa. IOM also continued flood mitigation activities in other IDP sites in Baidoa and conducted early warning awareness raising on potential flood impacts. IOM supported flood prone IDP sites by establishing and rehabilitating drainage systems to avert flash floods. See the before and after [here](#).

Movements tracked from January to September 2020:

#### BAIDOA IDP Sites

7,167  
People ENTERED

1,349  
People EXITED

[MTTs dashboard](#)

#### KISMAYO IDP Sites

2,372  
People ENTERED

136  
People EXITED

[MTTs dashboard](#)

#### DOLLOW IDP Sites

3,107  
People ENTERED

234  
People EXITED

[MTTs dashboard](#)

### 3/ HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

# Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)

IOM Somalia Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) strives to provide localized, up-to-date information on the basic needs of the target population, cross border mobility, displacement figures and trends in drought affected areas.



## Mobility Tracking

In 2020, as part of the Mobility Tracking (MT) component of the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), a baseline assessment was completed for the entire country. Through this desk review, 11,373 settlements were assessed to collect data on population categories, reasons for displacement and type of settlement. Download the report [here](#).

Additionally, a second assessment was rolled out to provide information based on the 'stocks' of various population categories as identified in the first assessment. Through this exercise, IOM assessed 4,221 settlements throughout Hiran, Lower Shabelle, Middle Shabelle, Bay and Bakool using DTM's methodology on data collection.

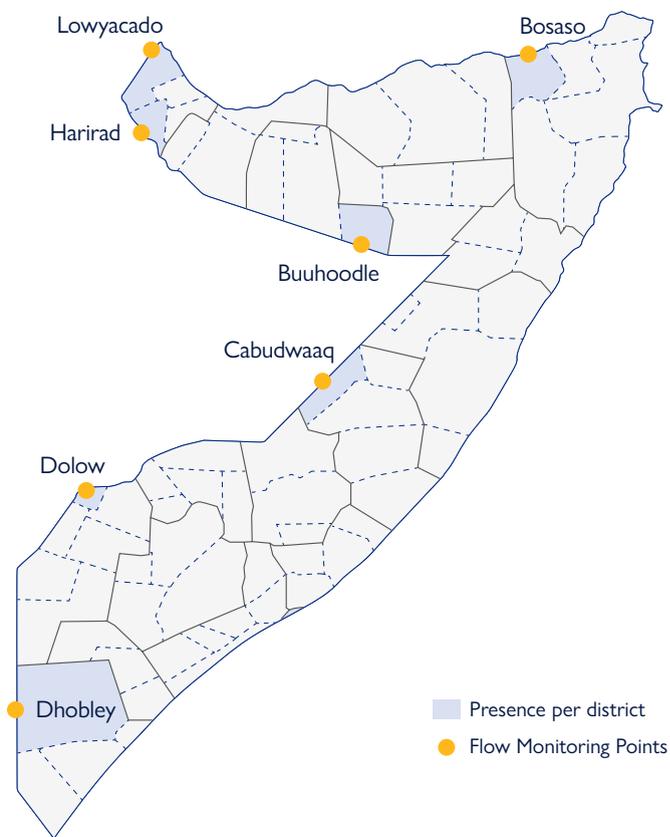
These studies were followed by the Multi-Sectoral Location Assessment (MSLA) in Hiran, Lower Shabelle and Middle Shabelle, which focused on data collection based on the needs and gaps faced by each sector and settlement. During this exercise a total of 47 enumerators were trained on data collection tools and DTM methodology. The report can be found [here](#).

## Flow Monitoring

DTM published a weekly flow monitoring dashboard in 2020 with data collected from seven Flow Monitoring Points (FMP) in Dolow, Cabdudwaq, Bosaso, Haridad, Lowycado, Dhobley, and Buuhodle through the registration of migrants crossing border points and surveys. The reports included information on COVID-19 such as prevalence of vulnerabilities, awareness level, persons on the move above 60 years old among others.

All FMP reports can be found [here](#).

### DTM OPERATIONS



IOM enumerators collect data from people crossing the border between Kenya and Somalia in Dhobley © IOM/Foresight 2020



## High Level Panel on Internal Displacement

The UN Secretary General created a High-Level Panel (HLP) on internal displacement to produce recommendations for the prevention and response to internal displacement. In Somalia, IOM and UNCHR supported the consultations with IDPs. IOM, through a partnership with the Protection Cluster conducted a data collection and analysis report for the High-Level Panel (HLP) on internal displacement. [Link](#).

## Coordination and Partnerships

IOM was appointed as the UN technical lead to support the Federal Government of Somalia with Points of Entries (POEs) to respond to the current pandemic. Between April and May of 2020, IOM undertook a POEs baseline assessment with the aim of obtaining empirical data regarding the current capacity at each POE. The resulting report can be found [here](#).

DTM was elected co-chair for the Information Management and Assessment Working Group (IMAWG) and played a significant role in revising and updating the numbers of IDP population in Somalia. This unique position enabled IOM to spearhead the development and implementation of the IDP road map and data sharing agreements among the members of the working group.

Furthermore, in coordination with the CCCM Cluster and other humanitarian partners, IOM published the Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) assessment on COVID-19. Key findings from round 1 are available [here](#) while for round 2 can be read [here](#).



IOM's DTM team shares information on COVID-19 with communities living in the border in Dhobley. © IOM

A decline of movements was observed between March 2020 and April 2020. This was a decrease of 60 per cent compared to 2019, when most countries closed its borders.

[Find out more through DTM Somalia Annual Report](#)



IOM's DTM enumerators collect information from migrants who are crossing the border in Dhobley. © IOM/Foresight 2020

### 3/ HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

# Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Adequate access to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) is essential to prevent dehydration and reduce the risk of water-related diseases such as diarrhoea, cholera and other potential outbreaks. IOM Somalia WASH programme focuses on the immediate provision of WASH services to affected populations across Somalia whilst IOM works closely with the government to identify sustainable water solutions to address acute water needs in the country.



**690,246 INDIVIDUALS** assisted with safe water from rehabilitated shallow wells

**1,035,603 INDIVIDUALS** assisted with safe water from new and rehabilitated boreholes

**135,407,903 LITRES** of clean safe water provided per month from shallow wells

Emergency water trucking:



**165,864 INDIVIDUALS** assisted  
**19,001,000 LITRES** provided

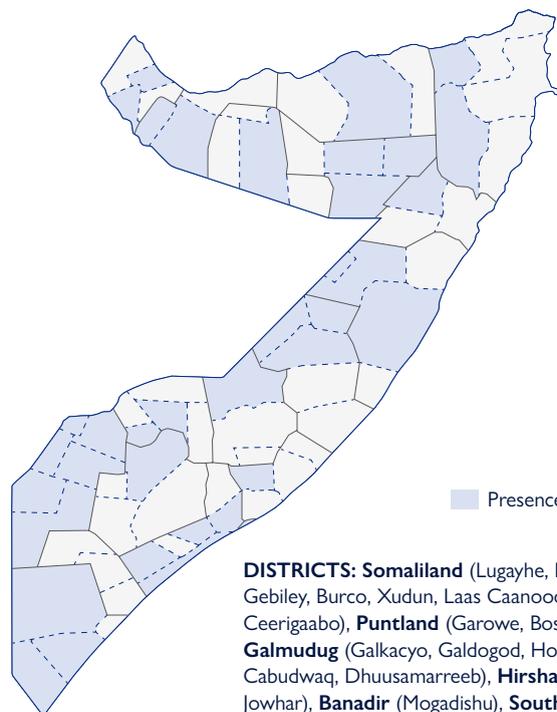


**56,115 INDIVIDUALS** gained access to latrines (1,742 constructed and 1,215 rehabilitated)



**1,258 HAND WASHING** facilities installed

## WASH OPERATIONS



**DISTRICTS:** Somaliland (Lugayhe, Borama, Hargeisa, Gebiley, Burco, Xudun, Laas Caanood, Taleex, Ceerigaabo), Puntland (Garowe, Bosaso, Qardho), Galmudug (Galkacyo, Galdogod, Hobyo, Cadaado, Cabudwaq, Dhuusamarreeb), Hirshabelle (Belet Weyne, Jowhar), Banadir (Mogadishu), South West (Afgooye, Marka, Sablaale, Baidoa, Waajid, Xudur, Qoryooley), Jubaland (Kismayo, Badhaadhe, Afmadow, Bardheere, Ceel Waaq, Garbaahaarey, Belet Xaawo, Luuq, Dolow).

## Anticipatory Action Project

IOM, in collaboration with UNICEF, FAO and WFP, implemented an innovative Anticipatory Action Project in Somalia funded by the United Nations Central Emergency Relief Fund (CERF). This unique approach intended to mitigate the impact of an unfolding emergency and deliver more effective, timely and dignified humanitarian assistance to vulnerable communities in anticipation of the compounding effects of the triple threat: desert locusts, COVID-19 and flooding. IOM implemented its activities in three regional states identified by UN OCHA as the most vulnerable, namely Bakool, Lower Juba, Lower Shabelle, Galgaduud and Mudug regions.

These interventions mitigated potential water scarcity, prevented internal displacements and reduced the threat of disease outbreaks. IOM's monitoring and evaluation showed that families from the targeted communities felt less overwhelmed and anxious by saving resources. Moreover, at the community level, the intervention contributed to the reduction of disputes related to water resources, particularly between the nomad population that fetch water and the water point operators over water payment.

## Anticipatory action project highlights:



**88,200 INDIVIDUALS** reached



**10 BOREHOLES** rehabilitated in Bakool, Galgaduud and Mudug regions



**30 NON-MOTORIZED WELLS** and **8 MOTORIZED WELLS** constructed in Lower Shabelle, Juba and Bakool



**14,500 HOUSEHOLDS** reached in IDP sites and communities with hygiene promotion activities

## Improved Access to Water and Sanitation

IOM delivered safe water to 32,400 individuals residing in Baidoa IDPs sites, including those affected by forced eviction and floods in Barwaaqo 2. Families received around 15 litres per day per individual through temporary emergency water trucking.

IOM facilitated improved hygienic conditions at 435 Ventiled Improved Pit (VIP) latrines equipped with handwashing facilities in Luuq, Dolow and Bardhere IDPs sites, ensuring access to about 1,800 vulnerable families.

A total of 101 water user committee members, water technicians and water monitors were trained throughout the project implementation: specifically, 34 in Bardhere, 34 in Dolow and 33 in Luuq. The training focused on the use of the water systems and sanitation facilities, and how to manage the community water infrastructures while at the same time building their resilience and ownership.

## Flood Response

Riverine communities living along the Juba and Shabelle rivers faced devastating flash flooding in 2020, displacing over 840,000 people since the start of the Gu rainy season.

IOM provided access to clean and safe water, sanitation and hygiene to vulnerable families residing in Gedo, Galmudug and Qardho regions.



**26,428** INDIVIDUALS received temporary water through voucher



**2** BOREHOLES in and **23** SHALLOW WELLS rehabilitated



Over **12,400** HYGIENE KITS distributed to **74,400** households AFFECTED BY THE FLOODING



**74,400** INDIVIDUALS received a water treatment tablet



“For quite some time we have been around Dungoranyo and drunk from this well. This is good for our lives; we drink from it, and our animals drink from it.”

#LinkedByWater - Video series by IOM and AfDB

### Episode 2: The nomadic camel herder

Nomadic pastoralist move seasonally in search of water, grazing lands and better livelihoods. But many nomadic herders in Somalia are witnessing how climate change is threatening their lifestyle. “The climate is getting worse and worse,” says Jama Ali Abdi Salan, a nomadic man who lives with his family, camels and goats.

Severe weather conditions are forcing regular grazing routes to become unusable which forces herders like Jama to move their livestock to new areas. Jama’s livelihood depends on his livestock, but the recent prolonged droughts have taken many of it, and his lifestyle is becoming increasingly difficult.

“Many nomad men who were here before live in cities now. Only Allah knows what the future holds for us.”

Jama visits the borehole constructed by IOM in Dungoranyo every four days so that he can draw the water needed for his animals.

[Watch all videos here.](#)

## COVID-19 Response

IOM scaled up COVID-19 awareness raising campaigns and hygiene promotion activities in 2020, and reached more than 465,000 individuals across Somalia. IOM trained 126 hygiene promoters and more than 40 community mobilizers were identified in all the regions to raise awareness on COVID-19 preventive measures. According to the Knowledge, Attitude and Practice assessment conducted in November 2020, IOM hygiene promoters and community mobilizers were reported as the most common source of information about COVID-19 as well as the most trusted by the beneficiaries. Other communication channels included targeted household visits, Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials and FM radio broadcasts.

### 3/ HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

## Migration, Environment and Climate Change (MECC)

IOM is at the forefront of operational, research, policy and advocacy efforts, seeking to bring environmental migration to the heart of international, regional and national concerns, in collaboration with its Member States, observers and partners.

Field research was conducted in Jubaland and South West State throughout 2020 with communities in rural and urban areas to better address climate change as a driver of displacement, and identify climate adaptive solutions to displacement in Somalia. The research identified policy recommendations and specific areas of interventions to inform durable solutions to displacement and climate change adaptation interventions in urban areas. The report can be found [here](#).

Three community-based livelihood interventions were implemented in Hirshabelle, Banaadir and Somaliland,

that focused on climate-smart agriculture and livestock management, waste-for-profit and reforestation. These types of interventions help to foster social cohesion between migrant returnees and their communities of return.

To contribute to reforestation in Somalia, and to contribute to the reduction of degraded land in arid and semiarid areas, a tree-planting activity was included as part of borehole construction activities. Over 2,000 trees were planted in the vicinity of 12 boreholes in Galmudug and Puntland states.

### Climate Change Drives Displacement of Thousands of Vulnerable People in Somalia

This year's heavy rainfall combined with the protracted conflict, the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 and the upsurge of the desert locust crisis have affected the livelihoods of an estimated 200,000 people. Moreover, flash floods that occurred at the start of year affected an estimated 1.6 million people and displaced over half a million people across the country.

Many of the newly displaced families are now living in overcrowded and congested sites like Kabasa. They have little protection from natural hazards and endure poor hygiene and sanitation conditions. In July 2018, IOM expanded the displacement site in Kabasa to accommodate the increasing influx of displaced persons — a trend that continues to this day.

IOM has been assisting displaced families affected by climate change and conflict since the start of its Somalia operations in 2006.



"Here, the climate can change instantly. Suddenly its hot then suddenly it is dry, with uneven rainfall and frequent drought."

In response to this year's floods, IOM provided shelter, water and sanitation support to the affected families. Through a cash-based intervention (CBI) and hygiene kits distribution, IOM reached 12,000 individuals. They received vouchers to purchase shelter items of their choice to construct a more durable structure to live in, including plastic sheets, timber, nails, door locks, door hinges, and wooden poles.

[Read full story here.](#)

### 3/ HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

## Health

IOM delivers and promotes accessible, equitable and comprehensive, preventive and curative health programmes which contributes towards the physical, mental and social well-being of migrants, enabling them and host communities to achieve social and economic development. IOM aims to deliver basic health care services for migrants and mobile populations who face many obstacles in accessing essential health care services due to the recurrent drought and continuous conflict.



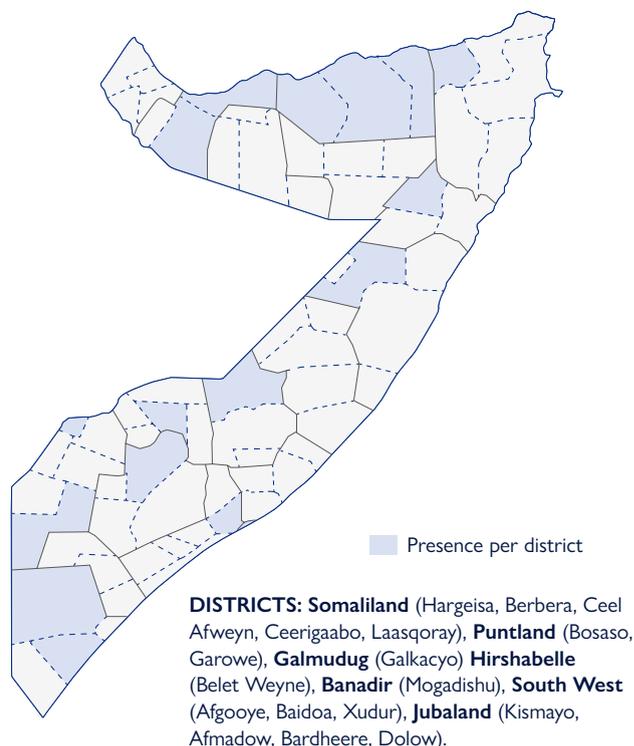
### Activities overview

IOM provides health services across all regions of Somalia, with presence in major cities and at strategic migration routes. IOM supports static health facilities, mobile clinics, transit centres and Migrant Response Centres (MRCs) to offer primary health services, nutrition services and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) to migrants, displaced populations and hard-to-reach communities.

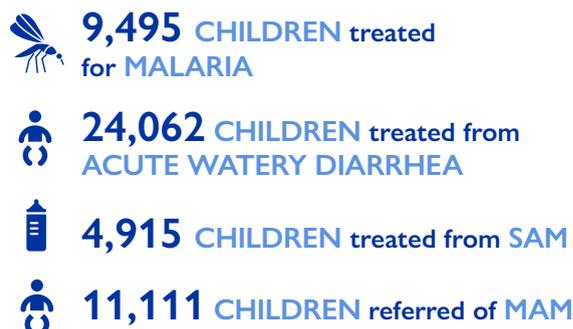
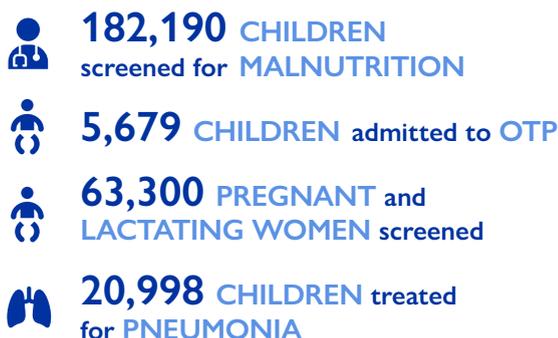
IOM scaled up its health programme in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. IOM is an active member of the Health and Nutrition Clusters at the federal and state levels, as well as a member of the Nutrition Cluster’s strategic group (SAG) and Information Management Working Group.

In 2020, the need for primary healthcare and nutrition services remained high, especially in areas newly recovered from armed groups. IOM continued its provision of primary healthcare and nutrition services, prioritizing recovered areas as well as other hard-to-reach and undeserved areas of the country. IOM’s health facilities provided services according to the Somalia Essential Package of Health Services (EPHS), including immunization, mother and child health, outpatient services, health promotion and treatment of communicable diseases. Furthermore, IOM provided nutrition services to children with severe

### HEALTH OPERATIONS



malnutrition through the distribution of ready-to-use therapeutic food and comprehensive clinical care and management, including training parents and legal guardians on adequate feeding practices.





 **72,975** CHILDREN IMMUNIZED

 **19,014** CHILDREN received MEASLES VACCINE

 **83,588** ANTENATAL CARE CONSULTATIONS

 **5,753** DELIVERIES at health clinics

 **495,374** INDIVIDUALS reached with HYGIENE PROMOTION

## Improving Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) for conflict affected youth

Using socially inclusive integrated approach for peacebuilding, IOM facilitated focus group discussions with members of targeted communities in Dolow, Kismayo and Baidoa to design MHPSS activities tailored to the psychosocial needs of the communities in each location. IOM conducted community mobilization activities such as radio shows, to reach communities in hard-to-reach and conflicted areas to have access on information about mental health and psychosocial support.

Additionally, IOM trained health workers on psychological first aid and addressing social stigma to strengthen the capacity of MHPSS services in the country, especially in times of COVID-19. Shortly after the COVID-19 outbreak in Somalia, IOM was designated as the technical lead for the Psychosocial Support Pillar in the COVID-19 National Preparedness and Response Plan.

## Clinical Mentoring to Improve Quality of Care and Level of Service Delivery for TB and HIV

In 2020, IOM implemented a clinical mentorship project to enhance quality of HIV and TB services in referral hospitals of Hargeisa, Garowe, Galkayo and Mogadishu, as well as eight district hospitals under the referral hospitals. IOM deployed three consultants to provide clinical mentorship and training to MoH-nominated health professionals on HIV, TB and MDR-TB case management. After a 10-day training in Addis Ababa in March 2020, the national mentors took part in online virtual sessions to review clinical cases, focusing on decision-making, diagnostics and determination of the clinical management plan. Additional health professionals from regional hospitals were nominated to be trained on

HIV and TB case management by the national mentors, subsequently cascading the knowledge and capacity from national to sub-national hospitals across the country. The project's approach to clinical mentoring facilitated capacity building on HIV/TB and MDR-TB service provision from the national to sub-national levels of Somalia's health system. In addition, IOM conducted community mobilization activities, such as radio shows, to reach communities in hard-to-reach and conflicted areas to have access on information about mental health and psychosocial support. Additionally, IOM is also the lead of the Global Fund Secretariat.



“Now we have five permanent rooms, well ventilated with 24/7 running water and electricity to attend patients, qualified midwives and complete delivery equipment to increase the quality of services.”

## IOM Maternal and Child Health Clinic for Internally Displaced Persons Opens in Somalia

A new maternal and child health care clinic for internally displaced expectant and nursing mothers and children opened its doors in Dolow, Somalia.

[Read press note here.](#)

### 3/ HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

# Shelter and Non-Food Items (SNFI)

Depending on the affected community’s vulnerabilities, assets, capacities, and preferences, IOM provides identified populations with emergency, transitional shelters or more permanent structures through in-kind and/or cash-based intervention.

	<b>USD 1,585,000</b> Total <b>TRANSFER VALUE</b>		<b>1,200 HOUSEHOLDS</b> provided with NFI through IOM Contingency Stock
	<b>11,9000</b> <b>HOUSEHOLDS</b> reached		<b>4,500 HOUSEHOLDS</b> assisted through CBI
	<b>600 HOUSEHOLDS</b> trained on building their shelters		<b>6,500 EMERGENCY SHELTERS</b> provided through CBI
	<b>1,000 ENUMERATORS</b> TRAINED		<b>200 ROBUST SHELTERS</b> built through CBI
			<b>200 HOUSEHOLDS</b> provided with NFI kits

## SNFI Needs in Somalia

The need for shelter and non-food items (SNFI) continues to increase in Somalia due to the extent of displacement and climate-related damage to homes and basic necessities – this is especially the case in IDP sites where many households live in buuls (makeshift shelters). Often times, these makeshift shelters do not provide adequate privacy and protection against weather elements, whilst a lack of tenure security, random evictions and vulnerability to fires further exacerbate the shelter needs of IDPs.

These trends continue to grow exponentially. In 2019, the total population in need was 2.2 million Somalis according to figures from the Shelter Cluster; in 2020 there was a 47 per cent increase to 3.16 million Somalis, including 1.7 million IDPs. Shelter is considered the first priority need for 54 per cent of the overall population, and for 60 per cent of the total 2.6 displaced persons in Somalia.

## Cash-based Interventions (CBIs)

IOM continued its usage of cash-based interventions in 2020, to provide crucial SNFIs to IDPs and host communities throughout Somalia. CBIs are typically used due to the positive multiplier effect, namely, creating temporary income opportunities for the local community and supporting local traders and market systems, and thereby fortifying community links. This is in addition to the enhanced decision-making power that CBI gives to the individuals, allowing them to prioritize their most pressing needs.

In order to ensure more robust reporting on CBIs, IOM engaged a third-party beneficiary management system which issues e-vouchers linked to beneficiaries’ biometric registration, thereby providing real-time analysis on the nature of each transaction, namely the time, location, vendor, amount spent, and items bought. This has enhanced



IOM conducts a needs assessment to find out shelter needs of displaced populations in Baidoa. © IOM 2020



IOM registers displaced persons in October 2020 that will receive S-NFI assistance in form of cash transfers. © IOM 2020



New robust shelter constructed in and IDP site of Baidoa. © IOM 2020

the monitoring, evaluation, accountability, and learning capacities exponentially to design better responses for people in need of SNFI.

## Contingency stock

Despite disruptions to the supply chain, IOM continued to pre-position NFI kits in IOM-managed warehouses to rapidly respond to emergencies. Through these contingency stocks, IOM provided support to the Shelter Cluster and its partners – including international and local non-profit organizations - during the onset of emergencies. Three interventions took place in 2020 using contingency stock items, allowing IOM and its implementing partners to aid IDPs who had lost most, if not all, of their crucial SNFIs due to flooding.

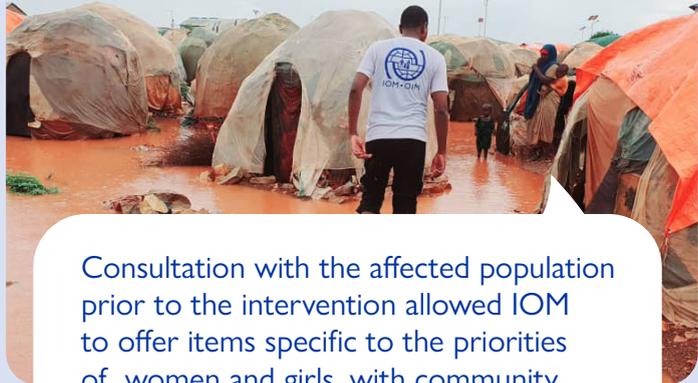
## Robust shelter

IOM conducted a CBI intervention valued at USD 800 per shelter so 200 households could build a long-lasting, durable structure. Individuals were consulted on their design preferences prior to the intervention and local materials were sourced wherever possible. Through the construction, IOM engineers provided capacity building to the households, teaching them the necessary skills to upgrade their shelters further in the future.

The vast caseload of people in urgent need of SNFIs needs a more people-centred strategy to mobilize the targeted population's resources, whilst enhancing their buy-in and ownership over their shelter solutions.

## Always in partnership

IOM works closely with the Somali government both locally, and state-wide with the Ministry of Public Works, Reconstruction, and Housing to support SNFI interventions across Somalia. In 2020, IOM became the chair of the Technical Working Group for Durable Shelter Solutions.



Consultation with the affected population prior to the intervention allowed IOM to offer items specific to the priorities of women and girls, with community leadership providing a comprehensive list of the most needed items which were then placed on the e-voucher.

## IOM Offers Humanitarian Assistance to Thousands of People Affected by Cyclone Gati

More than 60,000 people, many of them internally displaced people were affected in Somalia following two days of torrential rains that caused flash floods in November 2020. Cyclone Gati made landfall in the northeastern part of Somalia. It was the strongest storm ever recorded in the northern Indian Ocean and wreaked unimaginable damage on people and property.

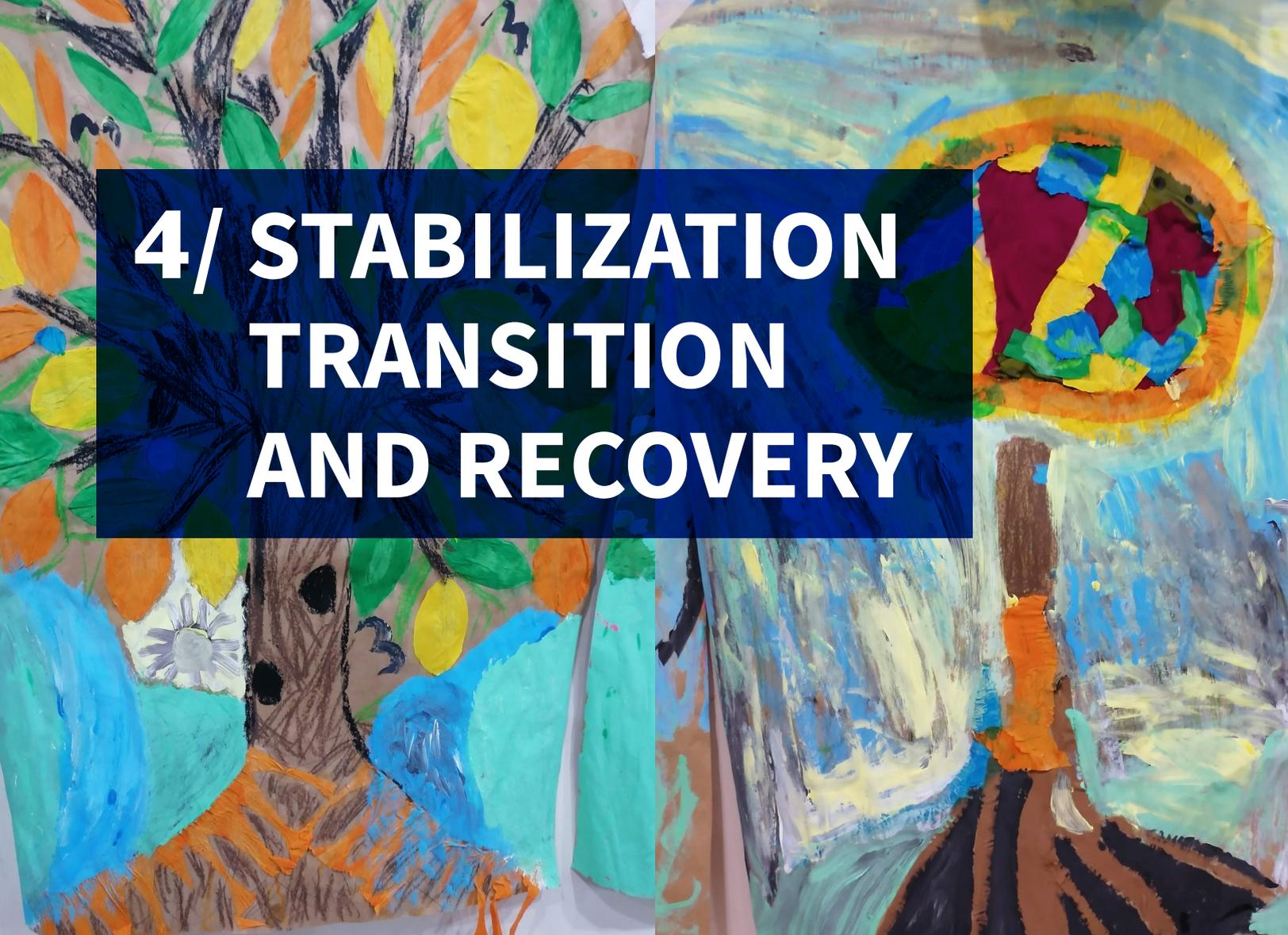
Livestock was killed, fishing and agriculture disrupted, wells inundated, houses destroyed, and some 42,000 people displaced.

For more than a decade changing weather patterns have caused devastating floods followed by long periods of droughts.

The intensity and frequency of these climatic shocks continues to displace thousands of people per year who are forced to leave their homes, livelihoods and communities after expending every possible avenue to survive.

The tropical cyclone, equivalent to a Category 3 hurricane, dropped an incredible two years' worth of rainfall in just 72 hours. Just two weeks later the scale of the disaster was unmistakable. Livestock was killed, fishing and agriculture disrupted, wells inundated, houses destroyed, and some 42,000 people displaced.

[Read more here.](#)



# 4/ STABILIZATION TRANSITION AND RECOVERY



4/ STABILIZATION, TRANSITION AND RECOVERY

# Recovery and Durable Solutions (RDS)

IOM works to bridge humanitarian, development and peace/state building efforts and operationalize a paradigm shift from aid-agency driven modalities to one where the government and community co-design and lead their nationally aligned and owned programming. IOM’s activities promote: durable solutions for returnees and IDPs; increased social cohesion; improved government capacities to lead on durable solutions at Federal Member States and district levels in urban and peri-urban areas.

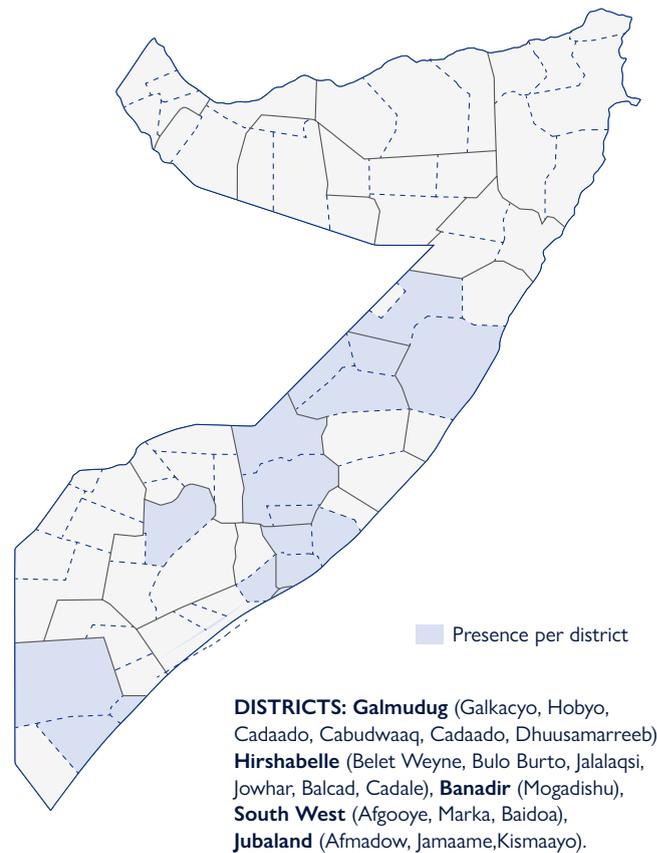
- 845 CASH-FOR-WORK** beneficiaries
- 18 PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE** completed and benefiting **1,436,859 INDIVIDUALS**
- 4 PEACEBUILDING** processes supported

## Community stabilization

IOM launched the **Community Stabilization Index (COSI)**. This new data analysis tool is based on a set of weighted metrics that assess how stability is understood locally, the extent to which a location is perceived to be stable, and the key factors that influence both stability and instability. Data is collected primarily at community level through perception surveys, key informant interviews, focus group discussions, and context analysis. This modality uniquely represents the only index in the context of ‘newly recovered areas’ - where the Somali government has reclaimed territorial control from violent extremist groups - which takes the perception of the community into account. The COSI was deployed in five IOM target locations in Lower Shabelle region and South West State of Somalia and they were crucial to inform stabilization programming and serve as a monitoring tool to measure progress towards community stability. The pilot project was funded through the IOM Transition and Recovery surge fund and the EU Instrument Contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP).

IOM continued to support the South West State Government efforts to maintain security in newly recovered areas in the Lower Shabelle region. IOM bolstered rule of law and health services in the Afgooye-Janaale corridor by constructing a police station and a maternity and child health centre in Awdheegle town. The newly built facilities will be operated by government-deployed police officers and healthcare workers and will

## RDS OPERATIONS



serve approximately 27,000 Awdheegle residents and neighbouring areas.

IOM also kicked off the new stabilization programme **Daryeel**, funded by the EU’s Instrument Contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP), it will be implemented in partnership with the Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation (MOIFAR) and Federal Ministries of Interior. Daryeel – meaning ‘care’ in Somali – incorporates years of best practice to deliver IOM’s integrated stabilization strategy, which is optimized by a combination of local presence/access, multisectoral expertise, and nuanced contextual acumen. More information on Daryeel can be found [here](#).

## Durable Solutions

IOM in partnership Danwadaag Durable Solutions Consortium developed the **Local (Re)Integration Assessment (LORA)**. Recognizing the gap in available instruments to measure progress towards durable solutions in Somalia, the LORA is a programme-based tool adapted to the Somali context that helps to monitor progress towards (re)integration and generates analysis to adapt programming and prioritise resources. LORA analyses how progress towards durable solutions is measured, examines vulnerabilities beyond displacement status, and advances the discussion on how to define the end of displacement. Data is collected at the household level to understand how IDPs and returnees perceived their integration within the community in their place of refuge, as well as inequalities between host community and IDPs.

Baseline data collected using LORA showed that the overall perception of integration was moderate with 37 per cent of IDPs and returnees feeling well integrated. A list of aspects that could influence how people feel was developed based on commonly agreed durable solutions aspects relating to IDPs' physical, material and legal safety. A key finding was that the most important factor influencing IDPs' and returnees' perception of integration in Danwadaag's target areas was their trust in institutions. Increasing their trust in any of the surveyed institutions (health, justice, public security services, NGOs, UN, local authorities, education), will significantly increase how well integrated IDPs feel. The most obvious inequalities assessed between IDPs and host communities exist with regards to social cohesion and housing standards, IDPs were much worse off.

In a context where the needs of IDPs and communities continue to outstrip the support that can be provided, the LORA provides an opportunity to move beyond broad based targeting to mobilize limited resources in support of tangible progress towards (re)integration. Read more [here](#).

In collaboration with state and local authorities, IOM collaborated with UNHCR and the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) through the Dhulka Nabadda (Land of Peace) project

to map existing systems and infrastructure needs in the Kismayo district in Jubaland State and the Baidoa district in South West State. This initiative identified gaps in services and infrastructure and provided support to strengthen institutions that manage and adjudicate land issues.

In addition, in line with IOM's aim to find long-term solutions for displacement and address evictions, IOM and the Danwadaag Durable Solutions Consortium continued to support 1,000 households to resettle to Barwaaqo 2 through the Baidoa Relocation project. IOM continued to prepare the site for the resettlement of a further 1,009 households in the first quarter of 2021.



“We were in a terrible situation for so long that we were not even able to play and watch football. I thought of moving out of town but my family could not afford it, so I had to stay.”

### Empowering Communities to Build Peace in Somalia

After four years living under the control of non-state armed groups, residents of two small towns in Hirshabelle, Somalia are beginning to imagine a peaceful future.

To prevent new disputes, and in support of the government's efforts to improve social cohesion through community-driven initiatives, IOM together with the Hirshabelle Peacebuilder's Network started peacebuilding awareness-raising campaigns in both towns.

[Read full story here](#)

4/ STABILIZATION, TRANSITION AND RECOVERY

# Disengagement, Disassociation, Reintegration and Reconciliation (DDRR)

IOM works with marginalized youth at risk in Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE) and promoting social cohesion, and supports the Federal Government of Somalia’s National Programme for the Treatment and Handling of Disengaged Combatants.

 **252 WOMEN PARTICIPANTS**

 **279 MEN PARTICIPANTS**

 **165 INDIVIDUALS** reached through **COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS** on social cohesion

 **48 INDIVIDUALS** trained on **GBV and CRSV**

 **14 INDIVIDUALS** trained on **LIVELIHOODS**

 **4 REHABILITATION CENTRES** operating

 **9 TEACHERS** trained on **CIVIC AND RELIGIOUS** curriculum development

 **225** number of **GRADUATES** from the rehabilitation programmes

 **272 INDIVIDUALS** received **REINTEGRATION** assistance

## Rehabilitation Centres

Despite the ongoing COVID-19 crisis and the lockdown restrictions in Somalia, IOM continued to run two rehabilitation centres for men and opened two new rehabilitation centres for women, utilizing WHO health and social-distancing guidelines, and the provision of PPEs for centre staff and residents. These centres provides comprehensive rehabilitation services and activities for vulnerable men, women and their children. The newly opened women’s centres are the first facilities in the country to address the various socio-economic, education, and mental health needs of conflict-affected women in Somalia. Women who come to IOM’s rehabilitation centres have stories that are often fraught with fear, violence and pain. To ensure the women receive the needed attention and treatment for their physical and mental health, IOM started implementing the minimum standards for gender-based violence, including conflict related sexual violence, as an integral component of service provision.

The year 2020 also marked the completion of Year 1 of the Transitional Plan - a multi-year plan to transfer more responsibilities and activities of the National Programme for Disengaging Combatants to the Somali government. IOM increased government’s ownership and built their capacity in managing the programme components.

## Increasing Self-reliance

Livelihood support is a critical component of the transitional rehabilitation programme to ensure that men and women affected by conflict can build the needed capacities to support themselves and their families. In 2020, IOM implemented Start Your Business training sessions adapted to meet the needs of 583 low literacy beneficiaries. This version of the course utilized practical activities and visual materials rather than only lectures. In addition, the financial literacy curriculum was rolled-out and focused on the value of budgeting, saving, debt management, financial negotiation, investment, earning, and financial services. The classes used a combination of lectures, discussions, case studies, role plays, brainstorming and games.

## Vocational Trainings

To cater to the interests of men and women enrolled in the transitional rehabilitation programme, new vocational training courses were introduced at the centres. Tuk-tuk repair and computer literacy classes were rolled out at the male rehabilitation centres. Moreover, to contribute to greater food security among beneficiaries and their families, IOM also introduced an elective perma gardening class at the female rehabilitation centres. Perma gardening is a combination of permaculture (a set of design

“Our poetry is intimately connected with people’s daily lives. Communication with one another and messages become powerful when conveyed through poems. Traditionally, even messages for peace and for conflict resolution are recited as poetry. Moreover, poetry has a capacity to heal emotional traumas.”

**Poetry project participant.**



principles that incorporate systems thinking to utilize natural ecosystems) and bio-intensive agriculture (system for achieving maximum yields from minimum areas of land while increasing the fertility of the soil) to create productive home gardens on small amount of land. In 2020, 35 women took part in perma gardening classes.

To supplement the learning in the rehabilitation programme, IOM created the Cilmi-Dhegood audio-visual curriculum. The audio-visual modality allows for wider learning opportunities featuring prominent scholars specializing in religious and civic studies. The curriculum includes lessons about effective peacebuilding processes that encourage women and men to be more actively engaged in peace activities in their communities. The audio-visual learning modality compliments the Somali oral culture, facilitating an easy to learn process.

## Art-based Interventions

To enhance the effectiveness of social reintegration activities, IOM introduced methodological art-based approaches to community-based initiatives. IOM designed and piloted a poetry project with 21 men and 22 women affected by conflict through local community-based organizations. The poetry workshops and performances aimed to stimulate a conversation among the participants and encourage them to explore their thoughts and feelings about the notions of identity and belonging, trust and understanding, empathy and acceptance, forgiveness and peace.

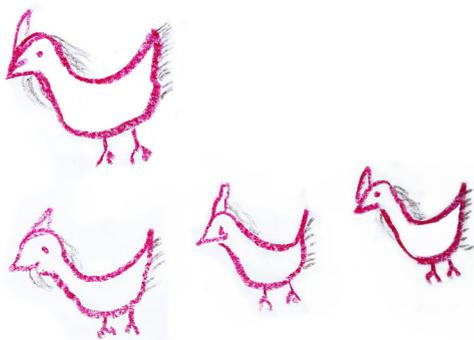
Through metaphorical expressions and storytelling tools, the participants engaged in a creative process during which an expression of emotional truths was possible in a safe manner. Such culturally familiar artistic processes can help the conflict-affected individuals to re-explore their identities, build trust, develop empathy, and restore their social relationships - all are essential for socio-cultural reintegration and collective psychosocial well-being. Twenty poetry workshops were conducted with men and women in two project locations, resulting in three community poetry events and performances that were attended by more than 150 people<sup>1</sup>.

\*The illustrations shown are based on real photos and drawings by the DDRR programme participants.



“I took the Tuk-Tuk Repair and Driving class and gained many useful technical skills. Now I have an expertise that opens new livelihood opportunities for me. I can’t wait to apply my new knowledge to a job.”

**Skills training participant.**



“I drew a mother hen with her three baby chickens who trust their mother that she will protect them at any cost no matter what happens. The hen and the baby chickens have a strong relationship and enjoy their time together.”

**Social cohesion workshop participant.**

1. Due to COVID-19, the number of audiences were limited for safety measures according to WHO social distancing guidance.

# **5/ MIGRATION, GOVERNANCE AND DEVELOPMENT**



5/ MIGRATION, GOVERNANCE AND DEVELOPMENT

# Immigration and Border Management (IBM)

IOM supports the Government of Somalia in promoting safe and orderly migration, securing borders and building the capacity of immigration officials.

 **22 BORDER POSTS supported**  
10 airports, 5 seaports, and 7 land posts

 **228 IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS**  
trained in border management

## Border posts

IOM completed the construction of Kheydar land border post in December 2020, located at the Somalia-Ethiopia border. IOM also equipped the new Point of Entry (PoE) with a solar power system and a 5kva generator as a backup source of power. Land Area Network (LAN) was also installed for the connection of the Migration Information and Data Analysis System (MIDAS). This PoE is in line with the needs and priorities identified in the Somalia Immigration and Naturalization Directorate (IND) Strategic Plan (2020-2021) and will aid the government in enhancing its capacity to monitor and control borders more effectively.

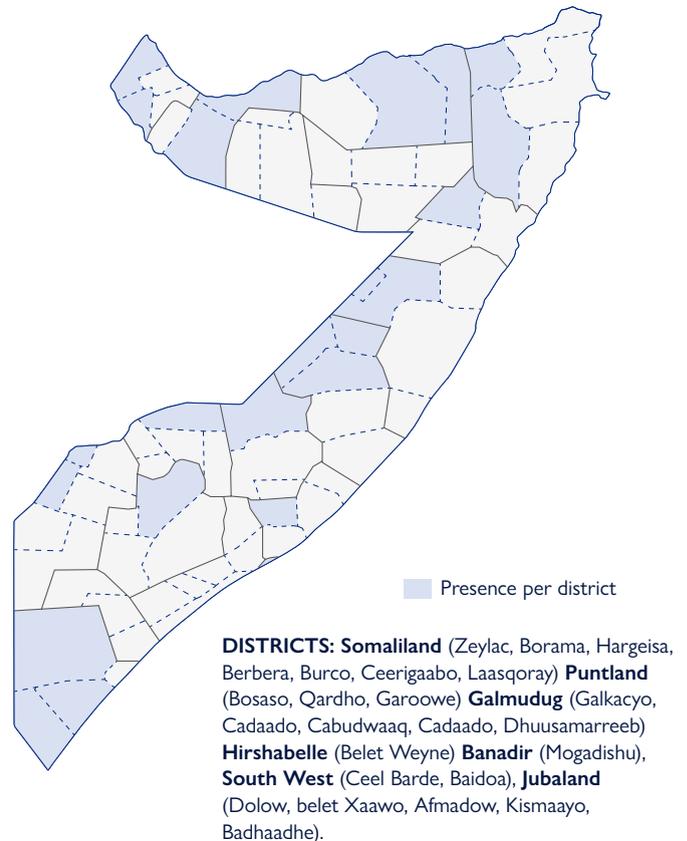
IOM also finalized the construction of the Ras Kamboni PoE located at the Somalia-Kenya border, in January 2020. It was also equipped with a solar power system and backup generator including MIDAS equipment and office furniture. In addition, a total of 12 immigration officers were trained (4 women and 8 men) for the Ras Kamboni border post.

Additionally, a total of seven PoEs were equipped with over 100 pieces of office equipment and furniture. Items provided included printers, computers, projectors and air conditioners, Land Area Network installations (LAN), immigration booths, filing cabinets, conference tables and office chairs among other items.

## Immigration Law

In January 2019, the review of the Immigration Act and its relevant laws in Somalia was finalized by the IOM supported Immigration Law Expert and presented to the Director General of the IND. In July 2020, the revised Immigration Law was presented at the Legislative Assembly and a

## IBM OPERATIONS



subcommittee of the Parliament was appointed to work on the Law. As of the end of 2020, the legislation was still at the Parliament, and is pending the third and final reading. Only after the Parliament approves and the President signs, will the roll out activities begin in 2021.

The goal of reviewing the Immigration Law in Somalia was to bolster immigration management and by extension, security, through a clearer legal framework. This has become one of the critical challenges for Somalia, with the country experiencing an increase in migrants irregularly crossing its border posts.

## Comprehensive Border Assessments

Due to the increased number of security threats and irregular movement of people and goods along the Somalia-Kenya border in 2020, IOM in coordination with the IND conducted two comprehensive border assessments at two crossing points located in Jubbaland state, namely Diff and Beled Hawa. The objective of the assessments was to identify critical equipment, training and infrastructure gaps in these crossing points, leading to a comprehensive plan of action targeting short and long-term implementation along with resources required. These assessments will guide IND in coordination with IOM to develop action plans to address gaps in project delivery.

## MIDAS Equipment and Training

IOM supports Somalia's effective Border Management Information System through the provision of MIDAS, IOM's proprietary software, as well as through hardware, training and technological expertise.

In 2020, IOM conducted a training on MIDAS for 12 frontline immigration officers from the newly constructed Ras Kamboni PoE. A further 12 immigration officers from Kismayo Seaport, Dhobley and Dolow Land posts were trained on verification of biographic and biometric data from the installed fingerprint and passport readers. In addition, a total of 13 officers from IND's statistics and planning department in Mogadishu received training on advanced MIDAS applications. These capacity building trainings ensure that overtime, immigration officers can troubleshoot MIDAS issues without the help from IOM staff.

IOM further conducted a training needs assessment on the MIDAS system in October 2020 for former Training of Trainer (ToT) participants from 16 PoEs. From the assessments, it was determined that the immigration officers are now well versed on the basics of operating the MIDAS system and advanced training on MIDAS was highlighted as the highest need for 2021.

IOM furthermore procured 70 Microsoft 10 and associated licenses for various PoEs across Somalia to keep MIDAS functioning properly, and to avoid technical issues that can occur from running outdated operating systems and software.

## Inter-Agency Border Management Committees (IBMCs)

IOM in coordination with the IND conducted a training for 38 members of the Mogadishu inter-agency coordination committee working at the POEs in November 2020. The purpose of the IBMCs is to develop a model of coordination and cooperation in order to enhance efficiency of service delivery in all major PoEs; with the aim of improving border management, articulating the scope and content of cooperation between various governmental and non-governmental organizations.

## Mentorship Programme

IOM in coordination with IND completed the implementation of the first two phases of the mentorship programme in 2020, which aims to enhance the service delivery of selected IND departments based on continuous learning and soft skills development provided by expert mentors.

A total of 18 IND staff completed their on-the-job training in the first phase, and 32 IND staff successfully completed the second phase of the programme. A total of four experts (one national and three Somali diaspora) have been recruited to oversee the mentorship programmes.

## Human Resources Information Management System (HRMIS)

The HRMIS, developed in early 2019 to standardize the process of human resources at the IND. In 2020, IOM recruited a human resources diaspora expert and an information technology diaspora expert to guide the IND on the development of work procedures and systems. The experts are working together to develop a comprehensive system of appraising all IND staff through the HRMIS system, which is expected to be completed by 2021.

## Humanitarian Border Management (HBM)

IOM conducted a number of trainings in 2020 including on COVID-19 and humanitarian border management for frontline workers at PoEs attended by 102 immigration officers from Hargeisa, Berbera, Wajale, Lawyacado, Borama, Burao, Erigavo and Lasanod. IOM also trained 90 immigration officers from Bossaso, Galkayo, Garowe, Kismayo and Baidoa on English Language and customer care with the purpose of improving IND's client service delivery.

## 5/ MIGRATION, GOVERNANCE AND DEVELOPMENT

# Labour Mobility and Human Development (LHD)

IOM promotes pathways of labour migration, enhancing coordination for diaspora engagement, strengthening institutional capacity, and mitigating the drivers of irregular migration.



**118 SOMALI DIASPORA**  
EXPERTS assigned to institutions



**65 LOCAL PROFESSIONALS**  
assigned to institutions



**43 INTERNS**  
ASSIGNED to institutions

## Migration for Development in Africa (MIDA)

Since 2008, IOM has implemented the Migration for Development in Africa (MIDA) programme in Somalia through the engagement of Somali diaspora on short term assignments to transfer their skills and strengthen the capacity of Federal Member State institutions.

To enhance the sustainability of knowledge transfer, IOM implements a capacity building model that pairs the diaspora experts with local professionals. Through this mentorship, young and recently graduated Somalis gain valuable work experience, explore a career path and have a competitive edge in the job market.

FINNSOM Projects: with funding from the Government of Finland, the MIDA programme recruited a total of 48 men and 19 women from the Somali diaspora to support the health and education sectors across the country.

To further improve the quality of education in Somalia, IOM signed an agreement with the University of Helsinki to enhance its collaboration with Somalia National University to improve the curriculum and the design of appropriate pedagogical frameworks.

Five diaspora experts in the education sector were appointed by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Higher Education to the National Commission for Higher Education (NCHE) to improve the quality of education in institutions of higher learning.

Two MIDA participants in Jubaland, one paediatrician and one nurse, attended over 700 cases of measles following an outbreak of the disease among children, the majority of whom were under five years of age.

The public health advisor in Jubaland, a MIDA diaspora expert, led the team tasked to carry out the regional immunization campaign plan following WHO guidelines.

MIDA Somalia II: IOM implemented the project funded by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation, supported the assignment of 10 diaspora and local professionals as well as 9 internships in various government institutions to contribute to policy development and enhance the capacity of public sector institutions and staff in Somalia. In support of the country's national development plan the MIDA experts provided technical expertise at Federal and Member State level.

JICA – MIDA Experts Placement Phase II: IOM implemented the JICA-funded project to contribute to the Youth Employment Project in Somalia (YEPS) - a technical cooperation project aimed at supporting the formulation of development plans for industries that create employment opportunities and a human resources development plan to advance youth employment in Somalia. The project placed professional Somali diaspora experts in three FGS ministries respectively: Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development (MoPIED), Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI) and Ministry of Public Works, Reconstruction and Housing (MoPWRH).

Connecting Diaspora for Development (CD4D) Phase II: with funding from the Dutch government IOM supported a total of 48 assignments in 17 institutions which were undertaken by Somali diaspora experts. Due to the COVID-19 movement restrictions, seven of those assignments took place virtually with the diaspora experts working from their country of residence. The project supports three priority sectors for short-term assignments: rule of law, water and local government.

## COVID-19 Response

Following the outbreak of the COVID-19, IOM’s MIDA programme offered direct technical support to the country’s COVID-19 preparedness and response plan in coordination with the Ministry of Health. A total of 34 diaspora experts (medical and non-medical) as well as 52 local doctors and nurses under the MIDA programme worked in 12 hospitals. Diaspora experts contributed to the revision of the Public Health Emergency Preparedness

and Response plan in line with International Health Regulations (2005). Moreover, a diaspora expert helped develop the Mental Health Care Guidelines in Somaliland, as well as a COVID-19 risk communication package. Additionally, IOM donated personal protective equipment and partnered with a Finnish based NGO that donated other medical equipment to Oog Maternal Care Health clinic, Aynabo Hospital and Burao Regional Hospital.



Dr. Tasnim, a Somali diaspora laboratory scientist from London, stands with the veterinarian students she is teaching at the Somali National University. © IOM/Spotlight 2021



Dr. Ubah is a Somali diaspora doctor from Italy works at Banadir Hospital in Mogadishu as a pediatrician expert through the MIDA programme. © IOM/Spotlight 2021



Aliyow is a Somali diaspora engineer that has lived in London since the mid 90's. He is now working as an engineer in Baidoa thanks to the MIDA programme. © IOM/Spotlight 2020

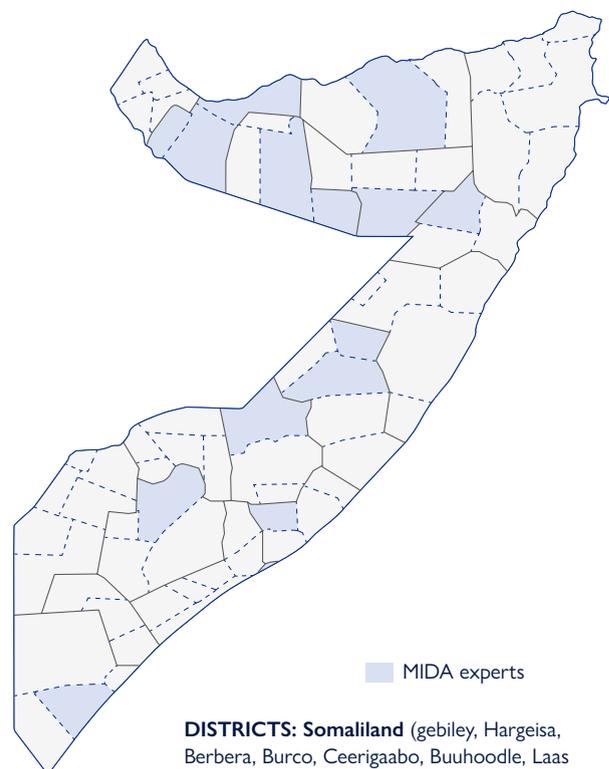
## Remittances

In 2020, many countries closed international borders and imposed restriction on movement, which resulted in the loss of livelihoods. This situation had serious repercussions particularly for countries like Somalia where remittances are a critical source of income for over 40 per cent of the households that are dependent on this source of financial support. IOM conducted a [snapshot analysis](#) to examine the socio-economic impact of COVID-19 on the Somali diaspora residing in Finland, the Netherlands, Sweden and the United States of America, and their ability to send remittances to Somalia. The assessment established that remittances had on average decreased by 61 per cent, which is an average reduction of USD 289. Despite this major decrease due to the economic situation brought on by COVID-19, the senders were still committed to support their relatives, even if it meant sending a lesser amount.

## Labour Migration

IOM coordinated and supported the participation of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs in the Regional Ministerial Forum on Harmonizing Labour Migration Policies in East and Horn of Africa held in January and November 2020, respectively. Recommendations from the forum proposed the strengthening of labour migration governance through the harmonization of labour migration policies based on evidence-based collection, analysis and sharing of labour migration data.

## MIDA EXPERTS



■ MIDA experts

**DISTRICTS:** Somaliland (gebiley, Hargeisa, Berbera, Burco, Ceerigaabo, Buuhoodle, Laas Caanood) Puntland (Bossaso, Garoowe) Galmudug (Cadaado, Dhuusamarreeb) Hirshabelle (Belet Weyne, Jowhar) Banadir (Mogadishu), South West (Baidoa), Jubaland (Kismaayo).

5/ MIGRATION, GOVERNANCE AND DEVELOPMENT

# Migrant, Protection and Assistance (MPA)

IOM provides technical expertise in areas of migration policy, direct assistance to migrants and technical guidance on countering human trafficking and smuggling.

## Post-arrival assistance

IOM provided reception and post-arrival assistance to Somali migrants upon return, including but not limited to provision of accommodation, food and non-food items, medical care and onward travel assistance.

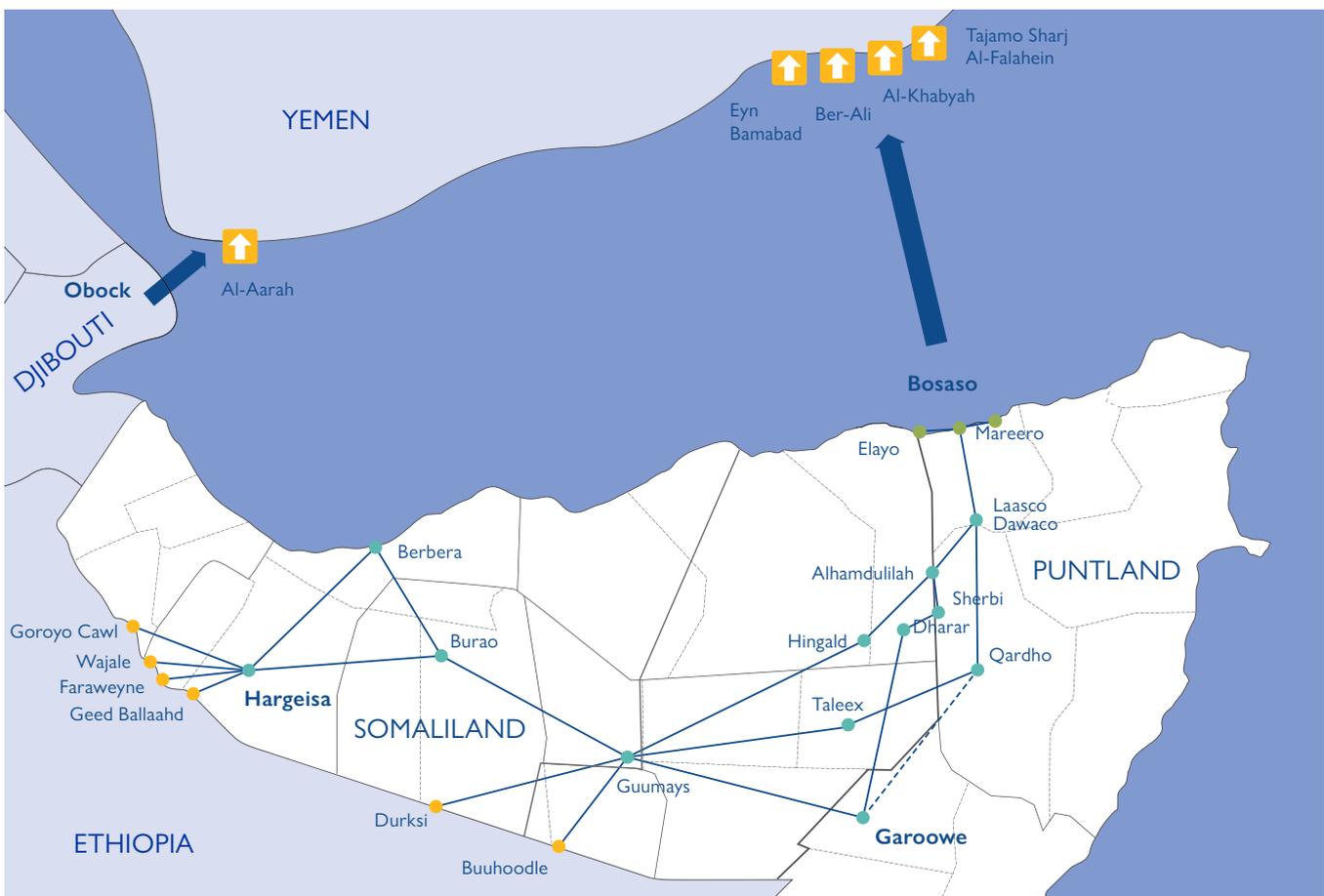


**1,332 RETURNÉES** assisted from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia



**159 MIGRANTS** returned to Somalia through **ASSISTED VOLUNTARY RETURN and REINTEGRATION (AVRR)** programme

## THE EASTERN ROUTE THROUGH SOMALIA



**DISCALIMER:** This map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

**LIMITATION:** The routes are a compilation and an interpretation of the maps submitted by key informants during April and May 2020 and should therefore be read with caution. The routes represented on this map are not exhaustive and may change with time. Other routes may be used by migrants. Note: the location of transit points are approximate and have not been geolocated.

LEGEND

- Entry points
- Exit points
- Transit points
- ◻ Arrival point
- Migrants routes
- - - Uncertain routes
- ➔ Maritime routes

## Reintegration support

Upon return, migrants can also benefit from reintegration assistance through counselling and development of individual reintegration plans to ensure a sustainable reintegration. This occurs when returnees achieve economic self-sufficiency, social stability within their communities, and psychosocial well-being that allows them to cope with (re)migration drivers. Having achieved sustainable reintegration, returnees are able to make future migration decisions as a matter of choice, rather than as a necessity. IOM adopts an integrated approach at individual, household and community level through a multidimensional process that aims to enable individuals to re-establish the economic, social and psychosocial relations needed to achieve sustainable reintegration.

### SOCIAL DIMENSION



**13 RETURNÉES** were referred and provided with **MEDICAL TREATMENT**



**2 HOUSEHOLDS** were assisted with childcare, four returnees were supported with the payment of **UNIVERSITY FEES**



**5 RETURNÉES** were supported with **HOUSING**

## Community-based reintegration

In 2020, IOM scaled up efforts to promote community-based reintegration assistance to strengthening community networks. These activities were designed using a participatory approach which empowered individuals to have ownership over their own development, with the aim to reduce dependency. IOM rolled out six community-based reintegration in

IOM provides relief items and humanitarian kits to stranded Ethiopian migrants at the Bosaso Migration Response Centre. © IOM/Muse Mohamed 2020

Medical staff conduct a health check up on Farhiya and her son in Bosaso before her return to Ethiopia with IOM's assistance. © IOM/Muse Mohamed 2020

Hamza travelled to Libya in 2017 where he was taken hostage for ransom. He returned to Somalia with IOM's assistance and began a taxi service through a reintegration grant. Bosaso. © IOM/Muse Mohamed 2020



### ECONOMIC DIMENSION



**165 RETURNÉES** assisted with **IN-KIND** and **CASH SUPPORT** for individual microbusiness start-up. IOM modified the delivery of reintegration assistance from in-kind to cash based mobile transfers to reduce physical interactions.



**64 RETURNÉES** were trained in a business management programme: **START AND IMPROVE YOUR BUSINESS (SIYB)** facilitated by ILO certified trainers

### PSYCHOSOCIAL DIMENSION



**5 RETURNÉES** were referred and provided with **MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT (MHPSS)**



**52 RETURNÉES** received **SOCIO-ECONOMIC ORIENTATION (SEO)** counselling sessions. SEO is a platform for returnees to share cultural shocks they encounter and talk about psychosocial challenges.

## Migration Response Centres (MRC)

IOM continued to support the Migration Response Centres (MRCs) in Hargeisa and Bosaso. The MRCs address critical gaps in essential protection and referral assistance and facilitate the timely identification and protection of migrants in need. Migrants who visited the centre received individualized assistance and had access to a variety of services including: medical assistance; assisted voluntary return and reintegration (AVRR); emergency assistance (e.g., shelter, non-food items, cash for food, hygiene kits); psychosocial support; counselling and screening; protection (e.g., for unaccompanied minors and victims of trafficking). IOM works closely with the Ethiopian communities in Hargeisa and Bosaso through the Ethiopian community centres.



**128 ETHIOPIANS** were assisted to **VOLUNTARILY RETURN** to Ethiopia



**2,768 MIGRANTS** registered at MRCs in Hargeisa (836) and Bosaso (1,932)



**1,072 MIGRANTS** received NFIS



**3,106 MIGRANTS** assisted through **HEALTH** services



**592 MIGRANTS** received **PSYCHOSOCIAL** support



**290** received **FOOD ASSISTANCE**



**11 HEALTH MOBILE CLINICS** in Somaliland and Puntland reaching **1,835 MIGRANTS**, **198 COMMUNITY MEMBERS** and **83 IDPS**.

In November 2020, IOM handed over the newly established MRC in Mogadishu to the Banadir Regional Administration. The center will play a key role in providing direct assistance, information, counselling, and referrals, to returnees, host communities and migrants in the city. Read more [here](#).



“I’m encouraging my community to strictly adhere to the prevention measures of COVID-19 shared by health agencies and showing them that you can recover from the disease and have a normal life again.”

### Migrant Returnee Opens Up on Her Battle With COVID-19 In Somalia

Muna, who has recovered from COVID-19 in Somalia, can finally share her experience, especially amid prevailing misconceptions.

“I was so scared when I heard people saying that the virus doesn’t have any cure,” says Muna.

As if the disease was not bad enough, the 27-year-old also had to face stigma. “I felt ashamed because I was sick, and some people even named me ‘Muna Corona.’”

Muna returned to Somalia in 2017 having spent three years in Sudan, in an attempt to reach Europe. Since her return, she has been supported by the EU-IOM Joint Initiative for Migrant Protection and Reintegration in the Horn of Africa, to help re-establish herself in her community. Yet Muna received little support from those around her when she fell ill in April. She is not the only one who had to fight the disease alone.

According to Somali Public Agenda, a non-profit research institution in Mogadishu, many people who show symptoms hesitate to seek medical advice for fear of being quarantined and ostracized.

At the same time, misinformation has been spreading across the country, creating an atmosphere in which discrimination thrives. An assessment conducted by IOM on IDPs in May, showed that despite having heard of COVID-19, 35 per cent of respondents in Khada and 29 per cent in Deynile IDP sites said they did not know anything about the disease. Both sites are in Mogadishu.

[Read full story here](#)

## THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS



**Back-cover photo:** A film production led by Nour Abdi Garaad, a returnee in Buroa. With a handful of locals as well as returnees they are recording an advocacy piece highlighting the dangers of embarking on an irregular journey. "If I had seen a video like this, showing how dangerous the journey was, then maybe I would have never had left Somalia" says Nour. © IOM/Muse Mohamed 2020



**PROGRAMME SUPPORT UNIT**

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