



SOMALI REGIONAL STATE

Durable Solutions Strategy 2022–2025



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DURABLE SOLUTIONS
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Foreword

Durable Solutions to internal displacement provides a pathway for displacement affected communities to move from dependency on humanitarian, urgent life-saving assistance to a condition of self-sufficiency and, ultimately, resilience. The Federal Government of Ethiopia has made tremendous efforts to advance solutions for internal displacement, including through establishing the Durable Solutions Initiative in 2019 designed to provide a principled operational framework for durable solutions and shape multi-sectoral and collective interventions for return, relocation and local integration of IDPs. Much of this momentum has been seen in the Somali Region.

The Somali Regional Government (GoSR) has made strong advances towards building the architecture to sustain durable solutions through cross government multi-partner interventions. Efforts to support the attainment of durable solutions is exemplified at multiple levels through the establishment of coordination structures under the auspices of the Ethiopia Durable Solutions Initiative to facilitate multistakeholder coordination and areas-based inclusive interventions. Although there are considerable strategic developments, there remains key challenges and barriers that exist.

Issues concerning security dynamics, natural resource management, social and economic fragility, and settlement patterns influence the scale of displacement in the Somali Region. Understanding the root causes of conflicts, and the Region's susceptibility to climatic disasters would help illustrate a dynamic displacement risk profile for the region that can outline agents for solutions through exploration of the medium and longer term impacts of protracted displacement whether social, environmental, or politically related. Short term interventions driven by sudden recurring emergencies means that longer term planning would be overlooked and neglected. It is therefore vital to recognize that finding durable solutions to forced displacement requires a broad institutional engagement. Durable Solutions require a long-term planning horizon that spans short-term humanitarian assistance through to long term development actions and resilience building. The Somali Region Durable Solutions Strategy 2022–2025 and associated Menu of Options 2022–2025 objectively sets to establish foundations to engine long term recovery and enable development processes.

In efforts to advance durable solutions to the Region's situation of protracted displacement the Somali Region Durable Solutions Strategy 2022–2025 has been drafted building on the momentum and advancements of the Durable Solutions Strategy 2017–2022, supplemented by a revision of the Somali Region Menu of Options 2022–2025. The Strategy has been developed under the leadership of the Somali Regional Government Durable Solutions Steering Committee, chaired by the Office of the Regional President, co-chaired by the Regional Bureau for Disaster Risk Management, and co-secretary by IOM. Technical contribution and advisory support was provided by the Regional Durable Solutions Technical Advisory Group, led by IOM, and co-led by the OWS organization and UNHCR. The Strategy was developed following a series of assessments, surveys, and consultations with government, partners, and representatives from displacement affected communities.

The Strategy is a planning instrument to advance the resolution of internal displacement in the Region and ensure that IDPs, returnees, host communities and other displacement affected populations are provided with solutions to displacement and its impact. The Strategy supports coordination and collaboration between the government at regional,

zonal, woreda, and kebele levels and across the international, national, and local aid sector by providing a framework for joint action. The Strategy is expected to contribute to the coherence of regional humanitarian and development planning and delivery across the Somali Region. The rationale for establishing a coherent approach is to ensure partners contributing to solutions to displacement are doing so efficiently, without duplication and with adherence to agreed standards, including those that uphold the rights and provide protection to target groups. In order to establish a coherent, integrated and efficient modality for implementation, the government and partners will work together to establish or strengthen existing nexus considerate policies, methodologies and approaches for creating an enabling environment for solutions in voluntary return, resettlement and local integration areas. By this, the Strategy is premised on the development, implementation and monitoring of localised cooperative action and provides the basis for cooperation between the government, local, and international partners in support of Durable Solutions to displacement in the Somali Region.

Delivering this strategy will thus require coordinated, multi-sectoral and layered interventions. It is framed around facilitating cooperative action, bringing together humanitarian, development, stabilization, and peacebuilding actors, with the government, in joint pursuit of sustainable solutions. Hence, multiple agencies with different sector competencies and approaches (humanitarian, stabilisation, development, peace) will support the interventions laid out within this strategy. Coordination approaches will help to mobilize resources, deter possible duplication, while enhancing collective and synergic concerted action to mobilize, organize, and harmonize activities.

For the purpose of this Strategy durable solutions to displacement is broadly understood to encompass : (i) voluntary return to places of origin, (ii) local integration in areas of displacement, or (iii) relocation in another location within the region. Interventions herein are delineated to reduce risk and vulnerability overtime and raise community self-sufficiency and absorption capacity of hosts, reducing dependency on humanitarian aid and increasing resilience to shocks and stressors. This will enable the development of a safety net system that reduces the need for a recurrent humanitarian assistance introducing solutions considerate operations, policies, and programs aimed at building resilience to future climatic, economic, and conflict induced shocks; and in turn contribute to the generation of the Region's social, human, financial, and natural resource capital.

The Strategy will act as the regional roadmap articulating a vision to guide progress towards durable solutions over a three -year period. It expects to pave progressive realization of solutions that will involve the employment of approaches that are pre-emptive rather than reactive, holistic, long term and gradual- combining relief and development interventions from the onset. In the context of global commitments to strengthen the humanitarian, development, peace nexus the Strategy is predicated on the principle that durable solutions is a distinct phase acting as the 'missing middle' between the different phases of crises provided on the one hand a step out of dependence on humanitarian aid and acute vulnerability on the one hand and laying the foundation for long term recovery and stabilization.

The Strategy is grounded in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons (hereinafter referred to as "IASC Framework on Durable Solutions") and is in line with the NDRMC Strategy to Address Internal Displacement 2019, and the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) Protection Strategy's strategic objective to integrate the centrality of protection in the transition towards durable solutions. This strategy is also designed to bridge the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) and United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF), by providing a transitional approach that focuses on the resolution of protracted displacement through effective joint programming and supporting the achievement of development objectives in the longer-term. The Strategy centralizes the protection of civilians, seeking to ensure that the rights of individuals supported by durable solutions programmes are respected and that their safety and dignity is maintained. Action put forward as part of this strategy ensures the physical safety, legal protection, and dignity of affected individuals. In respecting protection and conflict sensitivity principles, and employing area-based approaches to durable solutions, all displacement-affected communities, independent of their displacement status, will be supported through the multi-sectoral support described herein.

Instrumental to the achievement of solutions the Strategy puts forward strategic objectives outlined through the attainment of a set of priority areas that seek to address barriers. The achievement of these objectives will be accomplished through localized planning, implementation and monitoring, jointly with government, affected communities, and partners. As such, in recognition of the significant ongoing work that contributes to solutions for IDPs in the Somali Region, this Strategy builds on existing projects, resources, coordination mechanisms and methodologies to the greatest possible extent, while avoiding duplication of effort.

Legal and Policy framework

In efforts to strengthen normative, legal and institutional frameworks for responding to the search for durable solutions for Somali Region IDPs the Strategy draws extensively from key legal, planning, and policy frameworks including:

+ Regional

Somali Region Durable Solutions Strategy 2017–2020: The Strategy builds on and acts as a revision of the 2017–2020 Somali Region DS Strategy. Overall objectives have been maintained with strategic objectives and priorities herein acting as amendments in consideration of recent displacement realities giving attention to both conflict and climate induced displacement equally.

Somali Region Menu of Options 2020: The Menu of Options has inspired the Strategy's Action Plan. The revision of the Menu of Options will be taken as a costed road map for the Strategy, summarizing specific activities, actors, and financial needs of interventions.

Draft Somali Region Ten Year Perspective Development Plan 2021–2030: In efforts to contribute to the Regions development priorities and mainstream solutions in Regional planning, the Strategy is drafted to be aligned with the draft Somali Region Ten Year Perspective Development plan.

+ National

The Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia: The Constitution makes specific reference to displaced people in the country, in particular, Article 44 sub-article 2, which states "All persons who have been displaced or whose livelihoods have been adversely affected as a result of State programmes have the right to commensurate monetary or alternative means of compensation, including relocation with adequate State assistance; and, Article 89 sub article 3 which adds that "Government shall take measures to avert any natural and man-made disasters, and, in the event of disasters, to provide timely assistance to the victims".

Ministry of Peace and National Disaster Risks Management Commission Strategic Plan to Address Internal Displacement 2019: The plan outlined the Federal government commitment to address displacement through returns, relocations, and local integration of conflict induced IDPs across 7 regions and in accordance to specific objective and a cross government effort. This Strategy particularly the Strategy Action Plan is in accordance to specific results and processes outlined within the Plan.

Ethiopia Humanitarian Country Team Protection Strategy 2021: In efforts to ensure rights based protection considerate interventions the Strategy is in accordance to the EHCT Protection Strategy which outlines guiding principles to ensure the centrality of protection in return, relocation interventions that secures material, legal and physical safety and dignity of IDPs

Ethiopia United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2020–2025 & Ethiopia Humanitarian Response Plan | Mid-Year Review August 2021: Issues faced by returnees in areas of origin are a mix of humanitarian (targeted by HRP) and longer-term recovery, stabilization or development needs, many of which contribute to solutions and are covered by UNSDCF notably under activities highlighted by the UNSDCF Outcome 2. The Strategy is complimentary, and designed to bridge the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) and United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF), by providing a localized transitional approach that can pave the way for the achievement of durable solutions in the longer-term while supporting effective joint programming of the different actors.

+ International

IASC Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons: This Strategy draws extensively from the Inter Agency Standing Committee Framework and principles on durable solutions for IDPs. the strategy considers the eight criteria in the IASC Framework on Durable Solutions for IDPs to define when durable solutions are reached

namely long-term safety and security, adequate standard of living without discrimination, access to livelihoods and employment, effective and accessible mechanisms to restore housing, land and property, access to civil documentation without discrimination, family reunification, participation in public affairs without discrimination, access to effective remedies and justice.

Report of the United Nations Secretary Generals High Level Panel Panel on Internal Displacement 2021: The solutions imperative is a key priority of the HLP Report. The Strategy is in accordance to the streams of the Panel's report, which tended towards devising or recommending tools, standards, and global frameworks to address internal displacement.

United Nations Secretary General's Action Agenda on Internal Displacement (2021)- Draft for External Consultations: The Action Agenda objectively builds on the recommendations put forth within the HLP Report to support the attainment of solutions to displacement, prevent new displacement crises from emerging, and to also ensure those facing displacement receive effective protection and assistance. It outlines interventions that would impact solutions coordination, operations, policy, and institutional strengthening. This Strategy is aligned with approaches outlined within the Action Agenda.

The Kampala Convention (2009): Another important legal instrument on IDPs is the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa. This convention binds governments in the continent to provide legal protection for the rights and well-being of those forced to flee inside their home countries due to conflict, violence, natural disasters, and other human rights abuses. This Strategy backs federal level efforts to localize the Kampala Convention.

IGAD Forced Displacement and Mixed Migration Regional Strategy (FDMMRS) (2017): The IGAD Strategy provides a framework for generating evidence that supports and gives reason to innovative development approaches to resolving displacement. While focusing primarily on refugees and host communities, IDPs are not excluded from coverage by the strategy and the framework provides an approach to which resolution of internal displacement can be readily aligned. Thus principles outlined within this DS Strategy are in accordance to recommendations put forth by the FDMMRS.



Context

The Somali region is the 2nd largest in the Federal Republic of Ethiopia, measuring over 380,000 km, comprising Ethiopia's 3rd largest ethnic group. The semi-arid region has a long history of clan, resource-based and regional conflict, remaining relatively underdeveloped when compared to the other regions of Ethiopia. Culturally and economically, the region also retains a unique way of life, with semi-nomadic pastoralism communities and clan links playing the most important social and political unit of social organization. The local population is primarily dependent on pastoralism, and livestock is the main pillar of livelihoods supporting about 86% of the population¹. Somali region depends on extensive livestock herding or farming in a highly climate variable environment. Among pastoralist extensive herding is the dominant economic activity agro-pastoralist engage in mixed farming and livestock rearing. The Region is Ethiopia's most pastoral and agro-pastoral region².

Challenges exhibited by recurrent crises and local dynamics has impacted the region's ability to sustainably advance solutions. Natural and man-made disasters have led to persistent displacement with various risks and vulnerabilities interacting with one another. This has included climate induced shocks, mainly drought and seasonal floods, sharp fluctuation in terms of trade, human, and animal diseases, and conflict between groups. In the past years the region has seen a proliferation in the number of IDPs. Humanitarian circumstances and opportunities for sustainably resolving displacement differ between displaced groups in the Somali region, depending on their respective places of displacement, displacement dynamics, and pre-displacement livelihoods. IDPs in the Somali region live in ad hoc sites and settlements, commonly in relatively underdeveloped and marginalized communities. Displacement has been driven by factors ranging from conflict, environmental degradation, natural and manmade disasters, changing livelihoods strategies in an evolving political economy, poverty, and progressive depletion of coping mechanisms available to the displaced and host communities.

Hosting communities face preexisting and precarious socio-economic situations plagued by food insecurity, limited access to basic social services and economic infrastructure, poor livelihood opportunities, shifting land ownership and access patterns, and a diminishing natural resource base³. Climate change, conflict and securitization of borders across the region are an increasing threat to regional stability. Low rainfall, high temperature and insufficient infrastructures pose major constraints to the region's populations and expose them to recurring shocks. As of January 2022, during the Round 28 DTM site assessments 157,227 households comprising 932,568 IDPs were identified in 457 sites in Somali region⁴. Conflict was the main reason for displacement and displaced an estimated 517,750 IDPs climate displaced 414,818 from drought, seasonal floods flash floods and landslides. Conflict-induced IDPs are clustered mostly along the frontier areas of Somali – Oromia border. They are mainly hosted in Fafan, Dawa, Liban and Afder zones, which border Oromia. Populations displaced by drought are primarily in the interior zones of Dawa, Korahey, Shabelle, and Doollo, as well as Siti and Jarar zones.

Drought has resulted in the displacement of pastoralist and agro-pastoralist communities in Erer, Nogob, Shabelle, Korahe, Dollo, Afder, Liban, and Dawa. More than 3.5 million people affected in Somali region⁵. 2.2 million people in Somali region are in need of water assistance in 78 woredas. More than 67 percent of the 1.46 million livestock deaths resulting from the drought affecting the Ethiopian lowlands are seen in Somali⁶. Surviving animals have significantly deteriorated body conditions which has decreased their market value. At least 183,000 people have migrated in search of water, pasture, or assistance⁷.

Changes in the availability of water, the amount of rainfall, and its distribution across space and over time, the frequency and duration of droughts, the stock of human capital and assets and livestock owned, declines in the availability of grazing land, and economic marginalization combined have strained the ability of households to cope with shocks and manage risk to financial assets. Production is also limited to the progressive decline in soil fertility, as the farming practices do not adequately restore nutrients⁸.

1 Livelihood Components for Durable Solutions for IDPs in the Somali Region of Ethiopia. 2021. Tufts University in collaboration with Jijiga University. Abdirahman Ahmed Muhumed, Elizabeth Stites, Elizabeth Alexion, Delia Burns

2 Livelihood Components for Durable Solutions for IDPs in the Somali Region of Ethiopia. 2021. Tufts University in collaboration with Jijiga University. Abdirahman Ahmed Muhumed, Elizabeth Stites, Elizabeth Alexion, Delia Burns

3 Somali Region Durable Solutions Strategy 2017–2020

4 IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix. Site Assessment. Round 28. Dec 2021-Jan 2022.

5 OCHA. Drought Update Report. No.3. April 2022

6 OCHA. Drought Update Report. No.3. April 2022

7 OCHA. Drought Update Report. No.3. April 2022

8 Livelihood Components for Durable Solutions for IDPs in the Somali Region of Ethiopia. 2021. Tufts University in collaboration with Jijiga University. Abdirahman Ahmed Muhumed, Elizabeth Stites, Elizabeth Alexion, Delia Burns

There is also evidence which indicate the temperatures are increasing, leading to higher rates of evapotranspiration and heat stress to crops, further limiting their yield potential⁹. Thus, the production is declining consequently food in security, drought, flood and overall poor livelihood conditions prevail in these areas. Livestock owners are increasingly dependent on the market and vulnerable to fluctuations in the future terms of trade for their products¹⁰. Reconstitution after a drought is a long and slow process because of the mortality rate in the female reproductive stock, making it at times unlikely for a pastoralist to recover their losses¹¹. Though households do obtain income or subsistence from crops, livestock or petty trade, most are not able to translate these activities into sustainable livelihood strategies due to lack of access to land, absence of start-up capital, continuing conflict and insecurity, or recurring drought conditions¹². The drought has resulted in exhaustion of basic services, the closure of 5 schools, with 4559 students¹³. Droughts have also affected the health quality and prices of livestock and high staple food prices resulting in food insecurity.¹⁴ The severity of the drought has resulted in the loss of livelihoods for the agro-pastoralist region leaving many to adopt risky coping mechanisms to generate income. While a large share of pastor/agro-pastor populations want to engage in another form of livelihood, the limited skill base, minimal market opportunities, and poor access to assets and financing limit options for diversifying livelihoods and geographical remoteness means economic diversification should center around pastor-agropastor value chains and emerging market opportunities.

3 month activated response plan activated by Somali regional government and partners requiring 48.6 million to assist more than 3million people¹⁵. The Regional government has supported over one million people and each household has received 25 kg of sugar, 25 kg of rice and 5 litres of oil with additional 2.4 million still at risk. Water trucks continue to deliver water to affected population across 1,137 sites benefitting 2.6 million people. Yet scattered settlement patterns make water service schemes such as water trucking costly. Over 263 schools closed at the time of this Strategy with 48045 students affected (Boys: 28547 Girls: 19498), among these 112 schools are formal and 151 are alternative basic education (ABE) schools. In this current drought, the overall schools affected are 2568 schools with 562162 students¹⁶. There is also the risk that lack of access to some of these resources might create conflict within and between communities.

The Regional displacement dynamics have also been impacted by hostile boarder relations between Somali and Oromia Regions. Somali and Oromo communities share a 1400km boarder between Moyale at the south and Mieso close to West Harage to the North. Along with the territorial disputes, these regions have been affected by long standing conflicts shaped by several factors including its peripheral location, inequities in levels of development between and within the region, recurrent flooding and drought, limited social services and other factors¹⁷. What once were local resource disputes between neighbors affectively turned into conflict between Oromia and Somali regional states that spiralled into mass killings and displacement in 2017 and July 2018 between Somali, Oromo communities along the border areas (Dawa, Liibaan, Afdeer, Nogob, Erar and Faafan Zones) following territorial disputes centering on administrative boundaries.¹⁸

This Strategy puts forward action aimed at advancing durable solutions for both conflict and climate induced displacement affected communities through the employment of dynamic community inclusive, evidence based, nexus oriented holistic interventions to foster policy, operational, planning, institutional, and legislative outcomes. It encourages all actors to capitalize on the capacities existing within displaced communities to identify principled short, medium and longer term solutions to the complex array of issues exhibited within the Region, and to maximize and enhance the knowledge and expertise of key stakeholders in taking forward transitional humanitarian and development work in Somali Region. It also emphasizes the needs and capacities of host communities and reflects the specific needs and realities of groups that might be particularly marginalized and excluded. Durable Solutions Profile

9 Livelihood Components for Durable Solutions for IDPs in the Somali Region of Ethiopia. 2021. Tufts University in collaboration with Jijiga University. Abdirahman Ahmed Muhumed, Elizabeth Stites, Elizabeth Alexion, Delia Burns

10 Poverty and vulnerability in the Ethiopia lowlands: Building a more resilient future, the WBG and DFID, 2019

11 Poverty and vulnerability in the Ethiopia lowlands: Building a more resilient future, the WBG and DFID, 2019

12 Poverty and vulnerability in the Ethiopia lowlands: Building a more resilient future, the WBG and DFID, 2019

13 OCHA. Drought Update Report. No.3. April 2022

14 OCHA. Drought Update Report. No.2. March 2022

15 OCHA. Drought Update Report. No.2. March 2022

16 Somali Regional Drought Response Plan (December 2021 – April 2022).

17 Inter-ethnic violence in Ethiopia's Somali Regional State, 2017 – 2018. Tobias Hagmann and Mustafe Mohamed Abdi. London School of Economic. 2019

18 Inter-ethnic violence in Ethiopia's Somali Regional State, 2017 – 2018. Tobias Hagmann and Mustafe Mohamed Abdi. London School of Economic. 2019

The Somali Regional government has shown strong political will to support displacement-affected communities and find solutions that are sustainable, participatory, and voluntary. Overall, with the relatively stable security situation, reconciliation between communities in areas of return, and areas of relocation mostly ready to accept IDPs, the region has gained a lot of experience since it began pushing a solutions agenda. The Somali Region Durable Solutions Working Group (DSWGs) predates the official establishment of the Ethiopia DSI and has been fully operational as a platform via which humanitarian, development and peacebuilding actors are convened to discuss joint actions towards facilitating durable solutions in policy, programming, and advocacy aspects. Following Ethiopia's political transition and the establishment of the new Somali Regional Administration in September 2018, the government has also taken the following steps to respond to the displacement crisis in the region under the DSI platform including:

- *Assessment of resettlement sites for IDPs in the Somali Region (13–27th November 2018)*
- *Production Plan for Resettlement, Peace, Control and Prevention of Conflict in the Region (February 2019)*
- *Establishment of a Durable Solutions Steering Committee at regional level and related Zonal, Woreda, and IDP site level Committees for facilitating return and reintegration of displaced groups displaced from the border areas (March 2019)*
- *Assessment and production of Internally Displaced Persons Relocation Plan (13th April 2019)*
- *Rapid assessments of spontaneous returns and barriers to return in the 6 zones bordering Oromia region (April 2019)*
- *Peace and Reconciliation Conferences at national, inter regional and Woreda levels, including most recently between the Oromia and Somali Region leadership (April – May 2019).*
- *Draft Menu of Options 2020*
- *Expansion of SR. DS architecture to include DS Technical Advisory Group 2021*

In 2020, the Government of the Somali Regional State established the Durable Solution Steering Committee comprised of government entities, UN agencies, NGOs, and community representatives. The Durable Solutions Steering Committee has provided a forum to deepen the cooperation between the government and the international community and to ensure a whole of government approach, with strategic oversight from the highest levels. The Steering Committee led the development of a "menu of options" for IDPs in 2020. The menu includes returns to areas of origin, relocation to both urban and rural areas; and local integration; with a costed plan of action to outline multi-sectoral needs and technical support. The Menu has now been revised and acts as the Action Plan to this Strategy.



Solutions Dynamics

Following the Federal Government of Ethiopia's (GOE) endorsement of the Internally Displaced Persons Recovery Plan in April 2019, the Somali Regional Government returned and relocated conflict affected IDPs that had sought refuge within the Somali region and along the border areas between the Somali and Oromia regions. 64,719 households comprising of 388,353 returning IDPs have been identified in 97 villages according to the DTM National Displacement Report¹⁹. To date 2,121 households have been relocated by the regional govt. to areas in Shinele, Erer, Mieso, Raso, Marsin, Warder, Goljano, Awbare, El Ogaden, Birgod woredas and the government has announced intentions to facilitate the relocation of 17,000 households²⁰.

Yet various problems have hindered the sustainable reintegration of displacement-affected due to the following main reasons: (i) lack of social cohesion and continued violence in displacement-affected sites; (ii) delayed economic recovery and climate change adaptation support for displacement-affected groups; and (iii) lack of spatial planning, settlement guidelines in sites where target populations are seeking durable solutions. These problems were exacerbated in circumstances where some return or relocation processes were planned and implemented prematurely, leaving vulnerable communities without rehabilitated basic supplies, services, shelters and livelihood schemes in place. Common issues in areas of return and relocation include a lack of livelihoods; the loss or destruction of housing and property; concerns about social cohesion; lingering psychosocial trauma; lack of civil documentation, insufficient legal support for those who want to restore their housing, land and property (HLP) rights by recovering lost documentation, lack of access to land among others.

Return, local integration, and relocation movements, have increased competition for scarce services, changes in the land use and increased number of people exposed to the impacts of climate change. For IDPs who relocate or locally integrate pre-existing vulnerabilities in host communities and the influx of large populations carry the risk of exacerbating tensions that could potentially lead to conflict and / or secondary displacement if left unaddressed. The government has already engaged with traditional leadership in proposed areas for resettlement but this will likely need to be an ongoing process, including with dispute resolution mechanisms.

Support to Rural Relocation

Rural relocations have been identified by Somali Regional Government as one of the options for durable solutions for IDPs living in Qolaji near Jijiga and those in Millennium Park in Dire Dawa. Somali IDPs displaced from further afield within Oromia region, have expressed unwillingness to return to their places of displacement in Oromia region, opting to either be relocated in areas to which they have clan affiliation.

The government has identified 12 rural relocation sites across the Somali region. Initially, one of the key criteria for selecting the 12 sites was clan affiliation. In the Somali region, clan affiliation comprises an informal and formal safety net that determines much of the social structures and dynamics. Clan affiliation can prevent conflict and provide a conducive environment for IDPs to be absorbed by the hosting communities; nevertheless, this can only be the initial ground to build on, given the conditions and availability of resources in most of the selected sites. Households from Qolaji and Dire Dawa Millennium Park have so far been relocated to various locations including Shinele, Warder, Erer, Awbare, Goljano, and others. The households being relocated to these sites without such preparations have faced number of challenges making it difficult to administer such relocations. To lay the foundations for durable solutions, relocations must be done respecting individual preferences, ensuring protection and access to basic services, and must consider of conditions of host communities at the site.

Support to Return Areas

In areas of return, reconciliation efforts between communities have made important progress. A significant proportion of IDPs displaced from border areas within Somali Region have spontaneously returned, particularly in Dawa Zone. Somali IDPs have returned in much smaller numbers to areas adjacent to the border, inside Oromia Region, in Babile Woreda (Oromia). Returns from Babile to Oromia Region are reported to have resulted from inter-regional Woreda level peace processes, comprising 15 representatives from each side of the communal conflict. However, assessments reveal a large number who are currently unable to return. The needs of returnees are significant and

¹⁹ DTM National Displacement Report 11. DEC 2021

²⁰ Durable Solutions Working Group Meeting. Somali Region. May 2021.

highly varied between groups. IDPs displaced from the interior of the Oromia region, 400–600 km from the border with Somalia Region are more complex, as based on recent intention surveys undertaken, they are not willing to return home, due to fears that communal violence will return.

Transitional justice efforts are needed, as well as increased mental health and psychosocial support to heal trauma and rebuild trust, besides residual recovery needs. There are difficulties for those returned to restart livelihoods in the absence of adequate agricultural inputs or rehabilitation of agricultural infrastructure, the need to repair or rebuild houses, as well as gaps in the rehabilitation of schools, health posts and other basic services.

Support to Urban Relocation

IDPs opting to move from an organized site to an urban area or already staying there with host families often move on an individual basis. Some sites of IDPs are situated on the outskirts of urban areas such as Jigjiga, Gode, Ceelwayne, and Horrora and Goljano. The urban option for durable solutions is based on identification of areas within or in the proximity of an established city administration where IDPs live or plan to relocate to, with high potential of linking the urban basic service deployed to the existent or planned urban systems.

Local Integration Option for Qoloji

Qoloji is the largest formal camp in the Somali Region and is stationed between Harar (at 40km to the West), and Jigjiga (at 60km to the East) and nearby the urban centers of Bombas (10 km to the East) and Babile (10 km to the East). The connecting Road, A10 is of national and international importance linking Jigjiga to Addis Ababa. Qoloji has a very high density, there is risk of flooding and the road is not accessible in case of emergency. The shelters are mainly made of plastic sheets and clothing, no permanent structures. There are several markets, schools, and health posts all managed by the Disaster Risk Management Bureau (DRMB). The estimated number of people is a little over 16,000 between Qoloji 1 and 2. Following spatial planning conducted by UNHABITAT recommendations were outlined to support the local integration of Qoloji camp, while also exploring the possibility of relocation and return. In October 2021, the SR. DSI conducted pre-planning assessments in Qoloji to contribute to this draft strategy as well as an intentions survey. According to the last Qoloji intentions survey conducted by IOM in October 2021, of the 700 plus households interviewed in Qoloji, 44% wanted to relocate and 44% wanted to locally integrate, with only 2% looking to return and some still undecided. While rural and urban relocation will provide solutions for most IDPs at Qoloji, the transformation of the site into a small city would allow those IDPs who cannot be relocated an opportunity for local integration. However further consultation is needed with the Qoloji host community to gauge whether local integration could really be a viable option or if there could be risk of community tensions.

Barriers to Solutions

Protection risk and barriers to safety and security

Displacement due to conflict and climate has brought to the forefront a number of serious protection concerns, including the following:

- **Gender-Based Violence:** IDPs are often at greater risk of GBV and especially sexual violence, which has often gone under-reported due to fears of retaliation by the perpetrator, stigmatisation by communities and family members, and limited availability and confidence in response services.
- **Family separation and child Protection:** Sudden displacement and returns can result in family separation, children separated from their parents and caregivers, which has caused psychosocial distress. Displacement associated risks may also result in exposure to child labour, physical/mental/emotional abuse, child trafficking, child marriage and dropping out of schools.
- **Civil Documentation:** Lack of documentation have impacted the ability of IDPs to move freely and also leads to difficulties in accessing services. Majority of IDPs in relocation sites have communicated a lack of civil documentation. Efforts are needed to strengthen structures responsible for issuance of civil documentation such as birth, death, marriage, divorce, etc., as well as support to kebele offices and officials responsible for issuing identity documents.
- **Psychosocial Distress and Trauma:** Mental health and psychological trauma is a key barrier to attaining solutions to displacement. Displacement has increased vulnerabilities through the sudden breakdown of family and community structures, loss of property and assets, chronic stress and others. Experiences of conflict and displacement can also be gendered, and there is a need for large-scale targeted psychosocial support programs, with strengthened referral pathways to specialised services as required, to mitigate the psychosocial effects of displacement for all people of concern.
- **Safety and Security:** Safety and security is often cited by IDPs not willing as the reason to not return to their locations of origin.
- **Specific Needs Groups:** IDPs facing conditions of extreme hardship often turn to adverse coping mechanisms to survive, including child marriage, child labour, hazardous migration, transactional sex and neglect of persons with specific needs such as female and minor headed households, unaccompanied and separated children, persons with disabilities, individuals with serious chronic illness, elderly without caregivers, and those affected by mental health and psychosocial distress.

Lack of Access to Basic Services

Finding durable solutions for IDPs is complicated by the underdevelopment in the Somali region. In most relocation sites water, agricultural land, and other resources are scarce, as are opportunities for livelihoods and self-reliance. A substantial number of IDPs with specific needs, do not have access to adequate basic services, e.g. food, shelter, health care, sanitation, education, and social welfare, among others. Additionally, the existing capacities to provide basic services are very limited. This can create risks to peaceful cohabitation and threatens the integration of IDPs into communities. This means that IDPs who have returned or that will be relocated or locally integrated will often live in poverty alongside the non-displaced communities. IDPs that returned to various areas in the Somali Region have faced major challenges as agricultural activities had come to a standstill, land disputes arose, and schools and health facilities are in need of rehabilitation. Thus there is a risk of secondary displacement or that conflict will arise over scarce resources, or other reasons.

IDPs that relocated or integrate locally are joining an established community that have their own existing public services. Yet, it may be the case that the communal service and existing infrastructure are not sufficient to accommodate the immediate and long-term needs of the newcomers. Such types of shortages have potential to create conflict within the community, in both the short- but also the long run.

Access to Housing, land, and property

IDPs face particular obstacles in accessing Housing, Land and Property (HLP) rights during displacement. They also struggle to assert their rights to restitution or compensation for their HLP upon return. Disputes over land and natural resources are often at the centre of conflict, including territorial acquisition and the resulting occupation of homes and land can drive displacement. When the conflict ends, disputes over occupied property are a continued source of instability, preventing durable solutions for returning populations and threatening the success of potential peace agreements. A proportion of the IDPs, who resided in the Oromia region for generations, owned land and property, which they either lost or abandoned during the inter-communal conflicts. Whilst the constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (FDRE) obligates the state to compensate individuals for loss or damage to their property resulting from conflict, it is not currently clear how extensive this will be, nor the feasibility of fulfilling this commitment.

Lack of Livelihoods

IDPs that have relocated or looking to locally integrate may need to undergo a process of significant livelihood adaptation to the predominantly pastoralist livelihood strategies and sedentary agriculture in arid climate of the Somalia region. For those returning damage to markets, loss of assets, inability to access agricultural land, climate variability, debt, and lack of employment opportunities often result in individual adopting risky coping mechanisms as a means of generating income.

Climate Variability

Repeated droughts have had an acute impact on the Region's growth and development. In early 2022 multiple cycles of failed rains or lower than average rains caused renewed drought induced displacement. For generation pastoral and ago-pastoral households have been adapting to climate change. However, pastoralist have recently become low adaptable due to the variability in weather resulting in severe drought and flash floods. The intensity, frequency, and magnitude of weather-related changes are proving to be a challenge for the predominantly pastoralist and agropastoralist Region.

Guiding Principles and Cross Cutting Themes

Government Led: The primary responsibility for providing solutions for displaced households and communities will be assumed by the Somali Regional government. Programmatic action will be based on dialogue and guidance from government authorities in relation to the government's own plans for recovery of the Somali Region.

Nexus Oriented: The Strategy will be founded on linkages between humanitarians and development actors. This favors a successful pursuit of integration oriented to humanitarian and development needs, opportunities for joint gradual programming, and consistent criteria and processes for joint monitoring and learning.

The centrality of protection: At the heart of this Strategy is the centrality of protection. All interventions will maintain the rights of affected populations. Measures will be taken to avoid any exposure of displacement affected communities to protection risks and vulnerabilities. Specific attention must be given to the needs of the most vulnerable, including ensuring their prioritized access to adequate basic services, shelter, nutritious food, material support, justice, reconciliation, documentation, and specialized services. All interventions, irrespective of sector, will be underpinned in design by sound protection analysis. Compliance with human rights and international humanitarian law forms an integral part of the Strategy.

Area Based-Whole of Society: While internally displaced populations in ongoing or protracted displacement are the primary focus of this strategy, the needs and resilience of the communities hosting IDPs and those into which the IDPs will integrate or relocate, are of critical importance. The strategy ensures area-based and whole of community approaches which avoid discrimination on account of displacement or host status, recognizing that displacement affected all of the community. Equitable access to humanitarian and longer-term assistance for profoundly affected host communities as well as those of the displaced is essential. This Strategy will therefore be community-focused in scope and delivery. As such, while some assistance – notably initial humanitarian support – may meet individual or household level needs, equitable assistance for host as well as displaced groups will be planned from the outset. This lens will be applied across return, resettlement and local integration programming models as they evolve. The strategy also recognizes that, occasionally, local integration for displaced populations may involve refugees as well as IDPs and host communities. In such circumstances, an area approach, which does not distinguish between IDPs, refugees, and other displacement affected populations, will be the way forward.

Evidence and Needs Driven: In order to maximize the durability of the solutions offered to the Somali Region's displacement affected communities, implementation of the strategy will be needs based. By this, needs will be assessed and planned for across the full humanitarian to development and resilience spectrum. This will include mapping of the particular needs, sector by sector, for baseline models for return, local integration, or resettlement. This intends to ensure that the particular programmatic requirements of IDPs, host communities and returnees are tailored to each solution option, based on the particularities of the local context and particular displacement experiences, and data driven, context and area specific with data collection and analysis informing processes.

Conflict sensitivity: As part of the Strategy and subsequent Action Plan, updated conflict analysis and conflict sensitivity risk assessments per target area will be carried out or existing to ensure that plans and interventions are, at a minimum, conflict sensitive. This means that there is an adequate understanding of how interventions will interact with the local context (incl. conflict drivers, sources of tensions, power structures, etc) and mitigating measures are put into place from the onset of activities. Where instances or trends of increasing tensions are detected during implementation, due to interventions, social cohesion and peacebuilding actors will be called upon to identify appropriate pathways to address or mitigate tensions through appropriate interventions and adaption of activities as needed.



Community Engagement and accountability: The needs, aspirations, priorities and capacities of displacement affected groups (including host communities) are at the centre of recovery and resilience strengthening processes. Displacement affected communities will be fully involved in the planning and implementation of interventions, with specific attention to promoting community ownership. Programmatic interventions will encourage participatory community-based approaches for assessments, planning, implementation, and monitoring to allow affected populations to be decision makers in their recovery. In support of accountability to affected populations this also includes enabling means to provide feedback and complaints and active two-way communication to ensure those who provide support are accountable to populations in areas targeted for durable solutions intervention.

Gender and social inclusion: The Strategy takes into account gender perspectives, ensuring that interventions have a positive impact in enabling women's rights, voices and participation, and benefit girls, women, boys and men. Men and women, boys and girls typically have different needs and experience different barriers or challenges in accessing and pursuing their preferred pathways towards solutions, due to societal gender norms, as well as laws and practices that can be discriminatory. In recognising the specificity of barriers, all action put forth by the Strategy considers recognition of these differential needs and ensures a gender-sensitive lens. In consideration of the disproportionate impact of displacement on persons with disabilities and despite the limited availability of reliable data on the numbers of people with disability in the Somali Region, the Strategy will maintain a **disability inclusion approach** in the design, conceptualisation and implementation of programmes and activities. All processed implemented as part of this Strategy seeks to ensure people with disabilities are consulted and the specific barriers faced are identified and prioritised.

Localisation: In consideration of the Somali Region's specific dynamics the strategy adopts a tailored approach to durable solutions in line with international commitments to localization. The Strategy therefore aimed to support

civil society strengthening and ownership. Interventions recognise the importance of supporting and strengthening local initiatives, local organizations and community networks, and of using approaches such as community outreach services and structures as these instrumental to resilience building and sustainability.

Safety: Settlement shall be in areas where the physical, legal or material safety of IDPs would not be at risk. The Somali Regional government in collaboration with other relevant actors have the responsibility to ensure that places of settlement are safe, i.e. free from any military activities and risk of attacks on as arriving populations, free of explosive hazard contamination, and the physical safety of the IDPs is provided for by civilian security forces. This includes villages and houses, access roads, and areas where all displacement affected populations have access to basic services and available public utilities without discrimination. This implies notably access in the early phases of settlement to means of survival and basic services, such as potable water, electricity, health services and education. Facilitation of solutions will take into consideration absorption capacity in settlement areas, to avoid potential competition for scarce resources among returnees, IDPs and/ or between the non-displaced community.

Dignified and Rights Based: Facilitating solutions particularly any movement from areas of displacement will be **dignified** well-organized, without undue hardship on vulnerable individuals, particularly older persons, persons with disabilities, chronic illnesses, female-headed households, children or other disadvantaged groups. Action to support return, relocation, and locally integration will be well-organized and ensure family unity is maintained at all times. This is particularly in the case of multi-ethnic/multi-clan households. Support to IDPs efforts will devise operations, policies, and plans will **safeguard the rights** of displacement affected communities (including host communities) in areas of return, relocation and local integration.

Informed: Displacement affected populations will be provide adequate information to IDPs prior to making decisions impacting their displacement status. Information on the conditions in areas of settlement i.e. security situation, status of infrastructure, availability of services, explosive hazard contamination any assistance provided upon arrival, etc). The information will include explanation of the rights of IDPs. The provision of information will ensure IDPs are able to make an informed choice on whether and when to return, relocate, or locally integrate.

Non-Discriminatory: Interventions will adhere to principles of due process and non-discrimination. Particular individuals or groups will not be singled out for privileged treatment, or barred from returning, relocating, or locally integrating on the grounds of, inter alia, ethnicity, language, religion, clan, gender, age, social group or political affiliation.

Voluntary: All relevant actors need to respect the right of IDPs to make an informed and voluntary choice on what durable solution to pursue and to participate in the planning and management of durable solutions. IDPs' decision-making on whether and when to return, relocate, or locally integrate will be devoid of any form of coercion or influence. IDPs will not be induced to return or relocating through withholding of humanitarian assistance, reducing humanitarian assistance, closing IDP camps and sites, eviction from informal settlements or other temporary accommodation, ID confiscation, or arbitrary arrest/detention.

Strategic Vision

Foundations for sustainable community recovery, resilience and peaceful co-existence are established through the voluntary and dignified return, relocation, and local integration of displacement affected persons in the Somali Region of Ethiopia with nexus based interventions implemented to secure long-term safety and security, adequate standard of living without discrimination, access to livelihoods and employment, effective and accessible mechanisms to restore housing, land and property, access to civil documentation, family reunification, participation in public affairs, access to effective remedies and justice for all displacement affected communities.

Strategic Objective 1) Return to rural and urban areas: Conditions for conducive and sustainable voluntary, safe, and dignified returns to rural and urban areas are created with returnees supported to secure their legal, material, and physical safety.

Both climate and conflict induced IDPs that have chosen to return continue to face challenges in obtaining durable solutions – in particular with regard to accessing basic services, resumption of livelihoods, and obtaining housing, land, and property; this also includes for mobile communities taking into consideration their unique profiles. Returnees will be supported to address barriers to reintegration while also being empowered to withstand climate induced shocks particularly those resulting in the depletion of livelihoods for pastoral and agropastoral populations.

Strategic Objective 2) Relocation to rural and urban areas: Lasting relocation is supported through dynamic interventions that consider proper planning aimed at enable integration and sustaining community cohesion.

It is vital that relocation does not result in the creation of residential areas marginalized for the rest of the hosting community with limited services with relocation areas resembling informal sites or camp like settings. The regional government has identified rural relocation sites where IDPs are already or can be settled to relocate if they choose to do so. Locations have been categorized in accordance to clan affiliation under the assumption that these areas would display lower risk to community cohesion.

IDPs may also choose to self-relocate to urban areas where land availability, housing, and community dynamics would permit this. This may include traders, owners or employees of businesses, or construction workers who may not be able to locally integrate but prefer to start a new life in an urban area particularly due to access to urban based livelihoods.

Both urban and rural solutions to displacement rely on the appropriate links between regional-zonal planning and budgeting. Urban solutions also rely on a multi-sector comprehensive response from the local authorities, municipal authorities, service provision institutions, IDP/host community representatives, and UN/NGO/CSOs. For IDPs unable to return and preferring to relocate this objective aims to action elements and activities necessary to make such relocations sustainable.

Strategic Objective 3) Local integration: Where feasible, non-discriminatory, equitable, and community cohesive interventions are explored to support IDPs in addressing barriers to their integration.

While rural and urban relocation will provide solutions for most camp displaced IDPs namely those at Qolaji, further exploration is needed to assess the feasibility of the transformation of Qolaji the site into a small city for IDPs who cannot be relocated an opportunity for local integration. This would include greater advocacy and engagement with host community populations in Babile, where Qolaji camp is located.

Strategic objectives will be realized and structured around strategic priority areas and associated thematic specific strategic objectives aligned to the eight criteria of the IASC Durable Solutions Framework and expanded to fit local realities and displacement dynamics.

Priority Areas	Priority Area Objectives
PA1- Nexus based interventions	Transitional interventions are facilitated to support populations in fulfilling their immediate humanitarian needs in areas of return, resettlement and local integration and graduate towards meeting their longer term recovery and development priorities.
PA2-Climate resilience	Climate resilient communities are established to enhance inclusive, sustainable recovery and self-reliance in areas susceptible to climate induced shocks and impacted by returns, resettlement and local integration.
PA3-Community Participation	Communities impacted by displacement, returns, resettlement or local integration (including IDPs and host communities) are able to define, own and drive their preferred solutions
PA4- Standard of Living and Basic Services	<p>Displacement affected communities are able to access the means to sustain an adequate standard of living with equitable access to basic services</p> <p>Sub-objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communities in areas impacted by return, resettlement and local integration are able to access adequate public infrastructure including WASH facilities, roads, and electricity • Communities in areas impacted by return, resettlement or local integration are able to access quality health services • Children of school going age, in communities in areas impacted by return, resettlement or local integration are able to attend school • Communities in areas impacted by return, resettlement or local integration are able to access their sufficient food to address minimum dietary, nutritional and calorific requirements (re-word).
PA5 – Housing , Land, and Property	Displacement affected populations have sustainable access to housing and security of tenure with area level planning facilitated to ensure (re)integration of arriving populations
PA6 – Livelihoods and economic recovery	Communities in areas of return, resettlement or local integration have been able to restore their pre-displacement livelihoods or diversify livelihood sources in order to establish resilience to climatic and human induced shocks.
PA7 -Access, protection, legal safety, documentation, and justice	Through rights-based interventions, protection safeguards and legal safety are secured with individuals able to access documentation and justice
PA8– Safety and Security	Displacement affected populations feel safer and more secure in their areas of settlement
PA9– Peacebuilding and social cohesion	Displacement affected populations are able to live together peacefully, with inter-communal trust strengthened
PA10-Dignified assisted movement	Individuals are supported to return, relocate, and locally integrate through dignified movement with family unification maintained

Priority Area 1 Nexus based interventions -Transitional interventions are facilitated to support populations in fulfilling their immediate humanitarian needs in areas of return, resettlement and local integration and graduate towards meeting their longer-term recovery and development priorities.

The Somali Region Government and partners are committed to moving the response from a purely humanitarian programme to a longer term approach that provides meaningful new beginnings to the displaced and affected communities. The Region recognizes that humanitarian assistance cannot provide a pathway to Solutions as the core life-saving criteria of humanitarian activities do not provide ways or means to self-sufficiency or resilience. Therefore, a specific priority area has been designed to action the bridging of humanitarian and developmental programming.

This Priority Area aims to design and inform synergic programming where a holistic transitional and medium-term approach towards durable solutions for affected populations, linking interventions from areas of displacement to areas of settlement, integration and return is generated for onset solutions considerate approaches as a means of reducing dependency. Populations returning, resettling or integrating locally are almost certain to retain humanitarian needs for an interim period, which can continue concurrently with activities more focused on transition and recovery. As such, this priority objective demands effective joint programming by a combination of actors from the onset with expertise across multiple sectors and geographical areas. This typically involves close engagement and interaction between clusters and solutions-based coordination mechanisms to mobilize resources to steer distinct set of activities that adopt a graduation approach from humanitarian with an exit strategy towards recovery stabilization/ and development. Activities ranging from housing (rehabilitation and reconstruction), addressing HLP issues, short-term and sustainable livelihoods, urgent and permanent improvement of basic services, and short to longer term social protection schemes. It is essential that all humanitarian, recovery and development plans are aligned and harmonized if inefficiencies are to be avoided. This in turn requires detailed information on the types of Solutions projects and programs ('needs' in a displacement context) likely to be needed, based on numbers preferring Return, Resettlement and Integration. Each type of Solution will have a different projected set of core activities, timeline and budget.

Notably, humanitarian, stabilisation, recovery, and development can contribute to durable solutions even if this is not their primary objective. In addition, even when durable solutions are achieved, households can have persisting needs which are not displacement specific, such as when they return to areas that were already impoverished and underdeveloped prior to displacement. Whilst displaced groups and their hosts may continue to require timebound humanitarian assistance, focus on transition to recovery and development solutions as soon as conditions are conducive, including concurrently with the provision of humanitarian aid is foundational to the components of the Strategy. Bridging humanitarian, recovery, and development demands common outcomes and common classification of beneficiaries' status and needs. It also requires embedding medium and longer-term planning within humanitarian response. The transition from humanitarian assistance to self-reliance falls under the continuum of response to durable solutions and development, with each component overlapping and not being necessarily sequential. The integration of the different actors within a coherent planning, coordination and implementation process is key to the achievement of durable solutions and the sustainable (re)integration of IDPs. Therefore the humanitarian and durable solutions landscapes are designed to co-exist, with humanitarian maintaining focus on lifesaving needs and durable solutions serving as the transition from life-saving assistance to transitional assistance that serves to create the conditions in which former internally displaced persons (IDPs) can exit displacement and restart their lives in dignity, on equal footing to others in their communities and at the same time support host communities to equally overcome challenges resulting from the displacement situation. Efforts are aimed to secure planned, voluntary solutions to enable the displaced and host communities to start on the path to self-sufficiency.

Activities under Priority Area 1 will include:

- *Inclusion of Somali Region DSI representatives in humanitarian planning.*
- *Inclusion of exit strategy and mainstream solutions in Somali Region emergency related plans including in planning related to camp recategorization, closure, and decongestion*
- *Onset solutions related activities in camp management programming including the creation of urban out of camp community resource centers to support issues faced as a result of urban displacement*
- *Support and advocate at the Addis level for longer term funding that is not tied to humanitarian/life-saving principles exclusively.*
- *Strengthen the Somali Region DSI (Durable Solutions Steering Committee, Durable Solutions Technical*

Advisory Group, and Durable Solutions Working Group) by including all humanitarian and development actors with mandate and engagement for the longer term interventions

- *Map programming that encourages a 'graduation' approach during community based planning, area level assessments by both government, organization, and clusters including labor market and spatial planning assessments.*
- *Greater collaboration between the Bureau of Disaster Risk Management and Bureau of Planning in humanitarian and relief response*

Priority Area 2 Climate Resilience-Climate resilient communities are established to enhance inclusive, sustainable recovery and self-reliance in areas susceptible to climate induced shocks and impacted by returns, resettlement and local integration.

Severe climate variability resulting in repeated droughts have had an acute impact on the Region's growth and development. Significant increment of temperature with high inter annual and seasonal rainfall variability have been causing adverse impact on crop and livestock production. Furthermore, overgrazing, erosion, lack of soil fertility all due to the climate change has had detrimental impact on the Somali agro-pastoralist society. Priority Area 2 focuses on efforts aimed at building the climate resilience of communities. This would objectively look to versatile interventions focused on operation, research, social protection schemes, and social behavior changed and education to help build the tolerance of populations to extreme weather conditions. This would include equitable access and sustainable use of natural resources, while improving environmental management, providing equitable access to livelihood support and basic social services, improving disaster risk management capabilities and preparedness; and improved partnerships all while taking into consideration the regions unique nomadic pastoralist communities.

Activity under Priority Area 2 will include but not limited to:

- *Early crop maturing, and improved livestock breeds for pastoral households.*
- *Joint interventions by the Bureau of Water, Agriculture, Livestock, Disaster Risk Management Bureau, and Bureau of Planning together with partners for expansion and innovation of water related intervention such as small-scale irrigation, innovative farming and water harvesting during good rainy seasons.*
- *is also paramount to enhance climate reliance of the local people.*
- *Adoption of green techniques including dry valley production and effective and sustainable use of degraded land in the Somali region to deter migration to cities.*
- *Community participatory land planning and introduction of biological measures tailor made to the local culture.*
- *Community for development (C4D) initiatives geared towards sensitization to foster social behavior change amongst populations to adopt 'greener' livelihood techniques*
- *Microinsurance schemes for pastoralist*
- *Community based asset creation program for rural migrants relocating to urban locations at times due to climate*
- *Investment in climate resilience research*
- *Enhancement of early warning systems and disaster risk mitigation planning*

PA3 Community Participation -Communities impacted by displacement, returns, resettlement or local integration (including IDPs and host communities) are able to define, own and drive their preferred solutions

To enhance ownership and sustainability of interventions, Priority Area 3 focuses on ensure community ownership of solutions to address their displacement. Activities will to the extent possible be based on community identified needs, priorities, and solutions which empowers displacement-affected communities to plan and drive initiatives for political, economic and social recovery, build resilience to withstand future shocks, and foster peaceful co-existence. Inclusion of affected community members in areas impacted by return, relocation, and local integration based durable solutions promote democratic community inclusive governance and social inclusion. A particularly important and effective method of participation for affected communities is the use of gender/age/diversity inclusive community-based planning (CBP) to identify priorities to build basic infrastructure and create livelihoods to promote recovery, resilience, protection, and peaceful co-existence within the communities. CBP ensures that interventions respond to what communities regard as the most important issues to address, and works to empower

different groups within the communities, while facilitating dialogues and trust building amongst them in this process. Institutionalizing community participation in local development planning and including IDPs in formal local decision-making structures is essential to help them fully integrate and benefit from the same level civic and political rights as well as social services than host community members. Strengthening grass-roots governance is also a crucial element as a means to build sustainable interventions.

Activities under Priority Area 3 may include but are not limited to:

- *Community based planning and participatory assessment to develop Community Action Plans in areas of return, relocation, and local integration*
- *Community based protection initiatives including outreach groups and committees*
- *Community based governance and resource management initiatives*
- *Capacity building of community based groups (CBOs) and civil society organizations*
- *Support to age and gender specific community based groups*
- *Community based monitoring and feedback and complaints mechanisms*

PA4 Standard of Living and Basic Services-Displacement affected communities are able to access the means to sustain an adequate standard of living with equitable access to basic services

Sub-objectives

- *Communities in areas impacted by return, resettlement and local integration are able to access adequate public infrastructure including WASH facilities, roads, and electricity*
- *Communities in areas impacted by return, resettlement or local integration are able to access quality health services*
- *Children of school going age, in communities in areas impacted by return, resettlement or local integration are able to attend school*
- *Communities in areas impacted by return, resettlement or local integration are able to access their sufficient food to address minimum dietary, nutritional and calorific requirements (re-word).*

Priority Area 4 will mobilize resources aimed at strengthening service provisions and establishing essential services based on gaps identified in area level service mapping and planning. Ensuring populations integrating into the urban area can access services is a core element to ensure (re)integration efforts are supported. In order to contribute to improved standards of living, a combination of infrastructure programs and support to the re-establishment of essential services will be prioritized based on gaps identified. Basic service interventions will restore service provision and, where needed, scale up their reach in order to account for the additional population now residing in the areas with a view to immediate as well as long-term service provision. Gaps will be prioritized with a focus on sustainability of reintegration. These interventions will include a combination of physical reconstruction and support to restore service delivery mechanisms.

Depending on woreda level planning, availability of resources, and gaps Activities of Priority Area 4 may include:

- **Food assistance:** for returnees and relocated IDPs for a specific time frame
- **Education:** Support to enrolment of IDP and returnee children in schools, Provision of catch-up classes for children in a non-formal environment, Provision of remedial education/accelerated learning for children and youth, Provision of structured school-based PSS, Provision of teaching and learning material out of camps, Rehabilitation of school buildings, Technical support and capacity building of teaching personnel and school administrators
- **Health:** Provision of essential health services, Pre camp departure health screening and provision of medicines for transition period, Nutrition and immunization, Physical rehab of patients, Sexual and reproductive health, Treatment of common diseases, Increase access to essential Health services – reconstruction of health facilities, equipment of health facilities, technical support to medical personnel, support to Bureau of Health
- **Road infrastructure:** While deploying road infrastructure a hierarchy of roads needs to be defined to allow further accommodation of urban services. In the case of main roads, a length of 25m will allow enough space for drainage, installment of solar lights, space for economic activities, public transport stops and parking in the future urban the development in the new neighborhood.
- **Infrastructure rehabilitation and construction for provision of basic services:** including electricity

- networks., Restoration or new construction of local administration buildings or community centres, **WASH:** Rehabilitation or construction of water pumping, treatment and distribution network, rehabilitation and construction of drainage and sanitation systems, reestablishment of sanitation/solid waste management services, provision of hygiene-related NFIs, deployment of household level water facilities linked to community septic tanks, expansion of area-wide sewer systems and garbage disposal sites.

PA5 – Housing , Land, and Property-Displacement affected populations have sustainable access to housing and security of tenure with area level planning facilitated to ensure (re)integration of arriving populations

It is important to create an effective and accessible mechanism to resolve housing, land property disputes, relevant to displacement Interventions under Priority Area 5 aims to increase the resilience of displacement affected communities by ensuring equitable access to housing, land, and access to tenure. Although land is owned by the state and individuals have no rights but to use it, authorities must take care to secure availability of enough land both for farming and grazing, as well as for building houses in ways that the local community agrees to avoid future land related conflicts. In order to achieve this objective, interventions will include a combination of housing and shelter assistance on the one hand, and legal assistance to protect and promote HLP rights on the other. A set of activities including provision of information and counselling on HLP rights and available redress mechanisms, provision of legal assistance and representation to obtain/restore HLP documentation, facilitation of submission of claims for property compensation and formal and informal/alternative dispute resolution mechanisms to resolve issues of inheritance and secondary occupation, sensitization on land rights and land occupancy, and spatial planning. Support provided will consider both property in the area of settlement and in their area of origin, to ensure individuals do not forego their right to property even in case they opt not to return. These activities will be closely coordinated with shelter interventions, to ensure durable and transitional shelter interventions are carried out in line with the necessary HLP safeguards.

Efforts will map regional level strategies on land administration and initiate development of regional land policy. The policy would aim to describe land management, land administration mechanisms, institutional responsibility to ensure that relocation and local integration plans are linked to urban master plans and service delivery. Further thorough examination of Ethiopian law (including regional) is important to determine options related to the issues of restitution, compensation and redress for the assets and property lost prior to/during displacement.

Interventions will be transitional to address immediate and more permanent housing needs. By this, after deployment of transitional shelter and skill delivery in construction, an assessment of shelter needs and purchase power of IDPs and hosting communities will be carried out to improve accessibility to permanent self-constructed housing, durable shelter, or large-scale investment in affordable housing. For population relocating, returning, or locally integrating to urban areas rental subsidy may be implemented for immediate or short-term support.

Activities under Priority Area 5 may include but are not limited to:

- *Housing rehabilitation and reconstruction*
- *Provision of temporary shelter options for an interim period followed by low cost permanent shelter options*
- *Rental subsidies and cash assistance for rent*
- *Provision of legal assistance and counseling*
- *Advocacy with key stakeholders including local kebele representative and woreda administrators to secure documentation and security of tenure in areas of return, resettlement or local integration*
- *Spatial planning for local integration and relocation areas*

PA6 Livelihoods and economic recovery -Communities in areas of return, resettlement or local integration have been able to restore their pre-displacement livelihoods or diversify livelihood sources in order to establish resilience to climatic and human induced shocks.

In order to ensure an adequate standard of living displaced households must be supported to develop diversified and sustainable livelihoods that will contribute to increased resilience. Priority Area 6 focuses on livelihoods, economic recovery, and job creation to secure income generation for returning, relocating, and locally integrating individuals and hosting communities. Access to sustainable income and livelihoods for all segments of the population irrespective

of their displacement status is instrumental both to enable the sustainable return and reintegration of displaced populations and to create conducive conditions for acceptance of individuals relocating and integrating locally in other parts of the country. This requires a combination of a range of policies and innovative interventions to support displacement affected individuals including access to markets, access to agricultural land and irrigation, innovative climate resilient livelihoods, restocking, access to veterinary services, access to irrigation, relevant financial safety nets and insurance schemes, and capacity building for livelihood diversification all while taking into consideration the needs of pastoral and agropastoral populations to generate disaster resilient markets to increase livelihoods and employment opportunities. This would include long term support for those displaced from rural and settling in urban areas and those holding livelihood profiles that demand adaptation to the profiles of their settlement areas.

Livelihoods programs aimed at addressing both immediate needs for income generation (such as cash for work) and creation of sustainable livelihoods will be rolled out across all priority locations. Interventions will take into account a combination of socio-economic vulnerabilities, with tailored efforts to ensure the inclusion of women and people living with disabilities, including through graduation approaches where appropriate. Wherever possible, close linkages with private sector development programmes will be sought to align capacity development programmes (e.g. skills development and vocational training) with the labour market needs of a recovering. Thorough analysis of local labor markets and value chains will form the basis for identification of suitable livelihood and income-generating activities. This will help facilitate a triangulation of data informing the livelihood profiles of individuals that choose relocation and locally integrate with the livelihood options at the preferred site to lay the foundations for durable solutions. Simultaneously efforts will aim to provide social protection for pastoralist and agro-pastoralist populations most vulnerable to climate induced shocks and assets for displacement affected households to be self-reliant and resume their previous or new preferred livelihoods.

Looking at more longer-term development oriented means of income generation and job creation, establishment of public private partnerships will be led by the regional government and Somali Chamber of Commerce to identify business development and job placement schemes with the consultation and participation of the targeted population. For example, coordination procedures strengthened with regards to access land, businesses registration and business transactions; including certain tax exemptions – even if for a set time will ease the way of business operations, attracting investment or supporting local innovation and business development. Further significant policy level reform and structural investment are required to create enabling environment for private sector businesses-this requires detailed analysis of market conditions, value chains, stakeholder mapping, and partnership building and sequencing of investments which require long term funding commitments.

Activities under Priority Area 6 will range from:

- *Assets recovery and rehabilitation,*
- *Increasing access to and quality of financial and employment services,*
- *Rehabilitation and re-establishment of markets and value-chain where these have been significantly affected,*
- *Explosives clearance of agricultural land and other productive infrastructure, such as irrigation infrastructure.*
- *Market and value chain assessments (where needed or built upon where existent),*
- *Partnerships between Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TEVT) and education institutions for adapting training curricula,*
- *Job placement schemes established jointly with the Somali Chambers of Commerce and local companies, Strengthening of regulatory frameworks to enhance business-friendly environments,*
- *Partnerships with micro-finance and banking institutions to lower thresholds for accessing credit and loans, etc.*
- *Livelihood diversification through equitable and better access to*
- *Community bases management of irrigation infrastructure, irrigation agronomy, irrigation scheduling, and maintenance of irrigation equipment,*
- *Agricultural and non-agricultural short and long-term income generation / subsistence.*
- *Insurance scheme and social-safety net programmes for pastoralist and agropastoralist to build climate reliance*
- *Savings and lending associations*

- *Short term employment creation opportunities such as cash for work, particularly targeting youth*

PA7 Access, protection, legal safety, documentation, and justice-Through rights based interventions, protection safeguards and legal safety are secured with individuals able to access documentation and justice

The Somali Regional government has the responsibility to remove legal and administrative barriers to return, relocate, and locally integrate as well as ensure legal systems comply with international human rights and standards to enable IDPs and returnees to exercise their basic civil, political and economic rights without prejudice. Priority Area 7 focuses on safeguarding the protection of displacement affected communities. Priority Area is multifaceted to look at the multitude of protection needs of DACs. In efforts to meet Priority 7 objectives efforts will include supporting DACs to access personal and other civil documentation, access to justice, specialized services to address any exposure to protection risk and protection of their human rights. This Priority also focuses on mental health and psycho-social needs of DACs.

Protection services and community-level protection interventions include: Provision of individual protection services (General Protection, GBV, explosive ordnance risk education and CP) and strengthening of community-level protection mechanisms, and provision of MHPSS services. Activities could be implemented both through direct delivery by protection, demining and MHPSS actors and in collaboration with relevant government institutions and other relevant service providers at community level, including through technical support and capacity building.

Access to civil documentation is key for displacement affected communities in fully exercising their rights as citizens and for sustainable return, local integration or relocation. Activities aimed at improving access to civil documentation for IDPs, returnees and host community members include provision of information, legal counselling and legal representation. Information provision and legal counselling inform affected communities of the processes required to obtain documentation, including in areas of displacement, areas of origin and areas of local integration.

Efforts will also look to strengthen institutional reform and capacity building at all levels to, ascertaining rule of law and enforcement, strengthening implementation capacity of justice organs, strengthening customary dispute resolutions mechanisms will all contribute to fostering access to justice through an accountable judicial system for DACs.

Protection activities may be implemented both through static and mobile modalities and should target residents in the area based on needs and vulnerability rather than on displacement status.

Activities under Priority Area 7 may include:

- *Legal counselling, assistance, representation for access to civil documentation*
- *Strengthening judiciary, support to legal system, legal aid and access to justice*
- *Legal assistance and representation for individuals in detention*
- *Sensitize communities on localised systems for identifying, referring and responding to human rights violations*
- *Established referral mechanisms for those who experience discrimination, sexual and gender-based violence (GBV) at regional, zonal, and the woreda level.*
- *Technical assistance for strengthening rule of law and capacity building*
- *Community inclusive protection initiatives including committees and outreach groups*
- *Post returns, resettlement or integration monitoring*
- *Specialized support for child, GBV, and MHPSS related cases*
- *Community based MHPSS and individual counseling*
- *Increase of mobile social workers and strengthening of safe spaces for GBV and child protection survivors*
- *Capacity building of local authorities on protection principles*
- *Protection analysis and risk mitigation for all areas of return, relocation, and local integration*
- *Social inclusion initiatives targeting persons with disabilities*

PA8 Safety and Security-Displacement affected populations feel safer and more secure in their areas of settlement

Interventions under this Priority Area will seek to strengthen safety and security of displaced individuals through supporting security sector reform and by addressing aspects of how security actors engage with civilian population. Priority Area 8 builds on Priority area 7 with the two compounds where together the legal and physical safety of individuals can be addressed. Efforts will notably be aimed at identifying locations where interventions targeting sustainable safety and security will include Do No Harm analysis to assess whether interventions may make IDP hosting areas and inhabitants more vulnerable and/or exposed to the safety and security related risk; this includes identify a range of security related concerns which may affect the sustainability of durable solutions. Interventions will also be implemented in a manner that ensures local security providers are functioning, able to respond to the security needs of populations in a manner that is rights based and protection central. This will be done through interventions to strengthen community policing and community security, building capacity of police, technical support for community-oriented and gender-responsive policing and institutional strengthening.

Activities under Priority Area 8 will include but are not limited to:

- *Security sector reform*
- *Woreda and kebele level community policing and community safety forum*
- *Capacity building capacity of police*
- *Technical support for community-oriented and gender-responsive policing*

PA9 Peacebuilding and social cohesion-Displacement affected populations are able to live together peacefully, with inter-communal trust strengthened

Being aware of potential tensions and conflicts between returned, relocated, or locally integrated IDPs and receiving communities is essential for making interventions successful. Thus, any durable solutions interventions must be informed by an area specific participatory conflict analysis with identified mitigation measures which should be monitored and updated through community – based processes. Priority Area 9 focuses on enabling community cohesive societies by strengthening formal and informal peace and reconciliation structures. Community Peacebuilding, Social Cohesion and Reconciliation including IDPs together with host community members is important to ensure mechanisms for local dispute resolution can address the needs of both populations, offer platforms for discussing community tensions, and in the event of violent incidents promote reconciliation between communities. Offering mental health and psychosocial support to victims and perpetrators of violence is also necessary to heal traumas, rebuild trust and (re)build social cohesion. This objective will be achieved on the one hand through social cohesion and peacebuilding interventions with the two-fold objective of enabling future returns and at maintaining a safe and enabling environment in areas of returns and areas of relocation on the long-term. Interventions will include support to local peace and reconciliation structures and platforms, support to regional and local institutions and stakeholders on development and implementation of transitional justice, reconciliation and social cohesion initiatives, community-based social cohesion activities, community peace initiatives, and to strengthen community-based dispute resolution mechanisms (e.g., local peace committees) .

Furthermore, measures to promote consultation and dialogue between government, including security duty bearers, and communities to support restoration of trust at local level will be implemented. Consultations should strengthen trust in provision of and access to government services and programs for all residents independently from their displacement status and irrespective of whether they are originally from those areas or newly arrived and should seek to promote a space to involve different members of communities and authorities in planning and prioritization.

In areas where IDPs are relocated to their sub-clans such differences may pose problems in fully understanding each other's way of life and thus reinforce stereotypes of "us" and "them," which may lead to exclusion and discrimination, including for job opportunities or for accessing communal services.). Even though the host communities and relocatees are from the same clan, they may also have different levels of social awareness, including awareness about national laws, rules, and regulations. Such differences may contribute to social problems. Designing appropriate awareness increasing activities and sensitization to prevent such practices will be a priority for the government as well other partners.

Activities under Priority Area 9 may include but aren't limited to:

- *PEACEBUILDING Establish a policy and methodology for establishing conflict mitigation, mediation, resolution and peaceful co-existence*
- *Train local leadership in conflict mediation and resolution processes*
- *Conflict analysis to inform interventions*
- *Support to Local Peace and Reconciliation Structures/Platforms (incl. capacity building)*
- *Support to regional and local institutions and stakeholders on development and implementation of reconciliation and social cohesion initiatives*
- *Youth and women engagement efforts and/or support to volunteer networks (incl. capacity building).*
- *Community-based social cohesion activities and/or community peace initiatives (e.g. storytelling events, sports-for-peace and arts-for-peace activities, cultural events, dialogue and consultation, etc.).*
- *Joint social cohesion – economic development initiatives, social cohesion projects designed to address drivers of conflict.*
- *Increased coordination between social cohesion, humanitarian and development actors to strengthen existing and new initiatives, and nexus programming.*
- *Strengthen conflict early warning systems and community tension monitoring*
- *High level regional reconciliation round tables between community groups and policy makers and government officials*

PA10 Dignified assisted movement-Individuals are supported to return, relocate, and locally integrate through dignified movement with family unification maintained

Interventions in support of this objectives aim at enabling IDPs to access their chosen durable solution pathway in a voluntary, safe and dignified manner through dignified departures from formal and informal areas of displacement namely camps and informal sites through assisted movement

The established approach begins with an intentions survey, follow by the establishment of help desks or other outreach mechanisms in camps and in other relevant locations outside of camps in the location of displacement. Help desks aim to ensure voluntary registration to engage in 'assisted solutions interventions' where the desk are supplemented with information sessions to provide information material, FAQs, facilitate registration of households for the program, from pre-departure activities to support during and after return. Registration typically includes basic profiling information about households, including intentions, as well as information about key obstacles to returns and prospective locations of destination. Facilitated movements also seek to ensure destination communities are engaged, to understand needs and reduce the risk of tensions upon arrival of IDPs in particular locations.

Following registration, households may participate in go and see visits for them to engage in information sessions with local authorities and service providers in their respective areas of destination, in order to allow IDPs to better understand conditions in their areas or origin or other location before taking decisions to return or settle elsewhere, crucial steps in the process. In certain cases, either instead of or in addition to go-and-see visits, "come-and-tell visits" involve local authorities and host community representatives visiting displacement sites to engage in dialogue and conduct information sessions with IDPs.

Upon confirmation of intentions to depart, households are provided material support to organize their travel. Households are contacted with departure related information, emergency movement lines are set up, and participating families are provided with cash grants to independently handle their movement and address immediate needs upon arrival. In consideration of participants' safety, there could be instances where transportation for returning households is provided in kind – for example in case of particularly vulnerable households or where safety concerns during travel might be identified. Protection and vulnerability assessments are then carried out to understand households specific multi-sectoral needs. Lastly, upon departure Arrival desks or reception points are set up within the location of arrival to register households, distribute household arrival packages, contacts for feedback help lines, and to facilitate referrals for specialized services or case management where needed.

Activities under Priority Area 10 include:

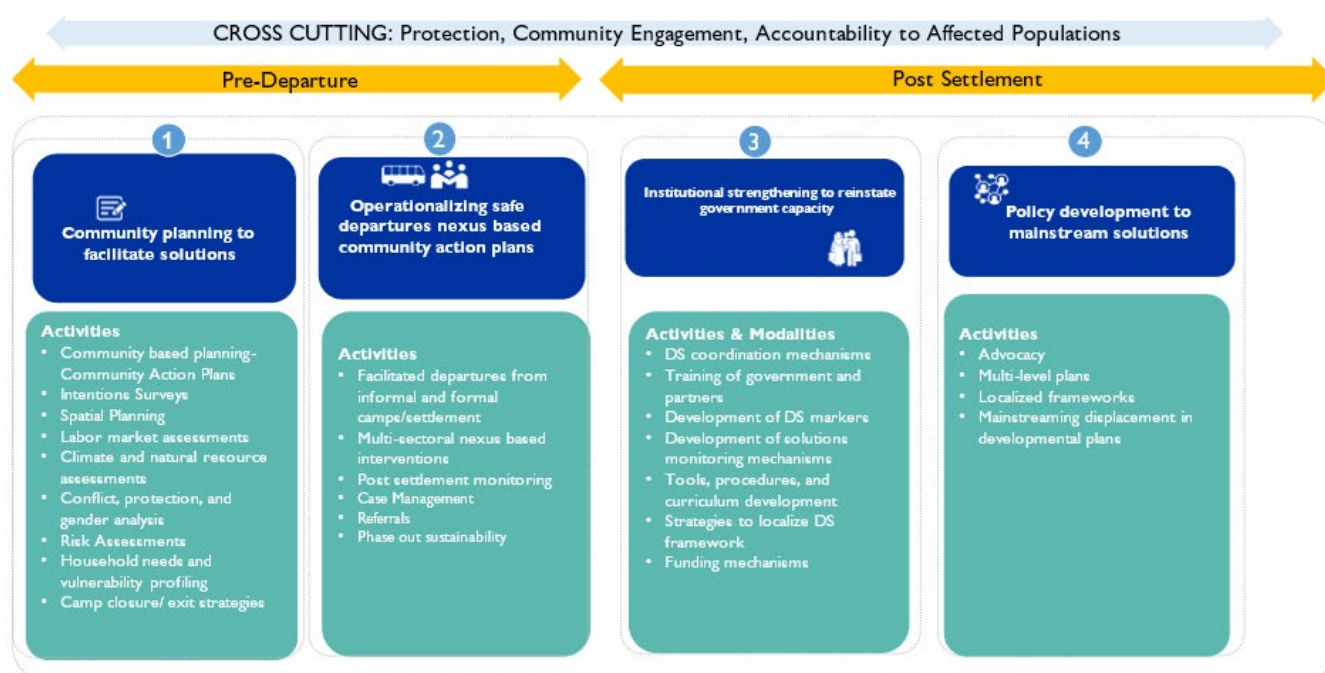
- *Intentions surveys*
- *Registration Voluntary Help Desk*
- *Sensitization and information dissemination on safe departures*
- *Household needs profiling*
- *Go & See and Come and Tell visits*
- *Facilitated return, relocation movements through transportation assistance*
- *Provision of cash-based departure and reintegration assistance*
- *Post-return/post-displacement monitoring and referral for specialized services*



Operational Methodology

The operational methodology of the Strategy is currently being trialed to develop a viable proof of concept for operationalizing durable solutions for internally displaced persons in the Somali Region. Operations are built on a multifaceted approach to ensure that programming acknowledges the experiences of displaced populations as they move towards resolving their displacement. To this end, operations are staged to cover pre- departure and post settlement (re)integration needs with interventions implemented in both locations of displacement and areas of settlement. The framework revolves around a phased workflow and falling within four key phases of interventions:

Durable Solutions Operational Methodology



Phase 1: Objectives of phase 1 are related to the planning aspect of interventions. This includes the development of community based assessments and planning, sector specific planning impacting livelihoods, shelter, protection, and basic service related interventions, developmental and spatial planning, conflict, protection, and risks analysis; Phase 1 also includes the development of exit strategies related to humanitarian interventions including camp closure, recategorization, and decongestion. Primarily, the product of phase 1 provides 1) situation overview and 2) planning to generate and inform operations with follow up phases geared towards responding to the given context. Phase one utilizes community inclusive and data driven mechanisms to encourage both informed intentions amongst IDPs and evidence-based interventions for government and partners. In effect, phase 1 activities ensure that operations are rolled out in a manner that considers the needs, locations, obstacles, and displacement realities. Phase 1 activities capture an understanding of intentions amongst IDPs, solutions related barriers, and prospective areas of return, relocation, and local integration. Once locations of prospective settlement are identified, community level assessments are carried out to map needs with the view to inform area-based interventions aimed at making conditions in areas of settlement accommodating, conducive, and cohesive for sustainable returns, relocation, and integration. Through government, partner, and community inclusive sector specific community consultative assessment and planning processes, community owned and driven action plans are developed to outline transitional solutions to respond to the needs identified.

Phase 2: Phase two is crucial to the sustainability of returns, relocation, and local integration and ultimately to enable the longer-term reintegration of formerly displaced populations. Phase two activities are structured in recognition that solutions to displacement are progressive as populations transition from humanitarian assistance to self-reliance. In order to support reintegration, medium to long-term interventions across a wide variety of sectors and modalities are required. In consideration of this focus, phase four exemplifies the multisectoral dynamic nature

of the operational methodology built on nexus principles where humanitarian, recovery/stabilization, peace and development operations are bridged to ensure a continuum of support to households. Activities objectively respond to the needs of households through a graduation model first with immediate relief interventions that graduate towards recovery interventions. The phase is framed around a theory of change, depicting short, medium, and long-term outcomes. Phase two can be broken into four areas. 1) Preparedness and response activities including facilitating movement. 2) shorter term transitional multisectoral operations 3) Reintegration support modalities, which include community centres to facilitate targeted service provision, outreach, referrals, information counselling, and feedback mechanisms 3.) medium term recovery based operations 4) longer term development oriented interventions. Post settlement monitoring, which includes households and community level monitoring to measure the impact of the durable solutions interventions is carried out during a four phases in support to facilitating community cohesion and detecting any exposure to risks.

Phase 3:

Phase 3 focuses on capacity building of the Somali Regional government and partners to mainstream and reinforce durable solutions through improved strategic coherence, high level coordination, and collective action between local authorities, humanitarian and development actors. Phase 3 brings together experts through the Somali Region DSI to provide technical assistance and advisory support for institutional strengthening and systems development to generate and sustain durable solutions outcomes. Phase 3 includes (1) development of operational quality control processes, systems, and tools to plan, implement, and monitor durable solutions, support regional strategies and area based plans; (2) develop durable solutions curriculum and context specific training material to facilitate capacity building of area level government and partners including comprehensive training on durable solutions will be carried out engaging local authorities at the zonal, woreda, and kebele levels. Trainings will include various modules including a durable solutions' training of trainers to encourage a thorough understanding of durable solutions across the government; (3) conduct indepth research to support solutions based advocacy, impact markers, and analysis; (4) cascade and localize strategies developed at the regional level to zonal and woreda levels; and (4) reinforce advocacy, under the leadership of the DSI, on the full range of durable solutions.

Phase 4:

Phase 4 focuses on ongoing advocacy and policy work to support durable solutions for IDPs. This includes mainstreaming of issues of displacement in key policy/strategy documents, including in regional development plans. Phase 4 will also call for engagement with federal level authorities.

Action Plan

This section of the Strategy will briefly summarize the Somali Region Durable Solutions Action Plan supplementing the 2022–2025 Strategy. The Action Plan backs the revised Menu of Options now covering 2022–2025 broken into bi-yearly costed plans. It shall be assumed that whilst the operational methodology can be applied to all three categories of solutions, implementation of the Action Plan considers that each solutions type will need to be significantly adapted to the respective contexts and related challenges, as well as the conditions and circumstances.

Target population

In line with the overall approach taken by the Somali Regional Government, and adopting an area-based approach targeting priority displacement-affected populations and host communities which considers context specific barriers to advancing towards a durable solution, as such interventions will include priority conflict and drought induced IDPs (in targeted camp and informal sites of displacement), returnees and host communities considered acutely vulnerable for the purposes of this strategy:

Protracted Conflict IDPs in camps: Considering the heightened vulnerability of many conflict IDPs in camps, their dependency on external support to cover their basic needs, ongoing and expected reductions in humanitarian funding, and other factors, all IDPs in camps are considered to be acutely vulnerable—with specific gender-based vulnerabilities—and as such part of the priority caseload of this Strategy.

Protracted Drought IDPs in formal and informal sites: Considering the protracted nature of this group efforts will be made to explore possibility of local integration of these groups in collaboration with camp management actors.

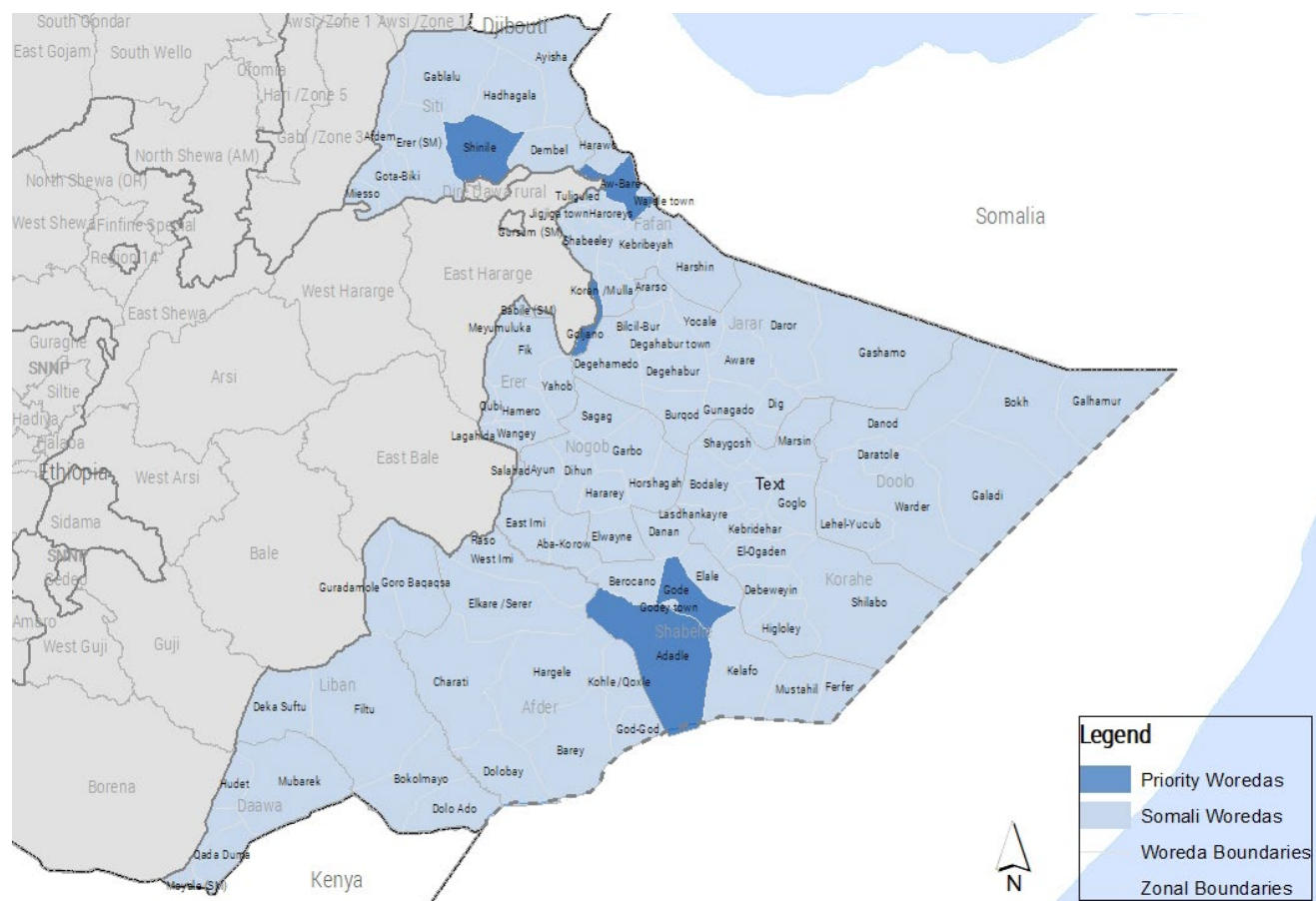
Newly displaced drought induced returnees: As of March 2022, selected drought induced IDPs have begun returning to their locations of origin. Though these individuals are not officially classified as returnees, support will be provided to ensure their movement back to their locations of origin are sustainable.

Vulnerable host community: In addition to the priority population groups described above, interventions will engage with and provide services to other vulnerable host community members living the same areas, namely those falling outside of the categories above such as 'stayees' who were never displaced. The inclusion of host community populations is intrinsic to area-based approaches and it ensures that assistance is provided on the basis of vulnerability and need, rather than status. Such an approach serves to reduce stigmatisation as well as the risk of interventions giving rise to or exacerbating community tensions.

Target Locations

Locations have been prioritized on the basis of the preferred solutions, feasibility of intervention, perceived community acceptance, availability of land and resources including funding, and anticipated number of individuals that will prospectively or have already settled in the given area. For relocation and local integrations as a means of mitigating risk of community tensions, areas have been selected based on shared clan affiliation. The DSI developed a checklist for rural relocations that include pre-arrival work in areas of relocation and the post arrival work that includes addressing immediate needs, but in parallel foresees addressing long-term needs. On feasibility of intervention, each of the selected sites have a tailored profile indicating existing resources and potential areas of investment that are catalytic and have potential to promote durable solutions, however further spatial planning will be needed for each of the targeted locations

Proposed Woreda Locations in Somali Region



Return sites

Woreda	Site	Number of households returned
Moyale	Malab	2016
Hudet	Dire Dima	646
Tuli Guled	Walgo	330
Tuli Guled	Tuli Town	870

Rural relocations sites

Zone	Woreda	Site	Number of households (HH) already relocated or expected to relocate	Status
Korehay	Kebridahar	Kodahle	71	Planned relocation site
Shebele	East Imey	Makule	518	112 HH have been relocated & arrived in this site
Shebele	Godey	Karinka/Bayahaw	500	Planned relocation site

Siti	Meiso	Meiso/ Somadaye/ Kurfasawe	208	176 HH relocated to Kurfasawe
Fafan	Kebribayah	Dhurwale	600	Planned relocation site
Fafan	Awbare	Awbre/Gorya Awl	415	250 HH are relocated in Awbare town
Siti	Erer	Magala'ad	188	IDPs have been relocated to this site
	Shinile	Jeedane/ Boran/Tome	500	453 HH relocated to Jedane
Jarar	Birkot	Qable	30	20 HH relocated
Jarar	Bilcilbur	Wadal??	569	Planned relocation site
Afder	Raso	Raso town	41	Relocated IDPs
Korahey	Marsin	Nusdariq	50	Relocated IDPs
Doolo	Wader	Robda'ay	316	Relocated IDPs
Korahey	El- Ogaden	Wabi-Ugur	200	Relocated IDPs
Fafan	Awbare	Wajale town	120	Self-relocated IDPs
Dollo	Galadin	Dhudub	300	IDPs selected this site during Qoloji IDPs voluntary sign up/registration on February 2022
Siti	Meiso	Qaraf	1000	To be confirmed

Urban relocations sites

Zone	Woreda	Site	HH	Status
Nogob	Ceel wayne	Ceel wayne town	109	Planned relocation
Fafan	Harorays	Harorays town	155	Relocated IDPs
Fafan	Goljano	Goljano town	205	Relocated IDPs
Fafan	Jigjiga	Jigjiga town	1089	Planned relocation
Shabele	Gode	Gode town	340	Planned relocation

Local integration site

Zone	Woreda	Site	HH	Status
Fafan	Babile	Qoloji	3,300	Planned local integration

Zone	Woreda	Site	HH	Status
Dawa	Hudet	El-Ma'an/ Celmacan	4,438	Planned local integration

Protracted drought IDPs sites for local integration

Zone	Woreda	Site	HH	Drought IDPs site
Doollo	Lehel Yu'ub	Yu'ub	736	Protracted Drought IDPs site
Afder	Barey	Masala Adun	1702	Protracted Drought IDPs site
Siti	Gablalu	Hariso	1180	Protracted Drought IDPs site
Jarar	Gashamo	Gashamo town	850	Protracted Drought IDPs site

New drought displacement IDPs sites of 2022 to support returns

Zone	Woreda	Site	HH	Remark
Shebele	Adadle	Higlo	2700	New drought IDPs site 2022
Dawa	MUBARAKA	Malka Wiila	395	New drought IDPs site 2022
Liban	Kersadule	Balicad	622	New drought IDPs site 2022
Nogob	CAYUN	Maralay	280	New drought IDPs site 2022
Jarer				

Operations

A detailed set of operations will be annexed to the Strategy and will be adopted as the official Action Plan following endorsement from the Durable Solutions Steering Committee on the yearly set of action and government focal points overseeing operational areas. For the purpose of this strategy, an activity set has been developed which will contribute to the Action Plan. The activity set adopts a graduation nexus model as depicted below. Further activities are to be added into the activity set following further planning and commitments from the Steering Committee and partners. As such the activity set and Action Plan will be live documents and the activities listed are not exhaustive.

Activity Set [activities are not exhaustive]				
SECTOR	Humanitarian-Short Term (>6 months)	Transition/Recovery Medium Term (6–12 months)	Stabilization (12 months<)	Associated Priority area
Shelter/ basic service infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Packages including standard items: Plastic sheeting, blankets, mattresses, kitchen sets, jerry cans, solar lanterns, etc. Shelter • Sealing-off kits (tools, plastic, timber, nails) will be provided for partially destroyed homes (depending on level of destruction). • Basic repairs will be carried out to weather-proof structures (if needed) • Emergency shelter & distribution of core relief items 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transitional shelter –[tents, portable housing units, rental subsidies] AND/OR Community building basic repairs – in situation where IDPs are living in the village mosque, school, etc., while reconstructing homes. • HLP Verification/ Restitution of property and/or land/ access to tenure and holding rights [land ownership in coordination with clan and woreda] • Solar lights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction/ rehabilitation of fully or partially damaged homes-Durable and permanent shelter • Debris removal and decontamination (Select areas for SR.) • Electrical networks, roads, parks and recreational sites, rehabilitation of public/ cultural/commercial facilities, rehabilitation of cultural facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority Area 5
WASH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Trucking for rapid provision of water (bottled water/installation of water tanks, tap stands and trucking if urgently required) • Distribution of household water storage (buckets/ jerry cans) • Water treatment supplies (chlorination, water filters, treatment supplies) Sanitation: • Emergency sanitation services (latrines, bathing facilities if urgently required) • Emergency sanitation measures (closure of open sewage pits and damaged septic tanks) • Distribution of waste collection items, supporting initiation waste management services Hygiene: • Distribution of soap, hygiene items (including female dignity items) • Basic hygiene awareness session 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rapid repair to basic communal water infrastructures (tanks, boreholes or wells) • Installation, repair, medium-scale restoration, O&M of community water supply systems, basic WASH infrastructure, and restoration and maintenance of sanitation facilities and systems • Repair/provision of pumps, generators, treatment systems, consumables/fuel for water supply systems • Set up of waste management committees and distribution of garbage bins • Establish/support community structures to undertake hygiene promotion activities • Construction of water storage facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of water network and connection to main woreda line • WASH - Rehabilitation or construction of water distribution and drainage systems • Landfill excavation • Support of regular solid waste removal through municipal service providers, promoting sewage management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority Area 4

Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support to the existing static health facilities • Deployment of mobile medical units • Enhance disease early warning system (EWARN) and response capacity to disease outbreak 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rehabilitate of health post and centers and equip health facilities • Mobile health teams • Placement of specialist 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical capacity building • Support to the Ministry of Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority Area 4
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary, safe learning spaces identified and established, • Provide teaching and learning materials, • Identify and mobilise community members with previous teaching experience for volunteer classes • Orientation of teachers and education personnel on education in emergencies and psychosocial support • Advocacy for support reopening of drought affected closed schools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catch up classes • Formation of parent/ teacher/ associations (PTAs) • Salary subsidies for teachers in coordination with Bureau of education • School feeding programs • Language courses for relocated IDPs through volunteer initiatives • Curriculum development and capacity building to teachers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rehabilitation and construction of schools • Provision of furniture, stationary • Scholarship and grant provision • School facilities data (i.e. schools or TLS established or renovated/ rehabilitated), inclusion of permanent WASH in schools • Develop and support Parent Teacher Associations • Recreation activities • Capacity strengthening of the Bureau Education to enhance ownership • Placement of teachers for primary and secondary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority Area 4
Livelihoods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MPCA • Cash for work • Cash assistance for start up livelihood interventions • Restocking • Seed distribution 'seeds for work' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Off farm livelihoods interventions • TVET • Asset replacement • Micro-grants to businesses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support to private sector • Expansion of small scale irrigation • On-farm livelihoods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority Area 6
Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food packages and rations- • Hot meals and school feeding • Food vouchers for up to the first three months (depending degree of food insecurity, ability to identify vulnerable, scale of food transfer required). • Emergency seed distribution and cash or food/voucher for work schemes if feasible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Longer-term agricultural and market expansion schemes 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority Area 4

Coordination

Establishing conducive environment for solutions requires commitment and engagement from both the government, in their lead role, and non-governmental partners to ensure 'governance' of durable solutions is transformative and effective. The Durable Solutions Steering Committee, Regional Technical Advisory Groups (RDSTAG), and Regional Working Group (DSWG) form the core of the durable solutions architecture in the Somali Region, functioning to operationalize the Strategy. All three mechanisms are designed to work in concert, with the Steering Committee providing overall strategic direction and coherence at the highest level; RDSTAG serving as a technical forum developing and overseeing methodological roll out of operational plans; and the regional DSWG providing a broad-based platform for information sharing and advocacy.

The Somali Region DSI, through the Steering Committee, Technical Advisory Group, and Working Group will ensure partnership of humanitarian, peace, and development actors to support the Somali Regional Government in advancing the Durable Solutions Strategy. In order to ensure that the paradigm shift is principled, realistic and sustainable the Group and other partners working on displacement will collaborate to generate regular, tailored data and analysis on particular target groups' needs and expectations, options for Return, Integration or Resettlement programming and prioritization exercises, assessments of programming interventions trialed, and a body of lessons learned to inform increasingly durable models for resolving displacement. Efforts will be made to strengthen linkages with the sub-national ICCG by sharing concerns and identifying potential areas of collaboration to develop areas for synergies and provide tailored exit strategies to humanitarian relief efforts. Strengthening the coordination architecture will provide the framework necessary for effectively, efficiently supporting transition towards durable solutions, establishing coherence between the contributions of different government and non-governmental stakeholders, avoiding duplication as well as establishing the pre-conditions for communities to participate in and benefit from development programmes. This will also include the creation of sub-regional structures in targeted zones and woredas. The coordination platforms will also be utilized for systems building, methodologies, tools, checklist, operational procedures, and templates developed for data collection, participatory planning, reporting and resource mobilization. As part of the coordination architecture, ad-hoc task forces may be created within/ alongside the main Somali Region DSI platforms subject to developments on the ground.

Monitoring

Building on the IASC framework criteria and in efforts to measure progress towards meeting specific objectives of the Strategy's priority areas, various measurement tools and initiatives, the Somali Regional Government through the Somali Region DSI will develop a set of contextualised indicators and markers to measure achievements towards DS. This process will build on existing methodologies, lessons learned and research, such as the IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) Durable Solutions Index, DTM site and village assessments, assessments conducted by ReDS as well as other thematic research carried out focused on solutions. Monitoring of progress towards a shared set of indicators will be key in ensuring collective accountability in the delivery of interventions.

Monitoring activities will be a combination of programme-level monitoring of outputs and community and area-level monitoring of improvement in conditions for all residents in each target area. Findings from the coordinated monitoring will be used to adapt approaches, to identify gaps in the response as well as specific barriers or geographical areas requiring further interventions. Recognizing that achieving durable solutions is a long-term process, monitoring will take place periodically over time to assess changing contexts and levels of need. A respective results framework will be developed jointly by the Durable Solutions Steering Committee and Regional Durable Solutions Technical Advisory Group following the endorsement and launch of the Durable Solutions Strategy, Action Plan, and Menu of options based on government and partner commitment.

