

ANNUAL REPORT

2024



SOMMAIRE

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BISHOP'S MESSAGE



Even though we are working “remotely” from Djibouti, our work and collaboration with local partners continue to realize the humanitarian mission of the Church.

The report produced by OCHA Somalia in collaboration with humanitarian partners provides information on the humanitarian situation in Somalia as of March 2025:

- Food security data indicates that 4.6 million Somalis will face high levels of acute food insecurity, and 1.8 million children will suffer from acute malnutrition, including 479,000 children at risk of severe malnutrition.
- Thousands of Somalis are fleeing their homes due to armed clashes in various parts of the country. This situation is further worsened by the deepening drought and soaring water prices, which have caused the displacement of people and livestock.
- The deterioration is attributed to expected below-average seasonal rainfall, rising food prices, ongoing conflict and insecurity, and localized flooding. Additionally, the reduction in humanitarian funding will lead to a significant decrease in food and cash assistance coverage for displaced populations.

This is, in brief, the humanitarian situation in the country. When I was appointed Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Mogadishu at the beginning of 2024, I discovered not only the severe humanitarian reality but also the work carried out by the Catholic Church, represented by Caritas Somalia.

Even though we are working “remotely” from Djibouti, our work and collaboration with local partners continue to realize the humanitarian mission of the Church: to be close to the local population, to assist them with daily needs, and to seek sustainable solutions. This report highlights some of the activities carried out in support of the Somali people, who deserve a dignified life and who are working towards the development of their country.

Even though the situation remains difficult and receives little attention, the Catholic Church and Caritas will continue their mission of humanitarian and human assistance to the most vulnerable.

VISION, MISSION AND VALUES



Vision

VISION

Inspired by the Holy Scriptures, by the teachings of the Catholic Church and by the life experiences and the hopes of people living in poverty and other inhuman conditions, Caritas Somalia strives for a world where the voices of the poor are heard and acted upon, where each person is free to flourish and live in peace and dignity. We work with people of all faiths and with those who have none, in favour of minorities and people living in poverty.



Mission

MISSION

Caritas Somalia's mission is to end poverty, promote social justice and uphold human dignity. Also, it responds to catastrophes such as drought, floods, famine and armed conflicts.



Values

VALUES

DIGNITY OF HUMAN PERSON

RESPECT

MERCY AND COMPASSION

COMMON GOOD

SOLIDARITY

INTEGRAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

PREFERENTIAL OPTION FOR THE POOR

INTEGRAL ECOLOGY

FRATERNITY AND GRATUITOUSNESS

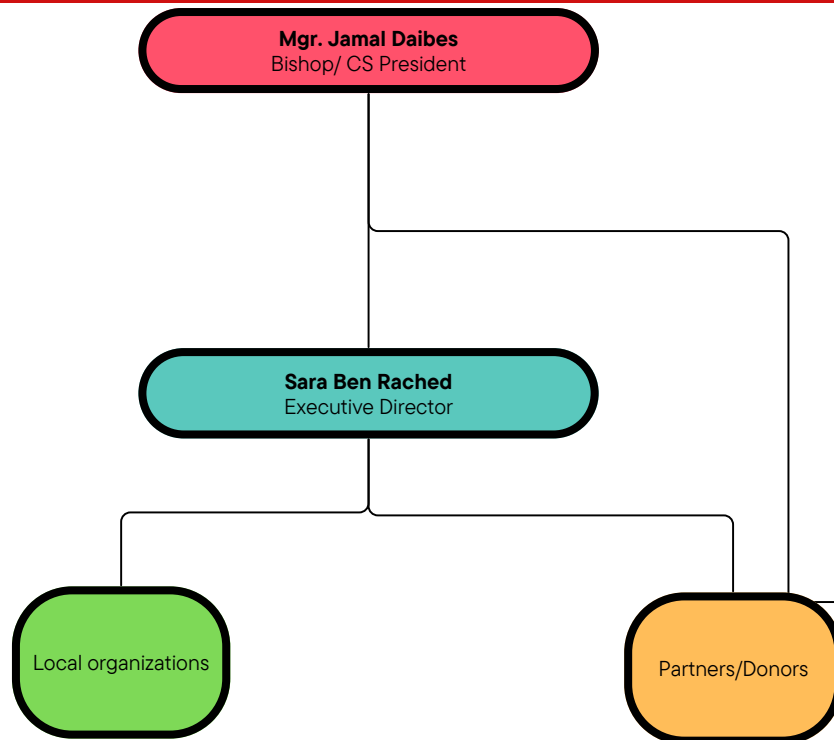
RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY

STRUCTURE AND OPERATIONS

Caritas Somalia is a national Catholic organization founded in 1980 in response to the humanitarian crisis caused by the Ogaden War. Since then, it has worked throughout Somali territory, either directly or through local partners, mainly to address emergencies such as droughts, floods, famines, and armed conflicts. Recognized by Caritas Internationalis in 1983 and by the Somali government as a charitable association in 1988, Caritas Somalia operates today with a small structure based in Djibouti, where both the President and the Executive Director are located. Its activities are carried out through partnerships with local organizations, while maintaining direct financial control over projects.

The current strategic framework (2021–2025) identifies six priorities: empowering migrants and internally displaced persons (IDPs), development projects, emergency response, education and health, women's empowerment, and advocacy and peacebuilding. Despite limited staff and resources, Caritas Somalia remains committed to serving the most vulnerable, continuing its mission in a complex context marked by insecurity, natural disasters, and chronic instability.

Caritas Somalia Organizational chart



GENERAL CONTEXT

In 2024, Somalia continued to face a severe, multidimensional humanitarian crisis driven by a combination of recurrent climate shocks, armed conflict, food insecurity, disease outbreaks, and mass displacement. A comprehensive analysis conducted by humanitarian actors revealed that 9.1 million people, representing 47% of the population, are currently affected by at least one of the following major shocks: armed conflict, flooding, drought, disease outbreaks (including cholera and measles), and forced displacement.

The country experiences increasingly frequent and alternating cycles of drought and flooding, which severely undermine livelihoods based on agriculture and pastoralism. This is compounded by the legacy of the historic 2020–2023 drought, followed by major floods in late 2023 and mid-2024. Despite temporary improvements in water availability, the Gu rains (April–May 2024) caused flooding that affected 268,000 people and displaced 81,000 individuals across 13 districts, with significant damage to infrastructure and cropland. Belet Weyne, along the Shabelle River, accounted for over half of all displacement cases.

Somalia now faces the risk of entering yet another multi-season drought, as the Deyr season (October–December) saw below-average rainfall (30–45% of the norm), largely due to La Niña conditions. Drier-than-usual conditions are expected to persist into 2025, threatening food security, agricultural productivity, and livestock recovery.

According to the latest IPC projections, 4.4 million people are facing high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phases 3 and 4) between October and December 2024, while 1.6 million children under the age of 5 are at risk of acute malnutrition between August 2024 and July 2025.

Meanwhile, the cholera/Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD) epidemic has worsened, with over 19,800 cases reported in 2024, surpassing the total number of cases in 2023. This has been exacerbated by the destruction of water sources and sanitation facilities during floods, in a context already marked by fragile WASH and health systems.

Internal displacement remains alarmingly high: 3.5 million people are displaced due to climate shocks and conflict. Although new displacements dropped by 85% compared to 2023, conflict re-emerged as the primary driver of displacement in 2024, accounting for 53% of the 477,000 new internally displaced persons. The most affected regions include Gedo, Bay, Mudug, Lower Juba, and Togdheer, where inter-clan violence displaced tens of thousands and destroyed livelihoods.

Forced evictions continue to pose a major protection threat. By November 2024, 154,000 internally displaced persons had been forcibly evicted, mainly in urban areas such as Banadir, Bay, and Wogooyi Galbeed. The lack of secure tenure arrangements leaves displaced persons in a state of chronic vulnerability.

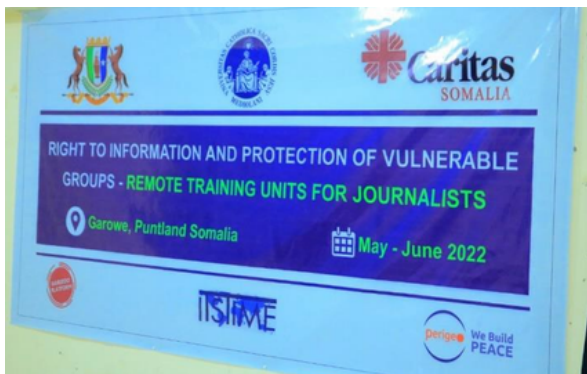
Somalia also remains one of the most challenging operational environments for humanitarian actors. In 2024, 67 incidents of violence against humanitarian personnel or assets were reported. Jubaland and South West States remain particularly volatile due to insecurity and localized clan dynamics. Access is severely restricted in many areas, leaving 3.7 million people (28% of those in need) hard to reach for humanitarian response.

In 2025, the African Union Support and Stabilization Mission in Somalia (AUSSOM) will transition to the African Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS), potentially reshaping the national security landscape. However, as of December, funding and troop contributions for the new mission remain unclear, raising concerns about the effectiveness and continuity of this transition.

WHAT WE DO

Our current global Strategic Framework from 2021–2025 has six priorities, namely:

- Migrants and IDPs empowerment**
- Development Projects**
- Emergency Response**
- Education and Health**
- Women Empowerment**
- Advocacy & Peace Building**



EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO FLOOD- AFFECTED POPULATION IN BELETWEYNE, HIIRAN, SOMALIA

Humanitarian Intervention – January 2024

Caritas Somalia & VAD

Funded by: Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother

Context

- Severe floods in May & October 2023
 - 201,438 people displaced
 - 90% of the city submerged
- Prices doubled, essential services inaccessible

Objective

Support 1,000 displaced households with emergency kits (shelter, utensils, basic essentials).

Implemented activity

- Conducted in January 2024 (within 14 days)
- Partnership: Caritas Somalia & VAD
- 1,000 households (6,000 individuals) assisted
 - 753 female-headed households
 - 8 IDP sites covered

Results

- Restored basic shelter and dignity
- Provided access to essential household items
- Targeted support for the most vulnerable families



Emergency NFI Kit Distribution – Balcad District, Middle Shabelle, Somalia

Humanitarian Intervention – February 2024

Caritas Somalia & VOSWP

Funded by:

Context

- Conflict, droughts & floods worsened living conditions
 - Surge in IDPs in Balcad District
 - Families living in makeshift shelters without hygiene facilities
- 80% lack handwashing access; rising GBV risks reported

Objective

Support 220 displaced households with essential NFI kits to improve shelter, hygiene, and safety.

Implemented activity

- Conducted in 2024 (post needs assessment & training)
- Local partnership with camp leaders & district officers
- 220 households assisted (with special focus on vulnerable groups)
 - 4 IDP sites targeted
- 91 women-led households, 40 single mothers, 27 disabled persons

Results

- Improved shelter with plastic sheets, mats & solar lights
 - Access to utensils, jerrycans, mosquito nets
- Reached the most vulnerable fairly and efficiently
- Strengthened community feedback and inclusion mechanisms



Educational Access for IDP & Minority Children – Hargeisa, Somaliland

Educational Intervention – 2023/2024 and 2024/2025

Caritas Somalia

Funded by: Private donations

Context

- Daami settlement (15,000 people) hosts IDPs & minorities (Gabooye, Oromo)
 - Digale IDP camp (6,000+ people), mostly youth, with limited school access
 - Barriers: financial hardship, loss, and displacement

Objective

Ensure access to quality education for vulnerable children from IDP and minority communities, promoting gender equality and girls' empowerment.

Implemented Activity

- Daily school transport
 - Nutrition support
- School materials and monthly fees covered
 - 50% of beneficiaries are girls
- Coordinated with Camp & Education Committees

Results

- 25 children advanced to Grade 9 (Secondary)
- 6 children progressed to Grade 8 (Primary)
 - 1 girl, enrolled in 2021 after her daughter's passing, reached Grade 4
- Promoted education as a right and empowered vulnerable youth



Organizational Support Project – Caritas Somalia – Djibouti

Development Intervention – March 2024 to March 2025

Caritas Somalia

Funded by: Caritas Italiana

Context

- Somalia remains affected by chronic fragility, conflict, and humanitarian crises.
- Caritas Somalia plays a key role in coordinating aid and development programs.
 - Sustaining qualified leadership is essential but financially challenging.
- The Director ensures operational management, coordination, and strategic growth.

Objective

To strengthen Caritas Somalia's organizational capacity by supporting the Director's salary, enabling consistent leadership and long-term strategic development.

Implemented activity

- Co-financing of 13 months of the Director's salary (March 2024 – March 2025).
 - Direct coordination of humanitarian projects in Somalia and Djibouti.
- Representation in Caritas Internationalis' Human Mobility Working Group.
 - Institutional support and statutory development for Caritas Djibouti.
- Strengthened partnerships with Caritas Djibouti and Caritas Piemonte-Valle d'Aosta.

Results

- Guaranteed leadership continuity and efficient project management.
 - Developed a strategic 3-year plan for Caritas Somalia.
- Enhanced visibility and influence within international Caritas networks.
 - Supported governance improvements and organizational growth in Djibouti.
- Initiated new donor engagement and diversified funding opportunities.

EVENTS

APRIL

Gu rains (April to June) cause flooding in multiple areas, including Hirshabelle, Jubaland, South-West states, affecting 268,000 people with 81,000 displaced.

Somalia calls for the end of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM).

MAY

JUNE

Inter-clan violence intensifies in Galgaduud, Mudug, Jubaland, and South West States, displacing nearly 150,000 people.

ATMIS begins Phase 3 of its drawdown, withdrawing 4,000 troops amidst plans for AUSSOM, the new AU-led mission, to be launched in January 2025.

2 August, armed attack on Lido Beach, Mogadishu, kills at least 38 people and injures hundreds, marking the largest such attack in over a year.

AUGUST

OCTOBER

Below-average seasonal Deyr rains worsen La Niña-induced dry conditions, affecting food security.

United Nations Transitional Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNTMIS) succeeds UNSOM.

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

43,000 people displaced due to clan violence in Ceergiaabo town, Sanaag region.

MEETINGS

APRIL

**20-24 –
Dar es Salam,
Tanzania**

Attended the AMECEA PIHD Department Workshop: "Towards Empowering the Youth on Caring for Our Common Home."

**27-30 –
Nairobi, Kenya**

Attended PIHD Meeting organized by the Dicastery for PIHD in collaboration with AMECEA PIHD Department.

JUNE

**23-24 –
Athens, Greece**

Participated in the Humanitarian Conference of Caritas Internationalis.

MAY

**10-13 – Nicosia,
Cyprus**

Participated in the IDCS Regional Committee Meeting.

NOVEMBER

