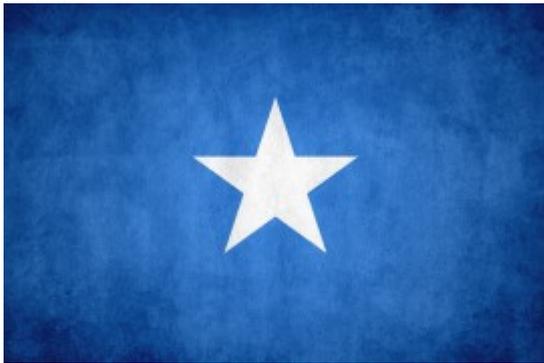

Somalia

**Total area:**

637,661 km²

Population:

14,317,996 (2017)

Literacy:

24%

Official languages:

Somali, Arabic

GDP (PPP) per capita:

\$400 (2014 est.)

Life expectancy:

51 years

Religions:

100% Muslim, <1% other religions

Prayer points

Somali people

There are nearly 11 million ethnic Somalis in Somalia. They are a very individualistic people, sharply divided into clans, and fights often occur between the clans, resulting in many deaths. Somalis enjoy telling stories and learning history through their poetry. Pray that many Somalis will come to know Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life. And ask God to grant favour and wisdom to mission agencies focusing on the Somalis. (WEC International - July 2020)

Deyr rains impact displaced people

The capital, Mogadishu, has been a makeshift home for those fleeing war-torn provinces, with nearly half a million people displaced. The particularly heavy seasonal rains 'Deyr' have brought flooding with farmland, infrastructure and roads destroyed, prolonging the struggle of the already vulnerably displaced people. Medair is providing health and nutrition services, water and sanitation to flood-affected families. Pray for emergency provisions such as shelter and hygiene supplies, and water treatment equipment to be distributed to those in desperate need. (Medair UK - April 2020)

The Horn of Africa and Yemen

For some time, WEC has had a goal of establishing work among the peoples of the Horn of Africa, particularly Somalis. Initially, workers would be seconded to other organisations. We long for the Lord to send us people with a calling to this part of the world. Please ask the Lord of the harvest to raise up workers. Please pray for the many women who have been raped, divorced and left by their husbands, and the many children who have been smuggled out of Somalia and into exploitation or abandonment. Many of them are in camps in other parts of the Horn of Africa and are in desperate

need of hope. Ask God to touch the hearts of Christians in northern Ethiopia so that they will be willing to share God's love with the Somalis in the southern provinces. Pray that his love will break down any cultural divisions. Pray for WEC's leaders in Africa as they seek to see the work advance among Somalis. Pray for tools for mobilising new workers and for highlighting the needs of the region. Thank the Lord for the work already being done among Somalis in the UK and the USA, and pray that these initiatives will be the first fruit of a mighty harvest. There are very small believing communities in various cities and towns in Yemen. Pray for God to knit these communities together in Christ as they care for one another in practical ways. Pray for God's protection upon them. Years of war in Yemen have created a nation of people who have buried loved ones, been injured physically and suffered extreme psychological trauma. Pray that God will stabilise the situation in Yemen, and bring peace to any Christians there who are living in the midst of huge upheaval. Pray for the people of Yemen to hear God's word and come to follow Jesus. Please pray for Somalis in the UK: that they will come into contact with the gospel while there. Pray for Christians in the UK to be good witnesses and to show God's love towards all in their communities. Pray that this witness will provide opportunities for good conversations about faith. (WEC International - January 2020)

Climate change

It's estimated that 10 million people are suffering in a crisis that is mainly affecting parts of Kenya, Ethiopia and Somalia. UNICEF is warning that 2 million children are malnourished in the Horn of Africa, and half a million could soon die or suffer long-lasting mental or physical damage. The changing climate in East Africa over recent years has had an adverse impact on livestock herders, who have seen the value of their animals drop and their markets collapse, resulting in dwindling food-purchasing power. This has come at a time when staple food prices around the world have risen massively: for example the price of white maize at one Kenyan market has risen by 58 per cent in a year. The Kenyan government has declared a national disaster in the north of the country, where several years of poor rains have left 3.5 million people vulnerable. Pray for a concerted international response to the crisis that prevents it escalating and for God's strength to fortify those experiencing severe hunger, particularly children. (Tearfund - July 2011)

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