



Apsatu, standing outside her shelter in Cameroon, 2023. To hear her story, click [here](#)

YOUR IMPACT IN 2023



2023

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Disaster, conflict and climate crisis are forcing more people to flee their homes than ever before. With your help, ShelterBox provides emergency shelter and aid essentials - enabling people to take the first steps towards recovery. Thanks to your support, in 2023 we reached over 325,000 people across 14 countries.

UKRAINE

As the conflict in Ukraine approaches its third year, in 2023 we started our sixth project in the country, supporting thousands more people with winter clothing, blankets, and stoves.

MOROCCO

Our unique partnership with Rotary enabled us to support rural communities in Morocco, impacted by a powerful earthquake that destroyed more than 50,000 homes across the Atlas Mountains.

LIBYA

With access to Libya being extremely difficult, we had to explore different ways of working after devastating flooding hit northeast Libya. By partnering with ACTED, an organisation that already had a presence in the worst hit city of Derna, we were able to support 1,700 people with items like including winter coats, thermal blankets, and heaters ahead of the coldest months.

CHAD

In Chad we supported over 31,000 people who have been displaced by the violent conflict in neighbouring Sudan. We distributed emergency shelter and lifesaving aid items - providing refugees (largely women and children) with shelter, light and sense of safety. As the need in Chad remains great, we are currently designing a longer-term project to ensure families receive the support they need in the years to come.

CAMEROON

We reached over 63,000 people in Cameroon in 2023. In the refugee camp where we're working, ShelterBox provides 90% of the shelter. Our support varies depending on families' needs - we built more durable shelters for those with no immediate chance to return home, and provided emergency shelter to protect newly displaced families.

PAKISTAN

Pakistan is one of the most vulnerable countries to climate shocks. This year, we shifted our focus to providing longer term shelter support to families that lost their homes in severe monsoon flooding. We built durable shelters designed to be permanent homes, and latrines to help prevent the spread of water-borne diseases such as cholera.

SOMALIA AND ETHIOPIA

East Africa has been victim to the worst drought in 40 years, causing millions of people to be displaced. We've supported over 77,000 people in Ethiopia this year with emergency shelter and essential household items such as mosquito nets. We also launched a new project in Somalia, where we're building long-lasting shelters that come with land rights, to ensure families are not forced to relocate again.



2023 IN FIGURES:



325,000
PEOPLE SUPPORTED



65,000*
FAMILIES SUPPORTED WITH
EMERGENCY SHELTER AID AND
HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

*Assuming 5 people per family

**YOUR SUPPORT HAS REACHED ACROSS 22 DIFFERENT PROJECTS
IN 14 DIFFERENT COUNTRIES AFTER:**



EARTHQUAKES



FLOODING



CONFLICT



DROUGHT



**TROPICAL
CYCLONES**

STRATEGY

ShelterBox exists to ensure no one is without shelter after disaster. Last year, we launched a new strategy to ensure we continue to maximise our impact, which can be summarised in three goals:

DO MORE

Scale up to meet humanitarian need.

DO IT WELL

Innovate to improve the quality of shelter assistance.

DO IT TOGETHER

Addressing power imbalances in the global shelter system.

In 2023, thanks to your support, we delivered responses across the world, each with a unique combination of aid. From emergency shelter to essential household items, such as mosquito nets, stoves and blankets, to financial or technical support, we work with people to understand what they need the most. In 2023 we made sure to tailor our responses to meet communities' specific needs:

AS THE SEASONS CHANGE, SO DOES OUR SUPPORT:



This winter in places hit by bitterly cold temperatures like Syria, Ukraine, and Morocco, we're providing bespoke winterisation kits which include items such as thermal clothing, blankets and sleeping mattresses.

TRAINING EQUIPS PEOPLE TO REBUILD THEIR LIVES AFTER DISASTER:



In places such as Somalia, Morocco, and Pakistan we've also supported people by providing technical training on shelter construction and maintenance.

PROVIDING CASH SUPPORT GIVES AUTONOMY :



We have provided assistance in the form of cash alongside our shelter support in countries including Pakistan, Syria, Ukraine, and Ethiopia. Cash assistance is proven to be an incredibly effective means of helping people get back on their feet after disaster. It gives people the freedom to buy what they need most and the autonomy to choose where they source it.

PLACES PRONE TO EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS HAVE DIFFERENT SHELTER NEEDS:



The type of shelter we provide changes depending on the context and the needs of the communities we work with. In Yemen, we've provided more durable shelters and tent bases, so that people can protect themselves from flooding and harsh desert conditions. We also built concrete tent bases in Syria and Pakistan.

DO MORE: MOROCCO

In September, a powerful 6.8 magnitude earthquake struck Morocco, killing nearly 3,000 people and injuring thousands more. It also damaged 50,000 homes, many of which were in remote villages in the Atlas Mountains. With the freezing winter months fast approaching, families were left with no shelter from the cold. ShelterBox had not responded in Morocco before, but we are dedicated to doing more, and creating new partnerships to enable us to do this.

We established partners with local organisations such as Association Le Grand Atlas and Rotary in Morocco, which gave us the network we needed to access hard to reach communities.

We delivered tents, thermal blankets, solar lights and kitchen sets to families without adequate shelter in remote mountain villages. **Our partnerships were crucial in this response - from gaining necessary permissions to distributing aid items on the ground - enabling us to support over 4,800 people.**



SAMIRA'S STORY

"The ShelterBox tent will help a lot. For our kitchen, the cooking sets will be very helpful. We need the solar lights because what we have now is not enough, and we need the blankets to keep warm."



Samira was on her own at home when the earthquake hit on a Friday night in September last year. ShelterBox sat down with her to find out more about her experience, and how life has changed.

"I was inside my house, when the earthquake happened, I was alone. The house started to fall, and I was still inside. I went to the kitchen and there was just a small opening, I was trying to open the door, but it was stuck. I yelled at some boys outside and they came to help."

"I was thinking about death, I was crying, and I was thinking about my children. I really think about this night, and what happened."

Like many in this region, Samira was worried about the approaching winter.

"The winter here is very cold, If I have something to do outside, then I will go. Like going to the shops, and then I will come home and stay inside and keep warm."

Since the earthquake, people's situations have changed dramatically.

"Everyone is just outside; we do not have any houses to keep warm in. It is very cold, especially at night. After the earthquake everything has changed"

Samira has now received a ShelterBox tent, kitchen set, solar lights, and warm blankets.

"The plan is to stay here in my tent, until we have assistance to rebuild our homes. We thank ShelterBox a lot for helping."

We were only able to reach people like Samira thanks to support like yours, thank you.

DO IT WELL: YEMEN

As a result of a bitter civil war and a failing economy, what's happening in Yemen in one of the world's worst humanitarian crises. Over 4.5 million people have been forced to flee their homes, and over 75% are women and children.

People have been uprooted from their homes for nearly 10 years due to shifting front lines in the civil war and extreme flooding hitting the country. Ma'rib in central Yemen, was once a place of safety, and is now home to the highest number of displaced people in Yemen.

We partnered with BCHR (Benevolence Coalition of Humanitarian Relief) to support people who have fled to Ma'rib. We previously provided people with tents, tarpaulins and rope to help people fix damaged homes.

This year, based on feedback from people living in the shelters ShelterBox had provided, we adapted our response. We now build robust structures that are more suitable for the harsh and changing climates of the Ma'rib desert and offer a more permanent home.

These are known as “iron net” shelters: a shelter with an iron frame, constructed with a concrete base and a layer of fireproof insulation.

- Insulation: helps people keep themselves and their families comfortable in these extreme temperatures - hot or cold.
- Concrete bases: create a level of protection against flood water.

So far, we have supported 3,500 people with these new shelters, designed based on the feedback the communities shared with us.



ShelterBox staff and a family moving their new items into an iron net shelter. Yemen, 2023.

EBRAHIM'S STORY

Ebrahim, his wife, and three children, Ali, Maryam and Muhammed, live in a displacement camp in Yemen. They have been displaced twice since they fled their home in 2016. The long displacement has taken its toll on Ebrahim and his family:

'We felt tired, and sad that we left behind everything we owned, all our memories, as well as the separation from family and relatives.'

Ebrahim and his family lived in a tent which, after a while, failed to provide adequate protection from the rain and wind.



Ebrahim and his son stood outside their tent, Yemen, 2023.

In 2023 the family received a more durable “iron net” shelter. Ebrahim said:

'It was an indescribable feeling. I often passed the factories constructing the iron nets, and I wished for one for myself. When I saw the start of the process of installing [the iron nets] in the camp, I felt that my dream had come true.'

'It helped us to get privacy and protection from the sun and rain, you now feel that you are living in a home that makes you feel comfortable and reassured.'

'Everything is beautiful in it. In the previous shelter, if the rain came, we would feel anxious and uncomfortable because the rainwater would enter the shelter. Now, we enjoy the sound of rain as it hits the iron net without worrying about water entering.'

'We thank you for providing this assistance, the name ShelterBox will remain in our minds, as it provided something that was like a dream for us - despite the difficulty of pronouncing its name, we have now memorised it.'



Ebrahim and his children inside their new Iron net Shelter, Yemen 2023.

DO IT TOGETHER: SOMALIA

This year marks the fifth consecutive failed rainy season across East Africa. While conflict in Somalia has been a long-standing driver of displacement; extreme drought, made worse by the climate crisis, has forced people to take desperate measures to survive. **1.4 million people need emergency shelter.**

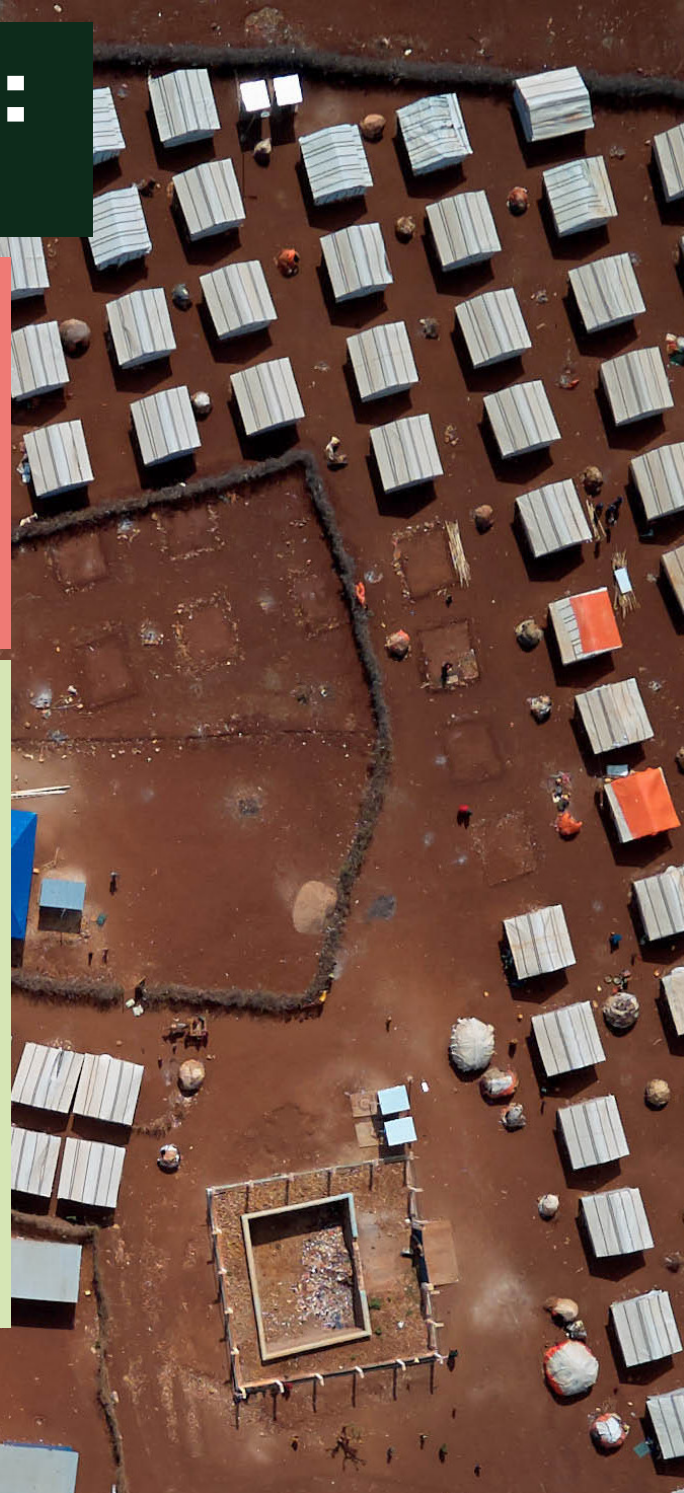
This year, in partnership with Juba Foundation, we launched our first project in Somalia since 2011. The Juba Foundation are a trusted Somalia-based NGO with extensive experience working across the country. They have a particularly strong understanding of Somali land rights.

Together, we provided materials and technical guidance to construct locally appropriate shelters to help support thousands of people in southern Somalia. **Over 3,500 people have been supported with more resilient shelters.** We also provided aid packages with other essential items, such as solar lights, kitchen utensils, water carriers, and mosquito nets.

Due to the lack of property rights in Somalia, people on the move are at constant risk of eviction. Alongside Juba Foundation, we worked with landowners and the local government to make sure people have the right to remain for at least three or four years.

Our second project with Juba Foundation started in October and is planned to run to August 2024. **This project will see more than 10,000 people supported with transitional homes or shorter-term emergency shelters and toolkits for shelter maintenance.**

Working in partnership is not always easy, but it is a huge part of how ShelterBox is able to reach more people with support tailored to their needs.



Ifraah and her son washing her clothes, Baidoa, Southern Somalia with previous shelters to the left, and new shelters from ShelterBox, in partnership with the Juba Foundation, on the right. 2023



Aamina, carrying water in a displacement camp, Baidoa, Somalia 2023.

NURTA'S STORY

Nurta was forced to leave her home and village with her children because of a desperate lack of water and food. Together, the family endured a challenging three-month journey to Baidoa, in South West Somalia.

Nurta and her family lived in traditional Somali houses, farming crops to sell. However, their lives drastically changed when drought-induced evictions forced them to move to the urban area of Baidoa twice, and to rely on aid organisations for shelter and essential items.

Nurta said:

“Our journey was quite challenging; we had been struggling for three months [before arriving here]. As we were travelling, we did not have much of food and water and when we arrived, some of my children were admitted to the hospitals because of malnutrition.”

After arriving in the urban area of Baidoa in the south of Somalia, ShelterBox provided Nurta and her family with a durable shelter and some essential items to help them get back on their feet and begin to recover.

“I’ve been given some kitchen utensils, including pans, bowls, plates, ropes, and spoons, along with other utilities. Also, we can now go to the toilet at night without fearing the dark.

Now, we are fortunate to live in a spacious house, which is a significant improvement over the previous one.

Before moving here, we felt uncertain about our future and the fear of being forced to move again loomed over us. This new shelter provides us with stability, as we have been guaranteed to remain here for at least four years.”



THANK YOU

Thanks to your generosity, we are able to reach hundreds of thousands of people living through disaster and conflict last year. Together we provided not only shelter, but a foundation for survival, stability and dignity, enabling communities to take the first steps towards recovery. From everyone at ShelterBox, thank you.

