The Humanitarian Reference Grid is a common reference system for all agencies working in Somalia.

- When reporting your position, quote the full grid reference by combining the direction from a known point such as a Clinics, schools or settlements as a guide.

Each square cell is approximately 5 km by 5 km, representing an area of 25 square km. Of these rectangles is then sub-divided into 80 square cells, 10 across and 8 down. The square cells are reference to A to K horizontally and from 1 to 8 vertically.

To report your position:
- Locate the square cell you are in on the map using estimated distance and direction from a known point such as a Clinics, schools or settlements as a guide.
- Note that the alpha-numeric rectangle code (e.g. NA-38-033)
- Note the numeric reference of the square cell
- Note the alphabetic reference of the square cell.
- When reporting your position, quote the full grid reference by combining the two references (e.g. NA-38-033-7J).

Using the Reference Grid to Report Locations

The grid divides Somalia into 404 rectangles each corresponding to the internationally recognized topographic map files.

For copies of digital data please contact enquiries@faoswalim.org

The Humanitarian Reference Grid is a common reference system for all agencies working in Somalia. The system has been designed for reporting of geographic location in the field, without the use of a GPS.

The boundaries and names on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.