

East and Horn of Africa, and the Great Lakes Region

July – September 2021



Two refugee girls outside their shelters in Um Rakuba refugee camp in eastern Sudan. © UNHCR/Samuel Otieno

KEY FIGURES (AS OF 30 SEPTEMBER 2021)

4.82 M Refugees and Asylum-seekers

10.57 M Internally Displaced Persons

113,701 Refugee Returnees in 2021

REFUGEES & ASYLUM SEEKERS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

SOURCE COUNTRIES*

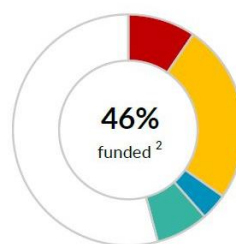
South Sudan	2.23 M
D.R. Congo	746,837
Somalia	561,003
Sudan	363,959
Eritrea	302,016
Burundi	287,633
Other	160,382
Ethiopia	141,012
Rwanda	25,014

*The figures here refer to refugees and asylum seekers hosted within the EHAGL region.

FUNDING UPDATE (AS OF SEPTEMBER 2021)

USD 1.89 Billion

2021 financial requirements for the EHAGL region (inclusive of COVID-19).



■ Tightly earmarked
■ Earmarked
■ Softly earmarked (indicative allocation)
■ Unearmarked (indicative allocation)
■ Funding gap (indicative)

EAST HORN AND GREAT LAKES

as of 28 September 2021

OPERATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

The East and Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes (EHAGL) region is host to some 4.82 million refugees and asylum-seekers, the majority from South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Somalia, with significant numbers from Burundi, Sudan, and Eritrea. The region hosts 67 per cent of the refugees on the African continent and 20 per cent of the global refugee population. The region also has approximately 10.57 million IDPs, mostly in Sudan, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Somalia, and Burundi, due to both conflict and natural disasters.

The COVID-19 pandemic has continued to adversely affect the livelihoods, health and wellbeing of Persons of Concern and host communities in the region, the majority of whom live in camps and settlements. As of 30 September, there were 7,702 confirmed COVID-19 cases among PoCs in the 11 countries in the EHAGL region. A total of 17,504 refugees in the region have received at least the first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine. Of these, 6,407 (37%) refugees in Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, and Uganda are fully vaccinated. Refugees, IDPs and their host communities remain impacted by the economic and social effects of the pandemic and at risk of contracting the virus. Most countries have seen multiple waves of COVID-19 and the need for preparedness remains critical as several locations still lack adequate quarantine, testing and isolation/treatment facilities. Governments have put in place various measures to contain the spread of the virus and are periodically announcing changes to movement restrictions and other preventive measures. Apart from Eritrea, all other countries in the region have ongoing vaccination campaigns, although vaccine shortages continue to pose a challenge.

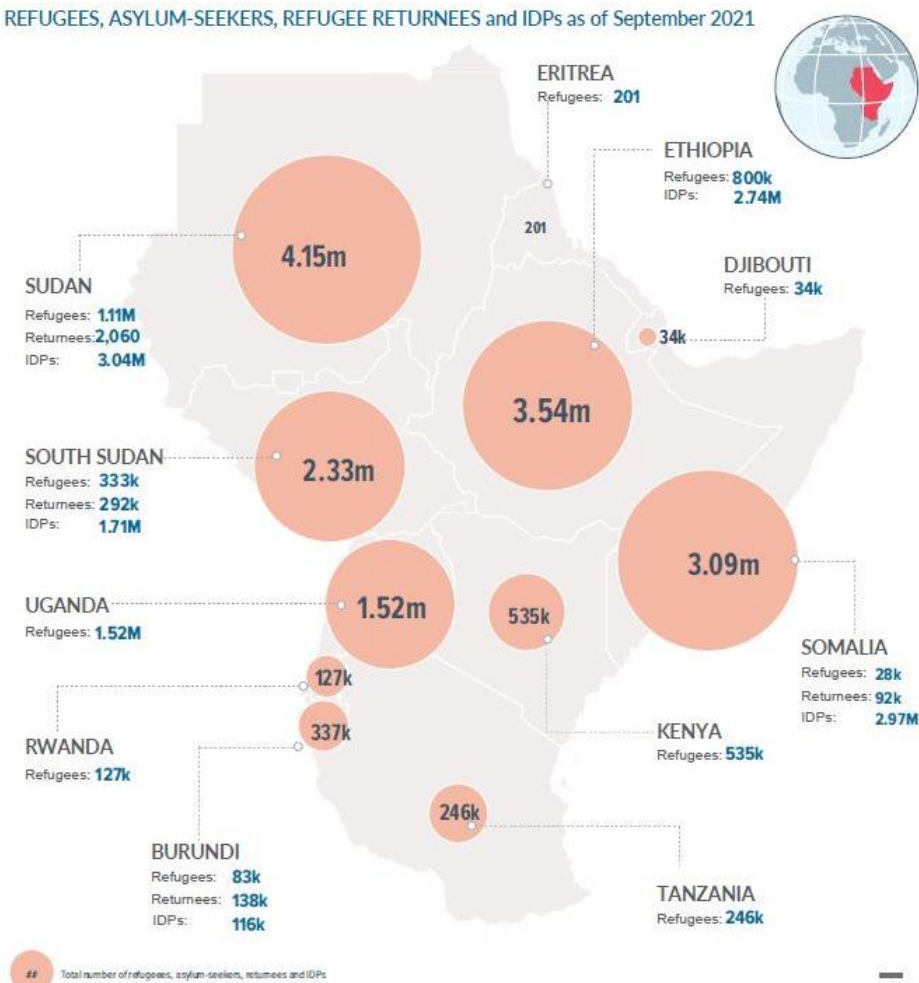
Uganda remains the only country in the region to have not reopened its schools since the outbreak of the pandemic in March 2020. On 22 September, Uganda's President, in a public address, announced that post-secondary education institutions will reopen from 1 November on condition that all teachers and non-teaching staff are vaccinated. The rest of the learning institutions will reopen in January 2022.

In addition to the COVID-19 pandemic, the region is plagued by multiple crises. Funding shortfalls have resulted in major reductions of food assistance for over 3.3 million refugees (or 72 per cent of refugees in the region) in Burundi, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, South Sudan, Rwanda, Uganda, and the United Republic of Tanzania. This remains a critical issue in the region as refugees are largely dependent on food assistance to meet their basic food and nutritional needs. Many have resorted to a range of coping mechanisms with negative protection impacts, such as child marriage.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

BURUNDI SITUATION: By end of September 2021, countries in the Great Lakes Region were host to 269,330 Burundian refugees. The country has experienced relative political stability since the political transition in May 2020 and the overall working environment as well as political and security situation has improved. However, Burundi remains fragile with continued reports of human rights violations and COVID 19 cases on the rise.

REFUGEES, ASYLUM-SEEKERS, REFUGEE RETURNEES and IDPs as of September 2021



The voluntary repatriation of Burundian refugees continued between 1 January to 30 September, with a total of 56,928 Burundian refugees returning home mainly from Tanzania (28,582), Rwanda (21,074), the DRC (6,823) and Uganda (449). Since 2017 UNHCR and partners have facilitated the voluntary repatriation of 173,565 Burundian refugees. Voluntary Repatriation is taking place under the framework of Tripartite Agreements between the respective host governments, Burundi and UNHCR in which all parties have agreed to ensure returns are voluntary. Additional health screening measures and protocols have been put in place to avoid the spread of COVID-19 and UNHCR and partners continue to expand the reception capacity at transit centres in Burundi.

The [2021 mid-year Regional Refugee Response Plan \(RRRP\) update for the Burundi situation](#) showed that it remains severely underfunded with only 34.5 per cent of the required resources received (as of end September). This has led to acute gaps, including food ration cuts, inadequate shelters, lack of medicines, deficient WASH infrastructure and insufficient livelihoods activities. Most of the refugee population remained dependent on humanitarian assistance. The COVID-19 pandemic further compounded the situation and increased protection risks for refugees, including gender-based violence (GBV) and child abuse, with mental health being a key concern. RRRP partners strengthened complaints and feedback mechanisms, child protection as well as GBV prevention and response through community-based approaches and remote case management and provided psychosocial or psychological services to refugees with specific needs. RRRP partners prioritized COVID-19 prevention measures in all asylum countries. In Rwanda and in Uganda, refugees were included in the national COVID-19 vaccination plans.

Due to the funding gap, RRRP partners face significant challenges in the Burundi refugee response including vulnerability levels which are at their highest with loss of agricultural and livelihood opportunities coupled with food ration cuts. Only 0.54% of refugees, aged 18-59, were employed or self-employed – far below a target of 18%.



A Burundian family during their COVID-19 sample collection at Nakivale refugee settlement in Uganda on the eve of travel back to Burundi. © UNHCR/Yonna Tukundane

SOUTH SUDAN SITUATION: The South Sudanese refugee population, the largest in the region, remains extremely vulnerable. Whether in camps, settlements, or urban areas, over 2.2 million refugees are living in precarious conditions, exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. UNHCR and governments in the region have registered a total of 73,584 refugee new arrivals between 1 January and 30 September 2021. Most refugees face high levels of poverty, limited access to livelihood opportunities, and are hosted in some of the poorest regions of host countries, where communities are already struggling to meet basic needs.

Despite soaring needs, the [2021 mid-year Regional Refugee Response Plan update for the South Sudan situation](#) continues to be among the most critically underfunded refugee situations globally in 2021, with only 19.6 per cent of the resources required (as of 30 September 2021). The increasingly complex operational context due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, sporadic violence in the DRC and in Ethiopia, the difficult economic and security situation in Sudan (379% inflation rate as of 30 June 2021), as well as the stated intention of the Kenyan Government to close all refugee camps in Kenya by 30 June 2022, posed new challenges for the protection of South Sudanese refugees throughout the region.

Notwithstanding these challenges, RRRP partners promoted an inclusive protection and solutions approach by advocating for refugee integration into national systems, such as education, health, environment, livelihoods, child protection and birth registration. Despite

the COVID-19 related challenges, the DRC, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan, and Uganda developed refugee responses in line with the Global Compact on Refugees articulating prioritized multi-stakeholder responses.

SOMALIA SITUATION: Decades of civil war and instability has created UNHCR's longest refugee crisis, with more than 674,000 Somali refugees residing in Ethiopia, Kenya, Yemen and elsewhere in the region. At the end of September 2021, there were 27,858 refugees and asylum-seekers registered in Somalia, mainly from Ethiopia (14,673 asylum seekers and 4,280 refugees) and Yemen (7,657 refugees). The remaining 1,248 persons were from other countries including Syria (959), Tanzania (135) and Eritrea (90).

In September, 19,000 new internal displacements were monitored by the UNHCR-led Protection and Returns Monitoring Network (PRMN). Drivers include conflict and insecurity (7,000), drought related (8,000) and flood (3,000). Banadir received the highest number of displaced persons (4,000), followed by Lower Juba (3,000), Hiraan (2,000) and Galgaduud (2,000) regions.

During the reporting period, the operational context in Somalia remained characterised by the uncertain political climate related to the delayed elections. Although progress has been made in relation to the holding of elections, they are still behind schedule. The international community continues to emphasize the importance of the elections taking place to avoid non-state armed actors taking advantage of the lack of centralized power to advance its agenda and increase its presence in the country. The security situation in the country remains volatile with regular attacks against military bases and civilians. Despite security challenges, UNHCR continued to provide protection and assistance to persons of concerns, including refugees, asylum-seekers, refugee returnees and IDPs across the country - directly and through partners.

In August, the Protection, Shelter and CCCM Clusters, led and co-led by UNHCR, carried out multi cluster needs assessments and data analysis to determine the number of persons in need in 2022, in preparation for the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) 2022. On 24 August, the Protection Cluster, jointly with the Swiss Cooperation and Minority Rights Group International, presented the findings and recommendations of a report: [Minority Inclusion Learning Review of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland – Programmes in the Horn of Africa](#).

NORTHERN ETHIOPIA EMERGENCY RESPONSE

The humanitarian situation across the Tigray Region remains deeply concerning for refugees, the internally displaced and host communities. Civilians have endured months of conflict with extremely limited basic services and assistance available, leading to a significant escalation in humanitarian needs with ongoing new displacements. The security situation remains volatile, affecting civilians and constraining the movement and access of humanitarian actors on the ground. Communication, electricity, banking, and fuel services remain intermittent and sometimes unavailable. The main humanitarian supply road between Semera in Afar and Mekelle in Tigray was completely blocked in July however, over the past few months, UNHCR has been able to scale up its presence in Ethiopia's Tigray, Amhara and Afar regions as access has slightly improved. In addition to the existing offices in Mekelle, Shire, Semera and Debark, UNHCR opened five new field units across the region (Abi Adi, Adigrat, Maychew, Sheraro and Axum). However, as conflict persists, many areas remain out of reach for our teams - hindering access to those in desperate need.

The conflict is now also affecting civilian populations in neighbouring Amhara and Afar regions. In addition to some 2.1 million internally displaced people in Tigray, there are 250,000 people in Amhara region and 112,000 in Afar region who have been newly displaced according to the local authorities and the UN Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). Of particular concern is the safety and wellbeing of thousands of Eritrean refugees living in the three Eritrean refugee camps of Mai Aini and Adi Harush in Tigray region and Berhale in Afar region.

At the end of July, UNHCR and its partners regained access to the Mai Aini and Adi Harush camps for Eritrean refugees in Ethiopia's Tigray region. Violent clashes in the area had prevented UNHCR staff from reaching the camps since 13 July. The delivery of urgently needed assistance restarted on 5 August for the 23,000 refugees in both camps. UNHCR and partners were able to transport the required fuel supply from Shire town and resume water services in the two camps as of 20 September. UNHCR's priority remains to facilitate the relocation of refugees out of the conflict areas as soon as possible. To that end, UNHCR is setting up a new camp, Alemwach, which will be able to host some 25,000 refugees. UNHCR, with the Ethiopian Agency for Refugees and Returnees Affairs (ARRA), continues to locate and verify registered refugees, who have been displaced from refugee camps to other locations due to the conflict, through biometric verification.

Protection monitoring in sites hosting internally displaced people is implemented on an ongoing basis to provide an overall analysis of the protection situation as well as inform planning and protection-oriented programming. UNHCR is also providing technical and material support to the Tigray regional authorities for the implementation of the enrolment of internally displaced people. The enrolment data will ensure that assistance and support to internally displaced people are not duplicated and persons with specific needs can be better supported.

UNHCR currently runs a network of 57 protection desks for identification of persons with specific needs, referral to relevant services, provision of information and counselling on access to essential services. Where security and access allow, UNHCR has staff on the

ground to provide support to survivors of gender-based violence, including referrals to medical care, psychosocial support, counselling, and legal assistance. Information and outreach campaigns are being ramped up so that survivors know how and where to seek support. Dignity kits are being distributed, and safe spaces have been set up. UNHCR is also working with partners to establish child friendly spaces and family tracing processes for unaccompanied and separated children.

UNHCR, as a member of the Relocation Task Force, has supported to date the relocation of 5,000 internally displaced people currently sheltered in schools to alternative locations across the Tigray Region. In Mekelle, relocation to Sabacare 4 has started by humanitarian actors and the site will be able to host up to 19,000 individuals. In addition, UNHCR is working with partners on a Return and Settlement plan to enable internally displaced people to make an informed and voluntary decision and support their return, as the security situation improves in some areas.



The relocation of internally displaced persons who had been hosted in schools to Sabacare 4, Mekelle, Ethiopia. © UNHCR/Olga Sarrado Mur

In August, UNHCR launched a [revised Ethiopia Emergency Situation \(Tigray\) Regional Appeal](#) which incorporates additional funding requirements of \$164.5 million to cover the period January-December 2021. This includes \$101.3 million of needs in Ethiopia and \$63.2 million in Sudan. The revised appeal will enable the enhancement of life-saving assistance and protection of up to 120,000 Ethiopian refugees who may seek refuge in Sudan, an estimated 96,000 Eritrean refugees in Tigray, and up to 650,000 IDPs.

SUDAN: Sudan hosts 1.1 million refugees and more than 3 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) and witnessed new displacements from Ethiopia and within Darfur States in the last year.

UNHCR with Sudan's Commission for Refugees (COR) and partners are responding to the needs of about 57,000 Ethiopian refugees and asylum seekers from Tigray (nearly 48,000 in Kassala and Gedaref States), Benishangul-Gumuz (around 7,500 in Blue Nile State) and Amhara regions (about 2,000 in Gedaref State). As part of the response to the Tigray situation in eastern Sudan, UNHCR has been actively supporting the authorities, at their request, with service mapping and inter-agency coordination. UNHCR is working with some 30 partners to provide lifesaving assistance and protection to the thousands of Ethiopian women, men and children who have crossed into the country.

As of 30 September, some 773 refugees have been issued with ID cards in Um Rakuba camp. The project is jointly led by UNHCR and COR and targets around 27,000 individuals aged 16 years and above. Government-recognised identity documentation is integral to the legal and socio-economic inclusion of refugees within their host communities and is in line with UNHCR's commitment under the Global Compact on Refugees to strengthen the host government's capacity for individual registration and documentation.

On 11 July, UNHCR's Assistant High Commissioner (Operations), the Regional Bureau Director for the East and Horn of Africa and Great Lakes (EHAGL), and Head of External Engagement (EHAGL), visited eastern Sudan as part of a five-day mission to the country. The mission visited Tunaydbah and Um Rakuba camps, where they met with refugee leaders and host communities and visited several sites in both locations to get an overview of the current inter-agency interventions related to shelter, flood

preparedness, protection, and other sectors. The delegation also met with government officials, donors and several partners engaged in the response.

Following a series of demonstrations by refugees in July over the switch from in-kind food to cash assistance in Um Rakuba, and meetings between WFP, UNHCR and COR with refugee leaders, it was agreed to temporarily resume in kind food assistance and put on hold cash transfers.

On 27 July, some 894 Qemant new arrivals who fled the Gondar area in Ethiopia's Amhara region were reported in Taya village. Soon after, local authorities relocated this group away from the border to Basanga village in Basundah locality, Gedaref State, for their safety and protection. As of 30 September, there were 1,991 Qemant asylum-seekers in Eastern Sudan. UNHCR and partners are providing protection and critical assistance including access to healthcare, shelter, water, sanitation and hygiene, and targeted support to those with specific needs and vulnerabilities. This exercise is being coordinated with officials from COR and local authorities.

The [High Commissioner visited Eastern Sudan](#) as part of a visit in August, to bring focus to the situation of the refugees from Tigray and noted that the situation was very challenging and that UNHCR is working closely with the government of Sudan and other aid agencies to improve services.

On 6 September, flash floods in Kilo Arba (K4), in White Nile State, submerged some 50 villages, displacing over 80,000 people and destroying crops, cattle and livestock. Residents left the area and took shelter in public buildings while others remained trapped by the flood waters. Among those displaced were about 35,000 refugees from Algana'aa refugee camp, which was inundated due to the spillage from K4, and some 5,000 from the Alagaya camp, a nearby site that was also impacted. Refugees moved to open areas, along roads or self-relocated with family and friends to other camps. UNHCR and partners collaborated closely with COR, Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) and local authorities to respond to the emergency. Significant progress has been made in terms of construction of communal shelters, provision of healthcare and WASH services and distribution of food and live saving supplies.



High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi talks to refugees in a focus group discussion during his visit to Um Rakuba refugee camp in eastern Sudan in August 2021. © UNHCR/Samuel Otieno

KENYA: Kenya hosts 534,622 refugees and asylum-seekers (230,137 in Dadaab; 218,536 in Kakuma Refugee Camp and Kalobeyei Settlement; and 85,949 in urban areas). In addition, some 16,320 people are stateless in Kenya. Most refugees and asylum-seekers

are from Somalia and South Sudan, with smaller populations from DR Congo, Ethiopia, Burundi, Sudan, Uganda, Eritrea, and Rwanda.

In Kakuma, UNHCR transitioned its scholarship programme to direct implementation through UNHCR's Cash-Based Intervention (CBI) programme in August 2021. A total of Kenya Shillings 9,261,177 was disbursed to 136 learners, including 16 learners from the host community, joining various secondary schools under the UNHCR Secondary Education Scholarship Programme (SEP). Six learners under the M-PESA Foundation Academy and Butere School Sports Scholarship received Kenya Shillings 101,890 through their virtual students' accounts.

On 2 September, the government of Kenya through the Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government granted citizenship to 52 stateless persons of Asian descent who have been living in the country without legal status. The Government of Kenya continues to affirm their committed to ending the statelessness problem in the country.

During the reporting period, [three members of the IOC Refugee Olympic Team from South Sudan](#) who competed in the Tokyo 2020 Olympics were part of the first intake of a trailblazing athletic scholarship scheme. The team is set to begin new lives training and studying in Canada, with thanks to a unique athletic scholarship that offers young refugees a chance to settle in the country based on their sporting talent. Middle-distance runners Rose Nathike Lokonyen, Paulo Amotun Lokoro and James Nyang Chiengjiek were members of the first Refugee Olympic Team in Rio in 2016 before being selected to compete once again in Tokyo. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi applauded this as the first-time sporting potential and athletic capability have been recognized as a route for refugees to access tertiary education.

RWANDA: Rwanda hosts a total of 127,163 refugees and asylum seekers at the end of September. The population of concern includes mainly persons from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (61%) and Burundi (38.6%).

The Ministry in charge of Emergency Management (MINEMA) of the Government of Rwanda (GoR) and UNHCR launched a [joint strategy on Economic Inclusion of Refugees and Host Communities for 2021-2024](#). Overall, the strategy will use a livelihoods approach that focuses on the promotion of livelihoods assets by supporting income generation through sustainable employment, asset creation and investments (productive assets and skill transfer - market linkages that increase demand for locally produced food and products - and business/entrepreneurship interventions to support graduation out of extreme poverty) alongside a prevention approach for managing risks and shocks, and protection measures to ensure that basic needs are met.

The Renewable Energy for Refugees (RE4R) project, led by Practical Action and UNHCR, published an [assessment report](#) that presents learnings from the project for humanitarian practitioners, the private sector, and donors looking to engage the private sector in the provision of energy services and products in remote, protracted displacement contexts. The project conducted this using market systems development approaches, engaging with the private sector as a key market actor. Practical Action worked with two different solar companies to deliver household energy access for refugees: one an established multi-national solar home system (SHS) provider across African households with some experience in refugee contexts and reputable SHS products; the other an established Rwandan solar business breaking into a new market, looking for opportunities to test new business models for hard-to-reach customers.

The report compares the business models, products, services, and financing mechanisms employed by the two companies and the different facilitation strategies used by Practical Action. It shares learning and recommendations on how to partner with the private sector to deliver the best energy services and products possible for local people.

TANZANIA: Currently, the country hosts 246,399 refugees and asylum-seekers (as of 30 September), mainly from Burundi and DR Congo. Some 83 percent of the refugees in Tanzania live in camps located in the country's North-western region of Kigoma (Nduta, Mtendeli, and Nyarugusu Camps).

UNHCR continues to monitor and record all known instances of refoulement of asylum seekers and refugees from the United Republic of Tanzania since January 2020. Between January and 13 August 2021, UNHCR recorded about 10,490 refoulement incidents from Tanzania. Of these, 10,338 were Mozambican nationals fleeing conflict and insurgency in Northern Mozambique seeking refuge in Tanzania; the remaining 168 were asylum seekers of various nationalities. However, the number of asylum seekers denied access to territory is likely higher, with many instances of refoulement remaining undocumented.

In September, the UNHCR Regional Bureau Director for the East and Horn of Africa and Great Lakes (EHAGL) [visited Nduta and Nyarugusu refugee camps in northern Tanzania](#) which are home to over 220,000 refugees mainly from Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The Director highlighted that investing in education for refugee children and youth will continue to help in securing their future as well as that of their communities.



UNHCR Regional Bureau Director for the East and Horn of Africa and Great Lakes (EHAGL) during a visit to Nduta and Nyarugusu refugee camps in northern Tanzania. © UNHCR.

UGANDA: Uganda hosts a total of 1,524,352 refugees (1,489,530) and asylum-seekers (34,822) as of 30 September 2021 with 94 per cent living in settlements in 13 of Uganda's 135 districts and 6 per cent in Kampala. The Ugandan borders have remained officially closed for asylum seekers since March 2020 due to COVID-19, but the government has allowed certain groups to access the territory through an organized process respecting public health protocols.

In July, UNHCR Uganda met with the United Kingdom's (UK) Independent Commission for Aid Impact (ICAI). This review focused on the situation analysis and systems in place in Uganda, for Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse; Accountability to Affected Persons; Implementation of the Age Gender Diversity Policy; and the Inter-agency Refugee Feedback Referral and Resolution Mechanism.

The Ambassadors of Japan and the Royal Kingdom of the Netherlands undertook separate field monitoring visits to West Nile and the Southwest, from 23 to 27 August 2021. The Japanese Ambassador visited Rhino Camp and Bidibidi settlements, with a focus on UNHCR/JICA partnership relating to the Promotion of Rice Production Project (PRiDE) and health care services, in line with Japan's contribution towards the refugee response. UN WOMEN and UNOPS also joined the mission to showcase activities funded by Japan. UNHCR also invited Toyota with a view to explore expansion of this partnership. The Dutch Ambassador paid a visit to Nakivale settlement and Isingiro district to review projects and activities funded by the Netherlands under the PROSPECTS partnership, together with ILO and UNICEF.

KEY REGIONAL UPDATES

Solutions Initiative for the displacement situation in South Sudan and Sudan

The roadmap for the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD)-led Solutions Initiative for the Sudan and South Sudan displacement situations progressed with national validation workshops in South Sudan in July and Sudan in August, for their respective Durable Solutions Strategies and Plans of Action for Refugees, Internally Displaced Persons and Host Communities. Two separate hybrid events were attended by representatives of the two Governments, IGAD, UNHCR, donors and partners. The two national validation workshops successfully marked another milestone following the establishment of the Inter-Ministerial National Technical Committees as well as the roll-out of national consultations. Throughout the workshops, all participants emphasized that durable, sustainable, and dignified solutions for the 7 million displaced persons from both countries will not be possible without real peace and called for the full implementation of the respective peace agreement.

In August, [the UN High Commissioner for Refugees conducted](#) a three day visit to Sudan and South Sudan. During his discussions with the President of South Sudan and the Prime Minister of Sudan, it was emphasized how Sudan and South Sudan can work together to lead the process of finding peace and lasting solutions for their displaced populations in the region.

In September, an IGAD Regional Review Workshop on Durable Solutions for Sudan and South Sudan took place in Juba. Representatives from the Governments of Sudan and South Sudan as well as other stakeholders including UNHCR, IGAD, partners and key donors participated in the hybrid event. Participants deliberated on the Solutions Initiative and the Roadmap, reviewed the two national strategies on durable solutions and provided inputs to the outline of the regional strategy. In addition, the technical team drafted a skeleton of the Declaration that will be deliberated on and adopted at a special Heads-of-State and government summit.

The Poverty Alleviation Coalition in the East, Horn of Africa, and the Great Lakes Region: Responding to the High Commissioner's vision to step-up livelihoods interventions to mitigate the impact of the pandemic on Persons of Concern's (POC) access to livelihoods, UNHCR is supporting NGOs through the "Poverty Alleviation Coalition (PAC)" in scaling up a proven and tested tool to address extreme poverty, called "[the Graduation Approach](#)". The approach combines social safety nets and self-reliance initiatives in one sequenced programme.

With [evidence developed by Nobel laureates Duflo and Banerjee and BRAC](#), UNHCR has [piloted and adapted the approach to refugee settings since 2013](#). The Graduation Approach can become a vital tool to mitigate the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 as it addresses the multidimensional needs of extremely poor households, while investing in the breadwinner's skills and asset base, and simultaneously promoting financial and social inclusion.

UNHCR and the World Bank's Partnership for Economic Inclusion (PEI) were joined in 2019, by 13 leading INGOs, who apply graduation programming. Together [Poverty Alleviation Coalition \(PAC\)](#) was formed. The PAC members have set themselves the ambitious goal of targeting 500,000 refugee and host community households globally within the next five years. UNHCR is assisting NGOs at the regional and country level by:

- Supporting the development of holistic and evidence-based concept notes.
- Assisting coalition partners in raising adequate multiyear funding, visibility, and information sharing; and
- Creating synergies with activities of UNHCR, International Organizations (IOs), governments, local NGOs, Financial Service Providers (FSPs), and other development actors.

In the East, Horn of Africa, and the Great Lakes (EHAGL) region, PAC partners would like to support 150,000 households by 2025 in reaching self-reliance. 48,000 households are expected to become self-reliant by the next GRF in December 2023.

UNHCR: East and Horn of Africa and Great Lakes - Stepped-up Livelihoods Strategic Directions 2021-2025: This document outlines strategic directions and recommends actions for the EHAGL Regional Bureau 2020-2025 to address the most pressing livelihoods and socio-economic challenges. UNHCR's vision for refugees' economic inclusion is that all refugees can overcome poverty and dependence through participation in host country economies, and that both refugees and host communities enjoy shared prosperity, expanded access to employment and entrepreneurship services and decent work opportunities, and improved social cohesion. To achieve this, UNHCR will focus on the following four outcome areas:

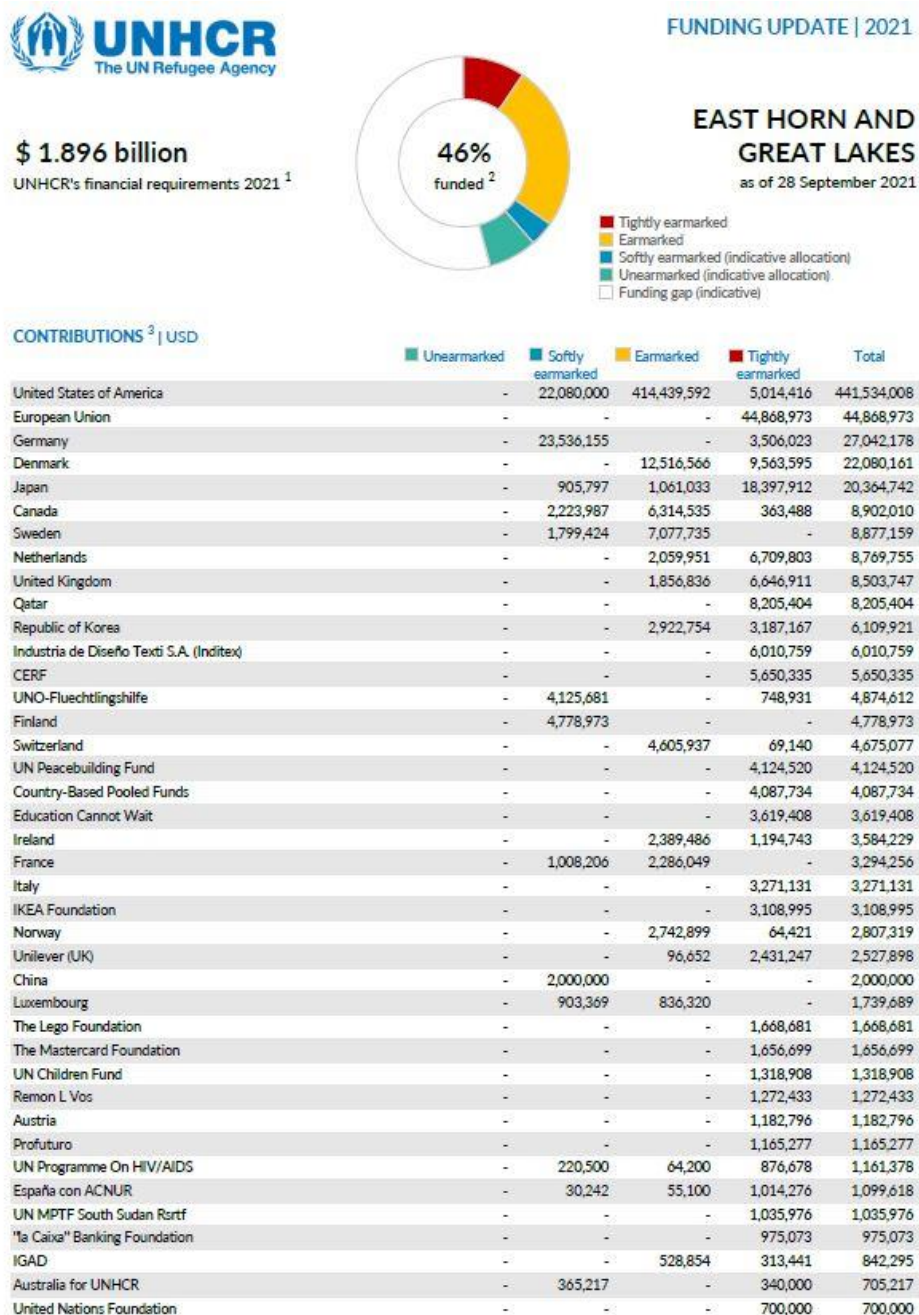
- Data/Information Management: Market and evidence-based livelihoods programming for POCs is enabled in the region through the creation of a solid evidence base.
- Advocacy: Legal and de facto economic inclusion of POCs is fostered through advocacy and burden-sharing with host governments.
- Partnerships: POCs are included in self-reliance projects across the humanitarian-development nexus.

- UNHCR Implementation: UNHCR's Livelihoods (LH) country programs are aligned with global and regional LH directions and are designed and managed effectively.

Financial Information

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to the **East and Horn of Africa, and the Great Lakes Region**, as well as to those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with broadly earmarked and unearmarked funds.

Total contributions to **the region, inclusive of COVID-19 contributions** amount to **USD 529 million**.



Toyota Tsusho Corporation	-	-	-	694,540	694,540
UNHCR Insamlingsstiftelse	-	208,516	-	332,169	540,685
Latter-day Saints Charities	-	-	-	472,225	472,225
Czechia	-	-	-	455,996	455,996
Spain	-	-	-	405,199	405,199
United Kingdom for UNHCR	-	315,643	-	55,633	371,276
Médecins Sans Frontières	-	-	-	365,625	365,625
Solvatten	-	-	-	327,060	327,060
Novo Nordisk Foundation	-	327,004	-	-	327,004
Private donors Canada	-	235,033	97	334	235,464
BOREALIS AG	-	-	-	230,426	230,426
Samsung Engineering Co., Ltd	-	-	-	230,000	230,000
Transsion Holdings	-	-	-	225,982	225,982
Morneau Shepell (Lifeworks Ltd.)	-	-	-	223,033	223,033
UN Covid-19 MPTF	-	-	213,000	-	213,000
USA for UNHCR	-	80,479	-	119,300	199,779
Private donors Republic of Korea	-	6,673	105,375	84,566	196,614
Stichting Benevolentia	-	-	-	179,211	179,211
Agility Logistics	-	-	-	175,650	175,650
Laboratorios Vifas	-	-	-	146,489	146,489
International Olympic Committee	-	-	-	142,667	142,667
The Big Heart Foundation	-	-	-	133,125	133,125
Private donors United Kingdom	-	32,673	-	98,591	131,264
Band Aid	-	-	-	129,144	129,144
Fast Retailing Co., Ltd. (UNIQLO)	-	-	-	120,897	120,897
Private donors Netherlands	-	84,849	-	29,833	114,682
Microsoft Corporation	-	-	-	111,152	111,152
Liechtenstein	-	110,375	-	-	110,375
International Humanitarian and Charity Organization	-	-	-	110,014	110,014
UPS Corporate	-	-	-	106,500	106,500
Private donors USA	-	100,000	-	-	100,000
UN Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan	-	-	-	92,076	92,076
Migration MPTF	-	-	-	70,000	70,000
United Nations Development Programme	-	-	-	18,518	18,518
Other private donors	-	404,413	561	164,923	569,896
Sub-total	-	65,883,210	462,173,532	160,416,169	688,472,911
Indicative allocation of funds and adjustments	132,094,777	5,824,163	23,452,579	20,006,079	181,377,598
Total	132,094,777	71,707,373	485,626,111	180,422,248	869,850,509

Methodology: Unearmarked funding is allocated and reallocated multiple times during the year to allow UNHCR to fund prioritised activities. This funding update includes an indicative allocation of funds so as to accurately represent the resources available for the sub-region. The contributions earmarked for East Horn and Great Lakes shown above are combined with an indicative allocation of the softly earmarked and unearmarked contributions listed below. This allocation respects different levels of earmarking. Adjustments relate to programme support costs and carry-over.

■ OTHER SOFTLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS ⁴ | USD

Germany 39.2 million | United States of America 33 million | Private donors Australia 8.7 million | Canada 5.6 million | Private donors Germany 2.6 million

Spain | Norway | Malta | Luxembourg | Japan | Holy See | France | Private donors

■ UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS ⁵ | USD

Norway 80 million | Sweden 66.9 million | Private donors Spain 55.7 million | Netherlands 36.1 million | Denmark 34.6 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 28.5 million | United Kingdom 28.4 million | Germany 26 million | Private donors Japan 23.6 million | Japan 23.4 million | France 20.2 million | Switzerland 16.4 million | Private donors Italy 14 million | Private donors Sweden 13 million | Ireland 12.5 million | Belgium 11.9 million | Italy 10.7 million

Algeria | Armenia | Australia | Austria | Bulgaria | Canada | Costa Rica | Cyprus | Estonia | Finland | Holy See | Iceland | Liechtenstein | Luxembourg | Malta | Monaco | Montenegro | Morocco | New Zealand | Peru | Philippines | Portugal | Republic of Korea | Russian Federation | Saudi Arabia | Singapore | South Africa | Thailand | Turkey | Uruguay | Private donors

Notes:

1. The financial requirements for East Horn and Great Lakes are for the operations in Burundi, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Uganda and United Republic of Tanzania.

2. The percentage funded (46%) and total funding amount (\$869,850,509) are indicative based on the methodology described above. This leaves an indicative funding gap of \$1,026,284,729 representing 54% of the financial requirements.

3. Contributions to East Horn and Great Lakes are shown by the earmarking modality as defined in the Grand Bargain.

4. Due to their earmarking at the region, or to a related situation or theme, the other softly earmarked contributions listed are those which can potentially be used in East Horn and Great Lakes. Where a donor has contributed \$2 million or more, the total amount of the contributions is shown.

5. Contributed without restrictions on its use, unearmarked funding allows UNHCR critical flexibility in how best to reach refugees and other populations of concern who are in the greatest need and at the greatest risk. Where a donor has contributed \$10 million or more, the total amount of the contribution is shown.

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