

## ETHIOPIA EMERGENCY SITUATION

30 April 2022



*IDP children who found refuge in a medical centre in Mekelle due to the Tigray conflict. © UNHCR/Olga Sarrado Mur*

### Key Developments

#### ETHIOPIA

On 15 April, UNHCR received a tanker in Mekelle ferrying 20,000 liters of fuel. The tanker, which had been stranded in Semera since September 2021, is part of the second humanitarian convoy that arrived in Tigray via the Abala-Semera-Mekelle route since December 2021. This replenishment for UNHCR's Mekelle and Shire fuel depots allowed for the resumption and expansion of vital operational activities in Tigray region. Additionally, on 14 April UNHCR received seventy-five family tents airlifted to Mekelle. This is the first phase of airlifting of family tents for IDPs who are in dire need of shelter.

On 1 April 2022, [WFP](#) reported that thirteen (13) trucks had arrived safely into Mekelle, marking the first humanitarian convoy to arrive into Tigray region since December 2021. On 2 April, the convoy arrived in conflict-affected areas of Afar to provide urgent food to over a third of Afar's population and displaced families. [WFP](#) also reported that the first fuel tanker with over 47,000 liters of fuel entered Mekelle on 2 April, the first to enter Tigray in eight months. WFP requires 200,000 liters of fuel week to meet the humanitarian needs in the region.

On 21 April, USAID [announced](#) it would provide nearly US \$313 million in additional humanitarian assistance to help people affected by the ongoing conflict in northern Ethiopia. The new funding will support emergency food and nutrition assistance to meet the needs of nearly 7 million people; strengthen community health facilities

and mobile health teams to combat infectious diseases; provide humanitarian protection services, such as support for survivors of gender-based violence, psychosocial services, and child protection activities; and bolster logistics support to deliver aid to people in remote and hard-to-reach areas.

## Ethiopia Response

*The humanitarian situation across northern Ethiopia continues to seriously impact refugees, the internally displaced and host communities. Civilians have endured over one year 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 humanitarian actors on the ground, despite the announcement of a humanitarian truce.*

On 26 April, UNHCR's Regional Director for the East and Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes (EHAGL) region and UNHCR's Ethiopia Representative visited Mekelle, as part of the Regional Director's visit to Ethiopia. The team visited Ayder Hospital and One Stop Service Centre for gender-based violence survivors, where they met with the medical staff. Lack of medical supplies at the hospital was highlighted as a major challenge. The team also met with the local authorities including the heads of the Bureau of Agriculture and Rural Development and the Bureau of Labor and Social Affairs (BoLSA). Local authorities in Mekelle highlighted the need for food as the top priority for the population with the vast majority impacted by food insecurity. The Regional Director also witnessed the voluntary return of IDPs facilitated by UNHCR in collaboration with the regional authorities and had discussions with some of the returnees. Additionally, authorities reaffirmed their commitment to facilitate the voluntary relocation of Eritrean refugees from Tigray to Alemwach settlement in the Amhara region.

The team also visited the Alemwach site in Amhara region on 28 April and met with Eritrean refugees and with woreda administrators in Dabat. The woreda administrators expressed continued willingness to work with UNHCR and RRS to assist refugees and called on UNHCR to speed up its response especially in the construction of shelters with the increasing refugee population. The administrators also requested that development projects benefit both refugees and the host community. The Regional Director expressed gratitude and recognition for the acceptance and accommodation of Eritrean refugees in Alemwach and assured them of UNHCR's readiness to collaborate in responding to the refugee situation.

## Eritrean Refugee Response

### TIGRAY

During the first week of April, UNHCR conducted a market survey in Mai Tsebri town, the findings indicate that the prices of basic commodities have increased by 50 per cent within a one-month period. Some key food items, such as wheat, are not available in the market. The assessment was conducted to gauge the possibility of considering cash assistance as an option for supporting refugees in Mai Aini and Adi Harush to meet their food and other needs if access and supply constraints persist.

UNHCR and WFP completed a general food distribution in the two Eritrean refugee camps of Mai Aini and Adi Harush, providing a two-month ration using food stocks that had arrived in Tigray earlier in April. The number of refugees in the two camps has decreased from 25,000 to 19,500 individuals, following continuous self-relocation of refugees from Tigray to Alemwach settlement in the Amhara region. On 14 April, UNHCR completed the distribution of 2,000 core relief item kits to refugees in both camps.

### AFAR

On 26 April, the US/PRM Regional Refugee Coordinator accompanied by UNHCR staff visited Aysaita refugee camp. The mission team also met with RRS and the Aysaita Mayor. The mission received a briefing on the Share Cropping Activity implemented by UNHCR's partner Danish Church Aid (DCA). Focus group discussions were also held with refugees benefiting from livelihood activities as well as with refugee women, youth, and the

elderly. Discussions with refugees centered on the need for further livelihoods opportunities, increased access to secondary education and additional health support for safe deliveries.

As of 1 April, a total of 2,324 (1,321 female) refugees displaced from Barhale and relocated from Afdera/ Semera were verified by the deployed UNHCR registration team in Serdo refugee site, where they are being supported by partners. UNHCR has been distributing CRIs to all refugees in Serdo temporary site and has also procured two grinding mills through its partner the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY). To strengthen the social cohesion with the local community, UNHCR held discussions with local authorities on means to strengthen access to health services as well as primary and secondary education, through securing additional resources and establishing new structures. The main challenge in Serdo temporary site remains the lack of a water supply network for refugees have adequate access to potable water.

## **AMHARA**

As of end April, 8,150 individuals were hosted at the Alemwach settlement. UNHCR and partner Action for the Needy in Ethiopia (ANE) completed the installation of an additional 500 family tents which combined with the other existing shelters can accommodate approximately 9,000 individuals. The family tents are installed as a transitional measure pending the construction of permanent shelters. Demarcation of plots for the construction of permanent shelters for 2,000 households (to accommodate 10,000 people) is completed and the first phase of construction has begun, with 327 shelters completed.

During the last week of April, WFP delivered a two-month food ration at Alemwach settlement, after some delay due to the volatile security situation in Gondar. On 29 April UNHCR and WFP carried out a market survey to explore possibilities for implementing cash assistance modality in Dabat, Debark and Gondar.

UNHCR, UN Habitat and the Refugee Central Committee of Alemwach refugee settlement discussed plans on integration of refugees and the host community. Discussions were also held with local authorities on the increasing number of arrivals from the refugee camps in Mai Tsebri, Tigray to Alemwach settlement. UNHCR expressed readiness to work closely with authorities to alleviate the impact on the host communities, considering the limited resources available. Local authorities shared with UNHCR the development plan for Dabat woreda, including population trends and projections. This plan will be further analyzed by UNHCR and UN Habitat to align interventions for refugees in Dabat with the structure set by the local government.

## **BENISHANGUL-GUMUZ REGION**

On 26 April, UNHCR partner Humanity and Inclusion (HI) provided support to 151 refugees, including 81 women with specific needs in Tsore temporary site for refugees displaced from Tongo and Gure Shembola refugee camps. HI has also conducted an awareness raising session on topics of mental health, stigma, and discrimination, and conducted group counselling on stress management for a targeted group of refugees. UNHCR and partners continue to implement protection activities including new birth registration and documentation and verification of relocated refugees. Challenges including lack of fuel, scholastic materials and learning alternatives for refugee primary school children remain.

## **Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)**

On 1 April, UNHCR's Ethiopia Representative together with the Principal Situation Coordinator visited the IDP site of Gereb Tsogo in Mekelle and observed the ongoing return exercise led by UNHCR. Discussions were held with IDPs who expressed willingness to return to their areas of origin and reunite with their families. The Representative also participated in the Area Humanitarian Team's meeting led by the Deputy Humanitarian Coordinator (DHC), where participants including UN agencies, NGOs, and INGOs highlighted their operational challenges, opportunities, and suggested advocacy messages in support of the humanitarian community in Tigray.

On 21 April, UNHCR launched an emergency life-saving multi-purpose one-off cash grant to IDPs in Sheraro reaching nearly 2,000 families (estimated at 8,000-10,000 individuals), including IDPs from across the 14 IDP sites in Sheraro and its surroundings as well as IDPs from Western Zone and the five kebeles along the Ethiopian-Eritrean disputed lands. Additionally, 200 Eritrean refugee households residing around Sheraro area were also targeted.



**Protection:** On 12 April, UNHCR conducted a two-day workshop on prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) in Sheraro with a total of thirty-five participants from community representatives, local administration, and partners taking part in the training. The training covered topics on understanding sexual exploitation and abuse, case management for survivors, community outreach and feedback mechanism. The main recommendations of the workshop included the need for establishing a community-based feedback mechanism, improving communication channels, assigning focal persons, and setting up a SEA network for Sheraro.

UNHCR partner International Rescue Committee (IRC) initiated Women and Girls Safe Space (WGSS) and Child Friendly Space (CFS) services in three IDP sites in Sheraro town. IRC also begun managing Gender-Based Violence (GBV) cases in Sheraro, with 58 cases recorded so far and referred to services, including cases from the host community.

On 5 April, the Protection Cluster in collaboration with the University of Gondor in Amhara provided a four-day training to thirty government officials and partner agencies including social workers. The training covered general child protection, case management, children, and gender-based violence, and psychosocial support to child survivors. A post-distribution assessment was conducted in 38 gender-based violence survivor households in Kulichmeda and Debarak, who received cash assistance. A vulnerability assessment was also conducted in Dabat for IDPs living within the host community, while another 350 IDPs (250 female) participated in a GBV sensitization session in Kulichmeda.



**Education:** UNHCR and UNICEF continue to make efforts to roll out educational activities for internally displaced children in Afar region. UNICEF has secured emergency supplies, including Early Child Development and recreational kits to cover the needs of IDP children in 15 collective sites. UNHCR will provide appropriate shelter where children can receive these services.



**Shelter and Non-food Items:** UNHCR visited Guyah IDP site in Afar approximately 100km from Semera, where 54,526 individuals reside. Water, sanitation, and hygiene were found to be the highest priority need followed by shelter. Other priority needs identified included food and nutrition, bedding sets, dignity kits, plastic mats, and multipurpose cash grants. On 14 April, through the Cluster response, emergency shelter and non-food items were provided to some 7,300 households in Guyah, Afdera and Ada'ar IDP sites in Afar. Overall, more than 12,000 households were reached with emergency shelter and non-food items while distribution was on-going at the end of the month for nearly 10,000 households

In the Amhara region, UNHCR and partners continue to distribute CRIs to vulnerable IDPs in North and South Wollo areas. UNHCR and partners carried out CRI distributions in three woredas in South Wollo. On 2 April, a second CRI distribution took place in Debre Birhan reaching 2,382 individuals in collective IDP sites. On 29 April, UNHCR and partner Development Expertise Center (DEC) started distribution of core relief items to newly arriving IDPs south of Wollo, targeting 22 woredas that currently host 5,951 households. Distributions are expected to be completed by 20 May. UNHCR and partner Action Africa Help International (AAHI) provided CRIs, including 1,000 solar lamps to 3,000 newly relocated IDP households in Jara north of Wollo. A second CRIs distribution was conducted in Jara site on 4 April, supporting 956 households.



**Camp Coordination and Camp Management:** In Tigray, the CCCM Cluster, in close collaboration with Adwa authorities and the Bureau of Labor and Social Affairs (BoLSA), relocated 212 IDP households from Adwa correction center to Adwa Industrial Zone.

CCCM partners, including UNHCR, have completed a shelter damage assessment in eleven (11) IDP sites in Shire. In preparation for the rainy season, follow up is ongoing with the Emergency Shelter/Non-Food Items (ES/NFI) cluster to ensure availability of stocks and capacity for shelter repair in the collective centers. CCCM partners in Shire also provided IDPs with small scale site maintenance tool kits in four IDP sites. The tool kits will facilitate IDP engagement in backyard gardening activities to prepare the land for planting vegetables around their shelters in the four sites. Most of the IDPs are women with large family sizes who need seedlings, agricultural tools, and capacity building from concerned partners to further boost their efforts to grow vegetables in their respective sites. Six IDP sites have also been supported with these tool kits by partners in Mekelle.

CCCM partners UNHCR and the Organization for Social Service, Health, and Development (OSSHD) completed a headcount of IDPs in five sites in Abi Adi during the last week of April. While the collected data is being analyzed by the Cluster, the headcount data has been shared with the city administration to facilitate the identification of a relocation site for IDPs in Abi Adi.

## Sudan Response

In April, the number of new arrivals in Gedaref State decreased by almost 70% compared to the previous month, with a total of thirty-seven (37) new arrivals recorded in Hamdayet Transit Centre (14), Gallabat border crossing point (10) and Taya border entry point (13). Monitoring of the Gallabat border crossing point is ongoing for any new arrivals following heightened tensions that were triggered by deadly clashes in Gondar, in the Amhara region. The number of new arrivals recorded in April increased in Blue Nile State, with a total of 1,130 new arrivals, primarily from the Benishangul-Gumuz region. The population in Camp 6 in Blue Nile has now increased to 7,340 individuals.

With support from UNHCR and UNDP, a Solutions Working Group was launched on 12 April in Gedaref which is co-chaired by Sudan's Ministry of Finance and Sudan's Commission for Refugees (COR) and aims to mobilize additional and more coordinated support to refugees and the host communities. Representatives from humanitarian and development actors as well as Government line ministries participated in the meeting. In its capacity as the WG's secretariat with UNDP, UNHCR thanked local Government officials and host communities for their continued generosity towards refugees and shared information on assistance provided to host communities to date by humanitarian actors (UN and INGOs) aimed at easing the burden in line with the principles of the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR). The Government officials welcomed the progress made and identified areas in need of further support, including improvements to roads, health services and water networks. The terms of reference of the working group were endorsed and an inter-agency assessment will be conducted to help identify needs alongside mobilizing action and resources in support of host communities.

On 19 April, the Governor of Damazine met with humanitarian actors to discuss the situation of refugee returnees in Kurmuk, Geisan and Baw and the overall humanitarian situation in Blue Nile. Since the start of the returnee influx from Ethiopia, thousands of individuals have returned to Blue Nile – of which around 2,300 individuals have been registered and transported to different areas. Most families are in dire need of shelter, water and sanitation, health, education, NFI, and livelihood assistance in the areas of return. The Governor called on the UN and NGOs to assess the situation and come up with a clear response plan.

WFP has announced the reduction of food rations for refugees who have been in Sudan for over two years, beginning in June 2022. The plan to switch to cash assistance in Gedaref State has also been abandoned for the time being, due to fluctuations in the currency value and high inflation. While the ration cuts should not affect

the Tigrayan refugees immediately, preparations and a plan for targeted assistance needs to be put in place, in collaboration with WFP, for Ethiopian refugees who arrived in late 2020.



**Protection:** Gedaref's Gender-based Violence (GBV) sub-working group launched data collection in Babikri, Tunaydbah and Um Rakuba for a safety audit aimed at assessing GBV-related risks through observation and focus group discussions with refugees. The findings will inform mitigation measures.

UNHCR and the Commissioner for Refugees (COR) assisted ten (10) refugees in Um Rakuba through the litigation desk in registering additional family members and recording family separations. UNHCR also provided targeted assistance to twenty-two (22) refugees through its protection desk in Camp 6, including in relation to registration and CRIs.



**Education:** UNHCR secured \$2 million in funding from Education Cannot Wait (ECW) for education, \$250,000 of which will be allocated to youth programmes. This will allow thousands of refugee children to resume secondary education in Um Rakuba and Tunaydbah. In Camp 6, a total of 104 children from among the recently arrived refugees were enrolled in primary education and provided with catch-up courses. Save the Children International set up a dedicated classroom in Camp 6 for twenty (20) Tigrayan students and provided them with educational materials.



**Camp Coordination and Camp Management:** As of the end of April, 4,100 of the targeted 9,229 households (over 40%) in Tunaydbah and 538 households in Babikri have received pre-disaster kits (PDKs) in preparation for the rainy season. An information campaign is also underway to raise the awareness of refugees about rainy season preparations and provide them with guidance on how to use the tools to mitigate the impacts of the extreme weather on their tents and shelters. Rehabilitation work has also commenced on the four-kilometer road between El Fao and Tunaydbah, which had been flooded during the previous rainy season.

## KENYA

### NEW ARRIVALS AND BORDER DYNAMICS

**Kakuma and Kalobeyei:** Over 30 Ethiopian asylum-seekers were received at the Kakuma reception center in April. A total of 63 Ethiopians reside in the Kakuma and Kalobeyei reception centers.

**Daadab:** During the month of April, UNHCR partner Refugee Consortium of Kenya has been conducting border monitoring activities and reported the arrival of over 80 Ethiopians who came through the Mandera, Wajir, and El Wak border points in search of economic opportunities and education.

## SOMALIA

### NEW ARRIVALS AND BORDER DYNAMICS

UNHCR and partner Legal Clinic conducts weekly border monitoring mission along the Ethiopian border. On Thursday 21 and 28 April, joint border monitoring missions were conducted at Baligubadle and Goryo-Awal border with Ethiopia. The situation at the border remained calm, and no movements recorded of persons in need of asylum in Somaliland.

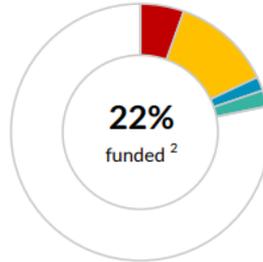
In Dollow, 271 individuals crossed the border in and out of Somalia, with 79 individuals (6 households) crossing to the Ethiopian side, while 192 individuals (21 households) indicated that they came from Ethiopia to Somalia due to both the conflict and drought situations. In Beledhawa, 138 individuals (9 households) were recorded leaving Somalia, while 163 individuals (4 households) were recorded incoming to Somalia.

## Funding Overview



FUNDING UPDATE | 2022

**\$205.4 million**

 UNHCR's financial requirements 2022 <sup>1</sup>

**ETHIOPIA  
EMERGENCY**

as of 5 May 2022

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

### CONTRIBUTIONS <sup>3</sup> | USD

	■ Unearmarked	■ Softly earmarked	■ Earmarked	■ Tightly earmarked	Total
Japan	-	-	9,240,000	-	9,240,000
Other private donors	-	59,990	-	-	59,990
<b>Sub-total</b>	-	<b>59,990</b>	<b>9,240,000</b>	-	<b>9,299,990</b>
Indicative allocation of funds and adjustments	4,203,082	3,542,837	16,447,275	11,231,501	35,424,694
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,203,082</b>	<b>3,602,827</b>	<b>25,687,275</b>	<b>11,231,501</b>	<b>44,724,684</b>

Methodology: Ethiopia Emergency

### OTHER SOFTLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS <sup>4</sup> | USD

**United States of America** 75.5 million | **Sweden** 5.8 million | **Switzerland** 3.6 million | **Netherlands** 3.3 million | **Republic of Korea** 2.9 million | **France** 2.1 million

Denmark | Japan | Luxembourg | Norway | Spain | UN Programme on HIV/AIDS | Private donors

### UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS <sup>5</sup> | USD

**Sweden** 95.2 million | **Norway** 72.5 million | **Netherlands** 37.2 million | **Denmark** 35.6 million | **Germany** 27 million | **Private donors Spain** 19.9 million | **France** 18.5 million | **Switzerland** 18.4 million | **Private donors Japan** 14.9 million | **Belgium** 11.9 million | **Ireland** 11.8 million | **Italy** 10 million

Algeria | Armenia | Bulgaria | Canada | Costa Rica | Estonia | Finland | Iceland | Kuwait | Liechtenstein | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Monaco | Montenegro | Peru | Philippines | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Saudi Arabia | Singapore | Thailand | Turkey | Uruguay | Private donors

#### Notes:

- The financial requirements of the Ethiopia Emergency include requirements in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan.
- The percentage funded (22%) and total funding amount (\$44,724,684) are indicative based on the methodology described above. This leaves an indicative funding gap of \$160,697,204 representing 78% of the financial requirements.
- Contributions to the Ethiopia Emergency are shown by the earmarking modality as defined in the Grand Bargain.
- Due to their earmarking at a related region, sub-region, country or theme, the other softly earmarked contributions listed are those which can potentially be used for the Ethiopia Emergency. Where a donor has contributed \$2 million or more, the total amount of the contribution is shown.
- 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.

For more information: <http://reporting.unhcr.org>

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