



Multi-story shelter in Sherkole camp constructed by a Sudanese refugee

ETHIOPIA

FACTSHEET

November 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

730,358 Total number of refugees	39,020 Number of Unaccompanied Minors and Separated Children	53% Percentage of women and girls	64.3% Percentage of Children
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Population of concern updated

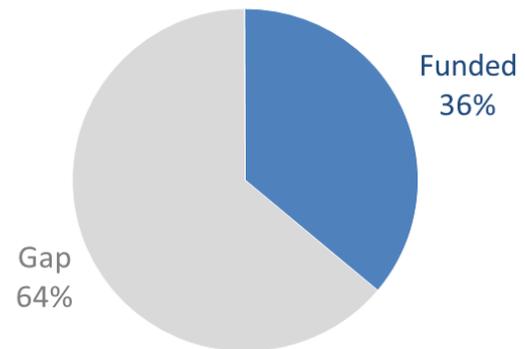
A total of **730,358** of concern
(As of 30 November 2015)

By country of origin

Country	Total PoC
South Sudan	281,763*
Somalia	251,620
Eritrea	152,555 *
Sudan	37,952
Other nationalities	6,545
Total	730,358

Funding

USD 318.9 million requested



- **Funding level as of 1 December 2015**

UNHCR Presence

Staff:

- 333 national staff
- 107 international staff
- 85 individual contractors
- 47 deployees
- 8 IUNVs

Total: 580

Offices:

24 offices, including the **UNHCR Representation in Ethiopia**, as well as Sub and Field-Offices located in five Regional States: **Afar** (Semera) **Benishangul-Gumuz** (Assosa, Bambasi, Sherkole, Tongo), **Gambella** (Gambella, Dimma, Itang, Jewi, Pugnido), **Somali** (Jijiga, Melkadida, Aw-barre, Sheder, Kebribeyah, Dollo Ado, Bokolmanyoo, Kobe, Hilaweyn, Buramino) and **Tigray** (Shire, Mekele, Embamadre, Shimelba).

*81,078 Eritrean refugees previously registered as living in the camps are believed to have spontaneously settled in Ethiopia. This figure will be subjected to Verification

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- UNHCR is fully engaged in the Humanitarian Country Team in Ethiopia consisting of UN Agencies, NGOs and donor representatives, where the refugee programmes are discussed strategically to ensure that the needs of refugees are adequately presented and addressed. The Representation Office is also building on well-established coordination fora such as the Refugee Task Force, donor and NGO and inter-agency meetings at the field and camp levels.
- UNHCR's main Government counterpart and implementing partner in Ethiopia is the Administration for Refugee and Returnee Affairs (ARRA) and the Office works well with it in ensuring continued protection of the refugees.
- 44 partners, including government agencies, national and international non-governmental organizations and UN agencies work closely with UNHCR to support the refugees in the country.
- An effective coordination environment was established in response to the Level 3 emergency with refugees arriving from South Sudan; a Regional Refugee Response Plan was developed with participation of all partners.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

- The Government of Ethiopia generally maintains open borders for refugees seeking protection in the country. A party to both the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, and its 1967 Protocol and the 1969 OAU Convention, the Government provides protection to refugees from over 18 countries, with the majority originating from South Sudan, Somalia, Eritrea and Sudan.
- Most asylum-seekers from neighboring countries and lately Yemen are granted automatic refugee status. Individual refugee status determination is undertaken for all others through a government Eligibility Committee, on which UNHCR sits as an observer.
- Refugees and asylum-seekers are generally expected by the Government to reside in camps, although some are permitted to reside in urban areas for medical, security, or humanitarian reasons. There are some 7,804 such refugees in Addis Ababa. The Government's "Out of Camp Policy" provides Eritrean refugees the opportunity to live in Addis Ababa and other locations if they have the necessary means to support themselves. Thousands are benefitting from this opportunity and it is hoped that this programme can be improved and expanded to cover other refugee groups in the country.
- Key protection concerns for the country operation include child protection, education and sexual and gender-based violence. The situation of Eritrean unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) in Shire is of particular concern, given the large numbers and limited family-based care options. Data-collection and case management tools are also being rolled out in the different operations, including the Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS) (in coordination with UNICEF) and the Education Management Information System (EMIS).
- UNHCR is also working closely with the government and key partners to address the issue of trafficking and smuggling of refugees. Livelihoods opportunities are considered a key component of these efforts, as are increased information campaigns and improved services. In addition to implementing UNHCR's Strategy and Regional Action Plan to address Smuggling and Trafficking from the East and Horn of Africa, UNHCR is also contributing to other efforts by the Government of Ethiopia and the UN Country Team in this area.

Education

- UNHCR organized a two-day workshop on the "**Refugee Education Strategy 2015-2018**" in Mekelle, capital of Tigray Region, bringing together 28 pertinent staff working for UNHCR, ARRA and NGO partners in the Afar Region where Field Office Semera is based. The workshop was aimed at equipping participants with the tools to develop an operation-based action plan and monitoring indicators to track implementation of the Refugee Education Strategy. In a related development, UNHCR Ethiopia as well as pertinent staff from ARRA, the Ethiopian Ministry of Education and NGOs working in the refugee operation attended a three-day workshop in Nairobi which was organized by the UNHCR Education Unit in Geneva. The objective of the workshop was to strengthen the capacity of UNHCR and other actors in the education sector in data collection, management and analysis, in order to improve operational planning and monitoring as well as reporting of education activities.

Health

- Eleven suspected meningitis cases have been identified in Kule refugee camp in the Gambella Regional State, accommodating 270,000 South Sudanese refugees. Laboratory tests reveal four of the cases as being Type C meningitis while two of the cases are confirmed as contracting the less contagious form of the disease. One case is pending investigation results. In response, UNHCR, ARRA, WHO and other partners have conducted a Training of Trainers for 14 health providers, who in turn conducted half-day training sessions for pertinent health staff in all but Okugo camp. Surveillance activities are being strengthened through training of outreach workers and community health workers. Planning for a mass vaccination campaign is underway, with partners and the Regional Health Bureau pledging support through providing additional vaccinators as required. Due to the current low caseload and low attack rates, it has been agreed that the campaign will take place only in Kule and Tierkidi camps and the host community in Itang woreda.
- UNHCR organized a Training of Trainers for mental health care practitioners working in the different refugee camps. The training is part of the roll out of UNHCR's global strategy to integrate mental health care services into primary health care services. Using the mental health Global Action Programme-Humanitarian Intervention Guide (mhGAP-HIG), which was developed by WHO and UNHCR, 20 psychiatric nurses and doctors from different camps across the country were trained in assessing and managing mental, neurological and substance abuse conditions.

Nutrition and Food Security

- The At least 50% of the refugee camps (13 out of 24) are located in regions that have been classified as **Priority 1 Hotspot Area** of the current drought in Ethiopia. In these areas it will be difficult to access food to diversify the diet of refugees due to reduced availability and increased market prices. Additionally, the fortified food that delivers micronutrients to the general population (Super cereal) will not be provided anymore due to lack of funding by WFP. Moreover, WFP has started implementing ration cuts as of November 2015 which will reduce the duration of time that the refugees have food in a month. This will result in an increased use of harmful coping strategies to bridge the gap such as reduction of the amount of food eaten per day or reduction in the number of meals prepared per day; this is expected to worsen the malnutrition situation in the camps.
- To mitigate the extent of the impact of the ration cuts and the drought situation, community screening will be strengthened by conducting monthly Mass MUAC screening of children so that malnourished children are identified earlier for treatment; it is planned to introduce Infant and Young Child Feeding programmes (IYCF) in the camps where they do not exist.

Water and Sanitation

- Water trucking ceased for Kule and Tierkidi refugee camps in Gambella following completion and commissioning of the integrated water scheme serving both refugees and the host communities. The scheme has an installed capacity of more than 3 million liters per day, serving approximately 150,000 persons. This ensures refugees receive at least 20 liters per person per day within a maximum walking distance of 200m for the farthest household. It was developed in collaboration with UNICEF through the Gambella Regional Water Bureau.
- Similarly, water trucking ceased in Pugnido II refugee camp after IRC completed drilling of an additional borehole and installation of a distribution network which forms part of the permanent water scheme.
- A Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) survey for Bambasi camp in Assosa was completed, 13 more surveys will be conducted in the month of December to evaluate household level Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) indicators while providing information for evidence-based programming.
- As a result of sustained improvement in water infrastructure in 10 refugee camps located in the drought affected areas (Afar, Jigjiga and Tigray), no significant disruption in supply has been observed except in Mai-Aini/ Adi-Harush camps where the yields of the boreholes are declining. UNHCR/IRC/ARRA are monitoring closely to ensure that the refugees and the surrounding host communities that are supported by the water schemes have stable supply.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management

- The Government of Ethiopia (ARRA) manages all the 24 refugee camps in Ethiopia. UNHCR and ARRA work together with partners to ensure proper and coordinated delivery of protection and assistance. Camp coordination meetings take place both at the zone and camp levels. Technical working groups meet regularly on such issues as child protection, SGBV, education, WASH and Health/Nutrition.

Access to Energy

- 99,662 lts of ethanol and 69,096 lts of kerosene were transported and/or distributed to Somali and [mainly]Sudanese refugees in camps in the Somali (Jijiga) and Benishangul-Gumuz Regions, respectively.
- A total of 472 fuel- saving stoves were distributed among selected households in Tierkidi camp, Gambella Region, sheltering South Sudanese refugees. 600 solar street lights were being erected in Jewi, Kule Tiekedi camps of the same region.
- More than 340 hectares of tree plantation has been weeded, hoed and cultivated in and around the refugee camps in the Gambella and Benishangul-Gumuz Regions where firebreaks have also been constructed to protect the plantations from bush fire.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- UNHCR's self-reliance programme in Dollo Ado, supported by donors, including the IKEA Foundation, complements the Government's development programme and targets both refugees and host communities focusing on the improvement of livelihoods activities. As the camps are situated in a drought-prone area, this will build refugees' resilience in anticipation of their imminent return to their places of origin in Somalia. An increase in household income including the ownership of animals and agriculture activities has already been noted and is expected to continue.
- Innovative approaches to refugee shelters, renewable energy and camp lay-out have also been piloted in Dollo Ado for eventual implementation in other regions. In addition to providing training on cooperative development and business management, business grant support has been made available by UNHCR to improve the livelihoods of refugees. UNHCR is also piloting an agricultural project focusing on improving the livelihoods of more than 200, 000 Somali refugees in Dollo Ado.
- In the Jijiga area where there are three camps hosting more than 40,000 Somali refugees, UNHCR engages refugees and the host communities in self-reliance activities under its Development Assistance for Refugees (DAR) project. Refugees and members of the host communities around the camps continue to produce agricultural outputs both for domestic consumption and for the local market.

Durable Solutions

- Resettlement remains the only viable durable solution in the Ethiopia operation as conditions in the countries of origin are not conducive for voluntary repatriation, while local integration remains elusive. Ethiopia's resettlement referral target for 2015 is 5,965 individuals.
- As of October 2015, a total of 1,816 cases (5,634 individuals) were referred to the UNHCR Regional Support Hub in Nairobi for onward submission to resettlement countries.
- 1,542 cases (4,744 individuals) have been submitted to resettlement countries by the Hub in Nairobi.
- 1,103 cases (3,526 individuals) have departed Ethiopia to third countries through the UNHCR facilitated resettlement program.

UNHCR is grateful for the direct contributions to the UNHCR Ethiopia Operation in 2015 from:



UNHCR is also grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given unrestricted and regional funds in 2015:

Afghanistan | Algeria | Australia | Austria | Azerbaijan | Belgium | Chile | Costa Rica | Estonia | Holy See | Hungary | India | Ireland | Israel | Italy | Kazakhstan | Kuwait | Latvia | Liechtenstein | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Mexico | Monaco | Morocco | Mozambique | Netherlands | New Zealand | Peru | Portugal | Qatar | Republic Of Korea | Romania | Russian Federation | Saudi Arabia | Serbia | Singapore | Slovakia | South Africa | Sri Lanka | Thailand | Turkey | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | Educate A Child Programme- EAA | Priv Donors Germany | Priv Donors Italy | Priv Donors Japan | Priv Donors Republic of Korea | Priv Donors Spain | Priv Donors United Kingdom | UN Delivering As One | United Nations Foundation.

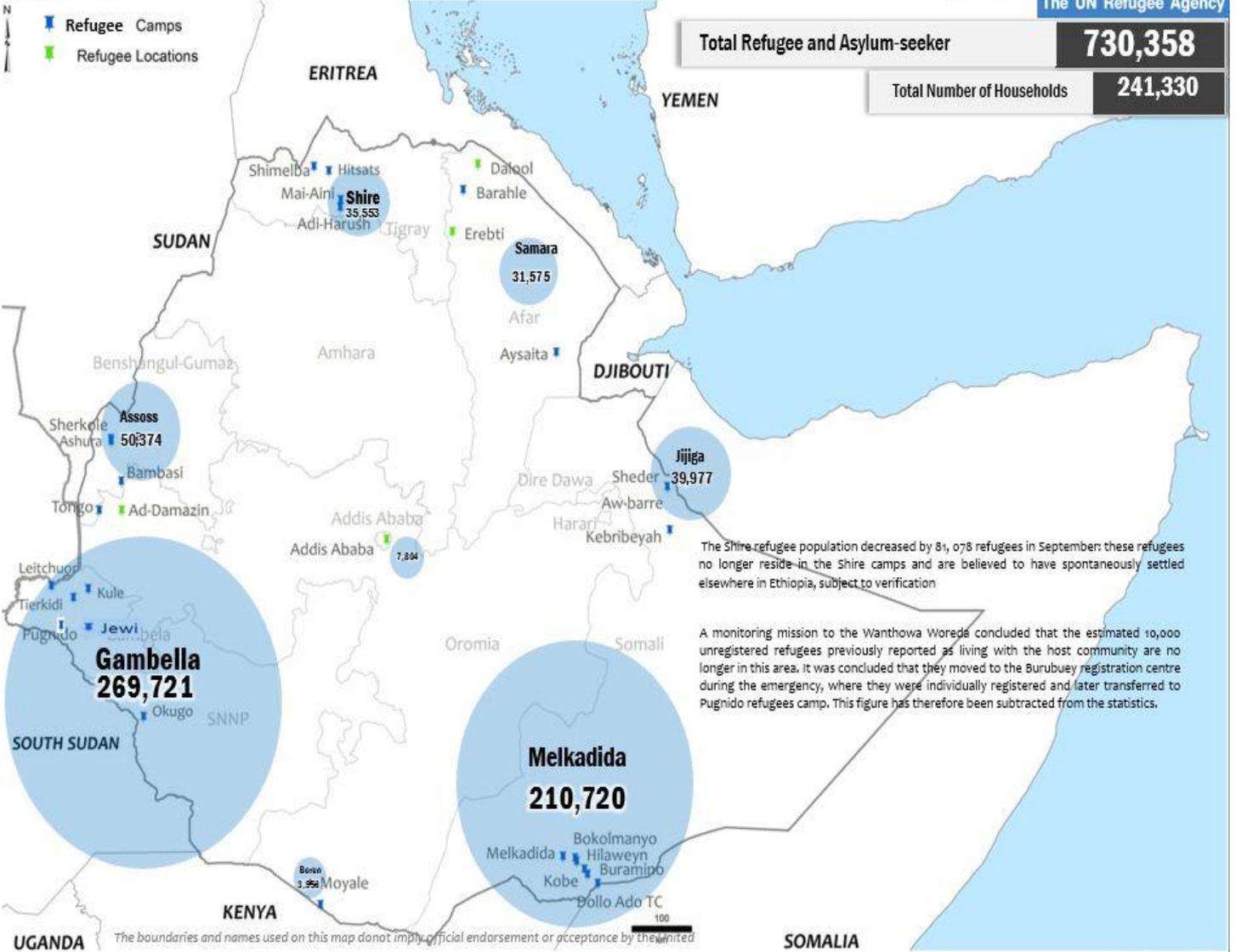
Refugees and Asylum-seekers in Ethiopia

30 November 2015



Population Update

UNHCR Ethiopia



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