



# AFAR REGIONAL STATE 2019 PLEDGE PROGRESS REPORT

**JANUARY - DECEMBER 2019**

Based on the:

**ROADMAP for the implementation of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (FDRE) Government Pledges and the practical application of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) in Ethiopia**

*This document was produced with the financial assistance of the European Union. The views expressed herein can in no way be taken to reflect the official opinion of the European Union.*



Pledge Progress from Afar Region, Ethiopia. (Version 2019/01 DRAFT)

Cover photo ©UNHCR/Helle Degn

*Caption: Refugee and Host Community Sharecropping*

**AFAR REGIONAL STATE**

**ETHIOPIA**

**2019 PLEDGE PROGRESS REPORT**

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## DISCLAIMER

This document is based on Ethiopia's 'pledge commitments' made at the September 2016 Leaders' Summit in New York as articulated and published in the *'Roadmap for the Implementation of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Government Pledges and for the practical application of the CRRF in Ethiopia'*.

Whilst this report endeavours to largely follow the format of the 'Roadmap', as with the 2018 reports, additional information is also offered where deemed relevant.

This document is not a Government of Ethiopia (GoE) publication. Rather it responds to the requests of stakeholders to have some assessment of pledge implementation made available – relating directly to UNHCR's expected supportive and catalytic role in the Global Compact on Refugees / Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (GCR/CRRF).

Being based on Ethiopia's Leaders' Summit pledges of 2016, this report does not attempt to systematically reflect subsequent pledges, such as those Ethiopia contributed to the Intergovernmental Agency on Development (IGAD:2017-2019) Nairobi Declaration and Action Plan, or the four (4) pledges the GoE made at the Global Refugee Forum (GRF) in December 2019.

Information provided in this report is reflected to the best of UNHCR's knowledge. Whilst every effort has been made to source and verify data, it is presented as indicative only – and should not be used for detailed analysis or programming without further verification. Produced by UNHCR, this report in no way implies the GoE's endorsement, nor asserts that it correctly reflects all Government priorities and positions at this time

*UNHCR Ethiopia*

*July 2020*



Refugee father united with his family after 10 years  
apart, Afar region ©UNHCR/Helle Degn

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*In Aysaita refugees and host community members live and farm together as part of a sharecropping project ©UNHCR/Helle Degn*



## ACRONYMS

AHA	African Humanitarian Action (NGO)
ARRA	Agency for Refugee and Returnee Affairs
BoFED	Bureau of Finance and Economic Development
BoWCYA	Bureau of Women, Children and Youth Affairs
COOPI	Cooperazione Internazionale
CMAM	Community Management of Acute Malnutrition
CRRF	Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework
DCA	Danish Church Aid
DEC	Development Expert Centre
DFID	UK Department for International Development
DRDIP	Development Response to Displacement Impacts Project (W. Bank)
ECCE	Early Childhood Care and Education
EECMY	Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus
EPSA	Ethiopia Pharmaceutical Supply Agency
ESAA	Education Statistics Annual Abstract
EUTF	European Union Trust Fund
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
GER	Gross Enrolment Ratio
GCR	Global Compact on Refugees

IOM	International Organisation for Migration
l/p/d	litres per person per day
MOH	Ministry of Health
NRC	Norwegian Refugee Council
OCP	Out of Camp Policy
PV	Photo Voltaic
RCC	Refugee Central Committee
RDPP	Regional Development and Protection Programme
RDRMB	Regional Disaster Risk Management Bureau
REB	Regional Education Bureau
RH	Reproductive Health
RHB	Regional Health Bureau
RMSP	Regional CRRF Multi-Stakeholder Platform
RSD	Refugee Status Determination
RWB	Regional Water Bureau
SAM	Severe Acute Malnutrition
SWC	Soil and Water Conservation
TB	Tuberculosis
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
UASC	Unaccompanied and Separated Children
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WFP	World Food Programme

# 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This document is based on Ethiopia's 2016 Leaders' Summit 'pledge commitments' as articulated in the 'Roadmap' of 2017<sup>1</sup>. Combined with the Roadmap baselines, and follow up reports drafted for 2018, information presented in this report for Ethiopia's Afar Regional State is commencing to form a foundation for tracking and evidence-based follow up on the pledges.

Compiled as a UNHCR publication, this report serves the wider stakeholder community pursuing the Global Compact on Refugees / Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (GCR/CRRF) in Ethiopia. Such data gathering, compilation and presentation is part of UNHCR's expected 'supportive and catalytic' role in the GCR<sup>2</sup>.

## Ethiopia's Nine 2016 Pledges<sup>3</sup>

### Out of Camp Pledge

1. Expansion of the "Out-of-Camp" policy to benefit 10% of the current total refugee population.

### Education Pledge

2. Increase of enrolment in primary, secondary and tertiary education to all qualified refugees without discrimination and within the available resources.

### Work and Livelihoods Pledges

3. Provision of work permits to refugees and to those with permanent residence ID, within the bounds of domestic law.
4. Provision of work permits to refugees in the areas permitted for foreign workers, by giving priority to qualified refugees.
5. Making available irrigable land to allow 100,000 people (amongst them refugees and local communities) to engage in crop production.
6. Building industrial parks where a percentage of jobs will be committed to refugees.

### Documentation Pledges

7. Provision of other benefits such as issuance of birth certificates to refugee children born in Ethiopia, possibility of opening bank accounts and obtaining driving licenses.

### Social and Basic Services Pledge

8. Enhance the provision of basic and essential social services.

### Local Integration Pledge

9. Allowing for local integration for those protracted refugees who have lived for 20 years or more in Ethiopia.

Demonstrated is **clear progress being made in the Afar Regional State (Afar) during 2019**. This attests to the continued impressive commitment of the people and the Government of Ethiopia (GoE), with support from various line ministries and bureaus, and the Agency for Refugee and Returnee Affairs (ARRA).



**Education:** Refugee student enrolment increased by 769 (26%) from 2018. However, many challenges persist in education for refugees (and host communities) in Afar. The best Gross Enrolment Rate (GER) is 29% of primary-aged refugee students attending school in Aysaita. In Barhale, the primary GER is only nine percent (9%). The most worrying statistic is also from Barhale, where only three percent (3%) of secondary-aged children attend school (against a Roadmap target

<sup>1</sup> Roadmap for the Implementation of the FDRE Government Pledges and for the practical application of the CRRF' <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/62655>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.unhcr.org/5b3295167.pdf> End para 33. Multi-stakeholder and partnership approach. End para 33. "While recognizing the primary responsibility and sovereignty of States, a multistakeholder and partnership approach will be pursued, ... UNHCR will play a supportive and catalytic role."

<sup>3</sup> Roadmap <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/62655>



of 25%). Supported by scholarships, 31 refugees attend government colleges and universities in country.



### **Work and Livelihoods**

**Irrigable land:** Refugees in Aysaita camp and surrounding area benefit from informal share-cropping arrangements around the Awash River with support and encouragement from regional government and Woreda Agriculture Offices. Activities show potential, however, as they are informal, no numbers are reported. Sixty (60) ha of land is noted as available (not officially registered). Strengthened social cohesion between refugees and host communities is apparent.

**Other work and livelihood opportunities.** 1,264 refugees were engaged in bakery, cafeterias, vegetable selling, trade, cart service and retail in Aysaita and Barhale.



**Documentation:** 418 refugees were issued vital event certificates and other civil status documents in the two camps. The number is low compared to the total number of refugees. Refugees have access to bank accounts, although no data exists.



**Social and Basic Services:** Refugees have received primary health care, TB, RH, HIV and other medical services, and are included in routine and mass immunization campaigns. In Water and Sanitation, borehole rehabilitation and pump installation increased water provision and consumption overall for refugees and hosts.

Transitional shelters were completed and refugee graduates and skilled masons from the host community engaged in improved shelter construction.

Related to health - nutrition statistics remain of great concern. Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) rates are near three (3) times the acceptable limit in both camps.



**Out of Camp:** Out of a total of 51,700 Eritrean refugees in the Afar region 14,406 (28%) are living within host communities in Dalool, Ayne Dib, Erebt and Samara.



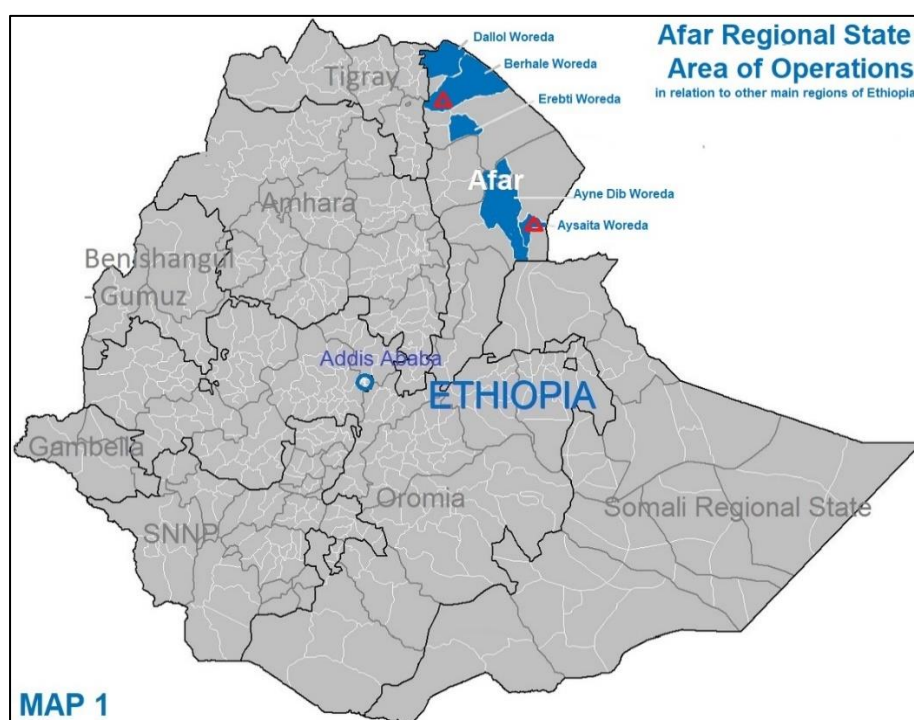
**Local Integration:** Refugees and host communities share culture, language and religion which contributes to a natural potential for socio-economic inclusion.

## 2. REGIONAL CONTEXT

The Afar Regional State is one of the most remote areas of Ethiopia and presents some of the harshest climatic conditions. Homeland to the Afar people, the Afar Triangle (Afar Depression), also in Djibouti and Eritrea, contains Lake Asal, the lowest point in Africa at 155m below sea level. Temperatures in Afar can be extreme. The Awash River is substantial but often stops flowing in harsh dry seasons. Afar Regional State's capital as of 2007, Samara, was recently constructed on the Awash-Assab / Djibouti highway.

Supporting refugees is a deeply rooted tradition of Afar culture. Sharing a language and religion, the refugees, as largely Eritrean Afari people, are hosted or live side-by-side the Ethiopian Afar. The region currently hosts more than 51,700 Eritrean refugees living in urban and rural areas: two (2) formal refugee camps (Barhale and Aysaita), and four (4) settlements, or small urban areas, where 14,406 refugees are living within host communities: in Dalool, Ayne Dib, Erebti, and Samara.

Other minor sites accommodating refugees are also known (see map 2). From a regional population estimated at less than 1,800,000, about 380,000 Ethiopian Afar live in refugee-impacted woredas.



Eritrean refugees hosted in the region have benefited from local integration and Out of Camp Policy (OCP) opportunities which are mostly available to Eritrean refugees in Ethiopia.

Following the July 2018 Ethiopia-Eritrea Peace deal, both governments reopened crossing points on shared borders on 11 September 2018.

Subsequently a significant increase in the movement of Eritreans into Ethiopia was recorded in the region. The influx necessitated additional humanitarian assistance and resources to respond to growing needs. (39,162 refugees were registered in the 2018 pledge report – rising to 51,700 by the end of 2019: a 32% increase).

The main humanitarian coordination structures and 'Task Forces' in Afar include:

- WASH (RWB) and Education (REB);
- Health and Nutrition (RHB);
- Food and Logistics; Protection (BOWCYA);
- Emergency Shelter; Disaster Risk Management Technical Working Group lead by Regional Disaster Risk Management Bureau (RDRMB);

- Regional CRRF Multi-Stakeholder platform (RMSP).

## 2.1 REFUGEES

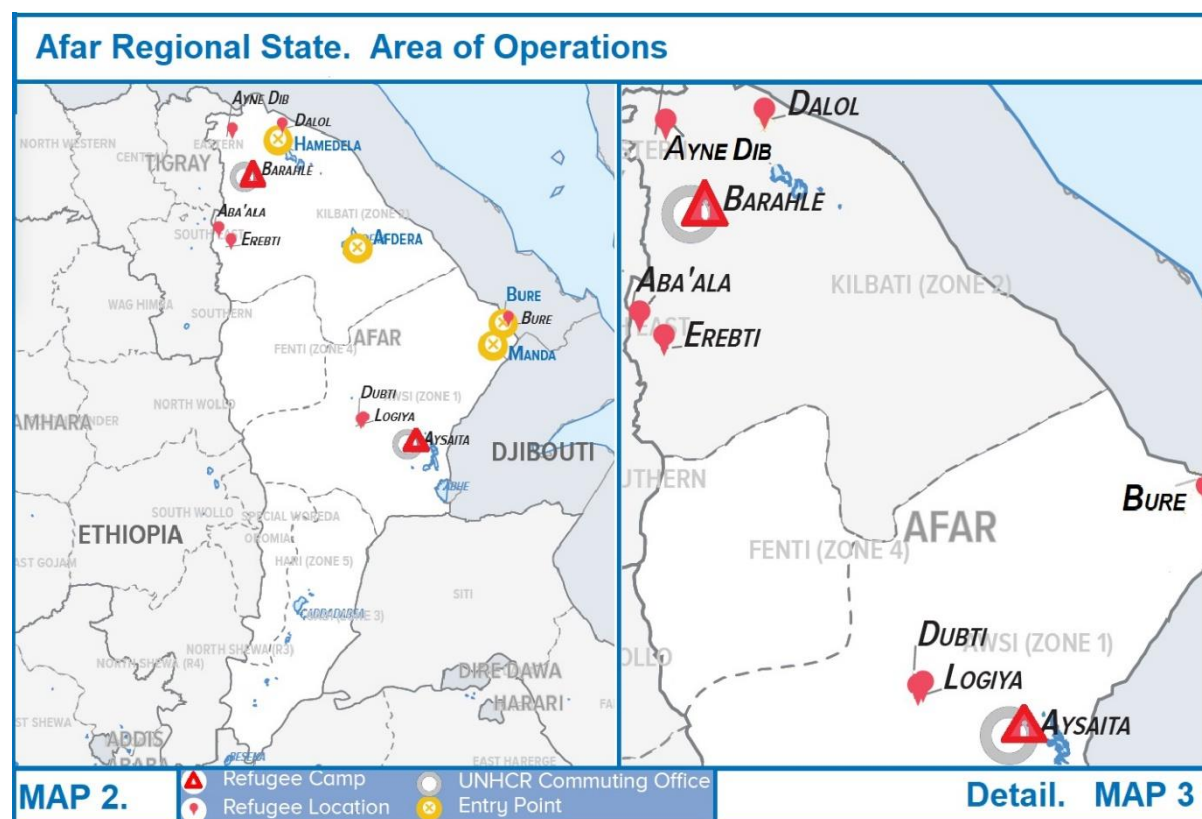
At the end of 2019, 51,700 refugees representing 10,235 families (average FS 5.5) were living in the refugee camps and local community / settlements of Afar. 18% of the population is youth (15 to 25 years old) and 92% of the population is enrolled in the biometric system, with 72% having received the individual Identity document. There is just two percent (2%) of the total refugee population who has been in country for 20 years or more.

### Refugee camps and sites with corresponding refugee populations

Regional State	Refugee Camp / Settlements	Population
Afar Regional State	Aysaita (camp)	18,601
	Barhale (camp)	18,693
	Ayne Dib	4,739
	Dalool	6,904
	Erebt	65
	Samara/ Logiya	2,698
<b>Total</b>		<b>51,700</b>

Source: UNHCR Shire statistics as of 31 December 2019

From the population-specific needs, the region is dominated by the child at risk (10,227), women at risk (3,191), and single parents (1,931). The intention survey conducted for the entire population showed nine percent (9%) would like to return, 76% would not, with 15% undecided. The top single area for return is Lien Bada (in Eritrea), with 693 persons. The majority of those not intending to return note insecurity in the country of origin as the reason.



From the socio-economic perspective, 19,039 refugees over 17 years old have been surveyed in the L3 exercise and continuous registration. The analysis shows that only 194 persons have skills and don't have an occupation. Also, 7,978 have an occupation (economic activity) and 12,182 do not. For employment, the highest income is around ETB 12,000 (US\$ 375) per month, yet most refugees, if engaged, earned closer to ETB 1,400 (US\$ 44). The mobile phone coverage is 16,519 persons (32%).

Humanitarian assistance, mainly the food distribution, covers 88% of the refugee population. The systematic implementation of the inactivation of the missing three (3) months' consecutive food distribution will indicate spontaneous departures and the onward movements from the camps. The implementation of the inactivation is pending WFP's review of the SOPs and ARRA endorsement. The most common economic activities with refugees are: Housekeeping and restaurant workers: 3,974; Student: 2,154; and Market-Oriented Skilled Agricultural and Fishery Workers: 1,563. Top skills include: Housekeeping and restaurant workers: 55; Market-Oriented Skilled Agricultural and Fishery Workers: 31, and Athletes, sportspersons: 28.

## 2.2 REFUGEE-IMPACTED COMMUNITIES

Directly- and indirectly impacted host populations in Afar region.

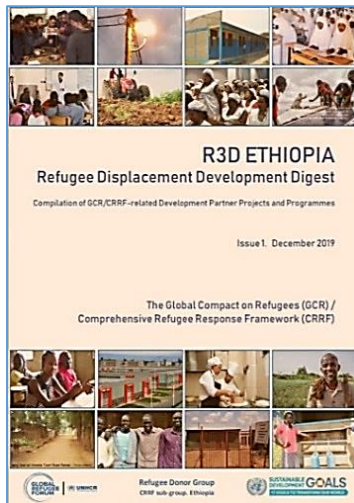
Refugee Camp/ Location		Host Community adjacent camp (Direct Impact)			Woreda (Indirect Impact)	
Name	Pop.	Names	Village	Pop.	Woreda	Pop.
Aysaita Refugee Camp	18,601	Aysaita town kebelles		23,400	Aysaita	68,282
Barhale Refugee Camp	18,693	Barhale 01 / Le/Qaala /Sarqe	3 Kebelles	28,950	Barhale	97,110
Dalool	4,739				Dalool	86,448
Dalool	6,904					
Erebt	65				Erebt	35,845
Samara/ Logiya	2,698				Dubti	93,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>51,700</b>			<b>52,350</b>		<b>380,685</b>

*Refugee and host populations in ARS. Host community population figures extrapolated from 2018 report with 3% growth rate assumed; Samara figures CSA/wikipedia 2007 with 3% pa projection.*

With an estimated 380,685 host community members in the five (5) woredas that host refugees, refugees make up about 14% of the total population. In Aysaita the refugee population in the camp is 27% in relation to the woreda. Similarly, in Barhale, the refugee population forms 19% of the local population. When natural resources are extremely scarce, as they are in Afar, this poses challenges especially on water, livestock grazing and firewood.



## 2.3 PARTNER PROJECTS SUPPORTING THE PLEDGES



Coordination and partnerships with regional and local government authorities have been strengthened during 2019. Various partners are working with regional and woreda authorities towards inclusion of refugees in the government system. Local authorities have started to engage further in the CRRF approach, including direct capacity building with the EU Trust Fund and UNHCR to facilitate the inclusion of refugees in their regional and local development plans.

The Refugee Displacement Development Digest R3D),<sup>4</sup> Issue 1 of December 2019, accounts for **four (4)** development partner **projects / programmes** with significant components ongoing or planned **in Afar**. Through a broad range of partners and funded via numerous sources, the projects serve to support the overall

objectives of the GCR/CRRF and many target specific pledge areas.

**1. Development Response to Displacement Impacts Project (DRDIP).** Funded through the World Bank, DRDIP is designed to ease the pressure on host communities and the natural environment in refugee-hosting Woredas. Implemented by GoE (Bureau of Agriculture), objectives are to improve access to basic social services, expand economic opportunities, and enhance environmental management for communities that host refugees in two (2) woredas of Afar. DRDIP is working mainly in sectors of natural resource management and environmental protection, livelihood sector supporting Common Interest Group (CIG) and strengthening Cooperatives, construction of rural roads, water supply, upgrading of irrigation infrastructures (canals), alternative energy and strengthening horticulture. Community ownership and buy-in is ensured through a 'Community Driven Development (CDD)' approach, with refugee-hosting communities as primary direct beneficiaries.

**2. Regional Development Protection Programme (RDPP).** RDPP is funded by the European Union Trust Fund (EUTF) and aims to create evidence-based, innovative and sustainable development and protection solutions for refugees and host communities. Danish Church Aid (DCA) leads the NGO consortium implementing RDPP in Afar with COOPI, AHA and EECMY. The programme supports refugees and hosting communities by upgrading shared water supply systems to solar, rehabilitating refugee water supply services, drilling and developing an additional borehole in Aysaita and strengthening structures and capacities of (local) authorities / woredas for providing sustainable water management. RDPP also supports the electrification of camps and has initiated a Regional CRRF Multi-Stakeholder Platform (RMSP) for refugees and host communities, co-chaired by BoFED and ARRA. Currently serving as the CRRF coordination structure in Afar, the RMSP held several coordination meetings in 2019 with government stakeholders and other partners.

**3. Building Self Reliance Programme (BSRP):** BSRP is a UK DFID-funded programme implemented by UNICEF through its partners with the GoE (including ARRA), NGOs and the communities themselves in refugee-hosting woredas and refugee camps in the Afar Regional

<sup>4</sup> <https://regionaldss.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/R3D-ETHIOPIA-Refugee-Displacement-Development-Digest.pdf>

State. Five (5) major BSRP objectives aim at improving the service of WASH, Education, Nutrition, Health and Child Protection, for both refugees and host communities – including facilities and infrastructures, and capacity building and support to women, children and vulnerable populations.

**4. Stimulating economic opportunities and job creation for refugees and host communities in Ethiopia in support of the CRRF:** This programme supported by the European Union Emergency Trust Fund for stability and addressing root causes of irregular migration and displaced persons in Africa (EUTF for Africa) is targeted towards facilitating the objectives of the GCR. It aims to ease pressure on Ethiopia as a major host country for refugees, and increase refugee self-reliance by fostering sustainable, integrated and self-reliant solutions for refugees and host communities in response to their developmental needs and aspirations. Supporting the Government to shift from a 'care and maintenance' camp-based model of refugee assistance to an approach emphasizing refugee self-reliance and mobility, UNHCR's component on Capacity Building and Technical Assistance to CRRF Structures and Ethiopian Government Institutions supports coordination, analysis and local government and ARRA capacity in both refugee hosting areas of Afar Regional State. Clearly, in Afar, there will be strong links to the RMSP and the RDPP programme and all stakeholders.

## 3. PLEDGE PROGRESS

### 3.1 OUT OF CAMP PLEDGE

The Out of Camp Pledge aims for the “expansion of the ‘Out-of-Camp’ policy to benefit 10% of the current total refugee population”. In 2019, 28% of refugees in Afar were recorded to have benefitted from OCP.

#### Number of refugees living Out of Camp

Number of refugees	Refugees benefitting from Out of Camp Policy (OCP)	% of OCP beneficiaries
51,700	14,406	28%

Source: UNHCR statistics as of 31 December 2019

### 3.2 EDUCATION PLEDGE

The education pledge aims to increase:

- Enrolment of pre-school aged refugee children from current 46,276 (44%) to 63,040 (60%)
- Enrolment of primary school aged children from current 96,700 (54%) to 137,000 (75%)
- Enrolment of secondary school aged refugees from the current 3,785 (9%) to 10,300 (25%)
- Opportunities for higher education enrolment from the current 1,600 to 2,500 students.

According to the Education statistics for 2019 presented in the table below, many challenges persist in education for refugees (and host communities) in Afar. The best statistic is 29% of primary-aged refugee students attending school in Aysaita, however this is well below the 75% national pledge (Road Map) target. In Barhale, only nine percent (9%) of primary-aged children attend school. The most worrying statistic is also from Barhale, where only three percent (3%) of secondary-aged children attend school<sup>5</sup> - against a pledge target of 25%.

#### Number of school-aged and enrolled refugees 2018-2019

Woreda	Pre-Primary (ECCE)			Primary (Grade 1-8)			Secondary (Grade 9-12)		
	Eligible	Enrolled (GER)	%	Eligible Age 7-14	Enrolled (GER)	%	Eligible Age 15-18	Enrolled (GER)	%
Aysaita	2,476	285	12%	5,548	1,582	29%	2,052	93	5%
Barhale	3,491	165	5%	9,050	788	9%	2,965	85	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,967</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>14,598</b>	<b>2,370</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>5,017</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>4%</b>

Source: **ECCE**--AHA's annual report of 2019; **Primary**: ARRA's annual report of 2019; **Secondary**: Barhale ARRA's annual report of 2019; **Secondary**: Aysaita ARRA, CRRF focal point

In Afar, there is one primary school in each camp. In addition, there are four (4) ECCE schools in the two (2) camps placed in different zones. African Humanitarian Action (AHA) and ARRA manage the pre-schools and primary schools in both locations respectively. In terms of secondary education, refugee school-aged children attend classes in government schools. UNHCR, with funding from Demark, has made improvements of the two (2) secondary schools. The improvements include construction of two academic blocks (one in Aysaita and one in Barhale). UNHCR also provided 360 combined school desks, 150 single chairs and

<sup>5</sup> This is almost the lowest figure reported in education enrollment in the 2019 pledge reports – second only to Tigray, where two percent (2%) of refugees of higher secondary school age attend school.

computers for ICT classrooms to improve the national secondary school education. The effort to improve secondary school education is in line with the CRRF objective which strategically contributes to the inclusion of refugees into the national education system. At the higher education level, a total of 31 students (ARRA Annual Report 2019) are attending different government colleges and universities in the region and the country. All students placed in the universities are supported by UNHCR scholarship through ARRA.

### Number of refugee students enrolled in 2017-2018 Vs. 2019

	# of students enrolled 2017 - 2018	# of Students enrolled 2018-2019	% Increase from 2018
Pre-primary	498	450	-10%
Primary	1,732	2,370	37%
Secondary	143	178	24%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,373</b>	<b>2,998</b>	<b>26%</b>

Source: **ECCE**: AHA's annual report of 2019; **Primary**: ARRA's annual report of 2019; **Secondary**: Barhale ARRA's annual report of 2019; **Secondary**: Aysaita ARRA, CRRF focal point

Refugee camps in Afar are characterized by low enrolment rates, especially for female students. For refugee primary education, Afar shows the lowest gender parity index of all regions at 0.54. This is due to many contributing factors, including harmful practices like early marriage, engaging children in domestic work, such a firewood collection, combined with lack of awareness on the importance of education. It is also important to note that data on refugee secondary education is missing from the MoE's ESAA (GER at 0%). It may be a case of some refugee students attending secondary schools at a distance from refugee camps, and not being counted as refugees apart when in MoE / community schools. More investigation is required, and data must be viewed as indicative only.



A girl refugee student at the primary school in Aysaita refugee camp ©UNHCR/Mulat Zergaw



## 3.3 WORK AND LIVELIHOODS PLEDGES

### 3.3.1 Work Permits

Ethiopia pledged to provide work permits to refugees with permanent residence ID within the bounds of the domestic laws. Ethiopia also pledged to provide work permits to refugee graduates in the areas permitted for foreign workers by giving priority to qualified refugees. This cuts across the entire refugee populations both in camps and out of camps. Work-permits were not provided to refugees in Afar in 2019.

### 3.3.2 Irrigable land

Many refugees in Aysaita camp benefit from agriculture around the Awash river. This is done through different sharecropping arrangements around Awash River. Refugees also rent land from local farmers and sign agreements with landowners. Sharecropping is common in Aysaita, Bohele and Dablatyu<sup>6</sup> locations. The Afar regional government, mainly Aysaita Woreda agriculture office, encourages and supports this arrangement. Regular technical support and close monitoring was done by experts of the Agriculture Bureau. Refugees gained improved agricultural farming practices as well as water management skills. The Sharecropping strengthened social cohesion between refugees and host community.

In Aysaita, DCA supported 70 (13 female) refugee households to secure land under a sharecropping arrangement with host communities for producing maize and cotton with support from the RDPP project. To date, 60 ha of land is planted with maize. In this scheme refugee households are responsible for activities like site clearing, cleaning irrigation canals, weeding, harvesting etc., including searching for suitable cropland and negotiating with landlords. DCA covers the cost related to tractor rental, training on agronomic and post-harvest technologies as well as the provision of farming tools, seeds and other agricultural inputs.

#### Provision of Irrigable land

	Implementation Area/Woreda	Land made available for refugees (ha)	Number of refugees benefiting	# Host community benefiting	Irrigated hectare by host	Total irrigable land
1	Aysaita	60	70 HHs	15	tbd	tbd
2	Barhale	No formal arrangement			tbd	tbd
	<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>70 HHs</b>	<b>15</b>		

Source: EEMYC and DCA monthly report 2019

### 3.3.3 Industrial Parks

There were no industrial parks in Afar in the reporting year, therefore this element of the pledges is not immediately relevant for Afar.

<sup>6</sup> Bohele and Dablatyu are communities located 1.5-2km from Aysaita refugee camp, in Aysaita woreda.

### 3.3.4 Other work and livelihood opportunities

Under RDPP Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY) implemented a livelihood project organizing 52 Self-Help Groups (SHGs) with 540 individuals in Barhale and Aysaita, including 332 female refugees. The groups gained some income by running various businesses: mini markets, producing local mat, trade, goat rearing, grinding mills and bakery. Also, as a community empowerment project, 14 (6 female) youth refugees worked in bakeries in the camps after receiving practical training. Moreover, three (3) youth groups were organized for income-generating activities selling packed water to the community and refugees in Barhale.

Similarly, DCA has managed the Multi-purpose Cash Transfer (MPCT) intervention as part of the livelihood programs in Barhale refugee camp. ETB 6,101,700 (USD 190,678) cash was distributed to the refugees and 2,354 households benefited through Multi-purpose Cash Transfer modalities. These livelihood activities have great impact to change the lives of the refugees positively supporting refugees individually and at the household level.

In Aysaita and Barhale livelihood opportunities were provide to 1,264 refugees. The livelihood opportunities provided include bakery, food cafeterias, vending vegetables, trade, cart service and retail. The absence of technical, vocational and skill training in both camps has remained an essential part of priorities, as the lack of job opportunities for youth coupled with the inadequate food assistance demands better opportunities for self-reliance. Limited access to livelihood activities remains a major challenge across the two (2) camps in Afar and for refugees living out of camp.

## 3.4 DOCUMENTATION PLEDGE

### 3.4.1 Vital Events Registration for Refugees

In 2019, ARRA issued vital event certificates and other civil status documents for 418 refugees in the two camps. The number is low compared to the total number of refugees. There have been some challenges in certificate availability and shortage of staff at camp level. Lack of awareness has also limited refugees' access to the services except for refugees requested for registration and resettlement cases. Refugees are able to access bank accounts in Afar, though no data is available.

#### Documentation Pledge: Types of registration / certification

Area/Camp	Birth	Death	Marriage	Divorce	Total
Aysaita/Barhale	366	6	39	7	418

Source: ARRA CRRF Afar, 2019

## 3.5 SOCIAL AND BASIC SERVICES PLEDGE

### 3.5.1 Health Services Provision for Refugees

Primary health care services were provided in all camp health centres to refugee and the hosting community. Referral linkages were in place, and refugees were referred to secondary and tertiary hospitals for specialized services. Health facility-based deliveries reached 99% in

Afar camps, and all deliveries were attended at the health facilities by skilled health professionals. There were no maternal deaths reported in 2019. Refugees accessing woreda health centres and referral hospitals are detailed in the table below.

### Health Service Provision for Refugees

Camps (Woreda)	# Health Posts in camp	# Health Crs in camp	# Health post in Woreda (excl. camp)	Refugees access woreda health posts (Y/N)	# Health Centres in woreda (excluding camp)	Refugees access woreda health crs (Y/N)	#Referral hospitals in woreda and/or region
Aysaita	0	1	15	N	1	Y	1
Barhale	0	1	16	N	5	Y	0

Source: UNHCR 2019

### 3.5.2 Other Basic Social Services Provided to Refugees

#### Water

In 2019, UNHCR and other partners performed regular maintenance /upgrades of water supply systems and daily water quality testing to ensure standards. However, with a high unit cost of water due to fuel costs, low yielding boreholes, high frequency of repairs for electromechanical equipment and daily new arrivals of refugees, the quantity of potable water was below 20 litres per person per day. To overcome these challenges, about 30m<sup>3</sup> of daily water to Barhale camp was supplied with water trucks.

During the reporting period, UNHCR drilled one borehole at Barhale through an Implementing Partner, IRC. This new water supply project is expected to solve the water supply challenges in Afar camps and is expected to be completed in mid-2020. IRC also conducted a geophysical survey at Aysaita camp for drilling a new borehole. One of the major constraints that impacts water supply is low maintenance of existing facilities.

In 2019, discussions were conducted with Afar Regional State government authorities on the inclusion of refugees in the ongoing water supply project in Barhale. The aim was to understand the nature of projects for further exploring refugee inclusion in services.

#### Nutrition

The nutrition program in all camps was managed efficiently. Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) was applied for acutely malnourished children. Under five (U5) children were screened and enrolled in the nutrition programs, while pregnant and lactating mothers were targeted for blanket Supplementary Feeding Program (BSFP). Social and medical cases were considered for supplementary food distribution; receiving additional food supplements.

The annual nutrition survey was conducted in Afar camps and the nutrition situation remains critical with the prevalence of Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) just above the emergency threshold (15%). GAM prevalence is 16.6% in Barhale and 16.8% in Aysaita. In Afar, Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) rates remains critical (indicator > 2%): 6.1% in Barhale and 5.9% in

Aysaita. The situation needs to be addressed comprehensively through a multi-sectoral approach in food assistance, health, WASH, energy, shelter and other social outreach.

### **3.6 LOCAL INTEGRATION PLEDGE**

As the Eritrean refugees in Afar share the same language, religion and culture, this will contribute to socio-economic inclusion and eventually potential local integration. Apart from refugee camps, there are also four settlements where 14,406 refugees are living within host communities in Dalool, Ayne-Dib, Erebtí and Samara. Eritrean refugees are living in urban and rural areas of the region.

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## **ANNEXES**

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# ANNEX I: KEY ACTIVITY TABLES

This Annex presents a summary of activities undertaken against each of the nine (9) pledges, in six (6) areas – using the format presented in the *ROADMAP for the implementation of the FDRE Government Pledges and the practical application of the CRRF in Ethiopia*.

## 1. Out of Camp Pledge

Key Activities	Initial Timeline	Progress in 2019
Prepare a clear policy document for OCP and set clear eligibility criterion for refugees, with emphasis on facilitating opportunities for self-reliance.	2017	In practice at a local level already in Afar.
Increase access to education for the beneficiaries of the OCP, formalize and integrate government higher educational scholarship schemes within the OCP.	Continuous	Specific measures of these activities in Afar not assessed in 2019, however, as noted there is a relatively high level of OCP practice with Eritrean refugees in Afar and they often access services.
Provide skills, vocational training ops; further open educational opportunities		
Enhance livelihood opportunities to OCP beneficiaries (enabling refugees to work, support themselves, reduce dependency on Government or aid agencies).		
Enable refugees to increase access to services which are not available in camps.		
Regularly verify data of OCP beneficiaries		
Address needs of OCP beneficiaries for self-employment opportunities: Arrange internships and apprentice opportunities; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve access to business, finance and start-up capital; Skill training for business plan development, Access to markets.</li> </ul>		

## 2. Education Pledge

Key Activities	Initial Timeline	Progress in 2019
Establish new pre-primary centers, primary / sec. schools in camps as per minimum standard. Expand school facilities in existing schools.	2017 – 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As additional blocks and classrooms were constructed in 2018, there is no shortage of classrooms in primary schools. In addition, UNHCR through its partners Development Expert Centre (DEC) is constructing two blocks; one in Barhale and one in Aysaita.</li> </ul>
Review Nat. Strategy and Refugee Education Strategy (2015-2018) to ensure compatibility.	Continuous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Activity is applicable at the federal level</li> </ul>
Procure student and school supplies.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School materials and supplies were provided to refugee students by partners, ARRA, DEC and EECMY.</li> </ul>
Recruit new qualified refugee / natl. schoolteacher facilitators for existing / new constructed schools.	2017 – 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recruitment was not done in 2019</li> </ul>

Key Activities	Initial Timeline	Progress in 2019
Provide special support for the inclusion of students with specific educational needs.	September 2017	▪ This activity was not carried out in 2019.
Support teacher training programs	Continuous	▪ This activity was not carried out in 2019.
Establish and build capacity of the Education Management Committee	September 2017	▪ Activities not conducted in 2019
Improve sanitation and hygiene facilities in all schools.	2017 – 2018	▪ Improvement work was not done in 2019
Support/provide school feeding programs in all pre-primary /primary	September 2017	▪ School feeding was provided in Afar region refugee camps by ARRA for primary schools and by AHA in ECCE.
Implement educational planning, management, and monitoring through applying (EMIS) tools.		▪ All schools use EMIS tools, but the schools do not use it efficiently.
Conduct yearly learning assessments at grade 4 and 8.	Starting Sept. 2017	▪ Primary leaving certificate examination administered at grade 8.
Equip laboratory, library and pedagogical centers with the minimum requirements [secondary]	Continuous	▪ Activity was not conducted in 2019
Procure /install info./communication technology facilities and equipment	2017 – 2018	▪ Activity was not conducted in 2019
Implement targeted interventions to increase girl's enrollment and retention in schools	Continuous	▪ School girl clubs were established to create an opportunity for girls to have their own say and retain them in school. ▪ Efforts were also made in collaboration with RCC, PTA and partners to create awareness on girl's education and to attract more girls into school.
Strengthen partnerships with relevant govt. entities, academic institutions, donors / foundations.		▪ Good partnership and collaboration were created with Regional Education Bureau and Woreda Education Office.
Enhance access to tertiary education [for refugees]		▪ In 2019, no activities were done in relation to enhancing access to tertiary education.
Support higher public education institutes to strengthen absorption capacity of refugee students.	2017 – 2018	▪ Activity was not conducted in 2019.
Provide allowances to students on scholarship programme and organize graduation ceremonies	Continuous	▪ Activity was not conducted in 2019.
Facilitate refugee access and inclusion into <u>host community schools</u> through the expansion of existing schools when required.		▪ Refugee students are attending classes in host schools from Aysaita and Barhale camps.
Broaden and increase the supervisory role and extension services of regional educational bureau (REBs) in refugee schools		▪ Activity was not conducted in 2019
Provide material support to local schools hosting refugees		▪ Activity was not conducted in 2019

### 3. Work and Livelihoods Pledges

#### 3.1 Work-permits Pledge

Key Activities	Initial Timeline	Progress in 2019
Collect, analyze and utilize data on graduate refugees (external cert. and graduates from Ethiopian universities); through profiling of refugee skills for linkage with skills needed in Ethiopia.	2017 Continuous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Activity was not conducted in 2019.</li></ul>
Analyze the legal framework and advance on the opportunities; along with the finalization of the updated Refugee Proclamation.	October 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ The new refugee proclamation was promulgated in January 2019, whereas additional directives were put in place only at the end of 2019.</li></ul>
Advocate with the Main Department for Immigration and Nationality for refugee ID cards to be recognized as residence ID cards, for the purpose of work permits.	2017 Continuous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Activity applicable at the federal level</li></ul>
Provide administrative and financial support to MoLSA for the issuance of work permits; negotiate lower fees for work permits for refugees; and eventually pay the fees of the first work permits.	Continuous	
Engage educational partners and the private sector and support the development of educational and training programs linked to livelihood and work opportunities in Ethiopia.		

#### 3.2 Irrigable Land Pledge

Key Activities	Initial Timeline	Progress in 2019
Develop a legal and policy framework outlining the terms and conditions for Access to land by the refugees and sign a MoU on the implementation of the policy.	2017-2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Activity not applicable at the regional level.</li> </ul>
Allocate irrigable and cultivable land, not less than 10,000 hectares, for the benefit of both the host communities and refugees.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional and Woreda authorities have shown commitment to support refugees in providing irrigable land. Refugees in Aysaita refugee camp started to engage in agriculture by renting lands or in sharecropping arrangements. Local government authorities are supporting refugees to get technical assistance.</li> </ul>
Expand irrigation infrastructures (includes detailed study/ preparing the design & BoQ of irrigation mobilization / collecting const. materials, construction work of the masonry irrigation canals).		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Activity not conducted in 2019.</li> </ul>
Design 'Irrigated Agriculture Development' projects for refugees		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Subject to development interventions in agricultural livelihoods.</li> </ul>

Key Activities	Initial Timeline	Progress in 2019
and host communities as well as formulate coops /self-help groups.	2017-2019	
Improve access to business finance and start-up capital.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is some progress in supporting refugees and host community by traditional approaches – yet these are not linked to the local economy and are without proper value chain analysis.</li> </ul>
Provide agricultural inputs and facilitate technical assistance.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agricultural inputs and technical assistance were provided for refugees in Aysaita through DCA and Woreda agriculture office.</li> </ul>
Prepare warehouses for post-harvest storage and create market linkages.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Activities not conducted in 2019</li> </ul>
Clarify selection criteria of refugee benefitting from the irrigable land.		

#### 4. Documentation Pledge

Key Activities	Initial Timeline	Progress in 2019
Establish a mechanism of information sharing between ARRA, FVERA and UNHCR on refugee's vital events registration	2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A clear mechanism was not established in 2019</li> </ul>
Provide equipment to support ARRA in the vital event registration system	February 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Activity was not carried out in 2019.</li> </ul>
Training for ARRA staff / Vital Event Registration, data collection, management, use of registration books /certificates.	June-December 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There were no trainings conducted in this regard in 2019</li> </ul>
Provide access to bank accounts	Continuous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refugees were able to access bank accounts.</li> </ul>
Provide access for refugees who meet the requirements to acquire driving license	Continuous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No driving licenses were provided to refugees in 2019</li> </ul>

#### 5. Social and Basic Services Pledge

Key Activities	Initial Timeline	Progress in 2019
Strengthen primary health care, nutrition, TB, RH, HIV and other medical services provided for refugees.	Continuous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary health care services provided in all camp health centres to refugee and the hosting community at regular basis.</li> </ul>
Ensure refugees continue to have free access to national and regional HIV and TB programmes.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refugees have free access to comprehensive RH and HIV/AIDS services in Afar camps. TB and HIV medicines are received from woreda health offices.</li> </ul>
Ensure refugees are included in routine and mass immunization campaigns.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refugees were included in routine and mass immunization campaigns through woreda health office. Vaccine supplies were received from the Woreda health offices on a regular basis.</li> </ul>



Key Activities	Initial Timeline	Progress in 2019
Conduct joint investigations / response to outbreaks of communicable diseases.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AWD situation effectively controlled by early preparedness and shared plan, community mobilization, environmental management, resource mobilization and involvement of the Regional Health Bureau and other stakeholders through a well-coordinated manner.</li> </ul>
Capacity building of health staff on health and nutrition key interventions		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Different capacity building trainings were conducted for ARRA health staffs in collaboration with RHB, GOAL-Ethiopia, IGAD, PCI-UK and UNHCR.</li> </ul>
Strengthen supervisory role/extension of RH services		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supportive supervision of refugee health centres were conducted by WHO and RHB.</li> </ul>

## 6. Local Integration Pledge

Key Activities	Initial Timeline	Progress in 2019
Collect and present refugee data for those in Ethiopia 20 years or more.	February 2017	▪ Activities not conducted in 2019.
Facilitate ARRA field study to country where LI practiced. Adapt to Ethiopian context –best practices from Uganda	January 2017	
Elaborate LI strategy & define comprehensive components – legal, socio-economic and cultural.	April 2017	
Legal Component		
Draft Ethiopia local integration outline, following workshop with key actors	April 2017	▪ Activities not conducted in 2019.
Sensitize eligible refugees about local integration and its benefits in Ethiopia.	Continuous	
Issue relevant docs to eligible refugees who opt for local integration.		
Socio Economic Component		
Facilitate and support the use of land to eligible refugees, for a longer term and provide support for shelter.	Continuous	▪ Activities not conducted in 2019.
Facilitate skills /entrepreneurial training / certification - & start-up kits	2017-2019	
Facilitate peaceful coexistence with host population through an increase of peace building projects	2017-2019	▪ There are some existing practices of peaceful coexistence of refugees and host communities in the two refugee camps of Afar.
Cultural Component		
Provide cultural orientation.	2017-2019	▪ As Eritrean refugees in Afar share the same language, religion and culture this will be supportive to local integration.
Support sporting and other cultural events.	2017-2019	▪ Activity was not conducted in 2019

## ANNEX II: OVERVIEW OF OPERATIONAL PARTNER INTERVENTIONS IN AFAR REGION

No.	Implementing Organization	Project Title/Name	Donor	Total budget	Duration	Location	Project Description
1	<b>DRC-Tigray and DCA-Afar</b>	Supporting Eritrean Refugees in Ethiopia to Access Alternatives to Irregular movement	Danish Embassy	10,000,000 USD	01/01/2019 - 30/06/2020	Afar all camps	DRC and its partner DCA secured funding from Danish Embassy to address gaps in areas of protection, secondary migration, education and livelihood. The program aims to promote the protection of Eritrean refugees from risky irregular movement and to enhance their access to relevant services and livelihood opportunities, while further contributing to the knowledge of and thinking around Eritrean displacement and solutions.
2	<b>GOAL Ethiopia and Dan Church Aid (DCA)</b>	Emergency Humanitarian Response for Eritrean Refugees in Afar Region	ECHO	ETB 32,282,397.56	June 2019 – May 2020	Aysaita Barhale	The project is providing Nutrition, Shelter, Multi-purpose cash transfer services to target vulnerable groups in Barhale and Aysaita camps of Afar region. The overall project will directly contribute to the reduction of morbidity and mortality through the provision of supplementary feeding, outpatient therapeutic care, infant and young child feeding, community outreach, shelter, multi-purpose cash transfers and livelihoods.
3	<b>DCA</b>	Emergency Humanitarian Assistance for Newly Arriving Refugees to Barhale Camp	BPRM	USD 89,154.1	October 2019 - December 2019	Barhale	This project basically aimed at addressing the critical NFI needs of newly arriving Eritrean Afar refugees to Barhale camp and improving their dignity, nutritional and health status. This project mainly targets the new arrivals with large family size, households having children under the age of 5, persons with specific needs, older persons and PLWDs.

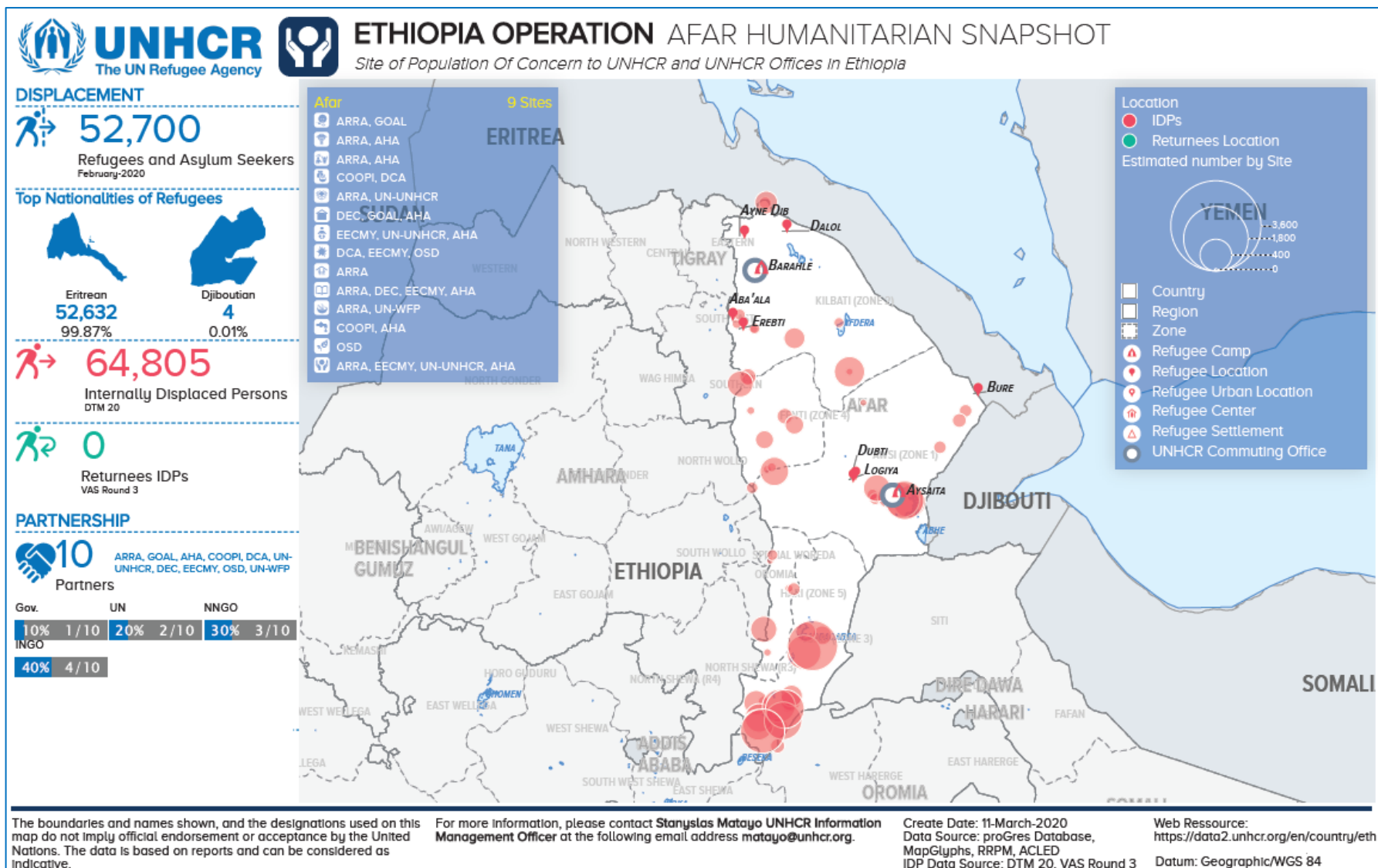
No.	Implementing Organization	Project Title/Name	Donor	Total budget	Duration	Location	Project Description
4	<b>FHE (Food for Hungry Ethiopia)</b>	A joint lifelong sport and recreation holistic education assistance	KFHI (Korea Food for the Hungry International)	46,577 USD	October 2018 - September 2020	All camps of Afar	FHE project is to help refugee children have a positive impact on themselves, and on their families, host communities and countries (Ethiopia and Eritrea). The project links recreational sport activities with income generation activities such as raising sheep and goats, and honeybee business to ensure ownership and sustainability.
5	<b>DCA</b>	Enhancing Food Production, Income Generation and Local Market Access for refugees and host Communities	DANIDA	68,040.4 USD	August 2018 - July 2019	Aysaita	DCA supports the livelihood and food sector in Aysaita refugee camp and the surrounding host communities. The project aims to improve: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Self-sufficiency and food security through diversified livelihoods support for refugee households</li> <li>• Self-sufficiency and income of host community members through sharecrop arrangements</li> <li>• Social and economic cohesion between refugees and host communities.</li> </ul>

## ANNEX III: CRRF TRAININGS AND WORKSHOPS

### CRRF-related trainings and workshops conducted in 2019

S. N	Training/workshop conducted by	Purpose of Training/Workshop	Woreda/City	Participating bureaus/agencies	Remark
1	<b>DCA/RDPP:</b> First Regional Multi-Stakeholder Platform (RMSP) for Afar	The <b>Regional Multi-Stakeholder Platform (RMSP)</b> for Afar was established on 10 <sup>th</sup> April 2019. The RMSP is aimed to foster a more coordinated and comprehensive response both for refugees and host communities by bringing humanitarian agencies, development actors, government and private sector together and synergize their activities for a more sustainable impact. The RMSP will be used as the Regional CRRF coordination platform; that is a governance structure at regional level to implement the government pledges and the CRRF.	Afar, Samara	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNHCR and Partners in Afar refugee camps</li> <li>• Government authorities</li> </ul>	10 <sup>th</sup> Apr 2019
2	<b>DCA/RDPP:</b> Second round Regional Multi-Stakeholder Platform in Afar	The second round Regional Multi-Stakeholder Platform meeting was held on 25 <sup>th</sup> Sep 2019 in Samara town. The second RMSP meeting was organized and facilitated by DCA with support of Afar Regional Bureau of Finance and Economic Development (BoFED).	Afar, Samara	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNHCR and Partners in Afar refugee camps</li> <li>• Government authorities</li> <li>• UN Agencies</li> <li>• ARRA zonal level and camp coordinators</li> </ul>	25 <sup>th</sup> Sep 2019
3	<b>ILO mission</b> on employment intensive public work assessment to Afar Regional State	As part of the Dutch Partnership; to assess Employment Intensive Public Works that can create immediate job opportunities and medium- and long-term development benefits to both host and refugee communities. The objective of the mission was to assess and identify labour intensive infrastructures that could potentially create wage employments for both the refugees and host community.	Two-refugee hosting Woredas in Afar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two-refugee hosting Woreda authorities in Afar</li> <li>• Regional level representatives of Afar regions.</li> <li>• ARRA Zonal Office</li> <li>• UNHCR CRRF team</li> </ul>	01-07 Aug 2019

## ANNEX IV: MAP HUMANITARIAN SNAPSHOT





## UNHCR Ethiopia July 2020

