

Ethiopia

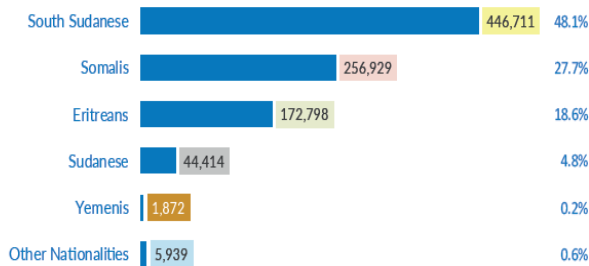
July 2018

Ethiopia is host to the second largest refugee population in Africa, sheltering over **928,663** registered refugees and asylum seekers as of 31 July 2018.

So far in 2018, **34,509** refugees arrived in Ethiopia, including **2,032** in July. They are mostly from South Sudan and Eritrea.

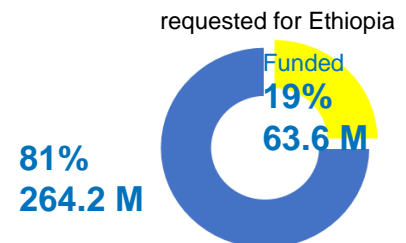
UNHCR is actively participating in the humanitarian response to the **IDP** situation in Ethiopia and has deployed **two Emergency Response Teams** to Gedeo and West Guji. The teams are supporting the authorities with site management and the co-ordination of responses to protection needs.

POPULATION OF CONCERN



FUNDING (AS OF 31 JULY 2018)

USD 327.8 M



UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff:

348 national staff, **113** international staff (including JPOs)
144 individual contractors
32 deployees & IUNVs

Offices:

1 Branch Office in (Addis Ababa), **5** Sub-Offices - Melkadida, Gambella, Shire, Assosa and Jijiga, **3** Field Offices -Tongo, Pugnido and Mekelle.

Working with Partners

- UNHCR's main government counterpart to ensure the protection of refugees in Ethiopia is the Administration for Refugee and Returnee Affairs (ARRA). In addition, UNHCR works in close coordination with some 50 humanitarian partners and is part of the Humanitarian Country Team in Ethiopia, where refugee programmes are discussed strategically to ensure that the needs of refugees are adequately presented and addressed across the UN System. UNHCR is also building on a well-established coordination fora, including the inter-sector Refugee Coordination Group, together with national and regional sector working groups. As part of the CRR approach, UNHCR is furthering partnerships with line ministries, regional and local authorities, as well as development partners.

Main Activities

Protection

- The Level 3 registration, formally known as the Biometric Identity Management System (BIMS), in Nguenyiel camp came to an end with the registration of 71,588 refugees. A grace period of two weeks is set aside to give a chance to refugees who failed to show up for their appointment for different reasons. The advanced registration system, which captures fingerprints, iris information and a photograph of individual refugees, aims to provide support to improved protection, targeted assistance, and effective durable solutions for the forcibly displaced populations. The registration will soon be expanded to the rest of the refugee camps in the country. As an outcome, all refugee families receive a proof of registration document while individuals aged 14 and above receive refugee / asylum seeker identity card on the same day of registration.

Education

- Preliminary data on school enrolment rate reveals that the number of refugee children in primary schools has increased from 118,275 in 2016/17 to 132,563 in the 2017/2018 academic year. This brings the total elementary school enrolment rate to 72%, which is close to the government's pledge target of increasing refugees' primary school enrolment rate to 75%. Similarly, the secondary school enrolment rate has increased to 12% from a mere 9% in the previous academic year. Currently 2,300 refugees are enrolled in tertiary education compared to 1,600 during the last academic year. Gaps in the provision of education in Ethiopia include a lack of available classroom space and trained teachers, and quality classroom materials, including books, scientific implements, and stationary materials. The average teacher to student ratio is 1:80, with only 56% of teachers having formal qualifications to teach at the primary school level. A teachers' training college opened at Dollo Ado in early 2018 is expected to help address the shortage of teachers.

Health

- So far in 2018, a total of 485,009 persons have received consultations across the health facilities in refugee camps, including 51,872 (11.3%) from the host communities. Respiratory tract infections (32%), watery diarrhoea (10%) and malaria (9%) are the three leading causes of morbidity, with no outbreak reported in any of the refugee camps. The health facility utilization rate stood

at 1.1 consultations per refugee per year and is within the standard range of 1-4. The mortality rate in children under five is 0.1/1000/month and remains within the expected standard. A total of 1,973 refugees were referred to higher health facilities outside the refugee camps for further treatment. 2,623 refugees were referred to higher facilities outside the refugee camps for further treatment. Out of 8,402 live birth deliveries, 8,196 (97.5%) were conducted with the help of skilled birth attendants. A total of 22,725 refugees were tested and counselled for HIV.

Food Security and Nutrition

- So far this year, 10,124 children with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and 4,504 children with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) were admitted in nutrition programmes and treated. A recovery rate of 92.7% for MAM and 84.6% for SAM was achieved against the standard of 75%. Due to improvement in its funding situation, WFP has increased refugees' monthly food ration entitlements to 1,737 Kcal/day, up from 1,278 Kcal/day in May and June. The standard is 2,100Kcal/day.

Preliminary results of the annual nutrition survey in the camps near Shire shows that the prevalence of global acute malnutrition (GAM) among children aged 6-59 months has decreased from 8.0% in 2017 to 7.0% in 2018. The biggest improvement was registered in Hitsats camp where the GAM prevalence went down from 9.7% in 2017 to 4.4% in 2018.

Water and Sanitation

- On average over 14 million litres of potable water were supplied to all the 26 refugee camps on a daily basis, representing an average per capita supply of 19 litres of water per person per day (lppd). 31% of all refugee families own a latrine while the rest use shared family latrines. Funding has been secured for the construction of additional 850 household latrines. Installation of a permanent water supply system at Nguenyiel camp has just been completed, leading to the reduction of water trucking by half as of the first of August. Water trucking will be completely eliminated when they system operates at its maximum capacity.

Shelter and CRIs

- Shelter experts from UNHCR and ARRA are finalizing the preparation of region-specific technical guidelines to support the implementation of the 2017-2020 National Refugee Shelter Strategy across the country.
- UNHCR has established a cash based intervention (CBI) pilot project in Jijiga covering all the three camps, sheltering more than 36,000 Somali refugees. The initiative employs cash as a modality to meet the needs of refugees through commodity vouchers to access core relief items and dignity kits for women from the local market. More than 540 transitional shelters will also be constructed using a combination of commodity vouchers and direct cash in Aw-barre and Sheder Camps. Based on the lessons learnt from this voucher pilot, the use of CBI is expected to be expanded to refugee camps around Shire, Afar and Assosa.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management

- UNHCR and ARRA work in close coordination with partners to ensure efficient and coordinated delivery of protection and assistance to refugees. Camp coordination meetings and technical working groups take place both at the zonal and camp levels.

Access to Energy

- UNHCR continues to seek to ensure refugees' access to energy while strengthening environmental protection activities in and around refugee camps. Response to refugees' cooking energy needs remains a largely unmet priority. Nonetheless, communal kitchens and other basic facilities in Sherkole, Aysaita, Barahle and Hitsats camps are being connected to the national electricity grid as part of a pilot initiative within the operation. 33 briquette carbonizers are in place in the five camps near Assosa, and two automated briquette producing machines (1 in Assosa and 1 in Aysaiata) are also installed to increase the production of charcoal briquettes. 1,834 solar lanterns were distributed for refugees in Gure-Shombola camp. In addition, wood fuel was distributed to over 4,000 households in Gure-Shombola and Tongo camps; 9,564 briquettes were distributed among 1,361 refugee households in Aysaita as well as the five camps near Assosa.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- UNHCR's investment in livelihood activities target refugees and host communities and include: agriculture and livestock; vocational skills training; microfinance and small enterprise development. Backyard gardening has been established in Gambella and Assosa, while in Shire refugees are engaged in agriculture and goats and cattle fattening. Vocational training courses are available in a number of locations, and are increasingly linked to markets, often targeting youth and women.

Durable Solutions

- Providing resettlement opportunities remains a top priority, as conditions for voluntary repatriation are unfavourable for most refugees in Ethiopia and options for local integration are limited. So far in 2018, 2,001 individuals were referred to the UNHCR Regional Service Centre for resettlement, with 1,838 individuals submitted to resettlement countries. As of 31 July, 561 refugees left for resettlement countries while over 300 others travelled to Italy under the Humanitarian Corridor since the program started in late 2017. In July, UNHCR assisted five individuals who departed on family reunification to different countries.

External / Donors Relations

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

USA| CERF| Netherlands| UK (DFID)| IKEA Foundation | Denmark| Japan| Germany| Educate A Child Programme-EAC/EAA| Sweden| European Union (ECHO) Ireland| Canada |Republic of Korea| Private Don Spain| UN Dept. of Economic and Social Affairs| UN Program on HIV/AIDS

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CONTACTS

Clementine Awu Nkweta Salami, UNHCR Representative in Ethiopia, nkwetasa@unhcr.org

Judit Prigge, Donor Relations Officer, prigge@unhcr.org