



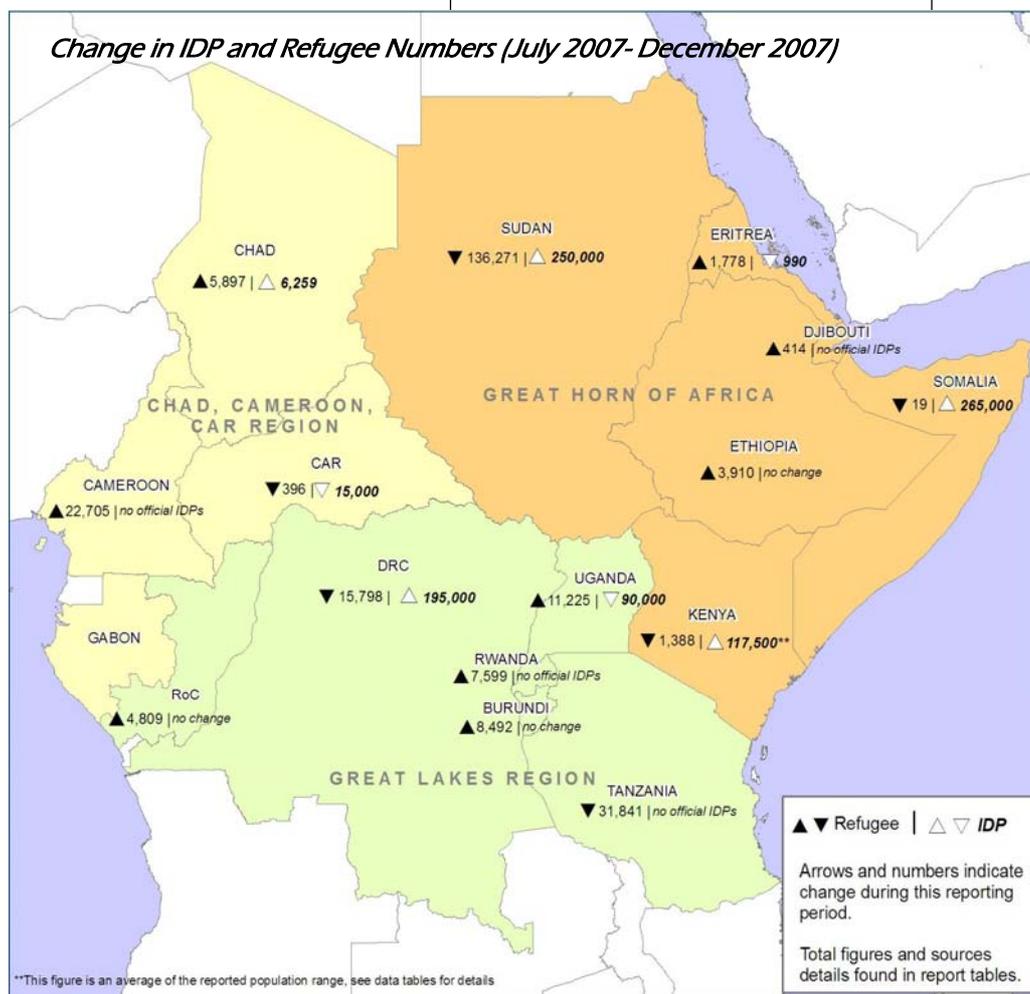
OCHA Regional Office for Central and East Africa Displaced Populations Report

July – December 2007, ISSUE 2

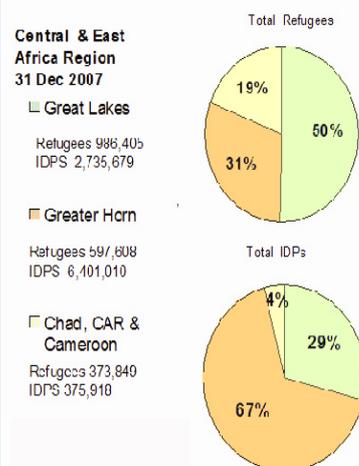
UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

Major Findings

- As of the end of December 2007, there were an estimated 9.7 million Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in the Central and East Africa (CEA) region¹. This represents an increase of over 700,000 persons since June 2007².
- An upsurge in fighting in Somalia saw the displacement of over 225,000 between June and December 2007.
- Heightened rebel attacks in Chad and Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) saw an overall displacement of over 204,000 persons during the last half of 2007.
- On-going conflict in Southern Sudan contributed to an increase of over 300,000 IDPs since June 2007, bringing the total figures for Sudan to 4.7 million as of September 2007³.
- Post-election violence in Kenya following disputes over the Presidential results announced in late December, led to the displacement of over 100,000 persons between the 29 and 31 December 2007.
- The Ethiopian government's crackdown on insurgents, including suspected members and supporters of the Oromo National Liberation Front (ONLF), in the Ogaden Region resulted in a number of deaths of both civilians and combatants, with undetermined civilian displacements⁴. An estimated 400,000 were said to be in need of urgent humanitarian assistance⁵.



•Meanwhile, as of the end of December 2007 there were an estimated 2.0 million refugees in the CEA⁶ region. This represents a decrease of more than 100,000 persons since June 2007.



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

¹In August 2007, OCHA RO-CEA's coverage was officially extended to include Cameroon, Gabon, Sao Tome Principe and Equatorial Guinea. Of the countries in the CEA region, Djibouti, Tanzania, Rwanda, Cameroon, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea and Sao Tome Principe have officially no conflict-induced IDPs. Temporal internal displacements due to natural hazards are however registered occasionally.

²OCHA RO-CEA, Displacement Report, Issue 1, January - June 2007 (8,891,438 IDPs in CEA region at mid-2007)

³UNHCR Khartoum, third Quarter 2007 statistics.

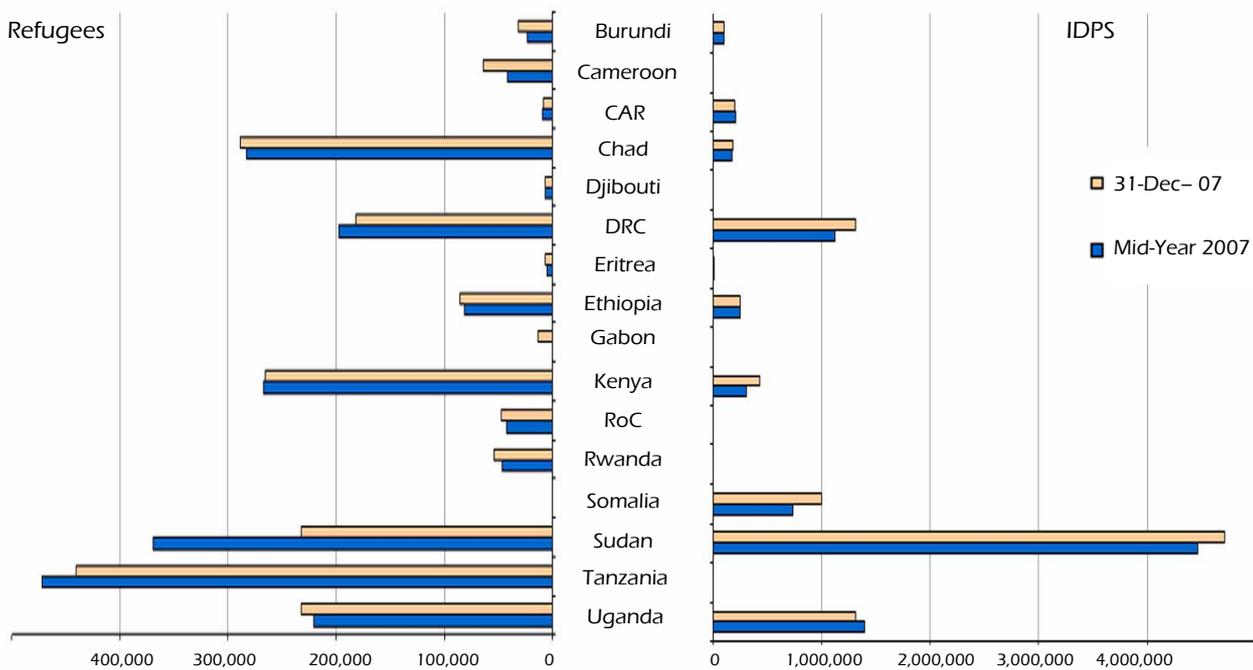
⁴In the absence of field level assessments or reliable estimates by agencies operating in the region, it is difficult to suggest or project an accurate number of affected people in the region.

⁵Medicins Sans Frontiers (MSF) as quoted by Reuters and Agence France Presse (AFP), 'Crisis looming in Ethiopia's Ogaden region: medical relief agency', 4 September 2007.



A group of internally displaced people at a food distribution centre in Cagala, Walungu Territory of South Kivu Province. July 2007. It is estimated 200 000 to 230 000 refugees from various different countries have sought shelter in DRC.
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Total IDPs and Refugees in CEA: Mid-year 2007 to December 2007



Data sources

This report contains updated information and numbers on displaced persons, including refugees and IDPs in the Central and East African Region^{7,8}.

Displaced population numbers are estimates based from field reporting and are the best working figures available.

Information and data in this report are compiled from United Nations agencies, Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), non-governmental organisations (NGOs), the Red Cross family, governments and local authorities.

Refugee numbers are taken from governments, OCHA Country Offices and the UNHCR Global Report 2006.

Unlike refugees who enjoy inter-national recognition within a well defined refugee protection frame-work, IDP protection is solely a government domain with international humanitarian actors only coming in at the invitation of host governments. IDP figures there-fore tend to be rough estimates obtained through UN agencies, and some represent agency specific populations of concern.

⁷ Chad, Central African Republic (CAR), Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan, Eritrea, Kenya, Djibouti, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Rwanda, Burundi, Republic of Congo, United Republic of Tanzania, and Uganda combining the Great Lakes, Greater Horn of Africa and Chad/CAR sub-regions.

⁸ This report is a departure from previous editions of the Affected Populations Reports produced by OCHA, as it shifts focus from a detailed country by country report to a regional trends analysis, represented largely through maps and statistical data.

Displacement Context

In **Somalia** on-going fighting between the Somalia Transitional Federal Government (TFG) troops and anti-TFG elements resulted in massive displacements and civilian casualties, especially in the month of October, when military operations sanctioned by the Mayor in Mogadishu met fierce resistance from the anti-government forces, thus exploding into open conflict. Over 261,000 persons were displaced in Mogadishu between 27 October and 28 December⁹.

UNHCR has revised the current planning figure for the total number of IDPs in Somalia to 1 million persons, which figure comprises the estimated 400,000 protracted IDPs who were already displaced by beginning of 2007, in addition to approximately 600,000 (inclusive of the 261,000) displaced because of conflict, insecurity, and violence in Mogadishu since February 2007. IDPs displaced by floods, drought, and clan conflict are often considered temporal, as they return to their areas of origin soon after the situation normalizes, hence they are not accounted for in this planning figure.

Adopting UNHCR's planning figure above, there has been an increase of over 265,000 IDPs in Somalia between July and December 2007, of whom an estimated 200,000 have moved to already over-crowded and deplorable settlements between Afgooye and Mogadishu. Population movements into Kenya, through Doble were also reported, with approximately 2,300 people crossing over illegally between 1 November and 14 December 2007¹⁰.

Previously peaceful regions of Puntland and Somaliland also witnessed increased conflicts when troops from both sides clashed in the on-going boundary dispute over the western regions of Sool and Sanag that has lasted more than four years. OCHA Somalia, referring to a needs assessment conducted by international NGOs and local authorities in the two regions, estimated that 30,000 to 50,000 people were displaced from Las Anood to the surrounding districts following a conflict on 15 October¹¹.

The latest statistics issued by UNHCR at the end of August 2007¹², indicate that there are 700 recognized refugees located in both Hargeisa and Garowe towns in Northern Somalia. Officially there are no refugee camps in Somalia and all refugees are considered urban refugees. The majority-70%- are Oromos, 25% are Amharas- both from Ethiopia; the remaining 5% consists of refugees from the DRC, Uganda, Rwanda and Iraq.

INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS (IDPS)			
COUNTRY	Mid-year 2007 ¹²	December 07 ¹³	General Trend (Increase/Decrease)
Burundi	100,000	100,000	No systematic IDP profiling has been conducted since 2006 and humanitarian actors still adopt this figure for planning purposes.
CAR	212,000	197,000	Decrease as official IDP profiling conducted in October 2007 by UNHCR re-confirmed June statistics that were guesstimates.
Chad	172,659	178,918	Increase due to inter-ethnic violence and cross border attacks from Darfur and CAR in mid-2007.
Djibouti	No official IDP's		
DRC	1,121,979	1,317,879	Sharp increase due to renewed conflict and military operations, especially in eastern DRC.
Eritrea¹⁴	12,000	11,010	Decrease due to on-going government resettlement programmes.
Ethiopia	200,000-300,000 ¹⁵ (Working Assumption)	200,000-300,000 ¹⁶ (Best available estimates)	No IDP assessment conducted yet and actual scale of displacement still unpublished.
Kenya	Unconfirmed range of between 250,000-365,000	Unconfirmed range of between 250,000-600,000 ¹⁷	Increase following inter-ethnic conflict in Mt. Elgon and Kursoi (64,000 IDPs before December) and post-election violence displaced over 100,000 by end of December 2007.
RoC	7,800	7,800	Official government estimate as at 2006 ¹⁸
Rwanda	No official IDP's		
Somalia	735,000 ¹⁹	1,000,000	Increase due to upsurge of conflict in Mogadishu and Las Anood, especially in last quarter of 2007.
Sudan	4,465,000 ²⁰	4,715,000 ²¹	Increase due to renewed conflict, especially in Darfur that has 2.4 million IDPs
Tanzania	No official IDP's		
Uganda	1,400,000 ²² {1,000,000 in IDP camps and 400,000 in new transit sites}	1,310,000 (901,000 in IDP camps and 409,000 in new transit sites. ²³	Number of IDPs in camps reduced as more people enter the transit sites and others return to their villages of origin.
TOTALS	8,676,438-8,891,438	9,287,607-9,737,607	Increased IDP populations (over 746,169 million) following upsurge of conflicts especially in Somalia, Eastern DRC, Kenya, Chad and CAR.

⁹UNHCR, IASC Somalia Protection Cluster Update, 28 December 2007

¹⁰Ibid, note 7

¹¹OCHA Somalia, Monthly Protection Sitrep, Puntland, 21 November 2007.

¹²UNHCR, Regional Office, Nairobi, December 2007

¹³Source: OCHA 2007 Mid Year Review Report, unless specifically stated.

¹⁴Source: Respective UNHCR country offices unless where specifically

¹⁵UNICEF Survey April/May 2007

¹⁶UNHCR Ethiopia, 2007

¹⁷IDMC Report, ibid

¹⁸IDMC January 2008 - No comprehensive assessment of internal displacement has been done in Kenya since October 2003. This range includes an estimated 200,000 recent, but also un-assessed displacement in Mt. Elgon, Molo, Nakuru, Rift Valley, Western, Nyanza, Nairobi and Coast province in late 2007.

¹⁹IDMC Report-18 April, 2007, No assessment conducted since then.

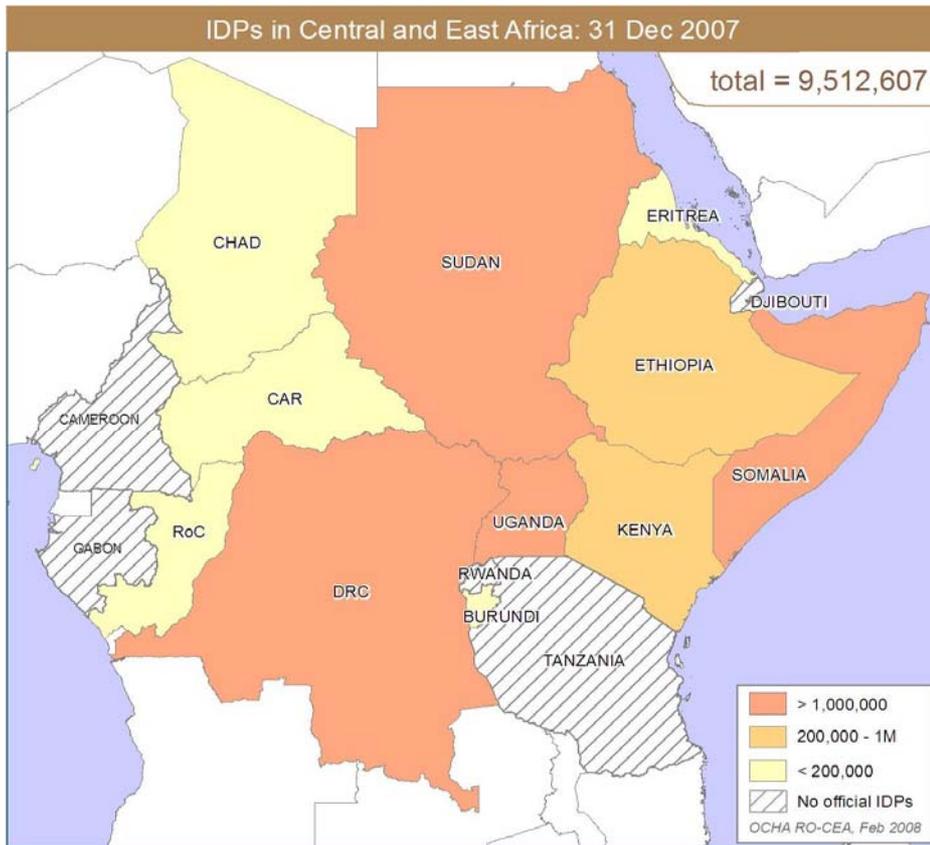
²⁰OCHA Somalia, June 2007

²¹OCHA Sudan Mid-Year Review 2007

²²UNHCR Khartoum, September 2007.

²³OCHA Kampala, December 2007

²⁴UNHCR planning figure for IDPs fixed at 1,842,501 to include the 526,300 persons who have returned back to their villages but still rely on humanitarian assistance.



In **Chad**, heightened inter-ethnic conflicts between government forces and rebel groups, coupled with rebel attacks against civilian supplies, remained responsible for the massive displacement and human rights violations in the country. The refugee population as at December 2007 showed an increase of about 6,000 people as a result of an influx from CAR and Sudan, similarly the IDP population increased by 6,000 persons, bringing the current totals to 289,000 and 179,000 respectively.

In yet another hotspot in the CEA region, the IDP population in the **Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)** as of December 2007 is approximately 1,317,900- with North Kivu having over 800,000 IDPs²⁴. This represents an overall increase of 197,900 persons since June 2007, when North Kivu alone had 616,000 IDPs. The fighting in North Kivu was due to attacks between dissident Laurent Nkunda's *Congres National pour la Defense du Peuple (CNDP)* and the Congolese army *Forces Armées de la Republic Democratic du Congo (FARDC)*, and led to the disruption

of the delivery of vital humanitarian relief supplies²⁵. The worst affected are the towns in Rutshuru and Masisi districts, where widespread displacement, sexual and gender based violence are of major concern. In South Kivu, the FARDC increased their military activities aimed at flushing out the *Forces Democratiques de Liberation du Rwanda (FDLR)* forces, leading to new civilian displacements.

The refugee population in DRC on the other hand recorded a significant reduction of about 15,800 people, and as at 1 December 2007, DRC had 181,400 registered refugees, compared to 197,200 in mid-2007²⁶. Ongoing repatriation saw the return of over 8,700 refugees to Rwanda.

UNHCR third quarter statistics for Sudan estimated that there were 4.7 million IDPs in Sudan as of September 2007, out of which 2.4 million are in Darfur alone²⁷. A report by the Internal

Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) however put the IDP figures for Sudan at 5.8 million as of November 2007²⁸. These numbers are however considered estimates due to the lack of a systematic mechanism or official census to monitor the highly mobile population. As a result of the ongoing Sudan Repatriation Operation that started early 2007, IDP figures have been changing on a daily basis. The precarious situation in South Sudan has, however, affected the rate of returns with many IDPs especially those in Khartoum reluctant to return to the South²⁹. In addition, UNHCR³⁰ estimates the number of refugees and asylum seekers in Sudan as 232,800, of whom 168,900 (72%) are Eritreans. The rest of the refugees are from Chad (45,000), Ethiopia (13,500), Central African Republic (2,300), DRC (2,300) and other nationalities (600).

The displacement profile in **Uganda** showed a marked improvement during the second half of 2007 as a result of the relative stable security situation in northern Uganda, which continued to encourage the return of populations back to their original homes. In September, the Government of Uganda with the support of UNHCR closed the first two³¹ out of 40 camps for IDPs in the northern Lango region as most of the IDPs had returned home. The security situation is however different in the Acholi region where out of 1.1 million IDPs in 2005, 63% remain in the camps due to lack of security in their areas of origin. Increased rates of malnutrition and mortality continued to be recorded in 2007 due to lack of access to basic social services, including: health care, clean drinking water and adequate sanitation facilities in return areas. As of the end of December 2007, the total IDP population for Northern Uganda was estimated as 1,842,500³². Among these are 901,000 camp-based IDPs, in addition to 526,300 returnees currently in villages of origin and 409,000 estimated IDPs in transit areas. Evaluated against the statistics at mid-2007, the number of IDPs in camps has reduced by 99,000 persons, while that of IDPs

²⁴UNHCR Country office, Kinshasa.

²⁵WFP News Update: North Kivu, eastern DRC, 4 December 2007 the suspension of missions by WFP and other humanitarian actors to North Kivu Province, outside Goma town. Also see OCHA Humanitarian Situation Update, North Kivu, 8-14 December 2007.

²⁶DRC UNHCR Fact sheet as of 30 November 2007

²⁷Darfur Cell coordination unit - Khartoum

²⁸Internal Displacements Monitoring Centre (IDMC), 'Sudan', November 2007

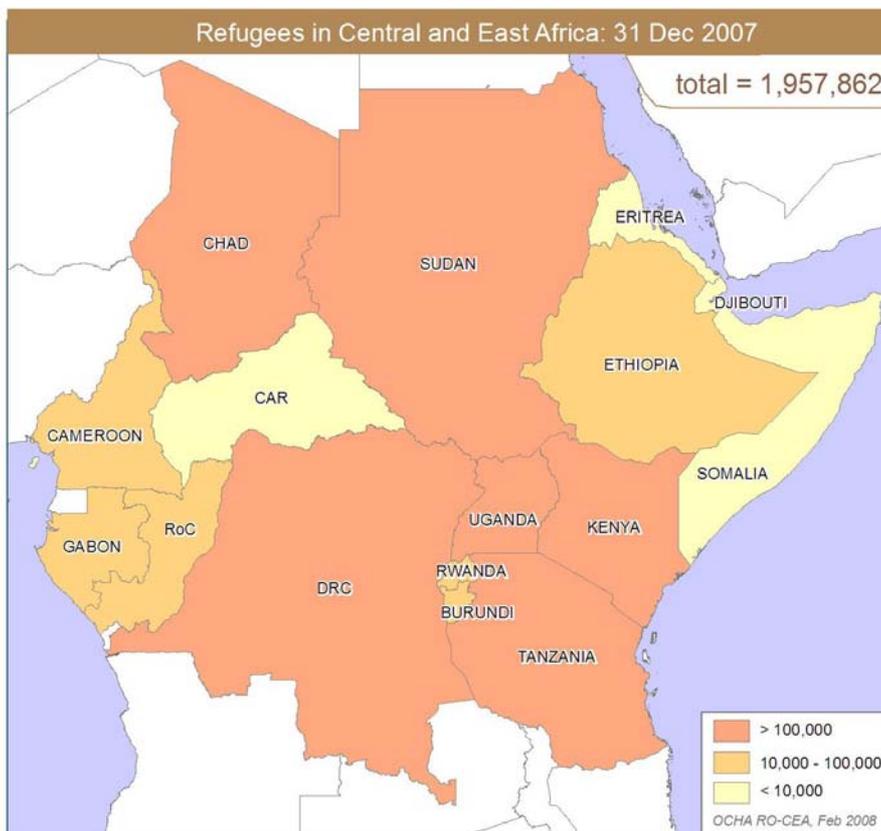
²⁹At the time of writing this report, UNHCR was updating its figures for the last quarter of 2007 which would clarify the actual numbers of refugees and displaced in Sudan.

³⁰UNHCR Khartoum, third quarter statistics, September 2007 and UNHCR Eastern region coordination

³¹Otwal railway camp -Oyam district and Agweng camp -Lira district

³² UNHCR Uganda Factsheet, November 2007

REFUGEES			
COUNTRY	June 2007 ³⁴	December 2007 ³⁴	General Trends (Increase/ Decrease)
Burundi	23,215	31,707	Increase due to influx from DRC in late 2007.
CAR	8,667	8,271	Decrease due to repatriations to DRC and Sudan.
Cameroon	41,442	64,147	Increase due to influx from the North West pastoral region of CAR and Chad that experienced intense conflict in late 2007.
Chad	282,834	288,731	Slight increase due to influx from CAR and Darfur.
Djibouti	6,457	6,871	Slight increase due to influx from Somalia (South, Central, Somaliland) and Ethiopia that saw heightened conflict in late 2007.
DRC	197,232	181,434	Decrease due to repatriation of Rwandan, Congolese and Angolan refugees
Eritrea	4,667	6,445	Increase due to influx from Somalia and Ethiopia in 2007.
Ethiopia	81,274	85,184	Increase as current statistics account for more nationalities than those considered in 2007. However, mid-2007 witnessed a slight increase in the number of Somalia and Eritrea refugees fleeing into Ethiopia.
Gabon	No figures ³⁵	12,700	Flight from the pool region in RoC.
Kenya	267,117 ³⁶	265,729	Slight decrease due to repatriations both voluntary and
RoC	42,046 ³⁷	46,855 ³⁸	Increase due to new arrivals from Eastern DRC.
Rwanda	46,600	54,199	Increase as a result of large influx from DRC following escalated conflicts in late 2007.
Somalia	669	650	Figures comprise of urban refugees from Ethiopia, under UNHCR protection in Hargeisa and Garoowe.
Sudan	369,000	232,729 ³⁹	Decrease due to repatriations to Chad, CAR, Eritrea and other countries, countering the large increase from Ethiopia.
Tanzania	471,912 (273,678 UNHCR assisted)	440,071 (217,396 UNHCR assisted)	Decrease due to UNHCR promoted returns especially to Burundi, DRC and Rwanda.
Uganda	220,914	232,139 ⁴⁰	Decrease due to the gradual return, especially to Sudan and Rwanda, countered by an influx from DRC and Somalia.
Total	2,064,046³³ (less Gabon-no statistics for June 2007)	1,957,862	Decrease of 106,184



³³Includes statistics for Cameroon, not included in previous report and further accounts for changes in the figures for Kenya and RoC as indicated in footnotes 33 and 34.

³⁴Source: Respective UNHCR Country offices unless specifically stated

³⁵Statistics unavailable at time of publishing report

³⁶Statistics indicated in June report (269,196) had estimated the number of registered urban refugees to be 30,000 but UNHCR Kenya confirmed estimate to be 32,000, hence difference in figures.

³⁷Previous figure of 49,181 quoted in Issue 1 of OCHA Displacement Report and now corrected was inclusive of asylum seekers.

³⁸Available statistics are of October 2007.

³⁹UNHCR, Khartoum as at September 2007 (Third Quarter statistics)

⁴⁰Of which 3,161 are urban refugees.

Breakdown of Refugee Population in CEA region, by Country of Origin (As at Dec 2007)			
Countries	Area of Origin	June 2007	December 2007
BURUNDI	DRC	22,895	31,377
	Rwanda	286	294
	Others	34	36
CAMEROON	Chad	7,269	7,325
	CAR	28,529	48,388
	Nigeria	2,877	2,871
	Rwanda	1,348	1,351
	DRC	680	698
	Burundi	270	265
	RoC	161	154
	Liberia	86	86
	Sudan	62	65
	Others	160	175
CAR	DRC	2,100	1,827
	Chad	1,557	1,625
	Sudan	4,342	4,244
	Others	668	575
CHAD	CAR	44,607	46,176
	Sudanese	238,227	242,555
DJIBOUTI	Eritrea	51	89
	Ethiopia	455	580
	Somalia	5,951	6,198
	Sudan	2	4
DRC	Angola	128,160	113,160
	Rwanda	34,017	33,276
	Uganda	13,912	13,912
	Burundi	17,741	17,685
	Others (Sudan,CAR, RoC)	3,402	3401
ERITREA	Somalia	3,841	4,210
	Sudan	749	133
	Ethiopia	77	2,053
ETHIOPIA	Sudan	41,046	37,011
	Eritrea	19,344	20,457
	Somalia	20,242	24,907
	Others	642	2,809
KENYA	Somalia	187,565	192,420
	Ethiopia	16,634	18,119
	Eritrea	607	675
	Sudan	55,578	45,261
	Uganda	2,823	2,807
	DRC	2,441	2,674
	Rwanda	2,343	2,498
	Burundi	1,200	1,270
	Namibia	1	1
	Tanzania	4	3
ROC	Angola	2,663	2,663
	Rwanda	7,948	7,942
	DRC	38,340	31,198
	Others	230	243
RWANDA	DRC, Burundi and Others	46,600	54,199 (with 50,683 from DRC)
SOMALIA	Ethiopia and Others	669	650
SUDAN (UNHCR- as at end of Sept 07)	Ethiopia	7,924	13,494
	DRC	2,283	2,285
TANZANIA	Others, including (Chad (45,000), CAR (2,500), Eritrea(168,900)	358,793	216,950
	Burundi	153,841	118,043
	DRC	115,046	97,099
	Somalia	2,077	2,059
UGANDA	Others	2,714	195
	Sudan	167,386	156,996
	DRC	28,184	37,547
	Rwanda	19,519	17,688
	Somalia	3,749	14,167
	Ethiopia	107	116
	Burundi	1,895	2,178
Others	74	286	

in transit sites has increased by 9,000 hence a positive sign of the intention to return. It should be noted however that UNHCR continues to include the population of 526,300, who have returned to their villages of origin, in the current total IDP population and considers this population to be still of concern as they are not fully integrated in their areas of return and are dependant on UN assistance. The latter statistics were however not accounted for in the mid-2007 figure, hence the disparity.

The total refugee population in Uganda as of the end of December 2007 stood at 232,100 refugees, of which 3,200 are registered urban refugees. The Sudanese population that represents the majority has in the last six months reduced by more than 10,000 persons, leaving a total of 157,000 Sudanese. Additionally, Uganda has an estimated 9,000 asylum seekers awaiting determination both in camps and in Kampala.

In **Kenya**, despite the lack of recent official studies confirming the actual status of the IDP population in the country, humanitarian partners estimated that over 400,000 people had been displaced prior to December 2007⁴¹. Post-election violence following disputed presidential results announced on 29 December increased these estimates by over 100,000⁴². Worst affected are Rift Valley, Coast, Western and Nairobi provinces. A further 64,000 persons (not included in overall figure of 400,000) had been displaced by inter-ethnic land disputes, prior to the December elections in Mt. Elgon and Kuresoi areas⁴³.

In relation to the refugee population, there were 265,700 refugees in Kenya as at end of December 2007⁴⁴, out of which 232,400 are camp-based. The largest population of 192,400 is of Somali origin. A number of repatriations, including to Sudan and Ethiopia were on-going on small-scale during the last half of 2007, hence the reduction of about 2,000 refugees compared to the statistics at mid-2007.

A Special Country report by IDMC⁴⁵ details the displacement situation in Ethiopia and affirms that relatively little is known about the extent and nature of conflict-induced displacement in **Ethiopia** due to lack of government recognition of these category of displaced persons. The government is still at loggerheads with humanitarian actors regarding the definition of an IDP and also an understanding of when displacement ends. No systematic assessment of the situation has ever been conducted and humanitarian actors continue to rely on a 2007 combined estimate from various international agencies. This notwithstanding, the IDMC survey estimates however that there are over 200,000 conflict-induced IDPs in Ethiopia⁴⁶. No confirmed numbers are available with regard to the displacement in the Ogaden region, currently deemed a humanitarian crisis due to military attacks against suspected ONLF members and supporters. An estimated 400,000 were said to be in need of urgent humanitarian assistance⁴⁷.

The total population of the Ogaden region is said to be over 4,329,000, with 96% being of Somali (Ogaden) origin and inhabiting the conflict affected zones in the region⁴⁸. The refugee population in Ethiopia as of the end of December 2007 stood at 85,200, which is 3,900 persons more than the statistics at mid-2007. The largest population of over 37,000 is of Sudanese origin. As of 1 December 2007, Djibouti was host to 6,900 refugees, out of which 6,600 are

⁴¹OCHA Kenya-No recent comprehensive assessments conducted since October 2003 and results of a government survey conducted in central and coastal regions in 2006 have not been published.

⁴²Kenya Red Cross, Information Bulletin, 'Kenya: Electoral Violence', 1 January 2008

⁴³Kenya Red Cross, December 2007

⁴⁴UNHCR Branch Office for Kenya, January 2008

⁴⁵IDMC, 'Ethiopia: Addressing the rights and needs of people displaced by conflict,' 30 October, 2007

⁴⁶An unpublished inter-agency document dated September 2007 as quoted in IDMC report above on page 55.

⁴⁷Medicins Sans Frontiers (MSF) as quoted by Reuters and Agence France Presse (AFP), 'Crisis looming in Ethiopia's Ogaden region: medical relief agency', 4 September 2007.

⁴⁸Central Statistical Agency of Ethiopia (CSA) published 2005 and quoting the September 1997 Ethiopia Census.

camp-based at Ali-Addeh camp, while 300 are considered urban refugees. This represents an increase of 400 individuals since July 2007. Majority of the camp-based refugees originate from southern Somalia and were received during the last half of 2007, following the escalation of conflict there. Additionally, the 300 urban caseload-majority of who are from Ethiopia-were recorded between 1 July and 1 December 2007. There were also 70 asylum seekers awaiting verification of their refugee status as of 1 December 2007.

The humanitarian situation in the **Central African Republic (CAR)** has been characterised by a succession of counter-attacks between government forces and rebel groups, in addition to government attacks in areas suspected to be sympathetic to rebels. Bandit attacks targeting civilian populations for livestock and abductions for ransom are also on the increase. Following an IDP profiling exercise conducted in October 2007, the statistics provided at mid-2007 have been re-confirmed, with latest figures indicating that as end of 2007, CAR had 197,000 IDPs⁴⁹, down from 212,000 indicated in the January-June 2007 OCHA Displacement report.

The refugee population in CAR saw a slight decrease from 8,700 to 8,300, following repatriations to Chad, DRC and Sudan. The CAR parliament approved a new refugee law in early December-the legislation which awaits presidential assent, will be instrumental in defining the legal parameters for protection and assistance to refugees, and further guarantee their fundamental rights.

In **Burundi**, humanitarian partners have since 2006 maintained a planning figure of 100,000 IDPs, due to the absence of a recent verification exercise to re-confirm the statistics. Lack of land to resettle the IDPs remains a great challenge, although the government is currently adopting several national policies with the support of the international community to help address the land issue. The refugee population has however increased by over 8,500 new arrivals, mostly from Eastern DRC. As at 31 December 2007, Burundi was host to 31,700 refugees⁵⁰, compared to 23,200 recorded at mid-year.

According to government estimates, there are 7,800 IDPs in the Republic of Congo (RoC), down from 800,000 at the peak of the disturbances in the 1990s. No systematic assessment of the IDP profile or population has been undertaken in the country ever since.

UNHCR registered 46,900 refugees as at end of October 2007, out of which 4,800 are asylum seekers pending verification of their status⁵¹. An increase of nearly 7,000 people, mostly from Eastern DRC, has been recorded since end of June 2007, when the total refugee population stood at 42,000 people.

In **Eritrea**, the Joint Programme on IDPs Return and Resettlement⁵² signed in November 2004 and revised in May 2006, remains instrumental in supporting the return and resettlement of IDPs and expellees to communities of origin, and further ensures their effective re-integration through supporting sustainable livelihood opportunities for the returnees. Out of the 40,000 IDPs registered in Eritrea in May 2007, only 11,000 IDPs remain in camps in Debub. All IDPs/Expellees in Gash Barka have returned or been resettled and all emergency camps closed. No new displacements have been registered in 2007. There are however 6,400 persons of concern to Ethiopian asylum seekers, while 4,200 persons are refugees of Somali origin residing at Emkulu camp and 100 Sudanese refugees in Elit camp⁵³.

In **Tanzania**, the number of UNHCR assisted refugees stood at 217,400 persons at the end of December 2007⁵⁴. A considerable reduction of 56,300 refugees has been recorded between June and December 2007 and this is largely attributed to the facilitation of repatriations to Burundi and DRC, in addition to resettlement of refugees to third countries abroad. The refugee figure however excludes the 218,300 Burundian refu-

gees from the 1972-influx, living in self-sufficient settlements in Tabora and Rukwa regions. Since June 2007, the authorities have supported individual registration in search of durable solutions for the 1972 Burundian refugees. The census has so far revealed that 80% of the refugees want to be naturalized and remain in Tanzania, while 20% prefer to repatriate to Burundi. Voluntary repatriation from Tanzania to Burundi is also on-going, with more than 40,000 Burundians returned home from Tanzania in 2007⁵⁵. However, at least 120,000 Burundian refugees still need to be repatriated from Tanzania. The Tanzanian host government plans to close all refugee camps by mid-2008 and had by the end of 2007 reduced the refugee camps from eleven to five.

Cameroon hosted a refugee population of 64,100 at the end of 2007, with 90% of the refugees being nomadic cattle herders from Mbororo in North West CAR, fleeing attacks and cattle rustling by bandits in Chad. The refugees live in more than 50 sites located along the border with CAR, in the departments of Mbere in Adamaoua. Delivery of relief supplies is however hampered by poor road network and security conditions caused by banditry.

Gabon hosts an estimated 12,700 refugees, 80% of whom have fled fighting in the Pool Region in RoC⁵⁶. The refugees live in Tcibanga, Franceville and Libreville.

In **Rwanda**, the refugee population as of December 2007 was 54,200 individuals, with over 93.5% originating from DRC, due to the ongoing fighting in the Kivus (eastern DRC). Evaluated against the statistics at mid June 2007, an additional 7,600 persons were received by end 2007.

⁴⁹UNHCR, December 2007

⁵⁰UNHCR Burundi Fact sheet, 31 December 2007

⁵¹UNHCR Fact Sheet as of 25 October, 2007

⁵²The Joint Programme on IDPs Return and Resettlement (JP) is managed by UNDP and brings together UNDP, UNICEF, UNHCR UNFPA and the Government (Ministries of Finance and National Development, Gash Barka and Debub regional administrations and line ministries at the regional (Zoba) level. OCHA is not part of the JP. The JP is supported by Norway, Netherlands, USAID and Italy. The Objectives of the JP were: (i) to support the return of IDPs and Expellees to communities of origin or resettlement, (ii) Support vulnerable families by ensuring adequate access to social services (shelter, water education and health) and sustainable livelihood opportunities mainly through support to agriculture and (iii) to reduce landmine accidents through Mine Risk Education (MRE)..

⁵³UNHCR, December 2007

⁵⁴UNHCR Tanzania Fact Sheet, January 08.

⁵⁵UNHCR, Tanzania, 4 December 2007

⁵⁶IRIN Country profile

Disclaimer: The information in this document are consolidated from research and workshop findings and are subject to availability of current data. This report does not claim to be exhaustive or fully verified.

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