

Ethiopia

November 2018

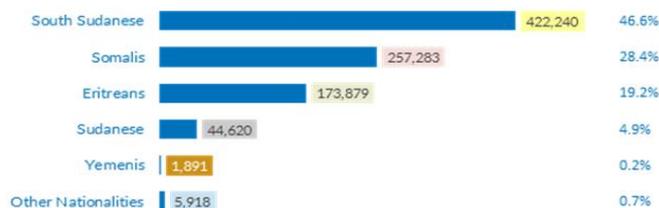
Ethiopia is host to the second largest refugee population in Africa, sheltering **905,831** registered refugees and asylum seekers **as of 31 August 2018**.

* As UNHCR works to enhance registration data, the monthly population update has been frozen as of 31 August 2018, pending completion of the ongoing Level 3 registration

Over **205,000** refugees, representing **24.7%** of the total refugee population in Ethiopia, have gone through the comprehensive (L3) registration.

As a Cluster lead for Protection, CCCM and Shelter, UNHCR continues to be actively participating in the humanitarian response to the **IDPs** situation in **Gedeo** and **West Guji**, supporting the authorities with site management and the co-ordination of responses to protection needs. UNHCR is also providing emergency kits to the displaced.

POPULATION OF CONCERN



FUNDING (AS OF 20 NOVEMBER 2018)

USD 327.8 M requested for Ethiopia



UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff:

351 national staff, **118** international staff (including JPOs)
266 individual contractors; **36** 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 Agency for Refugees and Returnees 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

- As part of the effort to create awareness on the dangers of irregular onward movement of refugees and asylum seekers and help them make informed decisions, UNHCR co-facilitated with IOM, a 2-day training of members of the Regional Anti-Trafficking Task Force of the Tigray region, focusing on raising their awareness on International Refugee Protection and on the application of Proclamation 909/2015, providing for the prevention and suppression of trafficking in person and the smuggling of migrants. Similarly, UNHCR participated in a three-day workshop on the mid-term evaluation of the Action Plan of the National-Anti Trafficking Task Force, aiming at highlighting the importance of inclusion of refugees and asylum seekers as a group that's vulnerable to trafficking and smuggling.

Education

- A total of 806 refugee youth have been placed in different public universities during the 2018/19 academic year, with 505 of them sponsored by the government of Ethiopia and 301 by the government of Germany under its DAFI scholarships programme. This is on top of the 2,300 refugee students who were enrolled in institutions of higher learning in Ethiopia in 2017/18 academic year. Data for the 2018/19 primary and secondary school enrolment rate are still being compiled, but based on 2017/2018 data, enrolment rates at the primary and secondary levels stood at 72% and 12%, respectively. Gaps in the provision of education include a lack of available classroom space and trained teachers, and scholastic materials, including books, libraries, ICT centres and laboratory facilities and supplies. The average teacher to student ratio is 1:80, with only 56% of teachers having formal qualifications to teach at the primary school level. Over 300 refugee teachers are currently enrolled in teachers' training colleges located in Gambella and Benishangul-Gumuz regions and are expected to help address the shortage of qualified teachers upon graduation.

Health

- So far in 2018, a total of 857,519 persons have received consultations across the health facilities in refugee camps, including 99,472 (11.6%) consultations from the host communities. No disease outbreak was reported from any of the refugee camps. The health facility utilization rate has remained within the normal limit of 1.1 consultations per refugee per year vis-a-vis the standard range of 1-4. The mortality rate in children under five remains low at 0.1/1000/month. A total of 4,250 refugees were referred to higher health facilities outside the refugee camps for further diagnosis and treatment. Out of 14,788 live births, 14,572 (97.5%) were assisted by skilled birth attendants. A total of 37,346 refugees were tested and counselled for HIV.

Food Security and Nutrition

- The amount of general ration provided to refugees remained less than the minimum requirement of 2,100 Kcal per person per day, ranging from 1,737 Kcal in Gambella, Melkadida, Assosa and Jijiga to 1,920 Kcal in camps in the Afar and Tigray regions. So far in 2018, a total of 23,810 children were enrolled in nutrition treatment centres, including 7,394 for Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and 16,416 for Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM). The recovery rate is 91.7% for SAM and 93.5% for MAM, against the standard of 75%. Preliminary results of the nutrition survey conducted in camps near Assosa show a slight increase in the prevalence of global acute malnutrition from 8.0% in 2017 to 8.9% in 2018. Measures are being taken to reverse the trend.

Water and Sanitation

- 13.3 million litres of water were supplied across the regions in Ethiopia hosting refugees, representing an average per capita distribution of 19 litres of water per person per day (lppd). 13 of the 26 refugee camps have achieved the minimum standard of 20 l/person/day; in 11 camps refugees received between 15 and 20 l/person/day while the remaining two camps (Kebribeyah and Hitsats) received less than 15 l/person/day. 19 of the 26 refugee camps have met the minimum standard of 'maximum of 20 persons per latrine' while 7 camps are still below the minimum standards.

Shelter and CRIs

- A post distribution monitoring of the pilot cash based interventions (CBI) in camps around Jijiga indicated that cash is an appropriate assistance modality to refugees' needs in Ethiopia and the preferred one too. The market response was good with no negative impact on the local economy, no reports of insecurity due to the CBI and no disruption of household and community social dynamics. The vouchers that were used to facilitate the purchase of essential aid items from the local market and the construction of improved shelters did not lead to entry of contra-bands into the market as only registered and licensed traders were contracted. Refugees said the CBI improved their purchasing power with reduced adoption of negative coping mechanisms to meet basic non-food needs. It also improved interactions between the local communities and the refugees, as demand of essential aid items in the local markets improved, leading to a positive impact on the local economy. The findings will inform the designing of programmes to expand CBI to other locations as well as to cover more aid items and services.

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 solutions 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. In this regard, 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.

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, 2,721 individuals were referred to the UNHCR Regional Service Centre for resettlement, with 2,449 individuals submitted to resettlement countries. As of 30 November, 1,601 refugees travelled to different resettlement countries, while 53 left for family reunification on private sponsorship. 391 others have gone to Italy as part of the 'Humanitarian Corridor' since the programme started in late 2017.

External / Donors Relations

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

USA| CERF| Netherlands| UK (DFID)| European Union (ECHO)| Denmark| IKEA Foundation | Japan| UN Children Fund| Germany| Educate A Child Programme-EAC/EAA| Sweden| Country-Based Pooled Funds| Ireland| Italy| "la Caixa" Banking Foundation| Canada |Republic of Korea| Czechia| UPS Corporate| Private Don Spain| UN Dept. of Economic and Social Affairs| UN Program on HIV/AIDS

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Sweden 98.2 million | Private donors Spain 65.4 million | United Kingdom 45.3 million | Norway 42.5 million | Netherlands 39.1 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 32 million | Japan 26.5 million | Denmark 25.5 million | Private donors Italy 16.8 million | Private donors Japan 16.1 million | Switzerland 15.8 million | France 14 million | Germany 13.7 million | Private donors Sweden 13.2 million | Italy 11.2 million

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