

# Ethiopia

November 2017

Ethiopia is host to the second largest refugee population in Africa, sheltering **893,938** registered refugees and asylum seekers as of 30 November 2017.

Since January 2017, **106,092** refugees arrived in Ethiopia, mainly from South Sudan (almost **74,400**), Eritrea (over **22,700**) and Somalia (over **6,600**).

Ethiopia formally launched the **CRRF**, paving the way for the implementation of the nine pledges it made at the Leaders' Summit on Refugees in September 2016 in New York.

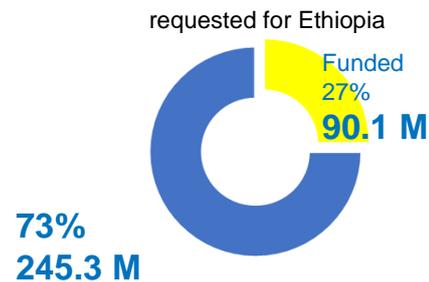
## POPULATION OF CONCERN

### Countries of Origin



## FUNDING (AS OF 30 NOVEMBER 2017)

**USD 335.4 M**



## UNHCR PRESENCE

### Staff:

**349** national staff, **112** international staff

**167** individual contractors

**30** deployees & IUNVs

### Offices:

**1** Branch Office in (Addis Ababa), **2**

Field Offices- Sherkole and Mekelle, **5**

Sub-Offices- Melkadida, Gambella, Shire, Assosa and Jijiga



On 28 November, Ethiopia formally launched the CRRF at an event at the Hilton Hotel, Addis Ababa. UNHCR/Diana Diaz

## Working with Partners

- UNHCR's main Government counterpart to ensure protection of refugees in Ethiopia is the Administration for Refugee and Returnee Affairs (ARRA). In addition, UNHCR works in close coordination with some 40 partners, and is fully engaged in the Humanitarian Country Team in Ethiopia, where refugee programmes are discussed strategically to ensure that the needs of refugees are adequately presented and addressed. UNHCR is also building on well-established coordination fora such as the Refugee Task Force, donor, NGO and inter-agency meetings at the field and camp level. As part of the CRRF, UNHCR is furthering partnerships with line ministries, regional and local authorities, as well as traditional and non-traditional donors.

## Main Activities

### Protection

- UNHCR has embarked on an enhanced registration (L3) exercise involving the collection of biometric information (fingerprints, iris scan and digital photo) of refugees in Addis Ababa, which will continue in other parts of the country. The additional information thus gathered, which includes detailed information on individual skills, education, occupation and family members abroad, would inform UNHCR's programming. Further, refugees were issued with a proof of registration document which includes all the details of the household, currently not available in the individual refugee ID cards.

### Education

- UNHCR's main government counterpart, the Administration for Refugee and Returnee Affairs (ARRA) has successfully negotiated with the Ethiopian Ministry of Education for placement of 517 refugee students in public universities for the 2017/18 academic year. 253 of them completed their secondary education in Ethiopia and passed the Ethiopian Higher Education Entrance Examination (EHEEE) while the balance passed a special placement examination as they completed their secondary education in their countries of origin but don't have the required documents.

### Health

- To date in 2017, 813,416 persons benefited from consultations in health centres across all refugee camps, 8.5% of whom were from the host communities. The health facility utilization rate stands at 1.2 consultations per refugee per year and is within the

standard of more than 1 consultations per year. The mortality rate in children under five is 0.2/1000/month and remains within the expected range in all camps. 97% of all deliveries were conducted with the help of skilled birth attendants.

### Food Security and Nutrition

- In 52% (11/23) of the camps assessed so far, the prevalence of global acute malnutrition is below the WHO emergency threshold of 15%. So far in 2017, a total of 25,534 under 5 children have been treated for acute malnutrition in all the Refugee Camps. Food rations increased from October to include 13.5kg of cereals (previously 10kg, standard: 16kg) and 0.5kg of CSB (standard: 1.5kg). Oil, pulses and salt are provided at full ration while sugar remains absent providing a total of 1737Kcal (standard: 2100 Kcal).

### Water and Sanitation

- 10.95 million litres of water have been treated, pumped and supplied daily to all camps, at an average of 18.5 litres of potable water per person, per day during 2017. In 11 of the 26 camps water was supplied at a rate of 20 litres per person per day. The hybrid solar water system in Kobe camp, Gambella, continued to post high efficiencies resulting to close to 30% fuel savings. Crude access to sanitation services on average stands at 1 latrine for 19 persons, far below the standard of one family to one latrine. Latrine access levels are much lower in Gure-Shembola, Aysaita and Nguenyiel camps with 5,248 and 38 persons per latrine respectively.

### Shelter and CRIs

- Shelter experts from UNHCR and ARRA undertook a series of joint missions to the different field operations to review shelter options and advise on the roll out of UNHCR's new Shelter Strategy. The missions also aimed in helping field colleagues develop technical guidelines to implement the strategy.
- UNHCR has put in place the necessary structures and systems and conducted response analysis for the institutionalisation of Cash-Based Interventions (CBIs) in 2018. Based on the response analysis, it is expected that use of cash in different sectors, including in replacing Core Relief Items (CRIs), will be rolled out in 2018 in all field offices apart from Gambella and Dollo where there are plans for joint CBI assessments by UNHCR, WFP and ARRA.

### Camp Coordination and Camp Management

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

### Access to Energy

- UNHCR has targeted to provide 70% of refugee households in Ethiopia access to clean and reliable domestic energy for cooking and lighting. While 56% of the refugee households have access to lighting, only 17% of them are provided with alternative domestic fuel. Lack of alternative domestic fuel remains the challenge of the operation even though Ethanol, Kerosene, Briquette and Grid connected electricity has been provided in some refugee camps.
- Solarisation of health centres, community areas and other institutions is underway in the Dollo Ado/Melkadida camps where 180 additional solar street lights are installed and 500 Solar Home Systems are being distributed.

### Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- UNHCR livelihood activities targeting refugees and host communities fall under: **agriculture and livestock; vocational skills training; microfinance and small enterprise**. Backyard gardening have been established in Gambella and Assosa while in Shire refugees are largely engaged in agriculture and goats and cattle fattening. Vocational training courses are available in all locations, and are increasingly linked to markets, often targeting youth and women. Income Generating Activities are related to business skills of refugees and driven by market opportunities. In line with CRRF, UNHCR will focus on enhancing the coordination of the livelihood interventions, the coherence with similar initiatives present in the area and the cooperation with development actors in.

### Durable Solutions

- Providing resettlement opportunities remains a top priority, as conditions for voluntary repatriation are still unfavourable for most refugees in Ethiopia and options for local integration are limited. To date, 2,414 individuals were referred to the UNHCR Regional Service Centre for resettlement, far surpassing the target of 2,000 individuals for 2017. As well, 2,324 refugees have been submitted to resettlement countries and 1,980 persons departed as of November 2017. The innovative new 'Humanitarian Corridor' project is underway, with the first group of 25 refugees departing to Italy during the month. Approximately 500 refugees will find a durable solution through this project, which UNHCR has undertaken alongside two faith-based organizations, Caritas Italiana and Sant'Egidio Community.

## External / Donors Relations

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

USA | UK (DFID) | IKEA Foundation | EU (ECHO) | Japan | Educate A Child Programme-EAC | Germany | Netherlands | Australia | UN Children's Fund | "la Caixa Banking Foundation" | Sweden | Canada | Ireland | Priv. D. Australia | Country-Based Pool Funds | Sheik Thani Bin Abdullah Foundation | UN Dept of Economic and Social Affairs | Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation | Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints | Priv. donors Spain | African Union | UN Foundation (UNFIP) | International Olympic Committee | Priv D. Germany

**Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds:**

USA (266 M) | Sweden (76 M) | Priv D. Spain (54M) | Netherlands (52 M) | United Kingdom (45M) | Norway (41M) | Priv. D. Rep. of Korea (26) | Japan (25M) | Denmark (23 M) | Australia (19 M) | Priv. D. Italy (17) | Canada (16) | Switzerland (15) | Priv. D. USA (14) | France (14 M) | Germany (12) | Priv. D. Japan (14M) | Germany (12M) | Priv. D Sweden (11) | Italy (10 M)

### CONTACTS

**Clementine Awu Nkweta Salami**, UNHCR Representative in Ethiopia, [nkwetasa@unhcr.org](mailto:nkwetasa@unhcr.org)

**Gavin David White**, Senior External Relations Officer, [white@unhcr.org](mailto:white@unhcr.org), +251 944168472

