

# Ethiopia

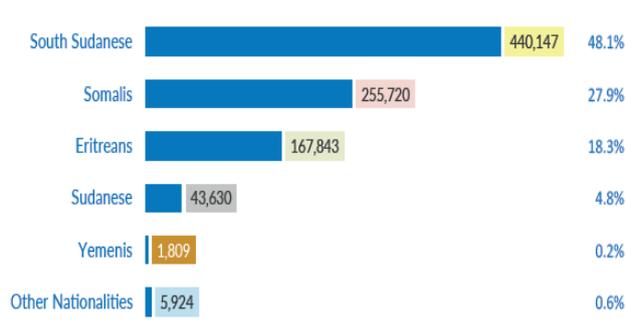
April 2018

Ethiopia is host to the second largest refugee population in Africa, sheltering over **915,073** registered refugees and asylum seekers as of 30 April 2018.

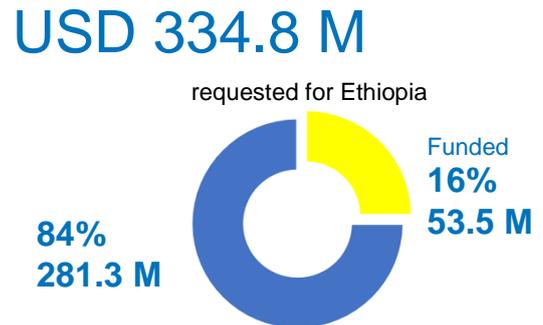
In the first quarter of 2018, **24,775** refugees arrived in Ethiopia, including **2,682** in April. They include **1,446** from Eritrea and **1,027** from South Sudan.

UNHCR supported ARRA, to organize a regional **CRRF launch event** in the Benishangul-Gumuz Region to introduce the new way of working with refugees and their hosts to the authorities and residents of the region. Similar launches are scheduled to take place in May in the **Gambella, Somali, Tigray** and **Afar** regions.

## POPULATION OF CONCERN



## FUNDING (AS OF 10 APRIL 2018)



## UNHCR PRESENCE

**Staff:**  
**357** national staff, **114** international staff (including JPOs)  
**141** individual contractors  
**24** deployment & UNVs

**Offices:**  
**1** Branch Office in (Addis Ababa), **2** Field Offices-Sherkole and Mekelle, **5** Sub-Offices- Melkadida, Gambella, Shire, Assosa and Jijiga

## 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

- Representatives of ARRA, and the Ministry of Women and Children's Affairs attended a two-day Regional Roundtable on the protection of refugee children in Arusha, Tanzania. Jointly organized and hosted by the East African Community, UNHCR, UNICEF and the African Child Policy Forum, participants reviewed best practice in the engagement of national and local child protection authorities in the protection of refugee children and their inclusion in national policy frameworks and development plans. The Government's Violence against Children and Women (VACW) programme in Gambella, which is also accessible to refugees, was presented by the Ethiopian delegation..

### 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.

### Health

- A total of 227,926 persons have received consultations across the health facilities in refugee camps, including 28,326 (11.1%) from the host communities so far in 2018. Respiratory tract infections (31%), watery diarrhoea (9%) and malaria (9%) are the leading causes of morbidity, with no outbreak reported in any of the refugee camps. The health facility utilization rate stood at 1 consultation per refugee per year and is within the standard. The mortality rate in children under five is 0.1/1000/month and

remains within the expected range of 1-4. A total of 1,384 refugees were referred to higher health facilities for further treatment while 12, 195 others were tested and counseled for HIV. The mortality rate in children under five is 0.1/1000/month and within the expected range. 97.4% of all deliveries were conducted with the help of skilled birth attendants.

### Food Security and Nutrition

- 3,848 children with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and 1,211 children with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) were admitted in nutrition programmes and treated in the first three months of the year. A recovery rate of 93.1% for MAM and 88.3% for SAM was achieved against the standard of more than 75%. Refugee children from six to 24 months of age continued to be enrolled in the blanket supplementary feeding programme in camps other than those in Gambella, Melkadida and Afar where all children under five years old have been targeted due to the prevalence of high global acute malnutrition (GAM).
- GAM and stunting prevalence remain within the emergency threshold in 15 and 10 of the 26 refugee camps, respectively. The current food ration level of 1,770 Kcal, against the standard of 2,100Kcal, will be further reduced to 1,278Kcal as of May due to a lack of funding.

### Water and Sanitation

- On average 12.8 million litres of potable water were supplied to all the 26 refugee camps on a daily basis, representing an average per capita supply of 17.6 litres of water per person per day (lppd). 8 camps have met the UNHCR minimum standard of 20 lppd. Approximately 31% of all refugee families own a latrine while many others have access to safe sanitation through family-shared latrines in which two families share a latrine.

### Shelter and CRIs

- In line with the national Refugee Shelter Strategy, shelter experts from UNHCR and ARRA are working on the development of technical guidelines to support the implementation of the strategy across the country.
- UNHCR has established a cash based intervention pilot project in Jijiga covering all the three camps, sheltering more than 37,000 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 Aysaita, Barahle and Hitsats camps are being connected to the national electricity grid as part of a pilot initiatives within the operation. Three additional machines were installed in the camps near Assosa to boost production of charcoal briquettes. In addition, camps in the Somali, Afar and Tigray regions have started producing similar briquettes for fuel. 214,591 litres of ethanol fuel were also distributed to the Somali refugee households in the Jijiga camps.

### 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, 1,316 individuals were referred to the UNHCR Regional Service Centre for resettlement, with 779 individuals submitted to resettlement countries. As of 30 April, 331 individuals left for resettlement countries while 147 others travelled to different countries on family reunification and private sponsorship.

## External / Donors Relations

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

Netherlands| UK (DFID)| IKEA Foundation | Denmark| Germany| Educate A Child Programme-EAC/EAA| Republic of Korea| UN Dept. of Economic and Social Affairs

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### CONTACTS

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

**Gavin David White**, Senior External Relations Officer, [whitegd@unhcr.org](mailto:whitegd@unhcr.org)