



# ETHIOPIA

## FACTSHEET

October 2015

### HIGHLIGHTS

**736,317**

Total number of  
refugees

**37,859**

Number of  
Unaccompanied Minors  
and Separated Children

**52.8%**

Percentage of women and  
girls

**60.1%**

Percentage of Children

### Population of concern

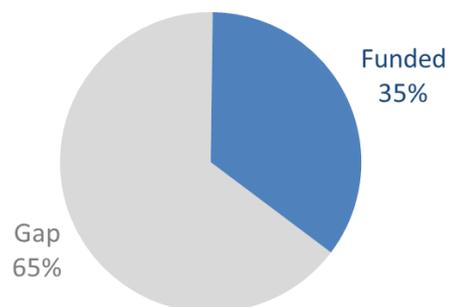
A total of **736,317** of concern  
(As of 30 September)

#### By country of origin

| Country             | Total PoC      |
|---------------------|----------------|
| South Sudan         | 289,351        |
| Somalia             | 251,692        |
| Eritrea             | 150,484 *      |
| Sudan               | 37,945         |
| Other nationalities | 6,908          |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>736,317</b> |

### Funding

**USD 315 million** requested



- **Funding level as of 3 November 2015**

### UNHCR Presence

#### Staff:

333 national staff  
109 international staff  
81 individual contractors  
46 deployees  
7 IUNVs

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Total: 576

#### Offices:

24 offices, including the **UNHCR Representation in Ethiopia**, as well as Sub and Field-Offices located in five Regional States: **Afar** (Semera) **Benishangul-Gumuz** (Assosa, Bambasi, Sherkole, Tongo), **Gambella** (Gambella, Dimma, Itang, Jewi, Pugnido), **Somali** (Jijiga, Melkadida, Aw-barre, Sheder, Kebribeyah, Dollo Ado, Bokolmanyo, Kobe, Hilaweyn, Buramino) and **Tigray** (Shire, Mekele, Embamadre, Shimelba).

\*81,078 of the Eritrean refugees are believed to have spontaneously settled in Ethiopia and subject to verification.

## WORKING WITH PARTNERS

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- UNHCR is fully engaged in the Humanitarian Country Team in Ethiopia consisting of UN Agencies, NGOs and donor representatives, where the refugee programmes are discussed strategically to ensure that the needs of refugees are adequately presented and addressed. The Representation Office is also building on well-established coordination fora such as the Refugee Task Force, donor and NGO and inter-agency meetings at the field and camp levels.
- UNHCR's main Government counterpart and implementing partner in Ethiopia is the Administration for Refugee and Returnee Affairs (ARRA) and the Office works well with it in ensuring continued protection of the refugees.
- 44 partners, including government agencies, national and international non-governmental organizations and UN agencies work closely with UNHCR to support the refugees in the country.
- An effective coordination environment was established in response to the Level 3 emergency with refugees arriving from South Sudan; a Regional Refugee Response Plan was developed with participation of all partners.

## MAIN ACTIVITIES

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### Protection

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- The Government of Ethiopia generally maintains open borders for refugees seeking protection in the country. A party to both the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, and its 1967 Protocol and the 1969 OAU Convention, the Government provides protection to refugees from over 18 countries, with the majority originating from South Sudan, Somalia, Eritrea and Sudan.
- Most asylum-seekers from neighboring countries and lately Yemen are granted refugee status on a prima facie basis. Individual refugee status determination is undertaken for all others through a government Eligibility Committee, on which UNHCR sits as an observer.
- Refugees and asylum-seekers are generally expected by the Government to reside in camps, although some are permitted to reside in urban areas for medical, security, or humanitarian reasons. There are some 7,427 such refugees in Addis Ababa. The Government's "Out of Camp Policy" provides Eritrean refugees the opportunity to live in Addis Ababa and other locations if they have the necessary means to support themselves. Thousands are benefitting from this opportunity and it is hoped that this programme can be improved and expanded to cover other refugee groups in the country.
- Key protection concerns for the country operation include child protection, education and sexual and gender-based violence. The situation of Eritrean unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) in Shire is of particular concern, given the large numbers and limited family-based care options, with additional resources devoted to these children in 2014 under the Child Protection Regional Initiative. Data-collection and case management tools are also being rolled out in the different operations, including the Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS) (in coordination with UNICEF) and the Education Management Information System (EMIS).
- UNHCR is also working closely with the government and key partners to address the issue of trafficking and smuggling of refugees. Livelihoods opportunities are considered a key component of these efforts, as are increased information campaigns and improved services. In addition to implementing UNHCR's Strategy and Regional Action Plan to address Smuggling and Trafficking from the East and Horn of Africa, UNHCR is also contributing to other efforts by the Government of Ethiopia and the UN Country Team in this area.

### Education

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- As part of UNHCR's policy of creating hope to refugees through skills training and livelihoods, 482 refugees and Ethiopians in Addis Ababa received certificates of graduation following an intensive year-long training in vocational skills. More than half (261) of the graduates were females and 134 of the total are Ethiopian nationals. The training, managed by UNHCR's implementing partner-Opportunities Industrialization Centres Ethiopia (OIC-E), covered fields ranging from auto mechanics, basic computer, building and electrical installation and hair dressing to beautification, plumbing and tailoring. The idea is to equip the refugees with skills so they can engage themselves in some gainful employment in the informal sector as well as to prepare them for eventual durable solutions.

## Health

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- All refugee camps were part of the national polio immunization campaign which targeted all children aged 0 to 59 months. The campaigns were conducted by the Regional Health Bureaus in collaboration with ARRA, UNHCR and partners.
- ARRA completed successfully the training of the third batch of the model families in Dollo Ado. Within this community-based health project, one mother is trained on a variety of health, nutrition and hygiene topics and will pass on this knowledge to 5 mothers in her neighborhood. The same system has been completed in Assosa and Jijiga camps.
- To reduce mosquito population and consequently the number of patients infected with malaria, indoor residual spraying was completed in Kule and Tierkidi refugee camps, reaching a total of 7,995 unit structures.
- The global Mental Health Day was celebrated in many refugee camps. Activities included bicycle races, poetry competitions and speeches and awareness campaign.

## Nutrition and Food Security

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- The preliminary results of a joint UNHCR, ARRA and WFP nutrition surveys in Sherkole, Bambasi, Tongo and Tsore camps show Global Acute Malnutrition rates (GAM) of 6.3 %, 10.2%, 9.4% and 7.0% respectively. In terms of GAM rates, the situation in Sherkole, Tsore and Tongo can be considered as poor while that in Bambasi is serious, requiring urgent intervention. On the other hand, the Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) rates in all four camps remain below the acceptable threshold of 2%.
- In Gambella, Action Contre la Faim (ACF) operationalized a third nutrition center as part of the effort to improve access to services by refugees in Jewi Camp. The ACF stabilization center in Pugnido 2 camp has admitted 15 cases of severe acute malnutrition with medical complications.
- In Tierkidi camp, Danish Church Aid started registration of pregnant women in collaboration with GOAL during which 311 pregnant women were registered in addition to 1,948 children, aged 6-23 months who are already enrolled in the Fresh food voucher project. This project aims at increasing the diet diversification of households that are in the programme.

## Water and Sanitation

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- All work related to the construction of the integrated permanent water supply scheme for Kule and Tierkidi camps as well as for the host communities in the nearby Itang locality was completed and the testing phase has commenced. Once fully commissioned in November, the system will supply water to over 100,000 refugees in addition to serving the host community surrounding the refugee camps. The South Sudanese refugees in the area have been relying on water trucking since February 2014.
- Partners implementing Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH) in Jewi, Pugnido2 and Tsore camps commenced construction and installation of permanent water schemes in tandem with provision of emergency WASH services. In addition, alongside communal sanitation facilities, refugees have been mobilized to start construction of family latrines with a sustainable community participation approach.
- Optimization of existing permanent water schemes in Aw-barre, shedder and Tongo camps is ongoing with the primary aim of improving efficiency and reduction in unit cost of water.

## Camp Coordination and Camp Management

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- The Government of Ethiopia (ARRA) manages all the 24 refugee camps in Ethiopia. UNHCR and ARRA work together with partners to ensure proper and coordinated delivery of protection and assistance. Camp coordination meetings take place both at the zone and camp levels. Technical working groups meet regularly on such issues as child protection, SGBV, education, WASH and Health/Nutrition.

## Access to Energy

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- **Ethanol**-31, 000 litres (lts.) of ethanol was transported to Skerkole camp and is being distributed among 130 households who have ethanol-powered stoves. Similarly, 100,000 lts. of Ethanol has been transported for distribution in the three camps near Jijiga, home to more than 40,000 Somali refugees.
- **Kerosene**-365,000 lts of kerosene was purchased for distribution among the more than 200,000 Somali refugees in the Dollo Ado camps. Similarly, 30,000 lts. of Kerosene has been distributed among refugees in Bamabasi camp sheltering more than 15,000 Sudanese refugees.
- **Env. Protection & rehabilitation**- 18,000 tree seedlings have been transplanted around homes, schools and institutions in Aysaita and Berhale camps accommodating more than 30,000 ethnic Afar Eritrean refugees. In a related development, 118

individuals drawn from the refugee and host communities have been trained on the development, management and protection of trees in and around Bambasi, Aysaiata and Berhale camps.

- 120 hectares of tree plantation has been weeded, hoed and cultivated in and around the refugee camps in the Gambella region that are accommodating nearly 280,000 South Sudanese refugees. In addition, 2.5 km of feeder road and 6.5 Km of fire break has been constructed in the area.

## Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- UNHCR's self-reliance programme in Dollo Ado, supported by donors, including the IKEA Foundation, complements the Government's development programme and targets both refugees and host communities focusing on the improvement of livelihoods activities. As the camps are situated in a drought-prone area, this will build refugees' resilience in anticipation of their imminent return to their places of origin in Somalia. An increase in household income including the ownership of animals and agriculture activities has already been noted and is expected to continue.
- Innovative approaches to refugee shelters, renewable energy and camp lay-out have also been piloted in Dollo Ado for eventual implementation in other regions. In addition to providing training on cooperative development and business management, business grant support has been made available by UNHCR to improve the livelihoods of refugees. UNHCR is also piloting an agricultural project focusing on improving the livelihoods of more than 200, 000 Somali refugees in Dollo Ado.
- In the Jijiga area where there are three camps hosting more than 40,000 Somali refugees, UNHCR engages refugees and the host communities in self-reliance activities under its Development Assistance for Refugees (DAR) project. Refugees and members of the host communities around the camps continue to produce agricultural outputs both for domestic consumption and for the local market.

## Durable Solutions

- Resettlement remains the only viable durable solution in the Ethiopia operation as conditions in the countries of origin are not conducive for voluntary repatriation, while local integration remains elusive. Ethiopia's resettlement referral target for 2015 is 5,965 individuals.
- As of October 2015, a total of 1,593 cases (4,824 individuals) were referred to the UNHCR Regional Support Hub in Nairobi for onward submission to resettlement countries.
- 1,124 cases (3,313 individuals) have been submitted to resettlement countries by the Hub in Nairobi.
- 1,035 cases (3,238 individuals) have departed Ethiopia to third countries through the UNHCR facilitated resettlement program.

UNHCR is grateful for the direct contributions to the UNHCR Ethiopia Operation in 2015 from:



UNHCR is also grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given unrestricted and regional funds in 2015:

United States of America | Sweden | Netherlands | Norway | Denmark | Australia | Japan | Switzerland | France | Priv Donors Spain | Canada | Afghanistan | Algeria | Austria | Belgium | Costa Rica | Estonia | Finland | Germany | Holy See | India | Italy | Kuwait | Latvia | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Monaco | Morocco | Mozambique | New Zealand | Peru | Portugal | Qatar | Republic Of Korea | Saudi Arabia | Serbia | Singapore | Slovak Republic | South Africa | Sri Lanka | Thailand | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | Private donors | Band Aid Charitable Trust

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# Refugees and Asylum-seekers in Ethiopia

31 October 2015



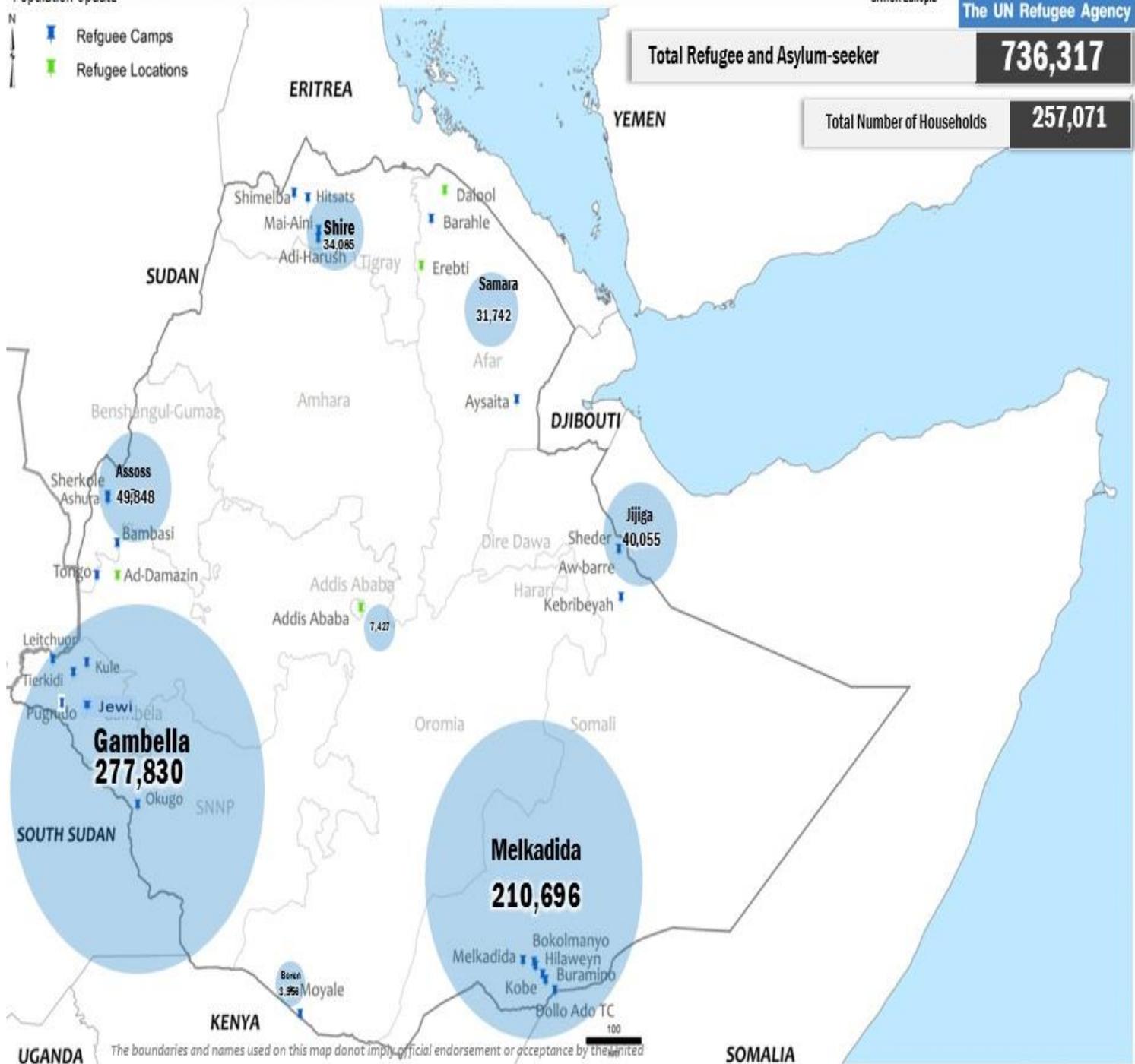
Population Update

UNHCR Ethiopia

- Refugee Camps
- Refugee Locations

**Total Refugee and Asylum-seeker** **736,317**

**Total Number of Households** **257,071**



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

**SOMALIA**  
Sources: UNHCR proGres. For more information, contact [biresaw@unhcr.org](mailto:biresaw@unhcr.org)