



Biometrics goes live in Shimelba camp to improve food collection procedures

ETHIOPIA

FACTSHEET

April 2016

HIGHLIGHTS

734,931 Total number of refugees	38,422 Number of Unaccompanied Minors and Separated Children	49.8% Percentage of women and girls	57% Percentage of Children
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Population of concern- updated

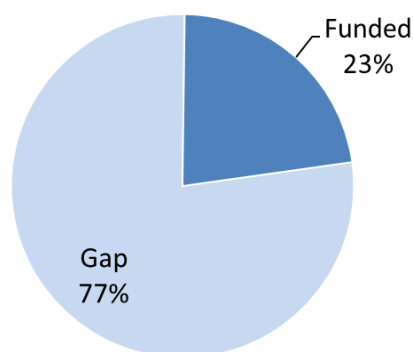
A total of **734,931** population of concern (As of 30 April 2016)

By country of origin

Country	Total PoC
South Sudan	284,306
Somalia	250,988
Eritrea	155,276 *
Sudan	37,959
Other nationalities	6,402
Total	734,931

Funding

USD 280.0 million requested



- **Funding level as of 3 May 2016**

UNHCR Presence

Staff:

- 319 national staff
- 113 international staff
- 78 individual contractors
- 37 deployees
- 9 IUNVs

Total: 556

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, Bokolmanyoo, Kobe, Hilaweyn, Buramino) and **Tigray** (Shire, Mekele, Embamadre, Shimelba).

**81,078 Eritrean refugees previously registered as living in the camps are believed to have spontaneously settled in Ethiopia. This figure will be subjected to Verification*

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- 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.
- Some 40 partners, including government agencies, national and international non-governmental organizations and UN agencies work closely with UNHCR to support the refugees in the country.
- The effective coordination environment that was established in response to the Level 3 emergency with refugees arriving from South Sudan is working well; a Regional Refugee Response Plan was developed with participation of all partners.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

- 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 19 countries, with the majority originating from South Sudan, Somalia, Eritrea and Sudan.
- Most asylum-seekers from neighboring countries and lately Yemen are granted automatic refugee status. 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 8,616 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. 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

- A total of 153, 589 (86,981 males and 66,608 females) have been enrolled in schools within and outside of the refugee camps (host community schools) during the current academic year. This represents an average Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) of 53% of school-age children. Compared to the same time last year, there is an increase of 16% in the average gross enrollment rate. Similarly, 3,785 (9%) of secondary school-aged refugees are enrolled in seven secondary schools in the camps, in 10 Government Secondary Schools around the camps as well as in over 43 Government and Private schools in urban areas.
- More than 1,600 qualified refugees are enrolled in higher education institutes throughout the country, including some 1,300 sponsored by the Government of Ethiopia, and 300 others supported by UNHCR through the DAFI scholarship programme.
- A total of 2,638 refugees are enrolled in technical and vocational education and training (TVET) and 9,672 adult refugees are enrolled in adult functional literacy and numeracy programmes in the different camps and urban settings. Moreover, some 1,096 refugees are enrolled in language training programmes in camps and urban areas.
- School attendance in some of the camps in Gambella showed a marked decrease during the fourth quarter of April following the recent security incidents in the region. Some schools were forced to close temporarily as teachers stayed at home and

parents were reluctant to send their children to school. With the situation now calming down, sensitization work is being done to encourage teachers and students to return to school as normal.

Health

- During the reporting period, no outbreaks of communicable diseases occurred in any of the refugee camps. Refugees in all camps were included in the national polio vaccination campaigns, which targeted children below the age of five years. At the same time, children in selected camps, aged nine months to five years, received measles vaccination.
- In Gambella, provision of primary health care services resumed in Tierkidi and Kule camps following interruption for several days due to the security incident in Jewi camp which also spread to Gambella town. UNHCR and ARRA have conducted meetings with partners and with the refugee community in Tierkidi, Kule and Jewi camps and it is expected that health staff can return and restart health services in Jewi camp as well.

Nutrition and Food Security

- Findings of the joint annual Nutrition Survey conducted in the five camps in Dollo Ado reveal a significant increase in the prevalence of Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) in four of the five camps compared to the results of a similar survey in 2015. Global Acute Malnutrition prevalence remains above the emergency threshold of 15% in all camps and varies between 17.7% in Melkadida camp and 27.2% Buramino camp. To further understand the reasons behind the increase in acute malnutrition, UNHCR and partners are scheduled to undertake a detailed programme review in the camps in May, and trainings will be conducted based on the findings.
- In Gambella, the joint annual Nutrition Survey had started in earnest and data collection was already completed in Pugnido and Tierkidi camps when the process was interrupted following the recent security incidents. The results of the survey in the two camps are currently being analyzed, while the remaining four camps are scheduled to be surveyed in June.

Water and Sanitation

- The impact of the ongoing drought on boreholes in the camps near Shire is being manifested in declining yields and increased loss of water quality (mineralization) which has resulted in abandonment of two highest yielding boreholes due to high Iron content amongst others. However, this has been countered by increased pumping hours to sustain per capita access to water of above 15 litres per person per day for the refugee population. Other options being considered are improving the efficiency of tapping water from springs and setting up temporary surface water treatment from a nearby *Sorenta* dam to serve the host community, thereby releasing more water for refugees.
- In Gambella, water provision continued with minimal disruption on per capita access, however, sanitation & hygiene services remains subdued after the security incidence.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management

- 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

- Some 229,500 liters of ethanol was transported from Metehara sugar factory to the three camps near Jijiga hosting more than 37,000 Somali refugees. Almost 83,000 liters have already been distributed among a total of some 5,400 households in the three camps for their domestic energy needs. Similarly, 1,642 litres of ethanol was distributed among the mainly Sudanese refugees in Sherkole camp.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- UNHCR-Ethiopia operation has a well-established community based structure, where refugee men, women and children are represented by different committees. Refugee Central Committees, Women's Associations, Youth Associations, Associations for Persons with Disability, Traditional Justice Leaders Associations, Children's Parliaments, Girls Clubs, Male Involvement Groups, Parents and Teachers Association, Block and Zone Leaders, Community Watch Groups, are some of the main structures used to ensure meaningful participation of the refugees in the planning and implementation of different projects.

- 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/Melkadida.
- In the Jijiga area where there are three camps hosting more than 37,000 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 2016 is 6,465 individuals.
- As of April, 508 cases (1,924 individuals) were referred to the UNHCR Regional Service Centre (RSC) in Nairobi for onward submission to resettlement countries.
- 283 cases (1,078) have been submitted to resettlement countries by the RSC in Nairobi.
- 475 (1,539 individuals) departed Ethiopia to third countries through UNHCR facilitated resettlement program.

UNHCR is grateful for the direct contributions to the UNHCR Ethiopia Operation so far in 2016 from:

USA | IKEA Foundation | Japan | Canada | CERF | Germany | Educate A Child Programme-EAC | Denmark | France | Sweden | International Olympic Committee | Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation | Italy | Band Aid | Private Donors Australia | Private Donors Spain

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Refugees and Asylum-seekers in Ethiopia

30 April 2016

UNHCR Ethiopia



Population Update

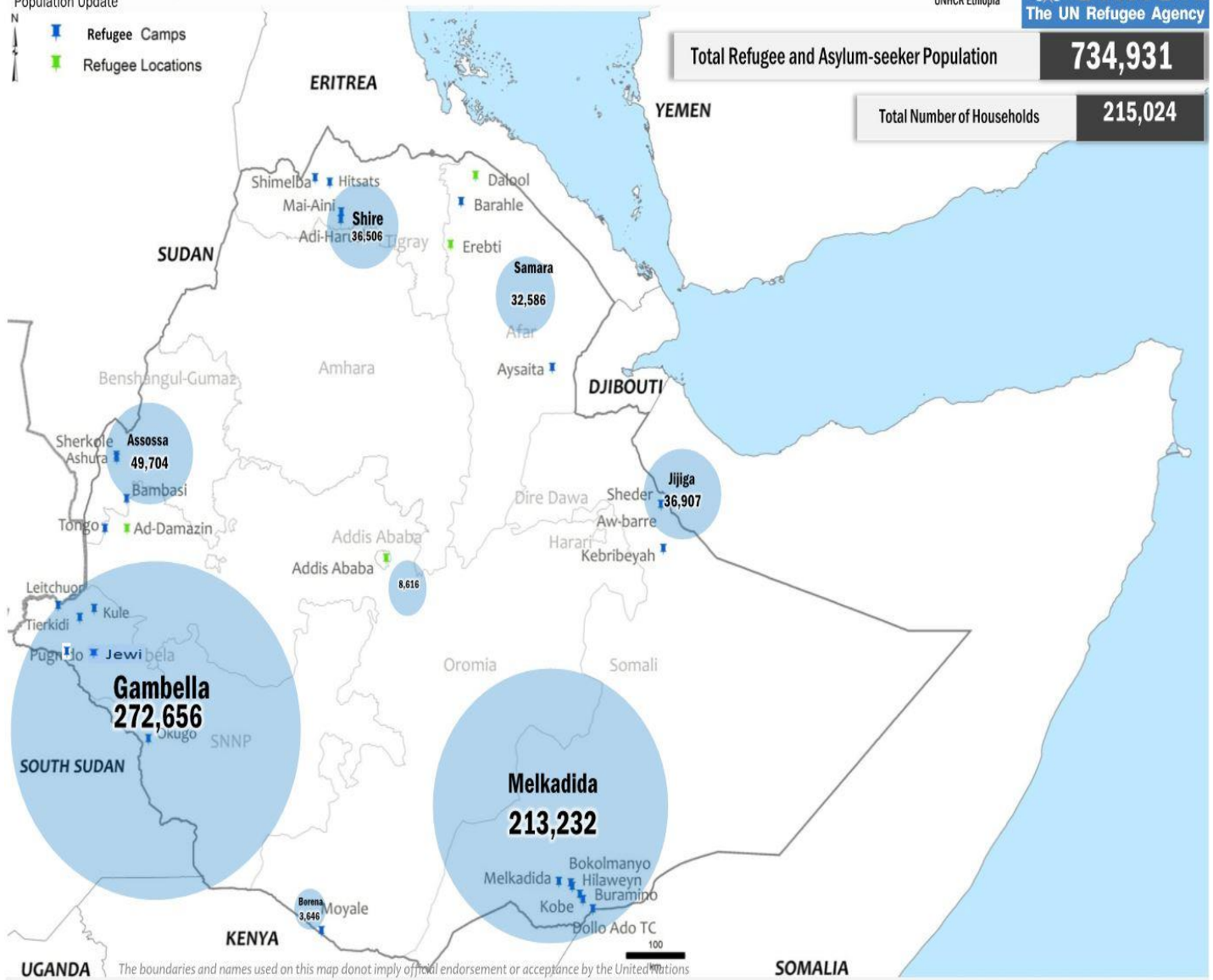
- Refugee Camps
- Refugee Locations

Total Refugee and Asylum-seeker Population

734,931

Total Number of Households

215,024



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

Sources UNHCR proGres For more information, contact mutueran@unhcr.org