

# **URBAN REFUGEES** FACT SHEET

# **Ethiopia**

September 2018

### **HIGHLIGHTS**











- By the end of September 2018, there were a total of **22,885** refugees in the capital Addis Ababa, mainly from **Eritrea**, **Yemen**, **Somalia**, **South Sudan** and refugees of **other nationalities**, including those from the Great Lakes region.
- Of the total population, 868 are children, who either arrived alone (377children) or were separated from their parents or relatives during flight (491 children).
- Of the urban refugee population, 18,122 (79%) are Eritrean refugees. Of these, 17,217 are beneficiaries of the Government's Out-Of-Camp Policy.
- UNHCR provides reception services at the Urban Refugee Reception Centre, located around what is
  popularly known as the *Hayahulet Mazoriya* in Addis Ababa. In addition to registration and documentation
  services, individual protection and resettlement counselling are available at the center from Monday to
  Thursday every week, between 9:00 am and 4:30 pm.
- UNHCR undertook its yearly participatory assessment with refugees living in Addis Ababa in August 2018.
   The findings will assist the UN Refugee Agency to better understand the situation of refugees and will inform the planned programmatic and service delivery activities.
- Coordination of protection programs targeting refugees in Addis Ababa is done through the monthly Urban and Kenya Borena Sub-Working Group meetings, that are held every 1st Wednesday of the month from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm at the UNHCR office in Bole. The forum brings together the government refugee agency (ARRA), UNHCR and all the partners working with refugees in Addis Ababa in order to ensure coordinated response in service delivery and efficient use of resources in line with UNHCR protection priorities.

#### STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- In line with the 2014 UNHCR Alternatives to Camps Policy and in the context of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Approach, UNHCR continues to implement strategies that enhance refugee inclusion in national institutions while strengthening the protection environment and also offering refugees access to opportunities and solutions in coordination with both humanitarian and development actors.
- In Addis Ababa, interventions adopt a strong community based protection approach, and UNHCR is currently working with community structures to ensuring full participation and ownership by the refugees, with the inclusion of the host community whenever possible. The Refugee Outreach Volunteers (ROVs) are continually capacitated to conduct home visits and refer vulnerable cases to established service providers and to disseminate important protection information within their communities
- UNHCR is working to strengthen alternatives to onward movements through promoting local solutions and opportunities for urban refugees, including through advocating for increased access to education, livelihoods and employment opportunities, and resettlement and legal migration opportunities

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#### **CHALLENGES**









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