

# ETHIOPIA

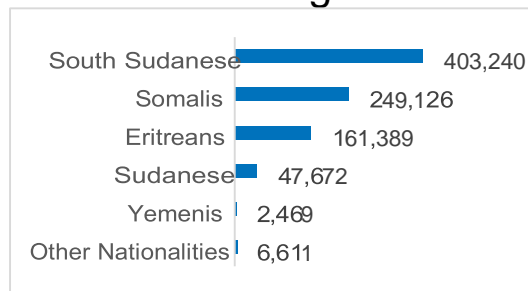
July 2022

Ethiopia is the **third-largest refugee-hosting country** in Africa, with **870,507** refugees and asylum-seekers as of 30 June 2022. The majority originate from **South Sudan**, **Somalia** and **Eritrea**.

To date, **119,847** refugees have received COVID-19 vaccines, including **94,159** fully vaccinated. UNHCR, the Government's Refugees and Returnees Service (RRS) and partners, continue to reinforce prevention measures in refugee camps and sites hosting Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs).

UNHCR continues to respond to the **situation** of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Ethiopia, leading and co-leading the **Protection** and Camp Coordination & Camp Management (**CCCM**) **Clusters** and providing protection, emergency aid and other support to **IDPs** and **IDP returnees**.

## POPULATION OF CONCERN Countries of Origin



*At the end of June 2022, Ethiopia hosted over 870,507 refugees and asylum-seekers, mainly sheltered in 26 refugee camps established in six Regional States. There is also a sizeable group of refugees and asylum-seekers living out of camps, including more than 70,000 people in Addis Ababa.*

## UNHCR PRESENCE

### Staff:

- 440 National staff
- 179 International staff)
- 171 Affiliated work force & others

### Offices:

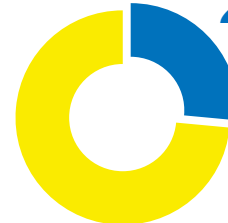
- 1 Representation Office- Addis Ababa
- 6 Sub-Offices- Assosa, Gambella, Jijiga, Mekelle, Melkadida and Shire
- 9 Field Offices- Bule Hora, Debark, Dire Dawa, Embamadre, Nekemte, Pugnido, Samara, Sherkole and Tonqo
- 7 Field Units-Aysaita, Barahle, Mychew, Adigrat, Abi Adi, Sheraro and Axum

## FUNDING (As of 5 July 2022)

USD 335.3 M

Requested for Ethiopia

Funded  
**25%**



COVID-19 campaign in Jewi Camp, Gambella, Ethiopia.  
@UNHCR Dr Harouna Iname

## Working with Partners

UNHCR's main government counterpart in the refugee response in Ethiopia is the Government's Refugees and Returnees Service (RRS). UNHCR works closely with 57 humanitarian and development organizations, responding under the 'Ethiopia Country Refugee Response Plan (ECRRP)'. The ECRRP seeks to consolidate a collective multi-partner response in support of the refugees in the country. UNHCR is also part of the "Humanitarian Country Team", where various programmes are discussed strategically to ensure that the refugees' needs are effectively addressed across the UN System. UNHCR builds on well-established coordination fora, including the inter-sector Refugee Coordination Group, consisting of national and regional sectorial working groups, coordinating sector-specific responses. To foster refugee inclusion in national services and economic activities, in line with Ethiopia's commitment within the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR), UNHCR is strengthening partnerships with Ethiopian line Ministries, regional and local authorities, development partners and the private sector. As part of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) cluster system for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) at national and sub-regional level, UNHCR is leading and co-leading the Protection, Camp Coordination & Camp Management (CCCM) and Emergency Shelter & Non-Food Items (ES/NFI) Clusters.

## Main Activities



### Protection

- Together with RRS, UNHCR coordinates activities aimed at protecting and assisting refugees and asylum-seekers in Ethiopia, as well as promoting sustainable solutions. UNHCR is also engaged in providing protection and assistance to IDPs and IDP returnees in different parts of the country, in collaboration with the authorities, UN agencies and partners.
- While the birth registration clearance exercise targeting 96,000 children under the age of three was completed in March, only 26,020 children have been registered, representing about 27% of the targeted population. UNHCR and RRS are jointly working on modalities to clear the outstanding backlog of 69,980 unregistered children.
- So far in 2022, UNHCR assistance to IDPs, implemented with partners and in close coordination with authorities, has reached 3,027,876 people in nine regions with protection services, shelter and relief items support, and legal assistance.

### Durable Solutions

- During the second quarter of 2022, UNHCR referred 575 individuals to various resettlement countries for consideration. This brought the total submissions so far in 2022 to 913 persons against total annual quota of 3,150 cases. While initial quota was set at 4,150, it was revisited to 3,150 following transfers of 1,000 slots for USA to 2023. A total of 36 individuals also departed for resettlement to Norway and the USA, bringing total departures in the first half of the year to 85 individuals. In addition, 102 individuals were individually counselled on family reunification opportunities.
- In April, UNHCR assisted one Ethiopian national to voluntarily return to Ethiopia from Nigeria. Additional 11 refugees also voluntarily returned from Yemen under the IOM Voluntary Humanitarian (VHR) Program in May and June 2022. All returnees were provided with the reintegration and cash assistance.
- During the reporting period, UNHCR facilitated issuance of exit permits for 13 refugees in Ethiopia who wished to return to their countries of origin voluntarily and spontaneously: Yemen (11), Sudan (1) and Eritrea (1).



### Shelter

- UNHCR together with RRS and partners provide basic services to persons of concern in all refugee camps/sites. As of June, an average of 41% refugee households were living in adequate shelters across all the 24 refugee camps/sites. Over 59% of households across all camps are living in

emergency, old or crowded shelters, while many of the new arrivals in Gambella and Somali (Melkadida) operations, as well as refugees relocated from other camps, i.e. Alemwach (Amhara), Serdo (Afar) and Tsore (Benishangul-Gumuz) live in emergency shelters.

- UNHCR is working with RRS and partners on provision of emergency and transitional shelters for the refugees in need in Gambella, Afar, Amhara and Benishangul Gumuz regions.
- Over the first half of 2022, UNHCR reached 82,000 IDPs with packages of relief items, shelter repair kits, emergency shelters and plastic sheets in Afar, Amhara, Benishangul-Gumuz, Tigray and Somali regions.



### Education

- In partnership with Government of Ethiopia (GoE) and other partners, a total of 171,447 refugee students were enrolled in pre-primary (52,486), primary (102,383) and secondary (16,578) levels of education in 2021-2022. Moreover, 1,527 refugees are currently enrolled in 40 different public universities across Ethiopia under GoE and DAFI scholarship programmes.
- The Gross Enrolment Rate (GER) for pre-primary education stands at 43% compared to the national average of 36.7% for the 2020/2021 academic year. GER for primary and secondary education are 47% and 13% compared to the national average of 95.1% and 42% respectively.
- Ethiopia has a positive policy environment for refugee education: the 2019 Refugee Proclamation, provides refugees with access to educational opportunities at par with nationals. The sixth Education Sector Development Plan (ESDP VI, 2020 - 2025) includes refugee education for the first time, paving the way for inclusion of refugee education in national systems.
- Ethiopia made a commitment at the first Global Refugee Forum (GRF) in 2019, to provide 20,000 refugees and Ethiopians with quality and accredited skills training linked to the labor market by 2024. So far, 3,071 people, 1,055 refugees and 2,016 host community members, have received accredited skills training that is linked to the labor market.
- In line with the Inclusion Agenda, the GoE committed to a US \$ 80 million project financed by the World Bank, targeting integration of refugees into Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary Education.



### Health

- Despite the impact of emergencies due to conflict and insecurity, especially in Afar (Samara), Benishangul-Gumuz, Gambella and Somali (Melkadida) regions, health service provision is implemented covering primary, secondary and tertiary health services including in urban medical and health systems for refugees. The overall health status of refugees has remained stable with no disease outbreaks in refugee camps, except scabies in Alemwach (Amhara), where case identification and management has been instituted with 840 persons reached.
- UNHCR is closely working with the Government's RRS, partners, the Regional Health Bureaus (RHBs) and other UN agencies to prevent and reduce the spread of COVID-19 among the refugee and host communities. In line with the national strategy on COVID 19 vaccination the 2nd round 2022 of mass COVID-19 vaccination was conducted in all refugee camps during the reporting period with support from the Federal Ministry of Health and RHBs. All locations completed the campaigns with exception of interruptions in Gambella due to insecurity.
- UNHCR is responding to all health emergencies, including in Afar, Benishangul-Gumuz, Somali and Tigray regions, through deployment of health experts and emergency airlifting of medical supplies.



### Food Security and Nutrition

- In 2022, UNHCR Ethiopia will focus on coordination, collaboration and strategic engagements with stakeholders to enhance food security, meet nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive needs of persons of concern (PoC) and hosting communities, respond to emergency needs of the PoC in food and nutrition and build capacities and systems strengthening food and nutrition delivery, together with partners.
- Nutrition programmes are operational in 21 of the 24 camp sites in 41 of the 43 nutrition centers. Analysis of the treatment programs admission data shows no change in trends in admission patterns of the community management of acute malnutrition (CMAM) programs over the past three

years with peaks in admission during the lean season. UNHCR through International Medical Corps (IMC) in Somali (Melkadida) and Action Against Hunger (AAH) in Gambella continues to provide emergency nutrition services. Overall, the new arrival nutrition status is very high with global acute malnutrition rate of 23.5% and severe acute malnutrition rate of 9.1% which is above the WHO threshold of >15.0%. Nevertheless, the combined effects of ration cuts, global economic shocks, COVID-19 and conflict had implications leading to acute malnutrition in the second quarter of 2022. WFP, UNHCR and partners have not received adequate funding to scale up food security solutions within continued reduction of the food assistance rations from 84% to 60% in November 2021, and a further reduction to 50% in June 2022.

### **Water and Sanitation (WASH)**

- UNHCR works with partners to provide access to clean water, sanitation and improve hygiene practices through operation and maintenance of water supply systems and the construction and upgrading of WASH facilities and awareness-raising sessions. An average of 15 litres/person/day of potable water was provided to refugees across all camps. This has remained low due to repeated failure of some boreholes and erratic fuel supplies on the local market. However, where necessary, UNHCR and partners are working to secure water supply through water trucking to refugee and host communities.
- Emergency water provision in Serdo, Afar region, has increased from 6l/p/d to around 15l/p/d following successful rehabilitation, through UNHCR support, of a Government-donated borehole, incl. through the installation of a submersible pump and borehole cleaning.

### **Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance**

- UNHCR in collaboration with the Government of Ethiopia and partners works to promote livelihoods and economic inclusion for refugees, advocating for their right to work and supporting their inclusion in government social protection systems.
- A total of 100,000 people from refugee and host communities have gained access to economic opportunities in the agriculture and livestock sectors because of investments made by various strategic partners, in line with the GoE Pledges to create economic opportunities for 90,000 people.
- Following advocacy with the government and local communities, 3,645 refugees have gained access to 1,690 hectares of land for crop production in the Gambella, Benishangul-Gumuz, and Somali regions.
- A total of 3,983 persons have been supported to own businesses or attain self-employment through entrepreneurship trainings, cooperatives and capital grants provided by UNHCR and different partners.
- A total of 25,808 beneficiaries have received productive assets and training through investments made by development and humanitarian partners
- A total of 65 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises benefitting a total of 380 urban beneficiaries have been supported through entrepreneurship training challenge grants to start their businesses. Further, 1,000 beneficiaries from refugee and host communities have received various trainings to prepare them for wage employment.
- Refugees are now primary beneficiaries of the World Bank-funded DRDIP (Development Responses to Displacement Impacts Project) II project that will be implemented by the Government of Ethiopia in 30 woredas targeting 740,438 refugees. The World Bank has already secured USD180m towards this initiative.

### **Access to Energy**

- Providing access to cleaner energy for cooking, lighting and powering community facilities while maximizing environmental protection and natural resource management is UNHCR's main strategic direction in Ethiopia. The National Energy and Environment Working Group (EEWG) has developed a Multi-Actor Cooking Fuel Strategy (2022-2030) which aims to achieve a universal cooking energy access in line with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG7).
- During the reporting period, UNHCR and partners have set up communal kitchens connected to the national grid, and powered by charcoaled briquettes and commercial fuelwood, enabling access to clean cooking fuels for over 23,235 refugees. A total of 6,000 solar lamps and 1,400 fuel saving

stoves have also been distributed to refugees residing in camps in Benishangul-Gumuz, Gambella, Afar and Amhara (Alemwach) regions as an emergency energy need response. Installation of 230 solar streetlights is underway in Assosa refugee camps while six streetlights which have been connected to the national grid are functional in Aysaita refugee camp in the Afar region. With the electrification of Aysaita camp UNHCR has enabled some 326 households to benefit from clean grid electricity.

- As part of the environmental protection and natural resource management program, more than 767,000 multi-purpose tree seedlings are raised and being planted across refugee camps and hosting community rehabilitation areas. Harvesting of eucalyptus woodlot is underway in refugee camps in Assosa (Benishangul-Gumuz region) to cover the cooking energy needs of refugees in the coming months.

## External / Donors Relations


### UNHCR is grateful for the contribution to the UNHCR Ethiopia Operation in 2022

United States of America| Japan| Netherlands |IKEA Foundation| Spain| Switzerland| Norway| European Union| Germany| Luxembourg| United Arab Emirates| South Korea| Denmark| Canada| Italy| Mastercard International Incorporated| UN Foundation| UN Children's Fund|

### Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2021

Sweden 77.6 million | Netherlands 37.2 million | Denmark 35.6 million | Germany 27.6 million | Switzerland 18.4 million | Belgium 11.9 million | Ireland 11.8 million

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### LINKS

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