



98,000

estimated newly arrived refugees in the Somali region

Population estimates provided by the authorities of Doolo zone, Somali Region.



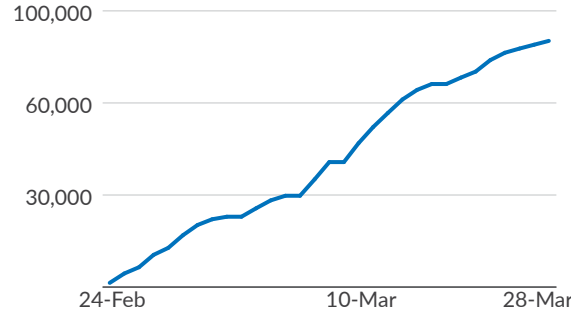
91,000*

newly arrived refugees pre-registered in the Somali region

Pre-registration is completed. Government (RRS) with the support of UNHCR are preparing individual registration.

Number of people pre-registered

(cumulative)



Inter-Agency Refugee Response Plan Emergency Appeal

Influx of refugees in the Somali Region of Ethiopia

February - December 2023

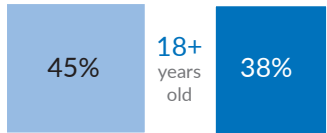


On March 22, UNHCR and partners released the **Inter-Agency Emergency Refugee Response Plan for the Influx of Refugees in the Somali Region of Ethiopia**. The plan requires **USD 116 million** to provide comprehensive and coordinated humanitarian assistance for **100,000** newly arrived refugees.

Age/Sex Breakdown

estimated based on pre-registration.

Female (54%) Male (46%)



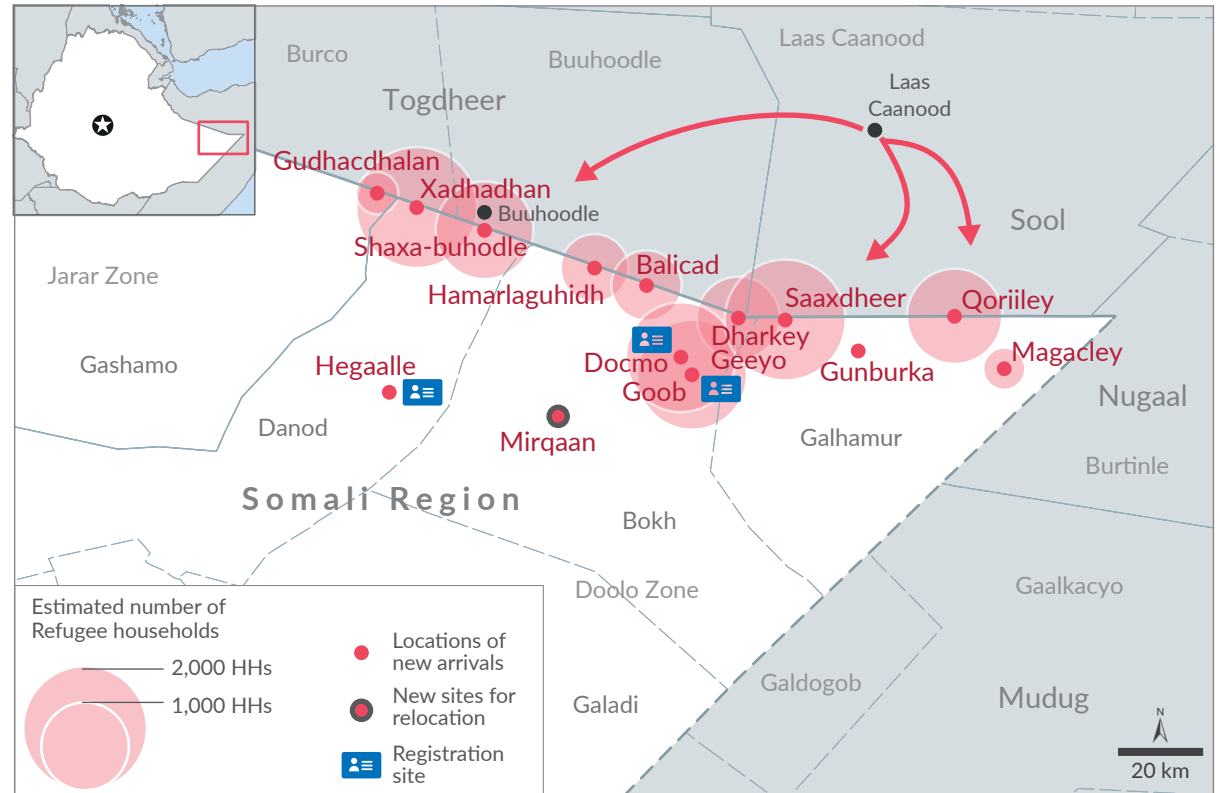
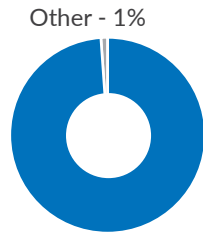
Gender of Head of Household

(pre-registration)




Ethnicity / Clan


(pre-registration)





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


Timeline of key events


- 


28 Mar
General Food Distribution (GFD) launched in Docmo and Goob sites by RRS-WFP and UNHCR. 4,000 individuals assisted. Persons with specific needs prioritized.
- 


27 Mar
Donor and Partner briefing by UNHCR Regional Bureau Director, UNHCR Representative in Ethiopia, UNICEF Regional Emergency Advisor, and OWS-DF Executive Director
- 


22 Mar
Interagency Appeal published requesting US\$116 million for the emergency response.
- 


14 Mar
Essential medication and supplies donated to Mirqaan health centre.
- 


13-14 Mar
High-energy biscuits and date bars distributed in several locations.
- 

1-4 Mar
RRS DG & UNHCR Representative undertake mission to Doolo zone.
- 

24 Feb
RRS and UNHCR begin the pre- registration of newly arrived families.
- 

20 Feb
20 trucks carrying critical relief items for 9,000 families received in Bokh.
- 

9-15 Feb
Multi-Sectoral Initial Rapid Assessment (MIRA)
- 

8 Feb
RRS DG, UNHCR Representative met with Somali Regional President in Jijiga.
- 

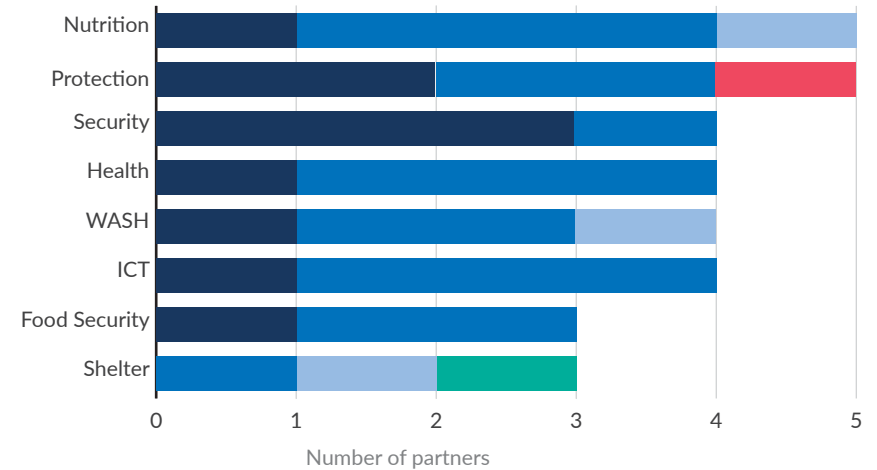
6 Feb
Refugees began to cross the border into Doolo zone.



GFD in Goob - March 28 ©UNHCR/Reverien M.

16 organizations responding in Doolo Zone





| | | |
|---|---------------------|-------------------|
|  | Government agencies | 6 Partners |
|  | UN agencies | 5 Partners |
|  | International NGOs | 3 Partners |
|  | Local NGOs | 1 Partner |
|  | Red Cross Movement | 1 Partner |

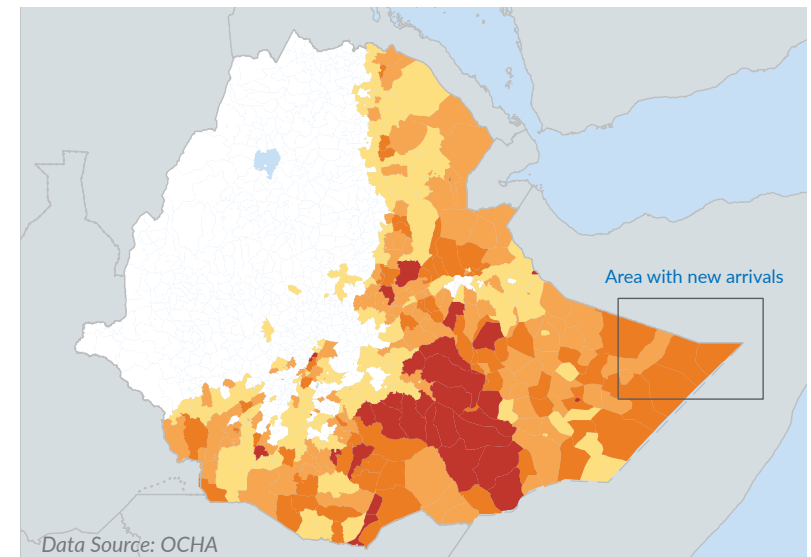


Drought

The area where refugees are settling is mostly identified as being **highly affected** by drought.

Drought Operational Prioritization

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
|  | Priority 3: Low |
|  | Priority 2b: Moderate |
|  | Priority 2a: High |
|  | Priority 1: Severe |



Challenges / Needs



Shelter

Refugees are living in overcrowded makeshift shelters with no privacy and are not protected from weather elements. Women and girls raised concerns about poor shelters in which they are living. Refugees staying in the sites close to the border shared security concerns following the resumption of tension on 18 March.

Response

WFP warehouse space, Reception area, communal shelters, sanitation corridors space for installation of emergency family tents, and water location completed. 5,000 tents delivered to Bokh. 300 tents to Mirqaan site (out of the 5,000) Setting up completed for 2 communal shelters. Excavation for the 1st latrine block in progress

Partners

UNHCR, NRC, SEE



Mirqaan site Clearance (20m width access)
©UNHCR/Silas Omondi



Installation of Family Emergency Tents
©UNHCR/Silas Omondi



Food Security

During GDF, refugees noted that a major challenge to receive food was the cost of transportation to reach the distribution site.

GFD program started in Docmo and Goob on 28-29 March 2023. So far 10,000 individuals received food.

RRS, WFP, UNHCR

A total of 52,404 individuals were provided with High Energy Biscuits (HEB) and Dates biscuits to address their immediate food needs.



Health

Referrals for refugees to secondary and tertiary facilities currently take up to 12 hours. Long distance and unaffordability of referral pathways to secondary healthcare facilities for refugees poses great challenges to their access to health.

Mobile Health and Nutrition teams treated 794 cases, with 291 cases involving children under 5 years old. The leading causes of morbidity varied between the three woredas, with Malnutrition, Pneumonia, and Acute febrile illness being the most common in Bokh and Galhamur, while URTI, UTI, and Gastritis were more prevalent in Danod.

Regional Health Bureau, UNICEF, WHO, UNHCR



WASH

WASH materials have not been prepositioned, which will hinder immediate response. No WASH start-up kit has been prepositioned. UNICEF has provided 4 bladders water tanks and emergency tap stands.

Prioritized response actions are identified and planned for the immediate, medium- and long-term responses. These include a borehole in Goob for water trucking, water system repair work at the Mirqaan health centre, and a controlled landfill site for Mirqaan.

Regional Water Bureau, UNHCR, MSF, UNICEF



Nutrition

The shortage of Targeted Supplementary Food Program (TSFP) supplies and other health issues may lead to malnutrition and other health issues. The well-being and survival of vulnerable refugees depend on these supplies for their basic nutritional needs.

Nutritional screening was conducted for 1,837 children under 5 years old across the three woredas, and the proportion of children with acute malnutrition was found to be 26.5% and Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) was 4%. All cases have been linked to (Targeted Supplementary Feeding Program) and OTP (Outpatient Therapeutic Program) services for treatment.

GOAL Ethiopia, Regional Health Bureau, UNICEF, WHO, UNHCR








Coordination & Operations

Long distances from/to Bokh, limited connectivity and lack of offices are hampering coordination and implementation of activities. There is scarcity of electricity and network connectivity.

Joint monitoring visit conducted by RRS, UNHCR and IOM in Galhamur woreda, in Turta and Saaxdheer on 28th March 2023 and by RRS, UNHCR, IOM and WFP in Buuhoodle to get a better understanding of the current situation at the border.

RRS, UNHCR

| | Priorities | Response | Partner(s) |
|---|--|--|--|
|  Access to asylum (Registration, RSD) | <p>Somali refugees affected by the conflict in Sool region in Somalia will be assisted in Bokh through the prima facie recognition. Those who are not originating from Sool will undergo individual interviews</p> <p>RRS successfully completed the pre-registration in the three identified sites, Goob, Hegaalle and Docmo. Following the pre-registration, individual biometric registration will be undertaken which will enhance accuracy and integrity of the refugee population.</p> | <p>A screening procedure for prima facie recognition will be conducted during the upcoming individual biometric registration and referral for individual interviews will be conducted for those not originating from Sool.</p> <p>Protection monitoring by RRS and UNHCR is ongoing in all key entry points to ensure that all new arrivals have access to asylum.</p> <p>A document outlining the process flow for individual biometric registration that takes into consideration the needs of the persons with specific need (PSNs) has been developed.</p> <p>Development of key messages for community sensitization on individual registration is also underway.</p> | <p>RRS</p> <p>RRS, UNHCR.</p> |
|  Education | <p>Reliable and quality data for school-going age children should inform planning. Education in Emergencies activities that encompass child protection and education should be initiated as early as possible - in preparation for integration.</p> | <p>A Doolo Zone education integration approach is planned.</p> <p>Joint education assessment tools and terms of reference for coordination are being developed in collaboration with the Regional Education Bureau.</p> | <p>Regional Bureau of Education, NRC, UNICEF, UNHCR.</p> |
|  Community-Based Protection | <p>Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) with different groups of new arrivals revealed the need to strengthen communication with communities on the registration process and available services.</p> <p>Many children and Persons with Specific Needs (PSNs) were unable to come to the pre-registration sites due to long distances and physical condition. Youths indicated that due to the conflict and destruction in Sool, they do not return in the near future and would consider Education and Livelihood as priorities.</p> | <p>Clear messages on available services and registration to be shared with communities, including host community leaders. In addition, identified leaders' capacity need to be strengthened on PSEA, fraud, and protection issues.</p> <p>Communication with communities is being strengthened and monitoring including with the support of local leaders/community-based structures for border sites is ongoing.</p> <p>Setting up of community structures will be formalized once the community moves to the settlement site.</p> <p>UNHCR and RRS are working with community members to identify extremely vulnerable PSNs and offer appropriate interventions.</p> | <p>Refugees, Host communities, The Bureau of Women and Social Affairs (BOWSA), RRS, UNHCR.</p> |
|  GBV/PSEA | <p>Identification and support to women and children at risk is ongoing.</p> <p>Community support systems and Gender-based Violence (GBV) prevention, mitigation, and response services need strengthening.</p> | <p>Education materials on the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) have been displayed in refugee locations.</p> <p>GBV response and prevention services through community groups, BOWSA and other partners will be initiated.</p> <p>UNHCR will collaborate with UNFPA and other partners to and support health centers with PEP kits and sexual and reproductive health.</p> | <p>Refugees, BOWSA, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNHCR.</p> |
|  Child Protection | <p>At least 3,423 unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) were identified during registration. The majority of identified UASC are currently staying with neighbors from Laascanood or adult friends of their families, temporarily hosted by local community members in the different locations in Doolo Zone, including schools, health centers. There is a need to initiate Best Interests Procedure (BIP) for alternative care, family tracing, and reunification purposes. ICRC is providing family tracing and reunification services to UASC.</p> | <p>ICRC is providing family tracing and reunification support.</p> <p>Series of meetings, with UNICEF and BOWSA conducted to increase partnership and leverage on capacities and opportunities. Social Welfare Officers to respond to and address the need of children at risk.</p> <p>SCI Ethiopia has expressed interest to establish a CPIE program.</p> | <p>BOWSA, UNICEF, SCI, ICRC, UNHCR</p> |