GOVERNMENT OF

# ETHIOPIA 2023 GRF

# PLEDGE PROGRESS REPORT

December 2025

# Acronyms

BIMS – Biometric Identity Management System
CRRF – Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework
CSS – Central Statistics Service
DRCS – Digital Request and Complaint System
ECA – Ethiopian Communication Authority
EMIS – Education Management Information System
GBV – Gender Based Violence
GCR – Global Compact on Refugees
GoE – Government of Ethiopia
GRF – Global Refugee Forum
ICS- Immigration and Citizenship Service
INGO – International Non-Governmental Organization
MiNT – Ministry of Innovation and Technology
MoA – Ministry of Agriculture
MoE – Ministry of Education
MoH – Ministry of Health
MoLS – Ministry of Labor and Skills
MoUI – Ministry of Urban and Infrastructure
MoWSA – Ministry of Women and Social Affairs
MRCTD - Machine-Readable Convention Travel Document
MYS – Multi-year Strategy
NGO – Non-Governmental Organization
NIDP – National ID Program
OSC – One-Stop-Centre
OSS – One-Stop-Shop
PPP – Public Private Partnership
QEP – Qualification and Employment Perspectives
RRS – Refugees and Returnees Service
RSD – Refugee Status Determination
SESRE – Socio-Economic Survey of Refugees in Ethiopia
SOP – Standard Operating Procedures
TVET – Technical and Vocational Education Training
UNHCR – United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

# Foreword

Ethiopia has long demonstrated a principled commitment to the protection and inclusion of refugees, guided by a strong tradition of hospitality and solidarity. Today, the country hosts one of the largest refugee populations in Africa, and the Government of Ethiopia continues to advance a progressive and forward-looking approach anchored in the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) and the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF). The pledges Ethiopia presented at the Global Refugee Forum (GRF) in 2023 reaffirm this commitment and chart a transformative path toward stronger national systems, expanded socio-economic opportunities, and resilient, inclusive development for both refugees and the communities that host them.

The 2025 Progress Report demonstrates Ethiopia's leadership by documenting concrete advances across all six pledges made in Geneva in December 2023, reflecting a comprehensive approach to protection, resilience, and durable solutions for refugees and host communities. Progress is evidenced in climate action; the transformation of Kebribeyah and Aysiata refugee camps into sustainable urban settlements; refugee inclusion in national systems; including statistics, digital ID registration, GBV response, secondary education, TVET, and employment; strengthened private sector engagement; expanded access to irrigable land for climate-smart agriculture; and enhanced digital connectivity supporting registration, documentation, access to socio-economic e-services, and standardized travel documents.

Notable results include the full integration of refugee secondary schools into regional systems, the enrolment of over 138,000 refugees into the national digital ID, the expansion of TVET access to more than 5,000 refugees and host community members, and significant advances in digital connectivity across 22 refugee-hosting locations. In parallel, major steps have been taken to strengthen private-sector engagement, expand renewable energy solutions, and advance sustainable human settlement models in protracted displacement areas, and laying the foundation for standardized travel documents.

These accomplishments have been made possible through strong collaboration between the Government of Ethiopia, regional and local authorities, development partners, UN agencies, civil society, donor governments, and most importantly refugees and host communities themselves. Continued partnership and predictable financing will be critical as Ethiopia accelerates implementation toward 2027.

As the country continues to pursue inclusive, sustainable development, the Government remains firmly committed to ensuring that refugees are meaningfully integrated into national systems and able to contribute to and benefit from Ethiopia's social and economic progress. This report reflects both the achievements to date and the collective resolve required to deliver on the promises of the GRF 2023 pledges.

# Summary


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# Executive summary

Ethiopia's 2023 Global Refugee Forum (GRF) pledges represent one of the most comprehensive national commitments to refugee inclusion and protection globally. Building on the Refugee Proclamation No. 1110/2019 and Ethiopia's leadership under the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) and CRRF, the six pledges prioritize long-term development solutions, strengthened national systems, and shared benefits for refugee and host communities. This 2025 Progress Report outlines substantial achievements to date, while highlighting the challenges, opportunities, and next steps toward realizing the 2027 targets.

**Inclusion in National Systems**: Major advances have been made across all five components of the inclusion pledge. Refugees have been systematically included into Ethiopia's Central Statistics Service (CSS) through national surveys, administrative systems, and inter-agency data-sharing agreements. The 2023 SESRE survey, covering 3,452 households, marked a milestone as the first refugee-specific dataset embedded in the national statistical cycle. A dedicated CSS Migration Department and Migration Data Management Working Group now anchor long-term institutional capacity.

In **GBV prevention and response**, Ethiopia expanded the reach and quality of services in refugee-hosting regions through upgrades to 16 One-Stop Centers (OSCs), the establishment of nine new facilities, and the training of over 115 service providers. The finalization of national GBV SOPs and Case Management Guidelines has improved standardization and strengthened survivor-centered care across regions.

The **National Digital ID Program (Fayda)** registered significant progress, with 271,110 refugees verified and 138,407 enrolled by October 2025 across 21 sites. The digital ID enables SIM registration, mobile money access, business licensing, and e-government services—representing a transformative shift in refugee access to the digital and formal economy.

In the **education** sector, 11 refugee secondary schools were fully integrated into regional systems, serving 19,581 students. Teacher payrolls, curriculum, and school budgets are now embedded within regional education management structures, supported by new classrooms, WASH improvements, and textbook supply.

In **TVET,** 5,883 new trainees were enrolled in 2024–2025, bringing 19.6 percent of the 30,000 target. The 2025 National TVET Strategy and MoLS–RRS MoU established a strong policy framework for refugee inclusion, while the new Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) framework enables certification of informal skills. The national Technical Coordination Platform (TCP) has improved alignment between training providers, private-sector actors, and government systems.

**Climate Action and Environmental Management**: Ethiopia advanced renewable energy and environmental restoration in refugee-hosting areas through a series of solar mini-grids, water pumping systems, and institutional power solutions. Installations include a 2 MW solar plant in Bokolmayo, a 254 kWp grid in Sheder, and multiple solar-powered boreholes and irrigation schemes. Tree-planting initiatives, aligned with the Green Legacy Program, resulted in 2.25 million seedlings planted.

**Human Settlements**: Progress in Aysaita (Afar) and Kebribeyah (Somali) demonstrates Ethiopia's commitment to transforming refugee camps into sustainable settlements. In Aysaita, 2025 focused on planning, spatial profiling, and climate-responsive housing design. Kebribeyah, advanced implementation across housing, water, roads, and service integration, piloting durable shelter models and expanding solar-powered water systems. Coordination platforms and strong municipal engagement anchor these gains.

**Private Sector Engagement and Economic Inclusion**: Ethiopia strengthened the enabling environment for private-sector engagement, particularly through the national Policy Dialogue on Financial Inclusion, which convened over 120 financial-sector stakeholders. As a result, seven major partnerships, with banks, fintech companies, agribusinesses, and clean-energy enterprises, have expanded financial inclusion and livelihood opportunities. A total of 4,561 new refugee businesses were launched, and 12,766 existing businesses strengthened, demonstrating growing commercial viability and absorption of refugee entrepreneurs into local markets.

**Access to Land and Climate-Smart Agriculture**: 1,208 hectares currently under cultivation with a total of 5,053 beneficiaries now participating in joint refugee–host farming schemes, with refugees representing 46 percent of participants and women making up an exceptional 77.7 percent of refugee farmers.1,400 individuals received training in climate-smart agriculture, supported by eight implementing partners.

**Digital Connectivity and Access to Documentation**: Significant digital infrastructure expansion occurred under the World Bank–funded EARDIP project, with equipment delivered to 22 camps and new towers and internet installations underway in 19 sites. The CISCO-supported Community Wi-Fi Project is ongoing to provide free access to more than 100,000 people. Ethiopia also completed its first nationwide Connectivity Needs and Usage Assessment [1]covering across 15 refugee-hosting locations,. Since 2017, under the leadership of Ethiopia's Immigration and Citizenship Services, civil registration services have been extended to refugees, resulting in the registration of 86,580 vital events since the system was launched. In parallel, the same authority has led foundational activities for the Machine-Readable Convention Travel Document (MRCTD) project, including drafting the enabling legal framework, designing the technical architecture, and developing a prototype, with the Refugees and Returnees Service (RRS) and UNHCR providing system development and technical support.

Across all six GRF pledges, Ethiopia has demonstrated strong political will, measurable progress, and a deep commitment to inclusive national development. Continued investments in infrastructure, data systems, human capital, and multi-stakeholder partnerships will be essential to sustain momentum toward the 2027 targets. The achievements to date underscore Ethiopia's leadership in advancing innovative refugee solutions that simultaneously strengthen national systems and promote shared prosperity.

1 CoNUA-Ethiopia.pdf

# Background

Ethiopia has long been recognized as a regional and global leader in refugee protection, inclusion, and responsibility-sharing. As an early champion of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) and an active contributor to the formulation of the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR), Ethiopia has consistently demonstrated a firm commitment to expanding protection space while promoting socio-economic inclusion for refugees and host communities. This commitment is reflected in its ambitious pledges, beginning with the 2016 Leaders' Summit and followed by the 2019 and 2023 Global Refugee Forums (GRF). Ethiopia's refugee and host community programmes are closely aligned with the African Union Migration Policy Framework and, in particular, IGAD regional frameworks, through comprehensive, development-oriented approaches that promote protection, self-reliance, resilience, and durable solutions across the Horn of Africa.

A major milestone in this journey was the adoption of Refugee Proclamation No. 1110/2019, which paved the way for deeper socio-economic inclusion of refugees. Building on this legal foundation, Ethiopia has implemented a substantial set of refugee inclusion measures over the past decade, made possible through strong partnerships between the Government of Ethiopia and its development partners. Since 2016, Ethiopia has implemented multi-sectoral initiatives to support refugees and host communities under the GCR and CRRF. World Bank (WB)–financed projects included DRDIP I & II, RHISN, EOP, Response–Recovery–Resilience, EARDIP II, National ID Program, Human Capital Project, and GEQIP-E AF, collectively addressing infrastructure, education, livelihoods, energy, NRM, digital connectivity, climate resilience, and refugee inclusion in national systems. Complementary multi-partner programs advanced livelihoods, education, protection, WASH, energy, governance, and food security. These included the Dutch Prospects Partnership (1.0 & 2.0) (IFC, ILO, UNHCR, UNICEF, WB), UNHCR/ReDSS/Mercy Corps/DRC initiatives, WFP agricultural and resilience programs, BSRP (UNICEF), IKEA Durable Solutions, RDPP (EU Trust Fund), SHARPE (FCDO/DAI), Danish CRRF support, and Sida/Danida livelihood programs. Energy and WASH interventions comprised ESDS, Enter Energy Ethiopia, AECID energy access, UNICEF/KfW WASH infrastructure, and Plan International's Sun Wash and Play Matters. Education and skills programs included ECW and QEP I & II (GiZ), while ARC-HOPE, Shire Alliance, CSAJP, UNDP Japan, and PRM addressed protection, governance, and resilience. Together, these initiatives demonstrate strong collaboration between the GoE, UN agencies, NGOs, bilateral partners, and IFIs, providing integrated support that promotes protection, self-reliance, resilience, and durable solutions for refugees and host communities.

Flagship initiatives such as the World Bank–financed Economic Opportunities Program (EOP), European Union, and the Netherlands' Prospects Partnership (PROSPECTS), as well as German-funded Qualification and Employment Perspectives (QEP) program have strengthened the legal, institutional, and programmatic environment for refugee employment, access to documentation, TVET opportunities, financial inclusion, and access to work permits and business licenses. In particular, the successful completion of the EOP, achieving all performance targets, demonstrates how coordinated investments and national policy reforms can unlock inclusive economic opportunities at scale.

Against this backdrop, Ethiopia made six ambitious pledges at the 2023 GRF on Climate Action, Human Settlements, Inclusion in National Systems, Private Sector Engagement, Access to Land, and Digital Connectivity and Documentation. These pledges represent one of the most comprehensive national commitments to refugee inclusion and protection globally, as they move beyond pilot initiatives to systemic transformation, aiming to embed refugee inclusion across institutional structures, national development plans, and sectoral strategies. The six pledges are coherently aligned with the objectives of the GCR and reflect a deliberate sequencing of responsibility-sharing, inclusion, and self-reliance.

Commitments on climate action, access to irrigable land, and climate-smart agriculture directly address environmental degradation, competition over natural resources, and climate-induced vulnerabilities in refugee-hosting areas. The human settlements pledge advances this objective by transforming selected camps into sustainable, climate-responsive settlements integrated into regional urban and development planning, thereby reducing parallel systems and strengthening local service delivery. Pledges on inclusion into national systems, private-sector engagement,

and digital connectivity are central to enhancing refugee self-reliance, expanding access to education, skills development, employment, financial services, and legal identity, while fostering market-linked livelihoods that benefit both refugees and host communities. Collectively, these measures lay the groundwork for expanded access to complementary pathways, reinforcing the GCR's objective of durable solutions.

At the center of Ethiopia's refugee inclusion agenda is the **Makatet Roadmap**, an overarching, whole-of-government five-year framework, supported by partners for the refugee inclusion and host community support. Now finalized and scheduled for launch, the Roadmap brings together progress achieved to date, ongoing initiatives, and GRF commitments within a single, coherent structure, providing the organizing framework for implementation across sectors and levels of government. Makatet aims to mainstream refugees into Ethiopia's socio-economic fabric with a focus on climate resilience and environmental protection, socio-economic inclusion, access to essential services, and durable solutions, thereby operationalizing Ethiopia's commitments under the GCR and reinforcing regional and national initiatives. The 2023 GRF pledges provided a clear impetus for the development of the Makatet Roadmap, positioning it as a practical blueprint to consolidate the country's broader commitments under the GCR.

In this context, this mid-term progress report takes stock of progress achieved to date, assesses remaining gaps and challenges, and sets out the strategic direction and priorities for the remaining implementation period, with a focus on translating commitments into sustained, system-level impact.

# GOVERNMENT OF ETHIOPIA 2023 GRF PLEDGES

# 01 Climate Action PLEDGE

Address the environmental impact resulting from hosting large number of refugees by planting 100,000,000 multi-purpose seedlings, executing environmental rehabilitation activities and providing alternative source of energy, including national grid and solar mini-grid connections. With this pledge Ethiopia also commits to include refugees to the National Adaptation Plan.

# Climate Action

## Pledge

*Address the environmental impact resulting from hosting large number of refugees by planting 100,000,000 multi-purpose seedlings, executing environmental rehabilitation activities and providing alternative source of energy, including national grid and solar mini-grid connections. With this pledge Ethiopia also commits to include refugees to the National Adaptation Plan.*

## Progress to date

Ethiopia has made significant strides in advancing its climate action pledge, particularly through pilot initiatives in refugee-hosting areas. Ethiopia has initiated tree-planting and ecosystem rehabilitation programs in refugee-hosting areas, aligning with its national Green Legacy Program. During the reporting period, a total of 4.15 million seedlings planted across the country out of the total expected 100 million by end of 2027. In relation to renewable energy, 2,128 streetlights installed out of the entire plan of the pledge (6,500) and a total of 23,523 hectares of land rehabilitated out of the total planned 20,000 hectares of land that showed the target meet with in the reporting period. 6,150 energy saving cooking stoves distributed and 2 refugee camps were connected with off grid system.

The key achievements on the Solar Mini Grid system include A 2 MW solar power plant in Bokolmayo Woreda (with planned extension to Bokolmayo camp), a large hybrid 254 kWp mini-grid at Sheder serving refugees and nearby host communities, and a 125-kW community-managed mini-grid in Kobe (operated by the Iftin Cooperative). Smaller but strategically important systems have also been utilized to power boreholes in Aysaita, water services at Aftit, a full health center in Nguenyyiel. These initiatives have reduced immediate pressure on biomass energy sources in pilot sites and enabled productive use that supports income generation. Renewables now power a range of services: institutional facilities (health centers, RRS and NGO premises), boreholes for clean water, and small irrigation schemes that support climate-smart farming. Moreover, refugee inclusion in national climate and adaptation planning is underway, with the National Adaptation Plan integrating refugee-specific considerations into strategies for climate-resilient agriculture, water management, and disaster preparedness.

## Challenges

- Minimal implementation of existing climate, energy, and environmental strategies in refugee-hosting areas.
- Low access to energy: only 7% of refugees have grid electricity and 3% off-grid solutions; 90% rely on firewood, contributing to deforestation and environmental degradation.
- Environmental stress exacerbated by refugee settlement pressures, including tree-cutting and land degradation.
- Women and girls face heightened risks of gender-based violence when collecting firewood in remote or unsafe areas.
- Insufficient financing to fully realize the 100 million seedlings target and expand renewable energy access.
- Limited integration of climate action with livelihoods, infrastructure, and local economic development in refugee areas.

## Table 1. Solar Mini-Grid Systems in Refugee Hosting Areas

| | Location / Camp | System Type | Power Capacity | Service Provided |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **1** | Melkadida Refugee Camp | Solar Mini-Grid | 30 kW | Solar-powered irrigation farming |
| **2** | Kobe Refugee Camp | Solar Mini-Grid | 125 kW | General camp services |
| **3** | Bokolmayo Woreda | Solar Power Plant (EEU) | 2 MW | Power for organizations, RRS, community, and NGO's premises |
| **4** | Aysaita Refugee Camp | Solar Panels for Boreholes | 13.5 kW, 18.9 kW, 13.5 kW | Water supply for three boreholes |
| 5 | Sheder Refugee Camp | Solar Mini-Grid | 254 kW | Energy for refugees and host communities |
| 6 | Aftit Refugee Site | Solar Grid | 43 kW | Completed construction for water borehole service |
| 7 | Nguenyyiel Refugee Camp | Solar Power | 10 kW | Powers the entire Health center |

## Opportunities

- Expansion of national green initiatives, including the Green Legacy Program, to refugee-hosting areas.
- High-potential pilot renewable energy projects provide scalable models for mini-grids, home systems, and solar cooperatives.
- Multi-stakeholder partnerships with UN agencies, development banks, private sector, and NGOs can accelerate renewable energy deployment and environmental restoration.
- Integration of climate-resilient livelihoods with energy access offers opportunities to generate sustainable economic activities for both refugees and host communities.
- Inclusion of refugees in the National Adaptation Plan ensures alignment of adaptation efforts with national development priorities and fosters long-term resilience.

## *Strategic Recommendations*

- Mobilize climate finance and technical support to operationalize the GRF climate pledge, including tree planting, renewable energy expansion, and resilient infrastructure development.
- Scale up pilot solar mini-grids, home systems, and cooperative models across refugee-hosting regions.
- Strengthen multi-stakeholder collaboration between RRS, UNHCR, government ministries, development banks, and private sector actors to integrate climate, humanitarian, and development objectives.
- Promote integrated climate-resilient livelihoods that benefit both refugees and host communities, linking renewable energy access with sustainable economic activities.
- Enhance monitoring and reporting mechanisms to track progress against the 100 million seedlings target and renewable energy access goals.

# 02 Human Settlement

## PLEDGE

**Transform selected refugee camps into sustainable urban settlements by enhancing the quality and availability of shelter, infrastructure, and public services, such as roads, electricity, water, sanitation, health, and education by aligning them with adjacent towns' masterplan, by 2027.**

# Human Settlement

## Pledge

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## Progress to date

The Human Settlement pledge targets two priority areas, Aysaita (Afar Region), a protracted refugee–host setting in a hot, climate-stressed corridor, and Kebribeyah (Somali Region), a 30-year urban–camp hosting over 27,000 refugees and 76,000 host communities. A tripartite UNHCR–RRS–UN-Habitat MoU ensures technical support, integrated planning, and coordination on both sites.

In **Aysaita**, foundational work in 2025 focused on planning and preparation for an integrated human settlement approach. A September Urbanization Roadmap Workshop brought together regional authorities, UN partners, NGOs, and refugee/host representatives to establish a shared vision around spatial development, socio-economic inclusion, institutional integration, and rights-based approaches. Key priorities included settlement spatial profiling, alignment with the town structural plan, harmonization of services between camp and town, and co-design of climate-responsive housing typologies. UN-Habitat prepared preliminary designs using earthbag, compressed stabilized earth blocks, and stone masonry, emphasizing compact forms, natural ventilation, and local materials. Prototypes will be piloted to assess feasibility, social acceptance, and costs, while owner-driven construction models aim to create skills and income opportunities for youth and women.

In **Kebribeyah**, implementation is underway via the Kebribeyah Refugee Inclusion Roadmap (2022–2027). Implementation has progressed across governance, housing, water, and service integration. Regional committees and technical platforms guide planning, informed by socio-economic and basic service assessments. Water infrastructure improvements include five deep boreholes with solar pumping systems and network connections to both town and settlement. A durable housing pilot block is under construction, and ARISR plans approximately 875 family houses, and solid waste management upgrades to formalize informal neighborhoods. Service integration into government systems is advancing, including primary health and education services, while gaps remain in education, WASH, electricity, and livelihoods. Aysaita remains at planning and design stage, whereas Kebribeyah serves as a "laboratory" for piloting housing, services, and governance interventions.

Ethiopia participated in the "Deep Dive on Sustainable Human Settlements in Fragility, Conflict, and Violence (FCV) Contexts" workshop in Nairobi, November 2025, co-organized by UNHCR, UN-Habitat, and the World Bank. The workshop convened governments hosting refugees and IDPs, alongside development partners, to explore practical, scalable approaches for sustainable settlement planning. Ethiopia shared its sustainable human settlement model, highlighting the transformation of refugee settlements into urban communities. The workshop emphasized that sustainable settlements extend beyond infrastructure, including governance, economic inclusion, climate resilience, and social services—foundations for moving from dependency to dignity. Ethiopia also learned from other countries on municipal leadership and innovative financing, including climate funds and private sector engagement. The country committed to incorporating these insights into settlement planning, regional coordination, and the national roadmap, advancing refugee settlement transformation through practical, scalable interventions.

## Challenges

- Climate and environmental constraints, including extreme heat, dust, low rainfall, and seismic vulnerability.
- Legal and HLP uncertainties delaying housing and infrastructure investments.
- Limited institutional capacity and coordination burdens at municipal and regional levels.
- Service gaps in education, WASH, and health.
- Livelihoods and affordability constraints for households.
- Infrastructure and financing risks, including high construction costs and declining humanitarian funding.
- Community transition and dependency concerns, requiring careful "no-regrets" sequencing.

## Opportunities

- High-potential pilot sites with pre-existing refugee-host co-existence.
- Strong policy frameworks and multi-stakeholder platforms support inclusion.
- Analytical work provides evidence for prioritization and scale-up.
- Climate-responsive, earth-based housing models create resilience and local jobs.
- HDP-nexus investments can be leveraged to accelerate human settlement interventions.
- Early engagement of women and vulnerable groups supports gender-responsive service design.
- Lessons learned emphasize integrated, area-based approaches, strong community engagement, and clear HLP arrangements.

### *Strategic Recommendations*

- Strengthen multi-stakeholder coordination at national and area levels.
- Consolidate analytical baselines and scale tested housing, water, roads, and waste models.
- Prioritize gender-responsive designs and targeted support for vulnerable groups.
- Advance legal and policy frameworks on HLP.
- Mobilize flexible, multi-year financing.
- Leverage climate-responsive, owner-driven housing to create youth and women employment pathways.

# 03

# Inclusion into National Systems

## PLEDGE

**Enhance the capacity of GoE to include 1,000,000 refugees into the national Central Statistics Service (CSS), the national Gender-Based Violence (GBV)prevention and response programs, 814,000 refugees into the national ID program, refugee secondary schools into the national system and 30,000 refugees and host communities in the TVET systems with 70% job opportunities by 2027.**

# Inclusion of Refugees into National Systems

## Pledge

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## Progress to date

**Central Statistics Service (CSS)**: The government has prioritized the inclusion of refugees within national surveys, administrative data systems, and planning instruments. A major milestone was the incorporation of refugees into national socio-economic surveys, beginning with the Refugee Economic Impact Survey (2022) and followed by the Socio-Economic Survey of Refugees in Ethiopia (SESRE) in 2023, implemented jointly with the World Bank. SESRE collected data from 3,452 refugee and host-community households across all major camps and urban locations, marking the first time refugees were systematically included in CSS's annual data collection cycle.

Institutional cooperation also deepened, with 12 government entities signing MOUs and Data Sharing Protocol on official migration and refugee data production and sharing, enabling refugee data inclusion at the national statistics services under the Ethiopia's national migration governance framework . Administrative data systems advanced considerably through the inclusion of refugee learners in the Education Management Information System (EMIS), providing government planners with reliable enrollment and performance statistics. To institutionalize these gains, the government established a Migration Department within CSS and created a Migration Data Management Working Group, enhancing long-term capacity for inclusive data management. Nonetheless, financial and technical resource gaps, particularly for large-scale survey implementation, continue to limit progress toward the one-million inclusion target.

**National GBV Prevention and Response Programs**: During the reporting period, Ethiopia advanced refugee inclusion in GBV prevention and response systems through institutional capacity, service delivery, and coordination. The government committed to upgrading 16 existing One-Stop Centers (OSCs) and establishing nine new ones in refugee-hosting regions. However, the government and partners were only able to be provided material support and capacity building training for service providers in OSCs in Asossa, Gambella and Afar. This includes provision of medical equipment, furniture, and other materials, and supplies essential for survivor-centered care as well as the training of around 115 service providers in OSCs. These interventions strengthened survivor-centered care for approximately 80 survivors (refugees) nationwide, improved coordination mechanisms, and advanced refugee inclusion in national GBV services.

Furthermore, National frameworks were strengthened through the finalization of the National GBV SOPs (2024) and GBV Case Management Guidelines (2025), marking a major step toward unified national standards that apply equally to refugees and host communities. Despite persistent gaps in staffing, referral pathways, and infrastructure, Ethiopia has built a measurable foundation for nationwide inclusive GBV service delivery.

**National ID Program (Fayda)**: The integration of refugees into Ethiopia's national digital ID system (Fayda) has progressed rapidly since the October 2023 Tripartite Data Sharing Agreement among NIDP, RRS, and UNHCR and the implementation of SOPs in early 2024. These arrangements formally embed refugees within the national identity ecosystem, improving access to services, mobility, protection, and economic participation. Across 21 operational sites, verification teams processed 271,110 refugees, of whom 138,407 individuals aged five and above were enrolled in the digital ID system. This includes 63,180 males and 75,227 females, demonstrating balanced gender coverage. Enrolment efficiency varied by location: urban sites such as Addis Ababa (Gulele) experienced faster progress due to strong connectivity, while remote areas in Somali, Afar, Gambella, and Benishangul-Gumuz required longer deployment due to access constraints and intermittent power supply.

A landmark inclusion measure was the enrolment of 7,200 host-community members in Melkadida and Gambella, advancing social cohesion and equitable service access. Ethiopia aims to enroll 814,000 refugees by June 2026, and current progress indicates strong institutional coordination and growing community acceptance. Continued focus on infrastructure, data governance, mobility challenges, and interoperability will be essential to maintaining enrolment momentum.

**Secondary Schools into Government Education Systems**: Ethiopia achieved a major milestone by fully integrating 11 refugee secondary schools into regional government education systems, meeting the pledge output related to education system inclusion. During the reporting period, these schools, across Benishangul-Gumuz, Somali, and Gambella, were transitioned to regional education bureau management, including payroll absorption for teachers, curriculum harmonization, and budget inclusion in planning processes. Integrated secondary schools served 19,581 students (13,480 male; 6,101 female), supported by improvements in water and sanitation, and textbook procurement through GEQIP-E school grants. In addition to the 11 secondary schools integrated into the national system, host community secondary schools in Ura, Benishangul-Gumuz, Gendewuha and Dabat, Amhara, and Bokh, Somali Regions have been expanded to accommodate the recent influx from Sudan and Lascaanood, Somalia.

**TVET Systems and Employment Opportunities**: Substantial progress has also been achieved in expanding refugee and host-community access to national TVET systems. In 2024–2025, Ethiopia enrolled 5,883 new trainees (3,095 women; 2,788 men) into accredited programs. This represents 19.61 percent progress toward the 30,000 targets by 2027. Training was delivered in ICT, construction, renewable energy, agro-processing, and hospitality across five regions, with implementation support from BMZ, ILO, NRC, FRC, PIE, and JRS. Phase two of the German-funded Qualification and Employment Perspectives program (QEP II) continued to expand inclusion of refugees and host communities in the national TVET system in close collaboration with MoLS, RRS, regional governments and TVET colleges. Thirteen public TVET colleges received equipment upgrades, trainer capacity building, and curriculum support to accommodate increased enrollment.

## Table 2. Refugee & Host Community Inclusion: Key Outcomes in Education and Livelihoods

| ***Indicator*** | **Baseline 2023 GRF report** | **Target (2027)** | **Achieved (Total)** | **Female** | **Male** | **Host Community (F/M)** | **Refugees (F/M)** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **TVET Trainees** | 14,529 | 30,000 | 5,883 | 3,095 | 2,788 | 1,617 / 1,446 | 1,478 / 1,393 |
| **Employment Outcomes** | 2,312 | 21,000 | 3,143 | 1,733 | 1,410 | 1,497 / 1,262 | 236 / 148 |
| **Secondary Schools integrations** | | 11 | 11 | NA | NA | NA | NA |

A major achievement was the rollout of Ethiopia's first verifiable employment tracking system, which recorded 3,143 employment outcomes (1,733 women; 1,410 men) during 2024–2025. This represents 14.96 percent of the 2027 overall goal. Employment outcomes were strongest in Somali Region and Addis Ababa, driven by strong private-sector partnerships and better market access. The launching of new TVET strategy by MoLS that has included refugees for the first time, the adoption of the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) framework and the signing of a MoLS–RRS Memorandum of Understanding further institutionalized refugee access to training and employment services. Progress during the reporting period was further strengthened by the establishment of the National Technical Coordination Platform (TCP) for the Inclusion of Refugees in the TVET System and Labour Market, a national multi-stakeholder mechanism co-led by MoLS and RRS.

## Challenges

- **CSS Inclusion**: Integrating refugees into Ethiopia's national statistical system faces methodological, institutional, and technical challenges, including non-random settlement patterns, specialized sampling needs, limited financial and technical resources, and capacity gaps within the Migration Department of the Central Statistical Service (CSS).
- **GBV System Inclusion**: Uneven presence and capacity of OSCs, especially in Somali and Melkadida; Persistent shortages of trained staff, medical supplies, and survivor kits; Weak referral pathways and high transport barriers in camp-based regions; Security constraints affecting access to GBV services
- **National ID**: FFrequent electricity and connectivity disruptions in remote camps; High population mobility complicates verification and enrolment; Security incidents and access constraints in border areas; Ongoing challenges in harmonizing humanitarian and national ID systems.
- **Secondary Schools & TVET Inclusion**: Severe infrastructure shortages, overcrowded classrooms, and workshop gaps; High living and transportation costs driving dropout rates; Limited number of qualified instructors and curriculum alignment challenges; Fragmented employment tracking systems across implementing partners; Documentation barriers limiting formal employment and certification.

## Opportunities

- Strong national legal and policy frameworks supporting refugee inclusion
- National GBV SOPs (2024) and Case Management Guidelines (2025) enabling harmonized service delivery
- Expansion of the digital identity ecosystem and growing partner support
- The 2025 National TVET Strategy institutionalizing refugee inclusion
- Recognition of Prior Learning framework enabling formal certification of refugee skills
- Expanding private-sector partnerships for apprenticeships and job placement
- Increased interest in sustainable development and climate financing for integrated services
- Growth of economic sectors such as ICT, renewable energy, and climate-smart agriculture
- Host-community service-sharing models strengthening social cohesion

## *Strategic Recommendations*

- **Statistic and Administrative Data**: develop a comprehensive system to integrate refugees into the national statistical system by establishing harmonized definitions and concepts aligned with EGRISS, IOM, and UNHCR standards, deploying interoperable ICT systems, and implementing a national digital platform for continuous refugee data reporting. This strategy should be supported by mobilizing technical and financial resources to modernize primary and administrative data systems, expanding capacity-building programs for CSS and RRS personnel, enforcing a national data quality assurance framework with strong legal and ethical safeguards, and facilitating the secure transition of refugee databases from UNHCR to RRS.
- **GBV Inclusion**: Scale GBV case management and clinical training for frontline personnel; Upgrade existing OSCs and establish new centers near major refugee populations; Formalize coordination through an inter-ministerial GBV MoU; Mobilize multi-year financing to address systemic resource gaps; and strengthen integrated referral systems and data-sharing platforms.
- **National ID**: Expand connectivity and power infrastructure in remote camps; Increase number of mobile enrolment and verification teams; Strengthen data governance, privacy safeguards, and interoperability; Enhance community engagement, especially targeting women and vulnerable households.
- **Secondary School and TVET System Inclusion**: : Operationalize the 2025 TVET Strategy with directives on refugee inclusion; Establish a unified national graduate employment-tracking system; Mobilize concessional financing for education infrastructure in integrated settings; Strengthen capacity of TVET administrators and regional labor bureaus; Expand apprenticeships and PPPs to meet the 70% employment target and Empower Refugee-Led Organizations and women-led cooperatives for community outreach and job matching.

# Private Sector Engagement

## PLEDGE

**Improve the enabling environment for private sector engagement and investment to foster socio-economic development and to boost productivity of refugee and hosting communities.**

# Private Sector Engagement

## Pledge

*Improve the enabling environment for private sector engagement and investment to foster socio-economic development and to boost productivity of refugee and hosting communities.*

## Progress to date

The pledge aims to reduce structural barriers to economic participation, promote financial and digital inclusion, expand livelihood opportunities, and build strong public–private partnerships (PPPs) that contribute to long-term economic resilience in refugee-hosting areas. The approach centers on unlocking private capital, strengthening enterprise development, and enhancing market linkages through collaborative engagement with government institutions, financial service providers, and the private sector.

Implementation of the pledge has demonstrated notable progress in establishing an enabling policy environment and accelerating partnerships with high-impact private sector actors. A major milestone was the Policy Dialogue Event on Advancing Financial Inclusion for Refugees, which convened more than 120 stakeholders, including the National Bank of Ethiopia, RRS, commercial banks, microfinance institutions, fintech providers, and development partners. This high-level engagement addressed regulatory constraints and positioned financial inclusion as a core pillar for refugee economic participation. Discussions catalyzed momentum for designing more inclusive financial products and reinforced the government's commitment to leveraging digital ID systems to support formal access to financial services.

The environment created through this dialogue has facilitated the strengthening and initiation of seven major private sector partnerships, including collaborations with Shabelle Bank, Inkomoko, Elebat Technologies, Kifiya Financial Technology, Sahel Agriculture, MIRAMAR Foundation, and Humanitarian Energy (HumEn). These partnerships have contributed to expanded financial access, business support services, climate-smart agricultural livelihoods, and clean energy alternatives. Stronger alignment between the Right to Work Directive, digital identity rollout, and private sector service delivery has also resulted in significant improvements in refugee financial inclusion.

A major achievement under the pledge has been the launch of 4,561 new refugee-owned businesses, supported by targeted advisory services, financial literacy training, and facilitated market access. In addition, an impressive 12,766 existing refugee and host community businesses have been strengthened through coaching, business development support, and access to networks, bringing total enterprise support to 17,327 businesses. These gains reflect a growing absorption of refugee entrepreneurs into local markets and demonstrate the commercial viability of targeted private sector engagement. Partnerships with local enterprises have also led to increased job placements in wage employment, complementing self-employment pathways and helping to diversify livelihood options in areas where market size and formal employment remain limited.

## Challenges

- Persistent funding gaps constrain the scale-up of enterprise-support programs and limit the expansion of high-impact private sector initiatives.
- Refugees continue to face major barriers to accessing credit and higher-value financial products due to lack of collateral, limited credit history, and risk perceptions among financial institutions.
- Broader private sector investment in refugee-hosting areas remains low, driven by small local markets, limited absorption capacity, and restricted formal employment opportunities.
- Poor physical and digital infrastructure, including roads, electricity, and connectivity, raises the cost of doing business and limits financial institutions' ability to reach remote communities.

## Opportunities

- Growing collaboration with financial institutions and the National Bank of Ethiopia offers possibilities to co-design de-risked financial products such as loan guarantees or revolving credit facilities.

- Strong PPP momentum and demonstrated commercial success create a compelling case for new investment from additional private sector actors.
- Scaling partnerships with training institutions and enterprises can help align vocational and skills programming with market demand and employment absorption capacity.
- Expanding blended finance approaches, combining donor support, government commitments, and private capital, could unlock infrastructure investments needed for economic growth.

## *Strategic Recommendations*

- Advocate for the establishment of de-risking mechanisms, including credit guarantees and blended finance instruments, to encourage investment in refugee- and host-led enterprises.
- Pilot tailored financial products for refugee and host community SMEs through partnerships with banks, MFIs, and fintechs, moving beyond basic accounts to credit and growth financing.
- Strengthen the skills ecosystem by linking training providers with private sector partners to ensure that training outcomes match the needs of local value chains and labor markets.
- Improve documentation of partnership outcomes to develop evidence-based investment cases and demonstrate the commercial viability of refugee-inclusive business models.
- Mobilize donor funding to support infrastructure upgrades, energy, irrigation, transport, digital connectivity, which are prerequisites for attracting meaningful private sector investment.

# 05 Access to Land for Agricultural livelihoods

## PLEDGE

**Provide access to 10,000 hectares of irrigable land through lease arrangements and promote climate-smart agriculture and livestock value chain contributing to improved food security and socio-economic empowerment of refugees and host communities of which at least 50%being women and 30% refugees.**

# Access to land for Agricultural Livelihoods

## Pledge

*Provide access to 10,000 hectares of irrigable land through lease arrangements and promote climate-smart agriculture and livestock value chain contributing to improved food security and socio-economic empowerment of refugees and host communities of which at least 50%being women and 30% refugees.*

## Progress to date

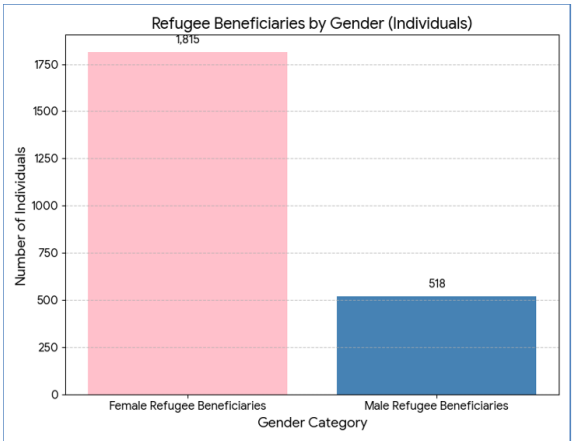
Implementation of the pledge has achieved notable momentum, particularly in securing land access, establishing inclusive farming groups, and exceeding core inclusion benchmarks. As of 2025, only 1,208 hectares are currently cultivated due to funding constraints, the allocation itself demonstrates strong political will and the physical availability of productive land for scale-up.

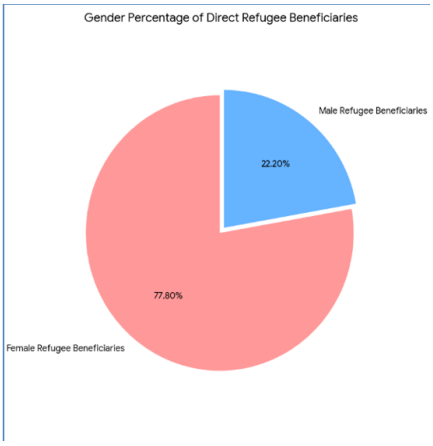
A total of 5,053 individuals are directly benefiting from farming activities on the cultivated land. The joint refugee–host farming model has proven highly effective, delivering tangible economic gains while strengthening social cohesion. Notably, 2,586 host community members are participating alongside 2,333 refugees, illustrating a balanced and cooperative approach that aligns with both local development and inclusion priorities.

Refugee participation stands at 46.17%, significantly surpassing the 30% target set under the pledge. Gender inclusivity has also been a major achievement. Among all refugee participants, 1,815 are women, representing an exceptional 77.71% of refugee beneficiaries. This level of women's participation is a defining strength of the program, reflecting targeted measures to ensure equitable access to productive assets and climate-smart agricultural opportunities.

Capacity development has been a key enabler of this progress. A total of 1,418 farmers have received training in climate-smart agricultural practices, including 628 women and 790 men. Training reached 1,275 refugees (558 women and 717 men) and 143 host community members (70 women and 73 men). These investments in human capital have enhanced productivity, fostered gender equity, and improved uptake of sustainable farming methods, particularly drip irrigation and water-efficient techniques in water-scarce areas.

Implementation is being carried out by eight partners—including ZOA, Mercy Corps, Norwegian Church Aid, Norwegian Refugee Council, Good Neighbors Ethiopia, MIRAMAR Foundation, and Sahel Agriculture—contributing to technical support, community mobilization, input distribution, and agribusiness development. The effectiveness of these partnerships, combined with strong engagement from local authorities, has positioned the program as one of Ethiopia's most promising models for shared economic development between refugees and host communities.



## Challenges

- Critical shortages in agricultural inputs (seeds, fertilizers, tools) and extension services impede scale-up.
- Insufficient irrigation and agricultural infrastructure: Limited investment in irrigation systems, storage facilities, and water management infrastructure.
- Funding shortfall: Resource mobilization has not kept pace with land allocation, slowing progress toward the 10,000-ha target.
- Weak private sector engagement: Private agricultural investors and off-takers remain reluctant due to perceived risks and lack of de-risking mechanisms.

## Opportunities

- Strong political will: Local authorities have already allocated the pledged land area, demonstrating commitment to further expansion.
- High-performing cohesion model: The successful joint farming approachoffers a proven model for social cohesion and economic cooperation.
- Gender leadership potential: Female refugee participation is providing a strong foundation for women-led agricultural enterprises.
- Technical readiness: Eight active implementing partners and ongoing climate-smart agriculture training contribute to rapid scale-up potential.
- Alignment with national and donor priorities: Climate-smart agriculture, food security, and livelihoods align with Ethiopia's development plans and donor funding streams (e.g., green economy, resilience financing).

### *Strategic Recommendations*

- Mobilize immediate funding to operationalize and unlock the pledged 10,000 hectares.
- Prioritize investment in inputs, irrigation systems, and storage facilities to expand cultivated area rapidly.
- Scale the joint farming model to additional locations, leveraging its proven success in strengthening social cohesion and shared economic benefits.
- Strengthen private sector engagement by promoting de-risking tools such as guarantees, co-investment facilities, and offtake agreements.
- Preserve the gender gains by institutionalizing women's participation targets in all expansion plans and ensuring adequate support for women farmers.

# 06

# Digital Connectivity & Access to Documentation

## PLEDGE

**Enhance digital infrastructure in refugee hosting areas to facilitate refugee inclusion to the digital economy including digitally enabled livelihood opportunities and financial inclusion as well as to foster their access to social-economic e-services, including standardized travel documents.**

# Digital Connectivity and Access to Documentation

## Pledge

*Enhance digital infrastructure in refugee hosting areas to facilitate refugee inclusion to the digital economy including digitally enabled livelihood opportunities and financial inclusion as well as to foster their access to social-economic e-services, including standardized travel documents.*

## Progress to date

**Digital Infrastructure**: Between 2024 and late 2025, Ethiopia transitioned from planning to large-scale implementation of digital infrastructure in refugee-hosting areas, led primarily by the Eastern Africa Regional Digital Integration Project (EARDIP–SOP II), effective from February 2025. The project enabled the procurement of digital equipment for 22 refugee camps and initiated internet service delivery and new telecom installations in 19 camps across regions such as Gambella and Somali. Parallel investments included upgrading cellular towers in 15 refugee-hosting areas through the Universal Access Fund, preparations for computer labs in 20 secondary schools and five universities, and implementation of the CISCO–UNHCR–RRS Community-Facing Wi-Fi Project. With equipment already in-country and tower procurement underway, this initiative is expected to provide free community Wi-Fi to more than 100,000 refugees and host community members when operational in 2026.

A major institutional and policy breakthrough accompanied these infrastructure investments. In November 2025, the Connectivity Needs and Usage Assessment (CoNUA), the first comprehensive baseline on digital access was conducted across 15 refugee and host community locations in Ethiopia to evaluate access to digital devices, SIM registration, phone usage, network coverage, and barriers to connectivity. The study found that while nine out of ten respondents had access to a mobile phone, only half owned a smartphone, with significant gaps by gender, age, and literacy. SIM card registration was uneven, particularly affecting women and those without formal identification, leading some refugees to rely on informal channels. Phone use was primarily basic, and digital literacy remained low, with marginalized groups disproportionately affected. Infrastructure and energy constraints limited network and charging access, while cost, skills, coverage gaps, and quality were major barriers, highlighting the need for targeted interventions to improve digital inclusion for both refugees and host communities.

At the same time, Ethiopia scaled up digital refugee documentation through the Fayda National ID system, supported by the 2023 Tripartite Data Sharing Agreement, resulting in the verification and enrolment of over 70,000 refugees across 19 sites by October 2025 and enabling legal SIM registration, access to financial services, and e-government services. To coordinate these efforts, the government launched the Connectivity and Digital Inclusion Working Group in 2025, bringing together state institutions, telecom providers, international partners, and donors, and establishing the primary platform for implementing Ethiopia's digital inclusion commitments.

**Documentation**: Since 2017, Ethiopia has extended civil registration services to refugees, resulting in the registration of a total of 86,580 vital events over the past decade. These records include 67,568 registered births, 384 cases of death, 16,901 Marriages, and 1,096 cases of divorce. Overall, the data illustrate Ethiopia's efforts to integrate refugees into the national civil registration system, with birth and marriage registrations constituting the majority of recorded events.

The Government of Ethiopia achieved significant milestones in enhancing and establishing robust legal and institutional frameworks for the comprehensive management of refugee status determination (RSD). In 2025, a new RSD directive was issued, outlining procedural standards, and providing detailed guidance for the implementation of RSD processes. Furthermore, an independent appeal hearing council was successfully relaunched and operationalized. The council has developed and formalized an internal rule of procedure to guide the facilitation of appeal hearings. A total of 1199 individuals have undergone RSD processing in the last two years.

Significant foundational progress has been also made regarding the roll-out of **Machine-Readable Conventional Travel Document (MRCTD)** for refugees. ICS finalized the updated Legal and Institutional Framework (amendment to Regulation No. 114/2004) and submitted it to the Council of Ministers. The system architecture and technical specifications were completed in full compliance with ICAO Doc 9303 (Standard 3.12), and an electronic (e-MRCTD) prototype was developed.

A zero-draft Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) and a detailed budget proposal for the remaining implementation work were prepared jointly by ICS, RRS, and UNHCR. Discussions to establish a formal data-sharing protocol between the three entities are actively ongoing. The prerequisite national digital ID (Fayda) system integration has been finalized, a critical step for MRCTD issuance. However, the full funding required for system procurement and operational rollout is not yet secured. This remains the primary constraint preventing the transition from advanced preparation to implementation and service delivery to refugees, asylum seekers, and stateless persons. ICS, RRS, and UNHCR are jointly preparing the detailed budget proposal and fundraising concept note; drafting the MRCTD issuance SOPs; initiating discussions on the data-sharing protocol.

**Digital Employment and Financial Inclusion:** Through strategic private sector partnerships, significant progress has been made toward enhancing refugee economic inclusion via digital means. Government and partners have successfully facilitated access to digital financial services for 2,586 refugees, mobilizing an investment of $2,595,000. This achievement demonstrates strong commitment to the financial access component of the pledge, ensuring a foundation for broader economic participation. While financial inclusion is robust, progress in direct digital employment requires further scaling. We successfully placed three refugees in sustainable digital jobs, including roles in remote data entry, virtual customer support, and e-commerce through global marketplaces. Though these placements represent success stories in utilizing digital skills for livelihood generation (e.g., freelancing and remote work), the low number highlights a critical need to increase investment in advanced digital skills training (e.g., coding, digital marketing) and to expand the network of private sector partners to better expand for digital job creation and placement.

## Challenges

- Significant infrastructure gaps persist, including inadequate broadband coverage, limited ICT equipment, and unreliable power supply affecting digital service delivery.
- Limited digital skills and insufficient access to training constrain meaningful use of digital platforms and services.
- High costs of smartphones and mobile data, along with SIM registration barriers, restrict access to mobile connectivity and online services.
- Lack of digital services tailored to refugee needs reduces adoption and effective usage.
- Resource constraints hinder the operational rollout of MRCTD initiatives and investment in advanced digital skills training, as well as limit the availability of a sufficiently skilled RSD workforce.

## Opportunities

- Ethiopia's national digital policies, CSS reforms, and Fayda ID rollout provide a strong foundation for refugee digital inclusion, improving access to services, social protection, and the digital economy.
- Major infrastructure investments under EARDIP and complementary projects expand connectivity and create scalable models like community Wi-Fi and connected centers.
- Digital transformation and improved data interoperability enhance coordination, planning, and monitoring across agencies.
- Growing private-sector engagement (Ethio Telecom, Safaricom, CISCO) introduces investment, innovation, and opportunities for digital financial services, e-learning, GBV documentation, and livelihoods.
- A collaboratively prepared budget, finalized SOP, and data-sharing protocol establish a robust multi-agency framework that de-risks donor investment and institutionalizes efficient digital service delivery for refugees, asylum seekers, and stateless persons

## Strategic Recommendations

- Accelerate digital infrastructure rollout in low-connectivity camps and expand access to smartphones through subsidies, micro-financing, or telecom partnerships.
- Scale digital skills programs, with targeted support for women, youth, and first-time internet users, and establish fully equipped connected centers for learning, livelihoods, and e-services.

- Strengthen agent networks to facilitate SIM registration, mobile money services, and device repair across all camps.
- Enhance interoperability between digital ID, registration systems, and service delivery platforms, supported by multi-stakeholder coordination through the Digital Inclusion Working Group.
- Develop a multi-year financing strategy and mobilize donor co-investment to sustain infrastructure, device access, and digital capacity-building, enabling Ethiopia to operationalize its sovereign capacity to serve refugees, asylum seekers, and stateless persons.

# Strategic outlook and Priorities

Building on the progress achieved since the 2023 GRF, GoE will focus the remaining two years of the pledge period on consolidating gains, addressing implementation gaps, and accelerating delivery through a more integrated and sequenced approach. The focus will be on strengthening implementation, enhancing complementarity across pledges, and translating commitments into coherent and mutually reinforcing actions that deliver tangible and sustainable outcomes for refugees and host communities.

**Consolidating progress**: GoE will build on the foundations laid during the first half of the pledge period by prioritizing operationalization, expansion, and sustainability. Where pilots have demonstrated results, efforts will focus on scaling these interventions in a phased manner, aligned with national systems and development plans. This approach will ensure that early investments translate into durable and system-level impact rather than remaining isolated initiatives.

**Pledge Complementarity**: Recognizing the interdependence of the six GRF pledges, the GoE will strengthen alignment across their implementation. Actions under one pledge will be designed to reinforce and enable progress under others, reducing fragmentation, optimizing resource use, and ensuring delivery contributes to collective outcomes.

**Prioritization and Phased Approach**: Given resource constraints and varying enabling conditions across sectors and locations, the GoE will adopt a strategically phased approach, prioritizing foundational actions that enable subsequent interventions and generate catalytic effects across multiple pledges.

**Area-based approach/initiatives**: GoE will increasingly anchor implementation in area-based plans to ensure interventions are context-specific and responsive to local priorities.

**Makatet and its coordination mechanisms**: Implementation over the next two years will be further structured through the Makatet Roadmap, which provides an overarching framework for multi-sectoral refugee inclusion and host community support. Existing coordination platforms at federal and regional levels will be leveraged and, where necessary, strengthened to improve planning, prioritization, and accountability.

Guided by these approaches, a work plan will be developed to guide the implementation of the GRF pledges in the next half of the current GRF cycle (2026-2027).

# Partners Supporting the Pledge Implementation

**Climate Action**

- Government Agencies: RRS, MoA, Ethiopian Electric Utility (EEU), Ethiopian Forestry Development, Environmental Protection Authority, Regional/local agriculture and environment bureaus, Natural Resource Development and Environmental Protection,
- Donors: Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), La Caixia Foundation, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), European Union Trust Fund (ETUF), Netherlands (Prospect Partnership), World Bank, and IKEA, Foundation
- UN Agencies: UNDP, UNHCR
- NGOs: ZOA, ANE, Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli (CISP), GNE, AHA, Women and Pastoralist Youth Development Organization (WaPydo), Save the Environment (SEE), and Mercy Corps.
- Private Sector: Development Alternatives Incorporated (DAI)

**Human Settlement**

- Government Agencies: RRS, MoUI, Regional Government, regional sectorial Bureau (RWB, RHB, Regional Urban Bureas
- Donors: The Government of Netherlands, EU-INTIPA, GIZ
- UN Agencies and NGOs: UNHCR, UN-Habitat, UNICEF, ILO, World Bank, NRC, OSD, SEE
- Private Sector: IFC, under research and feasibility

**Inclusion of Refugees into National Systems**

- Government Agencies: RRS, MoWSA, BoWCA, BoLSA, MoJ, BoJ, MoH, and BoH
- Donors: Netherlands, Switzerland, German Development Cooperation (BMZ, implemented by GIZ), Irish Aid, EU and the World Bank
- UN Agencies and NGOs: UNHCR, UNFPA, UNICEF, IRC, DRC, IMC, NRC, Plan International, HelpAge, Save the Children, and RADO

**Private Sector Engagement**

- Government Agencies: RRS, National Bank of Ethiopia (NBE), line ministries
- Donors and Partners: German Development Cooperation (BMZ, implemented by GIZ), ILO, UNHCR, World Bank, and others
- Private Sector: Shabelle Bank, Inkomoko, Elebat Technologies, Kifiya Financial Technology, Sahel Agriculture, MIRAMAR Foundation, (HumEn), and other enterprises

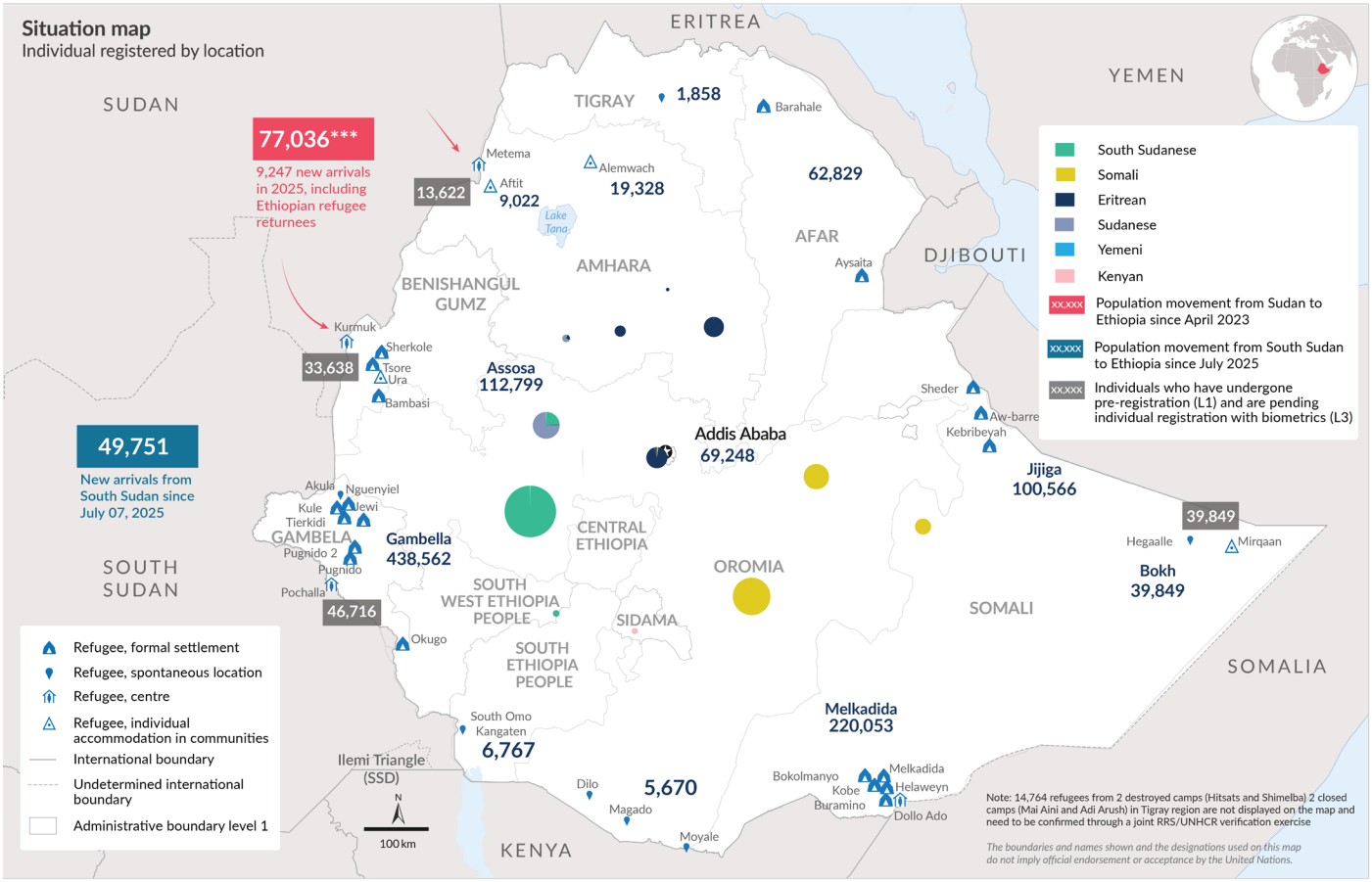
**Access to Land for Agricultural Livelihoods**

- Government Agencies: RRS, Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Bureaus of Agriculture
- UN Agencies UNHCRNGOs: ZOA, Mercy Corps, GNE, NCA.
- Private Sector: IFC, MIRAMAR Foundation, and Sahel Agriculture

**Digital Connectivity & Access to Documentation**

- Government Agencies: RRS, MiNT, ECA, MoE, and the National ID Project (NIDP), ICS
- International and Development Partners: UNHCR, WB, ITU, and the GSM Association (GSMA).
- Public & Private Sector and Technology Providers: Ethio Telecom, Safaricom, and CISCO
- Donor Governments: The Governments of the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Spain, and Japan..

# Map of Ethiopia's Refugee Response




*Among the total 105,407 asylum seekers, 9,750 are pending individual Refugee Status Determination (RSD) procedures, the remaining 95,657 are pre-registered (L1) and categorized as 'asylum seeker'

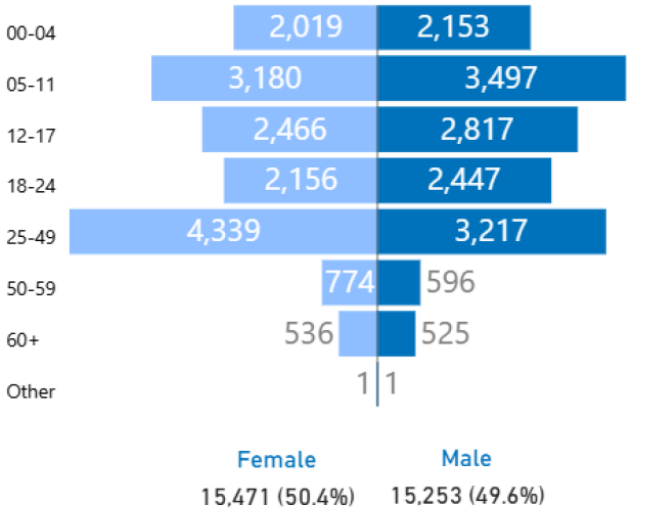
***Sudan Emergency: arrivals in need of international protection from April 2023 to October 2025, Level 1 (L1) pre-registration figures. A total of 77,036 individuals pre-registered, including 45,118 Sudanese, 10,708 other nationalities, and 21,210 Ethiopian refugee returnees.

**Update date:** 13 November 2025 **Sources:** UNHCR, RRS, UNCS, CSA Ethiopia **Author:** UNHCR - CO Ethiopia **Feedback:** IM unit Addis Ababa, ethadim@unhcr.org

# Aysaita Refugee Camp Profile

| 2007 | 30,739 | 1,195 | 16,132 (52.5%) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Year of Opening | Total Number of Eritrean Refugees (April 31,2025) | No. of Transitional Shelters | Of the total population are children, of which 8,346 (52%) are girls |

Age Gender Distribution of Refugee Population in Aysaita Camp




## OVERVIEW

Established in 2007, Aysaita Camp is one of two refugee camps in the Afar region. With the reopening of the border between Ethiopia and Eritrea on 1 September 2018, the number of Eritreans crossing to Ethiopia to seek refuge has increased. However, the influx of Eritrean refugees declined considerably from 2020 onwards, after the Refugee and Returnee Services (RRS) introduced a new screening and refugee status determination procedure regarding Eritreans, shifting away from prima facie recognition. Following the spreading of the Tigray conflict to the Afar region in October 2021 and the attack on the Berhale refugee Camp in January 2022, secondary movements of refugees in the region were observed, leading to the opening of the Serdo refugee camp some forty kilometers from Semera. Around 150 refugees made their way to the Aysaita Camp. With the closure of the Serdo Camp in January 2024, around 1,500 refugees living there opted to relocate to Aysaita. It is worth noting that over 50% of registered Eritrean refugees in the Afar region have never resided in refugee camps and live within host communities due to close cultural ties.

### GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

| | |
|---|---|
| Country | Ethiopia |
| Region | Afar |
| Zone | Awsi /Zone 1 |
| Woreda | Aysaita |
| Responsible Office | Aysaita FU |

### INFRASTRUCTURE

| | |
|---|---|
| Primary Health & Reproductive Health Centre | 01 |
| Early childhood care and Development Centre | 01 |
| Water Points | 32 |
| Security Post | 5 |
| Child-friendly spaces | 02 |
| Protection Desks | 01 |
| Number of latrines | 383 |
| Boreholes | 02 |

### PPARTNERS (6)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| PROTECTION & SOLUTIONS | RRS & UNHCR | DICAC | |
| LIVELIHOODS | OSD | | |
| WASH | MTI | | |
| HEALTH | NRC & public health care inclusion | | |
| EDUCATION | EDUKANS, RRS to take over starting from July 2025 | | |

ETHIOPIA

# Kebribeyah site profile

As of June 2025

## OVERVIEW

Established in 1991, Kebribeyah Refugee Camp is one of the oldest camps in the Jijiga Operation, situated 54 km northwest of Jijiga town. It was opened to host Somali refugees fleeing the civil war after the collapse of Somalia's central government. The settlement currently hosts 20,402 refugees, the majority being women and children, mainly from South and Central Somalia. In 2008, UNHCR launched a large-scale resettlement program, relocating nearly half of the settlement's population to third countries, primarily the United States. Today, the Refugees and Returnee Service (RRS), in collaboration with UNHCR and partners, continues to provide protection and assistance, with efforts directed toward empowerment, durable solutions, and socio-economic inclusion. The Kebribeyah Roadmap, complemented by a Memorandum of Understanding with the regional government, as well as national inclusion policies guides these initiatives.

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Current population | **20,402** individuals<br>**3,433** households |
| Absorption capacity<br>Occupation level | 20,402 individuals<br>100% |
| Opening date | February 1991 |
| Area | 540 hectares |
| Region \| Zone \| Woreda \| Kebele | Somali \| Fafan Zone \| Kebribeyah \| Kebribeyah |
| Woreda population | 120,000 individuals |
| Kebele population | 30,008 individuals |
| Longitude | 43.1756992719771 |
| Latitude | 9.0983732797028 |
| Distance from the border (in kms) | 30 kms |
| Name of the nearest urban center and distance | Jijiga Capital City: 54kms |
| Internet connectivity | 3G/4G |
| Connected to national grid | Yes |
| Distance to national electric grid (in kms) | 1 kms |
| Drought affected | No |

## WHO DOES WHAT

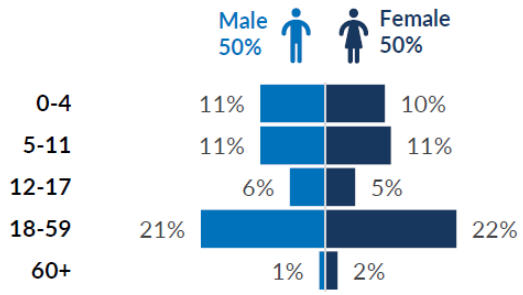
| | |
|---|---|
| Total # Organizations | 17 |
| # government actors | 2 |
| # UN agencies | 4 |
| # International NGOs | 4 |
| # National NGO | 4 |
| #Development actors | 3 |
| **Organizations per sector** | |
| Coordination | SRS, RRS, UNHCR |
| Protection | RRS, UNHCR, LWF |
| GBV and SRH* | UNHCR, DICAC |
| Child Protection | IRC |
| Education | SRS, DICAC, IRC, EDUKANS |
| Shelter / NFI | SEE |
| Livelihood | World Bank, ILO, ZOA, INKOMOKO, GIZ, EDUKANS |
| Health | SRS, OWDA |
| WASH | SRS, NRC, UNICEF, GIZ |
| Food Security | WFP, NRC |
| Nutrition | OWDA |
| Logistics & Warehousing | UNHCR |

*GBV and SRH: Gender-Based Violence and Sexual and Reproductive Health

## COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION AND PERSONS WITH SPECIFIC NEEDS

| | |
|---|---|
| # of refugee committees existing in the site | Four (5) committees |
| • Refugee Central Committee (RCC): **20 members (10m, 10f)**<br>• Women Association: **20 members**<br>• Disability Association: **15 members (8m, 7f)**<br>• Youth Association: **20 members (10m, 10f)**<br>• Religious Leaders: **10 members (10m)** | |
| # active participants (male and female) in leadership/ management structures | 85 |
| # active female participants in leadership/ management structures | 47 |
| % active female participants in leadership/ management structures | 55 % (Standard : 50%) |
| # of unaccompanied and separated children | 74 |
| # of persons with disability | 474 |

## DEMOGRAPHIC




**78%** Women & Children

**54%** Children (0-17 years)

**42%** Adults (18-59 years)

**3%** Elderly (60+ years)

### Country of origin

- Somalia: **20,399 (99.9%)**
- Other of Concern: **3 (<1%)**