



ETHIOPIA FACTSHEET

August 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

728,070 Total number of refugees	73,173 Number of Unaccompanied Minors and Separated Children	49.7% Percentage of women and girls	53% Percentage of Children
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Population of concern

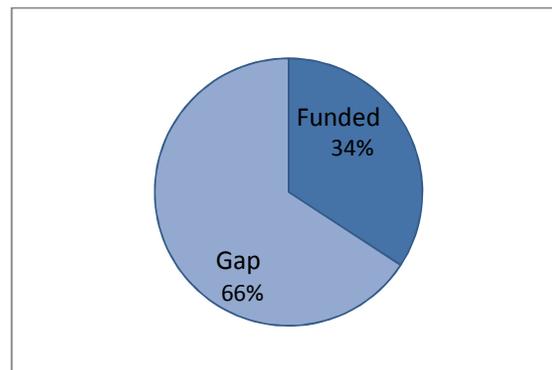
A total of **728,070** of concern
(As of August 31)

By country of origin

Country	Total PoC
South Sudan	287,912
Somalia	249,350
Eritrea	147,190
Sudan	37,113
Other nationalities	6,505
Total	728,070

Funding

USD 315 million requested



- Funding level as of 01 September 2015

UNHCR Presence

Staff:

312 national staff
91 international staff
98 individual contractors
35 deployees
7 IUNVs

Total: 543

Offices:

25 offices, including the **UNHCR Representation in Ethiopia**, as well as Sub and Field-Offices located in five Regional States: **Afar** (Semera) **Benishangul-Gumuz** (Assosa, Bambasi, Sherkole, Tongo), **Gambella** (Gambella, Dimma, Itang, Jewi, Pugnido), **Somali** (Jijiga, Melkadida, Aw-barre, Sheder, Kebribeyah, Dollo Ado, Bokolmanyo, Kobe, Hilaweyn, Buramino) and **Tigray** (Shire, Mekele, Embamadre, Shimelba).

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- UNHCR is fully engaged in the Humanitarian Country Team in Ethiopia consisting of UN Agencies, NGOs and donor representatives, where the refugee programmes are discussed strategically to ensure that the needs of refugees are adequately presented and addressed. The Representation Office is also building on well-established coordination forums such as the Refugee Task Force, donor and NGO and inter-agency meetings at the field and camp levels.
- UNHCR's main Government counterpart and implementing partner in Ethiopia is the Administration for Refugee and Returnee Affairs (ARRA) and the Office works well with it in ensuring continued protection of the refugees.
- 44 partners, including government agencies, national and international non-governmental organizations and UN agencies work closely with UNHCR to support the refugees in the country.
- An effective coordination environment was established in response to the Level 3 emergency with refugees arriving from South Sudan; a Regional Refugee Response Plan was developed with participation of all partners.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

- The Government of Ethiopia generally maintains open borders for refugees seeking protection in the country. A party to both the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, and its 1967 Protocol and the 1969 OAU Convention, the Government provides protection to refugees from over 18 countries, with the majority originating from South Sudan, Somalia, Eritrea and Sudan.
- Most asylum-seekers from neighboring countries and lately Yemen are granted refugee status on a prima facie basis. Individual refugee status determination is undertaken for all others through a government Eligibility Committee, on which UNHCR sits as an observer.
- Refugees and asylum-seekers are generally expected by the Government to reside in camps, although some are permitted to reside in urban areas for medical, security, or humanitarian reasons. There are some 7,180 such refugees in Addis Ababa. The Government's "Out of Camp Policy" provides Eritrean refugees the opportunity to live in Addis Ababa and other locations if they have the necessary means to support themselves. Thousands are benefitting from this opportunity and it is hoped that this programme can be improved and expanded to cover other refugee groups in the country.
- Key protection concerns for the country operation include child protection, education and sexual and gender-based violence. The situation of Eritrean unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) in Shire is of particular concern, given the large numbers and limited family-based care options, with additional resources devoted to these children in 2014 under the Child Protection Regional Initiative. Data-collection and case management tools are also being rolled out in the different operations, including the Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS) (in coordination with UNICEF) and the Education Management Information System (EMIS).
- UNHCR is also working closely with the government and key partners to address the issue of trafficking and smuggling of refugees. Livelihoods opportunities are considered a key component of these efforts, as are increased information campaigns and improved services. In addition to implementing UNHCR's Strategy and Regional Action Plan to address Smuggling and Trafficking from the East and Horn of Africa, UNHCR is also contributing to other efforts by the Government of Ethiopia and the UN Country Team in this area.

Education

- Out of a total of 161 refugee students who sat for the Ethiopian Higher Education Entrance Examination Certificate (EHEEC), 68 (40.37%) scored a pass mark and beyond, securing a higher education placement in the 2015-2016 academic year. The mainly Somali and Eritrean refugees were drawn from Aw-bare, Sheder, Kebirbeyah, Shimelba, and Mai-Aini camps. UNHCR's Secondary Education implementing partner, DICAC, is investigating if this year's results were in any way comparable to those of the national schools in the same localities. Interestingly, Sheder, one of the three Jijiga camps, recorded the lowest overall pass rate (38.46%) compared to 100% pass rate in the last academic year, and DICAC is looking into the reasons behind that.

Health

- A five-day training to review and improve the implementation of UNHCR's Health Information System was conducted with partners in Gambella. The training focused on a review of data submitted during the first six months of the year, reviewing of

case definitions and enhancing common understanding of the data collection tools. In addition, the rollout of the Balance Score Card, UNHCR's tool to monitor the quality of health service provided, was discussed.

- In Gambella oral cholera vaccine was provided to new arrivals not captured in previous campaigns. As cholera continues to affect South Sudan, awareness campaigns on acute watery diarrhea and cholera continue to be implemented in all refugee camps in the region. In Jewi camp, health services were handed over from MSF-F to ARRA while nutrition services will be supported by ACF in future.
- In Shire, MSF-H started its new mental health programme in Shimelba and Hitsats camps, which will complement the existing services provided by ARRA and partners.

Nutrition and Food Security

- UNHCR, in collaboration with WFP, ARRA and GOAL, undertook the annual nutrition and health surveys in the two Afar camps of Barahle and Aysaita. Preliminary findings show an increase in the prevalence of global acute malnutrition from 16.0% in 2014 to 22.9% in 2015 in Barahle, and from 17.2% in 2014 to 19.8% in 2015 in Aysaita. Current prevalence rates are above the emergency threshold of 15% and call for more attention in this area. Registration of refugees arriving from the host community is ongoing to ensure access to the general food ration.
- The prevalence of anemia among children aged 6-59 months in both camps has shown marked improvement in both camps and went down from 32.6% to 21.6% in Barahle and from 32.5% to 17.1% in Aysaita compared to the results in 2014. The prevalence of anemia among non-pregnant women of reproductive age was below 20% which is acceptable.

Water and Sanitation

- Drilling of 2 boreholes for permanent water scheme in the new Tsores camp in Assosa was completed. WASH indicators in the two newly established camps in Assosa (Tsores) and Gambella (Pugnido II) are above the minimum standards.
- Hybrid solar pumping system for Kobe camp in Dollo Ado was commissioned; it is expected to half the cost of operation and maintenance of the water scheme currently supplying over 750,000 liters daily.
- WASH partners in Gambella and Assosa have scaled up sanitation and hygiene awareness activities in the 10 camps aimed at minimizing risks exposures to opportunistic ailments as the rainy season continues.
- Results from SENS nutrition survey indicate improved access to water and sanitation in Afar camps (Assayita and Barhale). Per capita access to water is above 20 litres per person per day (lppd) whereas access to sanitation is above 50% though hygiene practices are poor.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management

- The Government of Ethiopia (ARRA) manages all the 24 refugee camps in Ethiopia. UNHCR and ARRA work together with partners to ensure proper and coordinated delivery of protection and assistance. Camp coordination meetings take place both at the zone and camp levels. Technical working groups meet regularly on such issues as child protection, SGBV, education, WASH and Health/Nutrition.

Access to Energy

- UNHCR has signed an agreement with one of its local partners, AHADA, to erect the 600 solar street lights to light the various camps in the Gambella region, sheltering nearly 277,000 South Sudanese refugee.
- UNHCR's energy partner, ZAO Refugee Care, has distributed additional 6,956 rocket stoves to refugee households in Jewi camp, Gambella.
- A total of 1.9 million tree seedlings have been planted in and around the refugee camps in the Gambella, Assosa, Jigjiga and Semera areas during the just fading rainy season.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- UNHCR's self-reliance programme in Dollo Ado, supported by donors, including the IKEA Foundation, complements the Government's development programme and targets both refugees and host communities focusing on the improvement of livelihoods activities. As the camps are situated in a drought-prone area, this will build refugees' resilience in anticipation of their imminent return to their places of origin in Somalia. An increase in household income including the ownership of animals and agriculture activities has already been noted since 2013 and is expected to continue.
- Innovative approaches to refugee shelters, renewable energy and camp lay-out have also been piloted in Dollo Ado for eventual implementation in other regions. In addition to providing training on cooperative development and business management,

business grant support has been made available by UNHCR to improve the livelihoods of refugees. UNHCR is also piloting an agricultural project focusing on improving the livelihoods of over 200,000 Somali refugees in Dollo Ado.

- In the Jijiga area where there are three camps hosting over 40,000 Somali refugees, UNHCR engages refugees and the host communities in self-reliance activities under its Development Assistance for Refugees (DAR) project. Refugees and members of the host communities around the camps continue to produce agricultural outputs both for domestic consumption and for the local market.

Durable Solutions

- Resettlement remains the only viable durable solution in the Ethiopia operation, as instability and/or persecution continues in the countries of origin such as (Sudan, South Sudan, DRC, Eritrea and Somalia) effectively precluding voluntary repatriation, while local integration remains elusive. Ethiopia's resettlement referral target for 2015 is 5,965 individuals.
- As of August 2015, a total of 1,080 cases (2,664 individuals) were referred to the UNHCR Regional Support Hub in Nairobi for onward submission to resettlement countries.
- 750 cases (2,182 individuals) have been submitted to resettlement countries by the Hub in Nairobi.
- 624 cases (2,120 individuals) have departed Ethiopia to third countries through UNHCR facilitated resettlement program.

Logistics

- In August 2015, UNHCR imported 39,495 pieces of solar lanterns from its Dubai stockpile and dispatched them to camps in Dollo Ado.
- During the reporting month, 226,782 bars of soap and 4,000 jerry cans were dispatched to Gambella, while Jijiga received 168,000 bars of soap. Moreover, 1,100 sleeping mats, 4,350 plastic sheeting, 4,050 water buckets and 17,000 pieces of women's underwear as well as 23,040 pieces of women's dignity pads were distributed to new arrivals in Assosa.

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UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given unrestricted and regional funds in 2015:

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