

Ethiopia

October 2017

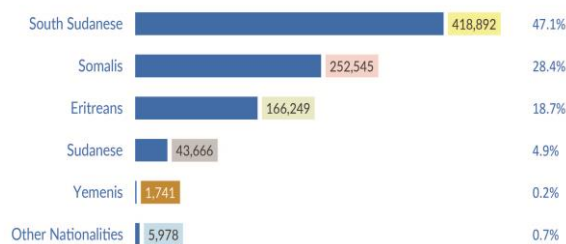
Ethiopia is host to the second largest refugee population in Africa, sheltering **889,071** registered refugees and asylum seekers as of 31 October 2017.

Since January 2017, **103,263** refugees arrived in Ethiopia, mainly from South Sudan (over 73,000), Eritrea (over 20,700) and Somalia (over 6,600).

Ethiopia is a pilot country for the **CRRF** and works closely with Government and partners to improve the lives of refugees and host communities.

POPULATION OF CONCERN

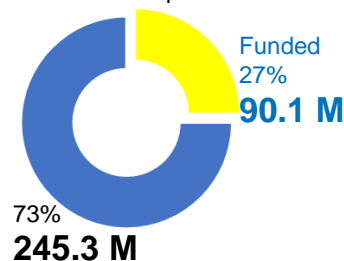
Countries of Origin



FUNDING (AS OF 31 OCTOBER 2017)

USD 335.4 M

requested for Ethiopia



UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff:

342 national staff, **108** international staff

161 individual contractors

26 deployees & IUNVs

Offices:

1 Branch Office in (Addis Ababa), **2** Field Offices-Sherkole and Mekelle, **5** Sub-Offices-Melkadida, Gambella, Shire, Assosa and Jijiga



With historic registration drive, refugees mark life's most vital events.
UNHCR/Diana Diaz

Working with Partners

- UNHCR's main Government counterpart to ensure protection of refugees in Ethiopia is the Administration for Refugee and Returnee Affairs (ARRA). In addition, UNHCR works in close coordination with some 40 partners, and is fully engaged in the Humanitarian Country Team in Ethiopia, where refugee programmes are discussed strategically to ensure that the needs of refugees are adequately presented and addressed. UNHCR is also building on well-established coordination fora such as the Refugee Task Force, donor, NGO and inter-agency meetings at the field and camp level. As part of the CRRF, UNHCR is furthering partnerships with line ministries, regional and local authorities, as well as traditional and non-traditional donors.

Main Activities

Protection

- The government of Ethiopia has begun registering the vital life events of refugees, including birth, marriage, divorce and death following a nation-wide roll-out of the program on 27 October 2017. This followed an amendment to an existing legislation which restricted vital events registration to nationals. From now on, all refugees in the country are able to register their lives' vital events and receive certificates that are identical to those issued for nationals.
- In consultation with refugees and partners, UNHCR established a Community-based Complaints Mechanism (CBCM) for Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) in Addis Ababa, making it the third location in Ethiopia with functional community-based complaints mechanism.

Education

- UNHCR's main government counterpart, the Administration for Refugee and Returnee Affairs (ARRA) has successfully negotiated with the Ethiopian Ministry of Education for placement of 517 refugees students in public universities for the 2017/18 academic year. 253 of them completed their secondary education in Ethiopia and passed the Ethiopian Higher Education Entrance Examination (EHEEE) while the balance passed a special placement examination as they completed their secondary education in their countries of origin but don't have the required documents.

Health

- To date in 2017, 668,690 persons benefited from consultations in health centres across all refugee camps, 9% of whom were from the host communities. The health facility utilization rate stands at 1.2 consultations per refugee per year and is within the standard of more than 1 consultations per year. The mortality rate in children under five is 0.2/1000/month and remains within the expected range in all camps. 98% of all deliveries were conducted with the help of skilled birth attendants.

Food Security and Nutrition

- Results of the latest standardized, expanded nutrition survey conducted in all five Refugee Camps in the Benishnagul-Gumuz Region (Sherkole, Tsore, Tongo, Bambasi and Gure-Shembola) revealed a weighted average Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rate of 8% and Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) rate of 1.1% in children aged 6-59 months. The results are within the acceptable standard of 10% and 2% of GAM and SAM, respectively. Nutritional screening continued among new arrivals at entry points in the Gambella and Dollo Ado areas, focusing on children under 5 and pregnant and lactating women. Prevalence of GAM rate stood above the emergency threshold of 15% and actions are being taken to address the situation.

Water and Sanitation

- 10.95 million litres of water have been treated, pumped and supplied daily to all camps, at an average of 18.5 litres of potable water per person, per day. In 11 of the 26 camps water was supplied at a rate of 20 litres per person per day. The hybrid solar water system in Kobe camp, Gambella, continued to post high efficiencies resulting to close to 30% fuel savings. Crude access to sanitation services on average stands at 1 latrine for 19 persons, far below the standard of one family to one latrine. Latrine access levels are much lower in Gure-Shembola, Aysaita and Nguenyiel camps with 52,48 and 38 persons per latrine respectively.

Shelter and NFIs

- UNHCR has finalized the national shelter strategy and the roll-out is being done by establishing guidelines or similar technical papers in the field.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management

- UNHCR and ARRA work in close coordination with partners to ensure efficient and coordinated delivery of protection and assistance. Camp coordination meetings and technical working groups take place both at the zone and camp levels.

Access to Energy

- UNHCR has targeted to provide 70% of the refugee households in Ethiopia access to clean and reliable domestic energy but only 17% of them could be reached so far through the provision of Ethanol fuel, briquette, kerosene and grid connected electricity. The remaining 83% still depend on firewood collection for cooking. On the other hand, 56% of the refugee households have access to solar domestic lighting while only 31% of refugee households have been illuminated by street lights.
- More than 54,000 biomass fuel saving stoves have been distributed to refugee households, resulting in fuel consumption reduction of up to 40%. Shortage of domestic energy solutions for cooking remains the main challenge of the operation, exposing women and children to sexual violence and other protection risks due to firewood collection.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- In In Barhale camp, all 15 self-help groups comprising of 178 members were able to save a total of 16,260 birr (Ethiopia's currency), registering an increase from previous month. Under the livelihoods resilience improvement plan, 44 households were provided with goats for rearing. Similarly, 15 self-help groups in Barahle camp saved 11,255 ETB. 113 goats were distributed to targeted beneficiaries in the camp as a means of income-generating activity, with priority given to unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) and other groups with specific needs.

Durable Solutions

- Providing resettlement opportunities is a priority, as conditions for voluntary repatriation are not favourable for most refugees, and limited options for local integration. To date, 2,402 individuals were referred to the UNHCR Regional Service Centre for submission to resettlement countries, surpassing the target of 2,000 individuals. 1,644 have been submitted already. So far, 1,831 persons departed for resettlement countries, 78% of them to the USA. 500 refugees will move to Italy under an innovative "Humanitarian Corridor" project which UNHCR has undertaken with two faith-based organizations, *Caritas Italiana* and *Sant'Egidio Community*. The first group of 50 people is expected to depart at the end of November 2017.

External / Donors Relations

UNHCR is grateful for the direct contributions to the UNHCR Ethiopia Operation from:

USA | UK (DFID)| IKEA Foundation | EU(ECHO)| Japan | Educate A Child Programme-EAC| Germany |Netherlands| Australia| UN Children's Fund | "la Caixa Banking Foundation| Sweden |Canada| |Ireland| Priv. D. Australia | Country-Based Pool Funds| Sheik Thani Bin Abdullah Foundation| UN Dept of Economic and Social Affairs| Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation | Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints | Priv. donors Spain| African Union| UN Foundation(UNFIP) | International Olympic Committee| | Priv D. Germany

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USA (266 M) | Sweden (76 M)| Priv D. Spain (54M)|Netherlands (52 M) |United Kingdom (45M)| Norway (41M)| | Priv. D. Rep. of Korea (26)| Japan (25M)| Denmark (23 M)| Australia (19 M) | Priv. D. Italy (17) |Canada (16)| Switzerland (15)| Priv. D. USA (14)| France (14 M)| Germany (12)| Priv. D. Japan (14M)| Germany (12M)|Priv. D Sweden (11) | Italy (10 M)|

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