



SOMALI SITUATION

ETHIOPIA UPDATE

1-10 March, 2017

HIGHLIGHTS

- Between 1 and 9 March, 216 new arrivals were recorded. Since 1 January 2017, 4,312 Somali new arrivals have been recorded in Melkadida, Ethiopia, all of whom have been registered as refugees by the Government of Ethiopia and UNHCR and relocated to the Kobe, Hilaweyn, Buramino, Bokolmanyo and Melkadida refugee camps.
- On average, 60 persons arrived daily between 1 January and 9 March 2017.
- 71% of the total registered new arrivals are children, whilst 87% are women and children.
- The average GAM rate amongst new arrivals below the age of five is 72.7%. The prevalence of malnutrition amongst the pregnant and lactating women is 13%, with an average of 34.7% since January 2017.
- The new arrivals, mostly originating from the Bay region (72%), Middle Juba (11%) and Gedo (5%), reported to have fled conflicts, exacerbated by food insecurity in Somalia.
- To date, Ethiopia hosts some 245,500 registered Somali refugees in the areas of Melkadida and Jijiga.

KEY FIGURES

4,312

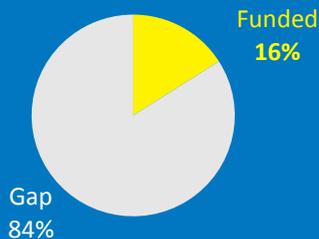
Somali arrivals since 1 January 2017, based on reports from Melkadida (as of 09 March 2017)

FUNDING

(as of 7 March 2017)

USD 74.2 M

Requested by UNHCR for the Somali Refugee Situation in Ethiopia

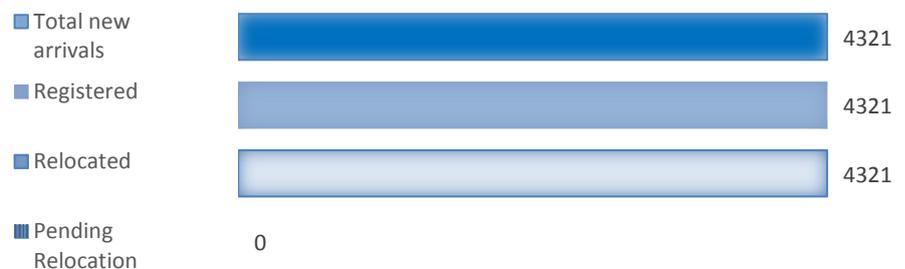


For more detailed information on the Somali Situation response in specific country operations, kindly refer to the latest County Updates available on the portal: data.unhcr.org/horn-of-africa/regional.php

UNHCR is grateful for the contributions in 2016 and so far in 2017 from DFID, IKEA Foundation and PRM.

Special thanks to our partners at the Reception Centre: ARRA, IOM, IMC, MSF, NRC, SCI, UNFPA, WFP

NEW ARRIVALS SINCE 1 JANUARY 2017



UPDATE ON THE SITUATION

Melkadida

- **Protection:** Weekly Protection meetings are being held to discuss priority issues as well as to improve coordination amongst partners in the Reception Centre. Upon registration, new arrivals are provided with high energy biscuits, BP5, dignity kits and soap. Persons with Specific Needs (PSN) are identified at the reception centre and an updated list is shared along with the manifest for relocation, targeted assistance and referrals. Information sessions are held on the reporting of protection issues, services in the reception centre and in the camps. Awareness-raising is being conducted on SGBV 'Key Messages', as well as on health and hygiene promotion for women and on the reporting of SGBV incidents. Commemoration of the International Women's Day was colorfully celebrated at Reception Centre where all partners participated with different speeches on the theme: "BE BOLD FOR CHANGE"

Moreover, a Save the Children-run protection help desk has been established in order to identify Unaccompanied and Separated Children, as well as other vulnerable refugees under the age of 18. To date, 49 UASC have been identified amongst the new arrivals. Tea talks are held with children to discuss their rights, and child friendly spaces are operational.

- **Food & nutrition:** Nutritional screening was carried out for the newly arriving refugees. A total of 69 under-five children and 30 pregnant and lactating women (PLW) were screened to measure their nutritional status. Accordingly, the prevalence of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) amongst the children under the age of five was found to be 7% and 65% respectively against the emergency threshold of 15%. The average GAM rate amongst new arrivals below the age of five is 72.7%. The prevalence of malnutrition amongst the pregnant and lactating women stands at 13%, with an average of 34.7% since January 2017.

Food is provided through a mix of wet and dry feeding. Children up to the age of 10 and PLW receive, twice a day, a fortified porridge (CSB), as well as High Energy Biscuits. Upon arrival in the camps, all refugees are provided with monthly food rations and CRIs. All children and PLW with SAM are provided with Plumpy Nuts and admitted to therapeutic and supplementary feeding programmes when relocated to camps.

- **Health:** MSF is providing 24/7 emergency healthcare service which includes emergency OPD and emergency admission at the health post located in the Reception Centre. During the reporting week, a total of 46 OPD consultations were made, out of which 11 were for children under the age of five. Acute respiratory tract infection accounted for the majority of the consultations (63%). One case of diarrhoea was reported. Intensive surveillance is ongoing in collaboration with the Woreda Health Bureau, ARRA and MSF. Deaths as well as diseases with epidemic potentials such as measles, acute watery diarrhoea (AWD) were not reported. In addition, routine vaccination was provided to 78 newly arrived children under the age of five and 22 women of reproductive age group.
- **WASH:** At least 20 litres per person per day (lit/p/d) are being provided to new arrivals at the Reception Centre. The latrine coverage stands at a ratio of 15 persons per latrine drop hole against the UNHCR minimum standard of 20. Disinfection and regular water quality monitoring is being carried out by trained personnel. Solid wastes management and hygiene messaging is being carried out on daily basis. WASH services at the camps are available for new arrivals.
- **Challenges:** In spite of the efforts to address the nutritional needs of new arrivals, malnutrition continues to pose a challenge, especially considering the already high rates at the receiving refugee camps. The current drought spreading across the Somali region poses constraints in terms of available resources in the area.