

Ethiopia

June 2018

The performance of **eight** water sources which use solar energy for pumping were monitored, while the construction of **10** others planned in 2018 is ongoing. **Over 12 million** litres of water were supplied in all 26 camps. The average water supply stood at 18 liters per person per day. Sanitation coverage in terms of families with household latrine has slightly improved from 30% to 31%. The rest use shared family latrines.



#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Monitoring of water supply and sanitation activities continued well during the period under review aiming at maintaining WASH services within minimum standards. The average water supply stands at 18 litres per person per day.
- Sanitation coverage for families with household latrine stands at 31%, while the rest use shared latrine facilities.
- Hygiene promotion activities continued in all 26 refugee camps to promote best practices on use of WASH
  facilities to prevent diseases of public health concern.
- Solar-powered water systems continued to prove its positive impact on reducing operational costs. All commissioned solar-powered schemes have remained operational during the period under review. UNHCR will continue to advocate for more funds to solarize more boreholes which is part of WASH Ethiopia strategic direction and new innovations aimed at cost reduction and sustainability of WASH services.
- More than 3,400 Somali and South Sudanese refugee families have continued to use Urine Diversion Dry Toilets (UDDT), designed to eliminate any smells.
- The utility model for the Itang Water Supply Project in Gambella has made a good progress both from technical and administrative perspective. Board members have been appointed while recruitment of operators is in the pipeline. The utility is scheduled to take full charge of system operation and administering as from September 2018.
- System design and operation of water supply systems are being reviewed to enhance best practices and contingency measures. Water system infrastructures reviewed include Aysaita and Okugo aiming at maintaining reliable water supply at all times.



## **STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

- UNHCR's is committed to ensuring refugees' access to water and sanitation facilities in sufficient quality and quantity; ensuring that refugees have improved personal and environmental hygiene, nurturing effective coordination partnerships, and building the capacity of partner staff. Among the range of prioritized interventions, UNHCR in collaboration with partners will seek to:
  - Explore alternative-cost effective and sustainable management models for water schemes supporting both refugees and host communities. The piloting of the 'Utility Model' is already underway in Itang community and three refugee camps (Kule, Tierkidi and Nguenyyiel).
  - Lobby and advocate for more funds to replace fuel-powered pumping systems with solarpowered ones, while exploring options to connect refugee camps to the national electricity grid, where feasible;
  - Promote community-led WASH interventions through scaling up the piloted community-based management model by contextualizing it to fit well in the context of each refugee camp.
  - Optimize the use of established water schemes that focus on efficient and comprehensive designs, integrating host community growth over time;
  - Replicate successes on sustainable sanitation waste management to value solutions with the potential to function for over 15 years, eliminating the need for frequent latrine replacement, with an accrual benefit on energy/livelihood support to families;
  - Distribute household water storage facilities where jerry cans are old and dilapidated; implementation of Cash Based Interventions as an approach will proof beneficial;
  - Establish and deepen engagement with the Regional Water Bureaus on water provision and management as well as Regional Health Bureaus for sanitation and hygiene promotion under the health extension programme.

### CHALLENGES





# **EXTERNAL / DONORS RELATIONS**

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