



36 Somali refugees graduated from Jigjiga University with BSc. in Health Sciences in February, thanks to DAFI scholarships, sponsored by the German Government/UNHCR Feb. 2022)



Protection

More than 17,000 South Sudanese refugees were transferred to and verified at the Tsore Temporary Site, in Benishangul Gumuz region.

Registration of 211 new arrivals and 458 newborns in Assosa and Jigjiga: As part of its routine activities in all camps in Assosa in the course of February 2022, UNHCR conducted the registration of 211 new arrivals, incl. 128 who were registered on site (in situ) and 183 newborn children. In Jigjiga, 275 newborn babies were registered and referred to the Government's Vital Events Registration Agency (VERA) for issuance of birth certificates during the reporting month.

Over 1,000 Eritrean refugees relocated from Dabat to Alemwach Site: During February, 1,200 refugees have been relocated from Dabat to the newly constructed site Alemwach in North Gondar, Amhara. UNHCR provided core relief items (CRIs), plastic sheeting and solar lamps to the refugees, while WFP is providing meals. By the end of the month, seven hangars were occupied by refugees.

Inter-agency drought assessment conducted in East and West Hararghe: As part of the response to drought-induced internal displacement, UNHCR participated in the multi-agency drought assessment for both the East



Departure of refugees from Dabat to new site in Alemwach ©UNHCR/ Feb 2022

and West Hararghe zones, identifying drought-induced protection risks and possible mitigation measures. Based on the drought assessment findings, UNHCR Sub-Office Jijjiga in cooperation with the Field Unit in Dire Dawa allocated resources for the drought response. The response plan comprises the provision of water, livestock feed and core relief items. As a co-lead of Durable Solutions Technical Advisory Group, UNHCR Sub-Office Jijjiga co-facilitated an introductory workshop on the Durable Solutions Technical Advisory Group for the IDP response. The workshop focused on a technical review of the 2017-2020 Durable Solutions Strategy to inform development of the 2022-2025 Strategy.



Education

36 refugee students graduate with degrees from Jijjiga University: Thanks to DAFI scholarships, sponsored by the German Government, 36 refugee students (including 22 females) graduated from Jijjiga University with BSc. in Health Sciences in February.

Preliminary results indicate 80% of grade 12 students in Awbarre have passed national exam: According to the Grade 12 National Exam Result for 2020/2021 academic year in Ethiopia, published by the National Educational Assessment and Examinations Agency (NEAEA), out of 126 refugee students in Awbarre camp in the Somali region who took the exam in the 2020/21 academic year, 80% have scored the university entry grade.

Scholastic materials distributed to refugee students in Sheder: During the reporting month, UNHCR through RRS distributed 7,420 exercise books to 640 students enrolled in grades 1 and 2 in Sheder refugee camp.

Education verification desks set up in Tsore camp: UNHCR's education partners (RRS and PIE) set up verification desks for preprimary and primary school children. So far, 64% (1,428) of children in Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) and 39% (1,880) of primary school children have been verified. RRS has initiated similar verification processes to ensure continuity of education, and both partners are drafting a response plan with the detailed needs for temporary learning spaces to be reviewed and prioritized by the Education Working Group (school WASH, teachers/facilitators, trainings). The Tsore emergency response plan has been selected and agreed upon to proceed under the Blueprint initiative spearheaded by UNHCR and UNICEF.



Shelter & CRIs

Support to refugees: At Tsore temporary site, UNHCR's shelter partner Action for the Needy in Ethiopia (ANE) constructed 60 emergency hangars, serving as communal living spaces for the relocated refugees. The land for the erection of the temporary site was secured by the Government at the outskirts of the existing refugee camp in Tsore. Additionally, UNHCR set up 33 family tents for vulnerable families at the site. A total of 1,426 temporary plastic shelters have been constructed by UNHCR's partner ANE in Bokolmayo (208), Buramino (329), Heliweyn (284), Kobe (485) and Melkadida (120) and made available for relocation of refugees staying in the reception center in Dollo Ado town to the mentioned refugee camps. From 9 to 14 February in Kebribeyah, UNHCR's partner Rehabilitation and Development Organization (RaDO) distributed sanitary pads to 1,810 women and girls of the reproductive age.

Provisions of emergency shelter to IDPs: As part of the response to the drought situation in the Somali region of Ethiopia, UNHCR and partner ANE, in close cooperation with the Regional Disaster and Risk Management Bureau and local authorities, provided emergency shelter, non-food items and warm clothing to 500 vulnerable IDP households (3,350 individuals) in Maraa-Gajo Kebele of the Kebribeyah Woreda in Fafan Zone. UNHCR Sub-Office Jijjiga focuses on the immediate protection needs of the IDPs and works to facilitate access to water for IDPs in the given location. In Debre Birhan, Amhara, gloves, shovels, metal barrels/garbage bins, liquid soap and detergents were provided to the operational partner DORCAS Aid International for distribution to WASH committees in all IDP sites.



Health

COVID-19 response: Refugees are included in the Government's COVID-19 vaccination plan. A total of 19,430 refugees have received COVID-19 vaccines so far, including 5,547 fully vaccinated. UNHCR, the RRS and partners continue to reinforce prevention measures in the refugee camps and sites hosting Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs).

General Health Services: UNHCR, in collaboration with the Government of Ethiopia (GoE) and partners, facilitates access to primary, emergency secondary and tertiary healthcare services for refugees and asylum-seekers. While primary health services are often provided in health facilities that are in the refugee camps, patients requiring advanced medical attention are referred to regional or federal health facilities. In urban settings such as Addis Ababa, UNHCR covers the cost of medicines and health check-ups for refugees. Together with RRS, Regional Health Bureaus and other health partners, UNHCR implements activities to help prevent COVID-19 infections and to mitigate its consequences in refugee camps and other locations sheltering refugees. Activities include risk communication and community engagement, training of health personnel, case identification and management, contact tracing and referrals, distribution of personal protective equipment (PPEs) and essential medicines and equipment to strengthen health services. As part of the UN Inter-agency COVID-19 response to the IDP situation, UNHCR provides PPEs and sanitation materials, equipping isolation and quarantine centers and sensitizing community on the risks of the pandemic.

Provision of healthcare to refugees relocated to temporary Tsore site: In February, UNHCR distributed medicines to relocated refugees at Tsore temporary site. In addition, RRS identified and linked 360 patients from the site to out-patient services (treatments that don't require hospitalization), referring 12 to Assosa hospital for further treatment. Additionally, 339 refugee children aged 6-23 months were enrolled in the blanket supplementary feeding programme.



WASH

General WASH Services: UNHCR works with partners to provide access to clean water and sanitation and improve hygiene practices through awareness raising, upgrading water systems, supporting the construction of latrines and solid waste management. An average of 18 litres of water per person/day was provided across all the camps during the reporting month. In Aw-barre and Shedder refugee camps, International Medical Corps installed four submersible pumps, resulting in a steady increase in the daily water provision to refugees and host communities. In Tsore refugee camp in the Benishangul-Gumuz region, IRC completed the construction of 16 communal latrines with hand-washing facilities. As part of the preparation and development of the new Alemwach refugee settlement in Dabat, Amhara region, UNHCR and partners are constructing emergency WASH facilities in the reception area, including water points, latrines and bathing facilities.



Livelihood

Grinding mills installed in Dire Dawa to benefit 40 women-headed households: In February, UNHCR in Dire Dawa completed the installation of two grinding mills in two IDPs sites in West Hararghe Zone. The grinding mills will benefit 40 female-headed households and GBV survivors. Additionally, the grinding mills shall secure livelihood incomes, reduce the workload for women and mitigate associated GBV-related risks that women can be exposed to while working in the field.



Newly installed grinding mills operational in Dire Dawa. Dawit Daricha/UNHCR Feb 2022

Finalization of the solar water pump irrigation project in Melkadida: The installation of a solar water pump at irrigation site in Melkadida was completed in February. Technical training was conducted for Solar Water Pump cooperatives to help them understand how the system operates and needs to be maintained, to ensure the sustainability of the project.

Livelihood workshops kick off in Bambasi, Kebribeyah: On 12 February, the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) organized a livelihood workshop for Government, refugee leaders and local authorities for its small-scale irrigation project in Bambasi town. The workshop aimed at bringing strategic stakeholders together to allow proper closure and ensure project sustainability. UNHCR staff from Assosa and Bambasi participated in the workshop session and took part in the MoU review. RRS and UNHCR reviewed the handover document for the irrigation scheme implemented to promote the pilot economic inclusion. UNHCR together with RRS also initiated the project take-over by Good Neighbors Ethiopia (GNE). UNHCR is currently reviewing the concept note from GNE to decide on the next step. The project, funded by GIZ, shall benefit refugees and the hosting community. From 22 to 26 February, in collaboration with ILO and RRS, and as part of the PROSPECT ILO implementation, UNHCR co-facilitated a five-day business training on Gender and Entrepreneurship Together (GET) in Kebribeyah. A total of 42 refugees (including 30 female) participated in the training.

World Bank's DRDIP initiative in Gambella: On 26 February, UNHCR participated in steering and technical committee meetings held in the office of the Gambella Regional President to discuss the second phase of the USD 130 million Development Response to Displacement Impacts Project (DRDIP), a World Bank-funded development initiative in Gambella. The initiative is expected to begin in December 2022 and will be implemented until 2027, with the aim to improve access to basic social services and economic infrastructure, enhance sustainable environmental management and improve livelihood opportunities for host and refugee communities in seven refugee camps. At the local level, RRS and UNHCR, as members of technical and steering committees, will be involved in the comprehensive processes of preparation and realization of the initiative. It is envisioned that RRS will coordinate and manage projects in the seven refugee camps of Gambella region.

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