

Response to Internal Displacement

January - December 2022

ETHIOPIA





Axum, Maychew, and Sheraro) and 4 in Amhara (Bahir Dar, Debre Birhan, Dessie, and Gondar)





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Situation overview

The DTM National Displacement report 14¹ indicates that, as of September 2022, an estimated total number of 2.73 million IDPs were identified across 11 regions of the country because of conflict and natural disaster, while 1.88 million have returned across nine regions to their place of origin seeking durable solutions. However, without improved humanitarian access, cessation of conflict, and an opportunity for communities to recovery and resilience, the humanitarian needs are likely to increase along with the risk of protracted displacement.

In the northern part of Ethiopia, the 4th quarter of the year saw the signing of a Peace Agreement by the Government of Ethiopia (GoE) and Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) which is aimed to achieve a "lasting peace through permanent cessation of hostilities". The agreement ended a 2-year-long conflict that has destroyed the lives and livelihood of millions of Ethiopians and displaced many, including refugees. By end of 2022 public services are gradually being restored, telecommunications and electricity supply have been restored in several towns, Ethiopian Airlines resumed passenger commercial flights to Mekelle and Shire, and Banking services resumed in some areas of Western Tigray and in Shire, Alamata, and Korem.

Meanwhile, the western part of Oromia and some parts of the Benishangul Gumuz and the Somali regions have been vulnerable to violent attacks by armed groups that contributed to loss of lives, damaged properties, and livelihoods, disrupted essential social services, and forced people into displacement within and out of the region origin. Similarly, some parts of the Southern Nations Nationalities and Peoples' region (SNNPR), such as Konso, also witnessed violent communal conflicts, which led to displacement and damages to livelihoods and public infrastructures.

Despite the ongoing challenges due to insecurity constituting major impediment to relief operations, UNHCR's interventions, implemented with our partners and in close coordination with authorities, have reached over 1,206,881 people with protection services, shelter, and core relief support, Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM), and legal support across the country in the fourth quarter of the year.

What is UNHCR doing?

UNHCR continues to contribute to the Government-led Inter-Agency response through leading and co-leading the Protection and Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Clusters, contributing to the shelter clusters, providing protection and solutions, emergency aid and other support, including the establishment of a protection monitoring system that helped deliver quality analysis to inform the wider humanitarian response and development interventions.

In 2022, UNHCR conducted pilot roll outs of its protection monitoring tool in the Tigray, Somali, Afar, Benishangul, and Oromia regions. The pilot project produced sufficient data to construct a sound overview and analysis of the current situation and guidance on protection information on areas where additional support is needed. The nine initial reports and analyses produced so far have provided a basis for advocacy efforts and informed the broader response. The second phase of the roll out, which is the stocktaking exercise to finetune, adjust and contextualize the tool for a country wide roll-out was conducted in December 2022, with the participation of UNHCR field staff, partners & the national protection Cluster. The challenges, good practices from the initial protection monitoring exercise, priority areas for 2023,



Protection Monitoring Stocktaking Exercise Workshop in Addis Ababa '© UNHCR / Mapila Mapila / Dec. 2022'

contextualised questionnaires and methodologies were presented and discussed, including ways to better measure impact, and to produce and disseminate reports.

In the northern region, in the fourth quarter of 2022, over 1,061,462 people had access to protection and solutions services, including through protection desks, and received core relief items (CRIs) and emergency shelter support.

¹ IOM, National Displacement Report 14,((August - September 2022) : Note-due to operational constraints, figures from Tigray region were not included in the total.



In Tigray, UNHCR in collaboration with Government counterparts supported the return of 376 IDP who came from Afar (Agatina) and resided temporarly at Quiha reception IDP site to Eastern zone of Tigray. A total of 1,494 families with specifics needs, identified through UNHCR's protection partner Innovative Humanitarian Solutions (IHS), and have been provided with CRIs, and menstrual hygiene management (MHM) kits were distributed to 1,450 women and girls of reproductive age. Furthermore, UNHCR distributed solar lamps to 495 persons with disability at Sabacare 4 IDPs site in collaboration with IHS and Action for the Needy in Ethiopia (ANE).

In Afar, UNHCR together with IOM and the Regional Health Bureau facilitated the relocation of 560 individuals from Agatina IDP site to Mekelle and provided multipurpose cash grants, clothing, shelter related items, and tents. Likewise, in December, together with partners, including Commercial Bank of Ethiopia, UNHCR facilitated the voluntary return of 359 IDPs living within the host communities in Semera and provided cash grants and CRIs to maximize their chances of sustainable reintegration. Additionally, UNHCR, through ANE, completed the distribution of multi-purpose cash to 392 families at Agatina IDP site.

In Amhara, UNHCR and its partners were able to reach over 374,142 people through protection services, shelter, and CRIs, CCCM, multi-purpose cash assistance, and free legal aid support. Following the cessation of hostilities between the GoE and TPLF, 239,362 IDPs in North Gondar, North Wollo and Waghemra zones returned spontaneously to their places of origin. UNHCR assisted 7,818 of these with transportation. UNHCR also supported 14,037 individuals in North Wollo with CRIs, and cash assistance of 3,000 ETB each for 40 most critical GBV survivors in need of medical and safety services, and 500 women and girls have received dignity kits in Kobo. Through its partner Ethiopian Orthodox Church, Development, and Inter Church Aid Commission (EOTC-DICAC), 20 IDP returnee women at risk and GBV survivors in Raya Kobo were supported with 5kg of sugar, 25kg of rice, 1 carton of spaghetti/24-packs and 5 litres of vegetable oil each.

In Gambella, UNHCR through its partners were able to reach over 42, 130 people through protection services, shelter, and CRIs, CCCM. UNHCR through ANE distributed CRIs to 38,800 flood affected individuals, and assisted 2000 reproductive age women and adolescent girls with dignity kits. Additionally, a two-day capacity building training was provided to 60 government staff from four woredas on basics to protection, guiding principles on internal displacement and rights of IDPs. Furthermore, constructed transitional shelters to 270 IDPs whose houses were fully damaged by heavy rain and wind.



Fully damaged house: IDP returnee beneficiary of UNHCR cash assistance for Shelter reconstruction and repair in South Wollo, Amhara region © UNHCR /Richard Ross/ October 2022

In the fourth quarter of 2022, UNHCR and its implementing partners supported over 32,108 IDPs in **the East**, **West**, **Horo Guduru and Kellem Wollega zones of the Oromia region**. UNHCR provided protection awareness education at public gathering areas, safe spaces, and hospital waiting areas on CP/GBV prevention, prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), and mental health to nearly 6,596 beneficiaries from Kellem Wollega, East Wollega, West Wollega, and Kamashi zone. Moreover, UNHCR in partnership with the Wollega University's legal aid centres supported over 6,387 IDPs, returning IDPs, host communities, and other persons with specific needs, raising legal awareness and providing free legal aid and counselling, preparing written court interventions, and assisting in legal representation before court to restore their housing, land and property rights and civil documentation.

In the West Guji and Gedeo zones of Oromia and SNNP regions, UNHCR and its partners supported over 14,323 IDPs and returning IDPs through protection activities, including legal aid and awareness, referrals, SGBV support, targeted assistance, and capacity building training. In partnership with ANE, a total of 2,042 families affected by drought were assisted through CRIs in Dubluk, Borana zone and a similar response was provided for 3,000 families in five woredas of East Guji zone and 100 families in Negele town. Additionally, a total of 160 IDPs received support to start a small business as a drought response activity in East Guji zone woredas, while 456 individuals were supported with goats as a means of income generating activities (IGA).



Drought response in Libel woreda, West Guji '© UNHCR / Neway Mangistu / Nov. 2022'

Furthermore, through the free legal aid centers of Dilla, Bule Hora Universities, UNHCR reached a total of over 9,834 vulnerable returnees. The service created enabling environment to the IDP returnees to access justice, claim their rights and enjoy accordingly.



Through field office in **Dire Dawa**, UNHCR reached over 16,242 Individual IDPs, returning and relocated IDPs through protection services including raising awareness among the authorities, youth, community, and religious leaders on basic IDP concepts, IDP coordination, durable solutions and on combating violence against women and girls while strengthening collaborative community coping mechanisms.

As part of the drought response, CRI was distributed to 4,000 drought-affected households five woredas in the East Hararghe and seven woredas in West Hararghe Zone. Additionally, a multi-purpose cash response of 4,500 birr per families for 2,300 drought affected households was provided in four woredas in East and West Hararghe.

In Jijiga and Melkadida, UNHCR services reached over 17,094 drought and conflict affected individuals including support for the cholera outbreaks with the provision of lifesaving package of emergency shelter, CRIs, and multi-purpose cash assistance.

In Melkadida, a total 1157 families have received CRI in Kersedulla woreda of Liban zone. To date, UNHCR and its partner distributed core relief items to 2,193 vulnerable households, consisting of 14,411 individuals in Bokolmanyo, Filtu, Dekasuftu and Kersedulla. UNHCR also constructed 163 transitional shelters (Filtu 72, Dekasuftu 69 and 22 in Dollo Ado) and handed over to the most vulnerable families. Additionally, under multi-purpose cash assistance, a total of 650 vulnerable families received 5,000 ETB through Awash bank and in cash in Filtu and Dekasuftu woreda of Liban zone. The cash assistance will help the households to address the basic needs and mitigate the critical protection risks.

In Jijiga, UNHCR provided 1,000 IDP families in the Adadle and Gode with emergency shelter, non-food items, and winter clothing. Similarly, in Qoloji, distributed CRIs to 114 IDP families who were recently transferred from Dire Dawa Millennium Park to Qoloji. Additionally, UNHCR through its partner Danish Refugee Council (DRC) provided financial support to 69 relocated IDP heads of families in Dhurwale's durable relocation site, to restore their legal identity documents. Similarly, assisted 97 IDP heads of families in Shabelley woreda in obtaining legal identity documents (IDs), and has provided financial and legal aid assistance to 81 families in Gebo-Gabo and Tuli-Guled to access birth certificates to the new-born babies from the vital event registration office.

In the **Benshangul Gumuz**, UNHCR, through its partner World Vision (WVE), assisted over 23,522 people with protection, shelter, CRIs, and capacity development, including the strengthening of Child protection and GBV prevention and response systems. Major service providers, IDP community, children, and host community were sensitized to ensure multisectoral approaches and the establishment of referral mechanisms, provision of case management services, organizing of Community led protection services, and set up of feedback and compliant management systems. Additionally, constructed and equipped three child friendly spaces (CFS) in Bambasi, Mandura and Debate.



Child friendly Spaces (CFS) in Bambasi © UNHCR / Restituta Cang / Nov. 2022'

UNHCR is grateful for the contribution to the UNHCR Ethiopia IDP Operation in 2022



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Cash assistance for self-resilient beneficiaries, Bordede woreda Genda-lemi IDP site starting their business. © UNHCR / Dawit Daricha/ Nov. 2022