REGIONAL BUREAU FOR EAST, HORN OF AFRICA AND THE GREAT LAKES

Refugees, asylum seekers, returnees and IDPs

as of 31 May 2023

Key Population Statistics

5.06M
Refugees and asylum seekers

12.22M
Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

55,384
Refugees returnees in 2023

The East and Horn of Africa and Great Lakes region is host to some 5.06 million refugees and asylum seekers, the majority (2.26 million) from South Sudan. A further 12.22 million people are internally displaced in the region, as a result of conflict and natural disasters. A total of 55,384 refugees have returned to their countries of origin in 2023.

South Sudan Situation

2.32M
South Sudanese refugees in neighbouring countries

2.26M
Internally Displaced inside South Sudan

300,644
Refugees hosted in South Sudan

627,028
Refugee returns since Nov 2017

Burundi Situation

331,753
Burundian refugees in neighbouring countries

75,300
Internally Displaced inside Burundi

87,656
Refugees hosted in Burundi

210,173
Refugee returns since Sept 2017

Somalia Situation

714,386
Somalia refugees in neighbouring countries

2.97M
Internally Displaced inside Somalia

35,625
Refugees hosted in Somalia

7,403
Refugee returns (2020 - 2023)

Ethiopia Situation

148,796
Ethiopian refugees in neighbouring countries

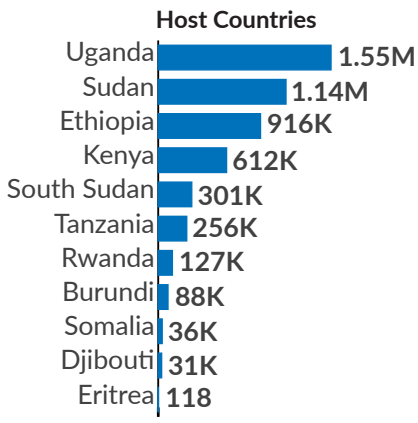
3.14M
Internally Displaced inside Ethiopia

916,436
Refugees hosted in Ethiopia

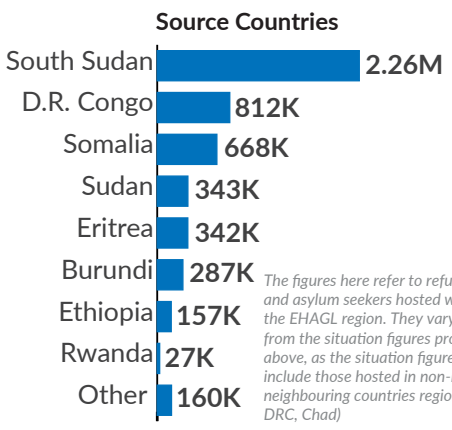
1,318
Refugee returns (2021 - 2023)

Refugees and Asylum seekers

Host Countries

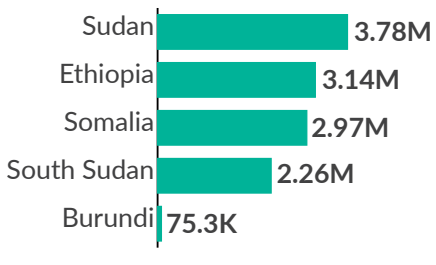


Source Countries

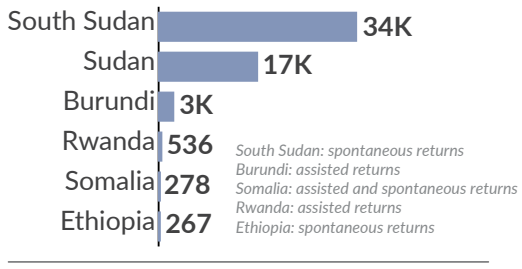


The figures here refer to refugees and asylum seekers hosted within the EHAGL region. They vary slightly from the situation figures provided above, as the situation figures also include those hosted in non-EHAGL neighbouring countries region (e.g. DRC, Chad)

Internally Displaced Persons

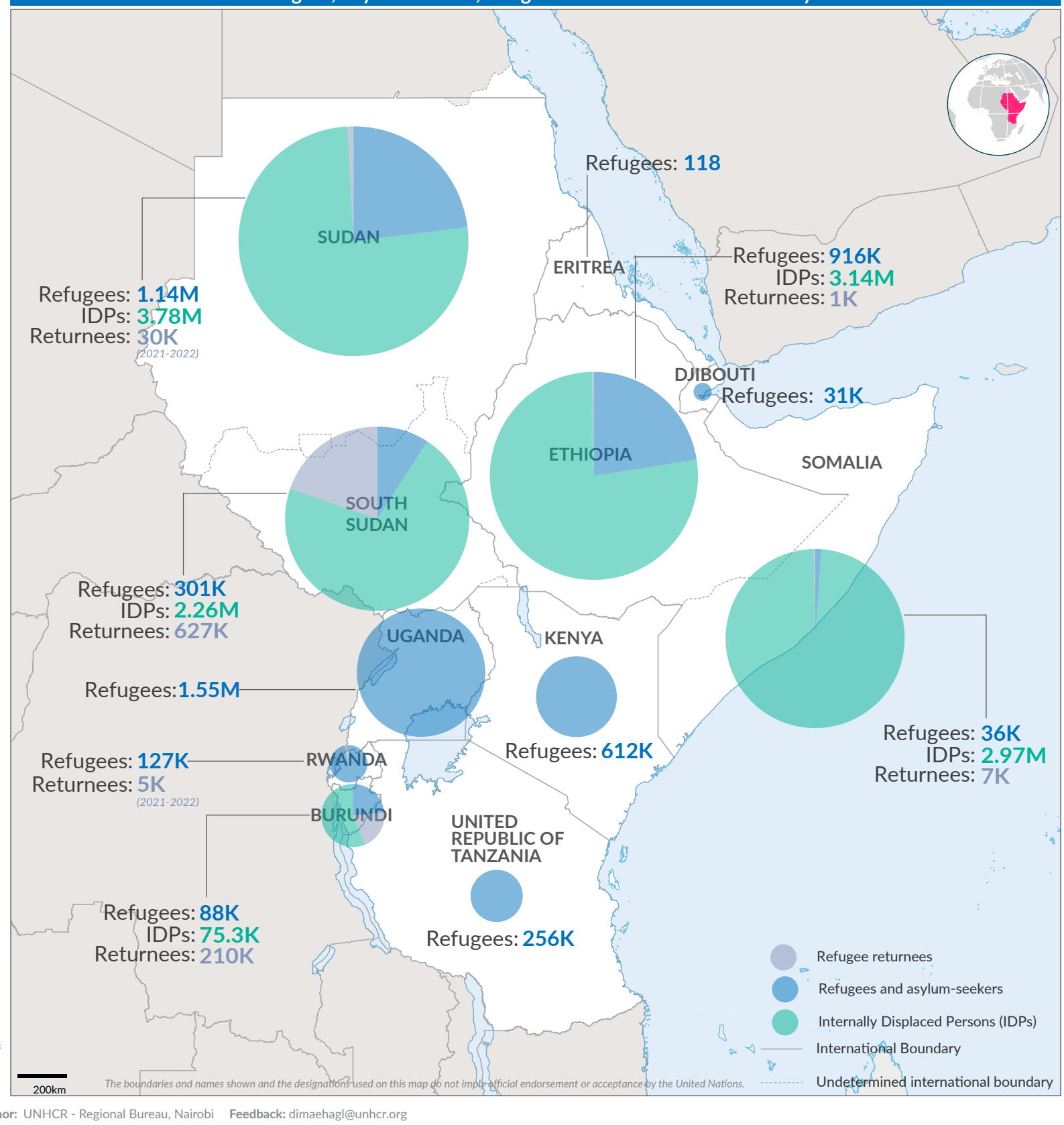


Refugee returns in 2023



South Sudan: spontaneous returns
Burundi: assisted returns
Somalia: assisted and spontaneous returns
Rwanda: assisted returns
Ethiopia: spontaneous returns

Refugees, Asylum seekers, refugee returnees and IDPs as of May 2023



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