



Protection and Solutions in Tigray Region

January - December 2023

-  Area Based Approach
Drop-in centers
-  Site maintenance and
decommissioning
-  Facilitating
IDP returns
-  Livelihoods for
Solutions
-  Protection Monitoring
and Solutions (PMS)
-  Legal Aid and
Documentation
-  Child Protection
and Education
-  Camp Coordination and
Camp Management
(CCCM)
-  Protection
Desk
-  Gender-Based
Violence (GBV)
-  Shelter and
Core Relief
Item

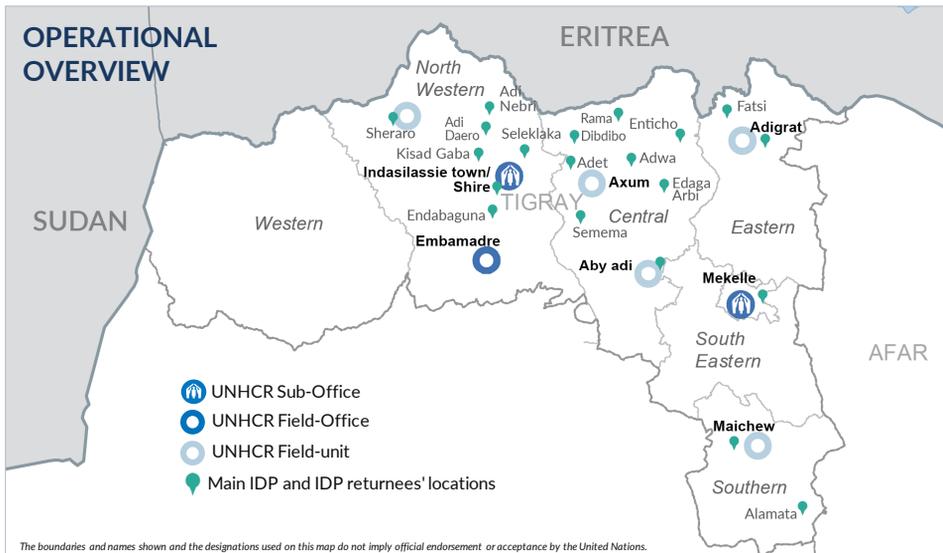
Guiding Frameworks

-  UNHCR
Strategic
Directions
2022-2026
-  UN Secretary-
General's Action
Agenda on
Internal
Displacement
-  IASC Framework
on Durable
Solutions for
Internally
Displaced Persons
- Kampala
Convention
(2009)
- Ethiopia
Durable
Solutions
Initiative

- People Targeted**
-  Internally
Displaced
-  Population
returnees
-  Affected Host
Communities



OPERATIONAL OVERVIEW



COORDINATION & PARTNERSHIP

UNHCR is working with local authorities (BOSAR, DRMO), universities, legal institutions, local and international partners and co-chairs the Durable Solutions Working Group (DSWG).

UNHCR leads Protection Cluster, co-leads Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster and contributes to Emergency Shelter and Non-Food Items (ES/NFI) Cluster.

INTENTION SURVEY

March 2023
68 IDP sites covered
10,457 respondents



95% of respondents have indicated their preference to return to their place of residence prior to displacement.

UNHCR IDP RESPONSE



DISPLACEMENT FIGURES

DTM - National Displacement Report 17 - December 2023

949K
Total IDPs
47% Male | 53% Female

- Top 3 zones of displacement**
- North-Western (324K)
 - Mekelle (224K)
 - Central (211K)

1.5M
Total IDP returnees
47% Male | 53% Female

- Top 3 zones of return**
- North-Western (406K)
 - Eastern (375K)
 - Central (366K)

DURABLE SOLUTIONS WORKING GROUP (DSWG)

The Durable Solutions Working Group (DSWG) in Tigray endeavors to function as a technical coordination body to advance durable solutions for displaced persons through a consultative and rights-based approach.

Composition of the Durable Solutions Working Group Tigray

Chair	Early Recovery Project Management Office (ERPMO) Bureau of Social Affairs & Rehabilitation
Co-chairs	UNHCR, UNDP, IOM
Participants	UN Agencies, Development actors, Cluster coordinators, (I)NGOs, Civil Society Organizations

Tigray Region Durable Solutions Framework based on the eight criteria of the IASC Framework for Durable Solution

- Adequate Standard of Living
- Family Reunification
- Long-term Safety and Security
- Access to Livelihoods and employment
- Participation in Public Affairs
- Housing, Land, and Property (HLP)
- Access to Effective Remedies and Justice
- Documentation

The main responsibility of the DSWG in Tigray is to assist the Regional Government and other represented humanitarian, development and peacebuilding actors:

To formulate and develop a framework that allows the engagement of displaced persons, regional government authorities, local academia, private partners, and development and peacebuilding actors in a caucus that seeks to engage in finding durable solutions for displaced persons.

Together with the displaced population and the regional Government, develop, and prioritize community action plans that are geared to providing durable solutions and lasting peace.

To engage donors and other benefactors in seeking funding to implement durable solution and lasting peace activities.

Together with displaced persons and the regional government authorities develop work plan, engage in evaluation and monitoring activities.





FACILITATING IDP RETURNS

Context

Under the auspices of the **Durable Solutions Working Group (DWSG)** chaired by the regional/zonal authorities, UNHCR and partners are facilitating voluntary returns in safe and dignified conditions to their places of origin in Tigray.

Upon arrival in their place of origin, the displaced population benefited from Core Relief Items (CRLs) and Cash-Based Intervention (CBI) for transportation and multi-purposes such as food and medicines.

Post return monitoring is conducted through **Protection Monitoring and Solutions (PMS)** to identify protection needs in the areas of return and advocate for solutions to make returns sustainable.

Major achievements

213,925

Individuals counselled

110,920

Voluntary IDP returns facilitated

103,005

IDPs counselled and ready to return

Facilitated IDP returns trends



9,733

Persons with specific needs reached

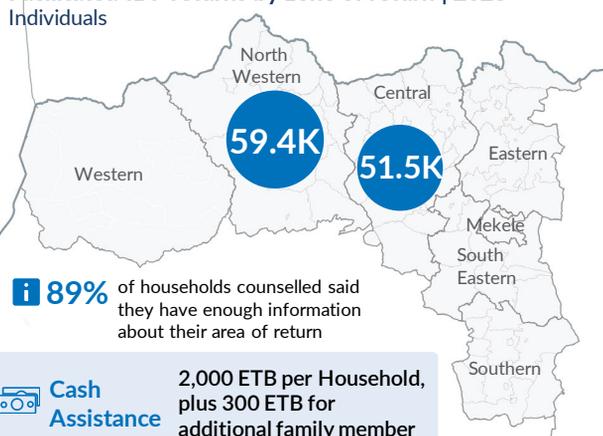


Returnee convoy movement from Mekele to Nebelet, Central Tigray ©UNHCR



Returnee cash distribution ©UNHCR

Facilitated IDP returns by zone of return | 2023



89% of households counselled said they have enough information about their area of return



Cash Assistance

2,000 ETB per Household, plus 300 ETB for additional family member

Top 3 locations of return | 2023

- Indasilassie town/Shire (9,829)
- Endabaguna town (6,609)
- Adet (2,721)

Challenges

- Funding shortfalls to support returns
- Gaps in humanitarian assistance
- Dwindling community support
- Impact of conflict on basic social services in places of return
- Insecurity impeding voluntary returns to Western zone (**place of residence prior to displacement of 50% of IDPs**)

Way forward

- Supporting the peace process and **transitional justice** initiatives
- Recovery and development response in areas of high return
- Rebuilding livelihoods (agricultural & non-agricultural)
- Promoting security & social cohesion in places of return

PROTECTION MONITORING AND SOLUTIONS (PMS)

Objectives

- Inform the protection and multi-sectoral response from a centrality of protection point of view through regular protection analysis.
- Assess the sustainability of returns in alignment with the IASC Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons, the Kampala Convention and the Ethiopia Durable Solutions Initiative.

Findings Focus Group Discussion with IDP returnees

Where IDP returnees are currently living in their place of return	Place of living	Percentage
	Same house they used to live before displacement	57%
	Renting house	21%
	In friends and relatives houses	13%
	In collective centers (shool, churches, mosques...)	3%
	In the street	3%
	In IDP sites	2%

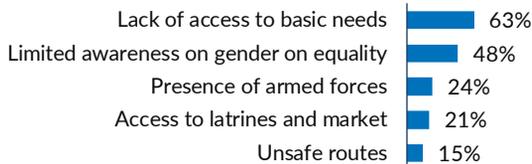
Housing challenges faced by IDP returnees	Issues with houses	Percentage
	Fully or partially damaged	64%
	Landmines and explosive remnants of conflict around their houses	21%
	Evicted from their previous house (can't afford rent)	12%
	Houses occupied	2%
	Presence of armed groups preventing them to access their houses	1%

- **9 out of 10 key informants** reported to have observed signs of distress among the different populations in their locations.
- Amongst IDPs and IDP returnees, **women** emerged as the group showing more signs of distress.
- **1 returnee in 3** doesn't feel safe in their area of return and **1 returnee out of 4** has left a family member behind (at the place of displacement) before returning.

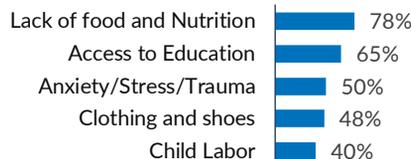
Findings Key Informant Interviews



Factors increasing the risk of GBV (Multiple choices)



Top 4 problems boys and girls are facing (Multiples choices)



Top 4 basic facilities most in need and missing in the areas of return

- Health services
- Primary school
- Shelter
- Bank service

60% of basic facilities partially or fully destroyed in the areas of return



PROTECTION DESK

Overview

Protection Desks are enclosed structures where forcibly displaced people can access information, counseling, awareness raising and, as appropriate, be referred to other service providers and/or case management for health concerns or psychosocial and legal support for example.

Protection Desks are also used for community outreach functions and is an informational collection tool to complement protection monitoring and analysis about the overall protection environment and trends observed in their area of operation.

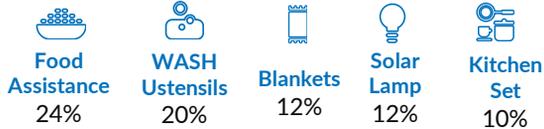


46
of Protection Desks

2,797
of queries
59% Female 41% Male

565
of referrals

General concerns at Protection desks



PROMOTING LIVELIHOODS FOR SOLUTIONS

General objective

Enhancing self-reliance, local solutions' opportunities for IDPs, returnees and at-risk community and make returns more sustainable and dignified.

Target

IDPs, returnees, host community and at-risk communities including GBV survivors.

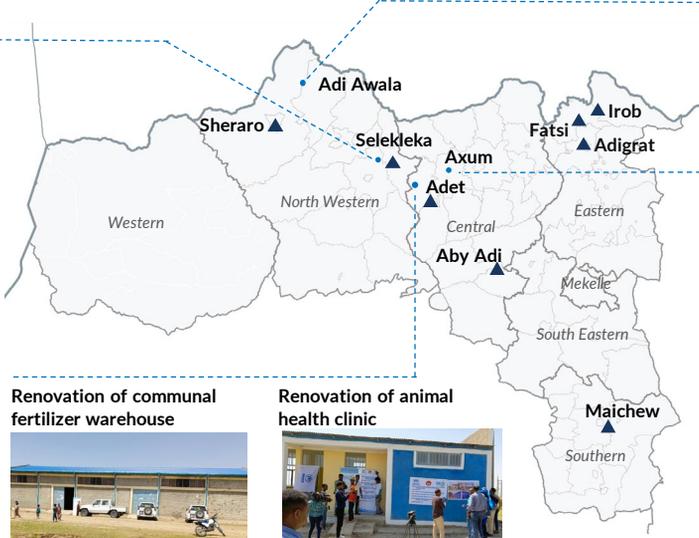
100,000

Total beneficiary reached

Installation of communal kitchens connected to national grid



- Minimized Protection risks
- Improve standard of living
- Environmental protection
- Peaceful coexistence improved



Renovation of communal fertilizer warehouse



Renovation of animal health clinic



Installation of grinding mill



Renovation of school



Business skill training (Multiple locations)



- Training business skills
- Provision of cash
- Addressing sustainability by linking with microfinance institutions and local authorities

Project	Location	Target	Households reached
Renovation of communal fertilizer warehouse	Jira Kebele, Adet Woreda, Central zone	Returnees and conflict affected host communities	8,677 (6,762M; 1,915F)
Renovation of animal health clinic	Jira Kebele, Adet Woreda, Central zone	Returnees and conflict affected host communities	6,829 (5,357M; 1,472F)
Installation of communal kitchens connected to national grid	Selekleka Kebele, Selekleka woreda, Northwestern zone	IDPs, and affected host community	1,024 (500M; 524F)
Installation of grinding mill (on going)	Maekelay-Adiabo woreda, Northwestern zone	Returnees, IDPs, and conflict affected host communities	690 (390M; 300F)
Business skill training	Adet, Adigrat, Fatsi, Irob, Aby Adi, Maichew, Sheraro, Selekleka	IDPs, returnees and at-risk community	220

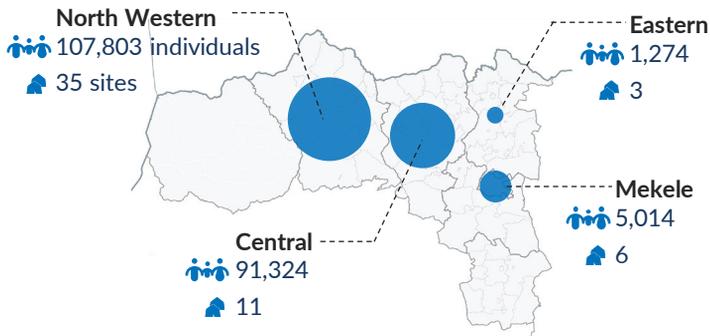


CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT (CCCM)

107 Total IDP sites in Tigray.
71 are Education facilities (66%)

55 Total IDP sites managed by UNHCR
205,415 individuals managed
Partners: ANE and OSSHD

IDP sites under UNHCR coordination by zone



Site maintenance and decommissioning

In collaboration with WASH and Education clusters

Objective: Facilitate the resumption of elementary and secondary schools by renovation of classrooms, provision of scholastic materials and student desks

Major achievements

- **3** schools decommissioned and rehabilitated
- **66** classrooms renovated
- **600** student desks renovated or provided
- **5,220** students have benefited from these interventions and resumed school



Students in a renovated primary school in Axum
©UNHCR

AREA BASED APPROACH | DROP-IN CENTERS (DIC)

Context and Objectives

The conflict in Tigray which started in November 2020, resulted in mass displacements of the population across the region. Amongst the IDPs, 30% sought safety in collective sites supported by humanitarian organizations, in coordination with the regional/local authorities, and 70% sheltered within the host communities. While the sites are getting most of the attention and services, IDPs living in host communities face considerable challenges accessing services, except for food provision.

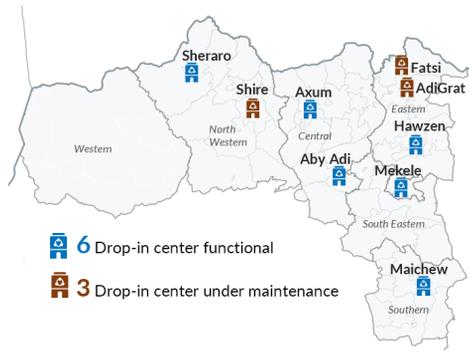
To address the needs of the IDPs in host communities, UNHCR introduced the ABA (Areas Based Approach), set up Drop-in Centers (DIC), where **IDPs living out of sites can access services**. The 1st DIC was established in Quiha, located on the outskirts of Mekelle City as a pilot project (see images below) in April 2023.

UNHCR runs the DICs through local partners OSSHD and ANE, in collaboration with sectoral service providers.

The DICs are established on government property (public or communal facilities) requiring very little site improvement activities to function properly.

To date, UNHCR has expanded these community outreach programs, by establishing 08 additional DICs in Eastern, Southern, Northwestern and Central Zones of Tigray region.

Over time, in addition to IDPs living in host communities and their hosts, these DICs have also been serving IDP returnees, Urban Refugees and recently, Returnees from Sudan.



Services available at the DIC

- Multipurpose hall
- WIFI Services
- Women and Girls Safe Space
- Protection Desk
- Information and Recreational services
- Access to Justice and Documentation
- Persons with Specific Needs services
- Communal Facilities Like Kitchen, WASH services

Major achievements

- **24** Weekly community IDP leaders meetings & 04 Women association meetings to ensure participation.
- **845** individuals (434 F:411M) received training on various topics including CP, UXOs, IDP leaders' coordination skills, business skill and MHPSS.
- **5,100** beneficiaries received ID cards and other civil documentations.
- **436** MHPSS recipients, and various support to children with specific needs.
- **4,110** Women and Girls within the reproductive age received sanitary material.
- In total, across all centers in Tigray, including their catchment areas, **162,897** Individuals / **32,215** households have been reached with DIC services.



IDP and youths from host community playing at the recreational facility at Quiha drop-in center



IDP women using communal WASH services at Quiha drop-in center, Mekele ©UNHCR





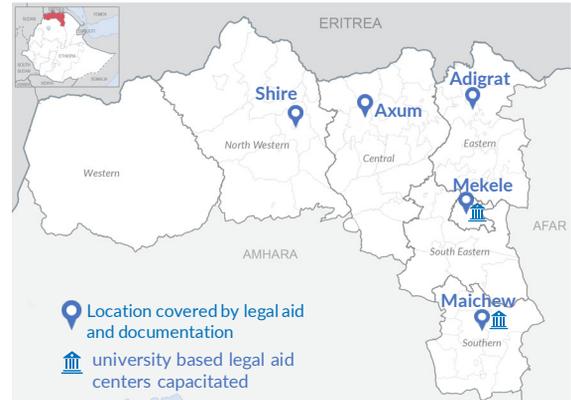
LEGAL AID AND DOCUMENTATION

UNHCR is implementing access to justice project through its partner EECMY in Mekele, Maichew, Adigrat, Shire and Axum.



"My ID card helped me freely move from place to place and search for jobs. I am also very happy to register my newborn child on the vital registration and receive his birth certificate".

Kibrti Zihon, 24 years old female IDP from Western Tigray displaced in Seba-Kare IDP site, Mekele



Major achievements

- Support to legal institution**
36 legal institutions (Courts, Prosecutor office, social affairs office, Justice bureau, Police) received material support: computers, printers, photocopy machines and stationery materials.
- Capacity building**
1,570 (653 F) justice professional trained on the rights of the displaced community.
- Legal aid**
2 university based legal aid centers capacitated (Mekelle university and Raya university in Maichew).

- Legal counselling**
467 individuals (238 F) represented through legal aid centers.
- Documentation**
66,418 ID card restored.
1,443 civil status restored.
- House, Land and Property**
2,939 cases identified and recorded.
- Human rights monitoring**
18 human rights monitoring conducted.

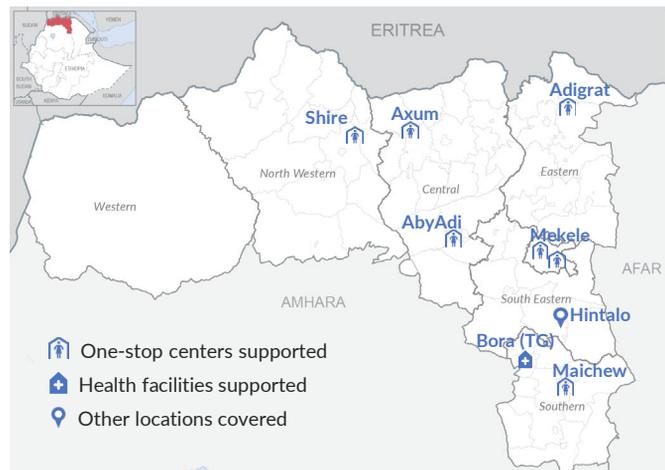
Material and cash Support
144 persons with disabilities assisted with material support including assistive devices such as crunch, white cane, hearing aids

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (GBV)

Strategic objectives

- Reducing the risk of GBV for all forcibly displaced people.
- Ensuring all survivors of GBV have adequate and timely access to quality services that meet their needs.
- Promoting gender equality and protecting displaced people from GBV.

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| 7 one-stop centers supported. | 2 Women and girls safe space established in Mekele and Maichew. | 1 Health facility supported with Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) kits. |
|-------------------------------|---|---|



Major achievements

- 36,410 women and girls at risk provided with dignity kits.
- 9,389 women and girls supported with MHM kits.
- 1,224 women and girls at risk supported with CRIs.
- 462 women and girls at risk supported with cash.
- 836 Counselling and case management for women and girls at risk including GBV survivors.
- 200 women and girls at risk supported with food.

600,000 sanitary pads yet to be distributed including 200,000 planned for school-girls



Donation at Bora Health center ©UNHCR



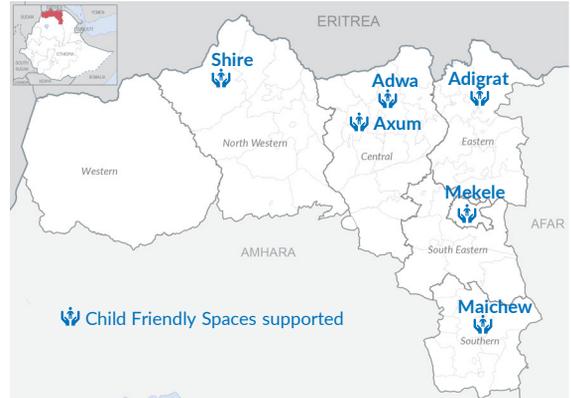
Donation of medical items and NFI for One Stop Center ©UNHCR



CHILD PROTECTION AND EDUCATION

Major achievements

-  **6** Child Friendly Spaces (CFS) supported
1,229 (504G) children were passed through CFS indoor and outdoor play, learning, and recreational activities in all intervention areas
-  **299** children supported with scholastic materials
-  **644** children received case management services
-  **18** children supported with family tracing and reunification



Challenges
Access and security issues for children coming from certain areas in western Tigray



IHS Scholastic material support and CFS in Mekele ©UNHCR

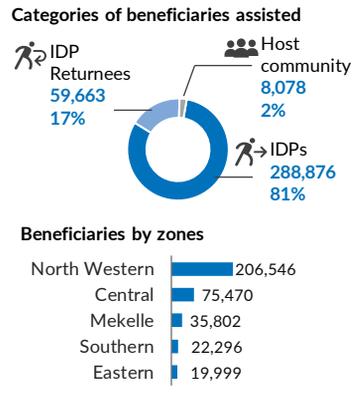
SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS

Objective

Forcibly displaced people have access to safe settlements, adequate shelter and coordinated infrastructures services.

356,617
Individuals reached with UNHCR ES/NFI Assistance

- 314,960** Persons received NFIs
- 41,657** Persons benefited shelter reconstruction/repair
- 1,870** Vulnerable IDP returnees (out of the total) with destroyed houses received cash for shelter reconstructions



Shelter reconstruction process

Shelter needs assessments (emergency and damaged shelters)

Distribution / Provision of NFIs

Post distribution monitoring

Damage assessment, Shelter repair kit items distribution and after repair. Abi-Adi Central zone ©UNHCR

PROTECTION AND SOLUTIONS IN TIGRAY REGION

DECEMBER 2023

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- FRONT COVER - CLOCKWISE**
- IDP return Convoy from Five Angels IDP site towards Selekleka, North Western
 - Material Support to Governmental and Justice offices in Mekele
 - IDP Returnee after receiving cash and CRI in Selekleka, North Western
 - Scholastic material support at Child Friendly Space

BACK COVER
Return exercise in Ayder primary School, Mekele, November 2023

