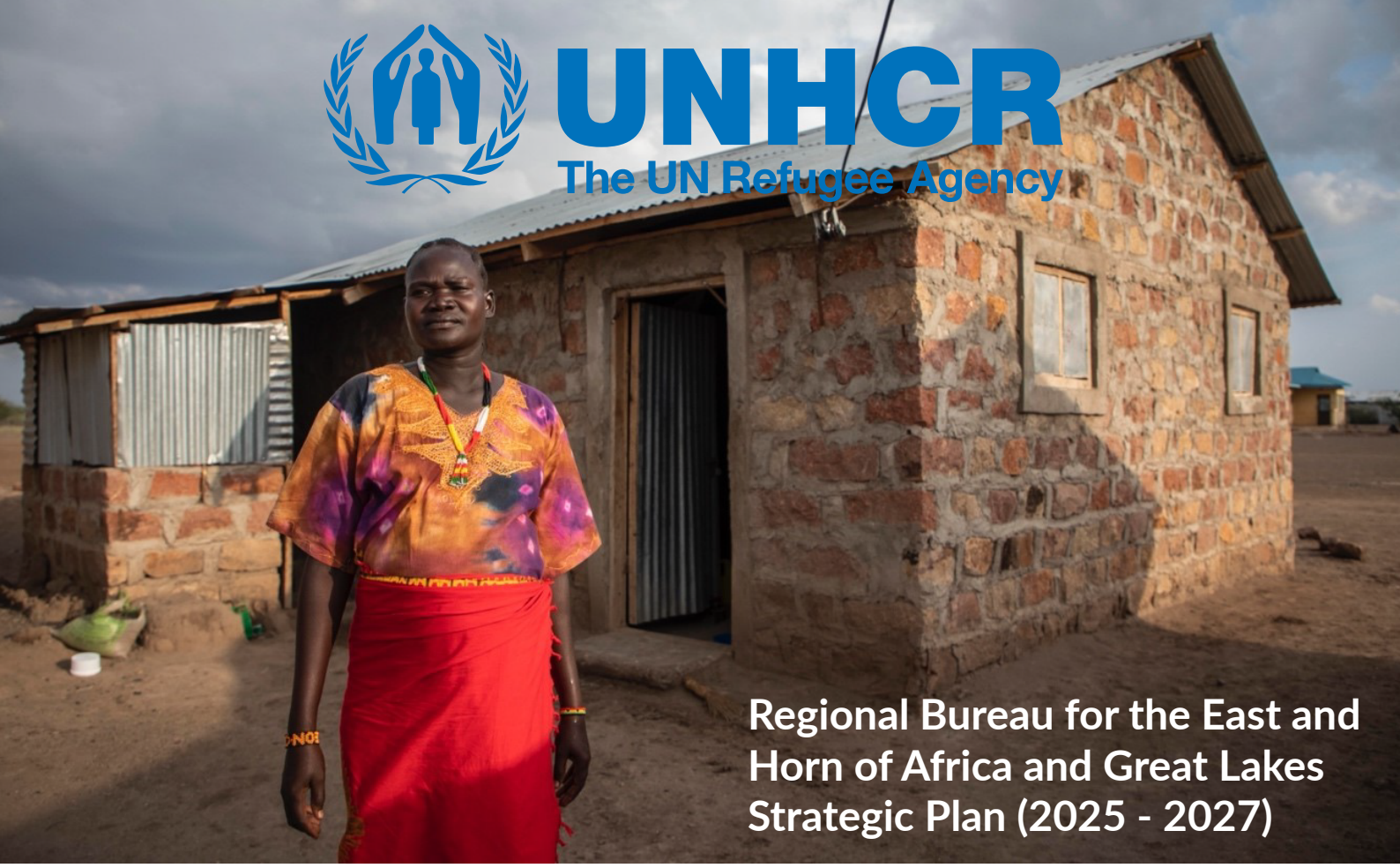


Regional Bureau for the East and Horn of Africa and Great Lakes Strategic Plan (2025 - 2027)

Over the next three years, UNHCR will consolidate and enhance its efforts to provide protection, assistance, and solutions for forcibly displaced and stateless populations, and promote improved responses to, and governance of, forced displacement in the region, in line with the priorities of Member States, and in collaboration with a wide and diverse range of stakeholders.

THE REGION TODAY

The region remains vulnerable to armed conflict, political and socio-economic instability, and climate-induced disasters creating new waves of displacement and exacerbating existing humanitarian needs. UNHCR works with RECs and UN sister agencies to support protection and solutions with and for refugees and IDPs. UNHCR continues to leverage development partners with the aim of mainstreaming forcibly displaced populations into development planning & programming and promoting inclusion and solutions from the start. New partnerships with the private sector and progress on the localization agenda contribute to sustainable programming, which is anchored in efforts to enhance the resilience and self-reliance of displaced populations and their host communities. Resettlement needs remain significant. Onward movements require a regionally harmonised approach. A Routes Based Approach will be applied in response to mixed movements, shifting towards more humane and effective responses, and delivering better outcomes for people on the move, affected communities and States alike.

AT A GLANCE

1 in 17 Inhabitants of the region is forcibly displaced

83% Refugees and asylum seekers in the region are EHAGL citizens

25% Refugees were born in asylum

OUR VISION

In a context of conflict- and climate-driven displacement, UNHCR envisions an East and Horn of Africa and Great Lakes region where refugees, internally displaced and stateless persons are protected, included, and find solutions.

KEY POPULATION STATISTICS

5.2M
Refugees and asylum seekers

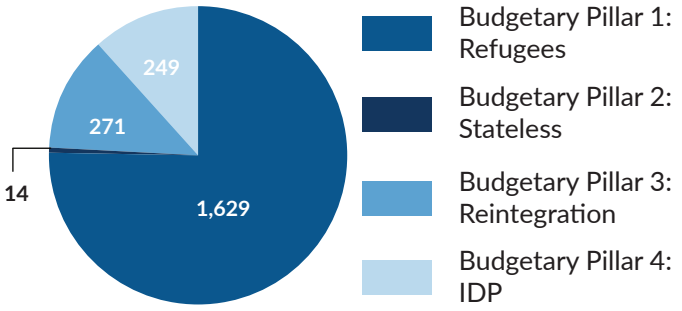
16.7M
Internally Displaced Persons

581K
Refugee returns in 2024

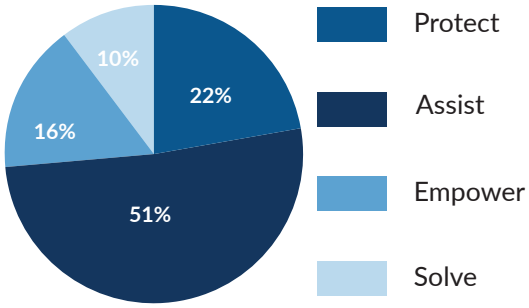
98K
Stateless Persons

Key population statistics generated from the Annual Statistical Report (ASR) 2023

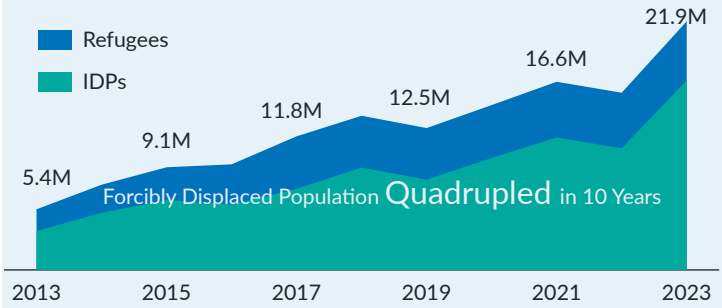
NEEDS-BASED REQUIREMENTS (OP) BY BUDGETARY PILLAR (Million USD)



NEEDS-BASED REQUIREMENTS (OP) BY GLOBAL IMPACT AREA (%)



KEY TRENDS IN THE REGION



19% of the UNHCR's global persons of concern are hosted in EHAGL region

93% of the Internally Displcaed Persons are hosted by **3 Countries** (Sudan, Somalia and Ethiopia)

90% of Refugees & Asylum seekers are hosted by **5 countries** (Uganda, Ethiopia, Sudan, Kenya and South Sudan)

60% of the refugees live in poverty

33% of the refugees are employed

42% of the refugees are of working age

12% higher employment rate in urban areas than in the camps

7 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

UNHCR'S work is guided by seven strategic priorities:

Sustainable programming
with an overall objective of promoting, supporting and achieving self-reliance, inclusion and solutions.

Emergency preparedness and response
with a focus on 'solutions from the start' and alternatives to camps.

Implementation of GRF pledges
with a focus on transitions from camps to settlements, inclusion and empowerment for women and girls, and strengthened cooperation and solidarity with displaced populations and affected host countries.

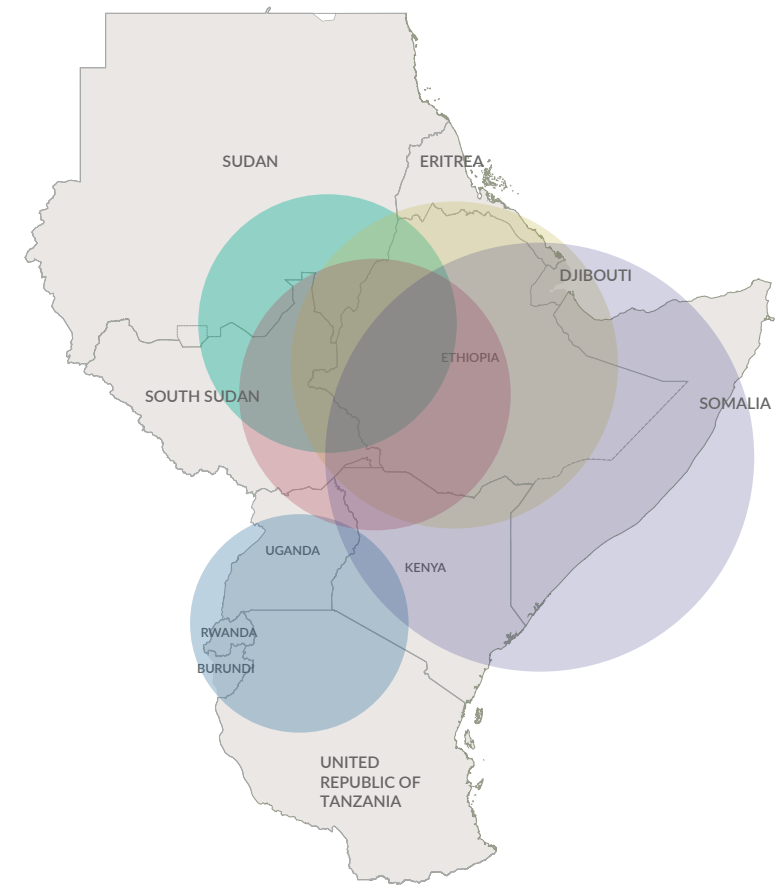
Transformative partnerships
with diverse public and private stakeholders to leverage financing, influence, and expertise in support of protection and solutions.

Evidence-driven advocacy and communications
to advance rights, inclusion, and development opportunities for forcibly displaced and stateless persons.

Credible data
Systematic provision of critical, comprehensive, and coherent information and data to ensure that UNHCR is seen as a credible partner.

Strategic workforce planning
and effective use of corporate systems to ensure that operations are adequately equipped to deliver our protection and solutions mandate.

REFUGEE SITUATIONS



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