



A Yemeni refugee and her 13-year-old daughter in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

# ETHIOPIA

## FACTSHEET

February 2016

### HIGHLIGHTS

**732,709**

Total number of  
refugees

**38,521**

Number of  
Unaccompanied Minors  
and Separated Children

**49.7%**

Percentage of women and  
girls

**56.6%**

Percentage of Children

### Population of concern- updated

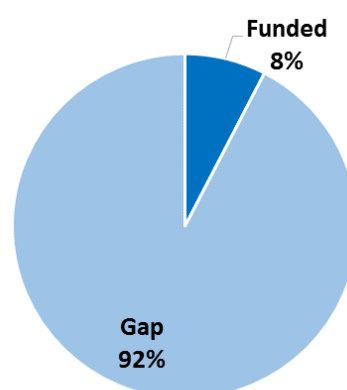
A total of **732,709** of concern  
(As of 29 February 2016)

#### By country of origin

Country	Total PoC
South Sudan	283,007
Somalia	251,049
Eritrea	153,531 *
Sudan	38,535
Other nationalities	6,587
<b>Total</b>	<b>732,709</b>

### Funding

**USD 280.0 million** requested



### UNHCR Presence

#### Staff:

319 national staff  
109 international staff  
76 individual contractors  
35 deployees  
7 IUNVs

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Total: 546

#### Offices:

24 offices, including the **UNHCR Representation in Ethiopia**, as well as Sub and Field-Offices located in five Regional States: **Afar** (Semera) **Benishangul-Gumuz** (Assosa, Bambasi, Sherkole, Tongo), **Gambella** (Gambella, Dimma, Itang, Jewi, Pugnido), **Somali** (Jijiga, Melkadida, Aw-barre, Sheder, Kebribeyah, Dollo Ado, Bokolmanyoo, Kobe, Hilaweyn, Buramino) and **Tigray** (Shire, Mekele, Embamadre, Shimelba).

*\*81,078 Eritrean refugees previously registered as living in the camps are believed to have spontaneously settled in Ethiopia. This figure will be subjected to Verification*

## WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- UNHCR is fully engaged in the Humanitarian Country Team in Ethiopia consisting of UN Agencies, NGOs and donor representatives, where the refugee programmes are discussed strategically to ensure that the needs of refugees are adequately presented and addressed. The Representation Office is also building on well-established coordination fora such as the Refugee Task Force, donor and NGO and inter-agency meetings at the field and camp levels.
- UNHCR's main Government counterpart and implementing partner in Ethiopia is the Administration for Refugee and Returnee Affairs (ARRA) and the Office works well with it in ensuring continued protection of the refugees.
- Some 40 partners, including government agencies, national and international non-governmental organizations and UN agencies work closely with UNHCR to support the refugees in the country.
- The effective coordination environment that was established in response to the Level 3 emergency with refugees arriving from South Sudan is working well; a Regional Refugee Response Plan was developed with participation of all partners.

## MAIN ACTIVITIES

### Protection

- The Government of Ethiopia generally maintains open borders for refugees seeking protection in the country. A party to both the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, and its 1967 Protocol and the 1969 OAU Convention, the Government provides protection to refugees from 19 countries, with the majority originating from South Sudan, Somalia, Eritrea and Sudan.
- Most asylum-seekers from neighboring countries and lately Yemen are granted automatic refugee status. Individual refugee status determination is undertaken for all others through a government Eligibility Committee, on which UNHCR sits as an observer.
- Refugees and asylum-seekers are generally expected by the Government to reside in camps, although some are permitted to reside in urban areas for medical, security, or humanitarian reasons. There are some 8,438 such refugees in Addis Ababa. The Government's "Out of Camp Policy" provides Eritrean refugees the opportunity to live in Addis Ababa and other locations if they have the necessary means to support themselves. Thousands are benefitting from this opportunity and it is hoped that this programme can be improved and expanded to cover other refugee groups in the country.
- Key protection concerns for the country operation include child protection, education and sexual and gender-based violence. The situation of Eritrean unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) in Shire is of particular concern, given the large numbers and limited family-based care options. Data-collection and case management tools are also being rolled out in the different operations, including the Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS) (in coordination with UNICEF) and the Education Management Information System (EMIS).
- UNHCR is also working closely with the government and key partners to address the issue of trafficking and smuggling of refugees. Livelihoods opportunities are considered a key component of these efforts, as are increased information campaigns and improved services. In addition to implementing UNHCR's Strategy and Regional Action Plan to address Smuggling and Trafficking from the East and Horn of Africa, UNHCR is also contributing to other efforts by the Government of Ethiopia and the UN Country Team in this area.

### Education

- A total of 153, 589 (86,981 males and 66,608 females) have been enrolled in schools within and outside of the refugee camps (host community schools) during the current academic year. This represents an average Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) of 53% of school-age children. Compared to the same time last year, there is an increase of 16% in the average gross enrollment rate. The Net Enrolment Ratio (NER) for each level of education is being analyzed.
- UNHCR and ARRA have been collaborating with the Federal Ministry of Education to put Education Management Information System (EMIS) in place so that refugee education data analysis and reporting is mainstreamed within the national system.

### Health

- In Melkadida, several cases of Dengue Fever were confirmed in the host community. While no cases were reported in the refugee camps, UNHCR and partners are on high alert due to the high population movements and the associated risks. The UNHCR and ARRA public health team immediately visited all camps and the reception center, and distributed sensitization

materials including national guidelines and posters. A preparedness and response plan was developed and partners agreed to reactivate the response team at camp level as well as do sensitization work, vector control, training and daily surveillance.

- Recent security incidents in Gambella affected the provision of secondary healthcare services for some refugees who could not be admitted in the Gambella referral hospital due to security concerns. Patients were instead referred to alternative hospitals in Metu and Jimma but the long distances meant that there were delays in obtaining services. Primary health care services continued in all camps uninterrupted.

## Nutrition and Food Security

- Ration cuts that started in November continued across all camps with the reduction of super cereal from the general food rations. From March onwards, sugar will also be absent from the monthly ration to allow the remaining commodities to be stretched to the end of May. WFP announced there will be no cereals for refugees from June onwards unless additional funding is secured.

## Water and Sanitation

- Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH), Environment and domestic energy staff from UNHCR, ARRA and partners (IRC, NRC, LWF) participated in a workshop to review project proposals on innovative sanitation waste to value solutions. Successful projects will undergo operational research in two camps in Ethiopia under funding from the Gates Foundation;
- WASH strategy (2016-2018) discussions to develop strategic guidelines for next three years was held focusing mainly on protracted situations and community management approach. Participation was from UNHCR, UNICEF, ARRA and all partners implementing WASH in the camps.
- Overall, provision of water in Gambella camps continued with minimal disruptions except in Kule and Tierkidi camps due to breakdown of some electro-mechanical equipment which have now been fixed. However, implementation of sanitation & hygiene activities has been limited due to access restrictions to some national staff due to the recent security incidents in the Region.

## Camp Coordination and Camp Management

- The Government of Ethiopia (ARRA) manages all the 24 refugee camps in Ethiopia. UNHCR and ARRA work together with partners to ensure proper and coordinated delivery of protection and assistance. Camp coordination meetings take place both at the zone and camp levels. Technical working groups meet regularly on such issues as child protection, SGBV, education, WASH and Health/Nutrition.

## Access to Energy

- Nursery preparations for the production of seedlings are underway in all refugee camps across the country. The plan is to produce about 1 million multipurpose seedlings to be planted in and around the refugee camps with the objective to rehabilitate the degraded lands and to contribute to the livelihoods of refugees at the same time. In Gambella alone, about five hectares of land has been prepared for this purpose.
- Close to 100,000 liters of ethanol was distributed in the three refugee camps near Jijiga where more than 38,000 Somali refugees have been accommodated. 210 liters of the ethanol and an additional 110 liters of kerosene will go to powering the impatient wards and school-feeding programs in the camps.
- Training on safety, care, as well as management of fuel and cook stoves was given to 54 households in shedder refugee camp.

## Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- UNHCR's self-reliance programme in Dollo Ado, supported by donors, including the IKEA Foundation, complements the Government's development programme and targets both refugees and host communities focusing on the improvement of livelihoods activities. As the camps are situated in a drought-prone area, this will build refugees' resilience in anticipation of their imminent return to their places of origin in Somalia. An increase in household income including the ownership of animals and agriculture activities has already been noted and is expected to continue.
- Innovative approaches to refugee shelters, renewable energy and camp lay-out have also been piloted in Dollo Ado for eventual implementation in other regions. In addition to providing training on cooperative development and business management, business grant support has been made available by UNHCR to improve the livelihoods of refugees. UNHCR is also piloting an agricultural project focusing on improving the livelihoods of more than 200,000 Somali refugees in Dollo Ado.
- In the Jijiga area where there are three camps hosting more than 40,000 Somali refugees, UNHCR engages refugees and the host communities in self-reliance activities under its Development Assistance for Refugees (DAR) project. Refugees and

members of the host communities around the camps continue to produce agricultural outputs both for domestic consumption and for the local market.

## Durable Solutions

- Resettlement remains the only viable durable solution in the Ethiopia operation as conditions in the countries of origin are not conducive for voluntary repatriation, while local integration remains elusive. Ethiopia's resettlement referral target for 2016 is 6,465 individuals.
- In February, 142 cases (568 individuals) were referred to the UNHCR Regional Support Hub in Nairobi for onward submission to resettlement countries.
- 109 cases (410 individuals) have been submitted to resettlement countries by the Hub in Nairobi.
- 208 cases (678 individuals) departed Ethiopia to third countries through UNHCR facilitated resettlement program.

## Logistics

- In February, 1,113,649 bars of laundry soap; 122,542 Kg of Plumpy nut; 276,056 pcs of dignity kit and 45,636 pcs of women's underwear were received in the Addis Ababa warehouse for onward distribution to the different field offices .
- The same month, 619,000 bars of soap were distributed to Sub-Offices Gambella (300,000), Assosa (193,000) and Jijiga (126,000). Additionally, Gambella received 24,757 KG of plumpy nut and 80,000 pcs of dignity kit, while Melkadida received 15,829kg of plumpy nut. 1,426 mosquito nets were dispatched to locations where Kenyan Boranas are hosted.

UNHCR is grateful for the direct contributions to the UNHCR Ethiopia Operation so far in 2016 from:

IKEA Foundation | Educate A Child Programme- EAA | Denmark | International Olympic Committee | Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

UNHCR is also grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given unrestricted and regional funds in 2015:

Sweden | Netherlands | Norway | Australia | Denmark | Switzerland | Germany | Algeria | Austria | Belgium | Estonia | Finland | Iceland | Indonesia | Kuwait | Luxembourg | Monaco | Mozambique | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Romania | Serbia | Singapore | Sri Lanka | Thailand | Turkey | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | Private Donors

# Refugees and Asylum-seekers in Ethiopia

29 February 2016

UNHCR Ethiopia



Population Update

Refugee Camps

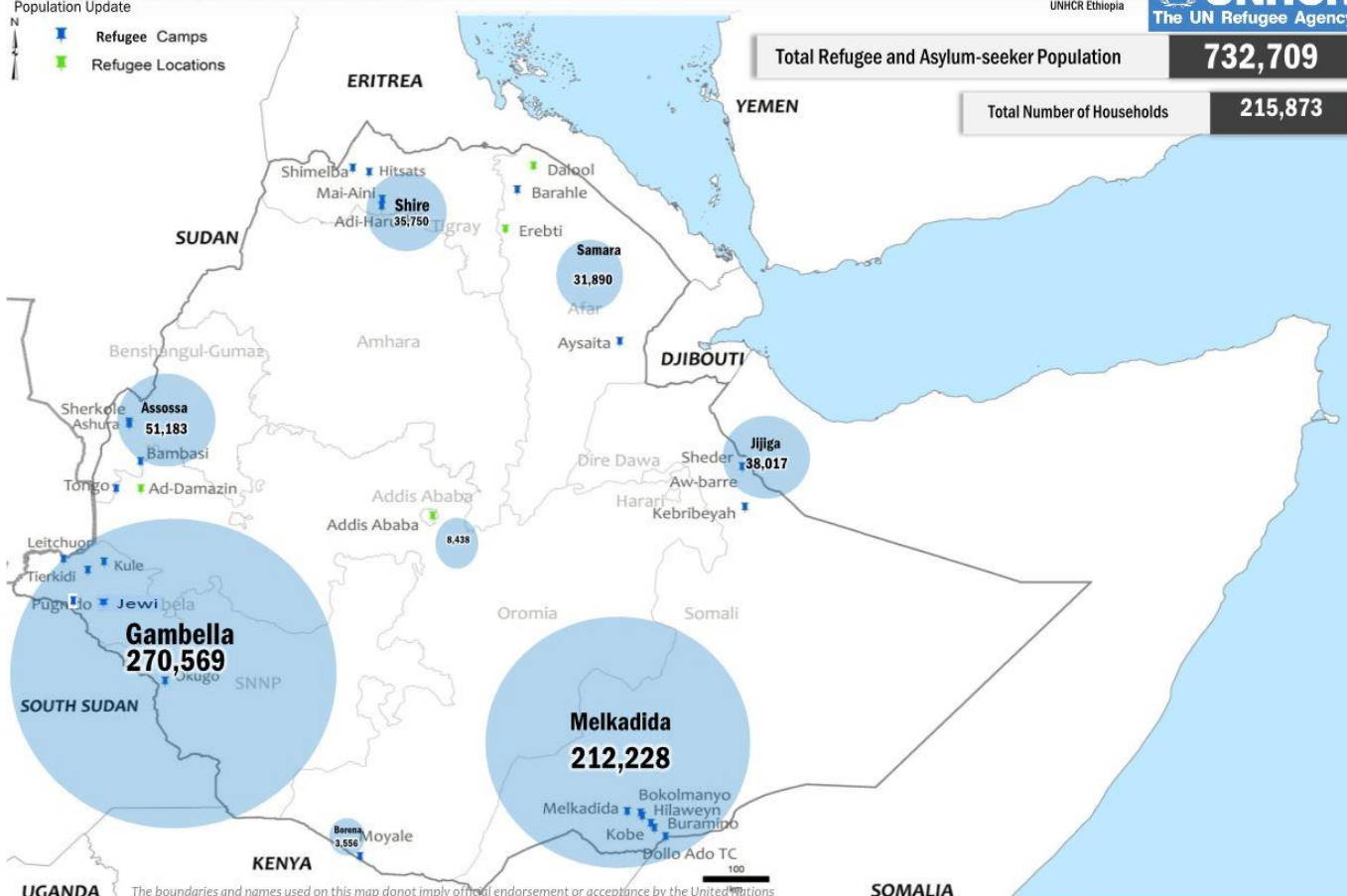
Refugee Locations

Total Refugee and Asylum-seeker Population

732,709

Total Number of Households

215,873



The boundaries and names used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations

Sources UNHCR proGres For more information, contact [mutueran@unhcr.org](mailto:mutueran@unhcr.org)

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