

ETHIOPIA EMERGENCY SITUATION

31 July 2022



ETHIOPIA. 4 August 2021, UNHCR and Ethiopian officials register Eritrean refugees in Addis Ababa. © UNHCR/Olga Sarrado Mur

Key Developments

ETHIOPIA

The month of July saw fuel shortages in Addis Ababa and regional states. With indications that the government plans to discontinue fuel subsidies, related costs are also expected to rise, aggravating the significantly escalating cost of living in the country, including an increase in the price of consumables, essential commodities, and transportation. These price increases will impact UNHCR's activities in the country, including supply of goods and services.

Since the resumption of humanitarian convoys into Tigray in April, a total of 4,765 trucks carrying relief supplies have so far entered the region, including more than 60 trucks from UNHCR. Two WFP fuel tankers reached Mekelle at the end of the third week of July. The shortage of fuel to sustain relief operations in Tigray remains a critical bottleneck, hindering onward distribution of relief supplies from Mekelle to other areas.

The Mekelle Airport reopened and resumed operations on 2 July after a ten-day closure which had negatively impacted the flow of humanitarian supplies, including cash, into Tigray.

Ethiopia Response

The humanitarian situation across northern Ethiopia continues to seriously impact refugees, the internally displaced and host communities. Civilians have endured months of conflict with extremely limited basic services and assistance available, leading to a significant escalation in humanitarian needs with ongoing new displacements. The security situation remains volatile, affecting civilians and constraining humanitarian actors on the ground, despite the announcement of a humanitarian truce.

On 4 July, the French ambassador to Ethiopia led a delegation to Agatina IDP site, Afar region. While the delegation took note that the reception conditions in Agatina site were generally at or above emergency standards, UNHCR and partners raised critical outstanding issues namely the urgent need for food distribution and improved healthcare services.

During the reporting period, the U.S. Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa visited Ethiopia for the second visit time taking on the role in June 2022. The Ambassador's visit focused on progress in delivery of humanitarian assistance, accountability for human rights violations and efforts to advance peace talks between the Government of Ethiopia and Tigrayan authorities.

Eritrean Refugee Response

TIGRAY

Health services resumed in the Mai Aini and Adi Harush refugee camps with the support of UNHCR providing fuel for ambulances to facilitate the referral of emergency cases to Shire and other referral hospitals. Salaries of health staff were paid for the first time after ten months.

Primary education also restarted in both camps with 826 learners (389 girls, 440 boys) enrolled in Adi Harush and 457 learners (244 girls, 213 boys) in Mai Aini. Despite the closure of school for the July - September break, catch-up classes continued during this period. A total of 40 children have also been enrolled in the Early Childhood Care Development (ECCD) program in Mai Aini.

Water supply services also resumed in July in Mai Aini and Adi Harush camps. The water is currently pumped from the boreholes with Mai Aini being supplied with 60,000 litres of water per day while Adi Harush receives 70,000 litres benefiting households and health centres in the camps.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) initiated phone call services in the Mai Aini and Adi Harush camps addressing one of the key issues raised during UNHCR Protection counselling hours.

Throughout Tigray, UNHCR continues to reach out to Eritrean refugees and provide cash support to the most vulnerable. In Adigrat, 280 refugees with different protection concerns benefitted from cash and 53 refugees and asylum seekers sought protection counselling at the reception centre.

AFAR

Following a UNHCR/OHCHR joint mission to Berhale in June, the worda administration reported in July that approximately 80% of Eritrean refugees have returned to Berhale. Refugees returned from Serdo refugee site due to the difficult living conditions and with the intention to restart livelihoods activities in Berhale such as salt mining. While the mission confirmed the return of significant numbers of Eritrean refugees to Berhale camp, the current number is still to be verified. Service delivery has not yet resumed.

AMHARA

The number of refugee arrivals in Alemwach site has decreased compared to the heavy influx observed in preceding months. According to refugees, this is due to the heavy rains and high-water levels en route to Alemwach. The current refugee population in Alemwach stands at 15,055 persons with the arrival of 278 refugees in July.

While all refugees have a shelter in Alemwach, the current concern is the condition of the site due to the heavy flooding. UNHCR has constructed drainage canals in the site to redirect surface runoff and plans are underway to place sandbags around each of the tents in the camp to prevent flood waters from inundating refugee shelters. Additional funding is needed to conduct site improvements to ensure refugees are better protected from adverse weather.

WFP food rations have also reduced by up to 40%, significantly impacting refugee food security and nutrition status.

BENISHANGUL-GUMUZ

The security situation in the region has remained tense with incidents of fighting reported around Assosa. Since 8 July, Assosa city was placed under a “temporary curfew” from 8:00 PM to 6:00 AM with pedestrians only allowed to move around until 9:00 PM.

The setup of Tsore site is ongoing with 929 emergency shelters and 15 shared family latrines having been completed and handed over to refugees. The construction of 400 additional emergency shelters and 100 communal latrines to accommodate refugees still living in Gure and Tongo hangars has also been initiated.

Protection services were provided to persons with specific needs and included the distribution of wheelchairs, mental health and psychosocial support services, psychiatric referrals, and capacity building on psychological first aid. A total of 68 solar lights were also installed and 18,000 kg of firewood was distributed.

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)



Protection: Secondary displacements continued to take place in Adigrat. A total of 7,125 IDPs living within host communities were moved to IDP schools as they were not able to pay their house rent. A Rapid Response Mission (RRM) led by OCHA was conducted in Adigrat and Fatsi alongside UNHCR, OCHA, OHCHR and IOM to assess their living conditions and protection risks.

A Protection Cluster and CCCM mission, led by OCHA, undertook a protection assessment in Quiha woreda in Mekelle. The population consists of 9,600 individuals, who arrived between January and June 2022, from Semera IDP site in Afar and live in seven villages in the host communities. This population intends to return to Abala (Afar) as soon as the situation improves. Shelter, food, and health services, including psychosocial support for gender-based violence survivors are the top priorities. UNHCR and partners are establishing a Protection Desk for counselling and referrals.

UNHCR, together with the Protection Cluster supported IDP profiling and pre-registration at Semera and Agatina IDP sites, following the regional Disaster Prevention and Food Security Program Coordination Office (DPFSPCO) request to facilitate the return of 7,336 Tigrayan IDPs living in Semera. All the IDPs in the Semera IDP site confirmed they would like to return to Abala while the majority of Agatina residents prefer to be relocated to Tigray. DPFSPCO, local authorities and community leaders are also conducting peace and reconciliation missions to rebuild trust and mutual acceptance among communities prior to the returns. Relocation to Tigray and return to other locations in Afar will commence as soon as these efforts are completed.

The Protection team trained twenty-seven social workers on Protection Monitoring in Maichew, Mehoni and Chercher woredas in collaboration with UNHCR partner *Imagine One Day*. Social workers were provided with basic trainings on the Kobo tool to collect protection data, UNHCR's mandate and Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE). The social workers were issued with twenty-five mobiles with power banks for use in conducting key informant interviews in the three woredas.

The Protection Cluster and partners organized a workshop on "Mainstreaming of Persons with Disabilities and Older Persons at Risk in Humanitarian Assistance Programming". The workshop focused on the importance of protection monitoring and the inclusion of persons with disabilities (PWD) and other persons with specific needs (PSN) during programming and response in all sectors. The workshop was attended by thirty-five humanitarian partners from UN agencies, NGOs, INGOs and regional authorities.

UNHCR's Protection and Information Management teams conducted a Protection Monitoring training on how to effectively set up the protection desks throughout the region. The training was attended by 24 participants from the Protection monitoring partner Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY), World Vision, Wollo University, Development, and Inter-Church Aid Commission (DICAC) and CCCM partner Development Expertise Centre (DEC).



Shelter and Non-food Items: UNHCR supported the agency *Imagine One Day* in the establishment of a Women and Girls Safe Space (WGSS) and a Child Friendly space (CFS) in Maichew, Mehoni and Chercher towns by providing plastic sheets, mats and blankets. UNHCR also supported the One Stop Centre in Lemlem Karl Hospital with cash to cover transportation, meals, and medical expenses for gender-based violence survivors who have been referred to Mekelle for further medical treatment. UNHCR partner DEC also distributed NFIs to 150 most vulnerable IDPs and host community households in Alamata woreda.

UNHCR partner DICAC supported gender-based violence survivors with referrals for immediate medical care at the One Stop Centre in Dessie and Woldiya. The Woldiya One Stop Centre received blankets, mattresses, underwear, soap and sanitary pads. From 16 - 19 July, UNHCR conducted focus group discussions, distributed NFIs to 5,794 IDPs living in Fatsi Fikada elementary school and set up a protection desk. UNHCR also plans to set up fifty family tents.



Camp Coordination and Camp Management: In Jara IDP site that currently hosts 29,793 IDPs, 433 communal shelters with a capacity to accommodate more than 2,000 IDPs have been constructed. 200 were erected by UNHCR partner DEC. The IDP CCCM team and Relocation task force are currently assisting in the identification of IDPs to be relocated to the constructed shelter following established vulnerability criteria. The construction of communal kitchens is also in progress with 36 blocks completed and 14 ongoing.

Sudan Response

On 17 July, Ethiopian refugees in Tunaydbah and Um Rakuba camps organized peaceful demonstrations to protest the 50% food ration cut and refused to allow the July food distribution to proceed as planned. Following the protests, UNHCR held a series of discussions with refugee leaders in Babikri, Tunaydbah and Um Rakuba, in close collaboration with the Commissioner of Refugees (COR) and WFP, to explore alternative solutions to help with the food gap and persuade the refugee leaders to allow the July food distribution to take place. Consequently, the July food distribution began in Tunaydbah on 27 July, with the presence of UNHCR, COR, WFP, and other partners as well as refugee leaders.

Following the establishment of a technical sub-committee by Gedaref's Solutions Working Group, an agreement was arrived upon, on the modality of and the locations targeted for a host community needs assessment. A total of six localities have been identified for the assessment and include: Al Fao, Al Mafaza, eastern Gallabat,

Basunda and Gedaref town. The technical sub-committee begun the assessment on 5 July in Al Mafaza locality, followed by Basunda on 19 July and later the other localities. The assessment is expected to conclude in August.



Protection: The number of new arrivals in the first two weeks of July decreased by over 70% compared to the same period in June, with 29 new arrivals recorded in Taya border entry point (15) and Hamdayet (14). All the new arrivals are male.

The participatory assessment conducted from May to July in Babikri, Tunaydbah, Um Rakuba and Village 8 in collaboration with COR and several partners, was concluded and a draft report shared with members of the Refugee Working Group for review. Preliminary results of the assessment reveal that livelihood opportunities are one of the key areas of concern for refugees who indicated that the lack of work permits, and restricted movement often affects their access to livelihood opportunities and ultimately their socioeconomic conditions. These limitations were also identified as a key contributing factor to heightened protection risks and issues, such as child exploitation, school dropouts and different forms of gender-based violence.



Camp Coordination and Camp Management: Some parts of Babikri settlement and Tunaydbah camp were flooded following heavy rainstorms during the first two weeks of July. UNHCR is working to replace damaged shelters as well as reinforce drainage canals. WFP will provide full food rations to affected refugees (instead of the 50% ration) to compensate for portions lost in the flooding. Drainage canals in both locations will also be reinforced to facilitate surface run-off.

KENYA

NEW ARRIVALS AND BORDER DYNAMICS

Kakuma and Kalobeyei: A total of 52 Ethiopians are currently residing at Kakuma and Kalobeyei reception centers.

Daadab: During the period of 1 - 14 July, UNHCR's legal partner the Refugee Consortium of Kenya (RCK), conducted border monitoring and reported the arrival of 27 Ethiopian migrants (14 females, 13 males) into the country through the El Wak and Mandera border points. All individuals reported to have arrived in Kenya in search of economic opportunities mainly casual labour. Since the beginning of the year, 397 Ethiopians have been documented as crossing into the country through the Mwingi, Mandera, El Wak and Wajir border areas.

SOUTH SUDAN

NEW ARRIVALS AND BORDER DYNAMICS

On 26 July, about 27 Ethiopians (17 females and 10 males) crossed from Ethiopia to South Sudan at Pagak border point. Most were children between the ages of 0-18 and originally from New Land and Dipo areas of Gambella region. The asylum seekers stated that their movements from Ethiopia to South Sudan were intensified by the recent conflicts. Some of the asylum seekers are being accommodated at Kuerdeng area within Maiwut Centre, Payam while most of them are being accommodated by host community members at their residences.

SOMALIA

NEW ARRIVALS AND BORDER DYNAMICS

During the month of July, in Dollow, UNHCR recorded 92 individuals outgoing towards Ethiopia and 723 individuals entering Somalia. Most of those entering Somalia were Ethiopians of Somali and Oromo ethnicity,

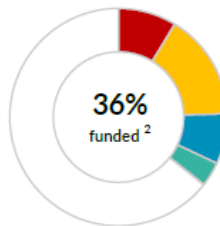
as well as spontaneous Somali refugee-returnees moving due to drought and conflict in Ethiopia and have now settled in Kabasa and Qanaxley IDP sites in Dollow.

Funding Overview



\$205.4 million

UNHCR's financial requirements 2022 ¹



FUNDING UPDATE | 2022

ETHIOPIA EMERGENCY

as of 2 August 2022



CONTRIBUTIONS ³ | USD

	Unearmarked	Softly earmarked	Earmarked	Tightly earmarked	Total
Japan	-	-	6,000,000	1,500,000	7,500,000
United Arab Emirates	-	-	5,000,000	-	5,000,000
Italy	-	-	-	1,462,710	1,462,710
Education Cannot Wait	-	-	-	1,280,000	1,280,000
UNO-Fluechtlingshilfe	-	538,221	-	-	538,221
European Union	-	-	-	489,744	489,744
Spain	-	-	-	38,900	38,900
Other private donors	-	104,137	-	-	104,137
Sub-total	-	642,358	11,000,000	4,771,354	16,413,712
Indicative allocation of funds and adjustments	7,467,221	14,785,822	21,501,588	13,048,552	56,803,184
Total	7,467,221	15,428,180	32,501,588	17,819,906	73,216,896

Methodology: Unearmarked funding is allocated and reallocated multiple times during the year to allow UNHCR to fund prioritised activities. This funding update includes an indicative allocation of funds so as to accurately represent the resources available for the country. The contributions earmarked for Ethiopia Emergency shown above are combined with an indicative allocation of the softly earmarked and unearmarked contributions listed below. This allocation respects different levels of earmarking. Adjustments relate to programme support costs and carry-over.

OTHER SOFTLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS ⁴ | USD

United States of America 87 million | Canada 12.4 million | Private donors USA 6.2 million | Private donors Australia 5.9 million | Sweden 5.8 million | Private donors Germany 3.9 million | Switzerland 3.6 million | Republic of Korea 2.9 million | Netherlands 2.6 million | Norway 2.2 million | France 2.1 million

Education Cannot Wait | Iceland | Luxembourg | Spain | UN Programme on HIV/AIDS | Private donors

UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS ⁵ | USD

Sweden 99.3 million | Norway 72.5 million | Private donors Spain 39 million | Netherlands 37.2 million | Denmark 35.6 million | United Kingdom 28.1 million | Germany 27 million | Private donors Japan 26.6 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 19.5 million | Private donors USA 19.5 million | France 18.5 million | Switzerland 18.4 million | Belgium 11.9 million | Ireland 11.8 million | Private donors Italy 11.3 million | Italy 10 million

Algeria | Armenia | Australia | Azerbaijan | Bulgaria | Canada | Costa Rica | Estonia | Finland | Iceland | Kuwait | Liechtenstein | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Monaco | Montenegro | New Zealand | Peru | Philippines | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Saudi Arabia | Singapore | Thailand | Türkiye | Uruguay | Private donors

Notes:

- The financial requirements of the Ethiopia Emergency include requirements in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan.
- The percentage funded (36%) and total funding amount (\$73,216,896) are indicative based on the methodology described above. This leaves an indicative funding gap of \$132,204,992 representing 64% of the financial requirements.
- Contributions to the Ethiopia Emergency are shown by the earmarking modality as defined in the Grand Bargain.
- Due to their earmarking at a related region, sub-region, country or theme, the other softly earmarked contributions listed are those which can potentially be used for the Ethiopia Emergency. Where a donor has contributed \$2 million or more, the total amount of the contribution is shown.
- Contributed without restrictions on its use, unearmarked funding allows UNHCR critical flexibility in how best to reach refugees and other populations of concern who are in the greatest need and at the greatest risk. Where a donor has contributed \$10 million or more, the total amount of the contribution is shown.

For more information: <http://reporting.unhcr.org>

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