

Djibouti

01-28 February 2022

Djibouti is one of the most **politically stable** countries in the region and hosts approximately **34 990** refugees and asylum seekers from the neighboring countries and continues to receive simultaneous arrivals

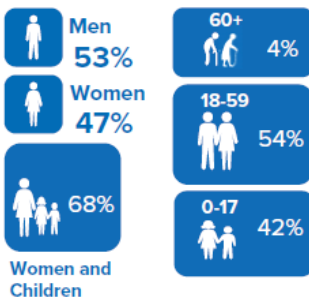
from Somalia, Ethiopia, and Yemen. **Largest group** of refugees are **Somalis** and **Yemenis**, while most of asylum seekers are **Ethiopians** and **Eritreans**.

UNHCR and its partners continued to provide protection, assistance, and solutions to persons of concern across the country.

KEY INDICATORS



23,478 refugees
11,512 asylum seekers

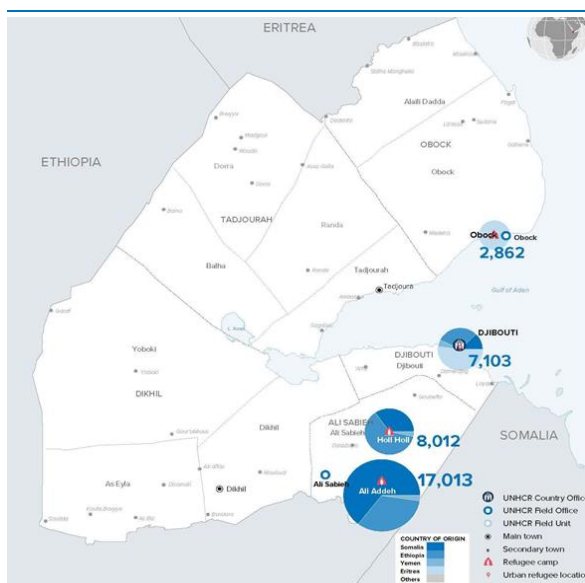
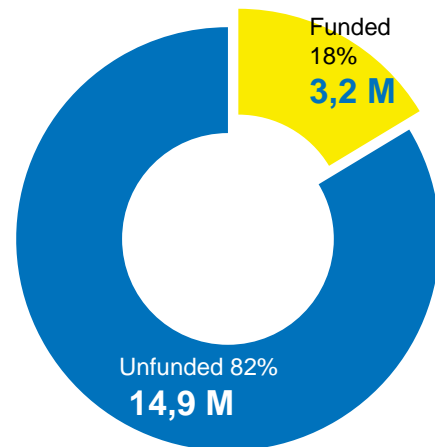


175 new arrivals of whom 79 Tigrayans

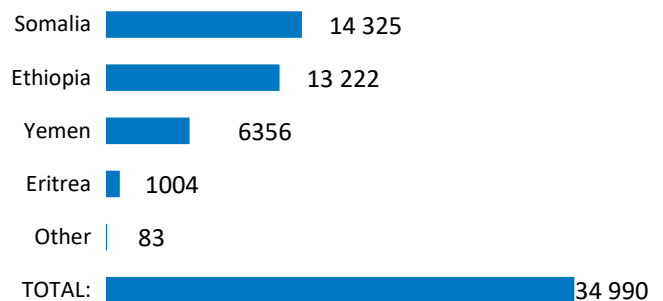
FUNDING (AS OF 1ST MARCH)

USD 18,2 M

requested for the Djibouti operation



POPULATION OF CONCERN BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN





Ministry of Social Affairs and UNHCR Representative proceeding to the official inauguration of social center in Balbala in Djibouti city. UNHCR/Deka Hassan

Update On Achievements

Operational Context

The operational context in Djibouti remained generally stable. In February, campaign for municipal and regional elections took place peacefully throughout the country. A total of 215,687 voters are registered for this fourth edition of the municipal and regional election, aiming for greater representation of Djiboutian civil society in public authorities.

Notwithstanding the overall calm situation, it is to be noted the arrest a former Budget Minister. The General Prosecutor announced the existence of a fraudulent connivance between some traders and two officials of the Ministry of the Budget for the misappropriation of several billion Djiboutian currency from the national treasury. Thus, a former Budget Minister and two other personalities of the Ministry have been arrested for further investigations.

The country continues to welcome refugees and asylum seekers from neighboring countries. A slight increase in the number of asylum seekers from Ethiopia have been observed, in relation with the situation in Ethiopia. In total, 175 new arrivals have been registered, of whom 79 Tigrayans.

The UNHCR continue to support the government in national asylum system capacity buildings. Through the National Office for Assistance to Refugee (ONARS), UNHCR provides technical support to the government reinforce the capacity to the eligibility team to conduct refugee status determination particular birth registration. During the reporting period, the operation hosted two missions from the regional bureau. The Deputy Director and Head of Protection Service from the Regional Bureau interacted, from 8 to 10 February, with senior Government officials. This mission paved the way for another regional mission for technical support to conduct a government led assessment and organize a workshop in March on the national refugee status determination strategy.

On February 21st, the Representative took part, alongside the ministry of Social Affairs and Solidarities, and the ministry of Health, to the opening of a social center number 6 (guichet social) in Balbala, a suburb of Djibouti home for thousands of refugees. This center will offer the refugees, most in need, to access the national solidarity family programme (Safetynet) to improve their living conditions. With this opening of the social center, refugees most in need will receive a monthly grant of about USD 170. The event marks the fulfillment of one of the pledges of the Djiboutian government for the inclusion of refugees within the framework of the CRRF ([national TV coverage](#)).

Under the reporting period, the UNHCR participated to a two-day (23rd to 24th February) conference, organized conjointly by the IGAD and the ministry of Interior (ONARS), on national dialogue on forced displacements in Djibouti. This national dialogue brought together relevant stakeholders to discuss and reflect on situations of forced displacement and promote the protection of refugees and asylum seekers as part of the broader migration movement in Djibouti. The government of Djibouti also used the opportunity to update stakeholders on their progress in the implementation of Djibouti's global commitments (Global Compact on Refugees, Global Refugee Forum (GRF) and CRRF) and regional commitments on forced displacement (Nairobi process).

Achievements



PROTECTION

UNHCR, in coordination with ONARS, continues to ensure the protection of refugees and asylum seekers living in the three refugees' villages (Ali-Addeh, Holl-Holl and Markazi) and the urban refugees in the capital.

- In February 2022, the operation welcomed 175 new arrivals: 37 in Markazi, and 138 Ethiopian. Of the new arrivals 79 are of Tigrayan ethnic group, 57 Oromo and 2 Amharra.
- 274 refugee attestations and 100 asylum-seeker attestations and 146 ID cards were issued in the reporting period.
- In urban areas, 2 reception sessions were carried out and 26 complaints were processed and directed to the appropriate services. In Holl-Holl; 1 session was organized and 17 people oriented.
- The SGBV partner UNFD recorded 6 cases in urban areas (psychological violence, denial of resources and physical aggression) and provided the necessary assistance and follow-up. As part of the Holl-Holl prevention program, the UNFD organized 3 awareness sessions on the different types of violence and on GBV for 30 individuals.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Absence of child protection and community service partners since the departure of ICAN, the implementing partner.



EDUCATION

- Through the Ministry of National Education and Vocational Training (MENFOP), UNHCR provides education services to refugee pupils and students. As of date, over 4,776 students and pupils are registered in the different school of the three refugee villages.
- During the reporting period, midterm exams have been carried out in the national level, as well as in schools in the refugee villages. In addition, the practical sessions the baccalaureate and for the general certificate of secondary education have been carried out.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Lack of inspector in the refugee schools, to coordinate the examens and promulgation of exam' results.
- A new child protection partner is needed to replace the outgoing ICAN partner in order to improve the supervision of children and the monitoring of school activities.



HEALTH

Refugees are included in the national health system and benefits for support for primary and secondary health care.

- In February 2022, the ministry of health launched the campaign for the vaccination against the polio in the national level, including the refugee villages.
- The health coordinator carried out the quarterly delivery of medicines and hygienic products in Obock.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Need to install a solar refrigerator in the health center of the village of Markazi for the conservation of medicines against heat.

LIVELIHOOD

- The Minister of Social Affairs and Solidarity visited the village of Markazi to learn about the living conditions of refugees. She had urged the director of the Djiboutian social development agency to hold discussion anew with community leaders on new strategies to adopt to improve the livelihoods and resilience of Yemeni refugees in Markazi.
- The partner ADDS has undertaken the creation of two additional groups for income generating activities (IGA). In addition, ADDS continues to follow-up the supervision and monitoring of IGA income generating activities for women in the three refugee villages.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Need to strengthen the learning of trades for young refugees through vocational training in technical fields to meet the demand of the local market like automotive mechanics, sheet metal work, painting, welding, masonry, electricity, plumbing, etc.
- Need to strengthen the empowerment of refugee women (bachelor holders and others) through the financial grant of their promising projects by ADDS.



WATER AND SANITATION

- The Direction of Rural Hydraulics (DHR) continues the implementation of WASH activities in the refugee villages.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Need to distribute new 200-liter tanks per social housing and need to construct two new solid waste points in the Saudi sector in Markazi village.



SHELTER AND NFIS

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Absence of implementing partner since the imminent departure of the implementing partner (NRC) for the construction of permanent shelters.

- Markazi- Need to build a transit site for new arrivals and need to build 150 new permanent shelters (100 homes for large families and 50 homes for single people) on the site. Those new shelters will help with the continuity of new waves of families from Yemen, the average of which is estimated at 50 families per month. This current situation leads to a promiscuity of families on the site.
- Within the security framework of the shelters, there is a need for fire extinguisher equipment in the village, and especially during the summer when the winds are violent because no administrative structures currently have it in their enclosures.



CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

- Three meetings held with the committees (elderly committees, people living with disabilities committees, GBV committee and women's committee) for information about the preparation for the empowerment of the committees next month.



DURABLE SOLUTIONS

- Nine cases are currently under emergency resettlement considerations, and review by the regional bureau.
- 4 cases / 21 individuals departed on resettlement to Sweden.
- Field Office of Ali-Sabieh followed up on a family reunification case whose resettled members are in the United States of America. The office confirmed the physical address as well as the family composition of the members in Djibouti.

Working in partnership

UNHCR leads the multi-sector response for refugees and asylum seekers at the Ali Addeh, Holl-Holl and Markazi villages as well as in urban areas. Close collaboration is maintained with the Government of Djibouti and authorities at all levels, sister UN agencies, international and national non-governmental organizations (NGOs), development partners as well as refugee and host community leaders to ensure optimal coordination of response and durable solutions for persons of concern to UNHCR.

UNHCR works with national and international partners, namely:

- The Ministry of Interior through the government department in charge of refugee-related issues, l'Office National d'Assistance aux Réfugiés et Sinistrés (ONARS), which manages the refugee settlements.
- Ministry of Education (MENFOP): education and vocational training;
- Ministry of Health: health/reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, and nutrition;
- Ministry of Agriculture, in charge of Water: water, sanitation, hygiene;
- Ministry of Habitat, Urban Planning and Environment: firewood;
- L'Union Nationale des Femmes de Djibouti (UNFD) : SGBV.

External / Donors Relations

Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2022

Sweden (77.6 M) | Norway (72.5 M) | Netherlands (37.2 M) | Denmark (35.6 M) | Germany (27.6 M) | Belgium (11.9 M) | Ireland (11.8 M)

Thanks to other donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2022

Algeria | Armenia | Bulgaria | Canada | Estonia | Finland | Iceland | Liechtenstein | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Monaco | Republic of Korea | Saudi Arabia | Singapore | Thailand | Turkey | Uruguay

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