



ETHIOPIA FACTSHEET

June 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

704,816 Total
number of refugees

36,733
New arrivals in 2015

49.6%
Percentage of women
and girls

36,109
Number of
Unaccompanied Minors
and Separated Children

Population of concern

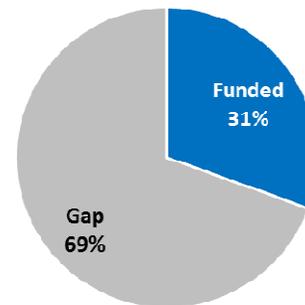
A total of **704,816** of concern

By country of origin

Country	Total PoC
South Sudan	275,415
Somalia	247,706
Eritrea	139,039
Sudan	36,863
Other nationalities	5,793
Total	704,816

Funding

USD 315 million requested



• Funding level as of 30 June 2015

UNHCR Presence

Staff:

- 310 national staff
- 87 international staff
- 101 individual contractors
- 36 deployees
- 8 IUNVs

Total: 542

Offices:

25 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, Nyn-yang, Pugnido), **Somali** (Jijiga, Melkadida, Aw-barre, Sheder, Kebribeyah, Dollo Ado, Bokolmanyoo, Kobe, Hilaweyn, Buramino) and **Tigray** (Shire, Mekele, Embamadre, Shimelba).

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 forums 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.
- 44 partners, including government agencies, national and international non-governmental organizations and UN agencies work closely with UNHCR to support the refugees in the country.
- An effective coordination environment was established in response to the Level 3 emergency with refugees arriving from South Sudan; 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 over 18 countries, with the majority originating from South Sudan, Somalia, Eritrea and Sudan.
- Most asylum-seekers from neighboring countries and lately Yemen, are granted refugee status on a prima facie basis. 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 6,600 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, with additional resources devoted to these children in 2014 under the Child Protection Regional Initiative. 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

- UNHCR has just finalized its Refugee Education Strategy 2015-2018 which was validated and adopted in a two-day workshop attended by education experts and officials representing UNHCR, the government refugee agency (ARRA), the Ministry of Education (MoE), UNICEF, and all NGOs working in the refugee education sector. The strategy, which contextualized the UNHCR global Refugee Education Strategy 2012-2016, aims at fostering a shared-vision among all stakeholders regarding refugee education programming by identifying and prioritizing needs, actions and approaches. It will as well be used as an advocacy tool in resource mobilization, as well as support in effectively evaluating and monitoring refugee education programs.

Health

- Ninety-four refugees in Bambasi, Sherkole and Tongo camps in the Benishangul-Gumuz Region were among a total of 127 patients who benefitted from a highly successful cataract surgery. The remaining 33 patients were Ethiopian nationals residing

near the refugee camps. The operations were conducted by surgeons working in Ayira and Assosa hospitals in Ethiopia, and post-operative assessment done on the following day showed a 100% success rate with no reported complications. Having regained their sight, the patients were able to return home without a guide on the following day. The exercise was hailed as a symbol of the excellent cooperation UNHCR has forged with local health institutions authorities in jointly addressing some of the public health problems of the refugee and the host community in a most cost-effective manner.

Nutrition and Food Security

- UNHCR, in collaboration with its health and nutrition partners (ARRA and MSF-H), completed the annual nutrition and health surveys in the four refugee camps (Maiani, Adi-Harush, Shimelba and Hitsats) in the Shire region, home to thousands of Eritrean refugees. Nutrition team is working on the preliminary report to be complete and shared with partners.

Water and Sanitation

- WASH partners in Gambella and Assosa have scaled up hygiene awareness activities, distribution of soap and environmental hygiene activities aimed at proactively responding to seasonal spikes in diarrheal incidences occasioned by the ongoing rainy season. In addition, emergency preparedness and response plans are being reviewed as part of a contingency planning for possible Hepatitis E or Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD) outbreak in the two locations.
- In Jewi camp, technical designs for the permanent water scheme and drilling of 2 of the 5 planned boreholes were completed. Construction materials recovered from Leitchuor camp will complement new fixtures to cost-effectively deliver the water scheme in the newest camp in the country.
- Efforts to improve latrine coverage in parts of Kule and Tierkidi camps are being hampered by ongoing rains as stability and usability of latrines is affected by soil characteristics and a rising water table. However, partners are responding actively by increasing pace of implementation and replacements of affected latrines.
- Installation of 'solar hybrid' water pumping system for Kobe camp commenced. The project will significantly reduce the operating costs and deliver in excess of 50% (400,000 litres) of daily water needs using solar power.

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 generally happen both at the zonal and camp levels. In addition, technical working groups also meet regularly on such issues as child protection, SGBV, education, WASH and Health/Nutrition.

Access to Energy

- A total of 600 solar street lights and 1,614 solar lanterns have been received in Gambella during the reporting month for immediate distribution to the five refugee camps sheltering more than 265,000 South Sudanese refugees.
- UNHCR's energy partner, ZOA Refugee Care, distributed rocket stoves to some 2,000 households in the newest Jewi refugee camp in Gambella.
- Sub-office Dollo Ado distributed 12,500 solar lanterns to the Somali refugees in the different camps.
- Seedling plating has commenced in camps in the Gambella, Benishangul-Gumuz and Somali (Jijiga) regions.
- World Environment Day 2015 was colorfully marked in all refugee camps in the Ethiopia.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- UNHCR's self-reliance programme in Dollo Ado, Ethiopia, supported by donors, including the IKEA Foundation, complements the Government's development programme and includes refugees and host communities. This programme takes a developmental approach, with improving livelihoods being highlighted as one of the primary areas of focus whereby people can take a greater level of responsibility for their lives and livelihoods. Moreover, as the camps are situated in a drought-prone area, this approach aims to build refugees' resilience in anticipation of their imminent return to their places of origin in Somalia. A resulting increase in household income including the ownership of animals and agriculture activities has already been noted since 2013 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 operations. 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 over 200,000 Somali refugees in the Dollo Ado area.

- In the Jijiga area where there are three camps hosting nearly 40,000 Somali refugees, UNHCR engages refugees and 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 conflict continues in several countries of origin effectively precluding voluntary repatriation, while local integration remains elusive. Ethiopia's resettlement referral target for 2015 is 5,965 individuals.
- As of June 2015, a total of 820 cases (2,397 individuals) were referred to the Regional Support Hub in Nairobi for onward submission to resettlement countries.
- 563 cases (1,619 individuals) have been submitted to resettlement countries by the Hub in Nairobi.

Logistics

- In June, UNHCR imported 612,030 bars of soap, 43,512 plastic buckets, 1,799 pieces of 50-meter plastic rolls, 4,296 jerry cans (20lt) and 49,920 pieces of sanitary pads for women.
- During the reporting month, 20,000 blankets, 300,000 bars of soap, 50,000 mosquito nets, 10,000 plastic sheetings, 4,000 buckets, 2,994 kg plumpy nut and 1,614 solar lanterns were dispatched from Addis Ababa to Sub-Office Gambella. Similarly, 2,770 school uniforms and 1,242 kg plumpy nut were sent to Field Office Semera.

UNHCR is grateful for the direct contributions to the UNHCR Ethiopia Operation in 2015 from:



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

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Refugees and Asylum-seekers in Ethiopia

30 June 2015



Population Update

unhcr.org/ethiopia

- Refugee Camps
- Refugee Locations

Total Refugee and Asylum-seeker Population

704,816

Total Number of Households

201,748

