



Eritrean refugees in Hitsats camp present flower bouquet to High Commissioner Filippo Grandi

ETHIOPIA

FACTSHEET

January 2016

HIGHLIGHTS

731,071

Total number of
refugees

38,858

Number of
Unaccompanied Minors
and Separated Children

49.7%

Percentage of women and
girls

56.6%

Percentage of Children

Population of concern- updated

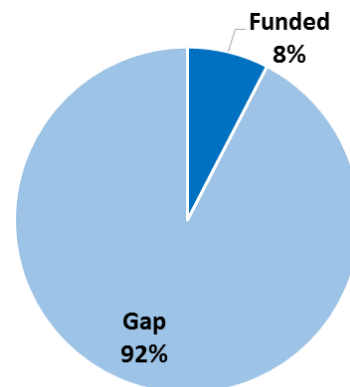
A total of **731,071** of concern
(As of 31 January 2016)

By country of origin

Country	Total PoC
South Sudan	283,416
Somalia	250,182
Eritrea	152,604 *
Sudan	38,329
Other nationalities	6,540
Total	731,071

Funding

USD 280.0 million requested



UNHCR Presence

Staff:

319 national staff
101 international staff
89 individual contractors
32 deployees
7 IUNVs

Total: 548

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 8,120 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 the five camps under Sub-Office Melkadida, UNHCR, in collaboration with the Regional Health Bureau, ARRA and other pertinent partners, started a meningitis A vaccination campaign as part of the national campaign to reduce the spread of meningitis A, the most common type of meningitis in Ethiopia. The campaign targets refugees in the age bracket of 1-29 years of age, and more than 145,000 (70% of the population) are expected to be vaccinated in the campaign.

- In Gambella, the meningitis vaccination campaign was successfully completed. It lasted for 10 days in Tierkidi camp but was extended by one additional day in Kule camp to enhance coverage. A total of 74,626 refugees were vaccinated, representing above 95% coverage based on a rapid convenience survey after completion of the campaign. Coverage based on the number of registered refugees (administrative coverage) is 80%; the difference is due to high mobility of refugees and absences of refugees during the time of vaccination. No new cases of meningitis C have been reported in January.
- In Shire, more than 500 cases of scabies were reported in two camps, many of them among new arrivals and unaccompanied minors. Coordination meetings were conducted in all camps with partners to initiate a joint response of health, WASH and camp management actors. Health and hygiene promotion for the general population as well as case identification and follow up of families and close contacts was intensified, while additional medication for treatment was allocated to all health centers. An increase in scabies cases affects currently several regions of Ethiopia.

Nutrition and Food Security

- Following a formal handover this month of the Bokolmanyo nutrition program between Save the Children International, SCI, and International Medical Corps, IMC, the latter is now overseeing nutrition programmes in three of the five camps under Sub-Office Melkadida namely, Bokolmayo, Melkadida and Kobe.
- Cash grants programme commenced in all the five refugee camps under Sub-Office Melkadida and UNHCR's partner-PAPDA- is organizing training for business skills and book keeping, targeting the groups selected to receive the cash disbursements. Currently 55 groups have been selected and confirmed by ARRA from the five refugee camps while 13 potential cooperatives have been selected from the nearby five host community Kebeles. This was done in collaboration with the Woreda's Cooperatives Bureau.
- In Gambella, Enhanced Outreach Strategy (EOS) campaign was completed in all camps with 96% of the targeted children aged 24-59 months being dewormed, 95% of the children aged 6-59 months received Vitamin A supplementation and 97.3% of children aged 6-59 months being screened for acute malnutrition.

Water and Sanitation

- Installation of two solar pumping system in Pugnido 1 refugee camp and Pugnido town was completed and commissioned with capacity to supply 200,000 litres of water/day and 150,000 liters of water per day, respectively. The one in the town is supplying water to the host community and partners' compounds. In the past one year, four water schemes have been solarized in three field locations with the primary aim of reducing operational costs and enhancing sustainability.
- Ongoing drought conditions have resulted in drop in yield of boreholes in Shire and Afar field operations. However, due to sustained investment in back up boreholes, remedial measures such as lengthening pumping hours have ensured refugees and host population continue to receive adequate levels of service.
- Reports on Knowledge Attitude and Practice (KAP) surveys conducted in 15 camps indicate sustained or improved WASH indicators as compared to previous years particularly on per capita access to water and sanitation services.
- A feasibility study on possibility of utilizing **Sorenta** dam as an alternative source of water to serve Adi-Harush, Mai-Aini and surrounding host community in Sub-Office Shire was completed. The study comprised of preliminary designs and environmental and social impact assessments. The project, once implemented, is expected to provide a durable solution to perennial water shortage occasioned by variability of ground water aquifer in the area.

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.
- A total of 105,000 liters of ethanol was transported to the three refugee camps near Jijiga from the Metehara Sugar factory. Of these, 99,361 liters have already been distributed to beneficiary households.
- Training on Safety and Precaution on the use, storage and handling of ethanol and ethanol stoves was given for about 68 households in Sheder 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 5,750 individuals.
- In January 2016, 52 cases (240 individuals) were referred to the UNHCR Regional Support Hub in Nairobi for onward submission to resettlement countries.
- 34 cases (97 individuals) have been submitted to resettlement countries by the Hub in Nairobi.

Logistics

- In January, 14,820 blankets, 20,000 buckets, 7,495 pieces of kitchen sets and some plastic tarpaulins were distributed to camps under Sub-Office Melkadida.

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:

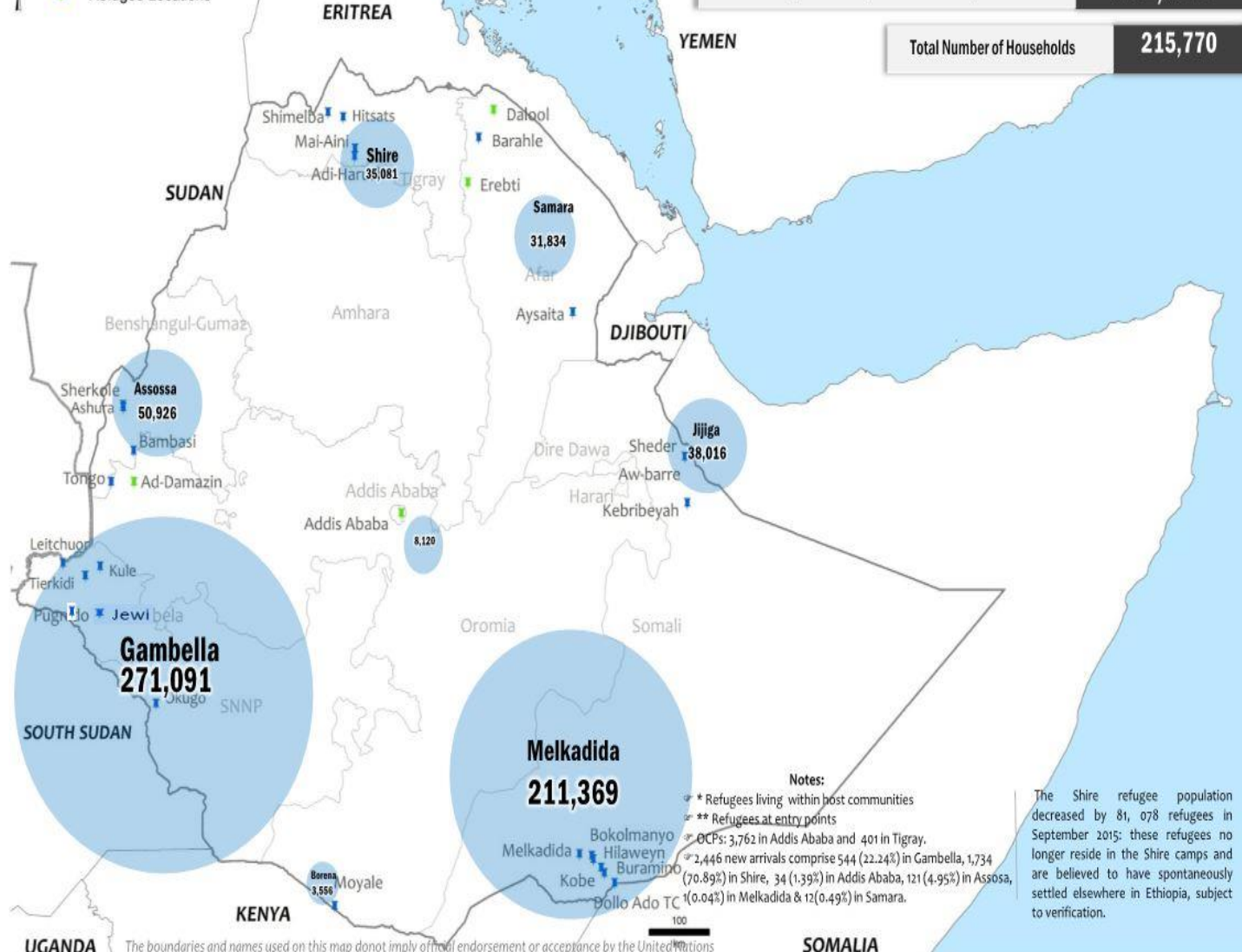
Sweden | Netherlands | Norway | Australia | Denmark | Switzerland | Germany | Algeria | Austria | Belgium | Estonia | Finland | Iceland | Indonesia | Kuwait | Luxembourg | Monaco | Mozambique | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Romania | Serbia | Singapore | Sri Lanka | Thailand | Turkey | United Arab Emirates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

Population Update

Refugee Camps
Refugee Locations

731,071

215,770



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