ETHIOPIA EMERGENCY SITUATION

30 June 2022

Internally displaced people due to the Tigray conflict have sought refuge in a medical centre in Mekelle © UNHCR/Olga Sarrado Mur

Key Developments

ETHIOPIA

The positive development of increased flow of humanitarian aid into the Tigray region continued into the month of June. On 11 June, the largest humanitarian convoy to date of 308 trucks arrived in Tigray with enough food aid to meet the needs of 800,000 people, according to WFP. As part of the same convoy, UNHCR transported a fuel tanker with 20,000 liters of diesel. The impact of the past month's steady increase of humanitarian supplies into Northern Ethiopia is also noticeable with more than 900,000 people having received food aid since 1 June in the Afar, Amhara and Tigray Regions.

On 14 June, the Prime Minister of Ethiopia announced for the first time that his government is working on negotiations to end the conflict with the TPLF. During an address to the Ethiopian Parliament, the Prime Minister announced that a committee has been established to lead the negotiations. The committee will be headed by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, and a deadline of 15 days has been set to work out the details of agendas for the negotiations. In an open letter by the President of the Tigray region to the African Union, and leadership of Kenya, Tanzania, and United Arab Emirates, they indicated their preparedness for peace negotiations.

Ethiopia Response

The humanitarian situation across northern Ethiopia continues to seriously impact refugees, the internally displaced and host communities. Civilians have endured over eighteen 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 20 June, the UNHCR Representative in Ethiopia met with the visiting ECHO Commissioner, along with the RC/HC, Regional Humanitarian Coordinator (RHC), and the heads of the World Bank, UNICEF, OCHA and ICRC. During the dinner hosted by the EU Ambassador, the Commissioner stressed that the EU will continue to advocate for full and unhindered access to the Tigray region. During the visit, the ECHO Commissioner highlighted the need for additional resources and efforts on resilience, in drought affected areas including on the need to spend less resources on humanitarian activities and more on development interventions.

On 21 June, the UNHCR Principal Situation Coordinator and the humanitarian community also met with the ECHO Commissioner and his delegation in Mekelle, Tigray. The delegation also met with authorities in Tigray, and the management of Ayader Referral Hospital. Humanitarian partners seized the opportunity to advocate for full humanitarian access, resumption of banking and telecommunication services, more fuel and cash access in Tigray, and additional support for agriculture and consideration for persons with disabilities.

Eritrean Refugee Response

TIGRAY

In June, UNHCR conducted a rapid protection assessment with a group of 85 urban refugees and asylum-seekers living in Shire. The discussion noted key challenges and the expectations of support, as well as an Action Plan geared to support urban refugees in Tigray.

Refugees continue to receive protection counselling and with a total of 67 refugees and asylum-seekers receiving protection counselling at the reception centre in Adigrat. Half of them were identified as most vulnerable and were assisted with core relief items (CRIs).

AFAR

From 1– 9 June, UNHCR, together with the Refugees and Returnees Service (RRS) and WFP conducted a general food distribution in Afar's Serdo refugee camp, for the months of April and May. A total of 13,769 Eritrean refugees received wheat, rice, salt, cooking oil, corn, peas, and cash assistance. Although most recipients are currently not staying at the camp due to difficult conditions and limited services, they availed themselves for the food distribution.

Through the protection desk, protection, nutrition, food, NFIs, health, safety and security, related queries were referred to RRS, and implementing partners for assistance. Many queries were also related to pending resettlement cases which UNHCR is following closely.

AMHARA

The Dabat Woreda health administration has included refugees in Alemwach in the national COVID-19 vaccination campaign. Six woreda health staff were assigned to Alemwach and so far, 3,367 refugees have received the COVID-19 vaccine in a campaign that begun on 9 June and is still ongoing. In addition, the woreda health administration is equally screening for scabies and providing treatment in the Alemwach refugee site. A total of 400 infected cases have been identified and are receiving treatment.

General food distribution resumed in Alemwach site following the delivery of dry food ration by WFP, with 545 individuals (180 households) reached.

A total of 4 pilot mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) focus group discussions led by UNHCR were organized for religious leaders, youth leaders and zonal and block leaders in Alemwach. These pilot sessions helped in establishing the magnitude of MHPSS needs in Alemwach site and, as a result, the response will prioritize mental health preventive measures such as information sharing, safe and dignified provision of basic needs and capacity building of staff in basic skills to help deal with the widespread anxiety and fear among refugees.

BENISHANGUL-GUMUZ REGION

UNHCR, Refugees and Returnees Service (RRS), partners and local authorities are working together to mitigate the environmental impact around the site by distributing about 7,000 kg of firewood among the refugees (15kg/person). Joint discussions were held to initiate a tree plantation project under the "Green Legacy Initiative". These activities will begin as soon as the weather conditions allow and will include the planting of a total of 221,256 tree seedlings (85,100 by Natural Resources Development and Environmental Protection (NRDEP) and 136,156 by Homesha woreda Office of Agriculture) covering Tsore refugee camp and the host community in 2022.

Construction of emergency shelters in the five different zones within this new refugee site is ongoing. 436 shelters have been fully completed and additional 493 still under construction. Some 38 latrines have been handed over to refugees and are already in use, while 99 additional latrines will soon be completed.

Protection services are also ongoing targeting people with specific needs with the provision of NFIs, wheelchairs and home-based rehabilitation services. Mental health, psychosocial support, counselling, and psycho-social education are also provided to identified refugees.

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

Between 8 – 9 June, ECHO, and the Regional Humanitarian Coordinator (RHC) undertook a mission to Mekelle, Tigray where they met with the regional authorities, the humanitarian community and visited the Sabacare IDP site and the Ayader hospital, a month after the opening of the Semera-Mekelle corridor. The objective of the mission was to assess the scale and the impact of the response with the trucking of relief supplies continuing into Tigray. The delegation noted that despite this major improvement in supplies, challenges remain and should not be underestimated. Fuel shortages, limited cash particularly for local NGOs continue to hinder the speed and the scale of the humanitarian response.

In the week of 27 June, UNHCR's Head of Field Office Gondar, visited Sekota in the Wag Himra zone. He visited 3 IDP locations in Weleh, Mai Bouli (Mebrat Haile) and Tirkir where UNHCR is providing assistance. The mission met with the Disaster Risk Management Office (DRMO) and the Bureau of Water Sanitation (BOWSCA) in Sekota, who are currently leading the humanitarian response, and met with NGOs on the ground. Among the needs expressed, shelter is a top priority, and the local administration is committed to identifying more land to set up extra communal shelters. The need for mattresses and blankets was also highlighted especially in the cold and rainy season. UNHCR has already prepositioned 7,500 blankets to be distributed in Sekota. The local administration has committed to identifying more land for pitching additional communal shelters which are greatly needed. Wag Himra zone currently has 88,397 IDPs originating from localities within the zone as well as the Tigray region.

Protection: In Tigray, through UNHCR partner Innovative Humanitarian Solution (IHS), a total of 150 IDPs with different protection needs received protection counselling services in Adigrat, Tigray region. While some 130 households of 650 individuals received CRIs. This distribution targeted the most vulnerable groups

including lactating and pregnant mothers, women headed households, persons with disabilities, individuals with chronic illness, elderly, unaccompanied minors and separated children and gender-based violence survivors. IHS also rolled-out the country-wide protection monitoring tool using Kobo in Adigrat. Key informant interviews were conducted in three IDP sites, and in the host community. As of 17 June, a total of 100 key informant interviews had been conducted.

In the Tigray region, return counselling services were provided to 352 households comprising of 1,197 individuals who have the intention to return to their areas of origin from Alamata and Maichew towns. The counselling services aimed to provide basic information and to ensure IDPs' voluntariness to return.

A community dialogue session on gender-based violence response and intervention was conducted in Amhara through UNHCR partner, Development Inter-church Aid Commission (DICAC) at the Delanta IDPs center, with women, girls, religious leaders, and people with specific needs. The objectives were to identify issues affecting women and girls in the community and understand their needs and concerns. Referrals were facilitated for 34 gender-based violence survivors for immediate medical services and counselling to Dessie one-stop-centre. The survivors received transportation support and cash assistance.

A Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) awareness session was conducted by UNHCR for partner staff in Dessie. The objective was to raise their awareness on prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse and understanding the complaint mechanism for SEA. A total of 13 individuals (08 females) including partner staff, social workers, guards, cleaners, and drivers participated in the session.

New arrivals were reported in the North and South Wollo, following security incidents in the Oromia region against ethnic Amhara inhabitants. In the Gerado site, about 150 new arrivals were recorded in the week of 20 June, bringing the total of IDPs to 570 in the site. This site has been open for about 2 months now and UNHCR is setting up 5 communal hangars and 2 communal kitchens in the site to accommodate the new arrivals.

NFI **Shelter and Non-food Items:** UNHCR and partners reached 2,858 IDPs and host communities through NFI distributions in Abi Adi, Mekelle and Sheraro. Among them, 1,320 women and girls received dignity kits in three IDP sites in Abi Adi; 988 elderly and disabled IDPs received shoes, warm clothes, clutches, walking canes, and wheelchairs in Mekelle, Abi Adi and Sheraro. A total of 550 vulnerable IDPs and host communities severely impacted by the crisis (400 IDPs and 150 host communities) received NFIs in in Abi Adi. Additionally, UNHCR partner Rehabilitation and Development Organization (RADO) provided similar assistive devices and other material support to 467 individuals (IDPs and host community) in Abi Adi. Some 175 most vulnerable households from the host community also received NFIs in this woreda.

Health: UNHCR donated medical supplies and vital medicines including analgesics, antibiotics & other essential drugs to Abi Adi Hospital as part of its support to local health facilities in its operating areas. The medical items were received by the officials of the hospital and will contribute to meeting the health needs of IDPs and affected people in the community.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management: UNHCR CCCM team is conducting site maintenance activities in Shire in preparation of the upcoming rainy season. These activities include filling, levelling, and compaction of floors of shelters, construction of feeder roads and drainage system. Other activities also include establishing women groups and conducting basic CCCM training to partners providing services in IDP sites, as well as government agencies/departments in Abi Adi.

Sudan Response

Between 8- 9 June, a high-level delegation of ambassadors from Canada, Germany and the UK and deputy heads of mission from the EU and Spain, accompanied by the Chief of Integrated Office of the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General (DSRSG) and Commissioner for Refugees (COR), visited Um Rakuba and Tunaydbah camps to witness the progress made towards addressing the needs of the Ethiopian refugees in eastern Sudan as well as the existing gaps.

As part of the ambassadorial mission, the delegation visited several activities in the camps, including the construction of tukuls, distribution of emergency shelter kits and a school, and held discussions with refugees, including women, youth, and members of host communities. Additionally, the delegation had an opportunity to engage with UNHCR partners on key concerns of the humanitarian operation in eastern Sudan and potential solutions. UNHCR received constructive feedback from the delegation regarding the ongoing refugee response in the region and some indications of potential support and stronger collaboration in the future.

Protection: Some 2,803 refugees returned to Sudan through Kurmuk border point from the camps in Benishangul-Gumuz region of Ethiopia, bringing the total number of refugee returnees to 8,011 individuals (7,559 Sudanese and 452 South Sudanese) since February 2022. In coordination with the Commissioner for Refugees (COR), UNHCR was able to verify, register and provide the returnees with CRIs as well as organized transportation to their areas of origin.

Health: In coordination with UNHCR, the Ministry of Health and International Rescue Committee (IRC) launched a door-to-door COVID-19 vaccination campaign to boost the coverage rate, targeting 14,645 individuals in Babikri (1,415), Tunaydbah (4,810), Um Rakuba (7,700) and Village 8 (720).

Camp Coordination and Camp Management: UNHCR and WFP concluded the rehabilitation of 4 km of El Fao road, which had been damaged due to flooding during the previous rainy season in 2021, to maintain the area's access to the National Highway and ensure the swift transportation of food, core relief items and other essential goods and services to refugees in Tunaydbah camp and neighboring host communities. In addition, the rehabilitated road makes it possible for local economic activities, such as cattle herding to continue in the area during the rainy season. In a ribbon-cutting ceremony attended by the State Minister of Infrastructure Gedaref, COR, Deputy Executive Director of El Fao and WFP, UNHCR officially handed over the rehabilitated road to the Director of Infrastructure – Gedaref.

SOUTH SUDAN

NEW ARRIVALS AND BORDER DYNAMICS

On 15 June, South Sudan and Ethiopia operations held a meeting on the developments in Gambella, to discuss preparedness, should the ongoing violence continue or escalate and trigger South Sudanese refugee returns and Ethiopian asylum-seeker arrivals into South Sudan (through Jonglei State and/or Upper Nile State). Both Bor and Malakal Field Offices have alerted local partners and are monitoring the situation at the border. UNHCR is in contact with Rehabilitation Commission (RRC) and Commissioner for Refugee Affairs (CRA) on the situation and is reviewing the Ethiopia Situation preparedness/contingency plans developed late last year.

Central Equatoria (Juba): The Reception Centre in Juba continues to receive new asylum-seekers mostly Ethiopian nationals citing the conflicts in Ethiopia. These individuals are mainly businesspeople who are unable to return to Ethiopia and or secure legal documentations or travel support from the Ethiopian Embassy in Juba. On a weekly basis, the center receives at least 20 individuals seeking asylum.

Upper Nile (Malakal): Refugee returnees continue to arrive in South Sudan due to insecurity in Ethiopia and Sudan. The number of South Sudanese who returned within the last two weeks has increased from 1,136 to 1,908 individuals. According to the interviews with returnees, the increase was associated with rumors that the Gambella and Oromo Liberation Army may attack Gambella town.

Protection: On 30 June, UNHCR conducted PSEA awareness session in Nassir town in Upper Nile (Malakal) to community leaders and refugee returnees, with participation of 37 individuals. The session covered topics of human rights, confidential and community feedback mechanisms and referral pathways. UNHCR aims to strengthen its response in areas across Upper Nile state. UNHCR also distributed NFIs to 60 vulnerable returnee households in Ulang town.

On 21 June, UNHCR partner Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) conducted awareness raising campaign for recent refugee returnees in Nassir, Ulang, Longechuk and Maiwut on gender-based violence, human rights, and peace building, benefitting 321 individuals.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management: Between 28 - 30 June, UNHCR team conducted flood mitigation trainings in Nassir and Ulang towns, as well as provided construction tools and materials to dike construction committees to mitigate risks of floods, secondary displacement through construction of dikes and site maintenance. The IDP community was mobilized to provide support.

KENYA

NEW ARRIVALS AND BORDER DYNAMICS

Kakuma and Kalobeyei: A total of 59 Ethiopians are currently residing in the Kakuma and Kalobeyei reception centers (42 in Kakuma and 18 in Kalobeyei). Reasons for flight cited by the Ethiopian caseload include persecution; war and political instability; religious differences; and forced military conscription.

Daadab: UNHCR legal partner Refugee Consortium of Kenya (RCK) continues to conduct border monitoring exercises and reported the arrival of 18 Ethiopians (10 females and 8 males), who came through the Wajir and El Wak border points and reported to have arrived in Kenya in search of economic opportunities and medical assistance. Since the beginning of the year, 370 Ethiopians have been recorded to have crossed into the country through the Mwingi, Mandera, El Wak and Wajir border areas.

SOMALIA

NEW ARRIVALS AND BORDER DYNAMICS

Between 8–14 June, Danish Refugee Council (DRC) recorded cross-border movement of 83 individuals (13 households) leaving the country and 378 individuals (63 households) coming into the country through Dollow. Another 119 individuals (19 households) were recorded to have left and 150 individuals (25 households) came in through Belethawa. The reasons for movement were cited as conflict and drought.

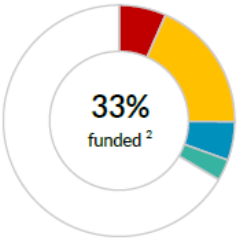
Between 22-28 June, another 230 individuals (38 households) left for Ethiopia and cited drought and insecurity in Somalia as the reasons for the movements. In addition, DRC also recorded a total of 321 individuals (53 households) entering the country through Dollow, Jubaland. The spontaneous refugee-returnees from Ethiopia and are settled in Kabasa and Qanaxley IDPs sites.

Funding Overview

UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency

FUNDING UPDATE | 2022

$205.4 million
UNHCR's financial requirements 2022 [1]



ETHIOPIA EMERGENCY
as of 28 June 2022

- Tightly earmarked
- Earmarked
- Softly earmarked (indicative allocation)
- Unearmarked (indicative allocation)
- Funding gap (indicative)

CONTRIBUTIONS [3] | USD

	Unearmarked	Softly earmarked	Earmarked	Tightly earmarked	Total
Japan	-	-	9,240,000	-	9,240,000
United Arab Emirates	-	-	5,000,000	-	5,000,000
European Union	-	-	-	489,744	489,744
Other private donors	-	85,288	-	-	85,288
Sub-total	-	**85,288**	**14,240,000**	**489,744**	**14,815,032**
Indicative allocation of funds and adjustments	6,082,184	10,999,579	23,809,148	13,077,147	53,968,058
Total	**6,082,184**	**11,084,867**	**38,049,148**	**13,566,891**	**68,783,091**

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 | **Denmark** 8.3 million | **Sweden** 5.8 million | **Private donors Australia** 4.9 million | **Private donors USA** 4.4 million | **Switzerland** 3.6 million | **Republic of Korea** 2.9 million | **Netherlands** 2.6 million | **Private donors Germany** 2.6 million | **Norway** 2.2 million | **France** 2.1 million | **Education Cannot Wait** 2 million

Japan | Luxembourg | Spain | UN Programme on HIV/AIDS | Private donors

UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS [5] | USD

Sweden 99.3 million | **Norway** 72.5 million | **Netherlands** 37.2 million | **Denmark** 35.6 million | **Private donors Spain** 32.7 million | **United Kingdom** 28.1 million | **Germany** 27 million | **Private donors Japan** 21.8 million | **France** 18.5 million | **Switzerland** 18.4 million | **Private donors Republic of Korea** 16.4 million | **Private donors USA** 15 million | **Belgium** 11.9 million | **Ireland** 11.8 million | **Italy** 10 million

Algeria | Armenia | 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:
1. The financial requirements of the Ethiopia Emergency include requirements in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan.
2. The percentage funded (33%) and total funding amount ($68,783,091) are indicative based on the methodology described above. This leaves an indicative funding gap of $136,638,797 representing 67% of the financial requirements.
3. Contributions to the Ethiopia Emergency are shown by the earmarking modality as defined in the Grand Bargain.
4. 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.
5. 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.

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