

Djibouti

March 2022

Djibouti is one of the most **politically stable** countries in the region and hosts **35 173** refugees and asylum seekers from the neighboring countries and continues to receive simultaneous arrivals from Somalia, Ethiopia, and Yemen.

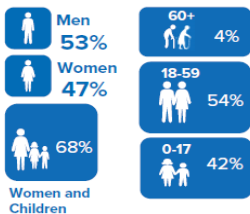
Largest group of refugees are **Somalis** and **Yemenis**, while most of asylum seekers are **Ethiopians** and **Eritreans**. Arrivals from Ethiopia have been on slight rise since the beginning of November 2020 when conflict erupted in the Tigray region.

UNHCR and its partners continue responding the needs of refugees and asylum-seekers living in the three refugee villages Ali-Addeh, Holl-Holl and Markazi, as well as the urban refugee population.

KEY INDICATORS



23,482 refugees
11,692 asylum seekers

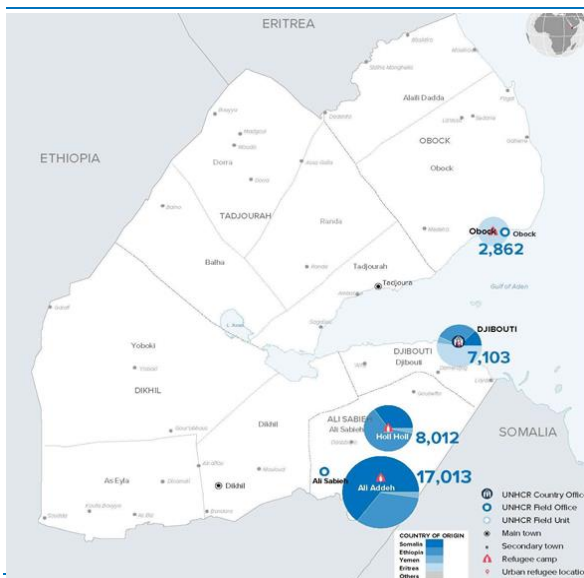
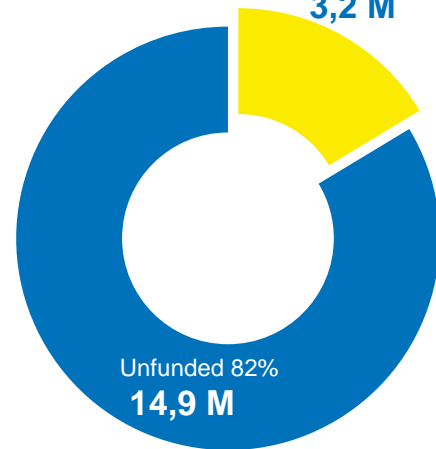


161 new arrivals of whom 107 are Ethiopians (51 Tigrayans and 56 Oromo)

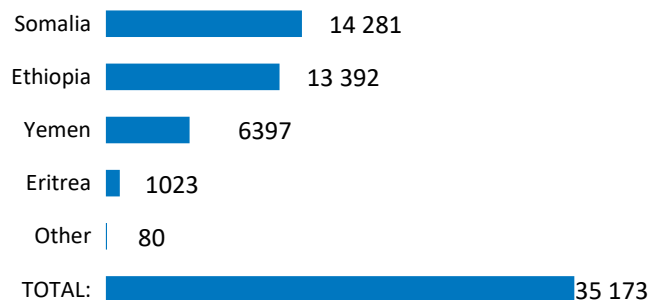
FUNDING (AS OF 29TH MARCH)

USD 18,2 M
requested for the Djibouti operation

Funded 18%
3,2 M



POPULATION OF CONCERN BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN





Celebration of Women International day in Obock: a panel discussion and a volleyball match jointly with refugees and migrants @UNHCR/Aboul Razack.

Update On Achievements

Operational Context

The operational context in Djibouti remained generally stable. In March, the municipal and regional elections took place peacefully throughout the territory. Fourth of its kind in the country, the 2022 edition of the municipal and regional elections took place through 529 polling stations throughout the territory for 215,687 registered voters.

In this stable context, 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, 161 new arrivals have been registered in March 2022, of whom 107 are Ethiopians (56 Oromos and 51 Tigrayans).

During the reporting period, a workshop was held in Djibouti to develop a national strategy on refugee status determination. This workshop follows a recommendation from a bilateral consultation, during the side event at EXCOM in Geneva, between the Minister of the Interior and the High Commissioner. The participants spent two days working on the national refugee status determination strategy with the support from the protection pillar of the regional office.

Like the rest of international community, Djibouti celebrated the International Women's Day. In Djibouti city, UNHCR took part also to the official ceremony chaired by the President of the Republic. In the field, UNHCR, along with IOM and UNICEF, accompanied local authorities in the celebration in Obock and organized, jointly with refugees and migrants, conference debate to raise awareness on gender issues and various sport activities. In Ali-Addeh and Holl-Holl, UNHCR, together with UNFD organized a conference, around local concept of tea party and street plays, to raise awareness on issues regarding women and climate change.

Also noteworthy, the publication of the results of the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) which provides the classification on the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. UNHCR actively participated in working groups. The

analysis took place in the context of drought crisis in the Horn of Africa and covered period from March to June and projected period from July to December. The current situation shows that two refugees' villages (Holl-Holl and Ali Adde) are in IPC phase 3, equivalent to crisis situation in food insecurity classification, and all the tree refugees' villages are expected to be in Phase 3 during the projected period. The UN system at country level drafted a Plan to provide Humanitarian in support of the government efforts, the plan which estimated cost is USD 21, aims to alleviate shock of around 200 000 people including refugees identified as victims of the drought.

Achievements



Registration

- **New arrivals registration:** In March 2022, 161 new arrivals were registered, of whom 26 Yemeni in Obock, 107 Ethiopian in Holl Holl (51 Tigrayans and 56 Oromos), and finally 6 new arrivals registered in Djibouti city.

During the reporting period, 98 individuals were registered as In Situ, of whom 86 in Djibouti ville, 1 in Holl Holl and 11 in Markazi.

- **Documentation:** Document issuance and renewal took place regularly during the reporting period: 206 refugee attestations, 208 asylum-seeker attestations and 145 identification cards were issued during the reporting period.
- **Continuous registration activities:** 4 new births were recorded in March (3 in Markazi and 1 in Djibouti) while 10 Yemeni cases in Markazi were closed due to self-organized return to Yemen.

Refugee status determination

- In February and March 2022, UNHCR has also supported a formal Government-led assessment of the capacity of the refugee status determination institution and drafted a joint workplan of actions to address the deficiencies.

Protection Reception and individual case follow-up/ counseling

- A total of 56 cases were received for counseling of which 5 cases in Markazi: 39 in Djibouti city and 12 in Holl-Holl. The requests are mainly related to medical issues, resettlement demands, search for job opportunities, security concerns and documentations.

SGBV

- 11 cases have been identified and monitored including physical and psychological violence, denial of resources, and forced marriage. UNHCR and partners has also conducted 12 sessions to raise awareness on SGBV, gender equality, social cohesion, participation of women and women rights. Over 200 people participated to these

sessions. In addition, 2 awareness sessions have been organized, in Ali-Addeh and Holl-Holl, on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) with participation of 80 people.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Services to persons with specific needs and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support needs are largely left unaddressed due to absence of a partner with the required expertise to implement such programs.
- In the absence of child protection and community service partners; best interest assessments are no longer done due to the abrupt closure of activities by the child protection partner.
- Gap in the funds for the UNFD partner to manage the transport and food costs of patients referred to secondary and tertiary level facilities.
- Insufficient resources to meet the assistance requests and needs of refugees received during protection counselling sessions (education support, health and basic needs).



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 for the school year 2021-2022.
- The mock exams for high school graduation have been carried out in Ali-Addeh village. The results came out as follow: 33% passed, 67% adjourned.
- During the first week of March, the regional directorate of education proceeded to a distribution of milk in favor of the pupils of the Nursery school. Each pupil received either a cardboard pack of milk of 12 bricks of 0.125 liter.
- Under the reporting period, the regional directorate of education has renewed the parent-teacher committee (CPE) of the Markazi village school. The new committee is made up of 12 members of whom 6 women and 6 men.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Lack of child protection partner to replace the outgoing ICAN in order to improve the supervision of children and the monitoring of school activities.



HEALTH

- During the reporting period, the ministry of health published the results of the campaign for the vaccination against the polio in the national level. This campaign took place from February 27 to March 3 in Djibouti and targeted children aged 0 to 5 years old, nationals, refugees, and migrants included. The results in the refugee villages show: 1,704 refugee children aged 0 to 59 months vaccinated in Ali-Addeh, 1,087 in Holl-Holl and 163 in Markazi.
- The Korean Government, the New Covenant Foundation as well as individual donors organized a medical caravan to offer general and specialized medical treatments to over 5,000 refugees and host communities in Ali Adde and Holl-Holl. 52 medical experts participated to the caravan.

LIVELIHOOD

- In March, the field team of UNHCR, ONARS and ADDS jointly conducted a final survey on the refugee entrepreneurship support project implemented in 2021 by ADDS. A total of 49 beneficiaries of 2021 projects were interviewed in Ali-Addeh and Holl-Holl, and 40 beneficiaries in Markazi.
- WFP, in partnership with UNHCR and the Ministry of Social Affairs, is launching a pilot project for the inclusion of refugees in the national social protection program called National Program for Family Solidarity (PNSF). Awareness campaigns were launched in the refugee villages in the end of March.
- 20 urban refugees are participating in a logistics and transport (forklift) training program. This second cycle of the program is funded by USAID, through WFP, and prepares students with the skills needed to succeed in a career in the logistics industry.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- PoCs in all sites are requesting for more livelihood projects, vocational training and skill enhancing program.
- 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.
- Insufficient resources to cover all identified needs.



WATER AND SANITATION

- During the reporting period, daily waste collection activities as well as hygiene promotion and COVID 19 prevention measures were carried out in refugee villages. The production of drinking water was carried out, with an average endowment of 19 liters/day/person in Holl-Holl, 23.8 liters/day/person in Ali Addeh, 25 liters in Markazi.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The generator in the village of Holl-Holl is obsolete and currently not operating, the production of water, at night, was not carried out, which impacted the daily allocation in the village.



SHELTER AND NFIS

- A new Saudi mission, along with ONARS Djibouti, visited Markazi to conduct a quarterly assessment in shelter.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Absence of implementing partner since the imminent departure of NRC for the construction of permanent shelters. This partner departure, for decrease of funding own funding, left gaps in shelter construction and UNHCR has a shortfall to cover the needs.

CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

- Under the reporting period, his Excellency the Ambassador of the United States to Djibouti visited the Yemeni refugee in Markazi, to soak up the situation of Yemeni refugees in the site. The Ambassador had fruitful discussions with refugees who demonstrated their know-how through handicrafts, and expressed their gratitude. This visit followed the cancellation of the visit of the Special Envoy Angelina Jolie jointly with the US Special Envoy for Yemen to Markazi.

Two weeks later, the US Ambassador and UNHCR Representative met as follow-up the field visit in Markazi. As one of the outcomes of the meeting, UNHCR submitted a proposal on energy supply and building of 3 classrooms, in Markazi, that the Ambassador committed to follow-up with various other stakeholders for funding.



A schoolboy offering a handicraft of the status of Liberty to the US Ambassador as gratitude and welcome. UNHCR/Abdoul-Razack

- From March 20 to 25, 2021, the UNHCR multifunctional team carried out a field mission in order to consult with refugees, host communities and local partners priorities for the multi-year multi-partner strategy 2023 – 2026. Through this inclusive and participative process, UNHCR collected needs of local stakeholders in Obock, Ali Addeh and Holl-Holl to setup strategic planning that applies a longer-term vision for the protection and inclusion of refugees, other people of concern and their hosts.
- In Markazi, 58 people member of refugee's committees have been trained on their roles and responsibilities, the code of conduct and SGBV. These committees can thus better participate in the achievement of their own objectives as a driving force for change in their community.
- On March 24th, AL-ISLAH association carried out, in collaboration with the UNHCR and ONARS, a distribution of food for 350 refugee families in Markazi village.



DURABLE SOLUTIONS

- Nine cases previously referred to the bureau for emergency resettlement consideration, were submitted to Canada and Sweden.
- UNHCR is updating information and finalizing the 50 resettlements cases previously submitted to Canada and whose departure was put on hold due to the COVID-19 crisis.

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, and with 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. In Ali-Sabieh, UNHCR in Ali-Sabieh was delegated the Coordination role of the UN in Dikhil and Ali-Sabieh regions, the coordination role of the UN has been delegated 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 Habitat, Urban Planning and Environment: firewood;
- L'Union Nationale des Femmes de Djibouti (UNFD) : SGBV.
- Ministry of agriculture/DHR
- Ministry of Environment
- Ministry of Social Affairs
- Ministry of Labor
- Ministry of Sports
- DRC

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)

Djibouti financial situation

The budget requirements for the Djibouti operation in 2022 is estimated at **US\$ 18,242,296** including the operational, functional, and staffing budget.

As of 29th March 2022, **US\$ 3,194,075** has been received from donors:

CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

European Union	-	-	-	2,630,810	2,630,810
UN Programme On HIV/AIDS	-	-	915	14,085	15,000
Sub-total	-	-	915	2,644,895	2,645,810
Indicative allocation of funds and adjustments	110,672	102,468	495,691	(160,566)	548,265
Total	110,672	102,468	496,606	2,484,329	3,194,075

Special thanks to the donors for Djibouti operation and for unrestricted and regional funds in 2022. UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

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