

 **98,000** estimated newly arrived refugees in the Somali region. They are fleeing conflict in Laas Caanood and surrounding areas.

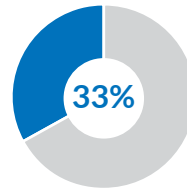


Protection

33% of registered newly arrived families have at least one person with special needs.

300 people have been referred to protection desks. Most of these were Unaccompanied and separated children (UASC).

Families having at least one member with special needs (pre-registration)



Food Security

The newly arrived refugees are food insecure (MIRA report). RRS, WFP, UNHCR and the Woreda administration began the distribution of high energy biscuits (HEBs) and dates to newly arrived refugees on 4 March. Over 3,000 individuals have been reached with 65 metric tons of HEBs and dates prepositioned by WFP. WFP also prepositioned 54% of the needed general food rations near Bokh for distribution.



Health

Persons living with disability and with mental health conditions, including trauma, were identified. Health care services for referrals remain inadequate. The nearest health centre is located in Bokh - 70 km away from the refugee sites. There are shortages of medical staff and medicines. Emergency medical screening and support has begun through two Mobile Health teams. UNHCR has dispatched essential medical supplies. WHO sent nine medical kits to the woreda health centre to support health needs.



WASH

There are no emergency latrines in any of the sites, and open defecation is a common practice. Open defecation undermines dignity and safety of the displaced. People, especially girls and women, are at greater risk of violence. There is limited water supply at the sites. The risk of water-borne infectious disease outbreak is very high.



Nutrition





The results of a rapid nutrition assessment (9-15 Feb) reveal, of the 513 children assessed, 9% had severe acute malnutrition and 34% had moderate acute malnutrition. 15% of the 414 pregnant and lactating women were assessed as malnourished. GOAL Ethiopia continues to provide treatment to acutely malnourished children at health facilities serving both refugee and host communities. UNHCR has dispatched Anthropometric sets to enable wide-scale identification of acute malnutrition.

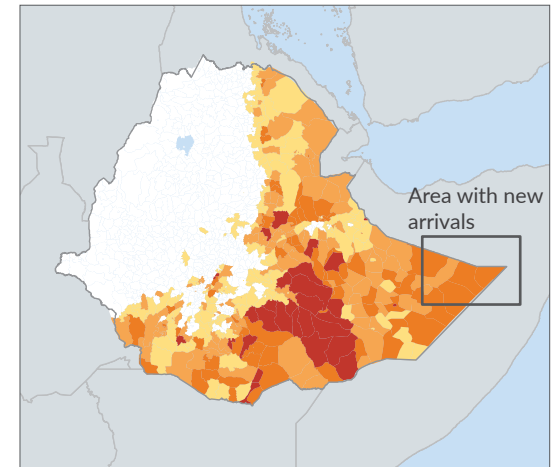


Drought

The area where refugees and asylum seekers are settling is mostly identified as being highly affected by drought in on interagency model.

Drought Operational Prioritization

-  Priority 3: Low
-  Priority 2b: Moderate
-  Priority 2a: High
-  Priority 1: Severe



Shelter / NFI

Asylum seekers are living in overcrowded makeshift shelters with no privacy, and are not protected from weather elements. They lack basic shelter materials. Women and girls raised concerns about the poor shelters in which they are living. The Government of Ethiopia allocated 350 HC of land for a new settlement at Mirqaan site. Over 1,500 families have been supported with core relief items.