



# East and Horn of Africa

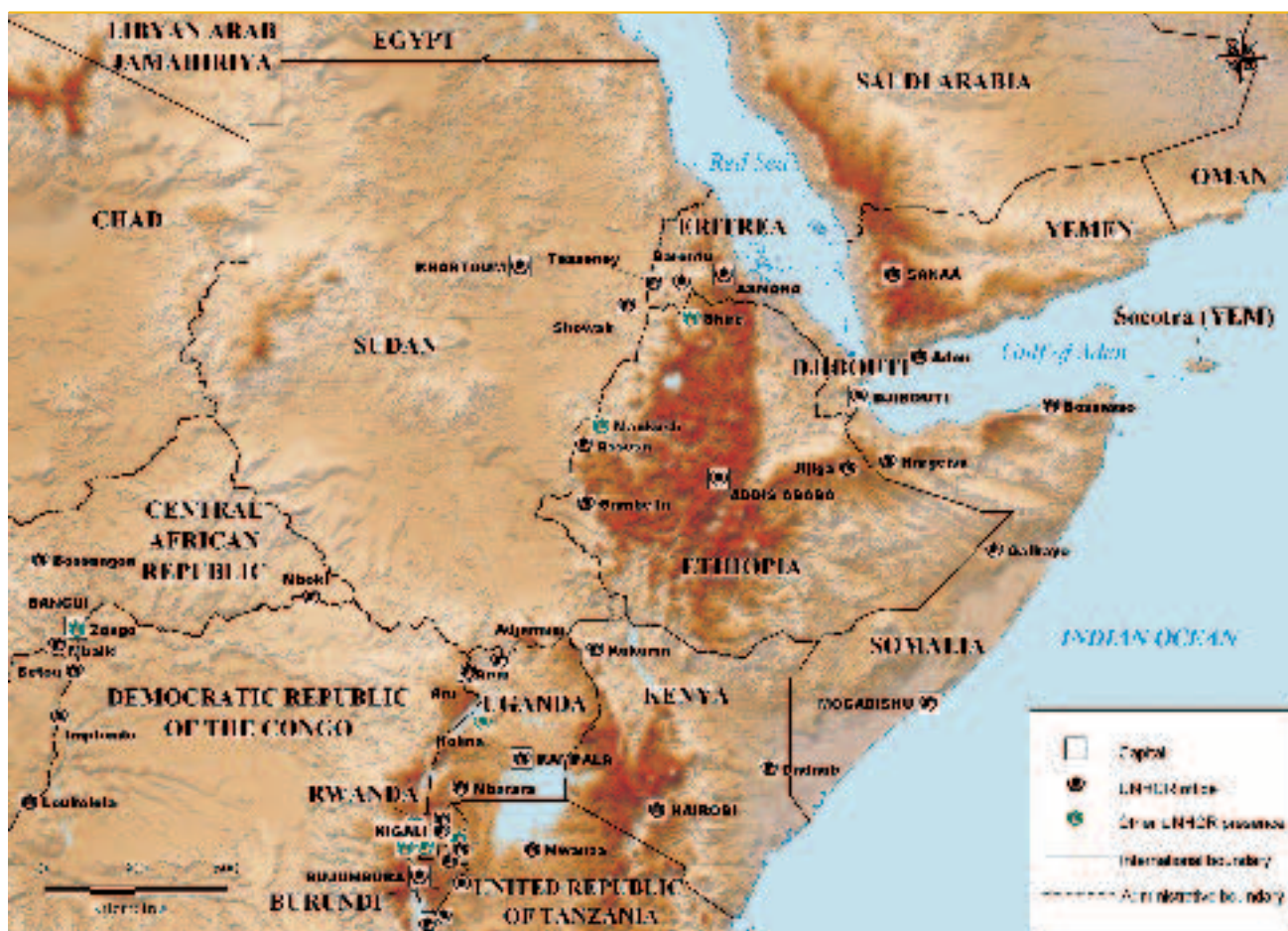
## Major developments

In 2002, the sub-region continued to face an array of socio-economic, political and humanitarian challenges, which took their toll on some of the operations. The renewed fighting between rival militia groups in the Gedo Region of southern Somalia resulted in the displacement of more than 10,000 people, who fled to Mandera (Kenya).

The Governments of Uganda and Sudan signed a protocol that allowed the Ugandan Government forces to deploy troops and operate in the strategic towns of Juba and Torit in southern Sudan. This led to the Ugandan rebel group known as the Lord's Resistance Army crossing from its bases in southern Sudan into northern Uganda and creating havoc. There were a number of deaths, and more than 30,000 refugees were forced to flee from their settlements.

There was incremental but significant progress on a few of the major political and humanitarian problems in the region. In April 2002, the Governments

Djibouti  
Eritrea  
Ethiopia  
Kenya  
Somalia  
Sudan  
Uganda



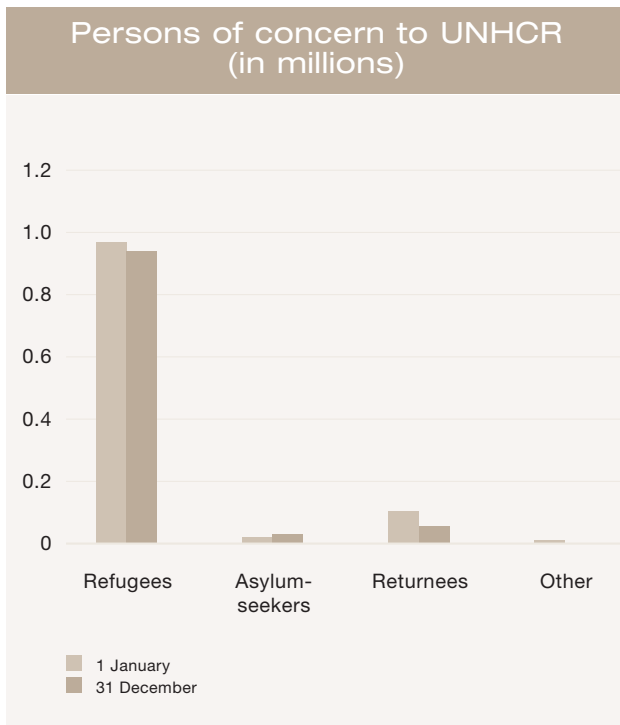
of Eritrea and Ethiopia accepted the decision of the Boundary Commission in the Hague; the ongoing Sudanese and Somali peace processes remained on track – despite some constraints – sponsored by the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and supported by the United Nations; and the normalisation of the relationship between the Government of Djibouti and the “Somaliland” authorities facilitated the voluntary repatriation of Somalis from Djibouti.

In Kenya, the presidential election campaign culminated in a landslide victory for the opposition party, the National Alliance Rainbow Coalition, in December. The peaceful transfer of power was hailed as a beacon of hope for the region. A similarly peaceful transition was witnessed in the self-declared autonomous region of “Somaliland” (Northwest Somalia) when the former President died and the presidency passed on to his Deputy, as required by the constitution. Free and fair local elections were also held in “Somaliland” in the course of the year. Political and military rivalries in Northeast Somalia (“Puntland”) were for the most part

resolved towards the end of the year, leading to the installation of an authority which appeared to be largely in control of the area, despite a few localised clashes.

## Challenges and concerns

In early October 2002, the voluntary repatriation of Eritreans from Sudan was seriously affected by an outbreak of hostilities in the eastern border areas of Sudan. The border with Eritrea had to be closed, and repatriation suspended. UNHCR then proposed new temporary measures for the resumption of the operation, but unfortunately the Governments of Sudan and Eritrea could not reach an agreement on the details. At the same time, financial constraints prevented the provision of assistance to more than 5,000 Somali refugees in Kenya who had expressed a desire to return home. In Djibouti, the lack of sufficient funding resulted in a delayed start to the repatriation of Somalis to “Somaliland” and as a result, UNHCR could only help 2,100 to return (the initial plan having been for 5,000).



Insecurity in some parts of refugee-hosting regions occasionally impeded the movement of UN agencies and other implementing partners, thereby interrupting the monitoring of programme delivery. In Ethiopia, this situation was further aggravated by simmering tension between ethnic groups, which boiled over in the second half of the year with tragic consequences, leaving over a hundred refugees dead.

In 2002, another concern in the sub-region was the disastrous impact of drought on agriculture in Eritrea and Ethiopia. By the end of the year, it was estimated that up to 11.3 million people in Ethiopia and 2.3 million people in Eritrea faced immediate food shortages, leading to worries of possible increased cross-border movements. With food insecurity on such a scale, the delivery of food aid to refugees, already compromised by funding shortfalls, proved inadequate. In some instances, the refugees only received half of their normal monthly food rations.

## Progress toward solutions

Overall, in the region, UNHCR assisted more than 51,265 refugees to return to their places of origin in safety and dignity. These included 19,009 Eritreans, 32,020 Somalis (mostly from Ethiopia, Djibouti and Kenya) and 236 Ugandans from Sudan. The Office also implemented the Cessation Clause for Eritrean

refugees who had fled their country prior to 1991 or during the border conflict between Ethiopia and Eritrea (1998-2000). This development precipitated the launching of a refugee status determination (RSD) process to consider people citing compelling reasons not to return. At the same time, greater efforts were made to ensure the sustainability of the return and cater to the needs of the returnee-receiving communities. In this regard, community-based initiatives were carried out to address critical needs in the primary sectors of education, health, water and sanitation, income generation and community services. Furthermore, UNHCR in Eritrea played a pivotal role in the formulation of a joint Government/UN recovery programme to address other problems faced by the returning refugees.

In Eritrea, Uganda and “Somaliland”, protection-monitoring questionnaires were developed in order to identify any protection or assistance problems faced by the returnees. The consensus in “Somaliland” was that the lack of employment was the greatest and most wide-reaching constraint.

During 2002, UNHCR in the sub-region continued to use resettlement as a major tool for enhancing the physical safety and security of refugees at risk.

Other priority areas included: 1) environmental management; 2) combating HIV/AIDS; and 3) strengthening access to quality education for refugee girls. The first of these entailed a joint Government and UNHCR strategy on environmental restoration, which included a plan of action for the rehabilitation of the refugee-impacted areas and consolidation of camps. At the same time, UNHCR vigorously pursued its objective of combating the spread of HIV/AIDS among refugees, particularly in the two pilot countries, Kenya and Uganda. The prevention and mitigation of HIV/AIDS was seen as an essential component of the overall international protection of refugees. A similar motivation lay behind a study commissioned by UNHCR to assess access to quality education for refugee girls. It was aimed at generating reliable information and ideas for effective intervention and programme planning, enabling refugee girls to access and benefit from quality education initiatives in the region.

Furthermore, in an effort to combat sexual and gender-based violence the UNHCR offices in all



Somalia: Women in a UNHCR-funded tie and dye training project in Bossasso. *UNHCR / P. Kessler*

countries in the sub-region undertook needs assessments to identify vulnerabilities to sexual exploitation and abuse. The results of these assessments were applied to improve programme planning and to minimise the incidence of sexual exploitation of refugees.

By the end of 2002, UNHCR completed the comprehensive reform plan of action to redress management and programme weaknesses in the Kenya office.

## Operations

Operations in **Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan** and **Uganda** are separately analysed in the following chapters.

In **Djibouti**, UNHCR continued to pursue the realisation of a durable solution through voluntary repatriation, in particular for the Somali refugees. UNHCR also provided humanitarian assistance to the camp-based refugees and limited assistance to refugees residing in urban areas. Environmental protection education was promoted and incorporated into school curricula. During 2002, Djibouti hosted 21,316 Somali refugees and some 13,451 asylum-seekers, most of them Ethiopians.

The normalisation of the relationship between the Government of Djibouti and the authorities in “Somaliland” paved the way for the return of Somalis to “Somaliland”, enabling some 2,100 individuals to return in conditions of safety and dignity.

## Funding

Most of the programmes were affected by UNHCR’s financial crisis, particularly in the last quarter of 2002. Consequently, country operations were forced to prioritise their interventions, inevitably reducing UNHCR’s ability to deliver services and assistance to refugees. This situation also had a negative impact on UNHCR’s relationship with its implementing partners. In Ethiopia, the hand-over of closed refugee camps to local authorities was delayed for lack of funds and in Djibouti, initial planning estimates of numbers of returnees to “Somaliland” had to be revised downwards. In several countries, UNHCR was struggling to provide preventive and curative health care services. Capacity-building and the promotion of refugee law activities also had to be put on hold.

## Voluntary Contributions – Restricted / Earmarked (USD)

Earmarking <sup>1</sup>	Donor	Annual Programme Budget and Trust Funds	
		Income	Contribution
<b>Djibouti</b>			
	United States of America	722,000	722,000
<b>Eritrea</b>			
	United States of America	5,350,000	5,350,000
	Japan	3,300,000	3,300,000
	Netherlands	1,509,400	1,509,400
	Italy	1,358,387	1,358,387
	European Commission	860,585	860,585
	Norway	397,878	397,878
	<i>España con ACNUR (SPA)</i>	6,426	0
	<i>Deutsche Stiftung (GFR)</i>	5,180	5,180
<b>Ethiopia</b>			
	United States of America	4,400,000	4,400,000
	Japan	3,000,000	3,000,000
	European Commission	1,317,123	1,324,829
	Italy	633,803	633,803
	Germany	489,237	489,237
	African Union	10,000	10,000
	Private Donors Ethiopia	1,198	1,198
	UK for UNHCR (GBR)	781	781
<b>East and Horn of Africa</b>			
	Sweden	6,402,533	6,402,533
	Denmark	5,170,756	5,170,756
	Japan	4,200,000	4,200,000
	Finland	874,891	874,891
	Norway	544,218	544,218
	France	500,461	500,461
	United States of America	475,000	475,000
	Canada	310,559	310,559
<b>Kenya</b>			
	United States of America	4,570,000	4,570,000
	Japan	2,700,000	2,700,000
	Germany	2,674,227	2,674,227
	Italy	633,803	633,803
	USA for UNHCR (USA)	180,900	180,900
	<i>Stichting Vluchteling (NET)</i>	104,987	104,987
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Earmarking <sup>1</sup>	Donor	Annual Programme Budget and Trust Funds	
		Income	Contribution
<b>&gt;&gt;&gt;</b>			
<b>Somalia</b>			
	United States of America	1,590,000	1,590,000
	Norway	1,252,965	1,252,965
	Germany	996,265	996,265
	Netherlands	377,400	377,400
<b>Sudan</b>			
	United States of America	2,520,000	2,520,000
	Norway	1,360,544	1,360,544
	Italy	516,432	516,432
	Japan Association for UNHCR (JPN)	25,190	25,190
	Private Donors Japan	9,043	9,043
<b>Uganda</b>			
	<i>Association française de soutien à l'UNHCR (FRA)</i>	6,864	6,864
	Canada	448,718	448,718
	<i>Deutsche Stiftung (GFR)</i>	13,699	13,699
	<i>España con ACNUR (SPA)</i>	344,511	385,911
	Germany	244,618	244,618
	Italy	200,000	200,000
	Japan	1,800,000	1,800,000
	<i>Stichting Vluchteling (NET)</i>	108,072	108,072
	United States of America	3,830,000	3,830,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>68,348,654</b>	<b>68,391,334</b>
<sup>1</sup> For more information on the various earmarkings, please refer to the Donor Profiles.			

Budget and Expenditure (USD)		
Country	Revised Budget	Expenditure
	Annual Programme Budget and Trust Funds	
Djibouti	3,773,859	3,064,457
Eritrea	20,025,348	16,356,362
Ethiopia	21,172,311	19,632,896
Kenya	23,000,990	22,505,857
Somalia	7,484,799	7,253,856
Sudan	15,264,940	14,797,632
Uganda	17,049,791	15,087,699
Regional Technical Support Group (Nairobi)	3,616,051	3,213,912
Regional Projects <sup>1</sup>	104,555	104,555
<b>Total</b>	<b>111,492,644</b>	<b>102,017,226</b>
<sup>1</sup> Includes activities for strengthening the reproductive health of refugees in the East and Horn of Africa.		