

Ethiopia

April 2018

The Government of Ethiopia, humanitarian and development actors and UNHCR **launch regional CRRF**, beginning in Benishangul-Gumuz, with other regions to follow in May.

15,694 South Sudanese refugees have been registered in Ethiopia since the beginning of year.

40,000 new students have been enrolled in early, primary, secondary and tertiary education, as Ethiopia strives to achieve its ambitious education pledge.

KEY INDICATORS

915,073*

Refugees and asylum seekers registered in Ethiopia
[As of 30 April 2018]

57%*

Percentage of refugees below the age of 18

24,775

New arrivals registered in Ethiopia in 2018
[As of 30 April 2018]

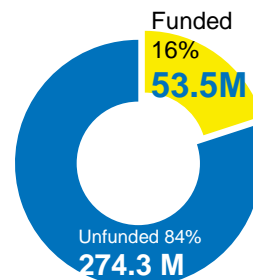


School enrolment rates have increased in Ethiopia. Country moving forward towards achieving its commitments.
UNHCR/Diana Diaz

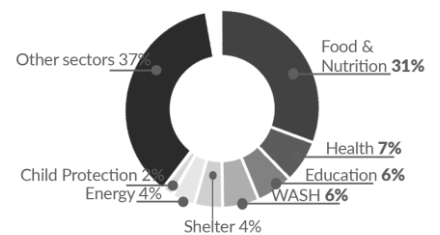
FUNDING (AS OF 30 APRIL 2018)

USD
335.8 M

requested for the Ethiopia operation

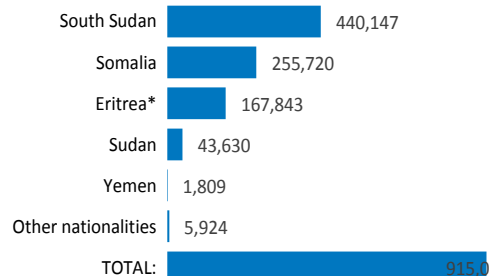


Budget allocation by sector



POPULATION OF CONCERN

Refugee Nationalities



* 73,078 Eritrean refugees previously registered as living in camps have settled in urban areas. This confirmed figure represents a reduction of 8,000 refugees, following the conclusion of a comprehensive verification exercise.

Regional CRRF Launches

Following the national launch of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) in Ethiopia in November 2017, the Government of Ethiopia, humanitarian and development actors and UNHCR -the UN Refugee Agency, have begun regional launches across the country.

Starting in Assosa at the end of April, regional and national authorities, refugees, host communities, UNHCR and other stakeholders convened to renew their commitment in working together towards achieving the nine pledges and making a difference in the lives of refugees and the communities that host them.

The launch, which will be replicated in Gambella, Mekelle, Jijiga and Semera in May, included information sessions and discussion on the practical application of the pledges within the framework of the CRR approach..



Representatives from regional and national government, UNHCR and the World Bank gather to launch the CRR approach in the Benishangul-Gumuz Region. UNHCR/Kisut Gebreegzabher

South Sudan Situation



©UNHCR/Diana Diaz

Between 01 January and 30 April 2018, 14,766 South Sudanese refugees arrived in Gambella, all of whom were relocated to Nguenyiel Camp.

In addition to the remaining capacity to host 10,000 refugees in Gure Shombola Camp (Benishangul-Gumuz), additional capacity has been identified within existing camps in the Region.

In line with the Contingency Plan established in June 2017, Ethiopia expects 75,000 South Sudanese asylum-seekers to cross into the country in 2018 under the most-likely scenario. If conditions in South Sudan continues to take a toll on civilians, it is possible that the number could reach that considered as the worst-case scenario (100,000).

The South Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRRP) in Ethiopia, outlining the collective response of 24 partner organizations – including UNHCR – , has called for USD 342.1 million to address the prioritized needs of over 440,000 South Sudanese refugees in the country.

While the management of reception centres, timely registration and transportation of refugees to camp locations with safety and dignity will remain a priority, and in light of the increasing number of refugees in the region, the movement of refugees outside of Gambella remains the preferred scenario to accommodate new arrivals.

In the current context, new arrivals continue to be registered in the Pamdong Reception Centre and relocated to Nguenyiel Camp – the largest refugee camp in Ethiopia – which currently hosts 97,103 refugees. A significant number of refugees have informally relocated from Zone D (the most recent expansion) to Zone A to enable easier access to essential service points; including the primary health care centre and the food distribution site.. Additional financial investment is required to expand services to Zone D, which will include establishing UNHCR office infrastructure to facilitate the division of the camp into two separate administrations.

Education Pledge



©UNHCR/Diana Diaz

Preliminary data on the school enrolment rate indicates significant progress in Ethiopia's pledge to increase the number of students attending early, primary, secondary and tertiary education. As compared to the 2016/2017 academic year some 12,300 new students have been enrolled in pre-schools across the country while 40,000 more refugees have enrolled in primary and secondary schools (in camps and urban areas) during the current cycle with an additional 700 refugee youth pursuing university studies.

As such, overall figures against the pledged numbers stand at:

- ECCE (pre-school): The increase is of 29% from 42,276 to 54,619 - Making the current enrolment percentage stand at 57% (out of 60% pledged)
- Primary school: Increase of 37% from 96,700 to 132,563 - making the current enrolment percentage 72% (out of the 75% pledged)
- Secondary school: Increase of 102% from 3,785 to 7,665, making the current enrolment percentage 12% (out of the 25% pledged)
- Tertiary education: 43% increase from 1,600 to 2,300 (out of the 2,500 pledged)

Registration



Following the launch of the comprehensive Level 3 registration and Biometrics Identity Management System (BIMS) exercise in July 2017 in Addis Ababa, UNHCR, ARRA and partners have begun implementation across other refugee hosting locations in Ethiopia. This include South Omo in the Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples' (SNNP) Region, the Endabaguna Reception and Registration Centre in the Tigray Region, the Dollo Ado Reception Centre in Melkadida and in Nguenyiel Camp in the Gambella Region.

As of 30 April 2018 a total of 54,218 refugees underwent Level 3 registration, 41,431 of whom are now enrolled in the new identity management system. When all refugees residing in Ethiopia are part of BIMS, the enhanced information database will able a more targeted approach to service delivery, and effective durable solutions, in line with the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF).

The current strategy – already agreed upon with the government of Ethiopia – foresees Level 3 registration being conducted in 'one-stop-shop' centres in each location, where UNHCR, ARRA, the Vital Events Registration Agency (VERA) and all relevant partners convene to undertake registration, and provide protection, civil documentation and other services.

REGIONAL FOCUS JIJIGA

A voucher project funded by DFID allows UNHCR and partners to deliver quality goods while boosting local economy, as part of a phased rollout of the use of cash-based interventions within select service sectors and regions across the country.



ADDIS ABABA

- Over 60 children and youth received support from the Refugee Outreach Volunteers, who conducted home visits and followed-up on any protection issues.



SHIRE

- Thanks to partner IHS, a new multipurpose court was built in Shimelba Camp. An average of 200 youth and children currently access the multipurpose hall, where they play football and basketball.



Refugee Voices

Nine lives has the spirit

Onward movement survivor rebuilds her life from scratch in Ethiopia



By Diana Diaz in Sheder Camp, Somali Region, Ethiopia

As the hot sun shines brightly on her face, Raho Sidow Hassan, 29, is confronted by painful memories. Surrounded by nothing but miles and miles of infinite ocean, stranded on a sinking boat for two days and two nights, and accompanied by dozens of desperate strangers.

“We saw one of the boats the pirates use to loot other boats but they left us there, to die. We lost all hope. Water was coming into the boat, we were afraid. It was very hot, the sun was so bright and people were exhausted. I thought about my children all the time. I thought I wasn’t going to survive,” she remembered.

Raho is one of many Somalis who resort to undertaking dangerous irregular sea crossings to reach Yemen, in the hopes of finding a safer and brighter future away from Somalia. “My life wasn’t always like this. I was married and had six children. I was living with my family, with my mother, father and brother. We were farmers, we had a big farm where we had cattle,” she explained.

For her, every day was a blessing, living a normal rural life in Afgooeye; until it was no more. “My husband decided to get married to another woman and took my children away,” she says with sadness in her eyes. “And then, to make things worse, Al Shabab came to our house wanting to take my brother with them. He refused and was killed in front of my father,” Raho added. Her father fell into shock and died soon after.

With limited life choices, Raho embarked on an unknown trip to Bosaso, where a group of women from her village were living. “They told me they were going to Yemen and they put some money together so that I could travel with them,” she said. And so the journey began, boarding one of the many smuggler boats and not looking back.

“We were 49 people. And somewhere in the ocean, very close to Yemen, the boat stopped and started to sink and the wind started to move us.”

“I can’t remember exactly where, but we then took a boat, it was very basic. It was very crowded. We were 49 people. And somewhere in the ocean, very close to Yemen, the boat stopped and started to sink and the wind started to move us,” Raho said, explaining how they stayed adrift with no food or water, until like what at first seemed a mirage, turned into a helicopter, circling around them.

“We were saved!” she said. One by one, Raho and the other passengers were transported to a naval ship where they received water, food and dry clothes until a country could confirm if they could receive them.

Hours turned into days, days turned into weeks, and Raho had not been able to speak with her mother, who she had left back home in Afgooye. “They let us call our families. When I called my family, my mother had already started the rituals to mourn my death. It was a very emotional moment. She could not believe I was alive,” she said.

One month and three days later, Ethiopia confirmed they could receive the castaways as refugees. “I arrived to Sheder Camp in February 2011 and called my mother. She then fled from our home town with my six siblings and came here to join me,” Raho recalled.

Raho is among the over 255,000 Somali refugees who have fled Al Shabab violence, drought and hunger for Ethiopia over the past two decades. Almost 37,000 of them live in three camps in the Jijiga area, where the government of Ethiopia, UNHCR and partners provide protection and life-saving services, while striving to pursue durable solutions. As a Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRFF) country, Ethiopia is committed to opening up opportunities so that refugees and the communities that host them thrive side by side.

“I started life from scratch. I don’t ever want to go through what I did when I tried to reach Yemen”

“I started life from scratch. I don’t ever want to go through what I did when I tried to reach Yemen. We opened this restaurant shop. I started a new life. I met a man, we fell in love, and I got married again, I have a new baby and my business of going well,” she said. Due to funding constraints, livelihoods activities often lack the necessary resources to flourish. But refugees like Raho have not let this obstacle get in the way of rebuilding her life. “The little amount of food we get for the family is not enough. Having a small source of income helps us complement our needs. We need to be self-reliant, to be able to take care of ourselves on our own. That’s why I opened this restaurant,” Raho added.

Working in partnership

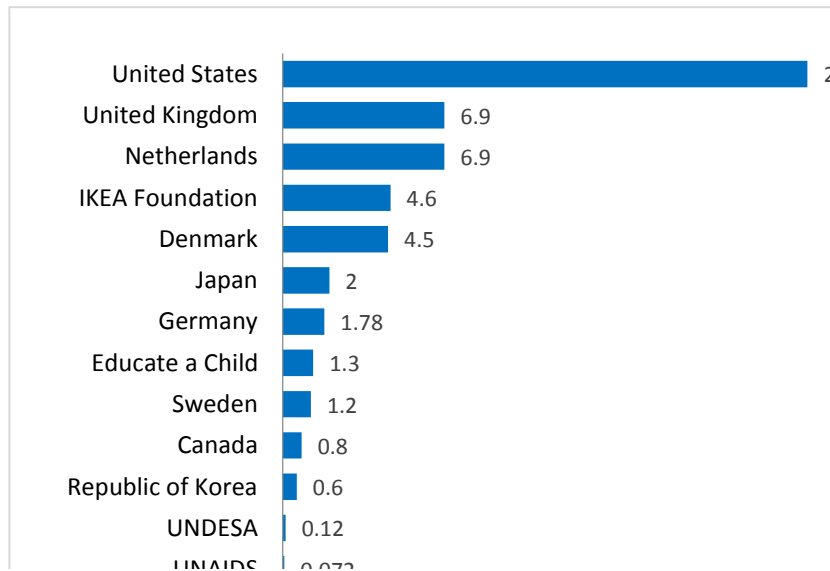
- UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, provides protection, assistance and facilitates durable solutions for refugees in Ethiopia in collaboration with ARRA, the Ethiopian Government, UN Agencies and NGOs.

Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the operation in 2018 amount to some **US\$ 53.5 million**.

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.

Funding received (in million USD)



External / Donors Relations

Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds from:

United States of America 56.2 million | Germany 15.2 million | Private donors Spain 7.2 million | Private donors Australia 3.8 million | Canada 3.3 million | Norway 2.6 million

Italy | Malta | Sweden | Private donors

Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds:

Sweden 98.2 million | Norway 42.5 million | Netherlands 39.1 million | United Kingdom 31.7 million | Denmark 25.5 million | Private donors Spain 19 million | Australia 18.9 million | Switzerland 15.2 million | Italy 11.2 million

Algeria | Argentina | Belgium | Bosnia and Herzegovina | Canada | China | Costa Rica | Estonia | Finland | Germany | Iceland | India | Indonesia | Kuwait | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Monaco | Montenegro | New Zealand | Philippines | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Russian Federation | Serbia | Singapore | Slovakia | Sri Lanka | Thailand | Turkey | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | Private donors

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LINKS

Ethiopia Data Portal - [Twitter](#) - [Facebook](#) -
 The COMPASS girls give crucial direction to Sudanese refugees in Ethiopia