

# Ethiopia

December 2017 – January 2018

Ethiopia has held three **CRRF Steering Committee meetings** following the official launch of this approach in late November 2017. Meetings are taking place during the first week of every month.

72,651 newly arrived South Sudanese refugees were registered in Ethiopia in 2017. The majority have reportedly **fled conflict. 5,960** have sought safety in January 2018.

Since the registration of vital events was launched in October 2017, **714** refugees have received death, divorce, marriage or birth certificates.

## KEY INDICATORS

**901,235\***

Refugees and asylum seekers registered in Ethiopia  
[As of 31 January 2018]

**54%\***

Percentage of refugees below the age of 18

**7,895**

New arrivals registered in Ethiopia in 2018  
[As of 31 January 2018]

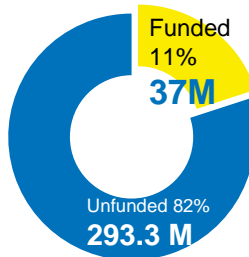


UNHCR and the German Embassy marked 25 years of the global DAFI Programme with a photo exhibition on the stories of young refugees around Ethiopia who have or are still studying thanks to the programme. To date, some 900 refugees in Ethiopia have been able to pursue tertiary education. UNHCR/Diana Diaz

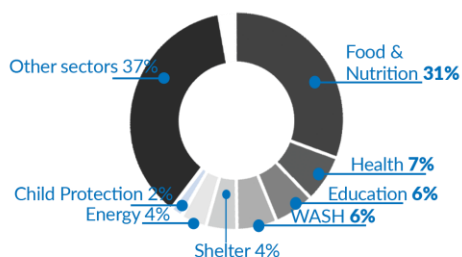
## FUNDING (AS OF 29 JANUARY 2018)

**USD 335.8 M**

requested for the Ethiopia operation

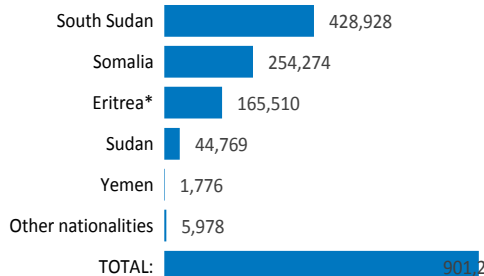


### Budget allocation by sector



## 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.

# Update On Achievements

## Operational Context

On 7 December 2017, the first meeting of the Steering Committee that will lead the implementation of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) in Ethiopia was held and attended by government representatives, donors, the World Bank, UN agencies and representatives from international and national NGOs. During the meeting the Terms of Reference for the Steering Committee were presented and approved. Since the launch of the CRRF in November 2017, three steering committee meetings have taken place.

The CRRF governance structure was also discussed along with the need for regional governance structures in order to facilitate the implementation of the Pledges at the local level. Subsequent Steering Committee meetings are due to take place on the first week of every month.



*Members of Ethiopia's Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) steering committee, comprising of the Prime Minister's Office, the Administration for Refugee and Returnee Affairs, UNHCR and the Ethiopian Investment Commission, answer questions at the CRRF launch in Addis Ababa. UNHCR/Diana Diaz*

## UNHCR and German Embassy launch photo exhibition on refugee DAFI students



©UNHCR/Diana Diaz

UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, in collaboration with the Embassy of Germany and the Goethe-Institut in Ethiopia launched the Window of Hope exhibition to mark the 25 years of the DAFI programme globally.

Almost 1,000 refugees of all nationalities in Ethiopia have been able to pursue tertiary education thanks to this scholarship programme sponsored by the Government of Germany.

For UNHCR, tertiary education is a priority in the pursuance of a comprehensive approach to refugee protection and solutions. The Agency strongly believes that it not only allows young refugees to develop professionally in competitive fields, but it also improves their self-reliance in support of durable solutions.

In September 2016, the Government of Ethiopia made significant pledges to improve opportunities for the some 901,000 refugees currently registered in the country. These include increasing enrolment in education in all levels, as well as providing refugees graduated from universities with work permits to access the formal job market.

For DAFI graduates, this is a significant milestone. Whilst thousands of refugees struggle to access tertiary education, the DAFI programme opens a window of hope to the life they, as children, once dreamed of.

The Window of Hope Exhibition was held at the Goethe-Institut in Addis Ababa from 4 December 2017 until mid-January 2018.

## UNHCR donates dialysis machines to local hospital in Addis Ababa



©UNHCR/Kisut Gebreegziabher

UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, donated four haemodialysis machines to St. Paul Hospital Millennium Medical College (SPHMC), as part of the Agency's effort to strengthen national institutions to be able to serve Ethiopians and refugees better.

Health is one of the essential services UNHCR provides to refugees to prevent excess morbidity and mortality among refugees as well as prevent outbreaks of communicable diseases.

Chronic renal disease deprives the body of the ability to filter chemical waste out of the blood and into the urine, which is the main function of the kidneys. The machines donated will help the hospital enhance its much needed renal haemodialysis procedure to patients with chronic kidney problems.

Ethiopia hosts some 901,000 refugees and the government has pledged to take a number of actions to improve their lives, including through enhancing their access to basic services such as health.

## Achievements

### GAMBELLA

- Construction of the Pamdong Reception Centre is ongoing. It is foreseen that the centre will have 12 communal shelters to receive new arrivals prior to onward relocation.



### SHIRE

- International Disability Day was commemorated in Hitsats Camp with the theme “Leave no one behind, working together to end Gender Based Violence” and with activities including drama, games, poetry competition and music. The event was attended by more than 600 refugees.



### JIJIGA

- Continuous registration is ongoing in Aw Barre Camp, which includes home visits to vulnerable refugees who are unable to reach registration facilities.



### ASSOSA

- Following the launch of Vital Events Registration, the first marriage certificate was issued to newlyweds. In addition, 20 birth certificates were issued for new born children inside the refugee camp.



# Refugee Voices

## DAFI scholarship opens window of hope for refugees in Ethiopia



UNHCR/Diana Diaz

**Displaced on two occasions, Jacob, 32, never renounced his ultimate goal: to finish school and obtain a degree that would allow him to help his community. Recently graduated as an economist from Gambella University, he now looks forward to pursuing a masters degree hoping that when peace is restored in South Sudan, he can contribute to rebuilding his country.**

“I came to Ethiopia [for the second time] in 2014 when the conflict in South Sudan between the government and rebels erupted. The war covered all areas, targeting our tribe Nuer. This, worsened by the lack of possibilities to finish our education, pushed my community out of the country.

I was a student back then. I was taking an exam before I left. I left straight from the university, with the clothes I was wearing. My family and I were separated. I wanted to stay alive and complete my education, but my wife only managed to reach Juba.” He has not seen her since.

Soon after his arrival in Ethiopia, Jacob sat a national exam hoping to resume his studies. Having passed the test, he learned about his eligibility for the DAFI scholarship. “It helped to pay for the fees and get an allowance, stationary materials, books. I was very happy when I heard the news about the scholarship,” he remembers smiling.

**“Going to university is very important; education is a tool to change the world. It is the best way to create more understanding amongst people and a sense of cooperation”**

“With the DAFI scholarship I have been able to study Economics. When I return home to South Sudan I can help the community and the country. We need resources to be

distributed equally, with a plan and programme. The key areas that need more inclusion need to be identified so that they benefit the communities and nation as a whole. This is how I can, as an economist, contribute to rebuilding my country.”

His passion for education is not new. “When I was a small child, my father used to go on missions and come back with stories. He always encouraged me to learn about history, to go to school,” he mentions with pride as he traces his education record up to the present day. “Going to university is very important; education is a tool to change the world. It is the best way to create more understanding amongst people and a sense of cooperation.”

As he looks into the future, his need to give back is paramount. “My plan now, if I can get a masters degree, is to continue my studies. If not right now, I plan to serve my community for a while, to work in the camp until the opportunity to go back to school comes.” Although refugees in Ethiopia are not currently accessing the formal job market, the Government of Ethiopia has pledged to allow refugee graduates to obtain work permits.

This will be key for refugees like Jacob who are expectant of a chance to become self-sufficient until the opportunity of returning home materializes. “I was very pleased when I heard about the promise to give refugees who graduated from university a work permit. The history of my country, all of the wars and problems, make me very sad. This is a very big problem, it makes me loose hope. This is why we welcome this decision, because it will allow us to work and serve our communities here and back home.”

## Working in partnership

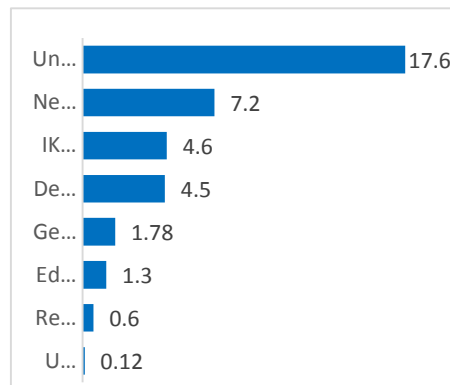
- UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, provides protection, assistance and facilitates durable solutions for refugees in Ethiopia in collaboration with ARRA, the Ethiopian Government, UN Agencies and NGOs.

## Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the operation in 2018 amount to some **US\$ 40 million**, including **US\$ 14** million for the South Sudan and Somalia situations

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

**UNHCR is grateful for the direct contributions to the UNHCR Ethiopia Operation from:**

UK (DFID) | Netherlands | IKEA Foundation | Denmark | Germany | Educate A Child Programme-EAC/EAA | Republic of Korea | UN Dept. of Economic and Social Affairs

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

Sweden (98 M) | Norway (43M) | Netherlands (39 M) | United Kingdom (32M) | Denmark (25 M) | Australia (19 M) | Switzerland (15m)

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#### LINKS

[Regional South Sudan portal](#) – [Regional Somalia Situation Portal](#) - [Twitter](#) - [Facebook](#)-  
[Italian project offers path to hope for vulnerable refugees in Ethiopia](#)