

Ethiopia

May 2018

The Government of Ethiopia, humanitarian and development actors and UNHCR concluded regional **CRRF launches** with ceremonies in Gambella, Mekelle, Jijiga and Semera.

17,851 South Sudanese refugees have been registered in Ethiopia since the beginning of year. 2,157 during May.

50,000 refugees have been registered in BIMS. This will enable UNHCR and partners to expand increasingly targeted forms of assistance to persons of concern.

KEY INDICATORS

920,262*

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

59%*

Percentage of refugees below the age of 18

29,211

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

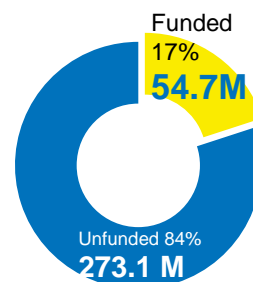


Forced to flee her home in Walgak, South Sudan, following the death of her sister, Nyanthiay took charge of her two nephews and headed to Ethiopia. See the full story in 'Refugee Voices' UNHCR/Reath Reak

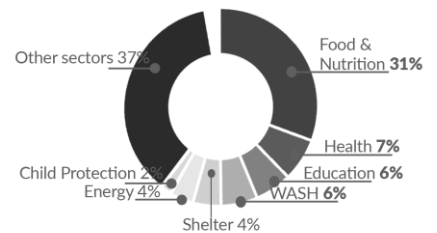
FUNDING (AS OF 24 MAY 2018)

USD 335.8 M

requested for the Ethiopia operation



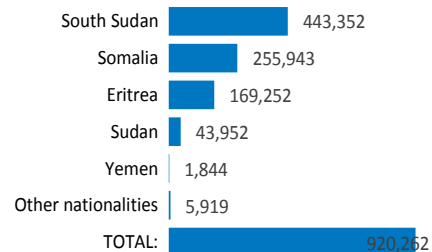
Budget allocation by sector



*Other sectors: Logistics & Telecoms; Durable Solutions; Community Empowerment & Self-Reliance; Core Relief Items; Registration & Documentation; Protection; SGBV.

POPULATION OF CONCERN

Refugee Nationalities



Regional CRRF Launches

Following the first regional launch of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) in Assosa at the end of April, regional and national authorities, refugees, host communities, together with humanitarian and development partners convened during official ceremonies in Gambella, Mekelle Jijiga and Semera throughout May.

This included half-day workshops to enable stakeholders to jointly review the nine mutually reinforcing pledges the Government of Ethiopia made at the Leaders' Summit in New York, and following the national launch in November 2017.

Participants reaffirmed their commitment and called upon humanitarian and development partners, together with representatives of the international donor community to renew their partnership with regional governments in support of refugees and host communities.



Representatives from regional and national government, UNHCR, national and international NGOs, donors and the World Bank gather to launch the CRR approach in the Tigray Region. UNHCR/Kisut Gebreegiabher | UNHCR/Anna Hellge

South Sudan Situation



Stakeholders from South Sudan hold up signboards containing peace messages. ©UNHCR/ Kisut Gebre Egziabher

Representatives of South Sudan’s refugees, the country’s opposing parties and other key stakeholders renew peace talks in Addis Ababa, as key stakeholders seek lasting solutions to the crisis.

The second round of talks of the High Level Revitalization Forum (HLRF), led by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), gathered delegates from South Sudan’s parties, namely the Transitional Government of National Unity, the opposition and civil society and other regional and international observers including UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency.

This process sought to revive the stalled 2015 Agreement that sought to resolve the unabated South Sudanese conflict. After months of mediation, the forum is grappling with how to ensure accountability, restore shattered trust among communities and provide a viable transition to lasting peace.

The refugee representatives, drawn from various age groups, genders and backgrounds, had a clear and simple message to South Sudan’s warring parties: “We need peace in South Sudan and we need it now, not tomorrow.”

They also urged the negotiating parties to join efforts towards genuine peace in South Sudan. “It is imperative to address tribalism and the leadership deficit which are destroying South Sudan,” they added. “We need to address these issues to be able to bring lasting peace to our country.”

CRRF



©UNHCR/Diana Diaz

A CRRF Technical Committee Workshop on Documentation was held in Addis Ababa to take stock of the progress made to date on Vital Events Registration, to outline challenges in implementation and consider solutions.

The workshop reviewed the modalities for the issuance of bank accounts and essential documentation for refugees and the co-ordination structures required to advance the implementation of rights related to documentation.

The forum gathered together government agencies, including the Federal Transport Authority, Commercial Bank of Ethiopia, Federal Vital Events Registration Agency, ARRA as well as development partners, NGOs and refugees.

By ensuring refugees are included in the national registration system, the Government of Ethiopia continues to move forward in enhancing the protection environment of refugees in the country, while allowing refugees to progressively become self-reliant.

Registration



©UNHCR/Diana Diaz

UNHCR and ARRA continue to undertake a comprehensive Level 3 registration exercise in all the refugee camps in Ethiopia, where refugees will also be enrolled on Biometric Identity Management System (BIMS).

As of 31 May 2018 a total of 50,227 refugees are now enrolled in the new identity management system. BIMS is a corporate UNHCR identity management tool which captures essential information on refugees. As a result, all refugee families receive a proof of registration document, while every refugee aged 14 and above receives a refugee / asylum-seeker identity card on the same day of registration. When all refugees residing in Ethiopia are part of BIMS, the enhanced information database will enable a more targeted approach to service delivery and 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 referral services.

Spanish Goodwill Ambassador Jesus Vazquez visits Eritrean refugees in Shire



©UNHCR/Maria Jesus Vega

On the occasion of his 10th anniversary as a UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador (GWA), Jesus Vazquez travelled to Shire camps in Ethiopia to get first-hand information on the situation of Eritrean refugees arriving in the Tigray region and on the work UNHCR and its partners carry out in the country.

The well-known Spanish TV presenter was struck by the huge number of youngsters and unaccompanied and separated children in the camps, and the collective effort undertaken by UNHCR, ARRA and other partners with limited resources. The GWA also visited energy initiatives developed in Adi Harush by the Spanish public-private alliance “Alianza Shire” with UNHCR’s support, including street lights and communal kitchens, powered thanks to the project.

Jesus Vazquez seeks to raise awareness and support fundraising efforts back to Spain for the second largest refugee hosting country in Africa. In this regard, the GWA documented the main activities in the camps as well as music, dance and theatre performances undertaken by volunteer refugees for a “talent show” he is conducting for TV Mediaset. With the support of UNHCR, the National Association “España con ACNUR” and Mediaset, a multimedia/fundraising campaign is to be launched on 4 June, with the GWA participating in seven TV programmes and a full webpage and blog in Mediaset dedicating to Ethiopia throughout the month.

To learn more about Jesus Vazquez’s visit to Ethiopia, go to: <https://www.mediaset.es/12meses/>

Regional focus

AFAR

Refugee children in Afar celebrate the inauguration of new classroom blocks, built with the support from Edukans and partner DEC, in Aysaita Camp. The additional classrooms will allow more refugees to attend school in less crowded conditions.



ADDIS ABABA

- Over 50 children and youth received support from the Refugee Outreach Volunteers, who conducted home visits and followed-up on any protection issues.



SHIRE

UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador Jesus Vazquez from Spain visited Eritrean refugees in Shire. Thanks to the support from Spanish donors, refugees in Shire have access to electricity points which allow them to cook food for household consumption and as a source of income.



Refugee Voices

Violence continues to push South Sudanese refugees into Ethiopia

Forced to flee her home in Walgak, South Sudan, following the death of her sister, Nyanthiy took charge of her two nephews and headed to Ethiopia.



By Reath Riek in Gambella, Ethiopia

GAMBELLA, Ethiopia— Conflict in South Sudan continues to take a heavy toll on civilians, with thousands of families torn apart by violence. For Nyanthiy Rout, 22, the unexpected visit of her two young nephews brought the worst news one can receive. “I was preparing to visit my sister in Waat that day after hearing fighting might start there,” she said. Unfortunately the rumours were true and her sister Nyakuacha, 25, and brother in law Yany, 32, were caught in the crossfire. They both died hours later from their injuries.

Hunger in South Sudan is rampant and with the fear of fighting breaking out in Walgak, Nyathiay was confronted with the urgent need to safeguard the children’s life. She took her two children and nephews and fled towards Ethiopia. “I had to leave my husband and his elderly mother behind. We walked for 20 long days,” she said following her arrival at the Pamdong Reception Centre, a new infrastructure built in the Gambella region to receive new arrivals. This decision came at the expense of the life she knew as a wife and pastoralist.

“My aim is to raise these children in a safe place where there is no war and hunger”

Having found a safe place to live following her relocation to Nguenyiel Camp, Nyanthiy is looking forward and striving to provide a better life for four small children and herself. “I will not go home any time soon. My aim is to raise these children in a safe place where

there is no war and hunger,” she said, adding how she needs support to do so. “I need a help. I don’t have the capacity to take care of four children on my own.”

Education is her first priority. Insecurity and violence in South Sudan has meant that many generations have not been able to go to school. For Nyanthial, her circumstances were no different. “I was deprived of my education since my childhood due to conflict, but still I have a dream to continue my education and that my children can go to school. Only education can provide us with a better life in the future,” she said.

Nyanthiay is among the over 17,000 South Sudanese refugees registered this year in Ethiopia who are relocated to Nguenyiel Camp currently hosting 99,000 refugees. Since the outbreak of the current emergency in September 2016, over 125,000 South Sudanese refugees have found safety in the Gambella region, bringing the total number to almost 424,000. The continued refugee influx in the region, the current funding constraints and scarcity of suitable land in Gambella remains a challenge for UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, and its humanitarian partners.

While South Sudan continues to seek a durable peace, humanitarian and development actors remain committed to implementing a comprehensive approach to find solutions to the plight of refugees in Ethiopia.

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.

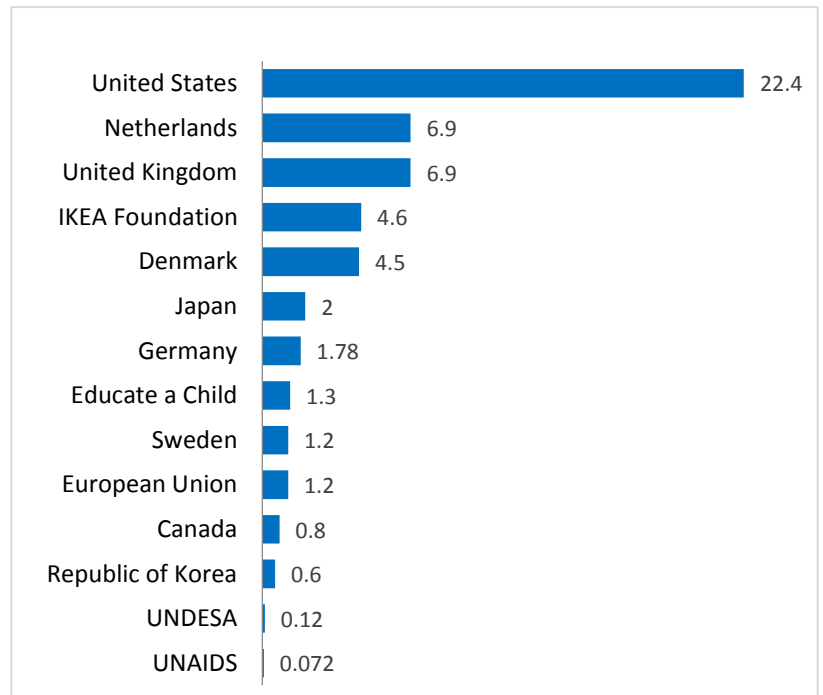
Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the Ethiopia operation in 2018 amount to some

US\$ 54.7 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 broadly earmarked regional contributions from:

United States of America 56.2 million | Germany 15.2 million | Private donors Australia 5 million | Canada 3.3 million | Norway 2.6 million
 Italy | Malta | Sweden | Private donors

Special thanks to the major donors of unearmarked regional contributions:

Sweden 98.2 million | Norway 42.5 million | Netherlands 39.1 million | United Kingdom 31.7 million | Private donors Spain 26 million | Denmark 25.5 million | Australia 18.9 million | Switzerland 15.2 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 12.6 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 | Saudi Arabia | Serbia | Singapore | Slovakia | Sri Lanka | Thailand | Turkey | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | Private donors

CONTACTS

External Relations Unit, UNHCR Ethiopia
 ethader@unhcr.org, Cell +251 966204950

LINKS

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