



# East and Horn of Africa

## Major developments

Despite the fact that several of the countries in the subregion were confronted by many socio-economic and political challenges, a number of important political developments had a positive impact on the lives of the refugees. The continuing, albeit reluctant, compliance of Eritrea and Ethiopia with the decision of the Boundary Commission in The Hague allowed for the repatriation of thousands of returnees to Eritrea and their reintegration. The agreement on security and sharing of wealth between the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A) under the IGAD-led peace negotiations in Naivasha, Kenya, raised hopes of bringing the protracted Sudanese war to an end.

However, in the course of the year, in western Sudan, serious fighting broke out between groups affiliated with the Government of Sudan and its opponents in the region of Darfur, creating massive internal and external population displacements. By the end of the year, some 110,000 Sudanese had crossed into neighbouring Chad and more than 700,000 persons were estimated to be internally displaced in western Sudan. The ongoing peace talks on southern Sudan were negatively affected by the humanitarian crisis in Darfur, which had not been resolved at the time of reporting.

Djibouti

Eritrea

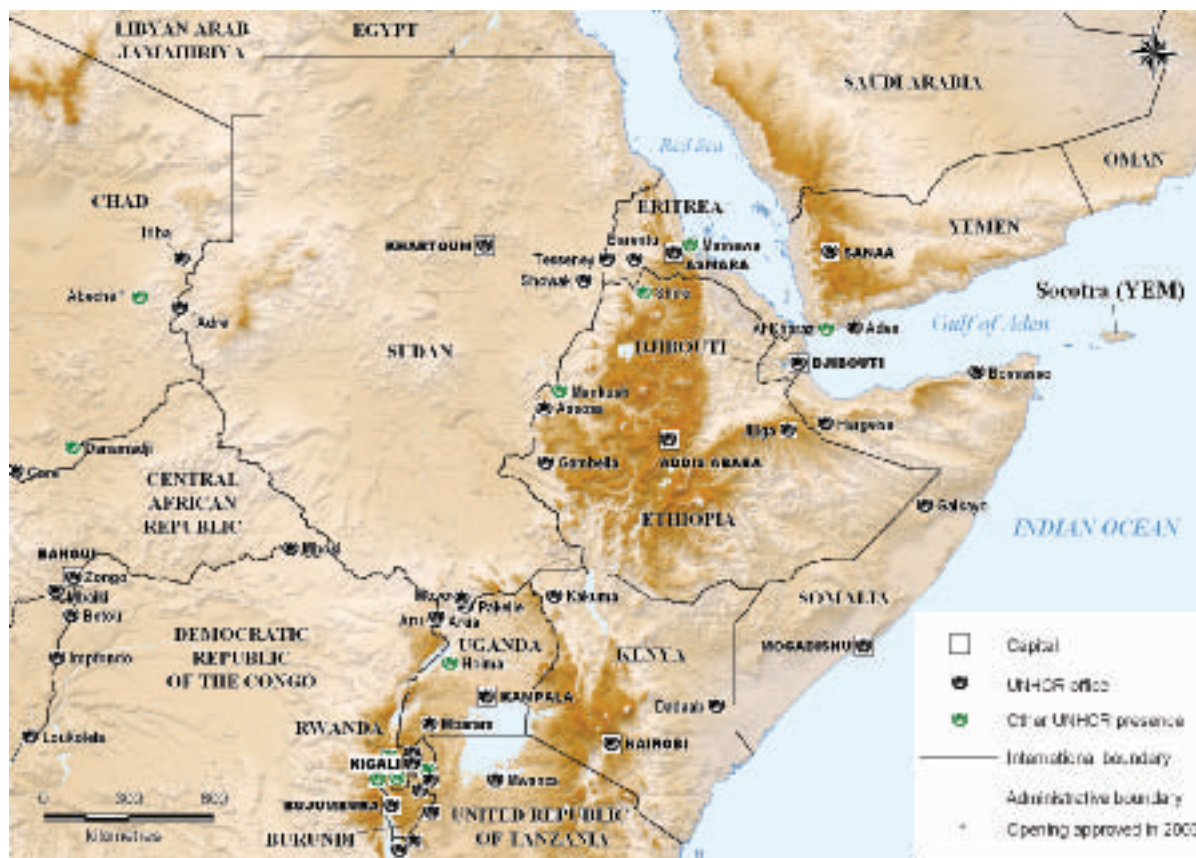
Ethiopia

Kenya

Somalia

Sudan

Uganda



In North-west Somalia ("Somaliland"), a peaceful multi party presidential election was held on 14 April 2003, marking a milestone in the democratization process. The level of peace and stability in the area, and the presence of viable government counterparts, allowed UN agencies and NGOs to work on humanitarian and development programmes in a coordinated manner. However, these positive developments were overshadowed later in the year by two separate incidents in which three humanitarian workers (two British teachers and an Italian, Dr. Annalena Tonelli, the winner of the Nansen Award for her work with destitute Somalis) were killed. These violent deaths led to the temporary introduction of stricter security measures, including a ban on the movement of international staff outside Hargeisa.

In 2003, the new Government of Kenya gave impetus to the development of national refugee legislation and showed an interest in taking increased responsibility for refugee matters in the country. A Refugee Bill, drafted after consultation with UNHCR and civil society, was presented to Parliament.

## Challenges and concerns

In 2003, the sub-region hosted over 900,000 individuals of concern to UNHCR. Operationally, there were three main refugee situations: in Sudan, Eritrea and Somalia. The main sources of concern continued to be security-related.

In 2003, the deteriorating security situation along the eastern border of Sudan repeatedly caused the suspension of registration for voluntary repatriation and refugee status determination. The Office's initiative to close and hand over four refugee camps by the end of 2003 did not materialise.

In Eritrea, despite the optimism over the resumed repatriation movements, the limited local implementation capacity, compounded by a reduced pool of skilled labour, slowed down the provision of goods and services, the construction of much needed infrastructure and the ability to monitor and evaluate ongoing activities.

In Ethiopia, the security situation in Gambella region further deteriorated in 2003. Several ethnic clashes in and around Dimma and Fugnido refugee camps resulted in the deaths of 148 persons (16 refugees and 132 nationals) and 24 were injured. As a consequence, United Nations and other agencies' staff were twice relocated out of Gambella. This adversely affected the timely delivery of food to refugees, interrupted primary education in Fugnido camp and forced UNHCR to abandon the development of the new camps at Odier-Bol for the relocation of the 24,500 Nuer and Dinka refugees from Fugnido. UNHCR signed an MOU with the African Commission on Humanitarian and Peoples' Rights to put into effect the Comprehensive Implementation Plan

adopted in March 2000 to promote compliance with the 1969 OAU Refugee Convention.

There were operational constraints to contend with in Ethiopia, after the repatriation of the 9,245 Somali refugees, the 'Somaliland' authorities halted the operation due to the lack of absorption capacity in Hargeisa. This rendered impossible the planned closure of Hartisheik camp in Ethiopia. Likewise, the planned repatriation from Aisha, Ethiopia, was deferred, pending the clearance of mines on the road from Aisha to the border. UNHCR engaged the Ethiopian army to undertake the demining.

In Kenya, torrential rains and subsequent floods in the second quarter of 2003 damaged several refugee households, airstrips, and transport and supply routes. In Dadaab camp, 1,000 shelters were damaged, while in Kakuma 4,202 refugee households were relocated to higher ground to avoid further risk of flooding. Over 200 latrines in Dadaab and 840 in Kakuma collapsed as a result of flooding.

Security in and around camps remained precarious in Kenya, and armed clashes between the Sudanese Dinkas and the local Turkanas resulted in the deaths of 11 refugees and three Kenyans.

In Somalia, the main challenges for large-scale repatriation from neighbouring countries were the absence of basic social services and the lack of

opportunities for returnees to achieve self-reliance. This situation, coupled with severe drought in the north, and general insecurity in the south, made Somalia less attractive to potential returnees. Murder, looting and destruction of property, child soldiers, kidnapping, discrimination against minorities, torture, unlawful arrest and detention were common in southern Sudan.

In Uganda, the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) rebels continued to operate around settlements in Adjumani district. Due to the state of insecurity, implementing partners experienced high staff turnover as staff opted for posts in safer locations.

## Progress towards solutions

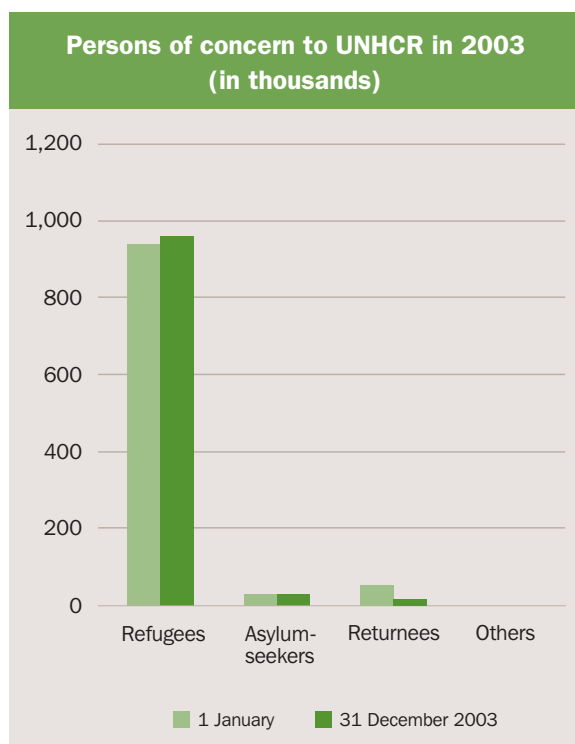
Overall, the subregion assisted some 20,000 refugees to return to their places of origin. These included 9,444 Eritreans, 10,227 Somalis (mostly from Ethiopia), Djibouti and Kenya, and 281 Ugandans from Sudan and smaller groups from other countries in Africa.

In June 2003, UNHCR resumed the repatriation of Eritrean refugees from eastern Sudan. This had been suspended in October 2002, following the rebel attack which led to the closure of the Sudanese/Eritrean border for nine months. After lengthy negotiations, and in close cooperation with UNHCR in Eritrea, the two Governments agreed to provide a humanitarian corridor for the voluntary repatriation of Eritrean refugees from Sudan. This enabled UNHCR to resume the repatriation in June 2003 and to successfully repatriate 9,444 Eritrean refugees in organized convoys.

An Integrated Recovery Programme under the 4Rs recovery strategy was developed in collaboration with the Government of Eritrea and UN agencies to address longterm reintegration needs of returnees, IDPs and expellees in their host communities.

A comprehensive agreement between the Government of Sudan and the SPLM/A should set the stage for the repatriation and reintegration of 150,000 Sudanese refugees from neighbouring countries, and the return of some 80,000 IDPs, within 18 months of its signature.

In Uganda, the district authorities in Arua and Yumbe provided land for settlements, for some 14,741 refugees displaced from Achol-Pii. About 56 per



cent of the refugees attained food self-sufficiency. Under the Self Reliance Strategy (SRS) initiative, community service activities were handed over to the government departments in the respective districts for implementation.

## Operations

The operations in **Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan** and **Uganda** are analyzed in more detail in separate country chapters.

In **Djibouti**, UNHCR continued with the voluntary repatriation of mainly Somali refugees and provided assistance to camp-based refugees as well as limited assistance to those residing in urban centres. Environmental education was promoted. This is of crucial importance in view of the barren nature of the land, depleted vegetation cover and the scarcity of water sources exacerbated by the presence of refugees. Djibouti hosted 26,628 refugees (mostly Somalis) and 1,660 asylum-seekers.

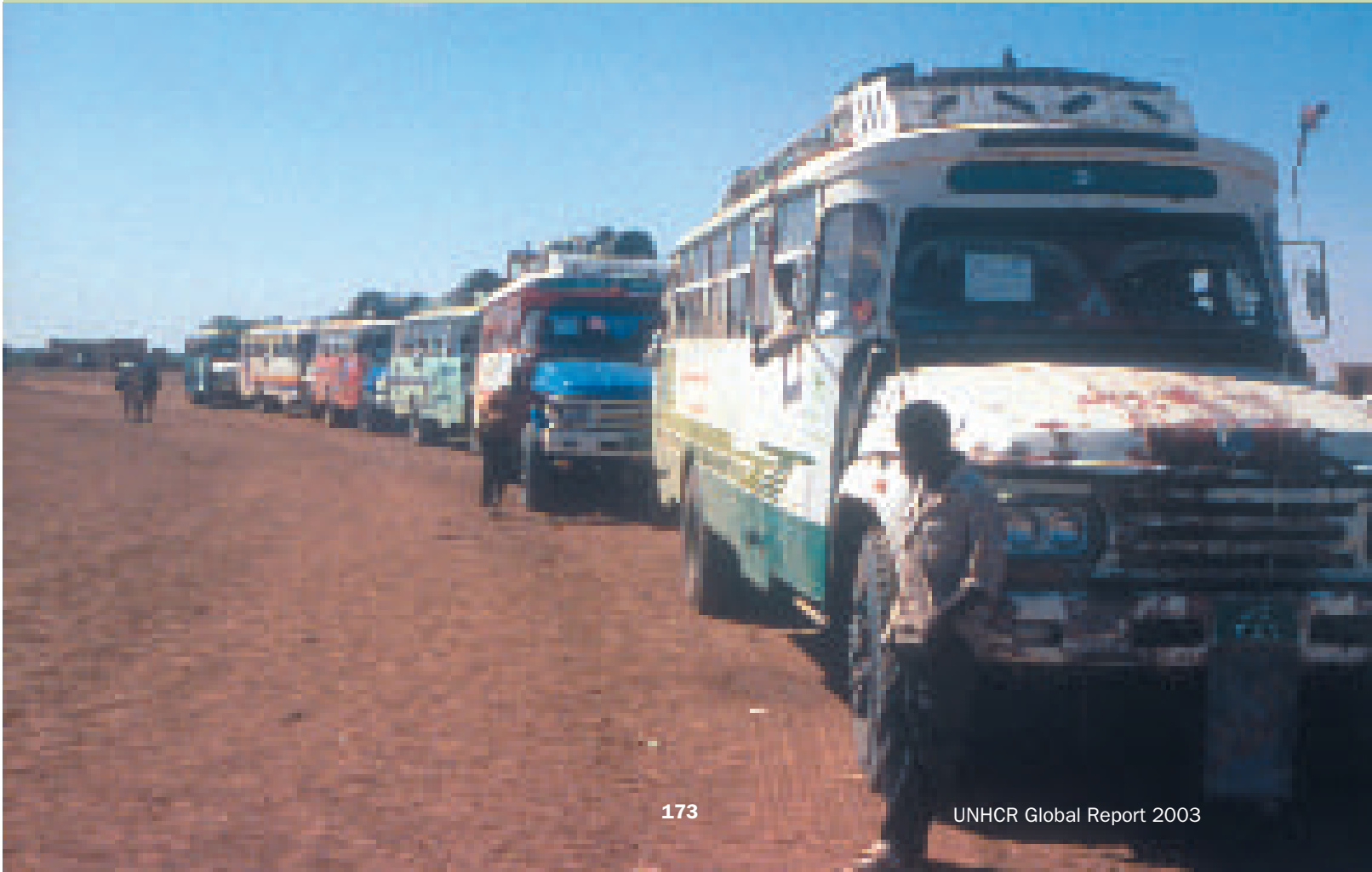
## Funding

The revised 2003 Annual programme budget for the East and Horn of Africa amounted to USD 108,219,965. The total requirements for the sub-region for 2003 including Supplementary programmes stood at USD 112,878,307. Contributions earmarked for the Annual programme were USD 64,337,292. Transfers from unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds of USD 40,046,762 brought the total funds available to USD 104,384,054.

UNHCR's programmes in the UN *Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeals* for Eritrea, Somalia, Sudan and Uganda amounted to USD 54,083,829, representing 50 per cent of its requirements for the East and Horn of Africa's Annual programme budget. Earmarked contributions for UNHCR's projects presented in the four CAPs amounted to USD 27,173,066.

Supplementary programmes through the *All Africa Special Appeal* were established for Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda during the course of the year to cover costs for the transfer of Eritrean refugees from the border areas to safer

Sudan: Transportation by buses was organized for the voluntary repatriation of thousands of Eritrean refugees who were in neighbouring countries. UNHCR/E. Parsons



locations in Ethiopia; to provide emergency assistance to refugees in Dadaab and Kakuma camps in Kenya; repair shelter and infrastructure affected by heavy rains; relocate refugees living in between the Lodoket and Tarach rivers in Kenya to higher and safer grounds; provide material support to refugees who fled from the Democratic Republic of the Congo to

southwest Uganda; and relocate Sudanese refugees (ex-Achol-pii) from Kiryandongo to Ikafe and Madi Okollo camps in Uganda.

UNHCR received USD 2,032,299 for its Supplementary programmes for the subregion in 2003, representing less than half of its requirements.

### Voluntary contributions - Restricted / Earmarked (USD)

Earmarking <sup>1</sup>	Donor	Annual programme budget		Supplementary programme budget	
		Income	Contribution	Income	Contribution
<b>Djibouti</b>					
	Italy	342,075	342,075	0	0
	United States of America	700,000	700,000	0	0
<b>Eritrea</b>					
	European Commission	3,131,583	8,194,200	0	0
	Japan	2,500,000	2,500,000	0	0
	Netherlands	855,000	855,000	0	0
	Norway	1,361,650	1,361,650	0	0
	Spain	7,964	0	0	0
	United States of America	3,550,000	3,550,000	0	0
<b>Ethiopia</b>					
	Italy	570,125	570,125	0	0
	Japan	2,000,000	2,000,000	0	0
	Norway	743,785	743,785	0	0
	United States of America	3,408,000	3,408,000	310,000	310,000
<b>East and Horn of Africa</b>					
	Denmark	6,266,716	6,266,716	0	0
	Finland	1,673,009	1,673,009	0	0
	France	706,714	706,714	0	0
	Japan	5,000,000	5,000,000	0	0
	Luxembourg	514,286	514,286	0	0
	Private donors Japan	11,436	11,436	0	0
	Sweden	5,473,204	5,473,204	0	0
<b>Kenya</b>					
	<i>Deutsche Stiftung</i> (GFR)	74,441	74,441	0	0
	Germany	1,181,005	1,181,005	542,299	542,299
	Italy	570,125	570,125	0	0
	Japan	2,500,000	2,500,000	0	0
	Norway	833,000	833,000	0	0
	United States of America	4,449,000	4,449,000	640,000	640,000



Earmarking <sup>1</sup>	Donor	Annual programme budget		Supplementary programme budget	
		Income	Contribution	Income	Contribution
<b>Somalia</b>					
	European Commission	268,528	268,528	0	0
	Italy	456,100	456,100	0	0
	Japan	500,000	500,000	0	0
	Netherlands	283,500	283,500	0	0
	Norway	2,465,545	2,465,545	0	0
	United States of America	1,100,000	1,100,000	0	0
<b>Sudan</b>					
	Italy	570,125	570,125	0	0
	Japan	1,000,000	1,000,000	0	0
	Japan Association for UNHCR (JPN)	32,230	32,230	0	0
	Norway	139,276	139,276	0	0
	Private donors Italy	8,987	8,987	0	0
	Private donors Japan	3,313	3,313	0	0
	United States of America	1,850,000	1,850,000	0	0
<b>Uganda</b>					
	Belgium	356,295	356,295	0	0
	Italy	684,151	684,151	0	0
	Japan	1,500,000	1,500,000	0	0
	Norway	1,487,096	1,487,096	0	0
	Spain	469,028	455,651	0	0
	United States of America	2,740,000	2,740,000	540,000	540,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>64,337,292</b>	<b>69,378,568</b>	<b>2,032,299</b>	<b>2,032,299</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	Supplementary programme budget	Total	Annual programme budget	Supplementary programme budget	Total
Djibouti	4,031,696	0	4,031,696	3,476,191	0	3,476,191
Eritrea	16,829,167	0	16,829,167	16,484,994	0	16,484,994
Ethiopia	18,787,803	959,342	19,747,145	17,859,454	581,150	18,440,604
Kenya <sup>1</sup>	31,316,637	2,005,357	33,321,994	30,658,474	1,601,945	32,260,419
Somalia	5,739,388	0	5,739,388	5,432,540	0	5,432,540
Sudan	15,701,751	0	15,701,751	15,238,078	0	15,238,078
Uganda	15,813,523	1,693,643	17,507,166	14,834,082	704,976	15,539,058
<b>Total</b>	<b>108,219,965</b>	<b>4,658,342</b>	<b>112,878,307</b>	<b>103,983,813</b>	<b>2,888,071</b>	<b>106,871,884</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes Regional Technical Support Group: Budget of USD 3,722,662 and Expenditure of USD 3,720,835.

Note: The Supplementary programme budgets do not include a 7 per cent charge (support costs) that is recovered from contributions to meet indirect costs for UNHCR.