



East and Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes

A Burundian refugee carries firewood home to burn in the new fuel efficient stove she has received at Nyarugusu camp, in the United Republic of Tanzania.

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“We have an unprecedented opportunity for potential solutions for forcibly displaced people in this region with the signing of the peace agreement for South Sudan and the political changes in Sudan, Ethiopia and Somalia. In addition, progressive refugee policies being adopted in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda, in line with the Global Compact on Refugees, are allowing new types of partnerships and the inclusion of refugees in national services. Recognizing the protection and assistance given by countries in the region that have been tirelessly hosting their African brothers and sisters for decades, we must give them the support needed for the development of the host communities.”

Clementine Nkweta-Salami

Director, Regional Bureau for East and Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes

KEY STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Strengthening protection and access to quality services for persons with specific needs

In a region that hosts the largest number of refugees on the African continent, UNHCR will continue to ensure that the right to seek asylum is upheld and that refugee protection is adequately provided. The Office will advocate access to territory and strengthen refugee policy by engaging with, among others, the African Union, the East African Community, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), and the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region.

Individual biometric registration will be prioritized, specifically in Sudan where registration activities were interrupted in the first half of 2019 due to general insecurity. In total, some 654,000 people are planned for registration across all 11 operations in the region. Concurrently, the Office will support refugee status determination procedures while ensuring that refugee children and survivors of sexual and gender-based violence

(SGBV) receive tailored support. Particular attention will be given to South Sudan, where 65% of refugees are minors and more than 1.4 million refugee children are affected by conflict and forced displacement.

Providing lifesaving humanitarian assistance

In the region, more than 80% of refugees reside in camps or settlements where they receive basic assistance, including shelter, water and sanitation, health and education.

However, more investment is needed to ensure assistance and services meet international standards, including better access to shelter, core relief items, sanitary kits and improved access to energy. In all operations, refugee families who arrived prior to 2015 need relief items replenished, while new arrivals require immediate support.

With the adoption of the Global Compact on Refugees, countries in the region have taken important steps in applying comprehensive responses, particularly in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda and

Uganda. UNHCR will continue to work closely with host governments and line ministries to integrate refugees into services and include them in national planning. The Office will also continue to advocate more development investment in host communities.

Promoting self-reliance and economic inclusion of refugees and asylum-seekers

In line with Grand Bargain commitments, UNHCR will continue to invest in cash-based interventions, with some \$30 million worth of assistance planned for distribution across the region in 2020. UNHCR will pursue new partnerships and strengthen existing ones, including with the World Bank, the African Development Bank, the International Finance Corporation and IGAD to encourage increased investment in refugee areas, benefitting host

communities and refugees alike. In Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda, significant efforts have been made to include refugees in national planning, provide services and to promote integration, efforts which UNHCR will build on. Promoting connectivity for refugees will also open up further opportunities for education and entrepreneurship.

Pursuing durable solutions

UNHCR will continue to assist voluntary repatriation to Burundi, Ethiopia, Rwanda and Somalia, with planning underway for some 50,000 Burundian refugees and 17,000 Somali refugees to return home in 2020. In addition to monitoring the voluntary nature of return, UNHCR will monitor the protection situation for those who have opted to return. Depending on positive political developments, and if conditions allow, return to other countries will be supported. In parallel, the Office

will advocate local integration and support resettlement activities for those who meet specific criteria. Some 511,100 people are in need of resettlement across the region. Complementary pathways will also be pursued.

Coordinating and delivering protection, assistance and solutions for IDPs

UNHCR will work with governments, UN agencies, and NGOs in coordinating and delivering protection, camp management and shelter for IDPs in Burundi, Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan and South Sudan. Key areas of focus will include demonstrating strategic leadership to ensure the centrality of protection across the humanitarian response, informed by stronger information management and analysis systems. It will also include ensuring robust operational delivery of protection and assistance in affected areas and contributing to conditions conducive to achieving solutions, in partnership with humanitarian, development and government stakeholders. To demonstrate the operationalization of UNHCR's

updated IDP Policy in action, Ethiopia and South Sudan will participate in the High Commissioner's special Initiative on Internal Displacement. This will support, monitor and ultimately showcase UNHCR's commitment to robust protection leadership, coordination responsibilities and operational delivery for protection and solutions in contexts of internal displacement.

Preventing and addressing statelessness

UNHCR will provide technical and policy support to ensure laws and practices are consistent with international and regional standards on the prevention of statelessness so that stateless persons can finally get citizenship and refugee children can obtain birth registration while in exile. UNHCR, in partnership with key regional organizations, intends to conduct a study on the risks of statelessness in protracted refugee situations. The study will inform durable and legal solutions for refugees in the region and help identify risks of statelessness.

The new Policy on "UNHCR's Engagement in Situations of Internal Displacement"



there was no longer demand for them. Then this year, as the rains failed once again, she had no option but to sell up the little piece of land that remained to her, and flee across the border to Ethiopia.

"There was a time when we could cultivate the farms. The river would rise, and it would flow and we survived. Now, the river is dry and there is no rain. What is worse is that Al-Shabab force us to produce what we did not have."

—Shalle Hassan Abdirahman, Somali farmer who arrived at UNHCR's Dollo Ado reception centre in eastern Ethiopia.



As drought compounds security woes, Somalis flee to Ethiopia

Crop failures, livestock die-offs, and extortion from Al-Shabab are driving thousands of farmers and pastoralists to abandon their lands and seek refuge. When drought killed most of Barwako Noor Abdi's cows and goats eight years ago, she had no choice but to abandon her home in Somalia's parched Gedo region and seek help elsewhere in a country suffering from decades of insecurity. When the next major drought hit in 2016-2017, she found she could not even sell her surviving animals as

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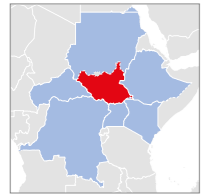


The Instant Network Schools, borne out of a partnership between the Vodafone Foundation and UNHCR, help bring connected education to refugees in remote locations, providing a digital learning experience that has transformed education for refugees in Kenya, Tanzania, South Sudan and DRC.



MAJOR SITUATIONS IN THE EAST AND HORN OF AFRICA AND THE GREAT LAKES IN 2020

Despite progress in ending conflict in South Sudan, and recent political changes in Ethiopia, Somalia and Sudan, it is unlikely that the numbers of those forcibly displaced will fall significantly in 2020. Drought in some areas and flooding in others may impact service delivery as the region grapples with climate change.



SOUTH SUDAN

Following the signing of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan, the path towards peace remains slow and basic services are still not widely available. In some regions, conflict and insecurity continues.

It is expected that South Sudan will remain the continent's largest refugee crisis, with more than 2.2 million refugees projected in 2020. Internal displacement figures, presently around 1.82 million, are likely to remain high due to ongoing localized conflict. This figure may, however, decrease due to secondary displacement towards Ethiopia, Sudan and Uganda, as well as spontaneous IDP returns to certain areas of the country. Although UNHCR is not promoting or facilitating returns, the Office anticipates an increase in spontaneous IDP and refugee returns.

Working with 95 partners across five countries, UNHCR will continue to coordinate the humanitarian response to the refugee crisis through the Regional Refugee Response Plan for South Sudan, and will support the IDP response as a partner in the Humanitarian Response Plan. Data management and analysis, along with protection monitoring of returns, will be strengthened.

2.2 million
REFUGEES

1.8 million
INTERNALLY DISPLACED

65%
CHILDREN



BURUNDI

With elections planned for 2020, there are concerns the political tensions that caused people to flee may remain unresolved. The Regional Refugee Response Plan for Burundi includes 37 partners in the four main countries of asylum and takes a comprehensive and solutions-oriented approach, emphasizing the need for refugees' inclusion in national systems, integrating service delivery with host communities wherever possible, and prioritizing self-reliance.

UNHCR and partners are not promoting returns to Burundi but will assist those who indicate they have made a free and informed choice to return voluntarily. The Joint Refugee Return and Reintegration Plan is an integrated, inter-agency response plan working toward the sustainable return and reintegration of Burundian refugees. The plan articulates the joint strategy to provide community-based response activities reaching refugee returns in the six main provinces of return (Cancuzo, Kirundo, Makamba, Muyinga, Rutana and Ruyigi), and brings together 19 partners within Burundi, including Government ministries, UN agencies and NGOs.

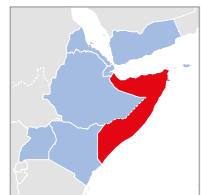
Some 109,000 Burundians are IDPs, at least two-thirds of them due to natural disasters. Working closely with other UN agencies, UNHCR will focus on protection, assistance and core relief item distribution.

305,000
REFUGEES

109,000
INTERNALLY DISPLACED

80%
WOMEN & CHILDREN

50,000
RETURNEES



SOMALIA

There are more than 3.5 million people of concern from Somalia—refugees, IDPs and returnees—all of whom are in need of humanitarian assistance. With 2.6 million IDPs, Somalia has the third largest internally-displaced population globally.

Efforts to try to end one of the most protracted displacement crises in the world, encouraging returns where possible, will continue. Despite political developments, insecurity persists due to attacks from Al-Shabaab and inter-clan conflicts. The planned downsizing of the African Union Mission to Somalia in 2019 may also affect the security environment. The presidential elections anticipated in 2020 will be a measure of progress in light of the ongoing reconciliation process.

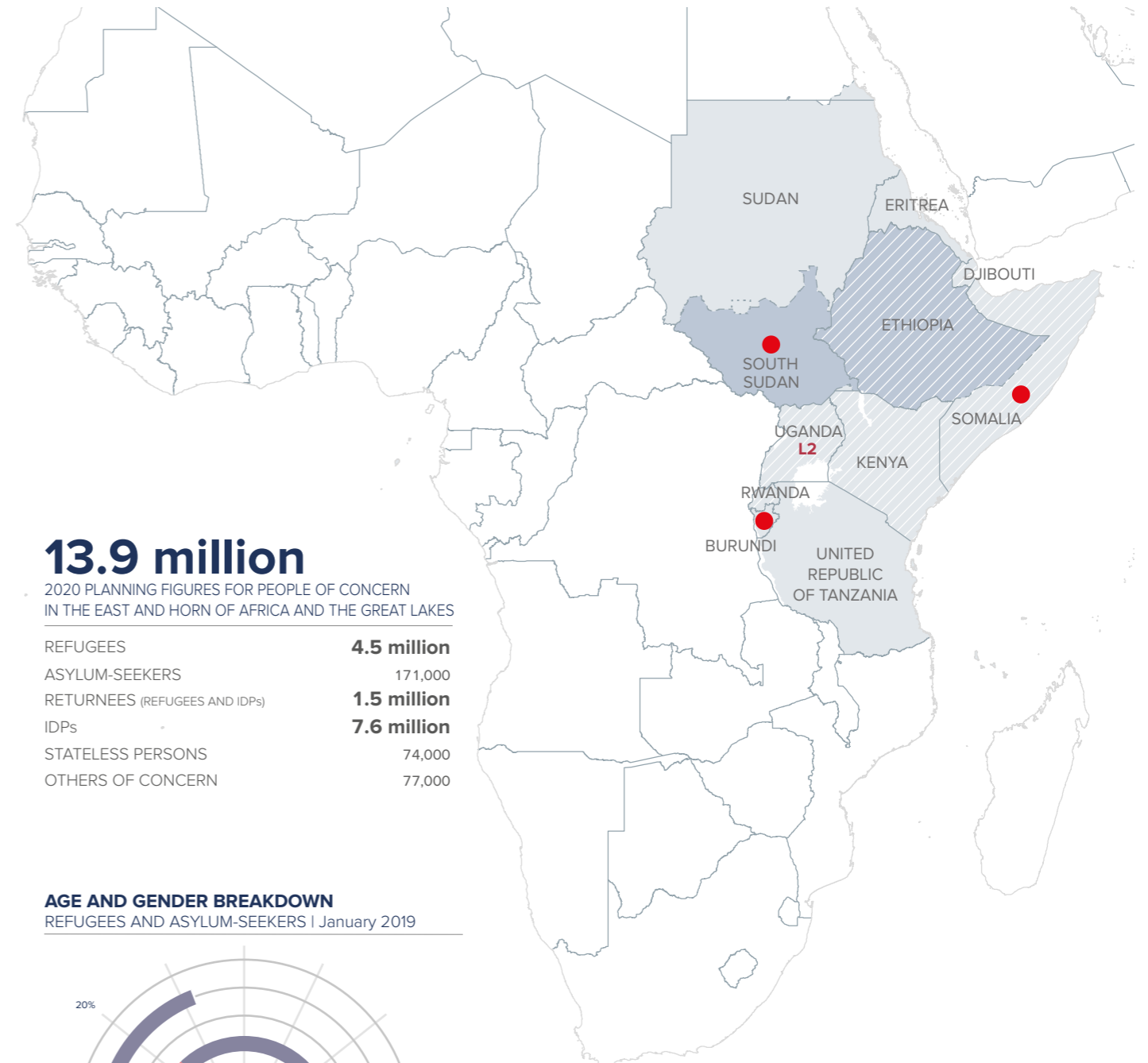
Severe drought and floods will likely continue to displace thousands of families across the region, and reduce their access to regular and sustained humanitarian assistance. In countries of asylum, continued investment is needed to support inclusion and livelihood activities. This is in line with the regional application of the Global Refugee Compact, the CRRF and the Nairobi Declaration.

805,000
REFUGEES

2.6 million
INTERNALLY DISPLACED

67%
WOMEN & CHILDREN

108,000
RETURNEES

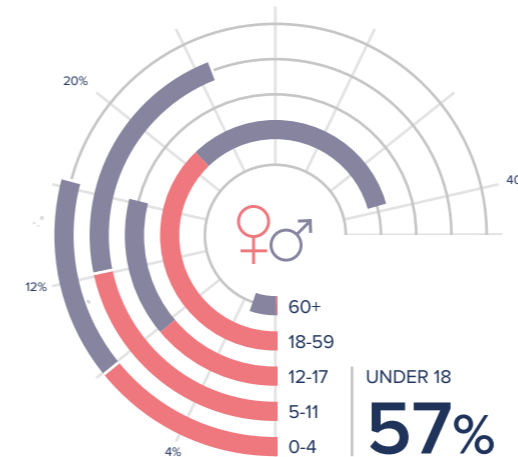


13.9 million

2020 PLANNING FIGURES FOR PEOPLE OF CONCERN IN THE EAST AND HORN OF AFRICA AND THE GREAT LAKES

REFUGEES	4.5 million
ASYLUM-SEEKERS	171,000
RETURNEES (REFUGEES AND IDPs)	1.5 million
IDPs	7.6 million
STATELESS PERSONS	74,000
OTHERS OF CONCERN	77,000

AGE AND GENDER BREAKDOWN REFUGEES AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS | January 2019



- Situation
- CRRF country
- IDP initiative
- L2 Level of emergency

IMPLICATIONS OF UNDERFUNDING

Lack of funding has significantly affected countries across the region. In the first half of 2019, people of concern faced reduced food rations, limited support to access health and education and restricted access to energy sources. Providing adequate protection has been hampered by staff shortages.

Continuous floods and ravaging droughts across the region have increasingly limited land and livelihood opportunities, leading to increased internal displacement and contributing to growing pressure on already limited services, including health, education, sanitation and housing. For example, a lack of funding limited the nutritional supplements available for children and pregnant and breastfeeding women. In Kenya and Somalia, health systems were further strained by drought affecting the surrounding host community, leading to increased demand for health and nutrition services. Lack of funding has also delayed UNHCR’s emergency response to the needs of drought and conflict-affected IDPs.

The prevention of, and response to, SGBV and child protection activities were also critically hampered by staff shortages, with the regional caseworker-to-child ratio at 1:68—far above the international standard of 1:25. Only half of the region’s unaccompanied and separated children are reported to be in appropriate interim or long-term care. In South Sudan, UNHCR’s SGBV activities for IDPs were limited to prevention, leaving a considerable gap in the response efforts, including capacity building and institutional support for service providers, particularly those in remote locations.

The quality of education provided to refugee children was hindered by limited educational supplies, insufficient infrastructure, double shifts and significant student-to-teacher ratios, which were as high as 80 students per teacher in some countries. Secondary school enrolment levels for South Sudanese children

were at just 14.8%, and only 514 Burundian refugees had access to tertiary education. In the Somalia situation, approximately 54% of eligible school-age refugee children and youth were out of school.

Hygiene and sanitation awareness raising activities continue, however the standard for soap distribution—450 grams per person per month and 700 grams for menstruating women—was not met. Access to safe drinking water also dropped in Ethiopia and Uganda due to funding constraints. Moreover, more than 66,000 Burundian refugee families did not have access to family latrines, having to resort to communal latrines or open defecation.

The majority of households lack adequate basic domestic items in most locations as core relief items remain in short supply for new arrivals and those who need replenishment. Only a limited number of the most vulnerable IDP families and persons with specific needs were provided with shelter and domestic items.

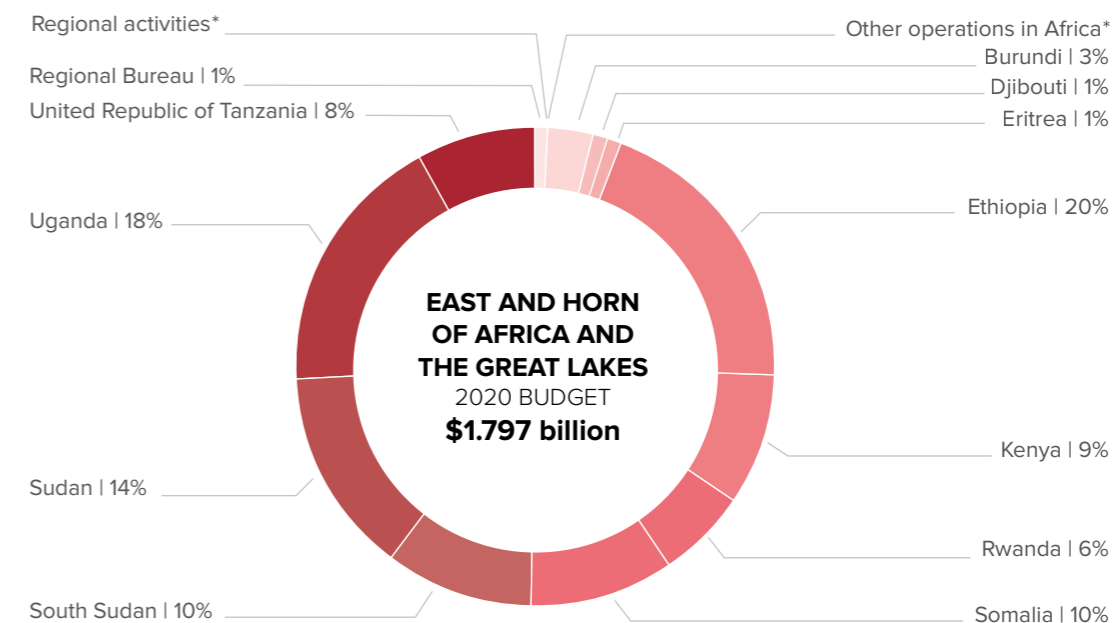
With resources limited, the priorities were to support lifesaving activities and ensure new displacements received assistance. This meant that, despite efforts to prioritize livelihood activities, resources were inadequate to support refugees with livelihood assets or other means of income generation. This hindered their capacity to sustainably meet their basic household needs and transition from dependency on humanitarian assistance to self-reliance.

Given the funding patterns seen in recent years, particularly on the timing, quantity and quality of contributions, it is likely that in 2020, the region will need to remain focused on increasing minimum standards for protection and providing basic humanitarian assistance. Despite the strong efforts undertaken in the region for comprehensive responses, unless adequate resources are received, then UNHCR’s ability to support governments with their inclusion of people of concern will be limited and the investments needed to make people of concern more self-reliant will, again, be deferred.

BUDGETS FOR THE EAST AND HORN OF AFRICA AND THE GREAT LAKES | USD

OPERATION	2019 Current budget (as of 30 June 2019)	PILLAR 1				PILLAR 2		PILLAR 3		PILLAR 4		2021 Proposed budget
		Refugee programmes	Stateless programmes	Reintegration projects	IDP projects	TOTAL						
Regional Bureau for the East and Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes*	3,130,000	14,671,849	-	-	-	14,671,849					15,254,718	
Regional activities for the East and Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes*	3,292,386	4,000,000	-	-	-	4,000,000					4,000,000	
Other operations in Africa	4,300,000	4,213,733	-	-	-	4,213,733					3,451,340	
Burundi	50,924,595	47,275,034	12,017	2,000,000	2,086,597	51,373,649					51,222,582	
Djibouti	16,925,148	16,925,482	-	-	-	16,925,482					17,740,261	
Eritrea	9,728,288	9,728,287	-	-	-	9,728,287					9,728,287	
Ethiopia	346,509,859	316,219,414	-	7,000,000	28,279,266	351,498,681					312,540,082	
Kenya	178,435,521	153,717,790	524,537	-	-	154,242,327					148,917,733	
Rwanda	92,751,244	103,267,210	-	2,650,000	-	105,917,210					105,305,273	
Somalia	183,291,625	35,752,455	-	109,758,875	34,841,803	180,353,132					183,853,132	
South Sudan	152,183,344	113,799,216	1,761,801	35,486,791	26,281,341	177,329,149					204,899,347	
Sudan	268,729,623	210,840,395	2,576,600	17,116,253	17,925,813	248,459,061					244,771,192	
Uganda	386,200,000	330,813,158	400,000	-	-	331,213,158					320,895,621	
United Republic of Tanzania	126,082,621	144,123,218	-	3,067,872	-	147,191,090					145,368,518	
TOTAL	1,822,484,253	1,505,347,243	5,274,955	177,079,790	109,414,820	1,797,116,808					1,767,948,086	

*Regional Bureau and regional activities cover the whole East and Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes region.



* Less than 0.5%