

# UNHCR ETHIOPIA

## IMPACT OF THE YEMEN SITUATION IN ETHIOPIA

October 2015

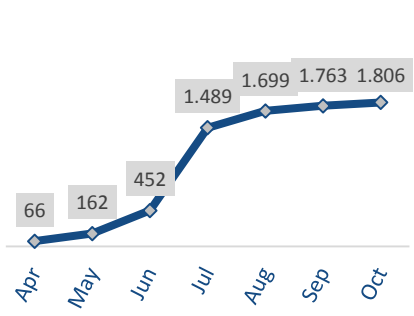
### HIGHLIGHTS

- From 26 March to 10 October 2015, Ethiopia received a total of 3,538 refugees, out of which 1,014 individuals are Yemenis; 2,515 are Somalis, 4 are Eritreans and 5 are Iraqis - the latter three nationalities were previously registered as refugees in Yemen and arrived in Ethiopia after fleeing from the conflict. So far, UNHCR and the Government Administration for Refugees and Returnees Affairs (ARRA) registered 1,806 refugees and asylum-seekers, out of which 975 are Yemeni nationals; 822 are Somali nationals; 4 are Eritrean nationals and 5 are Iraqi nationals.
- According to statistics from IOM, as of October, IOM and the Government of Ethiopia assisted the return of 7,165 Ethiopian nationals. They were evacuated from Yemen, Djibouti and Saudi Arabia.
- Amongst the total new arrivals, 66% are children and 55% are female.

### Population of concern registered by the Government and UNCHR

Population trends of Refugees arriving from Yemen in Ethiopia

| Nationality            | 26 March | April | May | June | July | August | September | October      |
|------------------------|----------|-------|-----|------|------|--------|-----------|--------------|
| Yemeni                 | 0        | 40    | 127 | 301  | 663  | 886    | 954       | 975          |
| Somali                 | 0        | 24    | 33  | 147  | 822  | 822    | 822       | 822          |
| Eritrean               | 0        | 2     | 2   | 4    | 4    | 4      | 4         | 4            |
| Iraqi                  | 0        | 0     | 0   | 0    | 0    | 5      | 5         | 5            |
| <b>Total caseload:</b> |          |       |     |      |      |        |           | <b>1,806</b> |



Age and Gender breakdown of Refugees arriving from Yemen in Ethiopia

| Nationality of refugees arriving from Yemen | 0-4 years  |            | 5-11 years |            | 12-17 years |            | 18-59 years |            | 60 years+ |           | Total        |
|---|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|
|   | M          | F          | M          | F          | M           | F          | M           | F          | M         | F         |              |
|   | Yemeni     | 57         | 42         | 73         | 100         | 61         | 73          | 232        | 304       | 15        |              |
| Somali                                      | 101        | 88         | 170        | 158        | 83          | 179        | 10          | 33         | 0         | 0         | 822          |
| Eritrean                                    | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0           | 0          | 2           | 2          | 0         | 0         | 4            |
| Iraqi                                       | 0          | 0          | 0          | 2          | 0           | 1          | 0           | 1          | 1         | 0         | 5            |
| <b>Total</b>                                | <b>158</b> | <b>130</b> | <b>243</b> | <b>260</b> | <b>144</b>  | <b>253</b> | <b>244</b>  | <b>340</b> | <b>16</b> | <b>18</b> | <b>1,806</b> |

All figures are provisional and still subject to change

Numbers of asylum-seekers and refugees from Yemen (only Yemeni nationals) registered in ProGres as of 10 October 2015

|             | Prior to 2015 | Jan-15 | Feb-15 | Mar-15 | Apr-15 | May-15 | Jun-15 | Jul-15 | Aug-15 | Sep-15 | Oct-15 | Total |
|-------------|---------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| Households  | 56            | 1      | 4      | 9      | 27     | 44     | 100    | 165    | 116    | 35     | 13     | 570   |
| Individuals | 132           | 1      | 4      | 14     | 40     | 87     | 174    | 362    | 223    | 68     | 21     | 1,126 |

### KEY FIGURES

As of 10 October

**3,538**

Asylum-seekers and Refugees arrived in Ethiopia after fleeing the conflict in Yemen

**1,806**

Asylum-seekers and Refugees registered since the outbreak of the conflict (March 26th)

**66%** are children

**55%** are female

### FUNDING

**USD 6,111,790**

requested for the period of October to December 2015

**USD 20,051,000**

requested for the period of January to December 2016

### PRIORITIES

- Ensure protection of refugees and provide assistance;
- Work with the government to ensure access to the territory and registration of all refugees;
- Identify specific needs and screen victims of human trafficking;
- Continue providing assistance under the Urban Programme and in refugee camps.

## OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

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- Since the outbreak of the conflict in Yemen, Ethiopia has been receiving Yemeni asylum-seekers. Somalis and Eritreans previously registered as refugees in Yemen are also arriving in the Eastern and Northern regions of Ethiopia, after crossing the borders of Djibouti and Somalia. The country's open door policy, geographical proximity and close ties to Yemen, made Ethiopia a destination country for those fleeing the conflict and seeking international protection.
- So far, the Yemeni asylum-seekers had a fairly similar profile. Most of them were either born or had lived in Ethiopia for many years prior to returning to Yemen. Due to their close ties to Ethiopia, many were able to flee Yemen before the air space was closed, while others were already in Addis Ababa visiting relatives. Recent arrivals reported having reached Ethiopia by plane from Saudi Arabia or Sudan; or by sea towards Djibouti or Somalia and then by plane to Addis Ababa or by land to Jijiga.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

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- Following UNHCR's advocacy and recommendation, the Government of Ethiopia decided to grant prima facie refugee status to Yemeni asylum-seekers. Apart from those 1,014 Yemeni nationals who arrived after the outbreak of the conflict, there were other 151 Yemeni asylum-seekers who registered their claims before March 2015 and are now benefiting from the Government's decision and being recognized as sur place refugees. The total number of Yemeni refugees assisted by UNHCR stands at 1,165 individuals, out of which 900 individuals (or 434 cases) were recognized as refugees by the Government as of October 2015. The Eritrean and Somali refugees have already been granted prima facie refugee status in Ethiopia, irrespective of their refugee status in Yemen.
- According to the Government's policy, Yemeni and Iraqi refugees have been assisted within UNHCR's urban programme in Addis Ababa, while Somalis and Eritrean refugees are under the camp operations. Due to increasing number of refugees from Yemen in Ethiopia, UNHCR will need to additional resources in its Sub-Office in Jijiga, Dollo Ado and in Addis Ababa to respond to the needs of those newly arriving Yemenis and other nationalities.

## REFUGEES UNDER THE URBAN PROGRAMME (ADDIS ABABA)

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- There are currently 1,108 Yemenis individuals (564 cases) being assisted by UNHCR under its Urban Programme in Addis Ababa, of which 957 individuals (494 cases) arrived after the outbreak of the conflict in March 26, 2015. Another 5 Iraqi asylum-seekers (2 cases) who were previously registered as refugees in Yemen, are also being assisted by UNHCR under its Urban Programme;
- Upon arrival in Addis Ababa, Yemeni nationals seeking international protection are registered by the Government Administration for Refugees and Returnees Affairs (ARRA) and UNHCR. As of September 16<sup>th</sup>, following a decision from ARRA, Yemenis who hold valid passports will be immediately registered as refugees and no longer will have to go through nationality screening procedures. All registered Yemenis are provided with ID cards;
- Due to reservations made by the Government to the 1951 Refugee Convention, refugees are not allowed to work in Ethiopia. Under the Urban Programme, refugees are provided with a monthly stipend to cater for their housing, food and other basic needs including education and primary health care.
- To ensure refugees have access to education, health, livelihoods, food and assistance, UNHCR is supported by partners such as ARRA, the Development and Inter Church Aid Commission (DICAC), Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) and Opportunities for Industrialization Center – Ethiopia (OIC-E).
- In the Urban Programme, Yemeni refugees were already elected to work as members of the Refugee Central Committee and the Women's Refugee Association.

## REFUGEES ASSISTED BY EXISTING CAMP OPERATIONS (JIJIGA, SHIRE, SAMARA AND DOLLO ADO)

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- The main entry point of Yemeni asylum-seekers in Ethiopia is Addis Ababa International Airport. However, since June, 57 Yemeni asylum-seekers were reported to have arrived in Jijiga (Eastern region) after crossing the border into Ethiopia from Somalia.

- Around 2,500 Somalis previously registered as refugees in Yemen were also identified in a registration exercise in Jijiga. They arrived by boat through Djibouti or the Berbera port of Somalia and later travelled to Ethiopia by land in search of international protection. The majority of them is originally from South and Central areas of Somalia (Banadir, Kismayo, lower Shebelle, Hiran) and reported having family ties in Jijiga as the main reason for moving to Ethiopia.
- Given the sharp increase of new arrivals of Somalis coming from Yemen to Jijiga, Ethiopia, the Somali Regional Government's Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Bureau (DPPB) established a make-shift camp in Jijiga city. This was a temporary solution in June 2015. ARRA is set to soon commence the implementation of its decision to relocate 858 newly registered refugees from the Yemen situation from Sheder camp to Dollo Ado. Yemeni Nationals so far identified in Jijiga as seeking asylum are 77, and their relocation to Addis is also pending with ARRA.
- Amongst Somali new arrivals, 822 individuals went through nationality screening and were granted prima facie refugee status in Jijiga. The others are currently awaiting ARRA's arrangements for registration and nationality screening.
- Out of the group of Yemenis that arrived in Jijiga, 18 individuals were registered and allowed to temporarily stay in refugee camps while waiting to be transferred to Addis Ababa. A further 59 individuals of Yemeni nationality still remain in Jijiga, unregistered as they await transport and pass permits' issuance by ARRA to enable them relocate to Addis Ababa.
- Somali refugees (15 individuals or 4 cases) were also reported to have arrived in Dollo Ado (Southeastern region of Ethiopia) after fleeing the conflict in Yemen. Half of them hold refugee ID cards issued by Yemeni authorities. They claimed to have left Yemen by boat and arrived in Somaliland (Berbera Port), where they were assisted in transit centers. Refugees claimed that the main reason for moving towards Ethiopia was the insecurity situation in Somalia.
- UNHCR is seeking clearance from ARRA regarding the registration and assistance policy for future new arrivals of Somalis from Yemen.
- 4 Eritrean refugees with family ties in Ethiopia are reported to have arrived in Samara (Afar region) and Shire (Tigray region) after leaving Yemen (Sana'a) by boat and crossing the border through Djibouti. Assistance is being provided in the refugee camps in these locations.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

- The Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan was released on 05 October 2015. The financial need for the Ethiopia Operation for the period from October to December 2015 is USD 6,111,790 and for the period of January to December 2016 the financial need is YSD 20,051,000. This fund is part of the USD 36,4 mi financial requirements for October-December 2015 and USD 119,5 mi preliminary estimates for January-December 2016 under the appeal. The Ethiopia operation is yet to receive additional financial resources for the Yemen situation. The WebPortal on the Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan (RRMRP) can be accessed at <http://data.unhcr.org/yemen/>.
- 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 un-earmarked and broadly earmarked funds.



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### Links:

Regional portal: <http://data.unhcr.org/yemen>

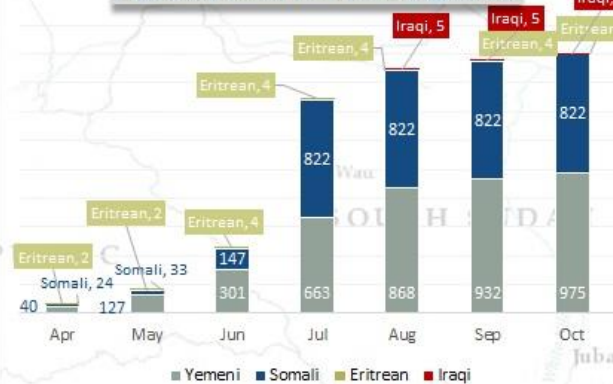
## Population movement to Ethiopia

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Total Estimated Asylum-seekers and Refugees | <b>3.538</b> |
| Total of registered individuals             | <b>1.806</b> |

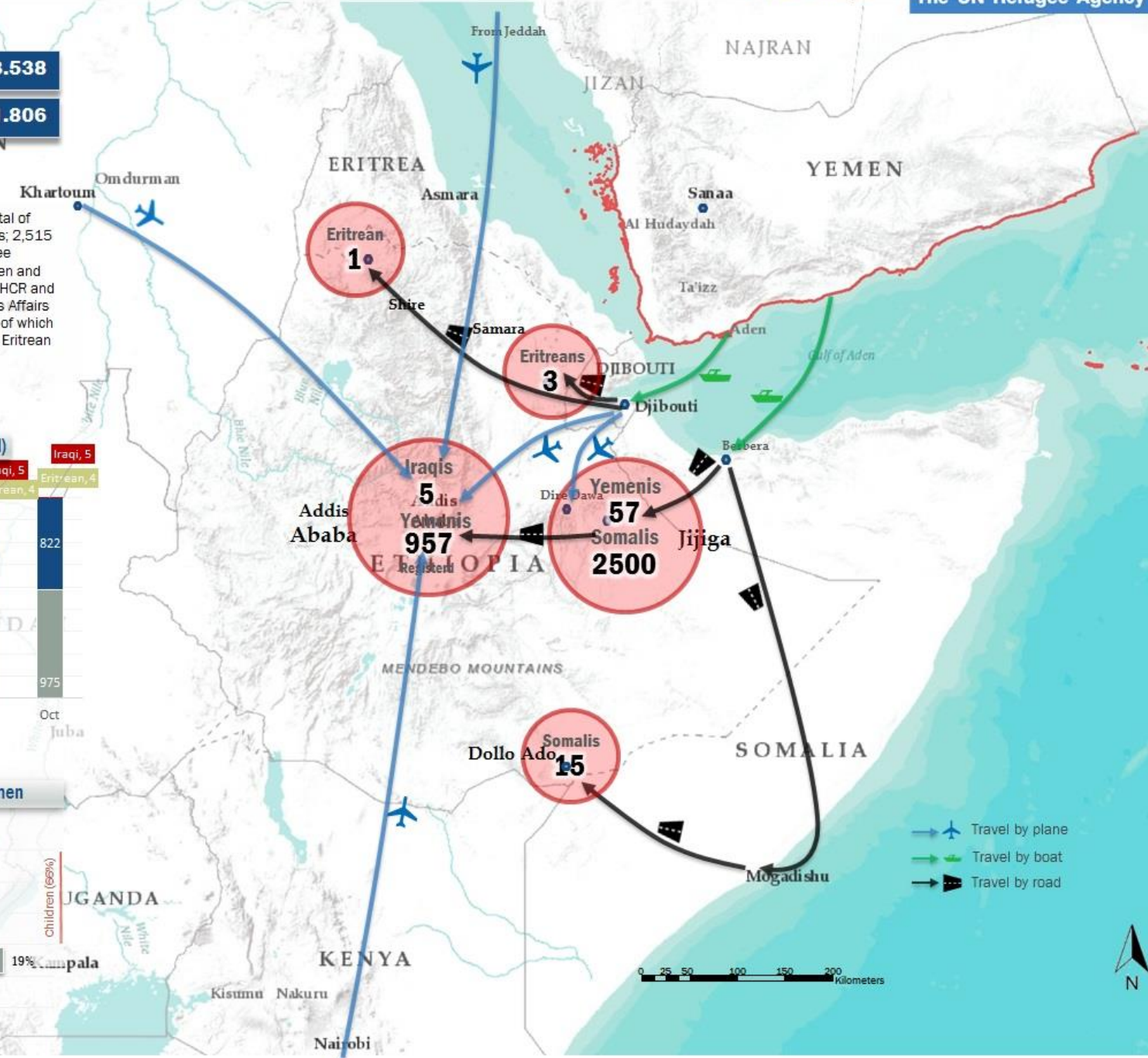
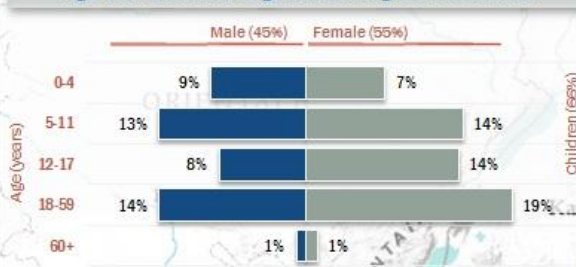
### Summary

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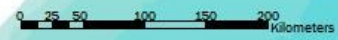
Population Trends from Yemen (registered)



Age and Gender of registered refugees from Yemen



- Travel by plane
- Travel by boat
- Travel by road



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