



Multi-story shelter in Sherkole camp constructed by a Sudanese refugee

ETHIOPIA

FACTSHEET

December 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

733,644	39,273	49.6%	57.4%
Total number of refugees	Number of Unaccompanied Minors and Separated Children	Percentage of women and girls	Percentage of Children

Population of concern- updated

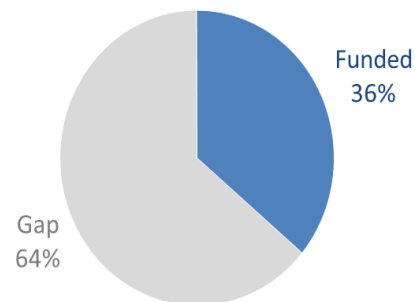
A total of **733,644** of concern
(As of 31 December 2015)

By country of origin

Country	Total PoC
South Sudan	282,033
Somalia	251,797
Eritrea	155,207 *
Sudan	38,228
Other nationalities	6,379
Total	733,644

Funding

USD 318.9 million requested



• Funding level as of 29 December 2015

UNHCR Presence

Staff:

- 333 national staff
- 110 international staff
- 91 individual contractors
- 45 deployees
- 7 IUNVs

Total: 586

Offices:

24 offices, including the **UNHCR Representation in Ethiopia**, as well as Sub and Field-Offices located in five Regional States: **Afar** (Semera) **Benishangul-Gumuz** (Assosa, Bambasi, Sherkole, Tongo), **Gambella** (Gambella, Dimma, Itang, Jewi, Pugnido), **Somali** (Jijiga, Melkadida, Aw-barre, Sheder, Kebribeyah, Dollo Ado, Bokolmanyoo, Kobe, Hilaweyn, Buramino) and **Tigray** (Shire, Mekele, Embamadre, Shimelba).

*81,078 Eritrean refugees previously registered as living in the camps are believed to have spontaneously settled in Ethiopia. This figure will be subjected to Verification

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- UNHCR is fully engaged in the Humanitarian Country Team in Ethiopia consisting of UN Agencies, NGOs and donor representatives, where the refugee programmes are discussed strategically to ensure that the needs of refugees are adequately presented and addressed. The Representation Office is also building on well-established coordination fora such as the Refugee Task Force, donor and NGO and inter-agency meetings at the field and camp levels.
- UNHCR's main Government counterpart and implementing partner in Ethiopia is the Administration for Refugee and Returnee Affairs (ARRA) and the Office works well with it in ensuring continued protection of the refugees.
- 44 partners, including government agencies, national and international non-governmental organizations and UN agencies work closely with UNHCR to support the refugees in the country.
- An effective coordination environment was established in response to the Level 3 emergency with refugees arriving from South Sudan; a Regional Refugee Response Plan was developed with participation of all partners.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

- The Government of Ethiopia generally maintains open borders for refugees seeking protection in the country. A party to both the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, and its 1967 Protocol and the 1969 OAU Convention, the Government provides protection to refugees from over 18 countries, with the majority originating from South Sudan, Somalia, Eritrea and Sudan.
- Most asylum-seekers from neighboring countries and lately Yemen are granted automatic refugee status. Individual refugee status determination is undertaken for all others through a government Eligibility Committee, on which UNHCR sits as an observer.
- Refugees and asylum-seekers are generally expected by the Government to reside in camps, although some are permitted to reside in urban areas for medical, security, or humanitarian reasons. There are some 8,094 such refugees in Addis Ababa. The Government's "Out of Camp Policy" provides Eritrean refugees the opportunity to live in Addis Ababa and other locations if they have the necessary means to support themselves. Thousands are benefitting from this opportunity and it is hoped that this programme can be improved and expanded to cover other refugee groups in the country.
- Key protection concerns for the country operation include child protection, education and sexual and gender-based violence. The situation of Eritrean unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) in Shire is of particular concern, given the large numbers and limited family-based care options. Data-collection and case management tools are also being rolled out in the different operations, including the Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS) (in coordination with UNICEF) and the Education Management Information System (EMIS).
- UNHCR is also working closely with the government and key partners to address the issue of trafficking and smuggling of refugees. Livelihoods opportunities are considered a key component of these efforts, as are increased information campaigns and improved services. In addition to implementing UNHCR's Strategy and Regional Action Plan to address Smuggling and Trafficking from the East and Horn of Africa, UNHCR is also contributing to other efforts by the Government of Ethiopia and the UN Country Team in this area.

Health

- World AIDS Day- UNHCR and partners together with the refugees commemorated the 27th world AIDS Day under the global theme: "On the Fast-Track to end AIDS", aimed at ending the AIDS epidemic as part of the Sustainable Development Goals. Different activities were organized across all the refugee camps, including panel discussions, question and answer competitions, sports competitions, artistic performances as well as candle lit vigil. Voluntary HIV counselling and testing services were made available in addition to awareness raising education sessions. UNHCR also took part in the UN system-wide workplace program on HIV, UN Cares commemoration of world AIDS Day at the Economic Commission for Africa.
- Meningitis vaccination campaign- in Gambella a meningitis vaccination campaign has started on 28 December following earlier confirmed meningitis C cases in Kule refugee camp. The campaign, which is implemented jointly by ARRA, the Regional Health Bureau, UNICEF, WHO, MSF-H and UNHCR, is conducted in Kule and Tierkidi camps as well as the nearby Itang woreda(district). The 10 day-long campaign targets more than 70,000 refugees and 33,000 people in the host community aged 2-30 years, the group most susceptible for the disease. In preparation of the campaign a number of trainings were conducted for vaccinators,

campaign supervisors and social mobilisers. Information meetings were held and social mobilisation is ongoing throughout the campaign to enhance uptake of the vaccination.

- Mental Health- UNHCR organised two trainings on mental health for health staff and community outreach workers in Assosa refugee camps. The training is part of the roll out of UNHCR's global strategy to integrate mental health care services into primary health care services. Using the mental health Global Action Programme-Humanitarian Intervention Guide (mhGAP-HIG), which was developed by WHO and UNHCR, 15 general health practitioners from the four camps were trained in assessing and managing mental, neurological and substance abuse conditions. In addition, 30 community outreach workers were trained on identifying, referring and providing social support to persons with mental health concerns and their families. The last day of the 4-days training was conducted jointly with all participants and referral systems were mapped and camp specific action plans developed.

Nutrition and Food Security

- UNHCR, in collaboration with the government refugee agency, ARRA, and its nutrition partners WFP, CWW (Concern Worldwide), ACF (Action contre la faim) and GOAL, completed training and data collection for the semi quantitative evaluation of access and coverage (SQUEAC) assessment in Kule, Tierkidi, Pugnido and Jewi refugee camps in the Gambella region, home to some 270,000 refugees from South Sudan. Data analysis is ongoing.
- Results from three standardized emergency nutrition surveys that were conducted in the Jijiga camps (home to some 40,000 Somali refugees) show that the prevalence of global acute malnutrition (GAM) is 9.1% in Aw-barre, 8.0 in kebribeyah and 8.3 % in Sheder refugee camps. In comparison with 2014, there was no significant change in prevalence of GAM ($p > 0.05$). In all the camps, the GAM is below the emergency threshold of 15% however classified as poor (5%-10%).

Water and Sanitation

- As part of Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH) monitoring and evaluation strategy, a Knowledge, Attitudes and Practice (KAP) survey is conducted annually in each camp. 17 of the camps conducted the survey in December, four others had conducted earlier in the year whereas the remaining four were covered by Nutrition (SENS) survey. They are aimed at evaluating progress against previous baselines (December 2014), present a detailed situation of status of WASH services whilst providing learning that informs evidence based programming in 2016.
- Need for water trucking support to the newly commissioned permanent water schemes in Tierkidi, Kule, Pugnido II and Tsore camps reduced significantly with above 80% of the schemes operating optimally with minimal disruptions.
- Generally, the sanitation and hygiene situation continued to record improvement in most camps except Pugnido II extension where there was a diarrhea spike recorded mainly due to low latrine coverage. However, MSF-H plans to construct 700 latrine stances to improve on coverage starting January 2016.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management

- The Government of Ethiopia (ARRA) manages all the 24 refugee camps in Ethiopia. UNHCR and ARRA work together with partners to ensure proper and coordinated delivery of protection and assistance. Camp coordination meetings take place both at the zone and camp levels. Technical working groups meet regularly on such issues as child protection, SGBV, education, WASH and Health/Nutrition.

Access to Energy

- In Pugnido II camp (Gambella), 3,439 fuel-saving stoves were distributed to as many households and 40 street lights were erected to provide night-time lighting to the camp.
- In the Gambella region, home to some 270,000 South Sudanese refugees, different activities were carried out in and around the different refugee camps, including the weeding and cultivation of 20 hectares of tree plantation. Moreover, 3 km of forest feeder road was maintained in the former refugee camp of Bonga and in Tierkidi camp, while 17.9 km fire break was constructed across the camps.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- UNHCR's self-reliance programme in Dollo Ado, supported by donors, including the IKEA Foundation, complements the Government's development programme and targets both refugees and host communities focusing on the improvement of livelihoods activities. As the camps are situated in a drought-prone area, this will build refugees' resilience in anticipation of their imminent return to their places of origin in Somalia. An increase in household income including the ownership of animals and agriculture activities has already been noted and is expected to continue.

- Innovative approaches to refugee shelters, renewable energy and camp lay-out have also been piloted in Dollo Ado for eventual implementation in other regions. In addition to providing training on cooperative development and business management, business grant support has been made available by UNHCR to improve the livelihoods of refugees. UNHCR is also piloting an agricultural project focusing on improving the livelihoods of more than 200, 000 Somali refugees in Dollo Ado.
- In the Jijiga area where there are three camps hosting more than 40,000 Somali refugees, UNHCR engages refugees and the host communities in self-reliance activities under its Development Assistance for Refugees (DAR) project. Refugees and members of the host communities around the camps continue to produce agricultural outputs both for domestic consumption and for the local market.

Durable Solutions

- Resettlement remains the only viable durable solution in the Ethiopia operation as conditions in the countries of origin are not conducive for voluntary repatriation, while local integration remains elusive. Ethiopia's resettlement referral target for 2015 is 5,965 individuals.
- As of December 2015, a total of 1,951 cases (6,129 individuals) were referred to the UNHCR Regional Support Hub in Nairobi for onward submission to resettlement countries.
- 1,909 cases (5,983 individuals) have been submitted to resettlement countries by the Hub in Nairobi.
- 1,183 cases (3,818 individuals) have departed Ethiopia to third countries through the UNHCR facilitated resettlement program.

Logistics

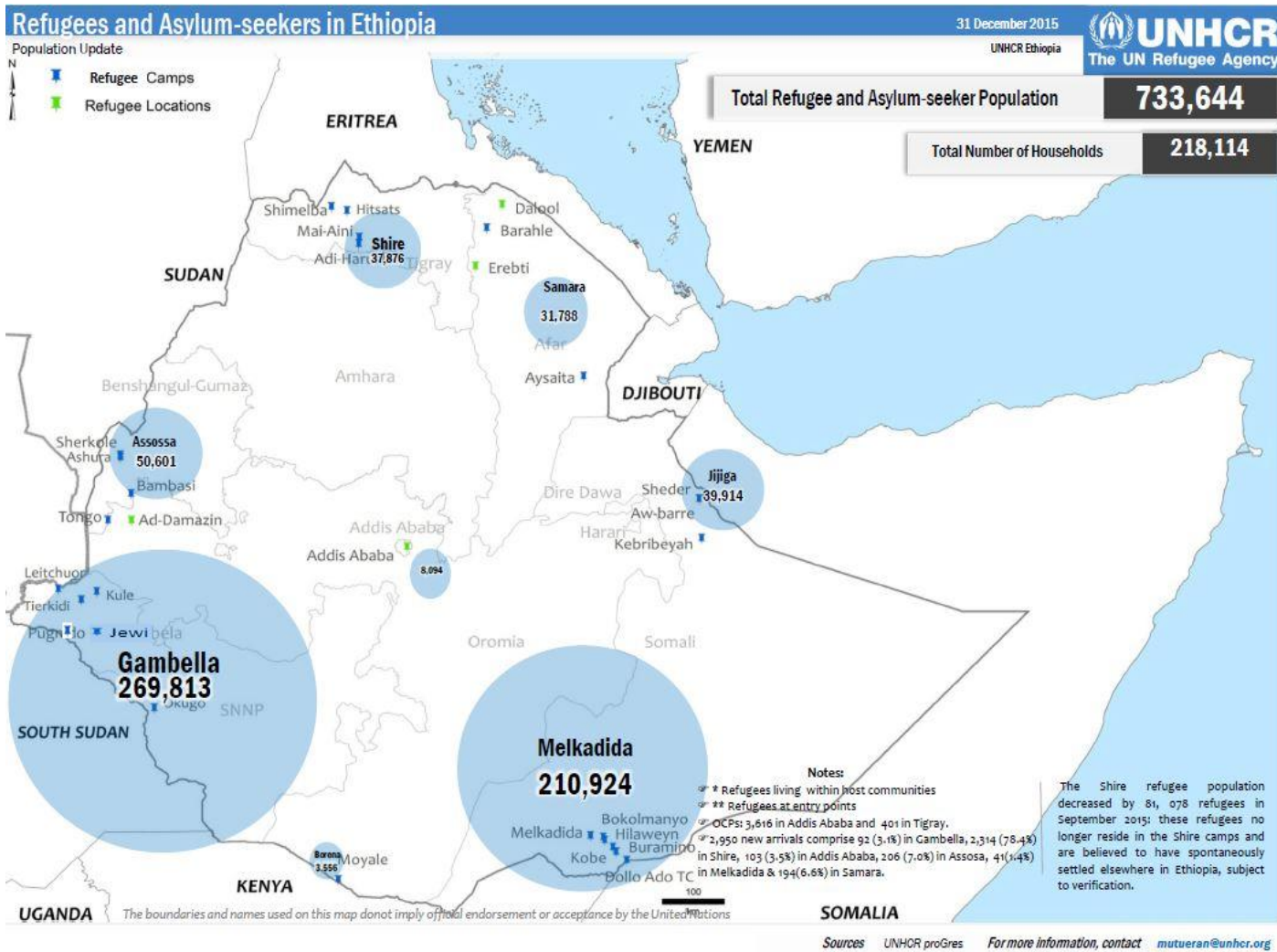
- In December, UNHCR imported from its stockpiles in Dubai 20,000 blankets, 40,000 sleeping mats, 10,000 mosquito nets, 5,016 plastic buckets, 50 plastic rolls of 50 meters, 1,000 plastic tarpaulin (4x5 meters), 4,000 solar lanterns as well as over 4,000kg of therapeutic milk of F-100 and F-75 type. All the items were directly dispatched to Gambella.
- Similarly, UNHCR dispatched from its Addis Ababa warehouse over 407,000 bars of soap, 80,000 pieces of dignity kit and 15,456kg of plumpy nut for distribution in the different camps in Gambella. Likewise, 3,000 mosquito nets and 2,760kg of plumpy nut were sent to Shire while 6,000 pieces of dignity kit and 6,000 bars of laundry soap were given for use by urban refugees in Addis Ababa.

UNHCR is grateful for the direct contributions to the UNHCR Ethiopia Operation in 2015 from:



UNHCR is also grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given unrestricted and regional funds in 2015:

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