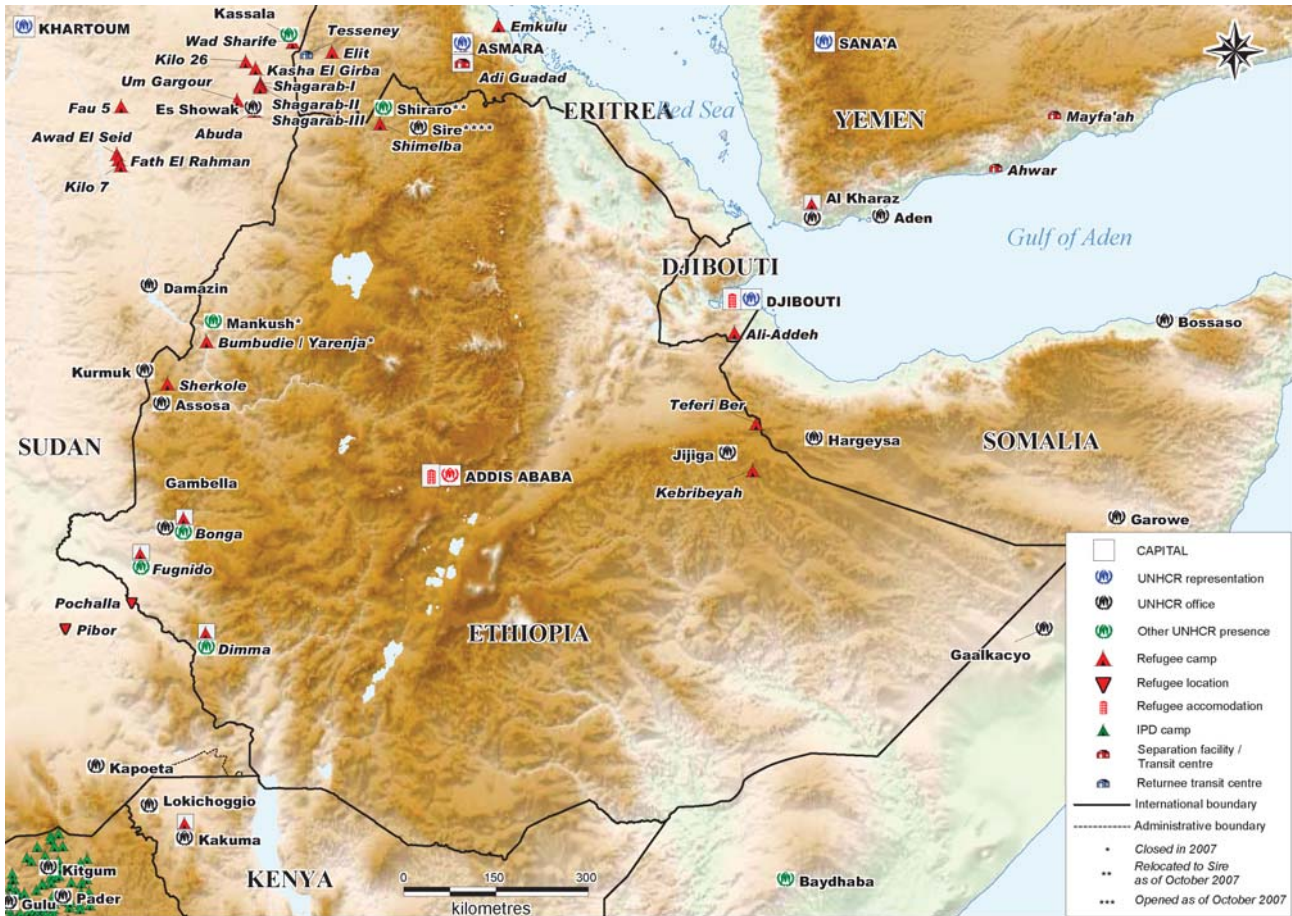


Ethiopia



Operational highlights

- UNHCR assisted the voluntary repatriation of more than 20,000 refugees to Southern Sudan, leading to the closure of one of the five camps for Sudanese refugees in the country in March 2007.
- The Office facilitated the resettlement of some 1,500 refugees, mainly from Eritrea, Somalia and Sudan.
- Nearly 20,000 newly arrived asylum-seekers – mainly from Eritrea, Kenya and Somalia – were recognized as refugees and protected and assisted by the Office. In July, a camp was set up to accommodate a new influx of Somali refugees.

- The health and nutrition status of refugees improved significantly.
- UNHCR’s environment programme improved the management of natural resources.

Working environment

The political situation in neighbouring countries continued to affect UNHCR’s refugee programme in Ethiopia. Intensified fighting in south and central Somalia, which began in January, as well as heightened tension between Eritrea and Ethiopia due to the expiry

Persons of concern

Type of population	Origin	Total	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Per cent female	Per cent under 18
Refugees	Sudan	35,500	35,500	53	63
	Somalia	25,800	25,800	52	59
	Eritrea	20,800	20,800	27	31
	Kenya	2,600	2,600	53	58
	Various	450	450	-	-
Asylum-seekers	Various	190	190	-	-
Returnees (refugees)	Various	30	30	-	-
Total		85,370	85,370		

of a border demarcation agreement in November, caused new influxes of asylum-seekers. The Government began to allow economically self-sufficient Eritrean refugees to live outside the camps.

The security situation in UNHCR's areas of operations remained relatively stable, although escorts were required for movements between camps and offices in the western region. Jijiga experienced a temporary rise in tension following an insurgent attack against foreign oil workers in the eastern region in April.

Achievements and impact

Main objectives

UNHCR's main objectives in Ethiopia were to ensure international protection for all refugees, newly arrived asylum-seekers and internally displaced persons (IDPs); help the Government of Ethiopia to strengthen its protection regime by implementing refugee legislation passed in 2004; and promote durable solutions through the voluntary repatriation of Sudanese refugees, the resettlement of refugees with specific needs, and the promotion of self-reliance among camp-based refugees. The Office also aimed to assist the Government to repair infrastructure and rehabilitate the environment in and around refugee camps; strengthen strategic partnerships with regional bodies and their member States on issues such as displacement, protection and durable solutions; and aid the recovery of countries emerging from conflict.

Protection and solutions

UNHCR began to implement a comprehensive three-year protection strategy for Ethiopia. This included strengthening national capacity in registration and refugee status determination (RSD). The Office also worked to enhance the authorities' capacity to respond to the specific protection needs of women, children and the elderly. UNHCR and the Government signed a memorandum of understanding and devised standard operating procedures to improve registration to deal with the influx of new asylum-seekers from Somalia. Data on Sudanese refugees in camps were updated.

In 2007, Sudanese refugees opted mainly for voluntary repatriation due to a lack of local integration alternatives and limited possibilities of resettlement.

Activities and assistance

Domestic needs and household items: All refugee households in Fugnido camp received kitchen sets, while more than 90 per cent of households in the Kebrebeya camp received cooking stoves and ethanol. Supplementary non-food items were distributed to women giving birth at camp clinics.

Education: The teacher-student ratio was improved in the alternative basic education programme in Somali camps, and 85 per cent of registered girl students graduated. All pre-school Somali students completed the school year. The Office tackled child labour and lack of education among Somali children by working to increase enrolment in 16 youth programmes.

Health and nutrition: The Office supported community-level health and nutrition initiatives by procuring medical equipment, drugs and mosquito nets; upgrading camp health infrastructure; training health staff; introducing complementary feeding programmes; and improving water supply and sanitation.

Legal assistance: Training and guidelines improved individual screening procedures and RSD. Refugee attestations were provided to refugee households, and identity cards will be issued in 2008. Best interest determination panels addressed child protection issues in all camps. A tracking system was set up to aid family reunification among newly arriving Somali refugees.

Operational support (to agencies): UNHCR covered the operational, management and staffing costs of various implementing partners. Furthermore, these partners were given technical support and training on key policy and operational matters.

Sanitation: The access to latrines was improved in all camps.

Water: Training given to refugee water-management committees improved water-facility maintenance and increased the availability of water for refugees in Sherkole, Dimma and Shimelba camps.

Constraints

Cultural inhibitions hindered women from reporting and pursuing legal remedies in cases of sexual and gender-based violence in Somali camps. Collaboration with the Government in the Somali camps improved the legal response to intimidation by youth gangs. However, a climate of impunity continues to prevail.

Environmental initiatives, income-generating activities, vocational skills training and community-based activities all helped UNHCR address women's protection needs in camps.



UNHCR/K.G. Egziabher

The voluntary repatriation airlift operation from Ethiopia to South Sudan started in mid-April 2007.

Financial information

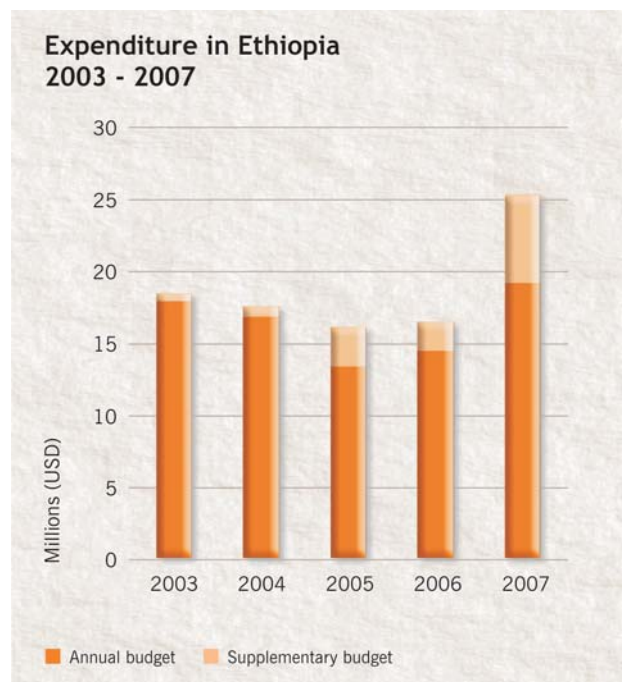
In 2007, UNHCR's programmes in Ethiopia, including large-scale voluntary repatriation and reception of new refugee influxes, were fully funded. Ethiopia also benefited from special project funding to fill the needs in the health, nutrition, protection, and staff security sectors.

The Ethiopia programme's annual expenditure has decreased steadily, from nearly USD 20 million in 2002 to USD 16.5 million in 2006, due to the end of the large-scale repatriation of Somali refugees. However, new influxes from Somalia and Eritrea led to a budget increase in 2007, to USD 25.4 million.

Organization and implementation

Management

In 2007, UNHCR had a regional liaison office in Addis Ababa, sub-offices in Gambella and Jijiga, a field office in Assosa, and field units in Dimma, Fugnido, Shimelba



and Shiraro. During the year the field unit in Mankush was closed, following the end of the repatriation programme. A new field unit was opened in Teferiber to cope with the influx of Somalis, and the field unit in Shiraro was moved to Shire due for security reasons.

The latter, Shire, was up-graded to a sub-office to cope with an increase in operational requirements. By the end of 2007, there were 182 people working with UNHCR in Ethiopia, including 22 international staff, 131 national staff, six JPOs, 18 UNVs and five secondees.

Working with others

In 2007, UNHCR's had five government agencies, 16 international and national NGOs, and a UN agency as implementing partners, besides seven operational partners. With the launch of the cluster framework for IDPs in May, UNHCR began collaborating with the UN Country Team and the Government on IDPs issues. Strategic partnerships between UNHCR and regional bodies were significantly enhanced through joint programmes and activities, including the organization of high-level African Union (AU) visits to refugee camps across Africa, preparation for an AU Special Summit on Forced Displacement, and facilitation of dialogue among member States on post-conflict reconstruction. A technical committee of AU members and UN partners was established to prepare for the special 2008 AU Summit on Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons.

Overall assessment

In 2007, UNHCR achieved most of its objectives in providing international protection to asylum-seekers and refugees, improving material assistance, and promoting durable solutions through repatriation and resettlement. The Office exceeded its target of repatriating 13,000 Sudanese in 2007, and helped the Government and local communities to rehabilitate the environment and infrastructure in refugee-impacted areas. Furthermore, UNHCR assisted the Government in implementing the refugee legislation passed in 2004.

Partners

Implementing partners

Government Agencies: Administration of Refugees and Returnee Affairs, Agriculture and Rural Development Office (Shiraro), Gambella Rural Road Authority, Natural Resources Development and Environmental Protection (Gambella/Assosa)

NGOs: African Humanitarian Action, African Humanitarian Aid and Development Agency, Development and Inter-Church Aid Commission of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church, Gaia Association, Hope for the Horn, Hugh Pilkington Charitable Trust, International Medical Corps, International Rescue Committee, Jesuit Refugee Service, Lutheran World Federation, Mother and Child Development Organization, Opportunities Industrial Centre for Ethiopia, Refugee Care Netherlands, Rehabilitation and Development Organization, Society of International Missionaries, Save the Rural Society

Operational partners

Government Agencies: Al Manar Voluntary organizations, Humanitarian Affairs ComBureau of Agriculture and Natural resources, Bureau of Education, Bureau of Health, Ethiopian Road Authority

NGOs: ADR, ATLAS France, Medair

Others: WFP, IOM, UNICEF

Budget, income and expenditure (USD)

	Final budget	Income from contributions	Other funds available	Total funds available	Total expenditure
Annual budget	19,570,035	8,982,797	11,000,629	19,983,426	19,120,712
Somalia SB	4,258,496	2,540,616	1,164,510	3,705,126	3,705,126
South Sudan SB	2,525,133	0	2,525,037	2,525,037	2,525,037
Total	26,353,664	11,523,413	14,690,176	26,213,588	25,350,875

Note: Supplementary programmes do not include seven per cent support costs that are recovered from contributions to meet indirect costs for UNHCR. Income from contributions includes contributions earmarked at the country level. Other funds available include transfers from unearmarked and broadly earmarked contributions, opening balance and adjustments.

Financial Report (USD)

Expenditure breakdown	Current year's projects			Previous years' projects
	Annual budget	Supplementary budget	Total	Annual and supplementary budgets
Protection, monitoring and coordination	3,572,706	607,987	4,180,693	0
Community services	751,492	130,407	881,899	188,943
Crop production	2,221	0	2,221	1,703
Domestic needs and household support	1,464,405	175,413	1,639,818	100,582
Education	938,385	151,047	1,089,433	693,588
Food	175,102	132,420	307,522	19,696
Fisheries	392	0	392	0
Forestry	295,153	38,684	333,838	131,577
Health and nutrition	2,247,234	358,542	2,605,776	448,324
Legal assistance	639,248	507,305	1,146,553	158,345
Operational support (to agencies)	1,476,445	649,064	2,125,510	434,738
Sanitation	155,464	92,854	248,319	64,521
Shelter and infrastructure	350,353	607,639	957,992	75,883
Transport and logistics	796,510	1,614,582	2,411,092	525,994
Water	755,088	309,835	1,064,923	250,413
Instalments with implementing partners	2,610,753	845,085	3,455,838	(3,094,308)
Sub-total operational activities	16,230,952	6,220,866	22,451,818	0
Programme support	2,889,761	9,296	2,899,057	0
Total expenditure	19,120,712	6,230,163	25,350,875	0
Cancellation on previous years' expenditure				(113,678)
Instalments with implementing partners				
Payments made	8,829,589	3,260,794	12,090,383	
Reporting received	(6,218,835)	(2,415,709)	(8,634,545)	
Balance	2,610,753	845,085	3,455,838	
Previous years' report				
Instalments with implementing partners				
Outstanding 1st January				3,227,512
Reporting received				(3,094,308)
Refunded to UNHCR				(40,908)
Adjustments				(1)
Balance				92,294