

Refugees from the DRC arriving at Ishasha Transit Centre,
Kanungu, Uganda



Djibouti
Eritrea
Ethiopia
Kenya
Somalia
Sudan (see Chad and Sudan Situation)
Uganda

East and Horn of Africa

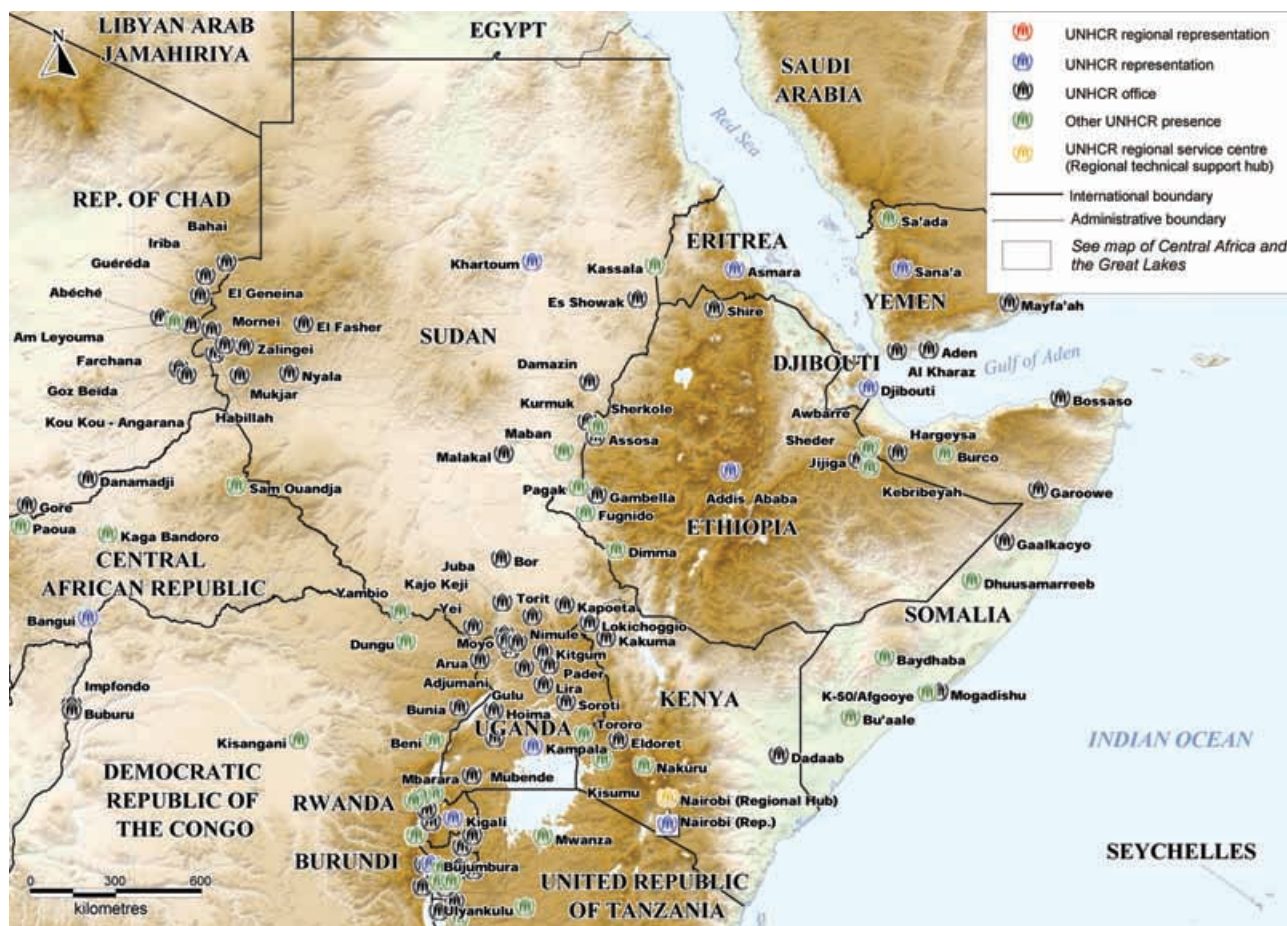
| OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS |

- UNHCR facilitated the voluntary repatriation of some 68,000 Sudanese refugees and supported their reintegration in Southern Sudan.
- Continuing conflict in Somalia in 2008 prompted large-scale displacement. More than 70,000 Somali refugees sought asylum in neighbouring countries, with more than 60,000 entering Kenya. At least 1.3 million Somalis remained internally displaced at the end of 2008.
- In Kenya, UNHCR assisted and protected 500,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs), of whom some 350,000 were able to return to their homes during the year. Likewise, more than 600,000 IDPs returned to their homes in Uganda.
- Mixed migratory flows constituted a growing challenge for UNHCR in the region. More than 50,000 individuals, including Eritreans, Ethiopians and Somalis, crossed the Gulf of Aden in 2008. UNHCR improved protection for people of concern within these flows and worked to enhance the quality of asylum.

| Working environment |

The closure of the border between Kenya and Somalia prevented many Somalis from gaining access to international protection. Those Somalis who managed to enter Kenya were accommodated in existing refugee camps, straining the camps' absorption capacity and resulting in competition for scarce resources. UNHCR could not implement planned activities in Somalia because of the insecure conditions in the country.

In December 2008, Ethiopian forces ended their two-year intervention in Somalia. The decommissioning of the United Nation's Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea and the termination of the mandate of the Joint Border Commission heightened tensions between Ethiopia and Eritrea. Nonetheless, UNHCR carried out participatory assessments in all refugee and IDP sites.



Achievements and impact

Despite the difficulties of access in Somalia, UNHCR was able to improve protection and living conditions among IDPs and other vulnerable populations. It also supported efforts to enhance the delivery of humanitarian assistance. In “Somaliland” and “Puntland”, UNHCR strengthened refugee status determination procedures, facilitated resettlement and consolidated assistance to refugees, returnees and asylum-seekers.

UNHCR’s main objectives in Uganda were to protect and assist refugees and asylum-seekers by, for instance, improving access to asylum procedures and preventing illegal expulsions. The Office also sought to protect IDPs against abuse, exploitation and sexual and gender-based violence using the cluster approach. At the same time, it promoted and facilitated the sustainable return of IDPs to their areas of origin whenever possible. More than 600,000 IDPs had returned by the end of 2008, while some 537,000 remained in camps and another 332,000 were in transit sites pending return. UNHCR helped government authorities to implement the new Refugee Act and responded to new influxes of Congolese refugees.

UNHCR’s main goals in Kenya were to protect, assist and pursue comprehensive durable solutions for refugees and others of concern, including IDPs who were displaced during the unrest following the election. Newly arriving Somali refugees were provided with emergency support, and some 2,500 were relocated to Kakuma, given the overcrowding in the Dadaab camps.

An extension of the Dadaab camps has been negotiated and is awaiting confirmation and the allocation of land. UNHCR advocated that acceptable standards of treatment

for all refugees be maintained and that newly enacted refugee legislation be implemented in Kenya. The Office registered all newly arrived refugees in the three Dadaab camps, including some 20,000 who arrived before 2008.

The successful repatriation to Southern Sudan from Ethiopia led to the closure of two camps hosting Sudanese refugees (Bonga and Dimma in the Gambella region) and to the dramatic downsizing of Sherkole camp in Benshangul-Gumuz. However, the ongoing influx from Eritrea and Somalia required the opening of two new camps in Mayani and Shedar, respectively.

In Eritrea, UNHCR continued to face restrictions in movement which affected its ability to monitor the condition of deportees.

The urban refugee population in the region is growing because of new arrivals but also in line with a broader trend of people of concern to the Office moving to urban areas. UNHCR’s mixed migration initiative aims to sensitize refugees about the dangers of using the services of people smugglers while also improving the quality of asylum.

The protection environment in Djibouti continued to be challenging throughout 2008. More than 19,000 refugees, about half of them from Ethiopia, were referred for resettlement from the region.

Constraints

The absence of a peace accord between the Lord’s Resistance Army and the Government of Uganda had a negative impact on UNHCR activities. The protracted nature of the refugee situation in Uganda was exacerbated by the lack of a comprehensive policy on local integration. In Kenya, the closure of both the border with Somalia and the Liboi transit

Budget and expenditure in East and Horn of Africa (USD)

Country	Final budget			Expenditure		
	Annual budget	Supplementary budget	Total	Annual budget	Supplementary budget	Total
Djibouti	3,710,228	1,074,000	4,784,228	3,485,237	960,550	4,445,787
Eritrea	4,573,534	0	4,573,534	4,495,622	0	4,495,622
Ethiopia	27,683,999	13,377,634	41,061,633	26,594,583	10,695,057	37,289,640
Kenya ¹	56,176,076	27,423,314	83,599,390	52,884,985	13,231,673	66,116,658
Somalia	6,476,221	18,691,698	25,167,919	6,181,639	14,063,272	20,244,911
Sudan	20,029,908	90,066,142	110,096,050	19,203,086	70,793,340	89,996,426
Uganda	20,827,875	20,263,953	41,091,828	19,992,370	16,837,504	36,829,874
Regional activities ²	395,136	0	395,136	345,074	0	345,074
Total	139,872,977	170,896,741	310,769,718	133,182,596	126,581,396	259,763,992

¹ Includes the Regional Support Hub in Nairobi.

² Includes individual voluntary repatriation and intervention for malnutrition and malaria.

Note: Excludes indirect support costs that are recovered from contributions against supplementary programmes and the "New or additional activities-mandate-related" (NAM) reserve.

centre had an adverse impact on the screening of new arrivals.

Many sites in the region were marked by a lack of security for refugees and humanitarian workers alike. In some cases, for example in Kenya, these conflicts were aggravated by conflict over resources such as water. In Somalia, the deteriorating security situation and the shrinking humanitarian space compelled most humanitarian aid agencies, including UNHCR, to withdraw staff from the central and southern parts of the country. The Head of UNHCR's Mogadishu office was abducted in June 2008, but was released on 27 August.

Operations

Operations in **Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia** and **Uganda** are described in separate chapters.

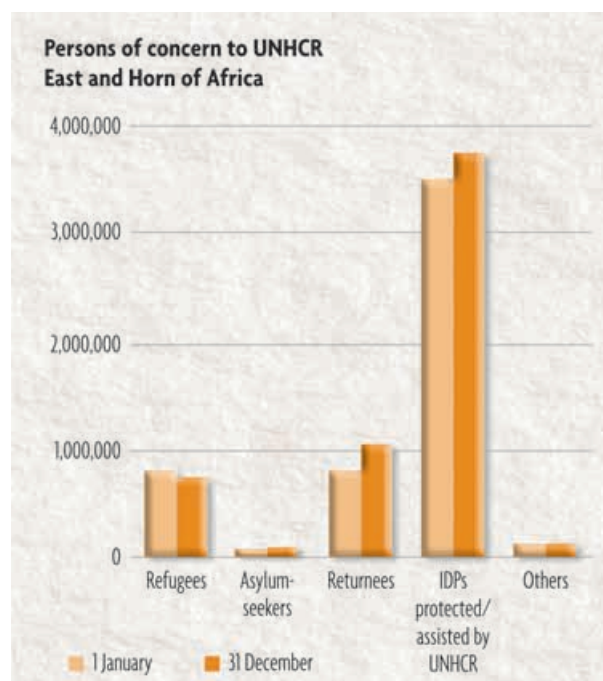
The **Regional Support Hub in Nairobi** provided technical advice and operational support to offices in the region. Staff from the hub undertook frequent missions and provided a rapid response to many emergencies, including the IDP situation in Kenya and other urgent situations in Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Uganda.

The **African Union (AU) Liaison Unit** in Addis Ababa strengthened its collaboration with regional bodies and ensured that refugee and forced displacement issues were on the agenda of all relevant forums.

The first special AU Summit on Refugees, Returnees and IDPs was scheduled to take place in November 2008 but was postponed.

Financial information

The Somalia situation supplementary programme supported IDPs in Somalia as well as newly arriving refugees in neighbouring countries. While the Somalia portion of the budget was well funded and allowed the procurement and prepositioning of relief items, needs in countries of asylum, notably Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya and Yemen, could not be fully met with available resources which prevented UNHCR and partners from obtaining minimum assistance standards for people of concern. In the last quarter of 2008, the Somalia situation supplementary programme was expanded to cover the newly launched regional mixed migration initiative.



Voluntary contributions to East and Horn of Africa (USD)				
Earmarking	Donor	Annual Budget	Supplementary Budget	
Djibouti	Canada		14,264	14,264
	CERF		213,900	213,900
	Japan		242,991	242,991
	United States of America	23,626	93,000	116,626
Djibouti subtotal		23,626	564,155	587,781
Eritrea	CERF	729,214		729,214
	Private donors in Canada	109,792		109,792
	Private donors in Greece	274,889		274,889
	Private donors in Italy	40,238		40,238
	Private donors in Lebanon	3,000		3,000
	<i>España con ACNUR (Spain)</i>	41,395		41,395
	HQ Online Donations	131		131
	Charities Aid Foundation (United Kingdom)	89,555		89,555
Eritrea subtotal		1,288,213		1,288,213
Ethiopia	Austria	622,084		622,084
	Canada		124,669	124,669
	CERF	1,012,155	1,588,679	2,600,834
	Germany	1,168,224		1,168,224
	Italy	1,603,499	120,466	1,723,965
	Japan	1,500,000	1,056,075	2,556,075
	Private donors in Canada	90,683		90,683
	Japan Association for UNHCR	57,172		57,172
	ANA Aeroportos Portugal		34,343	34,343
	<i>Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian (Portugal)</i>		136,164	136,164
	Private donors in Portugal		19,876	19,876
	<i>REN-Redes Energéticas Nacionais (Portugal)</i>		68,685	68,685
	<i>España con ACNUR (Spain)</i>	304,165		304,165
	United States of America	5,238,056	1,860,000	7,098,056
Ethiopia subtotal		11,596,038	5,008,957	16,604,996
Kenya	Australia		81,579	81,579
	Belgium		216,952	216,952
	Canada		355,255	355,255
	CERF	3,439,500	1,747,347	5,186,847
	Estonia		70,342	70,342
	France	437,318		437,318
	Germany	2,710,381	319,854	3,030,235
	Great Lakes Initiative on AIDS (GLIA)	90,000		90,000
	Italy	1,457,726		1,457,726
	Japan	1,800,000	1,476,636	3,276,636
	Luxembourg	291,545		291,545
	Norway	174,532		174,532
	Australia for UNHCR	45,374	384,724	430,098
	Private donors in Canada		1,832	1,832
	<i>Deutsche Stiftung für UNO (Germany)</i>		144,648	144,648
	Private donors in Greece		79,034	79,034

Earmarking	Donor	Annual Budget	Supplementary Budget	
	<i>Stichting Vluchteling</i> (Netherlands)		316,991	316,991
	<i>España con ACNUR</i> (Spain)	220,009		220,009
	HQ Online Donations	6,441	307	6,748
	International Olympic Committee (Switzerland)	88,000		88,000
	Cartier Foundation (United Arab Emirates)	155,000		155,000
	UN Foundation (UNFIP) (USA)	542,822		542,822
	USA for UNHCR	600		600
	Spain		733,438	733,438
	Sweden	3,745,228	436,620	4,181,848
	Switzerland	326,668	389,447	716,116
	Joint UN Programme for HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS)	190,732	148,334	339,066
	UN Trust Fund for Human Security	110,000		110,000
	United Kingdom	165,590		165,590
	United States of America	8,109,118	4,765,157	12,874,275
	Kenya subtotal	24,106,584	11,668,498	35,775,082
Somalia	Canada		222,009	222,009
	Ireland	739,645		739,645
	Italy	151,286	140,696	291,982
	Japan	750,000	2,794,393	3,544,393
	Netherlands	1,054,170		1,054,170
	Australia for UNHCR	12	69	82
	<i>Deutsche Stiftung für UNO</i> (Germany)	295,631		295,631
	<i>España con ACNUR</i> (Spain)		62,225	62,225
	Sweden	293,970	1,521,731	1,815,701
	Switzerland	291,829		291,829
	UN Trust Fund for Human Security		218,066	218,066
	United States of America	1,096,403	4,380,159	5,476,562
	Somalia subtotal	4,672,946	9,339,348	14,012,294
Sudan	Australia	50,000		50,000
	Canada	556,438	4,247,848	4,804,286
	CERF		2,646,690	2,646,690
	Common Humanitarian Fund Sudan	1,745,938	6,423,286	8,169,224
	Czech Republic		290,625	290,625
	Denmark		3,852,504	3,852,504
	Estonia		53,882	53,882
	European Commission		5,901,330	5,901,330
	Germany		2,896,017	2,896,017
	Greece	145,773	293,375	439,148
	Italy	1,020,408	1,406,959	2,427,367
	Japan	3,150,000	16,616,822	19,766,822
	Luxembourg	1,619,643		1,619,643
	Monaco	145,773		145,773
	Norway		2,178,678	2,178,678
	Australia for UNHCR		44,391	44,391
	Private donors in Cyprus		145	145
	<i>Deutsche Stiftung für UNO</i> (Germany)	116,580		116,580
	Private donors in Italy	177,277	931,362	1,108,639

Earmarking	Donor	Annual Budget	Supplementary Budget	
	Japan Association for UNHCR	37,837	180,833	218,670
	Dutch Postcode Lottery (Netherlands)		82,331	82,331
	Tarek A. Juffali Foundation (Saudi Arabia)	24,970		24,970
	<i>España con ACNUR</i> (Spain)	458,638	365,878	824,516
	Swedish Postcode Lottery		181,957	181,957
	Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (USA)		4,650,000	4,650,000
	USA for UNHCR		930,000	930,000
	Spain		582,362	582,362
	Sweden	3,389,831		3,389,831
	Switzerland		1,399,198	1,399,198
	UN Mission in Sudan		4,312	4,312
	United States of America	3,055,943	10,895,946	13,951,889
	Sudan subtotal	15,695,048	67,056,730	82,751,778
Uganda	Austria	467,290		467,290
	Belgium	342,679		342,679
	Canada		190,184	190,184
	CERF		671,912	671,912
	European Commission		2,933,754	2,933,754
	Germany	271,747	1,379,756	1,651,503
	Great Lakes Initiative on AIDS (GLIA)	210,000		210,000
	Ireland	147,929	687,870	835,799
	Italy	2,331,316		2,331,316
	Japan	1,500,000		1,500,000
	Luxembourg	1,020,408		1,020,408
	Netherlands	675,500	628,215	1,303,715
	Norway	2,147,564	1,102,767	3,250,331
	Australia for UNHCR	185,225		185,225
	<i>Deutsche Stiftung für UNO</i> (Germany)	129,534		129,534
	Private donors in Greece	848		848
	Private donors in Italy	1,953,626		1,953,626
	Japan Association for UNHCR	2,215,630	200,890	2,416,520
	Private donors in Luxembourg	162		162
	<i>España con ACNUR</i> (Spain)	2,407,732	110,624	2,518,356
	HQ Online Donations	1,067		1,067
	International Olympic Committee (Switzerland)	46,729		46,729
	Private donors in Switzerland	3,670		3,670
	USA for UNHCR	318,347		318,347
	Republic of Korea	200,000		200,000
	Spain		481,242	481,242
	Sweden		1,719,328	1,719,328
	Turkey		46,500	46,500
	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	46,500		46,500
	United Kingdom		461,036	461,036
	United States of America	2,542,641	1,906,500	4,449,141
	Uganda subtotal	19,166,142	12,520,578	31,686,720
East & Horn of Africa Subregion	Canada	2,014,099		2,014,099
	Denmark	2,606,429		2,606,429
	Finland	5,835,962		5,835,962
	Netherlands		1,533,412	1,533,412
	South Africa	36,496		36,496
	Sweden	9,244,992		9,244,992
	East & Horn of Africa subtotal	19,737,979	1,533,412	21,271,391
Total		96,286,576	107,691,678	203,978,254