

## Global update on the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework

This monthly document summarizes key developments in the application of the comprehensive responses across various locations.

### Featured Developments



#### The Government of Chad officially launches comprehensive responses

Exactly two years after the [New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants](#) was adopted, the Government of Chad officially launched comprehensive responses through a national symposium on 19 September. The launch was chaired by the Chadian Minister of Territorial Administration, Public Security and Local Governance, and was attended by six Province Governors, three provincial Secretary Generals, representatives of development partners, the UN Resident Coordinator and UN Agencies, the donor community, refugees from various locations in the country, NGOs and other members of civil society. In line with the [pledges](#) made by the Government at the UN Leaders' Summit on Refugees, Minister Bachir announced that the draft of a new asylum law is expected to be adopted before the end of the year. A draft action plan to guide the application of comprehensive responses was endorsed at the launch and will be subject to further refinement in the weeks to come. *More information can be found [here](#).*

### Operational Developments



#### The Republic of Djibouti

##### **New IT learning centre for refugees in Markazi settlement**

In an effort to boost refugees' computer literacy, a new IT learning centre was established in Markazi settlement, benefitting 2,000 Yemeni refugees. The centre was built with U.S. State Department's Julia Taft Grant and is supported by the Danish Refugee Council. *More information about the launch can be found [here](#).*

##### **Assessment of income-generating activities in three settlements**

A recent assessment of refugees' income-generating activities in Ali Addeh, Holl-Holl and Markazi settlements found that the majority of refugees interviewed are in need of financial assistance to expand their small businesses in the areas of food production and livestock breeding. Financial assistance for income-generating activities is part of Djibouti's [new Livelihoods Strategic Plan](#), which is designed to foster greater self-reliance of refugees.



#### The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

##### **Priorities for comprehensive responses endorsed for Barahle district**

The Administration for Refugee and Returnee Affairs (ARRA) and UNHCR held consultative meetings with local authorities, partners and refugee and host community representatives in various *woredas* (district) to discuss how comprehensive responses can be applied in the Barahle district of Afar Regional State (northeast). The agreed priorities are aligned with the Government's national priorities for comprehensive responses, and include **i**) improvement of basic services, including water supply (e.g. development of rain water harvesting scheme; connection of water points with solar systems); education (e.g. class room expansion; stock up of school supplies); health (e.g. training for health staff; building and equipment maintenance) and other services such as internet services; sport and cultural activities; **ii**) environment, natural resources, agriculture and energy (e.g. soil and water conservation, drought resilience, tree nursery stations), irrigation (construction of ponds, ground- and rain water harvesting schemes), animal resources and alternative source of energy; and **iii**) livelihood and job opportunities (e.g. feasibility studies on business opportunities; skill training opportunities; loan packages for youth with business plans, and linking market opportunities within and outside the *woreda*). In the past three months, similar consultations have been held in the neighbouring Aysaita *woreda* and in the three refugee-hosting *woredas* of Tigray Regional State.



### The Republic of Kenya

#### Multi-stakeholder workshop on comprehensive responses in Kenya

Approximately 120 representatives from the national and county Government, the Core Group of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), UN agencies, civil society and the private sector gathered in Nairobi to share experiences, take stock of progress achieved and seek avenues to continue strengthening the operationalization of comprehensive responses in Kenya. The dedicated steps taken by the Government with the support of partners to advance the inclusion of refugees in national services, such as education and health, served as a powerful example of how to translate the objectives of the CRRF into concrete actions. Using the national and country development plans as a basis, and with close linkages to the 2030 Agenda and Kenya's new UN Development Assistance Framework, the application of comprehensive responses in Kenya will continue to build on increased engagement with new and existing partners, targeted communication and messaging, and programming that takes an area-based approach for the benefit of refugees and host communities.

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### The Republic of Rwanda

#### World Bank socio-economic study in refugee hosting districts

To assess Rwanda's eligibility to access its International Development Association (IDA) 18 Regional Sub-Window for Refugees and Host Communities, the World Bank has initiated a socio-economic study on the economic challenges and opportunities in all refugee-hosting districts in Rwanda. The study will provide evidence-based data to make the case for the socio-economic inclusion of refugees in Rwanda.

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### The Republic of Uganda

#### New Education Response Plan for refugees and host communities

On 14 September, the First Lady of Uganda and the Ministry of Education and Sports launched a new Education Response Plan for Refugees and Host Communities (ERP 2018-2021). Currently, 57% of refugee children residing in Uganda (at least 353,000 children) and 34% of local children living in refugee-hosting districts (around 171,000 children) do not have access to education. The ERP, which was developed through a multi-stakeholder approach, will be implemented at local level and is expected to benefit 675,000 refugee and host community learners per year, providing them with access to quality education at all levels. The ERP is fully aligned with the national education system. *For more information, read the full document [here](#).*

#### Uganda's refugee coordination structure aligns with the Government's structure for social service delivery

Uganda's refugee response coordination structure has been amended in an effort to enhance coordination of humanitarian and development interventions at the national level and in refugee-hosting districts. The Ministry of Local Government is now a third co-chair, together with the Office of the Prime Minister and UNHCR. Additional UN and NGO partners have been nominated as co-chairs of sector working groups.

#### CRRF Engagement Strategy 2018-2020

The Government of Uganda, through the CRRF Secretariat and working with other partners, has developed a Communications and Engagement Strategy (2018-2020) to support awareness-raising efforts and the mainstreaming of comprehensive responses in Uganda. Particular emphasis is given to voicing the needs of refugees and host communities, ensuring transparency and facilitating active participation of many stakeholders.



### The Republic of Zambia

#### Joint UNHCR-UNDP project is expected to improve access to services for refugees and host communities

UNHCR and UNDP are developing a project to address the challenges faced by refugees and host communities in all three refugee settlements (Mayukwayukwa, Meheba and Mantapala). The project will prioritize connectivity, clean energy for refugees and their hosts, and road rehabilitation. As both agencies have already been working on the local integration programme of former Angolan and Rwandan refugees in two of the target locations, the project will build on the existing linkages at local level, especially with the District Development Coordination Committees.



### SOMALIA SITUATION – regional application of comprehensive responses

#### New allocation of land benefits Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

In accordance with the goals of the *Reintegration of the Displaced and Returnees* chapter of the [Somalia National Development Plan](#), local authorities in Galkaio district (north), which is home to 34 IDP-hosting settlements, have donated two plots of land to accommodate over 40,000 IDPs. The 4km<sup>2</sup> land has been made available permanently, and IDPs will receive land deeds. Additionally, the district administration of Baidoa near Mogadishu has allocated 15km<sup>2</sup> of land to IDPs for a period of one year, with the possibility to expand thereafter. Humanitarian partners have assessed that the land is suitable for the relocation of IDPs who reside in poor living conditions and are at risk of eviction.

#### The Mayor of Mogadishu in solidarity with refugees

The Mayor of Mogadishu has signed the [Cities #WithRefugees initiative](#), and initiative launched on World Refugee Day to invite cities and local authorities across the globe to promote greater inclusion of refugees and bring communities together. Engaging cities and municipalities in refugee responses is vital, as they are often the first responders to displacement crises. The initiative is in line with this year's theme of the High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges, [Engaging Cities](#).



### THE COMPREHENSIVE REGIONAL PROTECTION AND SOLUTIONS FRAMEWORK IN THE NORTH OF CENTRAL AMERICA (MIRPS in Spanish)

## Regional Developments

#### First regional follow-up meeting of the Organization of American States (OAS)

The first annual follow-up meeting on the MIRPS was held at the Organization of American States' (OAS) headquarters in Washington D.C on 26 - 27 September. Among the participants were technical focal points, OAS representatives from MIRPS countries, and representatives from the Central American Integration System (SICA) and the Inter-American Development Bank. Agreement was reached on a plan to finalize the annual MIRPS progress report, which is set to be adopted at a Ministerial level meeting in November.

## National Highlights



### The Republic of Costa Rica

#### New directive enhances access to services for refugees and asylum-seekers

Costa Rica's Migration Authority has enacted a new Directive (DG-30-09-2018) to inform Government institutions of the new provisional ID format for asylum-seekers, which enables access to the national e-payment system (locally known as *SINPE*), social welfare services, and the national poverty reduction programme.



### The Republic of Guatemala

#### **Ministry of Health identifies health care services as immediate priorities along the migration routes**

Health care services were identified as priorities along the migration routes towards Bethel and El Naranjo. Relevant stakeholders will work towards the renovation and extension of health posts, which are expected to benefit approximately 15,000 refugees, people in transit and members of the host communities.

#### **Government project to include refugees in the tourism market**

The Government of Guatemala has launched “TURI INTEGRÁ”, a job placement project designed to help include refugees in employment opportunities in the tourism sector. Ten refugees and asylum-seekers will be piloting the project, beginning with training sessions.



### The Republic of Honduras

#### **Draft law on internal displacement close to finalization; preparatory work on RSD protocol is underway**

The draft new law on internal displacement is due to be submitted to the National Congress for consideration. Once adopted, the Law will constitute a milestone in the protection of IDPs in the country, establishing greater access to rights, better referral mechanisms, and support with land restitution. In a similar development, the National Migration Institute’s Refugee Commission has begun elaboration of a refugee status determination (RSD) protocol.

#### **Efforts to identify solutions for the employability of displaced youths**

A training for displaced and deported youth took place in San Pedro Sula, coordinated by the National Institute for Vocational and Professional Training, the Municipality of San Pedro Sula, the Secretariats for Social Inclusion and Development and for Labor and Social Security, and UNHCR. The outcomes of the training will inform consultations that are to be held with government institutions, the private sector and civil society on challenges regarding the employability of youths affected by displacement. The consultations aim to identify solutions and specific initiatives to foster greater self-reliance for the youth.



### The United Mexican States

#### **Expansion of the labour insertion programme**

Efforts are underway to expand a local labour insertion programme that began in 2016 in partnership with local Municipalities, the private sector, and UNHCR. In 2016, 38 refugees from the North of Central America were relocated through the programme; the following year, 98 were relocated; culminating in 423 relocations this year so far. While refugees were initially relocated in the two States of Coahuila and Jalisco, the programme will be expanded to two additional States, Nuevo Leon and Baja California. Protection monitoring data shows that 86% of relocated refugees have remained in the States where they were initially relocated. This promising programme shows the potential for solutions that Mexico offers to refugees from Central America.

#### **Enhancing Government’s Capacity to receive deportees**

Authorities in the ‘El Belen’ reception centre – where deported families and children arrive – were trained by the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) and UNHCR on the identification and referral of people with specific needs, with a particular focus on children.



### The Republic of Panama

#### **Asylum-seekers can now obtain micro-credits**

Asylum-seekers in Panama can now apply for and obtain micro-credits through a partnership between micro-financing institution *MICROSERFIN*, the Panamanian Red Cross (PRC) and UNHCR. Unlike refugees who have been allowed to

obtain financial loans through the partnership since 2008, asylum-seekers previously did not have access to such financing facilities.

### **Training and employability opportunities for refugees and asylum-seekers**

A letter of understanding between the local company *Manpower* and UNHCR and an agreement with [HIAS](#) will support a pilot project to bridge the gap between skills trainings and employability for displaced people, while bringing together different stakeholders to advance durable solutions for refugees. Job opportunities and capacity training will be provided to 90 refugees and asylum-seekers under this scheme.

## Global Developments

### **World leaders voice strong support for the Global Compact on Refugees at UNGA high-level event**

On 24 September, UNHCR hosted a high-level event in the margins of the UN General Assembly in New York. The event, “*The Global Compact on Refugees: A model for greater solidarity and cooperation*”, brought together leaders from four continents, including Bangladesh, Costa Rica, and Turkey, and the World Bank. High Commissioner Grandi praised the role of host countries as first responders to refugee emergencies. Interventions by African States (Djibouti, Ethiopia, Sudan, Uganda and Zambia) focused on the positive changes in applying comprehensive responses, and highlighted the need for predictable funding, more resettlement places, and greater coordination amongst stakeholders. *View the broadcast of the high-level event [here](#), and a [related article](#).*

### **Regional actors in East Africa discuss progress in applying comprehensive responses**

In order to reflect on the experiences gained in applying comprehensive responses in the East and Horn of Africa, and to provide updates on next steps for the global compact on refugee, the UNHCR Regional Refugee Coordinators for the Burundi and South Sudan Situations convened an event in Nairobi marking the two-year anniversary of the New York Declaration. The event was attended by representatives of Embassies and donors, UN agencies, NGOs, private sector businesses and refugee representatives.

### **New MIRPS publications available from the CRRF Portal**

New pages for MIRPS participating countries have been published on the [CRRF Portal](#), laying out how the MIRPS translates in the different contexts. Complementing these national pages, a [new regional MIRPS poster](#) on key developments, and a collection of [seven thematic fact sheets](#) have also been published.

### **Applying comprehensive responses in the Americas, Africa and Asia – new global poster available**

A [new global poster](#) is available, providing an overview of comprehensive responses in all regions, including Afghanistan.

## Key Dates

- **26 October:** First anniversary of the [San Pedro Sula Declaration](#)

## Contacts and Useful links

- Task Team on Comprehensive Responses, Division of Resilience and Solutions, Geneva: [hqcr@unhcr.org](mailto:hqcr@unhcr.org)
- Useful links: [New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants](#), [Global Compact on Refugees](#), [Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework](#).