

AFRICA



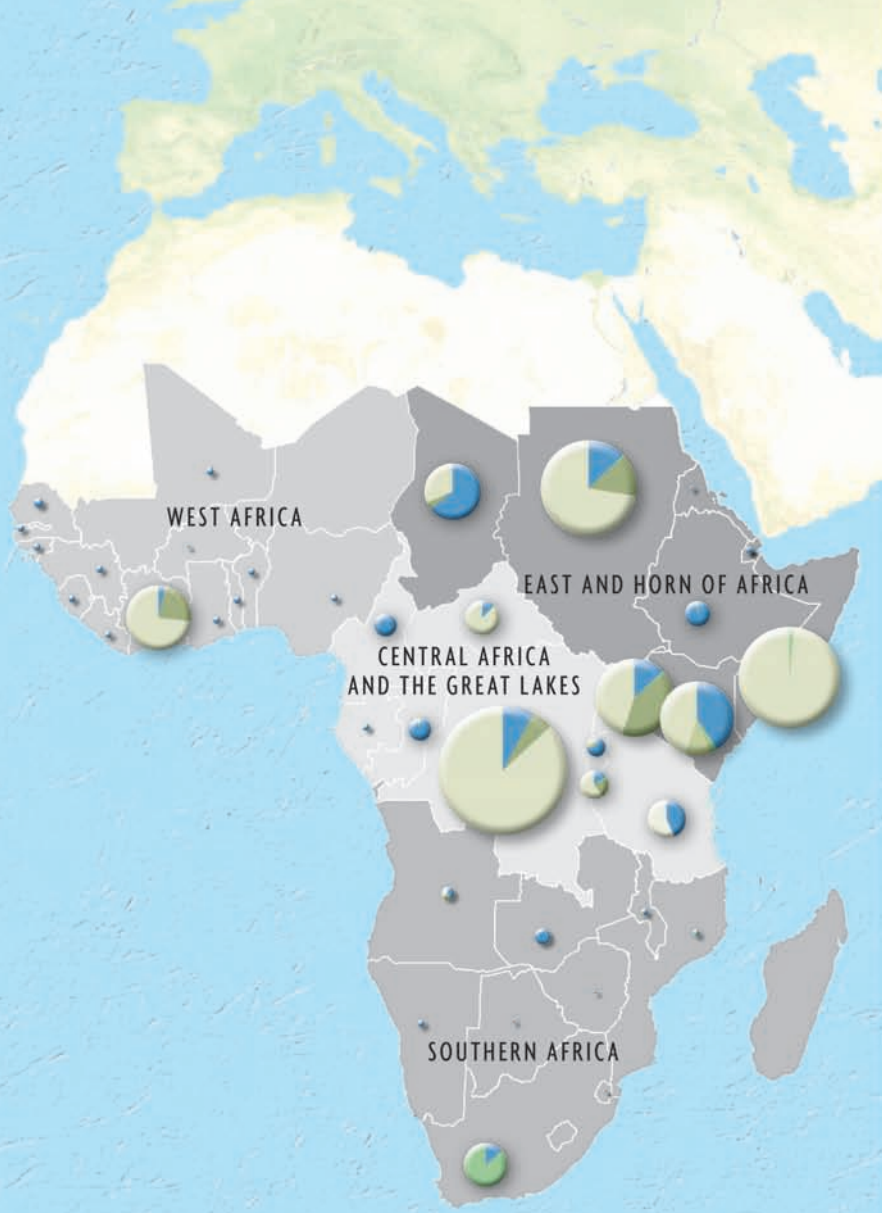
A Somali refugee woman carries her newborn baby as she collects water and firewood.



| Working environment |

Five major trends identified by the High Commissioner as affecting UNHCR's work globally are all present in Africa: population growth; the movement of people towards urban centres; mixed migration; the effects of climate change; and food, water and energy scarcities. When combined, these trends can cause or compound insecurity and displacement. This has happened in Africa.

At the beginning of 2010, sub-Saharan Africa was home to some 2 million refugees, a significant reduction from the 3.4 million in 2000. Large-scale repatriation as well as local integration of thousands of refugees that have taken place throughout the region contributed to the reductions. The decade-long declining trend has, however, now slowed, as the major voluntary repatriation operations draw to an end, notably in West Africa, the Great Lakes region, Angola and Southern Sudan. Meanwhile, ongoing violence, persecution and humanitarian crises are causing new refugee movements, in particular from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Somalia to neighbouring countries and further afield. Apart from the influx of groups of people, 420,000 individual asylum-seekers were registered in sub-Saharan Africa in 2009, more than half of them in South Africa, which has the largest number of asylum applications worldwide. Including the 6.5 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) to which it is providing protection and assistance in Chad, the Central African Republic, DRC, Somalia and Sudan under the cluster approach; 983,000 returnees (both IDPs and refugees); and an estimated 100,000 stateless persons, UNHCR has a total of some 10.2 million people of concern to it in sub-Saharan Africa.



- Refugees
- Asylum-seekers
- Returnees (refugees and IDPs)
- Stateless persons
- IDPs
- Others of concern

Population size



In the East and Horn of Africa, UNHCR has revised its contingency plans to respond to the growing numbers of new Somali refugees and IDPs. Several of the needs identified in this exercise will continue to be addressed in the 2011 programme. In Sudan, UNHCR is closely monitoring developments relating to the referendum scheduled for January 2011 and has prepared itself to be able to respond to population displacements or problems of citizenship that may emerge.

The focus in West Africa and the Great Lakes regions continues to be on finding or finalizing durable solutions for refugees and displaced persons. The Sierra Leonean refugee chapter has been effectively closed while, in 2011, efforts will be centred on Liberian refugees for whom the cessation of refugee status is foreseen to come into force at the end of 2011.

In the DRC, UNHCR is managing a particularly challenging operation, protecting and assisting IDPs in the north and the east and supporting return programmes in Equateur province and in the south. In 2011, the Office will strengthen its protection capacity in the east as part of an inter-agency effort to curb abuse directed at civilians, especially sexual and gender-based violence.

In Southern Africa, UNHCR's main focus will be on assisting governments to strengthen their protection capacities and asylum systems, including addressing the challenges and strains posed to the asylum and protection systems in transit and destination countries by the growing mixed migration movements from the Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes region.

| Strategic priorities in 2011 |

In 2011, UNHCR will pursue seven strategic objectives in sub-Saharan Africa, comprising a series of absolute priorities designed to improve the protection and living standards of people of concern, and to help ensure strategic coherence across the region.

● *Meeting protection and assistance needs of people of concern*

Key protection and assistance needs of people of concern are still not being met in Africa. UNHCR will thus concentrate on and give priority attention to: (i) meeting core protection and assistance needs; (ii) putting in place systems to respond meaningfully to sexual and gender-based violence and increase direct assistance to survivors; (iii) addressing as far as possible a set of “entrenched” or “non-negotiable” needs among which are securing or maintaining standards with respect to water, sanitation and hygiene, nutrition and health, including HIV and AIDS, improving standards in the provision of domestic fuel and covering 100 per cent of the sanitary materials requirements for women and adolescent girls; and (iv) planning programmes based on participatory assessments that incorporate age, gender and diversity considerations.

Special efforts will be directed at improving the provision of protection and assistance to children; ensuring primary education for them with special emphasis on the need to keep girls in school; making sure that every child is registered at birth and making available the benefits of “Best Interest Determination” measures for separated children.

● *Promoting durable solutions*

UNHCR will continue to focus on bringing to closure the Angolan, Burundian, Liberian and Rwandan refugee situations. Comprehensive strategies have been developed, including renewed emphasis on voluntary return and taking advantage of opportunities for local integration wherever feasible.

● *Building and strengthening partnerships*

Partnerships with host governments and communities, donors, UN agencies and other international, regional and national organizations will remain key to furthering UNHCR's objectives in 2011. Special attention will be given to promoting the ratification and implementation by Member States of the recent African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of IDPs in Africa.

Responding adequately to the growing phenomenon of mixed migratory movements across the continent, in particular from the Horn of Africa and Great Lakes region to Southern Africa, will require a collaborative and comprehensive approach. UNHCR and IOM are working with the authorities and civil society organizations of the countries concerned to devise strategies on how to respond to these movements in an effective, coordinated and protection-sensitive manner.

● *Fulfilling UNHCR's statelessness mandate*

There will be special efforts to prevent or reduce statelessness and enhance the protection of stateless people in all major statelessness situations in sub-Saharan Africa. UNHCR will also seek to increase its engagement in situations where statelessness could become a protection risk by conducting awareness activities, and providing technical expertise on the subject.

● *Implementing UNHCR's new policy for refugees in urban settings*

Following a pilot project under way in Nairobi in 2010, the Office will focus on implementation of its urban refugee policy in planned stages, making this policy a strategic priority for all operations. Activities will include expanding outreach and partnerships while adjusting programmes in such a way as to make the provision of direct assistance to the most vulnerable or urgent cases possible.

Financial information

The 2010 budget for programmes in Africa based on a comprehensive assessment of needs totalled USD 1.12 billion. The budget for the region for 2011 totals some USD 1.5 billion. Without adequate funding for these requirements, the most basic needs, including life-saving activities, water, health, shelter, and education could be put seriously at risk and many protracted situations will continue without progress towards solutions. Tensions between refugees and local host communities which are emerging more and more in locations across the region, not least because of competition over resources, could escalate.

● *Enhancing UNHCR's operational response*

Given the complex challenges UNHCR faces in its operations in Africa, the Office will work to bolster its response capacity in the region, with particular emphasis placed on reinforcing emergency preparedness and response capacities. Preparedness activities, including the purchase and strategic pre-positioning of non-food items (NFIs), are included in the 2011 programme. UNHCR and its partners are monitoring the situations in Somalia and Sudan, to be ready to respond to any population movements, both internally and to neighbouring countries.

● *Improving management performance and accountability*

UNHCR will work to optimize the potential benefits of results-based management of its protection and assistance programmes, paying special attention to financial diligence and accountability. Furthermore, staff security, including full compliance with the UN Minimum Operating Security Standards, will remain a strategic priority.

| Challenges |

While many States continue to demonstrate their commitments to asylum, there have

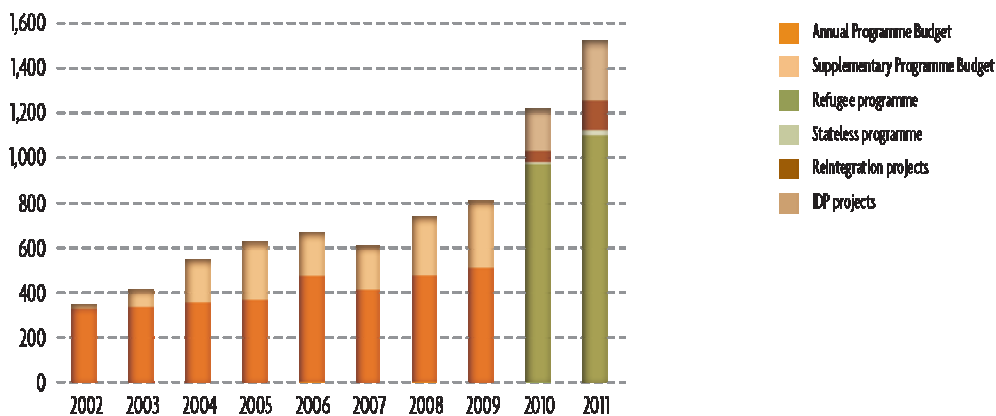
been disturbing instances of the deliberate violation of core principles of protection, involving even the loss of lives of refugees and asylum-seekers. Growing mixed migratory movements across the continent are straining weak asylum systems in transit and destination countries, and undermining public support for asylum.

Violence and insecurity remain major challenges, affecting beneficiaries and humanitarian workers alike in a number of operations. In the DRC, the prevalence of sexual violence and abuse, amid huge gaps in the rule of law, remain alarming. In Chad and the Central African Republic, the drawdown of the UN Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT) has raised concerns as to whether a secure and predictable environment for the delivery of humanitarian response can be guaranteed.

In the Darfur region in Sudan, as the effects of the expulsion of NGOs continue to be felt, the kidnapping of aid workers compounds the challenges. In south and central Somalia, including Mogadishu, threats and intimidation are also making it extremely difficult to provide humanitarian assistance. UNHCR and its partners nonetheless stand ready to take advantage of any window of opportunity to deliver much needed assistance to the displaced population. ■

UNHCR's budget in Africa 2002 - 2011

Millions (USD)



UNHCR'S BUDGET IN AFRICA (USD)

Operation	Revised budget	PILLAR 1	PILLAR 2	PILLAR 3	PILLAR 4	Total
		Refugee programme	Stateless programme	Reintegration projects	IDP projects	
	2010	2011				
CENTRAL AFRICA AND THE GREAT LAKES						
Burundi	37,057,145	34,277,347	285,362	9,180,490	640,017	44,383,216
Cameroon	20,661,773	22,834,527	1,063,000	0	0	23,897,527
Central African Republic	18,560,051	13,045,987	910,012	0	10,685,655	24,641,654
Congo	29,614,412	32,639,356	0	0	0	32,639,356
Democratic Republic of the Congo	101,922,206	61,537,149	1,984,749	20,183,182	58,903,643	142,608,723
Gabon	2,943,788	3,105,610	0	0	0	3,105,610
Rwanda	22,389,658	31,617,255	0	2,799,319	0	34,416,574
United Republic of Tanzania	45,308,995	16,564,295	0	75,184,500	0	91,748,795
Subtotal	278,458,028	215,621,526	4,243,123	107,347,491	70,229,315	397,441,455
EAST AND HORN OF AFRICA						
Chad	161,664,606	171,847,873	0	0	24,806,774	196,654,647
Djibouti	21,129,393	26,657,519	141,150	0	0	26,798,669
Eritrea	5,817,968	6,204,483	0	0	500,000	6,704,483
Ethiopia ¹	100,405,800	119,595,176	234,656	0	449,656	120,279,488
Kenya ²	187,523,467	222,738,996	452,184	0	470,587	223,661,767
Somalia	66,688,491	13,758,297	0	3,306,525	49,614,888	66,679,710
Sudan	174,371,654	88,992,587	6,751,513	8,118,786	91,400,079	195,262,965
Uganda	54,537,653	66,075,845	0	0	9,542,673	75,618,518
Regional activities	169,903	6,000,001	2,000,000	0	0	8,000,001
Subtotal	772,308,934	721,870,777	9,579,503	11,425,311	176,784,657	919,660,248
WEST AFRICA						
Côte d'Ivoire	16,064,792	12,526,922	4,308,244	1,599,966	8,098,884	26,534,016
Ghana	8,587,847	4,311,330	0	1,764,317	0	6,075,647
Guinea	7,299,444	2,648,826	0	2,911,646	0	5,560,472
Liberia	7,652,592	5,382,632	0	5,283,254	0	10,665,886
Senegal Regional Office ³	41,530,635	41,774,899	734,910	7,888,856	0	50,398,665
Subtotal	81,135,310	66,644,609	5,043,154	19,448,039	8,098,884	99,234,686
SOUTHERN AFRICA						
Angola	13,351,122	8,879,989	0	891,460	0	9,771,449
Botswana	3,433,645	3,731,897	0	0	0	3,731,897
Malawi	3,476,590	3,434,655	0	0	0	3,434,655
Mozambique	4,190,102	4,188,485	403,558	0	0	4,592,043
Namibia	3,872,663	4,251,875	0	127,821	0	4,379,696
South Africa Regional Office ⁴	26,789,591	39,166,547	1,031,941	0	0	40,198,488
Zambia	11,396,776	14,118,082	0	0	0	14,118,082
Zimbabwe	8,365,300	3,498,819	790,154	1,561,454	4,432,293	10,282,720
Subtotal	74,875,789	81,270,349	2,225,653	2,580,735	4,432,293	90,509,030
Total	1,206,778,061	1,085,407,261	21,091,433	140,801,576	259,545,149	1,506,845,419

¹ Includes the Regional Office for the African Union and the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa.

² Includes regional activities under the Regional Support Hub in Nairobi.

³ Includes activities in Benin, Burkina Faso, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Togo.

⁴ Includes regional activities in Southern Africa.