SITUATION OVERVIEW

IOM is responding to the continuing influx of refugees entering the country in four regions namely Gambella, Assosa in Benishangul – Gumuz, Shire in Tigray and Dollo Ado in Somali. From January 2017 to date, IOM transported and relocated a total of 42,872 refugees in all four regions. IOM also tracks and monitors displacement and population mobility through its Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) covering nine regions: Afar, Amhara, Benishangul-Gumuz, Dire Dawa, Harari, Gambella, Oromia, Somali and Tigray. Data collected throughout March and April 2017 for DTM Round 4 identified a total of 843,367 individuals displaced.

In the west of Ethiopia, South Sudanese refugees continue to cross the border into Gambella Region. The humanitarian situation in South Sudan remains fragile and volatile due to renewed fighting of various political factions and is exacerbated by food insecurity. The devastating crisis has displaced 1.9 million individuals internally and propelled 1.8 million refugees to seek safety in neighboring countries, according to IOM South Sudan and UNHCR respectively. From September 2016 to 29 May 2017 a total of 83,453 South Sudanese refugees have received IOM’s relocation assistance. Based on DTM Round 4, an estimated 18,503 individuals representing 3,700 households are internally displaced in 16 displacement sites across Gambella Region. 100% of the internally displaced population cited conflict as the primary cause of displacement. 47% of the identified displaced persons were male and 53% were female.

In the east and south-east of the country, both the Government of Ethiopia and humanitarian community estimate that a significant number of people from Somalia will flee to Ethiopia due to the drought requiring urgent humanitarian assistance. From January 2017 to 26 May 2017, IOM Ethiopia has transported 5,128 Somalis from border entry points into camps in Dollo Ado. As per DTM Round 4, 456,801 displaced individuals comprising of 72,204 households in 252 displacement sites were identified in the Somali region. An increase of nearly 60,000 IDPs was reported compared to the previous round of DTM. An estimated 64% of the displaced population cited drought as the primary cause of displacement. 50.1% of displaced individuals were male and 49.9% were female.

In the north of Ethiopia, Eritrean refugees continue to enter the country. IOM began relocation from Endabaguna Reception Centre to four refugee camps in Shire, Tigray Region: Mai Ayni, Adi Harush, Hitsats and Shimelba. From March 2017 to 25 May 2017, IOM has transported a total of 6,990 Eritrean refugees to respective camps. With regards to internal displacement, conflict has become the major driver of 96% of affected individuals internally displaced in Tigray region followed by seasonal floods for the remaining 4%. Based on DTM findings, an estimated 30,142 displaced individuals comprising 7,132 households in 53 displacement sites were identified in Tigray region. These figures represent an increase of an estimated 2,812 additional IDPs identified in the region since Round 3 assessments. 51.4% of the identified displaced people were male and 48.6% were female.
For the month of May 2017, 1,970 new South Sudanese arrivals received PDMS, to ensure refugees’ fitness to travel, and were provided transportation assistance from Pagak border entry point to refugee camps in both Gambella and Benishangul-Gumuz Regions. Due to Nguenyiel camp reaching maximum capacity, the Government of Ethiopia decided to relocate refugees from Pagak entry point, Gambella Region to Assosa, Benishangul-Gumuz Region in Gure-Shembola refugee camp to accommodate the continuing influx of South Sudanese refugees. In May 2017, IOM transported 1,854 South Sudanese refugees from Pagak border entry point to Gure-Shembola Refugee Camp in four convoy movements. IOM and partners have established two way stations in Metu and Gimbi on the relocation route to Gure-Shembola for refugee accommodation during transit. To increase access to information among newly arrived refugees and ensure individuals are aware of services and assistance to which they are entitled, IOM also established a helpdesk at Pagak border entry point supported by host community volunteers.

**SOUTH SUDANESE REFUGEES IN GAMBELLA & ASSOSA REGIONS**

For the month of May 2017, 1,970 new South Sudanese arrivals received PDMS, to ensure refugees’ fitness to travel, and were provided transportation assistance from Pagak border entry point to refugee camps in both Gambella and Benishangul-Gumuz Regions. Due to Nguenyiel camp reaching maximum capacity, the Government of Ethiopia decided to relocate refugees from Pagak entry point, Gambella Region to Assosa, Benishangul-Gumuz Region in Gure-Shembola refugee camp to accommodate the continuing influx of South Sudanese refugees. In May 2017, IOM transported 1,854 South Sudanese refugees from Pagak border entry point to Gure-Shembola Refugee Camp in four convoy movements. IOM and partners have established two way stations in Metu and Gimbi on the relocation route to Gure-Shembola for refugee accommodation during transit. To increase access to information among newly arrived refugees and ensure individuals are aware of services and assistance to which they are entitled, IOM also established a helpdesk at Pagak border entry point supported by host community volunteers.

**ERITREAN REFUGEES IN SHIRE REGION**

For the month of May 2017, IOM has transported 1,473 Eritrean refugees from Endabaguna Reception Center to four refugee camps in the Shire area: Mai Ayni, Adi Harush, Hitsats and Shimelba. Young men account for the majority of the Eritrean exodus. IOM is providing humanitarian assistance to Eritreans in Shire through transportation assistance and by conducting Pre-Medical Departure Screening (PDMS) to ensure refugees are fit for travel prior to relocation. With financial support from UNHCR, IOM is also providing new arrivals at the Endabaguna Reception Center with an orientation on trafficking in persons and smuggling, a variety of Information Education and Communication (IEC) materials such as leaflets, cartoon booklets, posters, and awareness raising videos on the risk and dangers of irregular migration.

**ERITREAN REFUGEES ASSISTED BY IOM**

**SOMALI REFUGEES IN SOMALI REGION**

For the month of May 2017, IOM Ethiopia has transported 269 Somali refugees from border entry points into camps in Dollo Ado. This totals a number of 5,128. Considerable lower than average rains in 2016 resulted to severe widespread drought across Somalia. Complex and fragile, the humanitarian situation is rife with new and protracted displacement resulting from climatic and manmade crises, forced evictions and an influx of returnees. Consequently, an inflow of Somali refugees continue to seek refuge in Ethiopia. Although monthly numbers are on a steady decrease, an upsurge of new arrivals is likely in the incoming months due to the humanitarian situation.

**SOMALI REFUGEES ASSISTED BY IOM**
The construction of Transitional Shelter (TS) is part of an incremental process which provides shelter for refugees affected by conflict and disaster as they seek to develop alternative options for their recovery. It aims to support sustainable and beneficiary driven construction of culturally appropriate shelter in refugee camp contexts. Through funding from the United Kingdom’s Department for International Development (DFID), the Government of Japan (GoJ) and the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), IOM continues to provide transitional shelter assistance to refugees in Ethiopia. Beneficiaries include refugees from South Sudan in Kule and Nguenyyiel refugee camps of Gambella Region, host communities from Jewi kebele and Itang kebele.

For the month of May, construction of 978 transitional shelters in Nguenyyiel refugee camp and 707 shelters in Kule refugee camp is at completion stage. This involves active participation of refugee beneficiaries through mud plastering of their own homes increasing ownership of the process. Beneficiaries are also given cash for work for roof thatching. IOM is expanding its provision of transitional shelter to the most vulnerable host communities and IDPs affected by natural and man-made disasters throughout the country. Shelter material assistance was delivered to 77 refugee host communities in Jewi kebele. In Itang kebele, the in-kind shelter assistance was provided for 98 host community households of which 65% of the construction is completed. The shelter reconstruction involves provision of in-kind shelter materials including timber and timber planks, nails, eucalyptus poles, bamboo poles, locally made rope, plastic sheets, grass for roof thatching, hinges, gate latch, guage sheets, locking systems as well as carpentry costs.

**TRANSITION, RECOVERY & DURABLE SOLUTIONS**

With funding from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), IOM is providing technical support to the Government of Ethiopia, specifically in the Somali Regional State, to promote durable solutions for IDPs in protracted situation in the region. IOM engages government, humanitarian and development actors through facilitating dialogue, coordinating Durable Solution Working Group (DSWG), sharing information and investing in capacity building both at the regional and national level to seek durable solutions for protracted IDPs. To this end, a Durable Solutions Information Sharing workshop was held on 9 May 2017, in Jigjiga, Somali Region with a strong presence from relevant actors. A total of 29 participants have attended and contributed in the event including eight bureaus from the Somali Regional Government, ten humanitarian partners and one donor agency. The workshop included discussions surrounding the Growth and Development Plan II, reflecting on Somali Region’s plan across a wide range of sectors including conflict prevention and peace building; Early Recovery Framework as well as IDP definition, vulnerability, responsibility, regional/international instruments, Somali region IDP caseload, location and drivers. The reporting period also saw EPC and ProCAP draft the durable solution strategy which was shared during the workshop.

**DISPLACEMENT**

Through IOM’s Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) tool, regular tracking, mapping and reporting on internal displacement is conducted throughout Ethiopia. Relevant DTM components are carried out in targeted locations to facilitate displacement management, the delivery of immediate humanitarian services and emergency response, and inform transition and durable solutions. IOM DTM Round 4 assessed a total of 843,367 displaced individuals (135,352 households) totalling a number of 496 displacement sites across the following nine regions: Afar, Amhara, Benishangul-Gumuz, Dire Dawa, Gambella, Harari, Oromia, Somali and Tigray. Conflict and drought account for the primary causes of displacement. Below are some of the key takeaways from the DTM Round 4 report:

- 49.5% of the identified displaced persons are male, 50.5% are female, 81% are women and children.
- 89% of IDP sites have access to health facilities. 64% of IDP sites have access to health facilities within three kilometers. 13% of sites have displaced individuals that have access to mosquito nets. This is a health concern particularly in Afar, Somali, Gambella and Tigray Regions where malaria is prevalent and only 17%, 10%, 6% and 4% of sites respectively, reported IDPs have access to mosquito nets.
- IDP children in 80% of IDP sites have access to formal education services and 47% of sites have IDP children that have access to informal education. In 11% of sites, girls account for 50% or more of IDP children attending school;
- 4% of sites have access to adequate lighting;
- Security is provided in 96% of sites and more than 95% of sites have a good relationship with the host community;
- 91% of sites are in need of shelter repair materials and 40% of sites have 50% or more households without non-food items;
- 29% of sites have sufficient latrines and less than 7% have gender segregated latrines;
- 57% of sites have a garbage and solid waste problem;
- IDPs in only 20% of sites have income generating activities and 39% of sites have access to a market near the site. 29% of sites have land for cultivation and around 43% have their livestock on site.

**INTERNALLY DISPLACED INDIVIDUALS PER REGION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Afar</th>
<th>Amhara</th>
<th>Gambella</th>
<th>Harari</th>
<th>Oromia</th>
<th>Somali</th>
<th>Tigray</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IDPs (Individuals)</td>
<td>51,644</td>
<td>3,410</td>
<td>18,503</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>279,867</td>
<td>456,801</td>
<td>30,142</td>
<td>843,367</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Through financial support provided by the Ethiopian Humanitarian Fund (EHF) and European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), IOM provided ES/NFI assistance to a total of 24,191 internally displaced individuals (4,160 households) and 5,818 displaced women and girls of reproductive age (age 15-49 years) from January 2017 to date. For the month of May, the most recent distribution was conducted from 24 April to 5 May 2017 in Gog and Jor woreda, Gambella Region where 373 individuals (132 households) and 869 individuals (268 households) received ES/NFIs.

A post distribution monitoring exercise was carried out following IOM’s cash response to a total of 650 internally displaced Somali community members on February 23 and 24 2017. The assessment was conducted in March in Hariso kebele of Gablalu Woreda, Sitti Zone of Somali Region. During the distribution, ETB 2,650 was directly handed over to female household representatives to meet the household’s non-food item needs. Results revealed that the largest proportion of money was spent on a mix of items including NFIs, food and some used it towards the payment of household debt. Households reported having purchased clothes which was one of the primary items cited during the needs assessment conducted prior to the cash based intervention (CBI). The CBI achieved its objective of providing clothes in addition to the NFIs. Results also revealed that vendor business revenue increased following the cash response, providing an economic benefit to the host community.

In its role as ES/NFI cluster lead, IOM supports coordination among local authorities, UN agencies and humanitarian partners to harmonize efforts in optimizing resources for such assistance and improving its delivery. The ES/NFI Cluster in Ethiopia assures the provision of an accountable, predictable and reliable emergency response to affected people in need of emergency shelter and NFIs. By the second week of May, the cluster had reached some 37,723 households (48% of those in need) with emergency shelter materials or household non-food items such as kitchen set and beddings.

The EPC program is generously funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), the United Kingdom’s Department of International Development (DFID), the Government of Japan (GoJ), the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), and the Ethiopian Humanitarian Fund (EHF).

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