



COUNTRY FACTS

2009

DRC has been present in Ethiopia since 2009 and is present in Addis Ababa, Bule Hora, Dimma, Gambella, Jijiga, Dolo-Ado and Shire.

TOTAL POPULATION

>100M

DISPLACED POPULATION

>700,000

refugees and asylum seekers

>1.7M

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

FACTS

The majority of refugees are from Eritrea, Somalia, South Sudan, and Sudan.

Multiple drivers of the crisis in Ethiopia: climate shocks, desert locusts, conflict and intercommunal violence

What Caused the Crisis?

Ethiopia is one of the largest refugee hosting countries in Africa, with over 700,000 registered refugees and asylum seekers, most of whom are located in 26 refugee camps. The majority of refugees fled from South Sudan, Somalia and Eritrea. Ethiopia has a long tradition of hosting refugees. In January 2019, the Government of Ethiopia published a Revised Refugee Proclamation which promises increased and improved integration of refugees living in Ethiopia, and published related Directives afterwards.

Multiple humanitarian challenges persist, including the impact of political transition, which has led to conflict displacement, exacerbated by climate-related disasters, including droughts and flooding, disease outbreaks including, but not limited to, Covid-19 in the country.

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Displacement Challenges

According to the National Disaster Risk Management Commission and OCHA's Humanitarian Response Plan, localised community conflicts resulted in large scale forced displacement, which peaked at 3.2 million persons by April 2019, and decreased to an estimated 2 million people by end of November 2019 following a Government-led return plan. The January 2020 HRP indicated that 1.78 million IDPs remain. Durable solutions for IDPs remains a challenge as some are yet to regain access to their houses and/or properties, resume their livelihoods and get adequate access to basic services. In December 2019, Ethiopia launched its Durable Solutions Initiative facilitating collective action and cooperation among authorities and the international community to support IDPs.

While Ethiopia was spared significant climate-related calamities in 2018, the country experienced the impact of extreme weather variability in 2019, with drought directly succeeded by floods. According to OCHA, floods affected 570,000 people in October and November 2019, including more than 200,000 displaced.



How Does DRC Ethiopia Help?



Protection

Trapped in places plagued by conflict, people often struggle to access the resources needed to ensure their own safety and well-being. We work to protect the most vulnerable among the displaced, particularly women and children. Our protection services include providing free legal aid to refugees and host communities, providing individual assistance, and supporting expanded access to land, property, and individual rights.



Livelihoods

We develop livelihood initiatives designed to strengthen opportunities for self-reliance among refugees. DRC has supported youth in establishing small businesses that are available to refugee and host community youth groups, promoting social cohesions and integrated service deliveries, and improving their livelihoods.



Cash interventions

DRC provides cash assistance as part of our emergency response, enabling displaced people to feed themselves and their families until long-term economic recovery begins. DRC provides support with Multi-Purpose Cash distribution targeting the displacement of hundreds of thousands of people. All our initiatives are developed with a strong focus on resilience and sustainability.



Shelter and non-food items

DRC provides shelter solutions in both emergency situations and during cases of protracted displacement. In Gambella, we have contributed to the improvement of the physical environment of the Gambella refugee reception centers and camps, constructing transition shelters and mud brick shelters, and providing refugees with communal facilities. These initiatives enable vulnerable displaced populations to live in dignity and security.



Energy-saving practices

We provide sustainable energy based on renewable energy sources to refugee and host communities for sustainable cooking and electricity services, with particular attention to women's needs, DRC distributed energy saving stoves, and trained local communities from both refugee and host communities in constructing energy efficient stoves to improve livelihood and employment opportunities of the refugee and host communities.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

DRC has been providing emergency WASH response using an integrated protection sensitive approach to reducing prevalence of morbidity and mortality by combining hygiene promotion with environmental sanitation and access to safe drinking water. Our WASH projects aimed to enhance the health and wellbeing of refugees, conflict induced IDPs, and host communities focusing on increasing the ability of the targeted beneficiaries to access safe water supply. We also aim to improve hygiene and sanitation practices using context-specific approaches that take into consideration the limited access for WASH services in areas in which we work.



Education

Our work in informal education has included providing tutorials for university entrance exams, and “catch-up classes” for refugees who have arrived into Ethiopia later into the start of the school year. Additionally, with media production programming, DRC shares, through daily audio and video forms, important lessons for the refugees, which help them develop self-awareness and life skills.



Migration

Marginalised rural youth, scarce education and employment opportunities, household circumstances, and gender inequality are drivers of unsafe irregular migration in Ethiopia. Through the Ethiopia Migration Programme, we work with would-be migrants, refugees, and returnees who are at risk of irregular migration to make informed decisions and have viable alternatives and increased protection in Ethiopia. DRC and its partners share information about alternatives to unsafe and irregular migration, build community networks, support youth to stay in higher education and take on leadership roles, connect people to job opportunities, and offer protection services to improve safety in transit areas.

DRC in Ethiopia



1

Main Office



>300

Staff



7

Field Offices

Donors & Partners



EUROPEAN UNION



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency



OCHA



European Union
Civil Protection and
Humanitarian Aid



UKaid
from the British people



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF DENMARK
Danish

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC



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