COMPREHENSIVE REFUGEE RESPONSE FRAMEWORK (CRRF) IN ETHIOPIA

Ethiopia is host to the second largest refugee population in Africa, with 705,820 refugees, primarily from neighboring South Sudan, Somalia, Sudan and Eritrea, as well as smaller numbers of refugees from Yemen and Syria. Following the New York Declaration in September 2016, the Government of Ethiopia has made 9 pledges to serve as a vehicle for implementing the CRRF in the country. Ethiopia has also recently passed a Refugee Proclamation that will allow refugees greater access to education, documentation, services, and socio-economic opportunities and drafted a 10-year National Comprehensive Refugee Response Strategy (NCRRS) for the operationalization of the CRRF in Ethiopia.

ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

This is the first component of a four-year programme funded by the European Union Trust Fund for Africa (EUTF) which will be jointly implemented by UNHCR and ReDSS. It seeks to enhance technical capacities of relevant Ethiopian government institutions to implement sustainable and development-oriented responses for refugees and host communities as part of the CRRF approach. Both UNHCR and ReDSS will support government structures at the federal, regional, and local levels through staffing and technical capacities, and support the development and implementation of local/area-based development plans that are participatory and inclusive of refugees and based on evidence.

The programme has three result areas:

- **Result 1**: Support to national governance and federal level technical coordination structures
- **Result 2**: Enhanced capacity of regional line ministries to lead the development and implementation of integrated area-based action plans through participatory processes
- **Result 3**: Information available to inform evidence-based policy and integrated planning and programming for both refugees and host communities in the Jijiga area

KEY FOCUS OF THE PROGRAMME

- Second two Knowledge management staff to the government coordination structures at the federal level of the Government of Ethiopia, and at regional and local levels in Jijiga (Somali Regional State)
- Support the development and implementation of area-based plans through participatory and inclusive processes led by local authorities to foster localised ‘integration’ approaches
- Support engagement of displacement affected communities (DACs) in area-based planning to adapt CRRF programme and address social cohesion issues that may arise
- Strengthen the technical capacities of local authorities to inform better-integrated solutions, programming and policies
- Ensuring the protection and monitoring of refugees in the ‘out of camp’ context through dedicated protection staff, capacity development and call centre (pilot Jijiga area)
- Conduct operational research and analysis to inform evidence-based programming and policy
- Develop sustainable, integrated and self-reliant solution policies for both refugees and host communities

STRATEGIC VISION

- Local authorities have the primary responsibility and must be supported to play a leadership and coordinating role in the development and implementation of area-based plans inclusive of DACs’ needs and vulnerabilities
- It is essential to strengthen national, regional, and woreda coordination capacity as support to integrating protracted displacement and durable solutions in national and regional plans progresses
- For solutions to be sustainable and durable, they must be both locally owned and locally driven- meaningful inclusion of displaced and host communities themselves, under the leadership of local authorities, supported by humanitarian and development actors.
- A participatory process is key to support integration processes in order to make solutions lasting, locally relevant and supportive of social cohesion to ensure social inclusion
- It is imperative to go beyond supporting economic activities to integrate wider displacement needs, and to effectively integrate host community relations and social integration as a core part of local integration strategies
- It is essential to support displacement-affected communities through a richer understanding of their perspectives and roles in relation to networks and institutions important in shaping their lives in displacement

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