

## Global update on the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework

This monthly document summarizes key developments in the implementation of the CRRF. It complements updates produced by UN and NGO partners across the globe.

### OPERATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

#### AFRICA

##### **New CRRF roll-out country**

By way of *note verbale* from the Minister of Foreign Affairs (MINAFET), **Rwanda** has informed UNHCR that it is formally applying the CRRF. Building on Rwanda's inclusive refugee policies, discussions are underway to define next steps to establish key priorities to pursue and deliver on comprehensive approaches.

##### **Djibouti**

##### **UN Country Team support to CRRF efforts**

In a dedicated meeting on the CRRF, the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Djibouti commended the milestone implementation of the new National Refugee Law in December 2017 through two decrees. The UNCT agreed to support the Government to deliver a comprehensive response to the refugee situation, in line with the recently-endorsed 2018-2022 UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF).

##### **Ethiopia**

##### **South Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan aligns with principles of comprehensive approaches**

The Regional Refugee Response Plan (3RP) for South Sudan was launched in Addis Ababa, appealing for \$342.1 million to meet the needs of 428,928 South Sudanese refugees in Ethiopia, the largest refugee population in the country. The 3RP recognises the need for an emergency response whilst addressing the implementation of the nine pledges and long-term development needs.

##### **Follow-up visit of the IKEA Foundation chief**

The CEO of the IKEA Foundation, Mr. Per Heggnes, met with the Ethiopian Investment Commission to discuss possibilities to attract private investors to Ethiopia. Such investment should result in job opportunities both for the local and refugee communities, in particular in the agriculture, textile and garments sectors.

##### **The International Labour Organization assesses livelihood opportunities in eastern Ethiopia**

The ILO is assessing the potential for a new project funded by the German international cooperation agency (GIZ), to promote livelihoods activities for refugees and host communities in Jijiga Somali region.

##### **Kenya**

##### **World Bank mission to Kenya for the IDA-18 sub-window for refugees**

A fourth World Bank-UNHCR mission in a CRRF roll-out country took place last month to assess Kenya's eligibility to access financing under the IDA-18 regional sub-window for refugees and host communities.

##### **Somalia situation**

##### **National consultative meeting on the IGAD Protocol on Free Movement of Persons**

The meeting held in Mogadishu in mid-February brought together national stakeholders and experts on migration. They discussed opportunities associated with the free movement of persons, existing barriers to free movement within the IGAD region, and possible mechanisms to reduce them. The meeting will be followed by similar consultations by other IGAD Member States, moving towards the finalization of the draft protocol, expected in late 2019. UNHCR welcomes efforts towards the adoption of such a regional protocol, particularly with regard to the inclusion of refugees therein, supporting the objectives of comprehensive approaches for the region.

### **Progress towards finalization of Somalia's National Action Plan**

In follow-up to commitments in the Nairobi Declaration's Plan of Action, the Somali National Commission for Refugees and IDPs (NRCI) is in the process of finalising Somalia's National Action Plan. In order to avoid parallel structures, the draft plan is closely aligned with existing frameworks, in particular Somalia's national development plan.

### **Uganda**

#### **The National Partnership Forum agrees to include refugees in national development plans**

The fourth meeting of the Forum, which annually brings together government officials and development agencies, focused on "*delivering a comprehensive multi-stakeholder response to refugees and host communities in the short and long term*". The forum agreed to use the mid-term review of the National Development Plan II to further integrate the refugee response in longer-term national planning (including in district development plans), in line with Uganda's CRRF roadmap.

#### **Development actors engage early in the response to the refugee influx from Democratic Republic of Congo**

Seven development partners and members of Uganda's CRRF Secretariat participated in a mission to the settlement in Kyegegwa District in the west, which has received 13,270 refugees from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) since 21st December 2017. Engaging development partners from the onset of the emergency response allows for a more sustainable response through leveraging actors' comparative advantages, early joint assessments and planning, and prioritisation of assistance for refugees and affected communities.

#### **Private sector engagement starts to deliver**

Cocoa company ESCO has begun to work with 15 refugee farmer groups, who will be given land to grow chilli, moringa and vanilla, as part of a pilot project. With ESCO buying the products from the farmers, a ready market is assured. In parallel, Stanbic Bank has agreed to provide financial literacy and agent banking training for refugees, who will earn a commission when they succeed in bringing banking services closer to other refugees.

## **THE COMPREHENSIVE REGIONAL PROTECTION AND SOLUTIONS FRAMEWORK in the NORTH OF CENTRAL AMERICA**

### **Regional developments**

#### **Advocacy in European capitals**

Representatives from UNHCR offices in Central America and Mexico visited Bern, Brussels, and Madrid to present the MIRPS as a regional responsibility-sharing mechanism and to advocate for greater support for its implementation. In **Brussels**, the Bulgarian Presidency of the European Union (EU) and UNHCR co-hosted a panel on the CRRF in Central America and Mexico. In **Madrid**, a roundtable focusing on the Americas' experience of the process towards the global compact was supported by the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID). In **Bern**, the Swiss Development Cooperation signalled it would strengthen contributions towards comprehensive approaches to displacement in the region.

### **Operational updates**

#### **Guatemala**

The Government of Guatemala held an inter-institutional meeting with eleven government institutions to quantify the funds required for each of the country chapter's priority action. The budgeting planning process will soon undergo final validation and endorsement.

## **GLOBAL DEVELOPMENTS**

### **Refugees participate in South Sudan peace agreement discussions**

In line with the fourth objective of the CRRF to support conditions in country of origin for return in safety and dignity, six refugees from South Sudan participated in last month's [\*High-level Revitalisation Forum\*](#) for the peace agreement for South Sudan. The forum, which was held in Addis Ababa, was led by IGAD and brought together moderators of the peace talks (Algeria, Angola, and Ghana), the UN Mission in South Sudan, the European Union, and civil society. The six refugees who participated currently live in Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan, and Uganda.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **20 – 21 March:** Second formal consultation on the draft global compact on refugees (Geneva), including a side event on the CRRF
- **20 – 22 March:** IGAD Inter-Ministerial Committee and Technical Experts' Meeting on the Nairobi Declaration and Action Plan on Durable Solutions for Somali Refugees and Reintegration of Returnees in Somalia, Nairobi, Kenya

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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

*UNHCR CRRF Task Team, Geneva  
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