

June 2022

The UN in Ethiopia has identified four interconnected outcomes that will guide its development cooperation over the next five years:

- All people in Ethiopia enjoy the rights and capabilities to realize their potential in equality and with dignity.
- All people in Ethiopia live in a cohesive, just, inclusive and democratic society.
- All people in Ethiopia benefit from an inclusive, resilient and sustainable economy.
- All people in Ethiopia live in a society resilient to environmental risks and adapted to climate change.



## Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons

A three-year durable solutions strategy was launched in the drought-affected Somali region of Ethiopia.

The strategy aims to reach more than 100,500 households and 603,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the region.

The IDP representative, Tarik Dullane, Head of Qoloji IDPs Women's Committee, stressed that IDPs need durable solutions to restart their lives in dignity. "Humanitarian assistance is not an option," she said.

In her address at the launch of the strategy, UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Ethiopia, Dr. Catherine Sozi, explained that successful implementation of the strategy



will be achieved if internal displacement is recognized as a priority for development and peace.

In his opening statement at the launch of the strategy, President of Somali Regional State of Ethiopia, Mr. Mustafe M. Omer,

said, "The strategy will serve as an instrument to advance durable solutions to both conflict and climate-induced internally displaced persons (IDPs) as well as vulnerable host community members."

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## National Women's Economic Empowerment Forum Established

The Ministry of Women and Social Affairs, the Ministry of Labour and Skills, Ethiopian Chamber of Commerce and Sectoral Associations (ECCSA) and Action Aid Ethiopia with the support of UN Women have established the National Women's Economic Empowerment Forum (NWEEF).

The main purpose of the National Women's Economic Empowerment Forum (NWEEF) is to initiate a national platform that aspires to work in spurring and supporting the implementation of policy reforms to improve women's access to economic empowerment by creating economic opportunities across the country.



In his keynote address, H.E. Mr. Nigussu Tilahun, State Minister of Labour and Skills, highlighted the significance of women economic empowerment.

on the power of institutions like NWEEF to collectively address issues of women economic empowerment.

Ms. Anna Mutavati, UN Women Representative to Ethiopia (OIC), in her keynote speech emphasized

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## Shifting Social Norms towards Women's Leadership Role through Community Dialogue

Mantegbosh Asmare, 26, lives in Angiko kebele, Fogera Woreda of the Amhara Region.

Mantegbosh facilitates a monthly Community Dialogue (CD) that aims to increase community understanding of gender equality and women's rights to participate in leadership and decision-making.

Before joining the Project as a CD member and community facilitator, Mantegbosh was not comfortable to stand in front of people let alone actively engage in and facilitate community meetings and gatherings. Her behavior has changed after she was selected by Care Ethiopia to be part of the CD project and trained on leading and facilitating community dialogue sessions. She also

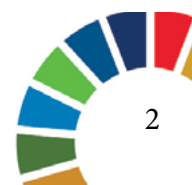


became part of the Social Analysis and Action (SAA) CD Groups in her Kebele, the smallest administrative unit in Ethiopia.

Speaking about the project, Mantegbosh, said, "the project helped boost my confidence. It

empowers me not only to be able to facilitate the community dialogue sessions but also make equal decisions with my husband on our resources at the household level."

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## UNIDO and UNODC sign a Memorandum of Cooperation in support of Integrated Agro-Industrial Parks in Ethiopia

The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) signed a Memorandum of Cooperation on 5 May 2022 in supporting four Integrated Agro-Industrial Parks (IAIPs) in Ethiopia.

The project will see UNIDO's engagement in the operationalization and sustainability of four IAIPs while UNODC is tasked with performing activities around the theme of prevention of gender-based violence (GBV) in the parks. The three-year project funded by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) is being coordinated by the Ministry of Industry (Mol) at the government level. The two million Euro project will be running up to August 2024.

Through the new joint initiative, UNIDO and UNODC shall be tasked with the development of protocols for the prevention

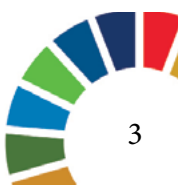
of GBV in the management and operations of the pilot IAIPs and contributing to the overall IAIP development programme in Ethiopia. The services will complement other on-going technical assistance activities aimed at promoting gender equality in the agro-industry sector, mitigating the risk of GBV, building resilience of women and other socially vulnerable people for their integration in the IAIPs, and adding value to tackle women insecurity from harassment and threat of physical and sexual violence in the agro parks. The tasks shall be carried out in 4 main areas:

- Undertaking a review of national laws, policies and strategies, related to prevention of GBV to assess their suitability in preventing crimes against women in an industrial settings;
- Supporting the crime

regulatory bodies in the regions where the IAIPs are located in victim-centered responses to GBV in the IAIPs and RTCs;

- Supporting the Regional Industry Park Development Corporations in developing operational guidelines in line with national laws and international standards to prevent GBV in the IAIPs;
- Promoting access to information, resilience and empowerment opportunities within the wider IAIP and ACPZ (Agro Commodities Procurement Zone) to address the underlining conditions of GBV within the community in coordination with UNIDO and other partners.

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## ILO promotes industry exposure for vocational trainers to address skills gaps in Ethiopia

A public-private partnership led by the ILO Country Office in Addis Ababa is providing industry interface to trainers from vocational institutes, enhancing their understanding of skills in demand and evolving management practices in Ethiopia.

In 2021, the ILO through PROSPECTS Ethiopia programme conducted a “TVET system assessment in Somali and Tigray regional states, Ethiopia, with a focus on inclusiveness”. The assessment underlined the importance of maintaining a ratio of 30 per cent theory and 70 per cent practice in TVET training, while in practice, students spend far too little time in industries.

The assessment found that enterprises do not want to risk damaging their machines by giving access to inexperienced



TVET students. The root of the issue was that already challenged vocational training systems have poorly capacitated teachers and trainers which affect their ability to transfer skills to their students.

Jean-Yves Barba, Chief Technical Advisor, ILO PROSPECTS Ethiopia, explained: “In fact, there are many cases where students

discover their trainers have not had prior practical training or that their knowledge is outdated as per industry standards. In a bid to fill this skills gap among trainers, we felt the urgent need to put in place an up-skilling programme model with support from the industry.”

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## Addressing Gender-Related Barriers affecting women’s Reproductive Health Rights

Nyarika Deng Ekuay, 47, a South Sudanese refugee who has lived in the Kule Refugee Camp in Gambella Regional State since 2014. She lives with her seven family members.

Nyarika is one of the influential people in the community that were selected and trained by the International Medical Corps, UN Women’s partner in implementing the POWER – Program on Women’s Empowerment in Sexual, Reproductive, Maternal, New-born, Child and Adolescent Health (SRMNCAH) rights in humanitarian settings in the Horn of Africa Region - in the Kule Refugee Camp.

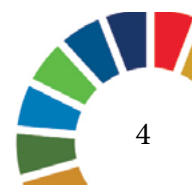


After the training, Nyarika started supporting awareness raising activities on sexual and reproductive health by sharing information with members of the community. Nyarika said, “I was very happy to attend the training and engage in disseminating information on issues that are

very critical for the well-being of women and children.”

Through POWER, UN Women and partners successfully integrated SRMNCAH priorities in Ethiopia’s COVID-19 socio-economic response plans.

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## UNOPS working to improve basic services for returnees



UNOPS in partnership with the Japanese government is working to improve the quality of life of IDPs returned to their places in the East Wollega Zone of Ethiopia. The project valued at 900,000 USD will improve basic social services and sanitation for more than one thousand IDP returnees in the Zone through the construction of classrooms, administration building, school toilets and community latrines.

The school will have eight classrooms, administrative blocks and latrines with water supply and solar power facilities.

The project aims at delivering on the promise of leaving no one behind of the 2030 Agenda in the education sector benefiting 500 out of school IDP children to access elementary education.

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## World Refugee Day Commemorated



The World Refugee Day 2022 was celebrated with a series of activities in refugee camps and sites and at various events in Ethiopia.

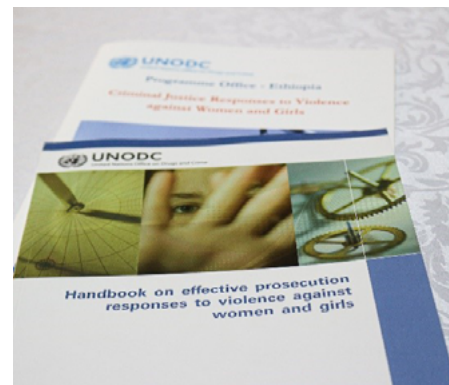
This year's World Refugee Day was about the "RIGHT TO SEEK SAFETY", which emphasizes that everyone, whoever they are, wherever they come from, and whenever they are forced to flee, has the right to seek protection. Within this global theme, the Ethiopian Government Refugees and Returnees Service (RRS), the

UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), local authorities and partners in Ethiopia celebrated solidarity, striving for sustainability, and seeking durable and dignified solutions for the forcibly displaced.

Ethiopia is the third-largest refugee-hosting country in Africa, sheltering 850,000 registered refugees and asylum-seekers.

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## Enhancing Prosecutors' capacity to combat Violence Against Women and Girls in Ethiopia

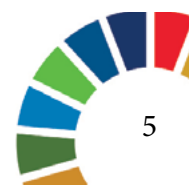


32 prosecutors from the Ministry of Justice in Ethiopia were engaged in a three-day Training of Trainers workshop on combating Violence Against Women and Girls.

The overall objective of the training held from 6 – 9 May 2022 in Hawassa, Sidama Region, was to enhance the capacity of prosecutors to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls. In particular, the training aimed to improve the efficiency of investigation and prosecution services in dealing with cases of violence against women and girls as well as protecting the rights of victims in the criminal justice process.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the event, the UNODC team leader, Mr. Abraham Ayalew, and the representative from the Ministry of Justice, Ms. Meraf Tesfayesus both noted that the capacity building training was very timely and important for improving the prosecutorial services related to VAWG in Ethiopia.

[Full story](#)



## World Environment Day Commemorated

World Environment Day (WED), celebrated yearly on 5 June, is the United Nations flagship day to promote worldwide awareness and action towards the environmental agenda in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals. In Ethiopia, WED 2022 activities were led by the Ethiopian Environmental Protection Authority (EEPA) and supported by UNEP Addis Ababa Liaison Office (UNEP AALO). With this year's campaign slogan, Only One Earth – focusing on Living Sustainably in Harmony with Nature, a range of activities were organised between 3-6 June in both Addis Ababa and Jijiga.

[Full story](#)



## “Only God can do miracles”

Communities in dire situation need urgent support, as severe drought persists in Somali region.



Severe drought in decades pushed families in Ethiopia to the brink. More than 6.8 million people in drought-impacted areas need urgent humanitarian assistance. The impact of the drought is devastating, drying up water wells, killing livestock and crops.

The Somali region of Ethiopia is

one of the hardest hit. There is a significant lack of clean water, and the food security is deteriorating rapidly; leading to an increase in malnutrition cases. In recent visit to Afdher zone, we met some of the families in Burdhubo and Hargele Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) sites.

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