

# **Harmonized Host and Refugee Labor Market Survey in Ethiopia**

Field Report

Fafo

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# 1 Introduction

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Fafo Institute for Labor and Social Research based in Oslo, Norway was commissioned by the World Bank to conduct a study on the impacts of forced displacement on jobs for host communities in four selected countries: Colombia, Ethiopia, Jordan, and Uganda. As part of the study, a primary data collection was conducted in Colombia, Ethiopia and Uganda covering both refugees (referred to as 'migrants' in Colombia) and host communities. The primary data collection was based on tablet assisted personal interviews (TAPI) of a representative sample of households in four labor markets in Ethiopia and Uganda. In Colombia, the primary data collection was carried out using phone surveys.

This report presents the field activities and experiences from the field implementation in Ethiopia. The report is organized around two major survey components, namely household listing and main data collection. Section 2 presents overall survey design, preparatory activities, and fulfillment of requirements prior to the field implementation. Section 3 presents the design and implementation procedures for the various survey data collection phases and activities. Section 4 presents the performance of the data collection activities with a particular focus on description of survey non-responses. Section 5 presents stylized lessons based on field observations made during the data collection process. Additional materials are documented in the Annexes.

## 2 Survey design and overall organization

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The main purpose of the Harmonized Host and Refugee Labor Market Survey (HHR-LMS) in Ethiopia is to provide information relevant to studying the impact of forced displacement on labor market outcomes for host communities, primarily referring to Ethiopian nationals. The survey was implemented by the Ethiopian Policy Studies Institute (PSI) in collaboration with the Fafo Institute for Labour and Social Research.

The survey was designed by Fafo and the World Bank, and is primarily a multi-topic survey, consisting of several modules. It includes a household section with a roster of all household members. This roster features questions on basic population characteristics. Additionally, there is a separate questionnaire for a randomly selected individual (RSI) aged 18-65 in the household. The RSI questionnaire contains a short experimental component where priming question items are introduced based on the respondent's characteristics to explore attitudes and perceptions towards refugees and labor market integrations.

The survey covered two locations in Ethiopia: Addis Ababa city and two locations in the Somali region, Jigjiga and Kebribeyah. The survey was implemented in two major components: listing of households and main data collection. The listing exercise provided the basis for sample selection by constructing a list from which the sample was randomly selected.

The sample design included 150 initial enumeration areas (EAs) in Addis Ababa and 79 EAs in Somali region. These EAs were selected using probability proportionate to size where size is measured by the number of households. The enumeration areas were selected based on the sample frame prepared for the population census of Ethiopia planned for 2020 but not implemented due to the COVID pandemic and overall security challenges in the country. The

Ethiopian Central Statistical Service (CSS) conducted the selection of the EAs and provided their list along with detailed maps of the areas.

Using maps of the selected enumeration areas provided by CSS, the study team conducted the listing of all households in the selected EAs with door-to-door visits. The listing exercise was carried out during February-March 2022 in Addis Ababa and during May-June 2022 in Somali region by a team of local field workers recruited and trained for this purpose.

In Addis Ababa, we employed adaptive cluster sampling (ACS)<sup>1</sup> to capture enough refugee households. Using the listing of households in the initial 150 clusters in Ababa, we identified those EAs that have ten percent or more refugee households and conducted the listing of all neighboring EAs. This resulted in listing an additional 71 EAs that were identified as neighbors to these initial clusters. The listing exercise served as a basis for selection of both refugees and national households in Addis Ababa.

In general, the sample design is a two-stage sample with an extra third stage for individuals randomly selected in households (RSI). Within each household, one person is selected at random (RSI) from the list of eligible members: individuals aged between 18 and 65 years old in a national household or refugees aged between 18 and 65 years old in a non-national household.

## **2.1 Authorizations of research activities**

In general, we adhered to two major requirements to obtain the necessary clearances and assistance from local authorities, granting us access to the communities and enabling us to conduct the survey activities.

The first requirement involved obtaining authorization from local authorities to carry out the survey activities. The Policy Study Institute (PSI) wrote letters to the local administrations of both Addis Ababa and Somali regional

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<sup>1</sup> Thompson, Steven K. "Adaptive Cluster Sampling." *Journal of the American Statistical Association* 85, no. 412 (1990): 1050–59. <https://doi.org/10.2307/2289601>

governments. In Addis Ababa, the letter was addressed to the 11 Sub-city administrations, which in turn provided authorization letters to all the districts under their jurisdiction. The field team approached the district officials with these letters, informed them about the survey activities, and solicited their support. The officials then assigned a local guide who assisted the team in identifying the boundaries of the Enumeration Areas (EAs) and introducing the field workers to the households residing in the area.

The second requirement pertained to accessing the Kebribeyah refugee camp. The Refugee and Returnees Services (RSS) granted clearance to access the camp based on a request letter from PSI that introduced the exercise and provided a list of field staff along with their credentials. The authorization was given by the RRS main office in Addis Ababa, which informed their regional office about the survey.

With these authorizations in place, the team was able to conduct both the listing and the main data collection activities.

## **2.2 Acquisition of survey materials**

To ensure statistical representativeness, the HHR-LMS was anchored within the Ethiopian national statistical system, and a sampling frame was obtained from the Ethiopian Central Statistical Services (CSS). The following information was acquired from CSS:

- An overview of all Enumeration Areas (EAs) in Addis Ababa and the Somali region, including the total number of EAs and the number of households by woredas and kebeles.
- An overview of the number of refugee households at the lowest available administrative level (woredas, kebeles).
- Based on the overview, a selected sample of EAs was chosen using the Probability Proportionate to Size approach for initial listing.
- Additional EAs were selected based on the findings from the initial listing in Addis Ababa for further listing of neighboring enumeration areas.

- Maps of the selected EAs were provided for easy navigation and identification of the boundaries of the EAs.

The methodology department at CSS provided unreserved assistance in the provision of these materials. A sample of an enumeration area map is shown in Annex 2.

## 3 Survey data collection

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The survey was conducted in two main phases: listing households and interviewing randomly selected households. The listing exercise took place in a total of 300 Enumeration Areas (EAs) in Addis Ababa and the Somali region. The exercise was first conducted in Addis Ababa, followed by the Somali region. The listing exercise was carried out from February to March 2022 in Addis Ababa and from May to June 2022 in the Somali region. The main data collection pertaining to interviewing randomly selected households was carried out from March-April 2022 in Addis Ababa and from June to August 2022 in the Somali region. A team of local field workers were recruited and trained for these purposes.

### 3.1 Recruitment of field assistants

The Policy Studies Institute (PSI) conducted the recruitment of field assistants based on their previous experience in conducting surveys and their academic credentials. A total of 70 interviewers were recruited for this purpose. They were provided with agreements covering the listing period, which included detailed standard operating procedures, survey conduct, and data confidentiality.

The full list of the field assistants is provided in Annex 3.

### 3.2 Training of field assistants

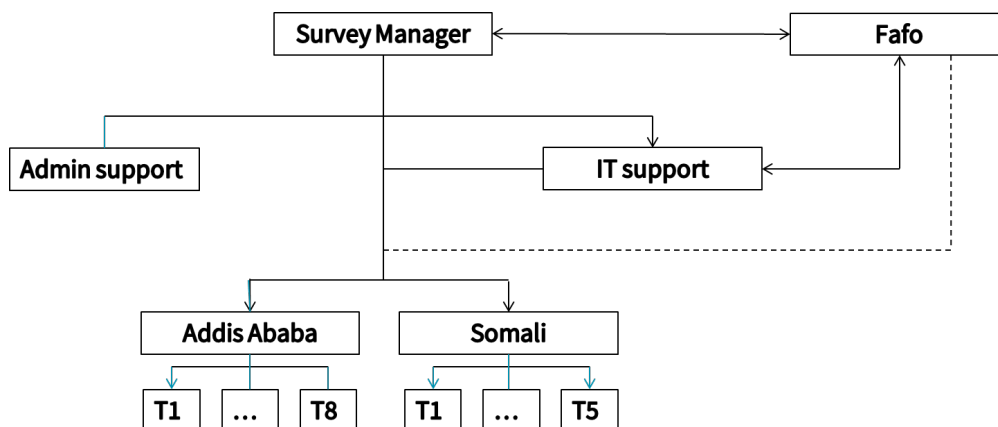
The recruited field assistants received training in February 2022, covering an introduction to the study, an overview of the listing process, the use of maps, duties and responsibilities, and the use of data capture systems on tablet devices. The last day of training was dedicated to field practice and feedback. During the training, special emphasis was placed on working in refugee settings with regard to strict data confidentiality, cultural awareness, and



conduct. Fafo staff provided the training in collaboration with the principal researchers from PSI.

### 3.3 Field organization and logistics

The team of field assistants was organized into groups, with each team having one supervisor responsible for field deployment, follow-up, and monitoring activities. Each team comprised four interviewers. The field organization is shown in the diagram below. Each interviewer had their own tablet device to capture the listing data, and the supervisor monitored and reported at the end of every working day. Fafo staff followed up on the field activities daily. Back-office support from Fafo was provided to assess the quality of the collected data.



The survey administration provided transportation allowances to the field assistants. They traveled to the specific locations of the Enumeration Areas using available public transport services. In Kebribeyah town and the refugee camp, most of the areas were accessed on foot.

For planning and implementation, two working days were allocated to accomplish the listing of all households in an Enumeration Area, determined based on the information from the census. However, some EAs could take more than two days, while others could be completed within a day, depending

on the changes that occurred in the area concerning the number of households residing in the locality.

### **3.4 Community entry procedures**

Securing the necessary authorizations from relevant local authorities was crucial for accessing the communities. In general, this involved contacting the local districts (woredas) and requesting their assistance in facilitating the work of the team members. The supervisor contacted the chair of the local area where the selected EAs were located, introduced the team members, and requested permission to proceed with the household listing exercise. We also asked the woreda officials to help identify a local person who could guide the team members in navigating the area, including identifying the boundaries of the enumeration areas and managing community relations. A nominal appreciation payment was provided to the local field guide at the end of the working day. While the authorizations were essential, advance communication with the district officials was crucial for conducting the activities in a timely manner.

### **3.5 Field monitoring and quality assurance procedures**

Field monitoring activities included visiting each team member in a coordinated manner among the supervisors, survey managers, and Fafo staff. Each team member was visited daily by their supervisors at their respective workplaces. The supervisors made a point of checking in on the team members every day to ensure they were on track with their tasks, provide guidance and support as needed, and address any concerns or issues that may have arisen. These daily visits played a crucial role in maintaining open communication, fostering a positive work environment, and ensuring the smooth functioning of the team. A team briefing and communication took place at the end of each working day. Each field assistant wrote a daily report, captured in a task assignment form, and submitted the report to the supervisor when the listing

of the EA was completed. The field report documented the field assistant's experience in listing households in the EA and might include information on map utilization, observed changes in the locality compared to the expected number of households, challenges in navigating the area, and observations on economic activities in the localities. The supervisor received the report from the field assistant, reviewed it, and submitted it to the survey managers. The supervisor also wrote a separate report about the experience of listing in the EA, including general observations.

An example from such a report is shown as follows for an enumeration area in Addis Ababa<sup>2</sup>.

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*REPORT IN AMHARIC*

በአብዛኛው የመኖሪያ አካባቢ ስለሆነ ብዙም የንግድ እንቅስቃሴ አያስተዋልበትም። እንዲሁም የአካባቢ ነዋሪዎች በአብዛኛው የስራ ቦታቸው ሌላ አካባቢ በመሆኑ በመኖሪያ ቤታቸው ውስጥ በተወሰነ መልኩ ቤተሰቦቹን ማግኘት ሳንችል ቀርተናል።

ይህንን የቆጠራ ቦታ መሀል ለመሀል አቋርጦ የሚያልፍ መንገድ የማስፋፊያ ስራ እየተሰራ በመሆኑ ለማስፋፋት ሲባል የቤቶች ማፍረስ በመሄዱ ምክንያት የተወሰኑ የቆጠራ ቦታውን ለማግኘት የሚጠቅሙ እንደምልክት ተቀምጠው የነበሩ የተለያዩ ቤቶች በመፍረሳቸው ምክንያት የቆጠራ ቦታውን ቶሎ ለማግኘት አዳጋች ሆኖ ነበር።

*TRANSLATION*

*The enumeration area didn't have many commercial activities. Many local residents had their workplaces in other areas, so we couldn't find their families in their homes as scheduled.*

*While a road construction project was underway to widen the road passing through the enumeration area, some houses were demolished to facilitate the expansion. As a result, various houses that had previously served as landmarks were destroyed, making it challenging to quickly find the enumeration area.*

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### 3.6 Data management and quality

The listing data was received every day when the field assistant uploaded the collected data to the dedicated server. Once the listing of households was done, the data was uploaded to the server, and the record for that EA was

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<sup>2</sup> Field assistants wrote daily reports in Amharic, the official language of Ethiopia.

closed. At Fafo, a back office provided support in examining the data and assessing the quality of the data. This included evaluating the completeness of the information received, the number of households listed compared to the expected number, and the like. Feedback was provided to the team depending on the findings. In a few cases, we had to relist the whole EA due to sloppy work submitted by a small number of field assistants. Disciplinary measures were taken against those who couldn't adhere to outlined procedures, and they were removed from the team, particularly during the initial phase of the listing exercise in Jigjiga.

## 4 Performance of data collection

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The main data collection pertaining to interviewing randomly selected households was carried out from March-April 2022 in Addis Ababa and from June to August 2022 in the Somali region. This section presents the experiences drawn from both the listing and main survey data collection exercises regarding community entry, non-responses and general performances during field implementation.

### 4.1 Security setting in Ethiopia

The survey data collection was conducted before the backdrop of the war in the Tigray region of Ethiopia, and the country was under the state of emergency from November 2021 to 15 February 2022. The survey exercise followed the lifting of the state of emergency by the Ethiopian parliament.<sup>3</sup> While this provided a relatively conducive environment for field operations, it was crucial to adhere to security protocols to ensure the safety of the field staff, respondents, and the integrity of the collected data. We established regular communication between field staff, supervisors, and survey administrators through telephones and in-person visits. This allowed for prompt reporting of any security concerns or incidents, and it enabled the survey administrators to monitor and address potential risks.

PSI provided field staff with proper identification, badges and official letters describing the survey undertaking and the role of the team member, to confirm their association with the research project. This helped alleviate some concerns community members had about their presence in the area.

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/2/15/ethiopia-parliament-votes-to-lift-state-of-emergency>

## **4.2 Data collection in Addis Ababa**

Refugees tend to live in clusters and relatively congested areas. They are generally willing to provide information and participate in survey interviews. The interviews were conducted in the languages spoken by the respondents. The survey tools were translated into Amharic, Tigrigna, and Somali languages. They were generally willing to provide information and participate in survey interviews.

Some non-nationals selected for the survey turned out to be from refugee-sending countries such as Eritrea. However, some of them were found to have residence permits or tourist visas that they renew frequently.

Some households expressed a preference to be interviewed over the phone. However, as the survey was designed to be carried out face-to-face, this mode of data collection was not considered. On the other hand, there were also cases where respondents were skeptical about phone interactions when the field team contacted them to locate their houses. They seemed to be generally wary of phone interactions due to fraud and phone scams experienced by the general public, although the extent seemed to be rather limited.

### **Community entry and overall access**

The data collection was organized around the enumeration areas with fixed sample uptake both for nationals and refugee households. The first entry point in the community was contacting the district officials, the lowest administration authority. As such, the survey progress is determined by the availability of the district officials who provided permission to access the community and provision of facilitators /local guides that help navigate the area and identify the sample households.

Respondents that were not at home were contacted on the phone and arrangements are made to schedule interview time. Sometimes, interviews were conducted at their workplaces when found in convenient distance.

Overall, the household level survey had an 84 percent response rate. The 16 percent non-response rate was mainly due to no-contacts at the time of the visit (10 percent) and refusals (4 percent). The underlying reasons for the non-response are presented as follows.

**Household non-response due to:**

- Closed houses.
- Ineligible members: children and house helpers staying home during the day and other relevant household members were coming late in the evenings. In very few cases, only children with no adult household members were found at the time of the visit which may raise general concern for their welfare.
- People are usually identified using their nick names. At the time of the listing they have provided their formal names. It then becomes difficult to identify them in the neighborhood as people usually are not known by their formal names leading to a no-contact scenario for the selected household.
- Refusals:
  - Accessing households living in gated house structures are difficult to access. They tend to be relatively well off and often security conscious. Gate keepers and care takers are often the primary contact in the process of reaching the selected households and they deny access due to security reasons and lack of permissions from the households in concern.
  - General lack of interest on surveys as they see no value/benefit in return.
  - High security areas inhabited by government officials often with structures fitted with security cameras have restricted access and movement in the locality
- Changes in the area

- Demolished houses
- Houses under renovations
- Security concerns: Some refugee households were concerned for their overall security particularly from persecution by the government of their countries of origin.

Overall, the RSI level survey had 96 percent response rate. The 4 percent non-response rate was mainly due to no-contacts at the time of the visit (3.5 percent) and limited refusals (0.5 percent). The underlying reasons for the RSI-level non-responses are presented as follows.

**RSI non-response due to:**

- No-contact / availability issues due to lack of time availability for interviews
- Accidents and illnesses experienced by household members made it difficult to conduct interviews during the survey period including those persons with mental illnesses.
- Change of identity from listing to actual survey were one of the reasons why eligible household members couldn't be selected. The RSI selection criteria is based on the type of household reported at the time of the listing. From a non-national household, a person is selected randomly among those who reported to have refugee status. For instance, from a household who was listed as an Eritrean household, a random selection is made among household members who report to be refugees. However, at the time of the listing, they report that they are all nationals. In such households, no RSI was selected.

**Limitations of listing**

- Households that were accessed and listed on Sundays are difficult to access at the time of main interview when the date of interviews fall in dates other than Sundays



- **Registration of identities:** During the listing exercise in Ethiopia survey, some households may report as nationals, while others may identify as refugees for a variety of reasons. These reasons can be complex and interconnected, often reflecting a combination of historical, political, social, and economic factors. Some nationals may identify as refugees (particularly in the Somali region) in the hope of gaining access to better opportunities, such as food aid and resettlement to a third country, which may not be available to them as nationals. Refugees often receive support from international organizations and host governments, which can make this identification more attractive. By presenting themselves as Ethiopian nationals, some Eritreans may hope to blend in with the local population and minimize the risk of being singled out for their Eritrean origins. These are some of the reasons for challenges in registering identities at the time of the listing exercise, albeit to a limited extent.

### **4.3 Data collection: Somali region**

Any undertaking, particularly an exercise that involves house-to-house visits and interactions in the camp, could be misunderstood as having a hidden agenda of screening refugees for resettlement to a third country. A concerted effort was needed to dispel any misconceived notions. For instance, during the listing exercise, several people came to the camp after hearing a rumor that a refugee status-related registration was underway. Some came from remote areas and tried to establish themselves as residents of the camp. The team members had to pause the survey operation and needed to conduct further awareness exercises through community leaders in the camp.

Overall, households in the Kebribeyah refugee settlement were cooperative with regards to survey participation. At times, it was difficult to convince those households who were not selected in the sample as to why they were not included. A detailed explanation of both the purpose of the survey and

the process of sample selection was important to clarify questions for such households and set the right expectations for the community.

**Household non-response due to:**

- No contact at the time of the visit. Most households in the area are engaged in business activities and they were away during the daytime.
- Drought affecting the Somali region: Some national households have moved away looking for water for their cattle. The Somali region was experiencing drought and water was scarce in the area prompting households to move around.

## 5 Field observations

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This section presents stylized lessons based on general observation gained during the field implementation in both Addis Ababa and Somali region. These lessons are based on field reports submitted by the field staff and notes taken by the survey managers. The field staff were required to write a daily field report documenting their observations that includes economic activities in the localities they are surveying, field challenges and constraints. These qualitative reports received both from the supervisors and interviewers were systematically captured. Furthermore, the survey managers conducted interviews with community members and took notes during their interactions. These notes and the field reports serve as a basis for the field observations presented in this section.

### 5.1 Contextual settings

#### **Addis Ababa**

Addis Ababa is situated in the central part of the country and serves as the political, economic, and cultural hub of the nation. It is designated as a chartered city, with a status equivalent to that of a regional state in Ethiopia's federal system. The city is administratively divided into eleven sub-cities (Kifle Ketemas) and further divided into 117 woredas (districts). The sub-cities and woredas also have their own administrative structures, with local officials responsible for managing public services and addressing community needs at the neighborhood level.

The city has experienced rapid urban growth and expansion in recent decades, driven by population growth, rural-urban migration, and economic development. This growth has led to the development of various residential, commercial, and industrial areas, as well as the expansion of the city's

infrastructure. The city had an estimated population of about 5.3 million residents in 2022.

Addis Ababa is home to a diverse population of both Ethiopian residents and refugees. The city has become a destination for many refugees, particularly from Eritrea, South Sudan, Somalia, Yemen, Syria and others. The number of refugees residing in Addis was estimated to be around 72000 according to the figures from UNHCR<sup>4</sup>.

Refugees in Addis Ababa tend to be dispersed throughout the city, living alongside host communities in various neighborhoods. This dispersion can be attributed to factors such as housing availability, affordability, and social networks. However, specific refugee groups often cluster in neighborhoods with others from their country of origin. For instance, refugees from Somalia and Eritrea live in concentrated numbers in particular localities within the city. They reside in recently constructed condominiums in areas such as Bole and Nefas Silk-Lafto sub-cities.

## **Jigjiga**

Jigjiga is a city in eastern Ethiopia, serving as the capital of the Somali Region. The city is located approximately 635 kilometers east of Addis Ababa and shares a border with Somalia to the east. It has a diverse population, with the majority being ethnic Somalis. Other ethnic groups, such as Oromos and Amharas, are also present in smaller numbers.

The Somali Regional State has been affected by past conflicts and tensions, both within Ethiopia and with neighboring Somalia. Ethiopia is a diverse country with various ethnic groups, and tensions between these groups have led to conflicts in different parts of the country. In the Somali Region,

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<sup>4</sup> UNHCR (November 2022). <https://data.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/97597>

tensions between the Somali and Oromo ethnic groups have occasionally resulted in violence and unrest.

Cross-border trading between Jigjiga and towns in the border regions of Somalia, such as Wachale, is a vital economic activity making Jigjiga an important trade hub in the Somali region. The trade of livestock, such as camels, cattle, goats, and sheep, is a key component of the cross-border trade between Jigjiga and towns in Somalia. This trade is essential to the livelihoods of pastoralist communities on both sides of the border. Agricultural products, such as cereals, fruits, and vegetables, are traded across the border, providing food and income for local farmers and traders. Imported goods from other countries, such as clothing, electronics, and household items, are transported through Jigjiga to markets in Somalia and vice versa. The trade in khat, a mild stimulant plant native to the Horn of Africa, is another significant aspect of cross-border trade. Khat is legally cultivated and consumed in Ethiopia, and it is exported to Somalia, where it is also widely consumed. A significant portion of cross-border trade is informal and unregulated, which can lead to tax evasion and the proliferation of counterfeit or substandard goods. The porous nature of the border and the extensive cross-border trade can facilitate the smuggling of illegal goods, such as weapons and drugs, which can pose security challenges for both countries.

### **Kebribeyah refugee camp**

Kebribeyah is a town located in the Somali Region of Ethiopia, about 50 kilometers west of Jigjiga. It is part of the Fafan Zone and serves as the administrative center of the Kebribeyah woreda (district). The town has a predominantly ethnic Somali population, with the Somali language, culture, and traditions being prevalent.

Kebribeyah is particularly known for its refugee camp, which was established in 1991 to accommodate Somali refugees fleeing the civil war in their country. The Kebribeyah Refugee Camp is one of the oldest camps in Ethiopia, and at

its peak, it hosted tens of thousands of refugees. Over the years, the number of refugees in the camp has declined due to repatriation efforts, resettlement programs, and local integration initiatives. However, the camp still hosts a significant number of refugees.

Over the years, the camp has been reorganized and subdivided into different zones or sections to provide better management and administration of services to the refugees. It is currently divided into four zones with each of them having different sections. The management of these zones within the Kebribeyah Refugee Camp is carried out in collaboration with the Ethiopian Refugee and Returnees Services (RRS), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and various non-governmental organizations (NGOs) working in the camp.

In addition to the refugee camp, Kebribeyah is also a hub for local trade and commerce, with livestock and agricultural products being significant economic activities. The town's proximity to Jigjiga and its location along the main road connecting Jigjiga to other cities have contributed to its growth and development. The camp is situated alongside the main road, features a layout with no fencing and some national households and refugees live side by side within the camp's porous perimeters.

## **5.2 Registration and status determination**

The registration and refugee status determination in Ethiopia is managed by the Ethiopian Refugee and Returnees Services (RRS) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The process involves the identification, registration, and verification of refugees to determine their eligibility for protection and assistance under international law.

To register as a refugee in Ethiopia, an individual must provide personal information such as their name, country of origin, and reasons for seeking asylum. They are also required to undergo a verification process to confirm their

identity and eligibility for refugee status. This process may include interviews, document verification, and biometric data collection.

Once registered, refugees are issued with an asylum seeker certificate, which grants them temporary legal protection and access to basic services while their refugee status is being determined. To qualify for refugee status in Ethiopia, an individual must demonstrate that they have a well-founded fear of persecution in their country of origin due to their race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a particular social group.

The Ethiopian government had been granting prima facie refugee status, the automatic recognition of an individual or a group as refugees without having to undergo the individual determination process, to Eritrean refugees up until January 2020. Since then, Eritrean refugees have had to apply individually to undergo the refugee status determination (RSD) process. However, there seems to be limited or no cases considered for new arrivals through individual status determination since the change came to effect.

Due to limitations in capacity and absence of a functioning system at RRS for individual RSD, these procedures were implemented by UNHCR on behalf of the government where the final decisions on UNHCR recommendations are endorsed by RRS. RRS officials have indicated that their organization is in the process of taking over this process from UNHCR.

“We are building our capacity and will soon be able to conduct individual RSD at the RRS level. In collaboration with UNHCR, we are providing training to RRS staff to this effect.”

RRS official in Addis Abba

### **5.3 War and displacement**

The war in Tigray, a region in northern Ethiopia, began in November 2020 when tensions escalated between the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) and the Ethiopian federal government. The conflict has had significant

humanitarian and political consequences for Ethiopia and the broader Horn of Africa region.

The TPLF had been a dominant political force in Ethiopia for decades, but its influence diminished when Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed came to power in 2018. Tensions between the TPLF and the federal government grew, and in September 2020, the Tigray regional government held elections in defiance of the federal government's decision to postpone them due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This act further escalated tensions between the two parties.

In November 2020, the Ethiopian government accused the TPLF of attacking a federal military base in Tigray, and Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed launched a military operation in response, which marked the beginning of the war in Tigray. The conflict quickly intensified, with reports of human rights abuses, mass displacement, and civilian casualties.

Eritrean forces were also accused of entering the conflict in support of the Ethiopian federal government, leading to additional allegations of human rights violations. The conflict has created a complex humanitarian crisis, with millions of people in need of assistance, hundreds of thousands displaced, and many facing food insecurity and famine-like conditions.

The war in Tigray has caused significant displacement, including Eritrean refugees residing in Tigray camps, who have fled to safer areas like Addis Ababa. Two major Eritrean refugee camps, Hitsats and Shimelba, were reported to be destroyed or abandoned during the conflict. The closure of these camps has exacerbated the vulnerability of affected refugees, forcing them to seek shelter and support elsewhere, including Addis Ababa, in search of better access to essential services and a more stable living situation. Consequently, the number of Eritrean refugees living in Addis Ababa has increased substantially since November 2020.



## 5.4 Assistance and access to basic services

The UNHCR, through its urban assistance program, plays a crucial role in providing support and protection to refugees living in Addis Ababa. The program encompasses a range of essential services, including registration and documentation, legal protection and assistance, livelihood support, and cash assistance, albeit to a limited extent.

The refugee population in the Kebribeyah refugee camp is heavily dependent on assistance from various humanitarian organizations. These organizations work collaboratively to offer a comprehensive support system that includes shelter and housing, food and water provisions, healthcare, education, and protection services. Despite their best efforts, resource constraints and logistical challenges can sometimes limit the effectiveness of these services, underscoring the need for continued advocacy and support.

The World Food Programme (WFP) is a key player in providing food assistance to refugees in the Kebribeyah refugee camp. While the WFP strives to meet the nutritional needs of the camp's inhabitants, the assistance is often limited and faces an array of challenges. Factors such as inadequate funding, fluctuating donor support, and logistical issues can result in a restricted amount of food assistance being available for refugees in Kebribeyah. This situation highlights the importance of exploring alternative and sustainable solutions to address food security concerns for refugees in the long term.

For example, the following image depicts the food items (250g salt, 0.5L oil, 1kg yellow split peas, and 0.5 kg of fortified milk powder (ጦረሽ in Somali /Amharic) that a refugee at the Kebribeyah refugee camp received as a monthly ration in June 2022. This allocation, while necessary, is inadequate to substantially enhance the food security of the recipient. It highlights the complex nature of providing aid in such settings, as well as the limitations and trade-offs associated with in-kind assistance. Moreover, it raises questions about the effectiveness of these provisions, particularly when factoring in the

transaction costs, such as transportation expenses, associated with administering cash assistance. In light of these challenges, there is a growing need to explore innovative and context-specific strategies to optimize the delivery of food aid and other essential resources, ultimately improving the well-being of refugees in such camps.



Figure 1 Food items rationed to one person in Kebribeyah refugee camp in June 2022

Access to water remains a critical challenge in Kebribeyah and its surrounding communities, as the Somali region faces persistent drought conditions. These harsh circumstances compel local communities to embark on a relentless search for water sources throughout the region to sustain their livestock and maintain their livelihoods. In response to this urgent need, humanitarian organizations operating within the Kebribeyah refugee camp have implemented water supply initiatives. By utilizing boreholes and water trucking services, they aim to ensure a consistent and reliable provision of this essential resource. However, the long-term sustainability of these efforts depends

on addressing the underlying causes of water scarcity and developing comprehensive solutions that can mitigate the impact of droughts on vulnerable populations.

## **5.5 Labor market participation and right to work**

In Ethiopia, refugees face numerous limitations and challenges when it comes to accessing their right to work. Although the Ethiopian government has introduced policy changes in recent years to improve the situation, several barriers persist. In 2019, Ethiopia passed a revised refugee law that grants refugees the right to work and access social services. Despite this positive development, the implementation process has been slow, leaving many refugees struggling to obtain work permits or access formal employment.

The Refugee and Returnees Services (RRS) issued three directives related to work permits for refugees while the Ministry of Labor and Skills (MOLS) is the responsible institution for providing work permits. Despite the issuance of the RRS directives aimed at facilitating work permit provision for refugees, the unclear mandates between the two organizations have hindered the effective implementation of the refugee law concerning the right to work.

According to an RRS official we interviewed, there has been an ongoing effort to establish a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between RRS and MOLS to address the challenges in work permit issuance. This effort, which was still a work in progress as of December 2022, aims to provide clearer guidance and coordination between the two organizations, fostering a more efficient system for refugees to access the labor market legally. The RRS official stated the initiative as:

*“By enhancing the communication, information sharing, and cooperation between RRS and MOLS, the successful implementation of this MoU could lead to improved access to work permits for refugees. Consequently, this would help them integrate into the labor market, overcome barriers to formal employment, and contribute positively to their host communities.”* RRS official

In Addis Ababa, the informal sector plays a significant role in the overall economy, providing income and employment opportunities for both refugees and host communities. For instance, some Eritrean refugees manage to get jobs such as working in cafés and restaurants, hairdressing salons and barber shops, in garages as auto mechanics or as unskilled workers in the construction business.

## 5.6 Transfer incomes

Refugees receive financial support from family members or friends living abroad or in other parts of the country. Remittances play a significant role in helping refugees meet their basic needs, especially when they face barriers to accessing employment opportunities. This is particularly evident among Eritrean refugees where most of them were dependent on remittances sent from family in diaspora or support from relatives and friends in Ethiopia. When we asked one young Eritrean refugee in Addis Ababa how he manages his living costs in Addis Ababa, he said right-out:

“I just call.”

For example, one unemployed female refugee in her early 20s managed to get an informal job as a hairdresser after one year of job search. Her monthly income was 4,500 birr and she lives with her mother and two underage siblings. Their house rent was 10,000 birr and despite having a job, the family continues to be dependent on remittances from her father in the US (who has remarried) and an older brother who currently relocated from Israel to the American continent. According to her, he struggles with finding the balance between creating a life for himself there and helping his family in Addis Ababa. About her life-situation she had said one year earlier: “I feel my life is put on hold. I have missed out on education. I could have started married life by now. When it comes to our resettlement case, they only ask us to be

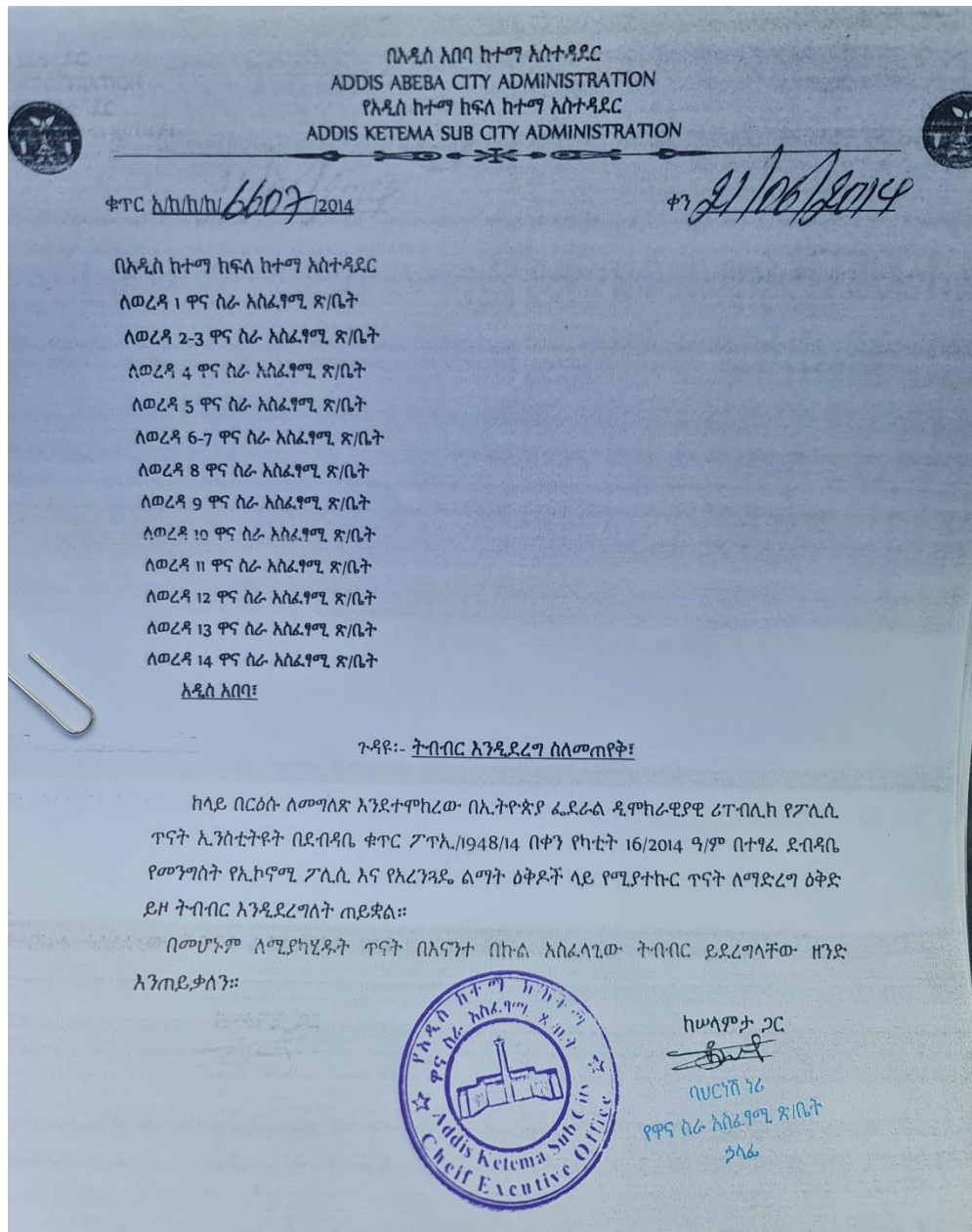
patient. In the meantime, we have become stuck in dependency. Even if she now has a job, they still are dependent on support from their families.

Host communities also receive remittances from relatives working elsewhere, but the prevalence and significance of remittances seems to vary depending on the specific community and individual circumstances. There are large migrant workers among the host communities working in the middle east with countries like Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Kuwait, and Lebanon are popular destinations for Ethiopian migrants. The majority of these migrant workers find employment in the domestic and construction sectors, often filling low-skilled or semi-skilled positions. Remittances sent back to Ethiopia from these workers not only provide critical financial support to their families but also contribute to the local economy by stimulating consumption and investment in businesses.












## Annex 1. Administrative letters

### Letter issued by the Addis Ababa Sub-city administration authorizing field operation: An example <sup>5</sup>

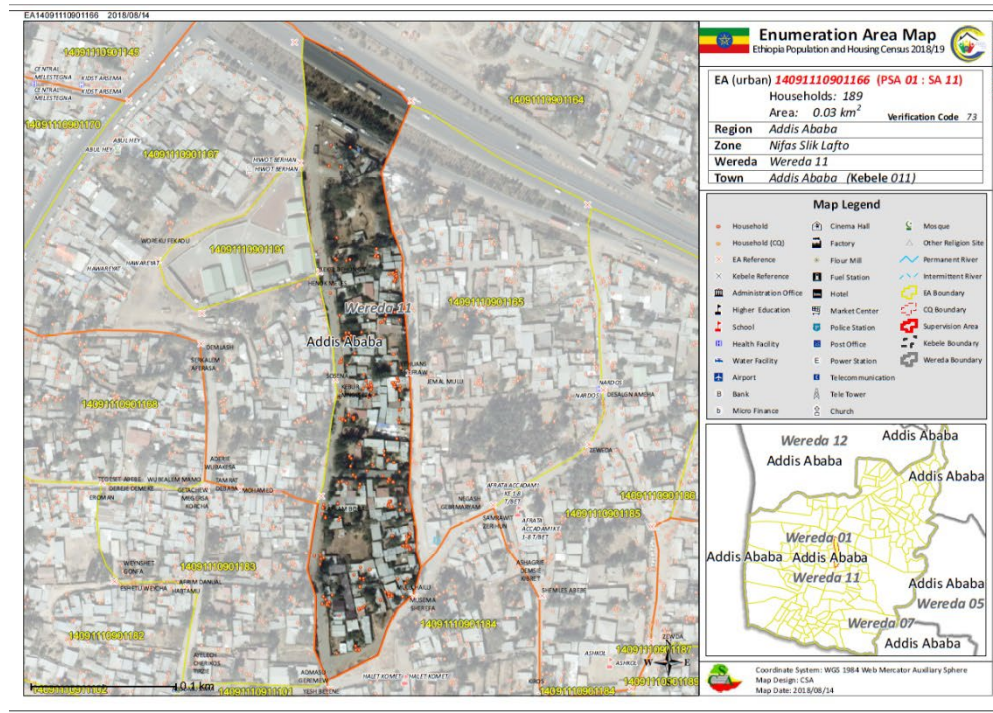


<sup>5</sup> An official letter issued by the Addis Ketema Sub City Administration to the local districts within the sub-city, authorizing the field operation and requesting the necessary facilitation for the survey team. The letter is written in Amharic, the official language of the Federal Government of Ethiopia.

**Letter issued by the Office of the President of the Somali Regional Government authorizing field operation in the region**

<p><b>Dawladda Deegaanka Soomaalida Xafiiska Madaxweynaha</b></p>		<p><b>የሶማሌ ክልላዊ መንግስት ርዕሰ መስተዳድር ጽ/ቤት</b></p>			
<p><b>Somali Regional State Office of the President</b></p>					
<div style="float: right; text-align: right;"> Summad <u>M/1008/2464</u>  Ref.No/ቁጥር <u>2014</u>  Taariikh <u>12/09 2014</u>  Date/ቀን </div>					
<p><b>Ku :-maamulka magaalada jigjiga</b></p> <p><b>Ku:-maamulka magaalada q/bayax</b></p> <p><b>Ujeedo:-gacan siin koox daraasaad</b></p> <p>sida ku cad warqada sumadeedu tahay PSI/2524/14kuna tariikhaysan 08/25/2014 ,kuna saabsan samaynta daraasaad laxidhiidha horumarinta iyo ilaalinta deegaanka ,oo lagu samaynayo goobaha aan kur ku soo xusnay goobahaas oo looqaatay xul ahaan [sample] muhiimaduna tahay sidii ay u samayn lahaayeen labadan machad eek al ah <b>ENVIROMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT [EFD] IYO GOLBAL GREEN GROWTHT INSTITUTE [CGGGI]</b> daraasaad wax tar leh.</p> <p>Hadaba waxaan faraynaa maamulada kor kuxusan in aad caawisaan 2 machad sidii ay ugu gudan lahaayeen shaqadooda sida ugu haboon</p> <p>F.G:- waxaa ku lifaqaan warqadan magacda khuburada samaynaysa daraasaadkan</p>					
<p>//Fulin wacan//</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">  <div> <p><b>Maxamed Yuusuf Rooble</b>  <b>Kuxigeenka Madaxa</b>  <b>Xaf/Madaxweynaha</b></p> </div> </div>					
					
<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">  <b>+25 776 56 66 President</b>  <b>+25 776 24 28 Fax: +25 776 26 22</b> </td> <td style="width: 33%;"> <b>+25 278 66 66 V. President</b>  <b>+25 776 43 29 President Office Head</b> </td> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: right;">  <b>11</b>  Jigjiga Ethiopia  ጅግጅጋ ኢትዮጵያ </td> </tr> </table>			 <b>+25 776 56 66 President</b> <b>+25 776 24 28 Fax: +25 776 26 22</b>	<b>+25 278 66 66 V. President</b> <b>+25 776 43 29 President Office Head</b>	 <b>11</b> Jigjiga Ethiopia ጅግጅጋ ኢትዮጵያ
 <b>+25 776 56 66 President</b> <b>+25 776 24 28 Fax: +25 776 26 22</b>	<b>+25 278 66 66 V. President</b> <b>+25 776 43 29 President Office Head</b>	 <b>11</b> Jigjiga Ethiopia ጅግጅጋ ኢትዮጵያ			



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**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR**

**SUBJECT:** [Illegible]

[Illegible handwritten notes follow, including "RE: [illegible]", "TO: [illegible]", "FROM: [illegible]", and various dates and initials.]

[Illegible handwritten notes continue, mentioning "The following information was obtained from..." and "It is recommended..."]

[Illegible handwritten notes conclude with "Very truly yours," followed by a signature and title.]



## Annex 3. List of field assistants

### Field assistants recruited for survey work in Addis Ababa

No.	Full name	Sex	Position	Language
1	Abadi Asfaw Reda	Male	Interviewer	Tigrigna/Amharic
2	Abrha Hailay Bihon	Male	Interviewer	Tigrigna/Amharic
3	Adewaye Berhe G/medhin	Female	Supervisor	Tigrigna/Amharic
4	Alemayehu Tekla Lemma	Male	Interviewer	Amharic
5	Amanuel Tesfaye Getaneh	Male	Supervisor	Amharic/Oromiffa
6	Awot Alemu Abrha	Male	Interviewer	Tigrigna/Amharic
7	Belay Dessyibelew Andualem	Male	Interviewer	Amharic
8	Bereket Mebrhata Berhe	Male	Interviewer	Amharic
9	Ephrem Aremede Ayitenfsu	Male	Interviewer	Amharic
10	Essayas Mulugeta Teklu	Male	Interviewer	Amharic
11	Eyerusalem Halefom Abera	Female	Interviewer	Tigrigna/Amharic
12	Fatima Mohammed Ibrahim	Female	Interviewer	Somaligna/Amharic
13	Fetene Belayhun Belete	Male	Supervisor	Amharic
14	Gebre Asmaru Tsehayu	Male	Interviewer	Tigrigna/Amharic
15	Gebrehiwot Hiluf Tekla	Male	Supervisor	Tigrigna/Amharic
16	Gebremedhin Berhe Hayenta	Male	Interviewer	Tigrigna/Amharic
17	Habtamu Ayele Belay	Male	Interviewer	Amharic
18	Habtamu Tamene Belay	Male	Interviewer	Amharic
19	Haftamu Hagos Hibu	Male	Supervisor	Tigrigna/Amharic
20	Haftay Gebrerufael G/medhin	Female	Interviewer	Tigrigna/Amharic
21	Haftu Belay Abebe	Male	Interviewer	Tigrigna/Amharic
22	Hussien Adem Seid	Male	Interviewer	Amharic
23	Kebede Getahun Girir	Male	Interviewer	Amharic
24	Kibrhom Mehbub Redwan	Male	Interviewer	Tigrigna/Amharic
25	Kidist Workineh Mergiya	Female	Interviewer	Amharic
26	Kiflay Berhe G/Gorgis	Male	Interviewer	Tigrigna/Amharic
27	Kokeb Hailemicheal Gebregergis	Female	Interviewer	Tigrigna/Amharic
28	Lemlem Kfile kalayou	Female	Interviewer	Tigrigna/Amharic
29	Meseret Kiros Abrha	Female	Interviewer	Tigrigna/Amharic
30	Minale Getahun Demissie	Male	Interviewer	Amharic
31	Mohammed Meka Denbi	Male	Supervisor	Amharic
32	Muez Kiros Tedla	Male	Supervisor	Tigrigna/Amharic
33	Rahe! Nerea Reda	Female	Interviewer	Tigrigna/Amharic
34	Samuel Getachew Tessema	Male	Interviewer	Amharic
35	Sebl Mulu Abay	Female	Interviewer	Amharic
36	Shimelis Alemu Tesema	Male	Interviewer	Oromiffa/Amharic
37	Sintayehu Workeneh Mengisetu	Female	Interviewer	Amharic
38	Solomon Alemu Lema	Male	Interviewer	Oromiffa/Amharic/Somaligna
39	Tadelle Assefa Alelo	Male	Interviewer	Amharic
40	Takele Birhanu Bogale	Male	Supervisor	Amharic
41	Tarko Melaku Ketema	Male	Interviewer	Amharic
42	Tsegay Berhe Hatsey	Male	Interviewer	Tigrigna/Amharic
43	Yohannes Alemye Asfaw	Male	Interviewer	Amharic
44	Yordanos Alemu Abate	Male	Interviewer	Amharic
45	Zekarias Demissie Assefa	Male	Interviewer	Amharic
46	Zelalem Tesfahun Belete	Male	Interviewer	Amharic
47	Zerabruk Gebrmichael G/Mariam	Male	Interviewer	Tigrigna/Amharic

## Field assistants recruited for survey work in Somali region

No.	Name	Sex	Role	Language
1	Abdihakim Osman	Male	Interviewer	Somali, Amharic and English
2	Abdinasir Ahmed Muhumed	Male	Interviewer	Somali and English
3	Abdurehman Regassa Workneh	Male	Interviewer	Somali, Amharic and English
4	Ahmed Abdi Muhummed	Male	Interviewer	Somali and English
5	Ahmed Mohamud Hassen	Male	Interviewer	Somali and English
6	Ali Isaq Farah	Male	Interviewer	Somali, Amharic and English
7	Anas Mohamud Sheik	Male	Interviewer	Somali and English
8	Anteneh Eshete Kassaye	Male	Supervisor	Somali, Amharic and English
9	Aschalew Girma Tefera	Male	Interviewer	Amharic and English
10	Daniel Kifle Wolde	Male	Interviewer	Somali, Amharic and English
11	Hassen Mohammad Waberi	Male	Interviewer	Somali and English
12	Hibist Kassahun Mola	Female	Supervisor	Somali, Amharic and English
13	Mahamud Abdulahi Yusuf	Male	Interviewer	Somali and English
14	Saadikk Ali Umar	Male	Interviewer	Somali, Amharic and English
15	Seada Mohamed Mahamud	Female	Supervisor	Somali, Amharic and English
16	Seid Ibrahim Yusuf	Male	Interviewer	Somali, Amharic and English
18	Semegn Mezgebe Yimer	Female	Interviewer	Somali, Amharic and English
19	Sintayehu Kefyalew Ali	Male	Interviewer	Somali, Amharic and English
20	Tesfahun Adugna Absene	Male	Supervisor	Somali, Amharic and English
21	Wesen Yednekachew Tensay	Male	Interviewer	Somali, Amharic and English
22	Yetemgeta Sileshi Ademe	Male	Interviewer	Amharic and English
23	Zemzem Abdirehman Abdile	Female	Interviewer	Somali, Amharic and English