


<b>DIRE DAWA CITY ADMINISTRATION</b>		<b>Main area of return:</b>
<b>Accessibility</b>	<p>Dire-Dawa can be reached by train from Djibouti and Addis Ababa.</p> <p>One can also travel by air directly to Dire Dawa or Jijiga, as there are commercial flights to those two destinations.</p> <p>In addition, there are many bus companies in Addis Ababa that facilitate transportation to Dire Dawa at reasonable fares.</p>	<p><b>Dire Dawa</b></p> 
<b>Population</b>	<p>Dire Dawa is the second-largest city in Ethiopia with a population exceeding 377,000 inhabitants composed of 50.5% male and :49.5% female.</p>	
<b>Ethnic groups</b>	<p>The major ethnic groups of the Dire Dawa administrative council are Oromo (48 %), Amhara (27.7%), 13.9% Somali, 4.5% Guragie (2.3% Sebat Bet, 0.8% Sodo and 1.4% Silte and 5.9% others. Amharic is the official language of the administrative council.</p>	

<b>POPULATION MOVEMENTS</b>	
	<p>There are no reports of internal displacement having their origin in Dire Dawa. However, in September 2017, thousands of persons from Jijiga and other urban centres in the Somali region were reported to be living in IDP sites in Dire Dawa.</p>

<b>RULE OF LAW</b>	
<b>Local authorities / Administration</b>	<p>Like Addis Ababa, Dire Dawa is a City Administration, governed by a Mayor. The lowest administrative level in Dire Dawa is the woreda. A woreda is run by a woreda administrator, who is the representative of the executive power on one hand and on the other, by an elected council.</p>
<b>Civil status and documentation</b>	<p>Civil status documentation is managed by the desk for vital events (birth, marriage, death) registration in the woreda of residence, where one can register the birth of a child and obtain a birth certificate. As far as identity cards are concerned, the same desk provides residence identity cards. These two documents constitute the first steps to obtaining a national passport, which is issued by the branch of the Immigration Nationality and Vital Events Agency located in Dire Dawa. The cost for a passport is 600 ETB, while the identity card costs approximately 50 ETB.</p>
<b>Access to justice</b>	<p>The same three layers of the judiciary system exists in Dire Dawa (1st instance court, High Court and Supreme Court). Sharia law is also used to resolve disputes, however, referral to Sharia law is optional and those enacting Sharia</p>

	law are competent only for personal and civil cases. However, following a government announcement due to COVID-19, courts have been closed at all levels. But urgent cases that affect life, liberty and public safety are entertained by court. Other cases will be re-adjudged and new cases will not be accepted.
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<b>SECURITY</b>
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<b>General</b>	In January 2019, protesters took to the streets demanding an end to what is referred to as “40:40:20” administrative arrangement in the city, which is allegedly based on the ruling coalition’s ethnic politics and constitution. As per the arrangement, 40 % of the city administration is ethnic Oromo, 40 % is ethnic Somali and the remaining 20 percent is for the other ethnic groups in Dire Dawa. The same reasons were invoked in August 2018, when youth groups instigated conflict in Dire Dawa. The Ethiopian Defense Forces called on the youth groups in the city to end the violence and present their grievances to the city administration. However, if not well managed, the situation has the potential to fuel violence and cause general insecurity in Dire Dawa.
<b>Law enforcement</b>	The Eastern Command Post of the Ethiopian Defense Force is posted in Dire Dawa and intervenes whenever necessary to restore law and order. Residents have unhindered access to the Police, which is the first point of call for reporting security incidents. Uniformed police solve minor disputes and conflict over farmland at the outskirts of the city, water and pastures, as well as other communal assets.
<b>Risk related to non-exploded devices</b>	No reports on risks related to non-explosive devices have been received so far.

<b>PROTECTION</b>
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<b>Persons with specific needs</b>	There is no specific specialized entity to refer to. However, depending on the specific need, there is a Bureau for Women, Children and Youth Affairs and a regional Bureau of Labour and Social Affairs that deals with specific matters relating to women, children and youth. Other Bureaus are responsible for specific thematic areas. These Bureaus have their representations at the woreda level and are accessible to returnees.
<b>Child Protection</b>	ICRC and the Ethiopian Red Cross Society (ERCS) conduct family tracing aiming at restoring family links. The process can be engaged provided that <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the person asking for it is a family member of the person for whom family tracing is requested,</li> <li>- he or she has already tried to re-establish contact by all other possible means with no result and</li> <li>- there is precise and complete information available</li> </ul> Issuance of birth certificates is done at the woreda level, where parents have to declare the birth of their child. Issues related to child protection are dealt with by the Bureaus of Women, Children and Youth Affairs.
<b>SGBV</b>	Despite the presence of a One-Stop-Centre that provides support for survivors of SGBV within the Dire Dawa city administration, the demand for shelter is high due to SGBV, including intimate partner violence. Instances of sexual violence against males are also mentioned as an emerging challenge in some regions, including the city administrations of Dire Dawa.

	<p>There is also the Dire Dawa Women’s Rehabilitation Centre managed and fully funded by the Government, where SGBV survivors can find safety in addition to rehabilitation and reintegration services, including necessary psychosocial, medical and other treatment.</p>
<p><b>Social cohesion/Land and property issues</b></p>	<p>The Ethiopian Defense Forces intervenes when the need arises to call for a peaceful resolution of conflicts through mediation with the authorities. No reports on inter-communal violence over natural resources resolved through a community conflict resolution mechanism have been received so far.</p> <p>The security apparatus involved in restoring law and order in Dire Dawa always call for peaceful resolution through existing authorities.</p> <p>Regarding land and property, the Government of Ethiopia shall ensure fair and accessible procedures to settle any claims that returnees may have for restitution of land or other property left behind at the time of flight. In addition, the Government shall ensure that returnees enjoy property ownership and protection acquired upon return in accordance with domestic law.</p>
<p><b>Livelihoods and food security</b></p>	<p>Cattle and camel breeding, goat and sheep farming, poultry and agriculture constitute the main means of livelihoods in Dire Dawa.</p> <p>There are 10,370 hectares of farmland that produces maize, sorghum, chat, coffee, as well as various kinds of fruits and vegetables.</p> <p>The north eastern part of Dire Dawa is a relatively sparsely populated lowland exhibiting agro-pastoral and pastoral system, and the south-eastern part of the administration is comprised of an escarpment with mixed farming systems.</p> <p>In Dire Dawa, the unemployment rate is 21 %.</p> <p>There are several banks in Dire Dawa amongst which are the Dashen Bank, the United Bank, the Commercial Bank of Ethiopia, just to name a few. These banks are accessible provided that one has the proper documentation to open a bank account such as Identity card or passport. As far as returnees’ documentation is concerned, holders of Laissez-Passer/VRF can only access the Commercial Bank of Ethiopia, which has 15 branches in Dire Dawa.</p> <p>One can also withdraw cash through the accessible ATMs established in almost all woredas. However, there are restrictions on withdrawing/exchanging foreign currencies. Returnees are thus advised to change their local currencies in hard currency prior to voluntary repatriation.</p>

ACCESS TO ESSENTIAL SERVICES	
<p><b>Health</b></p>	<p>There are 3 levels of health facilities that could be considered for returnees:</p> <p>In all kebeles, there are health post that provide outreach services, including prevention and referral services. The health posts serve as a link between the community and the higher-level health facilities. Minor diseases are also treated at the health posts by health extension workers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- At the woreda level, there are health centres that provide comprehensive primary health services both preventive and curative, in-patient and out-patient services. The health centres also provide vaccination and psychosocial support. However, not all health centres have psychiatric nurses. Services are provided by general practitioners and public health officers.</li> <li>- At the zonal level, one can access General Hospitals to which cases needing surgery or obstetrical care, as well as other specialized treatment, are referred.</li> </ul>

	<p>Medical costs at public health facilities is affordable. A consultation at a public health facility is between 5 - 20 ETB. An average cost for treatment at outpatient level is between 150 - 200 ETB.</p> <p>It is advisable that persons with chronic medical conditions that require continuous treatment, return with 3-month supply of medicines.</p> <p>Services at private clinics are much more costly than at public health facilities. Given the poor quality of services in some private clinics, it is advisable to use public facilities.</p>
<b>WASH</b>	<p>People in the City Administration of Dire Dawa has access to potable water through the tap. However, expansion of the city towards ground water sources and pipeline blockage and bursts due to encrustation as a result of high concentration of calcium bicarbonate in the groundwater source impairs the regular flow of water through the pipes.</p> <p>At the outskirts of Dire Dawa, where agriculture activities are conducted, there are wells and birkas<sup>1</sup> that people use as source of water.</p> <p>The main source of water supply for Dire Dawa is ground water. The main challenges for the Dire Dawa city administration are ground water resource depletion, high pollution from domestic and industrial origins due to rapid infiltration conditions of the unsaturated zone of the sandy formation of the area and shallow ground water conditions and pathways created from poor design and construction.</p>
<b>Education</b>	<p>Primary and secondary education is under the responsibility of the regional Education Bureaus. In each woreda, there is an Education Office that oversees the overall management of education.</p> <p>Enrolment for primary and secondary education is free of charge, however, parents need to cover the cost of educational materials and uniforms. In Dire Dawa, the main instruction languages are Ahmaric, Somaligna and Oromo English is introduced from grade 7 in Dire Dawa. Local languages (Somali, Amharic and Oromo) are the instruction languages for grades 1-6.</p> <p>From grade 12, if a student does not meet the Government's threshold to enroll into University, he or she is oriented to a vocational skills training centre (TVET), which is curriculum-based. Students can obtain a certificate after one year of study and a diploma after three years.</p> <p>As far as tertiary education is concerned, certificates obtained while in asylum have to go through an equivalency mechanism to be valid in Ethiopia, as holders of foreign higher education certificates do not automatically qualify for admission to Ethiopian higher education programmes. In this regard, affected students need to get equivalency assessment or verification of foreign certificate through the Higher Education Relevance and Quality Agency (HERQA), the responsible agency.</p> <p>Once this process is completed, students can register with the Dire Dawa University, where they can enroll in Medicine, Law, Business and Economics, Social Science and Humanities, Natural and Computational Science and the Institute of Technology.</p> <p>Students will have to sign a cost-sharing commitment with the Government for the tuition fee 75 % of which is covered by the Government.</p>

<sup>1</sup> Water catchment system constructed in the form of rectangle to either store running water (flood) during the rainy season or store the water collected through water trucking during the drought season around pastoralist areas. They cover the upper structure with corrugated iron sheet to avoid contamination by dust as well as believe as it can reduce evaporation

	Students can be placed in any of the universities in the country, as long as they get the placement from the Ministry of Education (MoE) after completion of grade 12 and scoring of the minimum grade points established by the MoE or through special placement exams. At the moment due to COVID 19, students are staying at home after schools were closed across the country/region
<b>Shelter</b>	Most of the houses are made of concrete materials. However, in some areas, especially at the outskirts of the city, there are semi-permanent shelters made of mud bricks and iron sheet roofing. People either own or rent. There is no fixed rental fee and one needs to negotiate the price with the potential landlord/lady.

### HUMANITARIAN AND DEVELOPMENT ACTORS

<b>Dire Dawa</b>	WFP and ACF (Action Contre La Faim) are present in Dire Dawa and intervene in the sector of nutrition. AAH (Action Against Hunger) and JEOP (Joint Emergency Operation Program) are actors in the agriculture and food security sectors respectively. The ZOWCA (the zone level of the Bureau for Women, Children and Youth Affairs) is also active and covers the Protection sector.
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### REINTEGRATION GRANT INFORMATION (to be reviewed)

<b>MPCG</b>	Please remove the above '(to be reviewed)'		
	The provision of cash assistance in the country of origin aims to address the basic needs of returnees during the first six months after return. A Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) has been determined in Ethiopia and the multipurpose cash grant is calculated based on a specific sectoral approach to respond to the needs of a family in terms of food, shelter (rent), core relief items and education. The modalities and amount of payments in ETB are as follows:		
	-One-time cash-over-the-counter through CBE upon arrival in Ethiopia (some 10% of total amount depending on the specificities of each household)		
	-Two bank account transfers (after a week and three months, around 40% and 50% of total amount respectively)		
	<b>MPG (Multi-Purpose Cash Grant)</b>		<b>Amount (USD)</b>
	Multi-purpose cash grant for household of 1		<b>850</b>
	Multi-purpose cash grant for household of 2		<b>1170</b>
	Multi-purpose cash grant for household of 3		<b>1540</b>
	Multi-purpose cash grant for household of 4		<b>1825</b>
	Multi-purpose cash grant for household of 5		<b>2160</b>
	Multi-purpose cash grant for household of 6 and above		<b>2560</b>
	<b>Education costs (uniforms and school materials) per child 3 -18 years</b>		
		<b>ETB</b>	<b>USD</b>
	Education costs (uniforms and school materials)	900.00	35
	<b>Persons with Specific Needs</b>		
	<b>ETB</b>	<b>USD</b>	
Extra support to persons with specific needs		100	
<b>Transportation for each HH member</b>			
	<b>ETB</b>	<b>USD</b>	
Transport costs	1000	36.54316	

## COVID-19

### COVID-19

The first COVID-19 case in Ethiopia was confirmed on 13 March 2020. The number of patients is on the rise with community infection. The federal and state governments have taken restrictive measures to contain the virus. The country's land borders have been closed. Individuals can only enter the country on the condition that they agree to be quarantined for 14 days at their own expense. The regional states are taking similar actions. A State of Emergency has been declared by the Government in an effort to limit the spread of the virus. Bordering regional states in Ethiopia have established quarantine centres at border crossing points in response to irregular entry of migrants. Refugees are advised not to spontaneously return due to lack of services at the border and the risk of facing other protection risks. The impact of COVID-19 is:

Macroeconomic context and public finance: i) Decline in economic growth. ii) Decline in GDP growth rate iii) Increase in cost of living due to reduced offers. iv) Government revenue reduced due to less tax payment. v) Less foreign exchange earnings required for much needed imports, as well as vi) Hits on remittances and the tourism sector, which will also affect foreign exchange earnings hindering the ability to service debt payments entailing a 'mortgaging' of the future.

Health and Nutrition: i) Increased rates of illness is expected to put pressure to the quality of health care in Ethiopia with potential service saturation and severe limitations for low-income households in terms of affordability and accessibility. ii) Disrupted health services for non-COVID-19 related needs. iii) Malnutrition due to : a) Household food insecurity due to loss of income b) Caring practices for children and women are likely to go down, as livelihoods are affected c) Access to health services may be disrupted due to health workers' limited access to health facilities or lack of motivation or fear of infection.

WASH: i) The majority of low-income households are at heightened risk of contracting COVID-19 due to poor sanitation practices and hygienic conditions. ii) Movement restrictions will disproportionately affect low-income households in underserved areas, which depend on daily wages to pay for safe drinking water for their households amongst other daily needs

Education: i) Children from low-income HHs will not benefit from home-schooling during school closures, hence widening inequalities in the learning gap between the lowest and highest quintiles. iii) School closures will lead to a decline in food intake and nutrition, possibly increase school dropouts and adversely impact human capital development iv) School feeding programme has been suspended due to school closures thus affecting the nutrition status of children.

Social Protection: i) COVID-19 will likely limit control and surveillance operations, as well as the deployment of experts to field locations to combat the desert locust upsurge. ii) Rise in the cost of key commodities driven largely by behavioural changes in urban areas – food hoarding, etc. iii) Widespread loss of income and deeper levels of poverty, as social distancing intensifies, which has an impact on the service industry, tourism and for the sizeable self-employed population. The combination of labour constraints and limited access to markets will drive poverty and exacerbate food insecurity.

Child Protection: i) New stressors on parents and child caregivers, who may have to find new childcare options or forgo work. ii) Disease control measures that do not consider the gender-specific needs and vulnerabilities of women and girls may increase their protection risks and lead to adverse coping mechanisms. iii)

	<p>Heightened risk of intimate partner violence in settings, where those exposed to domestic abuse could be at greater risk of violence/abuse – particularly women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons. iv) Prevention and response services will be less accessible to survivors of abuse and violence v) School closures put an additional burden of care on women and hence may affect their mental and physical wellbeing.</p>
<p><b>Locust invasion</b></p>	<p>About one million individuals have been affected by the desert locust invasion and require emergency food assistance. Of these, some 390 000 are in the Somali and 360 000 in the Oromia regions and Dire Dawa city (combined), 100 000 in Afar, 72 000 in Amhara, 43 000 in Tigray and 13 000 in Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples (SNNP) region, reported in April 2020.</p> <p>Swarms declined in the South due to control and breeding while mature swarms moved into the nearest (Afar) and eastern (Somali) regions. Hopper bands continued to mature near Dire Dawa, as well as in adjacent areas of northwest Somali. In central Somalia, mature adults are present near the Ethiopia border in the Galguduud region. Huge swarms of locusts forced more than 15,000 people to flee their homes in the Southern Oromia region, the Wachile area affecting 12 villages during May 2020. These locusts have already destroyed large swaths of food and pasture in the region. Experts have described the ongoing desert locust infestation in the Horn of Africa as the worst in 25 years. Widespread rainfall in late March created an ideal environment for locust breeding. The situation may get worse, when the insects mature and grow wings. The desert locust can fly up to 19 kilometers per hour and cover up to 130 kms per day.</p> <p>Ethiopia is aerial spraying the swarms in three locations: Arbaminch in Southern Ethiopia; Jigjiga, in the Somali region and Dire Dawa in the eastern part of the country. Huge swarms of locusts have been reported in six woredas of the Gambella region on 19 May 2020.</p> <p>The COVID-19 pandemic has complicated efforts to combat locusts mainly by delayed deliveries of pesticides.</p>
<p><b>Elections</b></p>	<p>Restrictive measures have been taken while the country is planning to hold its sixth national elections. The federal and state governments may take even more restrictive measures, as the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic progresses, which will make preparations towards the elections practically impossible. Political parties will not manage to campaign or hold meetings or public rallies, which are critical pre-election democratic activities that determine the legitimacy of election results. The National Electoral Board of Ethiopia (NEBE) will not manage to make the necessary preparations to successfully administer the elections. Federal and state authorities will also be unable to carry out functions that are critical for peacefully holding the elections, since they will be preoccupied with combatting the pandemic. Moreover, voters will not be able to come out and vote in large numbers on election day without taking grave health risks, unless the pandemic is contained by then. Electronic or remote voting is not an option in Ethiopia for the simple reason that the country does not have the necessary technology and wherewithal (money or other means needed for a particular purpose) to do this. Most of the opposition groups were quick to signal their support for the postponement of the national elections. There is no clarity, whether elections will take place without significant violence accompanying the polls.</p>