DISPLACEMENT AND RETURN
PROFILES, PREFERENCES FOR SOLUTIONS, AND INDEXES

ETHIOPIA, NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2023

IOM UN MIGRATION | GLOBAL DATA INSTITUTE DISPLACEMENT TRACKING MATRIX

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INTRODUCTION

OBJECTIVE OF THE REPORT

Between November and December 2023, IOM's Data and Research Unit (DRU), through its Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) methodology and Mobility Tracking (MT) component, deployed the Site Assessment (SA) round 35 and Village Assessment Survey (VAS) round 18 tools to assess the mobility, needs and vulnerabilities of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and returning IDPs across Ethiopia. Key national and regional findings related to mobility can be accessed in the "National Displacement Report (NDR)" here.

This "Displacement and Return - Profiles, Preferences for Solutions, and Indexes" report focuses on data collected through household representative sampling. This household-level data is representative at the location level at a 95% confidence interval and a 10% margin of error.

In the first section on displacement, based on the collected household-level data, the report focuses on IDPs' profiles and preferences towards durable solutions. In addition, household-level data on access to shelter, livelihoods and education is compiled into a Displacement Index (DI) to create socio-economic profiles for IDPs who have been in their current location for 3 years or more. Similarly, in the second section on return, the report focuses on returning IDPs' profiles and through a Return Index (RI) it monitors returning IDPs' access to shelter, livelihoods and education.

Through the compilation of multiple indicators within one single value, the indexes can be used to measure, monitor and compare the living conditions of the two target groups across the assessed locations. The indexes also allow for the prioritization of locations to support needs-based interventions.

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DISPLACEMENT AND RETURN
PROFILES, PREFERENCES FOR SOLUTIONS, AND INDEXES (ETHIOPIA, NOV-DEC 2023)

METHODOLOGY

COMPONENT	TOOLS	METHODOLOGY	OUTPUTS

MOBILITY TRACKING (MT)

IDPs and Returning IDPs

SITE ASSESSMENT (SA)

VILLAGE ASSESSMENT SURVEY (VAS)

GROUP DISCUSSIONS

HOUSEHOLD REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLING

MASTERLIST OF LOCATIONS

POPULATION ESTIMATES

DEMOGRAPHICS AND PROFILES

INTENTIONS AND PREFERENCES

MULTISECTORAL DATA

INDEXES (DISPLACEMENT, RETURN, SOLUTIONS)

The Site Assessment (SA) and Village Assessment Survey (VAS) tools fall under IOM's DTM methodology and Mobility Tracking (MT) component.

SA targets locations with 20 or more Internally Displaced Person (IDP) households, which are referred to as "sites". VAS targets locations, which are referred to as "villages", with at least 20 returning IDP households that returned since 1 January 2022.

Prior to data collection at the location level, IOM DRU staff liaise with key informants at the zonal and woreda levels to identify a list of locations hosting IDPs/returning IDPs. The SA and VAS tools are deployed in locations defined through previous rounds of data collection and any additional locations identified through the key informant interviews at the zonal and woreda levels. Locations with fewer than 20 IDP or returning IDP households are not assessed.

At the location level, the tools are deployed through group discussions with key informants and household representative sampling. Each group discussion with key informants is comprised of representatives from the target group and includes men, women, elderly and youth. The data is verified through triangulation, key informant interviews and observation.

The outputs of the SA and VAS tools are:

*   Masterlist of locations hosting IDPs and/or returning IDPs;
*   Population estimates;
*   Demographic and/or multisectoral data on the target group.

In November - December 2023, the SA round 35 and VAS round 18 were deployed. Overall, 136,918 IDP households were sampled nationwide through the SA and 140,620 returning IDP households were sampled nationwide through the VAS. This information is representative at the location level (site/village) at a 95% confidence interval and a 10% margin of error.

Household representative sampling allows for more nuanced data that can be cross-tabulated across various variables. In addition, the data collected from the household surveys can be consolidated into an index. This method of analysis allows for multiple multisectoral indicators to be included within a single value for a location to show a situation overview which can then be used for cross comparison and prioritization.
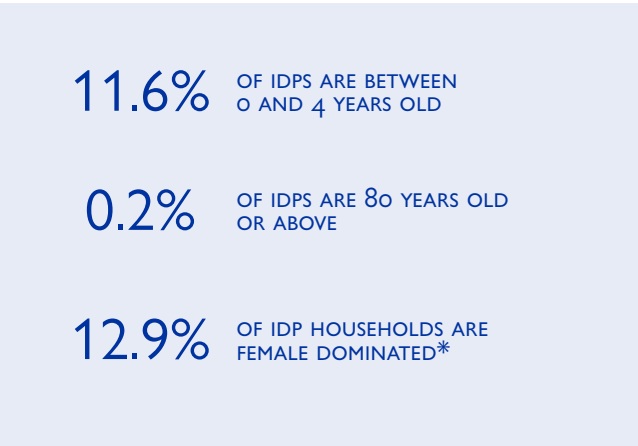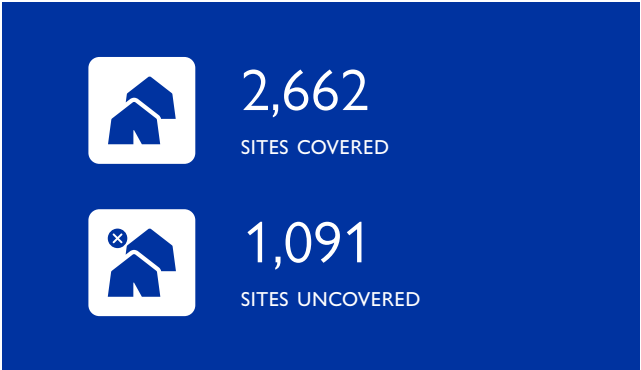
1. DISPLACEMENT

IDP PROFILES

WHO

3,194,413
IDP INDIVIDUALS

635,724
IDP HOUSEHOLDS

11.6% OF IDPS ARE BETWEEN 0 AND 4 YEARS OLD

0.2% OF IDPS ARE 80 YEARS OLD OR ABOVE

12.9% OF IDP HOUSEHOLDS ARE FEMALE DOMINATED*

WHERE

2,662
SITES COVERED

1,091
SITES UNCOVERED
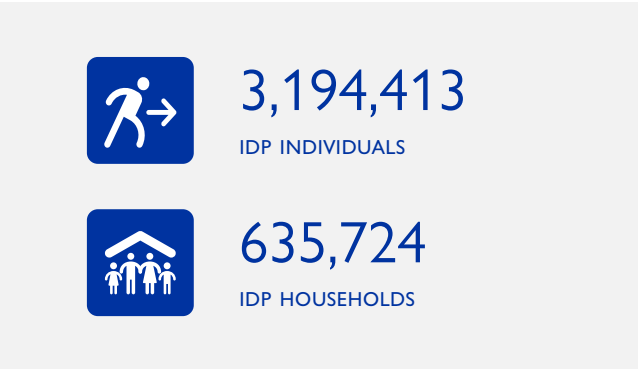
REGION	No. OF IDP INDIVIDUALS	% OF IDP INDIVIDUALS
Afar**	61,905	1.9%
Amhara**	143,197	4.6%
Benishangul Gumz**	74,697	2.3%
Central Ethiopia	47,693	1.5%
Gambela	28,539	0.9%
Harari	2,220	0.1%
Oromia**	862,226	27.0%
Sidama	36,447	1.1%
Somali	1,089,783	34.1%
South West Ethiopia Peoples	6,891	0.2%
Tigray**	840,815	26.3%
GRAND TOTAL	3,194,413	100%

* A household is considered to be female dominated when at least 70% of household members are female

** Regions with access issues

Figure 1. Estimated IDP caseload in Ethiopia based on data collected between November - December 2023 through DTM Site Assessment (SA) round 35
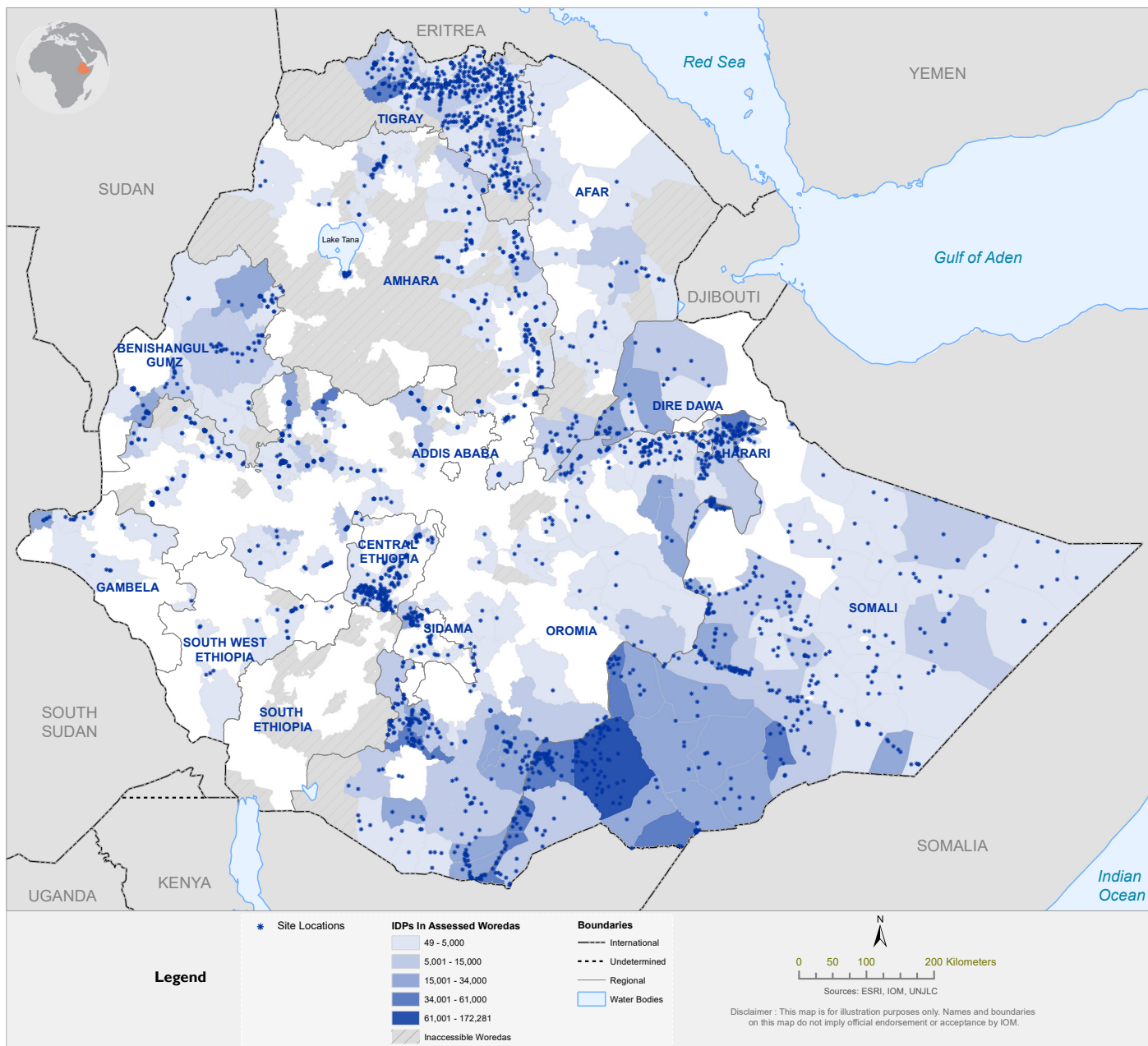
Between November and December 2023, IOM DTM deployed the Site Assessment (SA) round 35 across 11 regions. In total, an estimated **3,194,413 IDPs (635,724 households) were identified in 2,662 accessible sites across Ethiopia.** The regions of Somali (an estimated 1,089,783 IDPs or 34.1%), Oromia (an estimated 862,226 IDPs or 27%) and Tigray (an estimated 840,815 IDPs or 26.3%) account for the highest IDP caseloads nationwide.

HOW LONG

Figure 2. Time of departure from place of origin and time of arrival in place of displacement, by share of IDPs
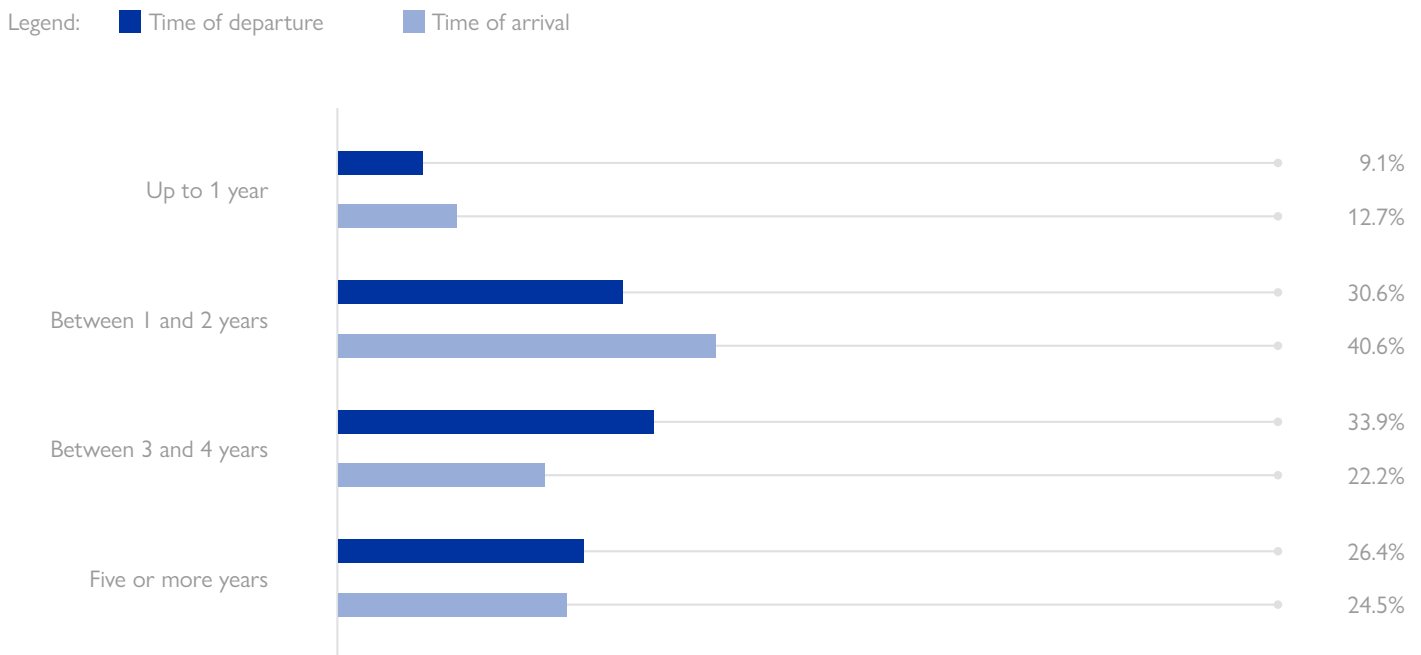
Legend: ■ Time of departure   ■ Time of arrival

Up to 1 year	9.1%
	12.7%
Between 1 and 2 years	30.6%
	40.6%
Between 3 and 4 years	33.9%
	22.2%
Five or more years	26.4%
	24.5%

Across all assessed locations, representative sampling at the household level was deployed to identify times of departure from place of origin and arrival in location of current displacement of all estimated IDPs. In addition, sampled households were also asked if they had settled anywhere else before arriving in their current location of displacement.

Overall, the majority of IDPs had not settled somewhere else (71.8%), while 28.2% had settled somewhere else. In Amhara and Tigray region, the differences are less stark, with 53.3% and 42.8% respectively who had not settled elsewhere and 46.7% and 57.2% respectively who had settled elsewhere before arriving in their current location of displacement.

As seen in Figure 2, 9.1% of IDPs had departed from their place of origin up to 1 year prior to the assessment (an estimated 310,414 IDPs) and 12.7% had arrived in their location of displacement up to 1 year prior to the assessment (an estimated 428,478 IDPs). Out of those who had arrived in the last year, 35.8% of IDPs were in Somali region and 33.6% were in Oromia region.

Similar shares of IDPs had departed between 1 and 2 years prior to the assessment (an estimated 967,815 IDPs, 30.6%) and between 3 and 4 years prior (an estimated 996,464 IDPs, 33.9%).

The largest share of IDPs had arrived between 1 and 2 years prior (an estimated 1,303,669 IDPs, 40.6%).

Overall, nationally, an estimated 462,266 IDPs had been in their location of displacement for 3 or more years (46.8% of national IDP caseload), which can be understood as a situation of protracted displacement (IOM). The share of IDPs who were in protracted displacement goes up to 100% in Hareri region, 49.2% in Oromia region, 53.5% in Sidama region and 56.7% in Somali region.

WHY

Figure 3. Primary reasons for displacement, by share of IDPs

Reason	Share
Conflict	69.4%
Drought	14.1%
Other climate induced*	9.9%
Social tension	6.1%
Other	0.5%

Across all assessed locations, representative sampling at the household level was deployed to identify reasons for displacement of all estimated IDPs across the given locations.

As seen in Figure 3, the most reported primary reason for displacement was conflict, which primarily displaced an estimated 2,193,453 IDPs, 69.4% of the national IDP caseload. Tigray region hosted the highest number of IDPs primarily displaced by conflict nationwide (an estimated 831,002 individuals or 37.9% of the national conflict caseload).

Drought was the second most reported primary reason for displacement, primarily displacing 536,434 IDPs or 14.1% of the national IDP caseload. Somali region hosted the highest number of IDPs primarily displaced by drought nationwide (an estimated 391,573 individuals or 73% of the national drought caseload).

Other climate induced factors (floods, fire, landslides) was the primary reason for displacement for an estimated 275,027 IDPs or 9.9% of the national IDP caseload. Somali region hosted the highest number of IDPs primarily displaced due to other climate induced factors, with an estimated 202,281 IDPs, followed by Afar region with an estimated 33,443 IDPs.

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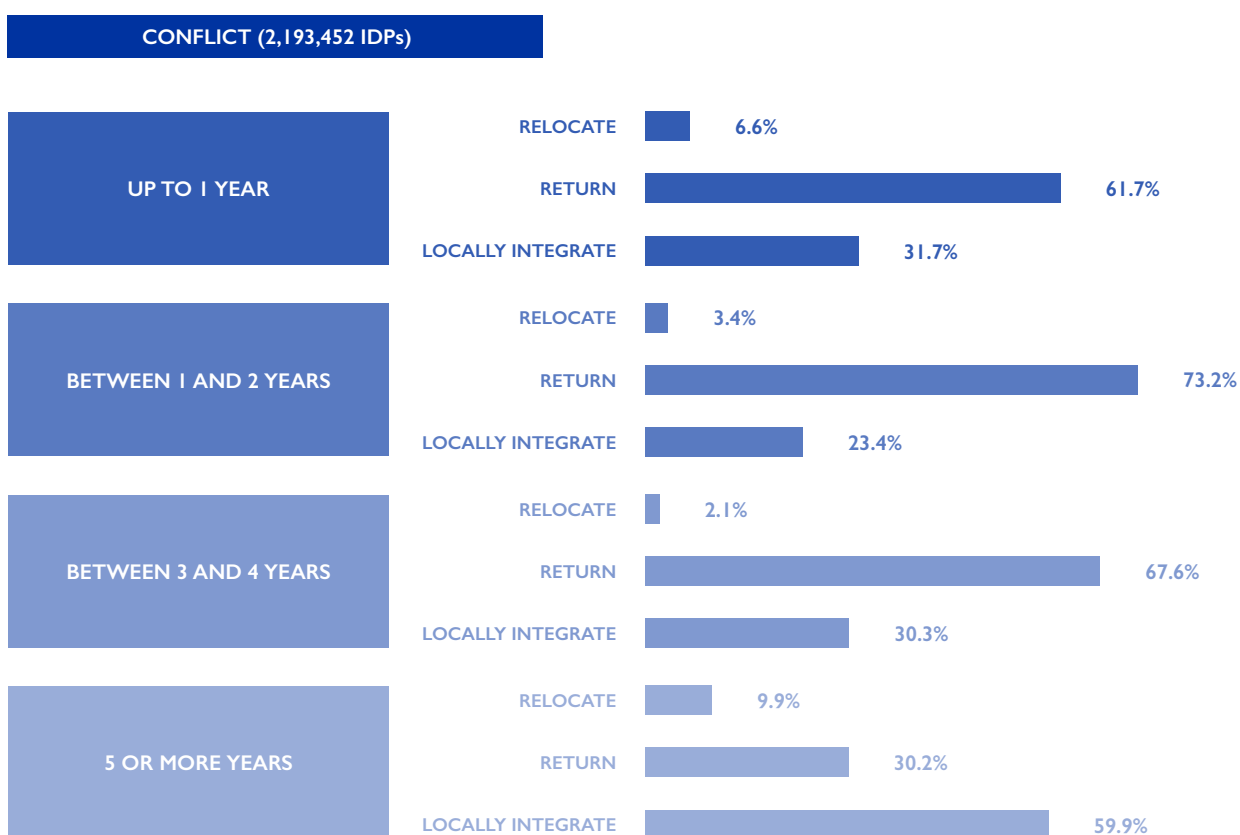* Other climate induced reasons includes flash floods, seasonal floods, landslides and fire.

IDPS' PREFERENCES TOWARDS DURABLE SOLUTIONS

PREFERENCES FOR SOLUTIONS

Across all assessed locations, household representative sampling was deployed to identify preferred durable solutions of all estimated IDPs. In line with the IASC Framework on Durable Solutions for IDPs, the possible answer options were relocation, return and local integration. As the data is collected at the household level, it can be cross-tabulated with reasons for displacement and time of arrival, to better understand preference towards durable solutions for IDPs displaced for various reasons and lengths of time. This data is presented for the top 3 reasons for primary displacement (conflict, drought and other climate-induced factors).
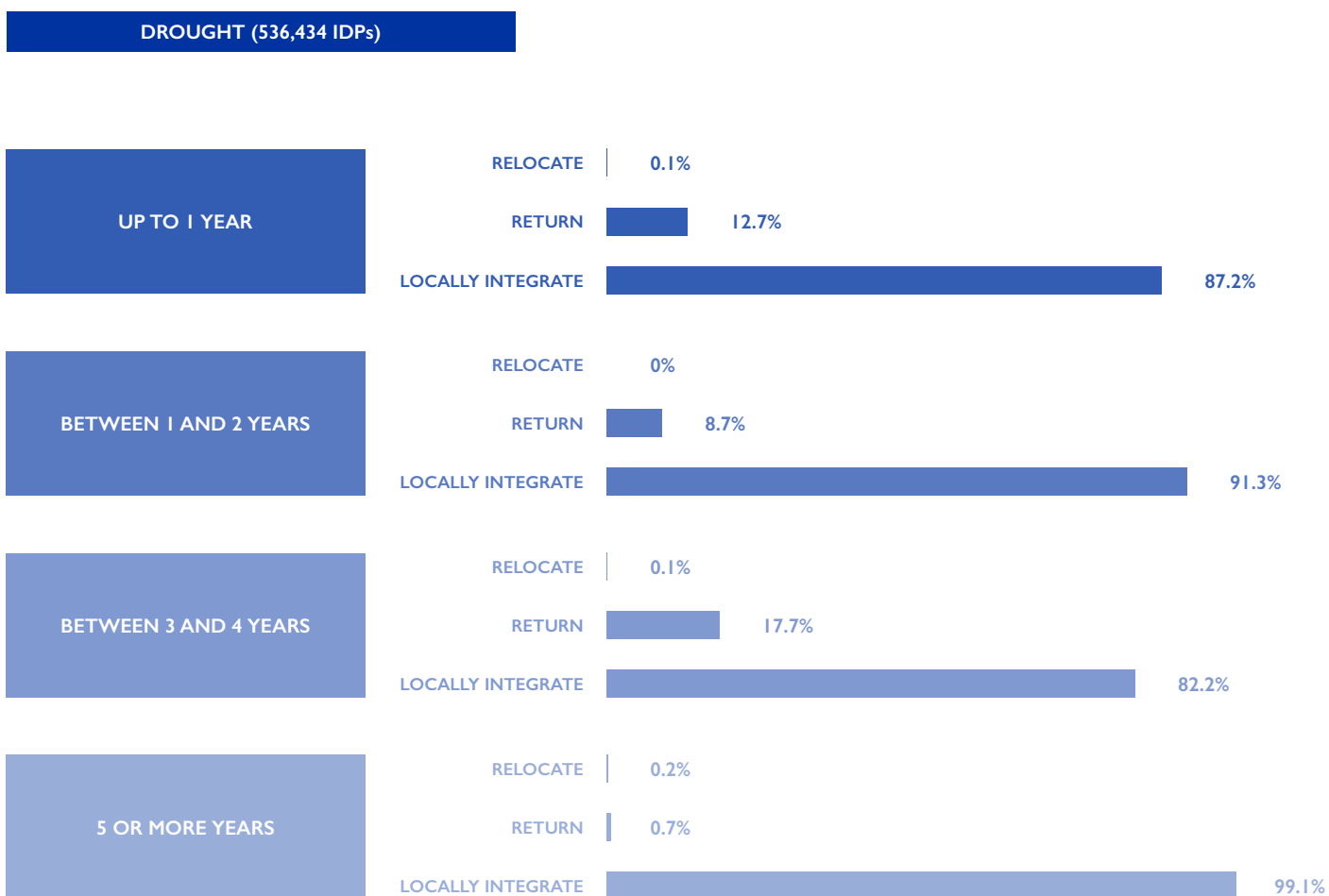
Figure 4. Primary reason for displacement, by time of arrival and preferred durable solution

CONFLICT (2,193,452 IDPs)

UP TO 1 YEAR		
RELOCATE	6.6%	
RETURN	61.7%	
LOCALLY INTEGRATE	31.7%	

BETWEEN 1 AND 2 YEARS		
RELOCATE	3.4%	
RETURN	73.2%	
LOCALLY INTEGRATE	23.4%	

BETWEEN 3 AND 4 YEARS		
RELOCATE	2.1%	
RETURN	67.6%	
LOCALLY INTEGRATE	30.3%	

5 OR MORE YEARS		
RELOCATE	9.9%	
RETURN	30.2%	
LOCALLY INTEGRATE	59.9%	

Among the estimated 2,193,452 IDPs who had been primarily displaced due to **conflict**, return was the preferred solution of those who had been arrived in the site up to 1 year prior to the assessment (61.7%), those who had arrived between 1 and 2 years prior (73.2%) and between 3 and 4 years prior (67.6%). However, local integration was the preferred durable solution for IDPs who had arrived 5 or more years prior (59.9%).

Nevertheless, given the different natures and protractedness of conflict across the country, regional differences appear in preferences towards durable solutions for IDPs who had been primarily displaced due to conflict. For instance, in Somali region, the overwhelming majority of IDPs displaced due to conflict preferred local integration, regardless of when they had arrived in their current location of displacement (99.2% on average). In Tigray region, the highest share of IDPs displaced due to conflict preferred return across all times of arrival: up to 1 year (95.6%), between 1 and 2 years (93.9%), between 3 and 4 years (95.3%) and 5 or more years (55%). Notably, in the region, the share of conflict-IDPs who preferred return decreases in the 5 or more years category, as the preference towards local integration increases (42.6%).

DROUGHT (536,434 IDPs)

UP TO 1 YEAR
- RELOCATE: 0.1%
- RETURN: 12.7%
- LOCALLY INTEGRATE: 87.2%

BETWEEN 1 AND 2 YEARS
- RELOCATE: 0%
- RETURN: 8.7%
- LOCALLY INTEGRATE: 91.3%

BETWEEN 3 AND 4 YEARS
- RELOCATE: 0.1%
- RETURN: 17.7%
- LOCALLY INTEGRATE: 82.2%

5 OR MORE YEARS
- RELOCATE: 0.2%
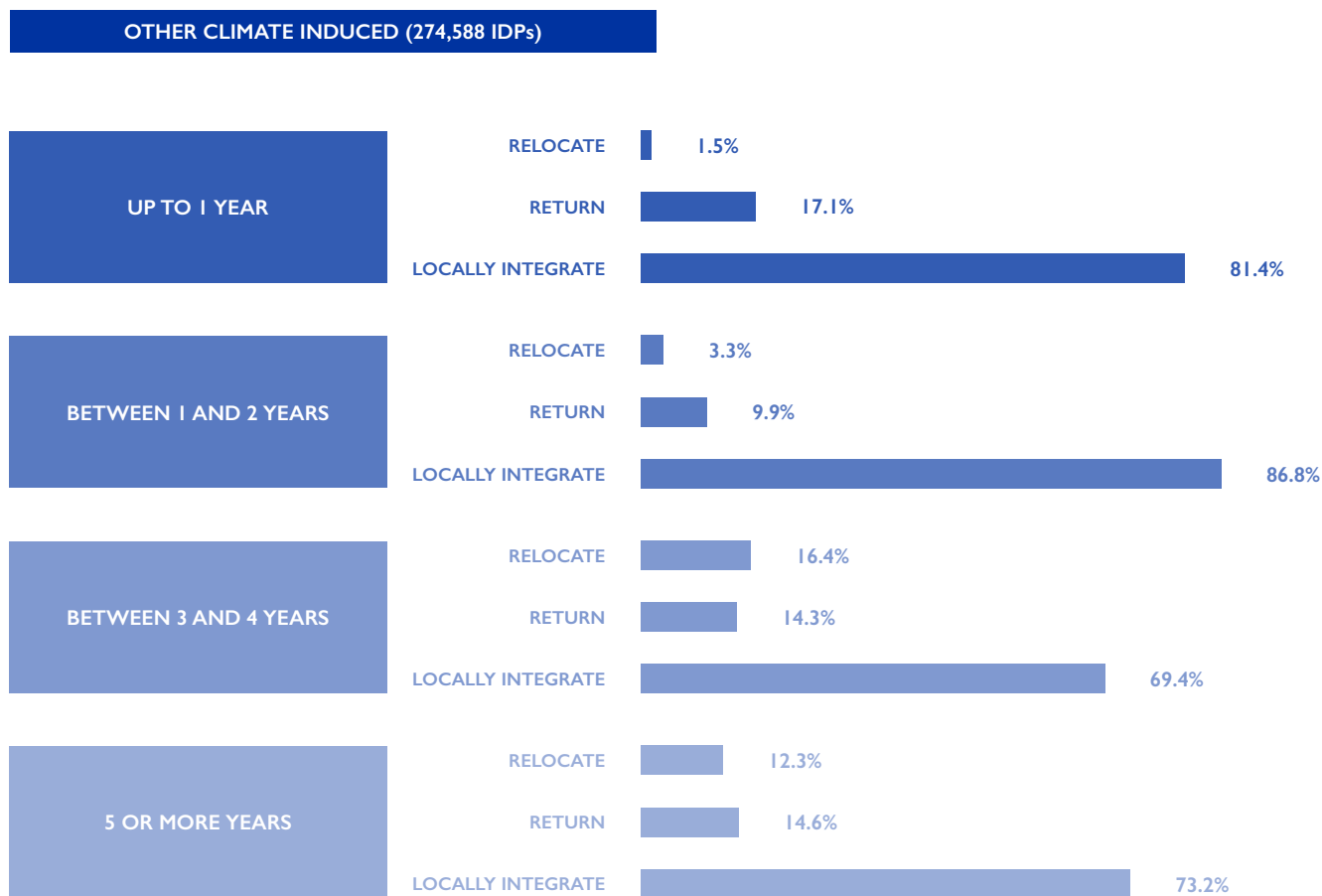- RETURN: 0.7%
- LOCALLY INTEGRATE: 99.1%

Among the estimated 536,434 IDPs who had been primarily displaced due to **drought**, on average the majority of IDPs preferred local integration, regardless of how long they had been in their location of displacement. Preference towards local integration peaks at 5 years or more in the location of displacement (99.1%). It should be noted that 73% of the drought caseload was in Somali region.

While a higher preference towards local integration across all lengths of displacement is seen in Afar and Somali regions which account for a large share of drought-IDPs, in Amhara region, all estimated IDPs who had been displaced due to drought had been in their location of displacement for up to 1 year, out of which 100% preferred local integration.

In Oromia region, drought IDPs reported local integration in higher shares if they had been displaced in their location for up to 1 year (82.4%), between 1 and 2 years (67.8%) and for 5 years or more (92.6%). IDPs who had been in their location of displacement between 3 and 4 years reported instead in higher shares a preference for return (71.3%).

In Tigray region, where the drought caseload is lower and hence weighs in less to the average, drought IDPs reported a preference for return in higher shares regardless of how long they had been in their location of displacement (94.9% on average).

OTHER CLIMATE INDUCED (274,588 IDPs)

UP TO 1 YEAR

RELOCATE	1.5%
RETURN	17.1%
LOCALLY INTEGRATE	81.4%

BETWEEN 1 AND 2 YEARS

RELOCATE	3.3%
RETURN	9.9%
LOCALLY INTEGRATE	86.8%

BETWEEN 3 AND 4 YEARS

RELOCATE	16.4%
RETURN	14.3%
LOCALLY INTEGRATE	69.4%

5 OR MORE YEARS

RELOCATE	12.3%
RETURN	14.6%
LOCALLY INTEGRATE	73.2%

Among the estimated 274,588 IDPs who had been primarily displaced due to **other climate induced factors (floods, landslides or fire)**, on average, the majority of IDPs preferred local integration (77.7%).

However, compared to IDPs who had been primarily displaced due to conflict or drought, higher shares of IDPs preferred relocation (8.3%).

Preference for relocation increases in the IDP caseload who arrived in their location of displacement between 3 and 4 years prior (16.4%) and 5 or more years prior (12.3%).

At the regional level, in Afar, Gambella and Somali regions, the majority of IDPs preferred local integration (75.8%, 81.7% and 94.2%, respectively), followed by return (24.2%, 18.1% and 5.8%, respectively), while preference for relocation was very low (0.1%, 0.8% and 0.1%, respectively). In Somali region, preference for return was reported by

14.6% of IDPs who arrived up to 1 year prior, but the share decreased to 0.6% and 0.2% for IDPs who arrived between 1 and 2 years and 3 and 4 years prior, and increases again to 7.6% for IDPs who had arrived 5 or more years prior.

In Amhara region, while for IDPs who arrived between 1 and 2 years prior, 60% preferred return, this preference goes up to 90.4% among IDPs who had arrived between 3 and 4 years prior.

In Sidama region, 100% of IDPs preferred relocation. In Central Ethiopia, Oromia and South West Ethiopia Peoples regions, similar shares of IDPs preferred relocation (45.8%, 42.8% and 47.7%, respectively) and local integration (44.6%, 50.6% and 51.9%, respectively). Return was reported by 32.5% of IDPs in Central Ethiopia, 17.4% IDPs in Oromia and 1.2% of IDPs in South West Ethiopia Peoples region.

DISPLACEMENT INDEX (DI)

DISPLACEMENT INDEX (DI)

Household representative sampling was also used to collect data on the living conditions of IDPs who had been displaced 3 or more years and hence were in a situation of protracted displacement.

Three indicators were collected at the household level on:

- Shelter that protects from weather elements;
- Access to income generating activities for working age household members;
- School attendance of school age children.

The three selected indicators are in line with the criteria to measure durable solutions defined by the IASC. In particular, the indicators on shelter and school attendance are related to the criteria on adequate standards of living, and the indicator on income generation is related to the criteria on access to livelihoods.

The answers from the three selected indicators were ranked and assigned a numeric value from 0 to 1 based on the favourability of the answer.

The household results were then averaged into a Displacement Index (DI) to measure, monitor and compare, within a single value, the living conditions and socio-economic situation of protracted IDPs across the assessed locations. The index allows for the prioritization of locations to support needs-based interventions.

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Figure 4. Displacement Index (DI) of IDP households who had arrived more than 3 years ago
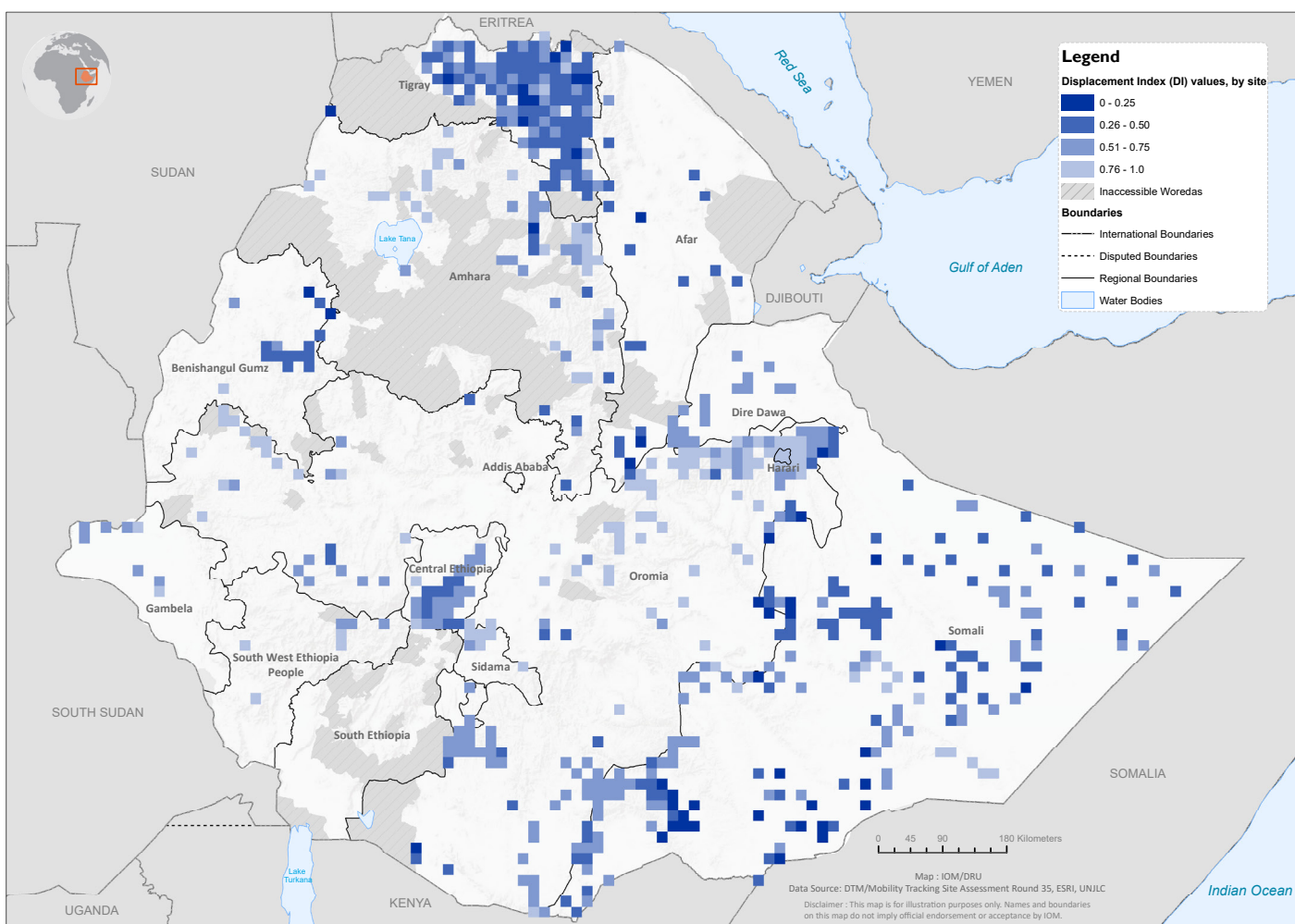
Regions	Average Displacement Index (DI)
Afar	0.38
Amhara	0.70
Benishangul Gumz	0.50
Central Ethiopia	0.54
Gambela	0.74
Hareri	0.82
Oromia	0.73
Sidama	0.80
Somali	0.47
South West Ethiopia Peoples	0.80
Tigray	0.44
Grand Total	**0.59**

Figure 4 shows the results of the Displacement Index (DI) for IDP households who had been displaced for 3 or more years in their current location, for the three aggregated indicators on shelter, income generation and education. Values closer to 0 show higher severity needs or lower attainment for those three indicators, while values closer to 1 show less severity or higher attainment for the three selected indicators.

The map displays the household index aggregated at the site level. Values closer to 0 are in darker blue, while values closer to 1 are in lighter blue. Overall, 4.3% of IDPs were in the 0 - 0.25 category, 33.9% of IDPs were in the 0.26 - 0.50 category, 34.4% were in the 0.51 - 0.75 category and 27.4% were in the 0.76 - 1.0 category.

The average index nationwide is 0.59. The regions that score the lowest are Afar (0.38), Tigray (0.44), Somali (0.47) and Benishangul Gumz (0.50).

2. RETURN

RETURNING
IDP PROFILES

WHO

2,548,685
RETURNING IDP INDIVIDUALS

586,187
RETURNING IDP HOUSEHOLDS

12.7% OF RETURNING IDPS ARE BETWEEN 0 AND 4 YEARS OLD

0.2% OF RETURNING IDPS ARE 80 YEARS OLD OR ABOVE

14.2% OF RETURNING IDP HOUSEHOLDS ARE FEMALE DOMINATED*

## WHERE

2,580
VILLAGES COVERED

902
VILLAGES UNCOVERED

REGION	No. OF RETURNING IDP INDIVIDUALS	% OF RETURNING IDP INDIVIDUALS
Afar	222,179	8.7%
Amhara**	951,931	37.3%
Benishangul Gumz**	136,354	5.3%
Central Ethiopia	7,898	0.3%
Gambela	24,437	1.0%
Oromia**	137,667	5.4%
Sidama	12,623	0.5%
Somali	59,230	2.3%
South West Ethiopia Peoples	29,109	1.1%
Tigray**	967,257	38.0%
GRAND TOTAL	2,548,685	100%

* A household is considered to be female dominated when at least 70% of household members are female

** Regions with access issues

Figure 5, Estimated returning IDP caseload in Ethiopia based on data collected between November - December 2023 through DTM Village Assessment Survey (VAS) round 18
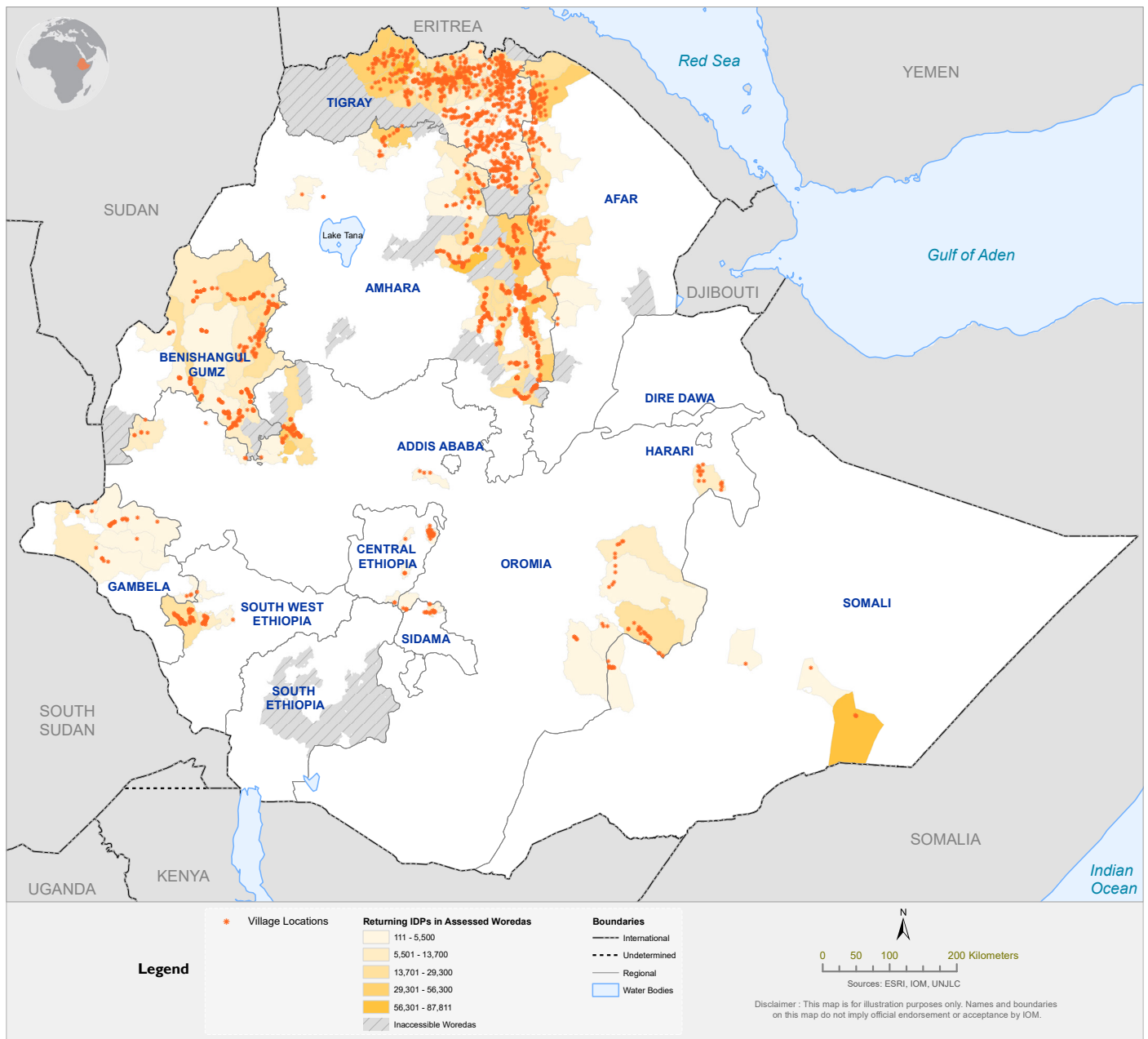
Between November and December 2023, IOM DTM deployed the Village Assessment Survey (VAS) across 10 regions. In total, an estimated **2,548,685 returning IDPs (586,187 households) were identified in 2,580 accessible villages across Ethiopia.** The regions of Tigray (an estimated 967,257 returning IDPs or 38%), Amhara (an estimated 951,931 returning IDPs or 37.3%) and Afar (an estimated 222,179 returning IDPs or 8.7%) account for the highest returning IDP caseloads nationwide.

RETURN INDEX (RI)

RETURN INDEX (RI)

Household representative sampling was also used to collect data on the living conditions of all estimated returning IDPs across the assessed villages. Three indicators were collected at the household level on:

- Shelter that protects from weather elements;
- Access to income generating activities for working age household members;
- School attendance of school age children.

The three selected indicators are in line with the criteria to measure durable solutions defined by the IASC. In particular, the indicators on shelter and school attendance are related to the criteria on adequate standards of living, and the indicator on income generation is related to the criteria on access to livelihoods.

The answers from the three selected indicators were ranked and assigned a numeric value from 0 to 1 based on the favourability of the answer.

The household results were then averaged into a Return Index (RI) to measure, monitor and compare, within a single value, the living conditions and socio-economic situation of returning IDPs across the assessed locations. The index allows for the prioritization of locations to support needs-based interventions.

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Figure 5. Return Index (RI) of returning IDP households
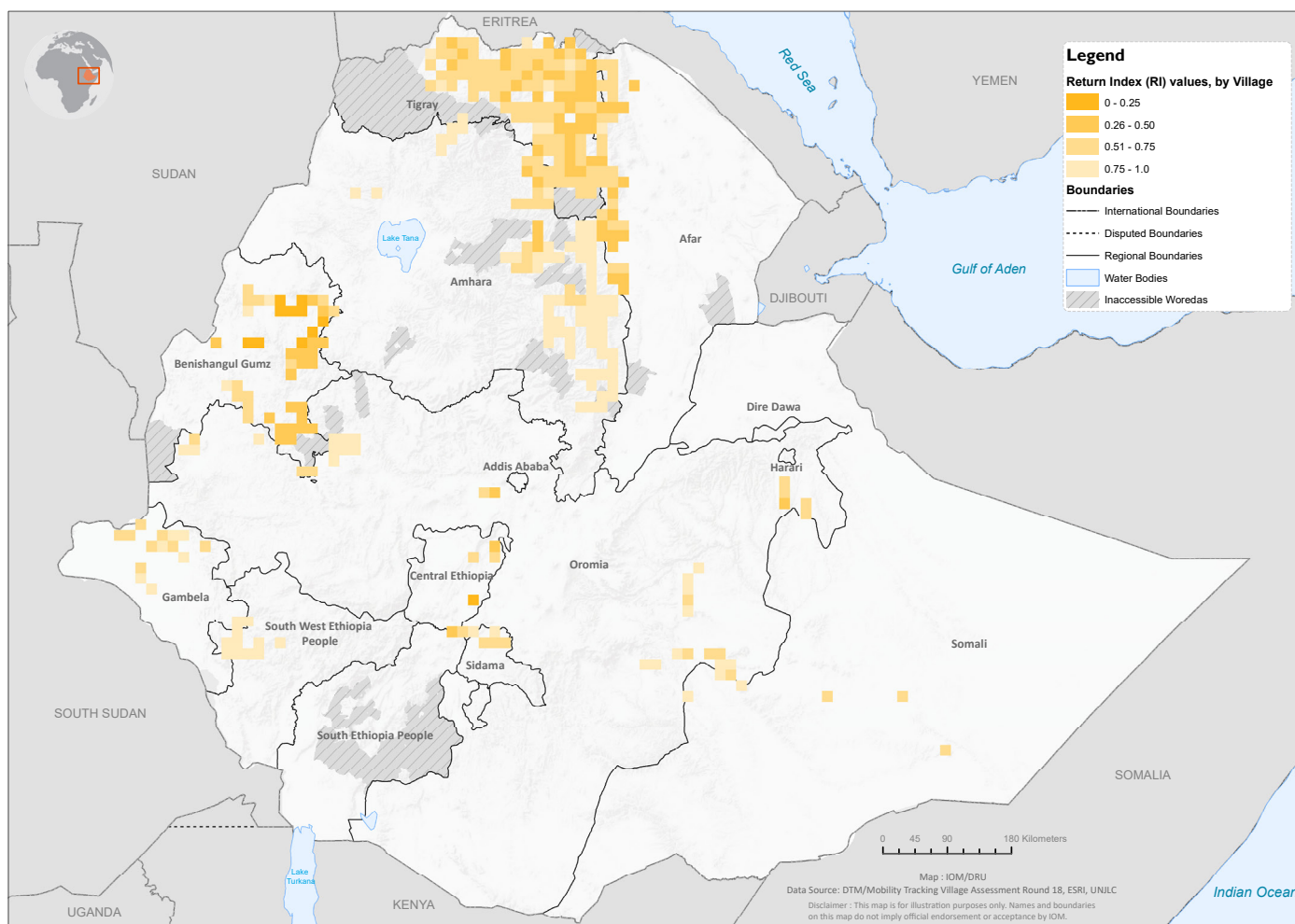
| Regions	Average Return Index (RI)
Afar	0.59
Amhara	0.80
Benishangul Gumz	0.41
Central Ethiopia	0.45
Gambela	0.79
Oromia	0.77
Sidama	0.71
Somali	0.71
South West Ethiopia Peoples	0.98
Tigray	0.54
Grand Total	**0.65**

Figure 5 shows the **results of the Return Index (RI) for returning IDP households, for the three aggregated indicators on shelter, income generation and education.** Values closer to 0 show higher severity needs or lower attainment for those three indicators, while values closer to 1 show less severity or higher attainment for the three selected indicators.

The map displays the household index aggregated at the village level. Values closer to 0 are in darker yellow, while values closer to 1 are in lighter yellow. Overall, 1.6% of returning IDPs were in the 0 - 0.25 category, 22.8% of returning IDPs were in the 0.26 - 0.50 category, 42.4% were in the 0.51 - 0.75 category and 33.2% were in the 0.76 - 1.0 category.

The average index nationwide is 0.65. The regions that score the lowest are Benishangul Gumz (0.41), Central Ethiopia (0.45), Tigray (0.54) and Afar (0.59).

WHY IS AN INDEX USEFUL?

By aggregating multiple indicators collected at the household-level through representative sampling, IOM's Data and Research Unit (DRU) developed indexes for IDPs (Displacement Index - DI) and returning IDPs (Return Index - RI) across locations assessed through in-person data collection in Ethiopia.

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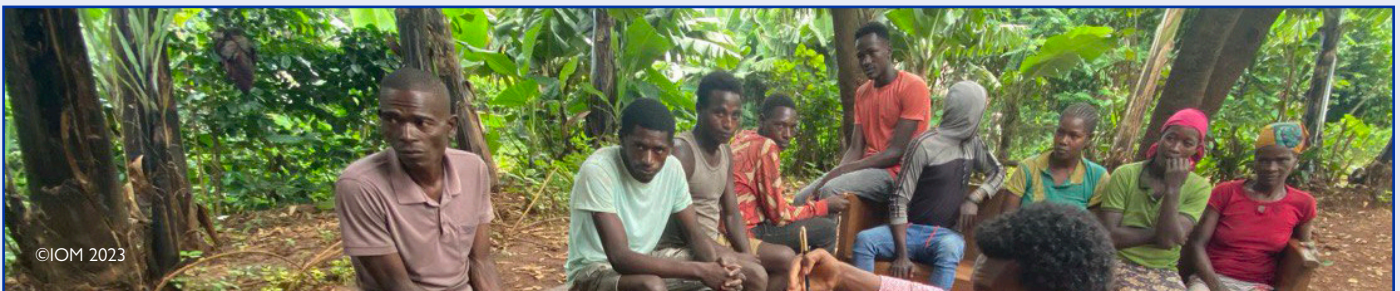
The answers from the three household-level indicators asked are ranked and assigned a numeric value from 0 to 1 based on the favourability of the answer. By compiling into a single value, the numerical value can be used to measure, monitor and compare the living conditions and socio-economic situation of IDPs/returning IDPs across the assessed locations.

The indexes allow for the identification of humanitarian caseloads and prioritization of locations to support needs-based interventions. The indexes can also be used to support development and durable solutions programming.

As the household-level data is representative at the location level, the indexes can be presented by population group at the location level, kebele level (admin 4), woreda level (admin 3), zonal level (admin 2) and regional level (admin 1). This allows for nuanced cross-location comparison over time.

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