

HIGHLIGHTS

- On 27-29 January 2018, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Mr. Mark Lowcock and UNDP Administrator Mr. Achim Steiner jointly visited Ethiopia to promote to promote a New Way of Working.



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Joint UNOCHA and UNDP USGs Ethiopia visit

Emergency Relief Coordinator and Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, Mr. Mark Lowcock and UNDP Administrator, Mr. Achim Steiner, jointly visited Ethiopia from 27-29 January 2018 to look into a New Way of Working where humanitarian and development actors collaborate to build climate-resilient communities. The delegation visited resilience building interventions and projects in Gode, Somali region and the construction of resettlement sites in the outskirts of Addis Ababa and in Somali region. The USGs also took part on the New Way of Working high-level event and discussed with Government officials and the humanitarian and development actors. Mr. Lowcock called on the international community to support Ethiopia in strengthening Government-led sustainable development structures at all levels that can mitigate human risks and the threat from increasingly frequent and severe droughts.

Field visit to Gode zone of Somali region

The three-day joint mission started with a field visit to Gode zone of Somali region; one of the zones most affected by recurrent climatic shocks. The USGs, accompanied by government, development and humanitarian partners, met with affected communities at the *Farbour* IDP site, and visited *Dabafayd* IDP resettlement site being developed by the regional Government as a durable solution for drought-induced IDPs.



Figure 1 USG Mark Lowcock interacting with Farbour IDPs.
Photo Credit: OCHA Ethiopia/Hezekiah

FIGURES

Affected pop.	8.5 m
MAM	3.6 m
SAM	375,000

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Government of Ethiopia and the United Nations allocated more than \$46 million to respond to urgent needs of over a million internally displaced persons. The allocation will support government's plan to voluntarily return, reintegrate or relocate IDPs.

Visit to Lege Taffo re-settlement site and a collective centre



Figure 2 RC/HC visiting the construction of Lege Taffo resettlement site. Photo Credit: OCHA

United Nations Under Secretary General and Emergency Response Coordinator Mr. Mark Lowcock, on 28 January 2018, visited IDP resettlement site at Lege Taffo, in the outskirt of Addis Ababa, where some 400 households (2000 persons) displaced due to conflict across the Oromia-Somali borders will be relocated this February. ETB400 million (close to US\$15 million) has been mobilized from the community and private sector for the construction of houses, shops and other infrastructure at Lege Taffo resettlement site.

High-level event on New Way of Working (NWOW)

On 28 January 2018, a special New Way of working event in Addis Ababa was organized chaired by UN Secretary General António Guterres and Ethiopian Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn. The SG used the opportunity to highlight the importance of the joint humanitarian-development mission and the UN's commitment to new way of working that bridges the humanitarian-development divide by recognizing common goals and optimizing existing resources and capabilities to help all people in situations of risk, vulnerability and crisis. "We must break down the silos that have existed for too long between humanitarian and development actors," said Secretary General Antonio Guterres.



Figure 3 PM Hailemariam Desalegn and UN Secretary General António Guterres opening the high-level event. Photo Credit: UNDP

More than \$46 million allocated for IDPs response, but gap remain high

Government of Ethiopia allocates ETB1 billion to rehabilitate IDPs

The Government of Ethiopia allocated ETB 1 billion (approximately US\$36 million) to rehabilitate close to 1.1 million people displaced due to conflict along the Oromia-Somali regional border (of which 857,000 were recorded in post-September 2017) and climate-induced factors. The comprehensive national response plan encourages voluntary returns of IDPs to areas of origin where security has been restored, voluntary integration with host communities and voluntary resettlement in selected locations. While the top priority for government is to voluntarily return some 584,000 IDPs who were displaced from border areas as early as possible, the remaining IDPs will be supported through integration and resettlement options.

In Oromia, the regional government is implementing a resettlement programme on a phase by phase basis following an IDP intention survey conducted by Haromaya University where most IDPs expressed preference for relocation. In the first phase of the relocation, some 86,000 persons are scheduled to be resettled in 12 towns across the region. Currently, some 12,000 houses are under construction in the 12 identified locations across Oromia region.

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Government of Ethiopia has decided to close Qoloji IDP sites as livelihood opportunities are depleting in the area.

In Somali region, the regional government is collaborating with Jigjiga University to conduct an intention survey for Somali IDPs which will inform the implementation of return, reintegration and relocation programmes. In the meantime, the National Disaster Risk Management Commission is scheduled to send out a team to assess the level of damage and loss recorded on infrastructure and facilities including in health posts and schools during the conflict. The outcome of this assessment will inform the actual needs and requirements in the full-fledged implementation of the national IDPs response plan.

UN's Central Emergency Response Fund allocates USD10 million to Ethiopia



Figure 4 USG/ERC Lowcock briefing the media following the New Way of Working event. Photo Credit: UNDP

United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator and Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs Mark Lowcock announced the release of \$10 million from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) to urgently assist the most vulnerable people displaced in Ethiopia. The USG made the announcement during a high-level event on New Way of Working held in Addis Ababa on 28 January 2018. The CERF funds will complement the Government plan and will enable humanitarian partners

to provide life-saving assistance, including shelter, clean water and sanitation services for those most in need among the displaced and host communities. "The funds will also support solutions for displaced people to re-establish their lives," said Mr. Lowcock.

Government decides to close Qoloji IDP sites

On 1 February 2018, The National Disaster Risk Management Commission informed the humanitarian partners about the Government's decision to close Qoloji 1 and Qoloji 2 IDP sites located along the boundary of Oromia Somali regions. The Government is concerned that the lack of livelihood opportunities in these locations is creating a protracted IDP situation without possibilities or prospects of durable solutions.

Qoloji 1 is populated by Somalis displaced from Oromia region or nearby border areas following ethnic clashes between Oromos and Somalis that started in late 2015. Qoloji 2 is composed of IDPs from more recent ethnic clashes from September 2017.

The Government is planning rehabilitation programme that would include relocating IDPs from the two camps to other more appropriate areas within the region.

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