

HIGHLIGHTS

- INGO partners have now gained full access to Kamashi zone after months of intermittent access.
- Reports from zonal/regional authorities indicate nearly 1.9 million IDPs have returned to their areas of origin since the Government began a scaled-up implementation of the IDP return plan in May 2019.



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INGO partners fully access Kamashi zone after months of intermittent access

The INGO Action Against Hunger reported that it has now gained full access in Kamashi zone of Benishangul Gumuz region. On 22-25 May 2019, the INGO deployed a Multi-Disciplinary Rapid Assessment team to conduct an emergency needs assessment in districts bordering West Wollega zone of



Figure 1 Emergency needs assessment in Kamashi zone (22-25 May, 2019). Photo Credit: Action Against Hunger

Oromia region. The team discussed with local authorities in the zone and identified four woredas/districts (Sedal, Yaso, Gelometi, and Kemashi town) based on the number of IDPs, impact of the conflict and displacement as well as issues related to accessibility for assessment and response. Significant multi-sector needs were identified in these areas. Preliminary findings indicate urgent multi-sector needs including health and nutrition, WaSH, food, protection and security as well as sustaining the livelihood of communities in Kamashi zone.

Government continues full scale implementation of IDP return operations

The Government continues a scaled-up implementation of its plan to return IDPs from various parts of the country which exhibited displacement crises. Out of the nearly 3 million IDPs, close to 1.9 million have already returned while some 1.1 million persons are still displaced. According to reports from zonal authorities, 97 per cent of IDPs (116,000 out of the 120,000) from East Wollega zone and 84 per cent of IDPs (70,000 out of the 83,000) from West Wollega zone have returned as of 22 May 2019. About 30 per cent (287,000 out of the 962,000) IDPs have returned in Somali region according to regional authorities. Out of the 107,000 IDPs in Amhara region, 35 per cent have returned so far. Similarly, the

FIGURES

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| Affected population | 8.3 million |
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| MAM | 4 million |
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| SAM | 609,000 |
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|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| # of people displaced due to conflict | 2.4 million |
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|--|-------|
| # of people displaced due to climatic shocks | 0.6 m |
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FUNDING

US\$1.314 billion

Requirement for the 2019 Ethiopia Humanitarian Response Plan

- The participation of the private sector and non-profit organization in responding to Ethiopia's rising humanitarian needs has increased significantly in the last few years, particularly following the huge conflict-driven displacement crises in the country.

overwhelming majority of IDPs in Gedeo and West-Guji zones have reportedly returned to their areas of origin. Displacement sites continue to be dismantled and officially closed. Most of the returning IDPs are not in their homes, but in temporary sites in kebeles of origin pending rehabilitation support. While continuing to engage with relevant local authorities to improve the implementation of the returns, including ensuring that it is , safe and principled, increased rehabilitation support is also required. Most interviewed returnees call for support to rebuild their damaged houses and restore their livelihoods.

Public-private partnership helping immediate and durable solutions to IDPs in Ethiopia

The participation of the private sector and non-profit organization in responding to Ethiopia's rising humanitarian needs have increased significantly in the last few years, particularly following the huge conflict-driven displacement crises in the country. Such efforts are playing significant roles in assisting millions of displaced persons with immediate life-saving needs as well as building sustainable livelihoods to IDPs returning to their areas of origin.

GARE donated ETB37.7 million (~\$1.2 million) to Gedeo-West Guji and Gondar IDP response

On 15 May 2019, the Global Alliance for Ethiopia (GARE) – a local non-profit charity – donated some ETB37.7 million (~\$1.2 million) it had fundraised in support of Government recovery and rehabilitation support for IDPs in Gonder and Gedeo-Guji. The US-based Ethiopian rights group GARE handed over ETB34.4 (equivalent to \$1.1m) collected from its fundraiser for IDPs in Gedeo and W. Guji zones. The remaining ETB3.3 million goes to IDP response in Central and West Gondar zones of Amhara region. GARE's Manager, Tamagn Beyene, handed the donations to World Vision Ethiopia representative Mr. Edward Brown who signed to implement IDP rehabilitation in identified areas. The two signatory parties agreed to focus on identifying common priorities including the provision of shelter, livelihood, peacebuilding and non-food item assistance.

Similar fundraising drives have been in other parts of the country for the rehabilitation of IDPs, including \$21.5 million pledged and \$10.5 million collected for the Amhara IDPs as of May 05, 2019. The host community and the private sector are the first responders in every crisis.

Close to ETB 26 million (~\$910,000) raised through public-private partnership to IDP response in Somali region

On 14 May 2019, the Somali Region President's Office and the Somali Region Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Bureau, in collaboration with the regional Chamber of Commerce and social media activists, organized a public fundraising event with a theme: 'Feed your brothers and sisters who need most your support.' to address the needs of the displaced and returning IDPs in the region. The event mobilized nearly US\$1 million from various private companies and individuals. The purpose of the fundraising was to support more than 1.1 million IDPs in the region with basic needs such as food, water, health as well as long term solutions including the relocation of IDPs.



Figure 2 Fund raising event for Somali IDP response. Photo Credit: OCHA

- High level Government, donor, partners mission to Gedeo/West Guji observed gaps including protection concerns in the return process and the lack of assistance in areas of return.

More than 70 individuals from private and public enterprises, individual companies, government institutions, humanitarian agencies, religious and traditional leaders participated in the event. OCHA Jijiga sub-office was a member of the fundraising event preparation committee. During the event, the regional president thanked participants and reiterated that the donated funds will be transparently distributed to the IDPs. The fundraising will continue beyond the event via the bank account opened for this purpose.

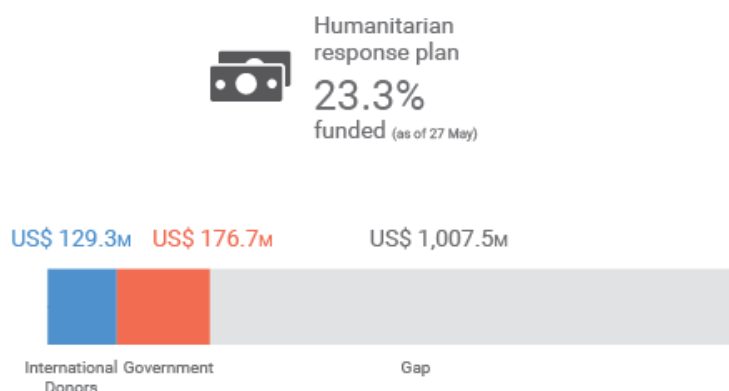
High-level Government and donor joint mission to Gedeo/West Guji

Upon the invitation of the Ministry of Peace (MoP), a high-level Government and donor joint mission went to Gedeo/West Guji zones where Government return operations are being implemented at full scale. The MoP has been actively working to engage partners in all phases of IDP response efforts, including by requesting partners to report on breaches of humanitarian principles during the return. The mission observed gaps including protection concerns in the return process and the lack of assistance in areas of return. The Ethiopian Humanitarian Country Team (EHCT) tasked the Protection Cluster to lead a process of identifying viable interventions for partners in areas of return in line with the “do no harm” principles and with a focus on accountability to the affected population. During the mission, partners advocated with zonal authorities for better security in areas of return; full access to IDPs in sites and in return areas; as well as for better coordination between zonal authorities and partners on the ground.



Figure 3 Government, donor, partners mission to Gedeo/West Guji. Photo Credit: OCHA

Humanitarian funding update, as of 27 May 2019



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