

# ETHIOPIA - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #2, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2019

AUGUST 21, 2019

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**8.9 million**

Estimated Population in Need of Humanitarian Assistance in 2019  
UN – February 2019

**2.2 million**

Estimated Number of IDPs  
IOM – May 2019

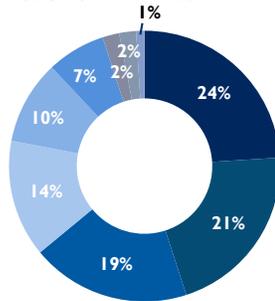
**905,831**

Refugees Residing in Ethiopia  
UNHCR – June 2019

**\$1.3 billion**

2019 Humanitarian Response Plan Funding Appeal  
GoE, UN – February 2019

## USAID/OFDA<sup>1</sup> FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2019



- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (24%)
- Shelter & Settlements (21%)
- Humanitarian Coordination & Information Management (19%)
- Nutrition (14%)
- Protection (10%)
- Multipurpose Cash Assistance (7%)
- Agriculture & Food Security (2%)
- Health (2%)
- Other (1%)

## USAID/FFP<sup>2</sup> FUNDING BY MODALITY IN FY 2019



## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Since early May, the Government of Ethiopia (GoE) has returned many internally displaced persons (IDPs) to areas of origin. However, many returnees are unable to return to original locations due to destruction of housing and disrupted livelihoods, as well as ongoing security concerns, prompting some to relocate to new or previous areas of displacement according to humanitarian partners.
- Poor March-to-May rains throughout southern pastoral areas, including much of Oromiya and Somali regions, have limited pasture regeneration, livestock productivity, and livelihood opportunities. Late onset and irregular February-to-May seasonal precipitation in rainfed agricultural areas will likely contribute to below-average seasonal harvests in central and north-central Ethiopia.
- The \$1.0 billion international donor contribution to the 2019 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) was 34 percent funded as of August 19, according to the UN. The GoE has contributed its planned \$288.1 million toward the \$1.3 billion HRP funding request.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Below-average rainfall and rising food prices increase food assistance needs across eastern Ethiopia
- USAID/FFP contributes nearly \$236 million to date in FY 2019 to support urgent food and nutrition activities in Ethiopia

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE ETHIOPIA RESPONSE IN FY 2019

USAID/OFDA	\$50,038,415
USAID/FFP	\$235,792,415
State/PRM <sup>3</sup>	\$6,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$291,830,830</b>

<sup>1</sup> USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

<sup>2</sup> USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM). State/PRM funding in Ethiopia includes assistance to Somali and South Sudanese refugees who are sheltering in Ethiopia, which is also included in the regional U.S. Government (USG) response totals for Somalia and South Sudan.

## INSECURITY AND DISPLACEMENT

- More than 2.2 million people remained displaced across Ethiopia as of the end of May, according to a survey conducted by the UN International Organization for Migration (IOM). The majority of IDPs—nearly 1.7 million people—were displaced by conflict, while more than 518,000 were displaced by climatic factors, primarily drought.
  - Through the GoE's returns operation launched in early May, approximately 1.8 million displaced people had voluntarily and involuntarily returned to or near areas of origin as of late June, according to unverified GoE estimates. However, living and security conditions remain difficult in many areas of return; many returnee households have lost homes, as well as livestock, crops, and other livelihoods assets, and have missed planting seasons that form a significant part of typical livelihoods, prompting some IDP returnees to relocate or re-displace to other areas. Furthermore, humanitarian actors have raised concerns that the GoE program is returning some IDPs prematurely to areas where they do not feel safe, and continue to assert that humanitarian principles require all returns to be safe, voluntary, and dignified.
  - With more than \$4 million in FY 2019 funding from USAID/OFDA, the IOM-managed Rapid Response Fund is providing shelter and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services—including hygiene promotion and provision of WASH commodities—to newly displaced populations in Ethiopia. The UN agency also continues to implement protection programming to prevent gender-based violence among IDPs, as well as create safe spaces for children within displacement sites.
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## FOOD SECURITY

- The 2019 HRP estimated that more than 8.1 million people would require food assistance in 2019, primarily due to displacement and the impact of drought conditions on livelihoods. However, additional food needs—largely among new IDP and returnee populations—identified by relief actors and the GoE National Disaster Risk Management Commission in recent months increased the estimated number of people requiring food assistance to 8.5 million people. Of the more than \$1.3 billion in funding requested by the HRP, more than \$600 million is intended to support food assistance for food-insecure Ethiopians and displaced people.
- The Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) projects that Crisis—IPC 3—levels of acute food insecurity will persist until at least January across widespread areas of northern Afar Region, southern and eastern Oromiya, and Somali following poor seasonal rains in early 2019.<sup>4</sup> Below-average March-to-May *gu* season rainfall has led to poor pasture regeneration and low water availability in southeastern pastoral areas, negatively affecting livestock productivity and household income in areas where many pastoralist and agro-pastoralist households have not recovered previous herd sizes after drought conditions in 2016 and 2017.
- In addition, the delayed onset and uneven distribution of the February-to-May *belg* season rainfall will likely result in below-average crop production in much of Ethiopia's *belg*-producing areas. Moreover, low supplies of food in markets, rising inflation, and a decrease in the value of the Ethiopian birr against the U.S. dollar have contributed to increased food prices; the prices of key staple food commodities—such as maize, sorghum, teff, and wheat—rose by approximately 20 percent between June 2018 and June 2019, further limiting food access for populations reliant on markets, according to the UN World Food Program (WFP).
- In January, WFP resumed food distributions in Somali's Dawa Zone, where security risks had resulted in a nearly yearlong suspension of relief activities. Between mid-January and March, WFP provided 1,600 metric tons (MT) of emergency food assistance, as well as specialized nutrition products for the prevention and treatment of acute malnutrition, to nearly 350,000 people in Dawa's Moyale District. Violence in Moyale in late 2018 resulted in civilian deaths, the displacement of an estimated 115,000 people within Moyale and to neighboring areas, the destruction of infrastructure, and widespread food insecurity in the district, according to the UN.
- With the support of USAID/FFP and other donors, WFP assisted approximately 3 million people across Ethiopia in June through a combination of in-kind food distributions, cash-based assistance, targeted supplementary feeding programs to treat moderate acute malnutrition, school feeding, and asset-building activities. To date in FY 2019, USAID/FFP has provided more than \$175 million to enable WFP to procure and distribute nearly 222,200 MT of in-kind food commodities to people in need. Additionally, USAID/FFP supports WFP's work with the GoE to

<sup>4</sup> The Integrated Food Security Classification (IPC) is a standardized tool that aims to classify the severity and magnitude of acute food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5.

strengthen the government's capacity to identify and register beneficiaries, assess food needs, manage and distribute food commodities, and conduct evaluation activities.

- The Joint Emergency Operation (JEOP)—a consortium of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) led by Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and funded by USAID/FFP—reached more than 915,000 people in Amhara, Oromiya, Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples (SNNP), and Tigray regions, as well as Dire Dawa city, with in-kind food assistance from April to June. To date in FY 2019, USAID/FFP has contributed \$46.4 million to CRS, supporting the distribution of in-kind food assistance sourced from U.S. markets to people in Ethiopia.

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## NUTRITION

- Poor seasonal rainfall in early-to-mid 2019 also contributed to heightened nutrition needs, with a reported increase in the number of admissions of children experiencing severe acute malnutrition (SAM) to therapeutic feeding programs (TFPs) between April and May, according to the Nutrition Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian nutrition activities, comprising UN agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders. In May, relief actors admitted nearly 29,900 children ages five years and younger experiencing SAM to TFPs across Ethiopia; compared to April caseloads, the number of admissions in May increased by nearly 22 percent in Somali, approximately 17 percent in Afar, and nearly 6 percent in Oromiya. Nutrition actors have highlighted the need for additional nutrition commodities in the coming months to support the increased admissions, as well as for scaled-up monitoring activities and malnutrition screenings to allow for early detection of acute malnutrition.
- In response to urgent malnutrition treatment needs in Ethiopia, USAID/FFP recently contributed approximately \$11 million to the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) to facilitate the procurement and distribution of 2,700 MT of ready-to-use therapeutic food, sufficient to treat approximately 216,000 children ages 6–59 months experiencing SAM. Additionally, USAID/FFP recently contributed 930 MT of specialized nutrition products—with an estimated value of nearly \$3 million—to the International Rescue Committee (IRC) to support nutrition programming through the Rapid Response Mechanism, which is jointly funded by USAID/FFP and USAID/OFDA.
- USAID/OFDA is supporting GOAL to implement a community management of acute malnutrition program across Benishangul-Gumuz, Oromiya, Somali, and SNNP regions. With nearly \$1.1 million in FY 2019 USAID/OFDA funding, GOAL is conducting community-based nutrition interventions, such as treating children experiencing SAM or moderate acute malnutrition and conducting infant and young child feeding awareness campaigns, organizing mobile health and nutrition teams, screening for acute malnutrition, and supporting community outreach and mobilization activities. To date in 2019, USAID/OFDA has provided more than \$6.9 million to eight NGO partners to support critical nutrition programming in Ethiopia.

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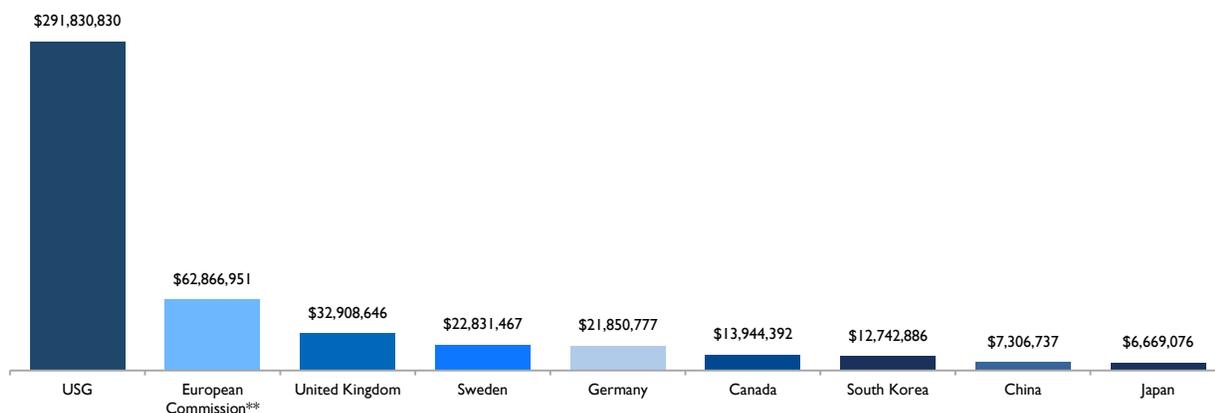
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## WASH

- The 2019 HRP targets approximately 7.2 million people for WASH support across Ethiopia. However, drought conditions, localized flooding, and an ongoing cholera outbreak that began in late April have exacerbated WASH needs, the UN reports.
- Cholera caseloads increased across Ethiopia between late April and mid-July, with more than 1,000 suspected cases and 11 deaths reported as of July 21, according to the UN World Health Organization. Oromiya has experienced the highest number of suspected cholera cases, with cases also reported in the capital city of Addis Ababa, as well as Afar, Amhara, Dire Dawa, Somali, and Tigray. In response to the outbreak, the GoE imported more than 700,000 doses of oral cholera vaccine, which support a vaccination campaign in Addis Ababa, Oromiya, and other affected areas.
- USAID/OFDA has provided \$3.5 million in FY 2019 to UNICEF, including for WASH programs in Afar, Amhara, Oromiya, Somali, SNNP, and Tigray. The UN agency is providing emergency water trucking, hygiene promotion, and improvements to sanitation infrastructure, impacting approximately 50,000 people.
- With \$5 million in USAID/OFDA funding in FY 2019, two NGO partners are scaling up WASH activities in Oromiya and Somali to improve access to safe drinking water and proper sanitation facilities, including through constructing latrines, rehabilitating water supply systems, training water management committees on safe hygiene practices, and

water trucking. Overall, USAID/OFDA has provided nearly \$11.8 million for WASH programs across Ethiopia in FY 2019.

## 2019 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING\* PER DONOR



\*Funding figures are as of August 19, 2019. All international figures are according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during 2019, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect USG funding in FY 2019, which began on October 1, 2018.

\*\*Includes contributions from the European Commission's Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO)

### CONTEXT

- Populations in Ethiopia frequently experience recurrent drought, seasonal flooding, intercommunal conflict, food insecurity, disease outbreaks, and limited access to health and WASH services, contributing to sustained humanitarian needs and an ongoing complex emergency.
- From 2015 to 2016, USAID/FFP and USAID/OFDA responded to Ethiopia's worst drought in more than 50 years, which resulted in at least 10.2 million people requiring emergency food assistance. In 2017, drought conditions in previously less-affected pastoral areas of southeastern Ethiopia intensified after consecutive seasons of below-average rainfall, decreasing livestock herd sizes and impacting access to food and livelihoods opportunities.
- In late 2017, intercommunal conflict along the border between Oromiya and Somali escalated, displacing hundreds of thousands of people in the two regions and exacerbating humanitarian needs.
- Since April 2018, renewed intercommunal violence in Oromiya and SNNP has resulted in extensive displacement. In September 2018, conflict spread to Benishangul-Gumuz and Ethiopia's capital city of Addis Ababa, resulting in civilian deaths and additional displacement. Humanitarian organizations are responding to acute needs across the country as security conditions allow.
- On October 21, 2018, U.S. Ambassador Michael A. Raynor re-declared a disaster for FY 2019 due to the ongoing complex emergency in Ethiopia.

### USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE ETHIOPIA RESPONSE IN FY 2019<sup>1</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/OFDA</b>			
Action Against Hunger	Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA), Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Dire Dawa, Oromiya	\$2,000,000
Concern	Agriculture and Food Security, Health, Nutrition, Risk Management, WASH	Amhara	\$2,000,000

Danish Refugee Council	MPCA, Protection	Oromiya, Somali, SNNP	\$4,600,000
GOAL	Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Benishangul-Gumuz, Oromiya, Somali, SNNP	\$3,250,000
iMMAP	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management (HCIM)	Countrywide	\$1,147,694
International Medical Corps	Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Oromiya	\$1,300,000
IOM	HCIM, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$14,610,000
IRC	Nutrition, WASH	Countrywide	\$2,330,287
Mercy Corps	Agriculture and Food Security, Nutrition, WASH	Oromiya, Somali	\$2,000,000
OCHA	HCIM	Countrywide	\$6,000,000
Save the Children	Nutrition, WASH	Oromiya, Somali	\$3,000,000
UNICEF	Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Afar, Amhara, Oromiya, Somali, SNNP, Tigray	\$3,500,000
UN Department of Safety and Security	HCIM	Countrywide	\$549,603
UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)	Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$400,000
U.S. Forest Service	HCIM	Countrywide	\$200,000
World Vision	Agriculture and Food Security, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Oromiya, SNNP	\$2,254,000
	Program Support		\$896,831
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$50,038,415</b>
<b>USAID/FFP<sup>2</sup></b>			
CRS/IEOP	54,730 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Amhara, Dire Dawa, Oromiya, SNNP, Tigray	\$46,447,117
IRC	930 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Countrywide	\$2,982,456
UNICEF	2,700 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Countrywide	\$11,003,866
WFP	117,440 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid; 104,729 MT of Local and Regional Food Procurement; Complementary Services	Afar, Amhara, Benishangul-Gumuz, Oromiya, Somali, SNNP, Tigray	\$175,358,976
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING</b>			<b>\$235,792,415</b>
<b>STATE/PRM<sup>3</sup></b>			
Center for Victims of Torture	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Services for Refugees	Tigray	\$1,250,000
IOM	Emergency Transportation and Relocation Assistance for Refugees	Countrywide	\$500,000
IRC	Multi-sectoral Assistance for Refugees	Benishangul-Gumuz, Somali, Tigray	\$3,750,000
UNHAS	Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$500,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$6,000,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE ETHIOPIA RESPONSE IN FY 2019</b>			<b>\$291,830,830</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds; USG funding represents publicly reported amounts as of August 19, 2019.

<sup>2</sup> Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

<sup>3</sup> State/PRM funding in Ethiopia includes assistance to Somali and South Sudanese refugees who are sheltering in Ethiopia, which is also included in the regional USG response totals for Somalia and South Sudan.

## **PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION**

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [www.interaction.org](http://www.interaction.org).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
  - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) or +1.202.661.7710.
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at  
<http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>