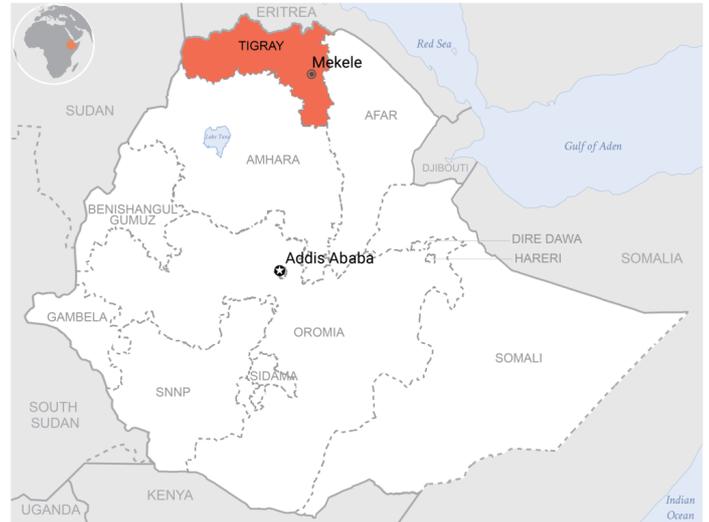


HIGHLIGHTS (3 Jun 2021)

- Hostilities have largely ceased along the boundary with Eritrea but access to these areas is often denied.
- Nine aid workers have been killed in Tigray since the start of the conflict, including another NGO worker on 28 May in Adigrat.
- 21 per cent of the 21,000 children under-5 screened for malnutrition were identified with severe wasting, significantly above the 15 per cent threshold set by WHO..
- More than 5,400 unaccompanied and separated children have been identified, of whom only 7.5 per cent are placed at temporary alternative care.
- More than 2.8 million people of the targeted 5.2 million reached with food under the 2021 response plan since late March, including about 650,000 people during the reporting period



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KEY FIGURES

5.2M

People in need

5.2M

People targeted

63,110

Refugees in Sudan since 7 November

FUNDING

\$853M

Requirements (May - December)

\$197M

Outstanding gap (May - July)

\$502M

Outstanding gap (May - December)

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BACKGROUND (3 Jun 2021)

Disclaimer

This report is prepared by OCHA Ethiopia with the support of Cluster Coordinators. The data/information collected covers the period from 22 to 28 May. In some cases, access and communication constraints mean that updates for the period are delayed. The next issue, covering the period from 29 May to 4 June will be issued on 10 June 2021.

BACKGROUND (3 Jun 2021)

Situation Overview

The overall security situation remains highly complex and fluid. Ongoing active hostilities are very mobile, taking place mostly in rural areas and hindering planning and expansion of humanitarian operations. While hostilities have largely ceased in boundary areas with Eritrea in the last few months, from North-Western to Eastern Zones access to these areas is often denied.

Violence and attacks against civilians, including humanitarian workers, continue. Since the start of the conflict, nine aid workers have been killed in Tigray, all Ethiopian nationals. The latest incident occurred on 28 May when a humanitarian worker working with an INGO was killed together with the Mayor of Adigrat town and another victim during an attack outside the Government building in Adigrat Town, Eastern Zone. The individual was not a direct target but was the victim of a crossfire.

On the night of 24 May, more than 200 people were arrested during military raids into Tsehaye and Adi Wonfito internally displaced collective sites in Shire, North-Western Zone, hosting a combined 12,000 internally displaced persons. Most of the men detained have been reportedly released on 27 May. The humanitarian community, through an official statement released by the Humanitarian Coordinator on 28 May, condemned the arbitrary arrest, beatings and other forms of ill-treatment of civilians by members of the armed force. The Ethiopia Ministry of Foreign Affairs said in a press release on 28 May that “the necessary investigation will have to be undertaken to verify the facts in relation to the above-mentioned allegation.”

Localized incidents of denial of humanitarian movement, looting and confiscation of humanitarian assets and supplies by the parties to the conflict continue to be reported. Access, however, was possible in some previously inaccessible areas. On 22 May, a joint OCHA and WFP mission visited Zana Town and Selekleka in North-Western Zone. Lack of health services was observed except for one partner running a clinic twice per week in Zana. Trade and transportation is completely cut off in Zana Woreda with poor road conditions north of Selekleka hindering humanitarian access and access of the population to essential services. In addition, Western Zone is now accessible through Amhara but not from North Western Zone. Areas along the regional boundary with North-Western Zone and areas bordering Tahtay Adiyabo Woreda, North-Western Zone are not accessible.

Levels of food insecurity and malnutrition remain alarming. Screening of children for malnutrition has doubled during the reporting period, with more than 21,000 children screened, compared to nearly 11,000 a week earlier. Children aged 6-59 months identified with severe wasting accounted for 21 per cent, alarmingly above the 15 per cent prevalence threshold set by WHO.

According to IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix fifth Emergency Site Assessment 1,715,176 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) were found to be displaced due to the conflict across 265 sites in Tigray, Amhara and Afar Regions. Of those, 1,645,944 IDPs are in Tigray Region, followed by 48,420 IDPs in Afar Region and 20,812 IDPs in Amhara Region. DTM notes that 6 sites in Southern and South-Eastern Zones that were covered during round 2 and across 10 sites in Central and Western Zones covered during round 4 were inaccessible during this round due to insecurity. The Tigray Regional Interim Administration estimates more than 2 million people are displaced.

Health facilities continue to receive and treat survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) throughout the region with 1,288 official cases reported between February and April. The reported cases greatly underestimate the actual cases as underreporting is widespread mainly due to fear of stigmatization and/or retaliation, limited access to trusted service providers, and widespread impunity for perpetrators.

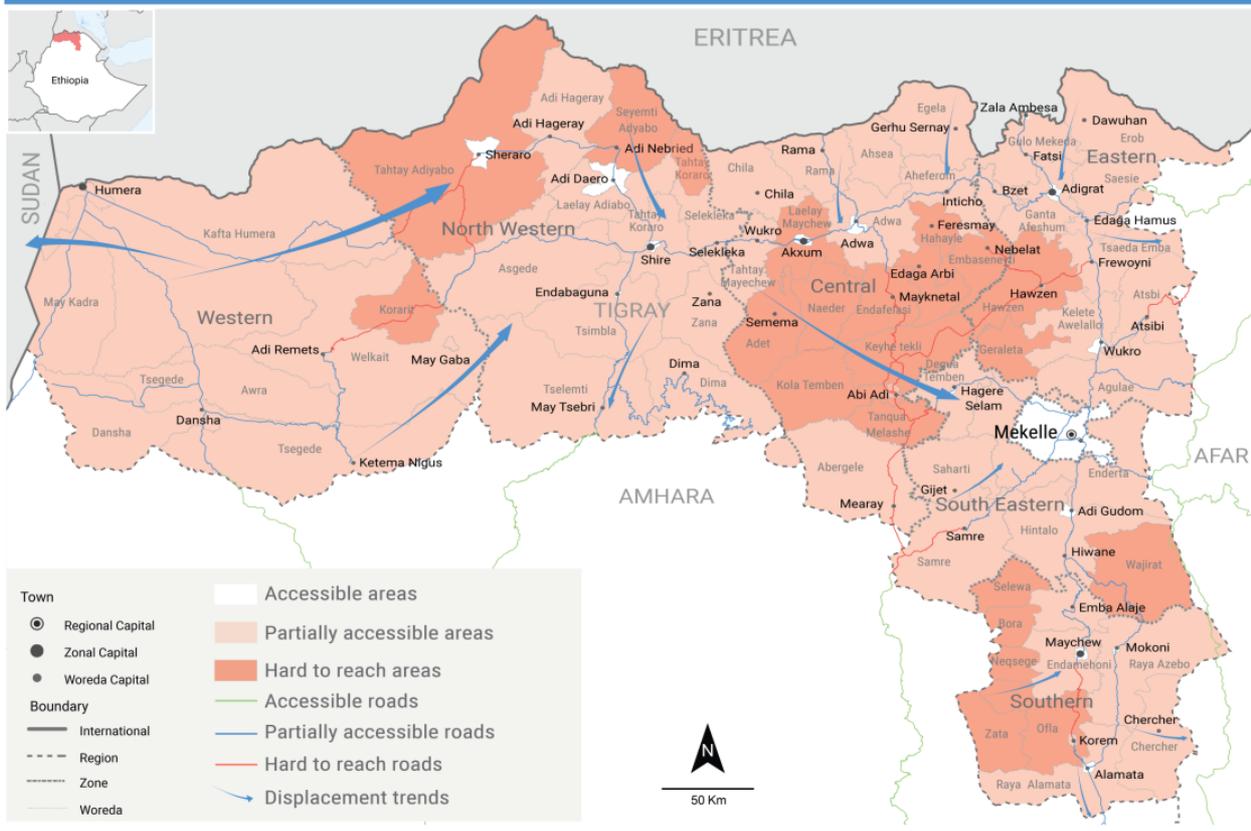
Some 5,404 unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) were identified in Tigray, in which at least 95 percent of them (5,159) are in Shire, Sheraro, Adi Daero, Endabaguna, Seyemti Adyabo, Tahtay Koraro (North-Western Zone), Axum and Adwa (Central Zone). Only 7.5 percent of them (389 children) are placed at temporary alternative care or foster and kinship care, and only 10 children (0.2 percent) were reunited with their families. A few humanitarian organizations are working on child protection and family tracing and reunification. Humanitarian support for these children is clearly insufficient and has so far been on identification and registration. In addition to child protection services, the children need medicine, food, and non-food items.

Humanitarian partners are gradually scaling up the response, but not yet keeping pace with the mounting needs, due to a combination of active conflict, access constraints, interrupted communications, and lack of funding. Appropriate visa extensions is also required for NGO partners to enable continuation of staff and projects.

In a press release issued on 23 May, US Secretary of State, Antony Blinken, called on the Ethiopian Government to ensure unhindered humanitarian access in the Tigray Region, and raised the risk of further deterioration of the food insecurity without rapid expansion of humanitarian access. Later, on 26 May, US President Joe Biden, said in a statement that the large-scale human rights abuses taking place in Tigray, including widespread sexual violence, are unacceptable and must end.

VISUAL (3 Jun 2021)

Humanitarian Access in Tigray



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 Creation date: 31 May 2021 Sources: OCHA, Tigray Statistical Agency, humanitarian partners Feedback: ocha-eth@un.org http://www.humanitarianresponse.info/operations/ethiopia www.reliefweb.int

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. © OCHA

EMERGENCY RESPONSE (3 Jun 2021)

Humanitarian Preparedness and Response

There are currently [as of 2 June] 387 UN staff supporting the humanitarian response (97 international and 160 national staff in Mekelle and 23 international and 107 national staff in Shire), an increase from 227 two weeks ago. Similarly, NGO partners have significantly scaled-up with 32 NGOs currently responding in Tigray (up from 17 pre-crisis). Additional staff continue to be deployed to support the scale up of operations. With at least 1,141 additional national staff and 108 international staff deployed, the total NGO staff in Tigray is approximately 1,850 [as of two weeks ago]. There are 54 partners (Government, UN, NGO) operating across the region, an increase from 51 partners few weeks ago.

From 27 March to 31 May (since the start of round 1 food distribution of 2021), the three main food operators assisted more than 2.8 million people out of the targeted 5.2 million people in 58 *Woredas* across Mekelle town, Eastern, Western, Central, North-western, Southern, and South-Eastern Zones, reaching nearly additional 650,000 people during the reporting period. Meanwhile, partners and the Government Water Bureau continue to provide water trucking to nearly 633,000 people in Central, Eastern, North-Western, South-Eastern and Southern Zones and in Mekelle.

To date, about 430,000 people, which is 15 per cent of the targeted 3 million people, were reached with emergency shelter and non-food items. This is compared to 386,000 people a week earlier. With completed, ongoing, and planned distributions, partners expect to reach more than 800,000 people (nearly 30 percent) of the total target.

At Sabacare-4 relocation IDP site in Mekelle, which is expected to host more than 20,000 IDPs, partners completed the construction of all the required shelter units (more than 3,400 units). Partners also constructed 500 shelters in Shire of the planned 9,000 shelters, and distributed cash for rent (provision of cash to cover all or part of the cost of renting accommodation) for over 7,000 households in Mekelle and 3,200 households in Shire.

FEATURE (3 Jun 2021)

High Level Visits

On 26 May, IOM's Regional Director for East and Horn of Africa, Mohammed Abdiker, visited Mekelle to see the humanitarian response firsthand. He met with authorities, partners and IDPs. Also on 26 May, a delegation from the EU Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) visited IDP sites in Mekelle. They met with humanitarian partners and assessed needs together with UNHCR and IOM.

CLUSTER STATUS (3 Jun 2021)



Agriculture

Needs

- Emergency seed packs and fertilizers to farmers in accessible *Woredas* in Central, Eastern, Southern, South-Eastern and North-Western Zones.
- Animal health inputs, including vaccine, drugs, equipment, facilities and restoration of vet clinics to the above-mentioned farm households.

Response

- About 68,125 quintals (a quintal equals 100kg) of fertilizer were distributed to agricultural cooperative unions, for further distribution to farmers.
- Improved agricultural inputs were distributed to 3,461 farming households (17,305 people) in Enderta *Woreda* (South-Eastern Zone), Tsirae Wonberta and Kola Temben *Woredas* (Central Zone).
- The local NGO Relief Society of Tigray (REST) transported 6,645 quintals of agricultural inputs to Southern, South-Eastern, Eastern and Central Zones to be distributed to farmers this week.

Gaps

- Insufficient supply of good quality seeds.
- Delay in the distribution of chemical fertilizer and *Azmera* season seeds.
- Delay in land preparation due to lack of access of farmers to their lands.

CLUSTER STATUS (3 Jun 2021)



Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Needs

- Identification of 20 new IDP sites across Tigray. 10 in Shire, 3 in Adwa, 3 in Adigrat, 2 in Axum and 2 in Mekelle. Other sites will be identified on a case basis.

Response

- 38 collective IDP sites (22 in Mekelle and 16 in Shire) are being managed by IOM and UNHCR.
- Accelerating the work to complete Sabacare-4 relocation site in Mekelle in line with the government's deadline of 15 June for relocation.
- Installing WASH facilities at Taba – Weyane Tsinat school to be used as shelter and Five Angels IDP relocation site in Shire in line with the plans to reopen Axum University, currently used as a shelter for IDPs.

Gaps

- There are concerns about the presence of a military unit in the proximity of the “Sabacare-4” IDP relocation site in Mekelle. This issue remains to be resolved. All IDP camps and or sites are to assume a civilian character.
- No electricity lines at Sabacare-4 relocation site.

CLUSTER STATUS (3 Jun 2021)



Education

Needs

- Identifying alternative shelters for IDPs to allow schools used as shelters to reopen.
- Cleaning, sanitation, repairs and rehabilitation to looted, damaged and formerly occupied schools by the new school year in September. The Regional Education Bureau estimates 75 per cent of all 2,492 public schools will require support.
- Provision of mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) training for all 44,907 government teachers.
- Provision of school meals or snacks, including high energy biscuits, as incentive to improve and maintain children's attendance rate at the temporary learning spaces.

Response

- Some 171 protective learning environments are now established by partners offering integrated education and protection services for some 14,184 IDP and host community children in Shire, Mekelle and Adigrat and South-Eastern Zone.
- Some 375 children received scholastic materials, textbooks and individual chalkboards to continue their learning by Operation Rescue.
- Save the Children trained 24 teachers and facilitators in Mekelle and Adigrat and set-up 53 mobile child friendly spaces.
- Imagine One Day trained an additional 100 teachers and facilitators for Accelerated School Readiness, social emotional learning and parental education and skills.
- Relief Society of Tigray (REST) distributed 2,996 pairs of Tom's shoes to students in three primary IDP collection sites in Mekelle.
- The Regional Education Bureau received technical and financial support from UNICEF to finalize a damage assessment of public schools in Mekelle.

↔ Gaps

- Lack of any education response in critical areas of high need such as Abi Adi, Adi Shuhu, Sheraro and Maichew.

CLUSTER STATUS (3 Jun 2021)



Emergency Shelter & Non-Food Items

Needs

- No updates since last reporting period.

→ Response

- To date, 429,810 people (15 per cent of the targeted 3 million people) were reached with ES/NFI. With completed, ongoing, and planned distributions, the cluster partners expect to reach 808,270 people (29%) of the total 3 million targeted.
- Cluster partners finalized the construction of more than 3,400 shelter at "Sabacare-4" relocation site in Mekelle, which is expected to host more than 20,000 IDPs.
- Cluster partners constructed 500 shelters in Shire of the planned 9,000 shelters.
- Cluster partners distributed cash for rent/NFI for over 7,051 households in Mekelle and 3,200 households in Shire.
- Cluster partners organized a one-day training for humanitarian partners financed by USAID on humanitarian principles; Accountability to Affected Population; GBV risk mitigation in distributions; common distribution risks; and distribution simulation. Some 49 participants from 20 humanitarian agencies and 2 government offices participated in the training in Shire and Mekelle.

- The Interim Administration announced ongoing preparations for the return of IDPs to their place of origin. Cluster partners will continue to advocate against any premature returns until the situation improves and any return to be in line with global principles.

↔ Gaps

- Lack of Government coordination structure in several *Woredas*.
- IDPs are selling their NFIs to meet their food needs due to delays in food distribution.
- Operational constraints including lack of banking services in several locations, limited information on the humanitarian situation due to interrupted communications and limited access.

CLUSTER STATUS (3 Jun 2021)



Food

? Needs

- Some 5.2 million people are estimated to be in need of food assistance across the region. Food Cluster partners seek to reach all of them with six rounds of food ration this year.
- The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis for Tigray Region was completed on 26 May. The IPC technical working group is working on endorsement of the analysis, which will provide an indication of food security situation in analyzed *Woredas* in the region and inform the ongoing response planning.

→ Response

- From 27 March to 31 May (since the start of round 1 food distribution of 2021), the three main food operators assisted 2,839,373 people with 48,170 metric tons (MT) of food in 58 *Woredas* across Mekelle town, Eastern, Western, Central, North-western, Southern, and South-Eastern Zones.
- From 20 to 26 May, the food operators distributed 11,222 MT of food to 646,615 people under round 1.
- NDRMC has distributed 1,573 MT of food to 104,833 people in Ofla, Zata, and Raya Alamata *Woredas*, Southern Zone and 570 MT to 18,986 people in Maykadra and Humera *Woredas*, Western Zone.
- As of 26, WFP has distributed 16,134 MT of food to 951,856 people under round 1.
- The Joint Emergency Operation Program (JEOP) distributed 95 per cent of the allocated 66,736 MT of food to 1,860,524 people targeted in round 6/7 with double rations, which started in October 2020.
- From 27 March to 26 May, JEOP has assisted 1,763,698 people for the first round of assistance for 2021.

↔ Gaps

- Delays with completing the list of targeted people in some accessible *Woredas* mainly due to the increasing needs on the ground which is often greater than the approved caseload quota; lack of documentation among the affected population; and poor or non-existing local Government structure particularly in rural areas. This continues to delay the

launch of planned food distributions.

- Flexibility for including new caseloads without quota limitation in food assistance is urgently needed.
- Access and security challenges to reach affected populations significantly delaying the first round of food distribution in some areas. Eight *Woredas* were not accessible during the reporting period.
- Delays with humanitarian cargo movement due to military checkpoints on main routes.
- Delays with dispatching and distributing of food due to fuel shortage.
- In locations with partial access, affected populations, if allowed safe passage, are often required to walk for a long distance to the food distribution points.

CLUSTER STATUS (3 Jun 2021)



Health

Needs

- Enhance nutrition screening to identify cases in the community and therapeutic feeding programs to treat severe acute malnutrition as the cases continue to rise this year with proportions higher than the previous years with only 34 *Woredas* screened.

Response

- The Regional Health Bureau and Health Cluster partners currently have the capacity to operate over 55 Mobile Health and Nutrition Teams (MHNTs) in 57 *Woredas*. From 16-22 May, there were 40 MHNTs operational covering 34 *Woredas* with a combined total of 11603 Out-Patient Department (OPD) consultations.
- Microplanning for the Oral Cholera Vaccination (OCV) campaign has been completed with the Regional Health Bureau, WHO, Health and WASH Cluster partners. The campaign consists of 2 rounds, the first round is scheduled to commence on 10 June and the second in July.
- The OCV campaign targets 2 million IDP and host community populations in 5 Zones and 13 priority *Woredas* (Abi Adi, Adwa, Axum, Adigrat, Mekelle, Asgede, Sheraro, Shire, Tahtay Koraro, Degua Temben, Hintalo, Saharti, Maichew).
- Established four new Displaced Provider Programs (DPP) in Mekelle (volunteer displaced healthcare workers to provide essential, life-saving health services to other displaced people) and continuation of existing DPP programmes through-out the region.
- Provision of essential medical supplies to sexual and reproductive health providers, dignity kits to women of reproductive age, bed screens, blankets and sheets to pregnant women, and training for health care workers.
- Establishment of maternity waiting homes (facilities located near a qualified medical facility, where women defined as "high risk" can await their delivery) at IDP camps and 8 Women and Girl's Safe Spaces (4 in Shire and 4 in Mekelle).
- Continued to support to existing health facilities, including essential supplies and supportive supervision and technical assistance.

- Some 68,301 persons have been vaccinated against COVID-19 – majority from the community, 3 percent IDPs and 7 percent health care workers. About 55 percent of the people vaccinated are in Mekelle.
- From 24-30 May, the toll-free line served and handled over 250 calls on transmission of COVID-19 and other infectious diseases and adverse side effects from the COVID-19 vaccination.
- Health facilities continue to receive and treat survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) throughout the region with 1288 official cases reported between February and April. These case do not reflect the full extent of the problem.

↔ Gaps

- Safe transportation for providers and participants travelling for trainings.
- Poor communication network and blackout affecting oversight of programming and access referral systems.
- Shortage of fuel for referral systems.
- Resources for the 28 Health Cluster partners to be able to scale up interventions.

CLUSTER STATUS (3 Jun 2021)

Logistics

Needs

- No updates since last reporting period.

Response

- During the reporting period, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the transport of 185 MT of WASH, shelter, health, food and nutrition cargo to Tigray from Addis Ababa on behalf of seven partners.
- Approximately 1000 sqm of storage space is available to partners in Mekelle serving seven partners. Service requests received from two additional partners.

↔ Gaps

- Ongoing insecurity remains the main challenge for the response.

CLUSTER STATUS (3 Jun 2021)

Nutrition

Needs

- No update since last reporting period.

→ Response

- During the reporting week, screening children for malnutrition has doubled to 21,115 children compared to 10,957 children a week earlier. Children aged 6-59 months identified with severe wasting accounted for 21 percent, alarmingly above the 15 percent threshold set by WHO.
- Compared to a week earlier, screening pregnant and lactating women for malnutrition also increased from 3,906 to 5,821. Of women screened, some 2,918 or 50 percent are identified with acute malnutrition.
- Nutrition partners stepped up malnutrition prevention by providing infant and young child feeding counselling to 5,010 pregnant women, mothers and caregivers of children less than two years. This is an increase compared to 3,734 infant and young child feeding a week earlier.

↔ Gaps

- Access restrictions across the region hindering nutrition response.

CLUSTER STATUS (3 Jun 2021)



Protection



Needs

- No updates since last reporting period.

→ Response

- UNHCR-funded partner Innovative Humanitarian Solutions (IHS) continue to conduct protection assessment, counselling and protection referral at IDP sites in Mekelle, Shire and Axum.
- UNHCR-funded partner Rehabilitation and Development Organization (RDO) continues to support IDP living with disabilities in Shire, Mai Tsebri, Axum, Adwa and Abi Adi.
- Protection cluster partners participated in a protection mainstreaming workshop organized by IOM for ES/NFI cluster partners.
- With support of UNICEF, partner Imagine One Day is working to address needs of unaccompanied and separated children and other vulnerable children in Mekelle and Shire IDP sites.
- A training on prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse conducted for twenty eight program staff and 743 service providers including programme staff, IDP committee members, and volunteers.

↔ Gaps

- Slow response on family tracing and reunification due to lack of coordination among relevant protection partners.

CLUSTER STATUS (3 Jun 2021)



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs

- WASH response for about 561,000 people at new IDPs sites across the region.
- Some 136 water trucks are needed to fill the gap with water trucking.
- Improving water quality by disinfection, monitoring and testing residual chlorine at distribution points .

Response

- WASH partners and the Government Water Bureau continue to provide water trucking to nearly 633,000 people in Central, Eastern, North-Western, South-Eastern and Southern Zones and in Mekelle.
- Identification and drilling of borehole location at “Sabacare-4” relocation site and designing the water distribution plan is completed by the Regional Water Bureau (RWB).
- RWB distributed 92,400 strips of aqua tabs benefiting 46,200 people (from UNICEF) in Abi-Adi (Central Zone); Agulae, Wukro, Freweyni, E/hamus, Adigrat (Eastern Zone); Hagere Selam, Enderta (South-Eastern Zone) and Mekelle. RWB also distributed 67 drums of chlorine at the above locations.
- The local NGO Relief Society of Tigray (REST) rehabilitated 16 shallow and hand dug wells in Central, Eastern, and South-Eastern Zones benefiting about 3,520 people.
- Some 128 latrine stances and 56 showers completed at “Sabacare 4” new IDP relocation site in Mekelle.
- Some 80 latrine stances and 20 showers completed at 5 Angles IDP site in Shire.
- INGO Food for the Hungry International (FHI-360) completed solid disposal pit excavation in Momona Secondary school IDP site in Mekelle benefiting 3,077 people.

Gaps

- Water trucking operation in Hawzien, Enticho and Tsigereda Adigrat, Edaga hamus, Hawzen, and Zalambessa were temporarily halted due to security and access constraints.
- Military presence around water sources in Mekelle (Enda Gebriel) and occupation of water offices in Adishihu and Hagere Selam in South-Eastern Zone.
- Lack of fuel supply limiting the use of generators for pumping water and water trucking operations.
- Delay with constructing of drainage channels at “Sabacare-4” will affect WASH facilities utilisation .
- Limited WASH coordination capacity and interrupted communications and access .
- Limited WASH partners presence Central, South-Eastern and North-Western Zones .

COORDINATION (3 Jun 2021)

Regular Meetings

Coordination platforms are being strengthened. The Inter-Cluster Coordination Groups (ICCG) have been activated in Mekelle and Shire and are holding regular meetings. However, Tigray UN-led clusters have very varied levels of capacity. Given the scale of the crisis and the need for coordination and information management, all clusters urgently require dedicated full-time coordinators and information management officers. The Interim Administration-led Tigray Emergency Coordination Center (ECC) continues to meet weekly with all clusters and with the humanitarian community.

The humanitarian community is now decentralizing the coordination structure further from Mekelle and Shire. A decentralized area-based coordination is being set-up in eight locations including Maichew, Abi-Adi, Adigrat, Axum and Shiraro, with eight OCHA staff deployed in these locations to set-up an area-based coordination, covering the whole region. The ICCG is also setting up a rapid assessment, response and monitoring mechanism to facilitate integrated response and enhanced monitoring of the humanitarian situation. Logistics Cluster will facilitate the movement of relief supplies and coordinate joint humanitarian convoys.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE (3 Jun 2021)

Funding Update

On 14 May, humanitarian partners finalized a Northern Ethiopia Response Plan requesting US\$853 million to address the multi-sector needs of 5.2 million people. Despite agencies' reallocation of funds and new funding received, the humanitarian response is facing a significant funding gap of \$502 million until the end of the year and \$197 million until the end of July. As information on needs and requirements is further clarified the requirements will be updated.

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