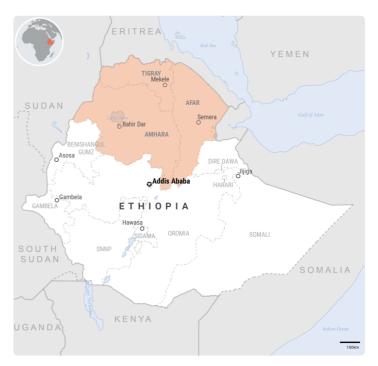
## HIGHLIGHTS (30 Sep 2021)

- Malnutrition among pregnant and lactating women screened during the week is unprecedently high with 79% of some 15,000 women diagnosed with acute malnutrition in Tigray.
- Huge price hike due to severe shortages of essential commodities in Tigray.
- Some 126,000 people received food (half the number of people reached the prior week), of whom 52% received only 2 kg of pulses due to reduced supplies.
- Between 23 and 25 September, 33 trucks with food commodities entered Tigray, and 35 empty trucks returned to Semera from Mekelle to carry more food stock back into the region.
- Humanitarian partners continue to scale up response in Afar and Amhara regions.



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### **KEY FIGURES**

5.2M
People in need

**5.2M** 

People targeted

**63,110**Refugees in Sudan since 7 November

## **FUNDING**

\$854M

\$270M

Requirements (May - Outstanding gap (Sep December) - Dec)

### **CONTACTS**

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## BACKGROUND (30 Sep 2021)

### **Disclaimer**

OCHA Ethiopia prepares this report with the support of Cluster Coordinators. The data/information collected covers the period from 21-28 September. In some cases, access and communication constraints mean that updates for the period are delayed. The next issue of the sitrep will be published on 7 October. The report is expanded to cover Amhara and Afar regions.



# ETHIOPIA - NORTHERN ETHIOPIA HUMANITARIAN UPDA

Situation Report Last updated: 30 Sep 2021

VISUAL (18 Aug 2021)

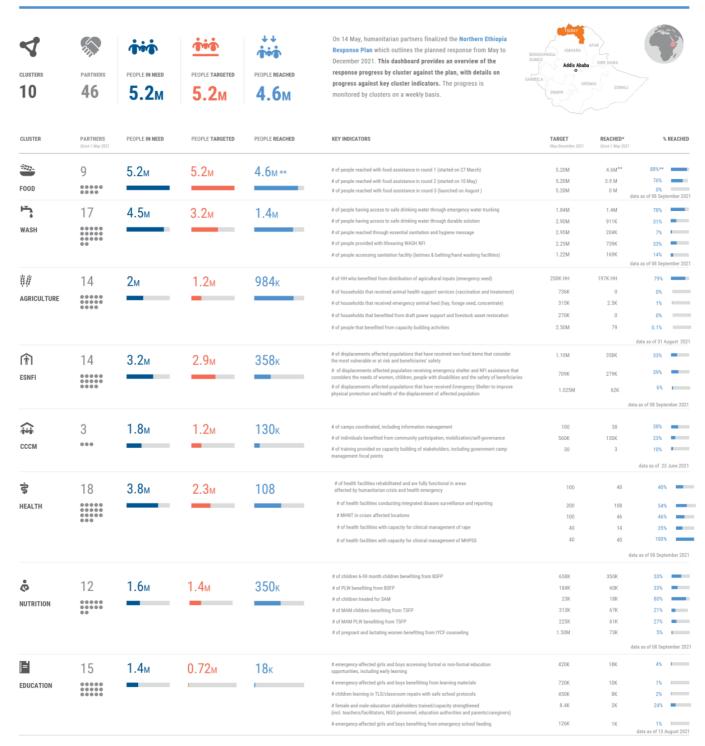
## Results from the Northern Ethiopia Response Plan (since 1 May)



## **ETHIOPIA**

Results from the Northern Ethiopia Response Plan (since 1 May)

As of 08 September 2021



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## BACKGROUND (30 Sep 2021)

#### **Situation Overview**

The humanitarian situation in Tigray remains dire, while the spillover of the conflict to neighboring Amhara and Afar regions is rapidly increasing the humanitarian needs and the number of internally displaced people (IDPs). The delivery of humanitarian supplies to the Tigray Region remains heavily constrained via the only access route to the region (Semera-Abala-Mekelle corridor). Access to some areas in Afar and Amhara regions also remains restricted due to conflict and insecurity.

During the week (21-28 September), 79 trucks of humanitarian supplies arrived in Tigray via Afar. This brings the number of humanitarian trucks that entered the region since 12 July to 606 trucks, or 11 per cent of the trucks needed. Humanitarian partners estimate that 100 trucks with food, non-food items, and fuel must enter Tigray every day to meet the needs on the ground.

The humanitarian trucks that arrived during the week included food, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), protection and mixed cargo items. Fuel and medical supplies are still denied entry into Tigray. Lack of fuel is one of the major impediments for delivering humanitarian assistance. The last fuel tanker entered Tigray on 29 July, over 8 weeks ago, while eight tankers in Semera (Afar) are pending Government approval. Consequently, several UN and NGO partners had to severely reduce or suspend humanitarian response activities, programs and needs assessments.

The last supplies of medicines allowed into Tigray was end of July. In addition, health partners have not been able to rehabilitate and re-equip health facilities following the systematic looting by parties to the conflict. With lack of essential medicines, vaccines, and diagnostic equipment, coupled with limited access to essential humanitarian assistance and services, increasing numbers of children, women and people with chronic diseases are at grave risk unless the restrictions placed on essential medical supplies is lifted immediately. Generators, ITC equipment, and office furniture have still not been allowed to transit to Tigray.

Commercial supplies remain blocked since 28 June, leading to severe shortages of essential commodities in the private markets leading to a huge rise in prices. This is compounded by significantly reduced purchasing power among vulnerable households due to loss of livelihoods, including non-payment of salaries for civil servants since June. Essential commodities like cooking oil has increased by 400 per cent, salt by 300 per cent, rice by 100 per cent and teff by 90 per cent, while the price of a liter of petrol in the black market has reportedly reached 300 Ethiopia Birr (ETB) from 28 ETB in early July.

UNHAS continues to operate two passenger flights per week between Addis Ababa and Mekelle, with 17 flights having operated to date since July. Passengers reported moderate searches at Addis Ababa airport on departure and arrival during the reporting period.

On 21 September, and after extensive additional repairs and reinforcement, parts of the Tekeze bridge, connecting Shire to May-Tsebri, Laelay Tselemti, and Tselmti *Woredas* in North Western Zone are now usable for vehicles, including heavy trucks. This will allow partners to transport humanitarian supplies across the bridge, opening the possibility of a second humanitarian supply route to the Tigray region. The bridge was destroyed in early July.

The severity of food-insecurity continues to increase, with at least 5.2 million people targeted for emergency food assistance in Tigray. According to WFP, Tigray has one of the highest prevalence of insufficient food consumption in the country, which has risen from 5 to 21 per cent between June and September 2021. The nutrition situation is also critical. Screenings for malnutrition during the reporting period indicate unprecedented high levels of moderate malnutrition (MAM) among pregnant and lactating women. Of the more than 15,000 pregnant and lactating women screened during the reporting period, more than 12,000 women, or about 79 per cent, were diagnosed with acute malnutrition reaching about 79 per cent. MAM level among children under five years is also exceeding global emergency threshold of 15 per cent, at about 18 per cent, while cases of children with severe malnutrition is 2.4 per cent, above the alarming 2 per cent level.

The spillover of the conflict into neighboring Afar and Amhara regions continues to affect civilians with increased food insecurity, increased displacement, and disruption of livelihoods. In Afar, it is estimated that hundreds of thousands of people are directly affected by the conflict, including an estimated tens of thousands who are displaced and need urgent humanitarian assistance.

Similarly, the humanitarian situation in Amhara continues to deteriorate due to the active conflict along the Tigray regional border further increasing the number of IDPs, reportedly reaching a few hundred thousands across North Gondar, Central Gondar, South Gondar and North Wello.

Over 1,660 primary and secondary schools or 17 per cent of the total schools in Amhara and two colleges are reportedly completely or partially damaged by conflict, which directly affected over 1.2 million children (50 per cent girls), according to the Regional Education Bureau.

Despite challenges, including limited presence of humanitarian partners, limited or no access to some areas due to conflict and insecurity, and limited resources, partners continue to scale up the response and to support the regional authorities-led response efforts in both Afar and Amhara regions (see further details on the response below).

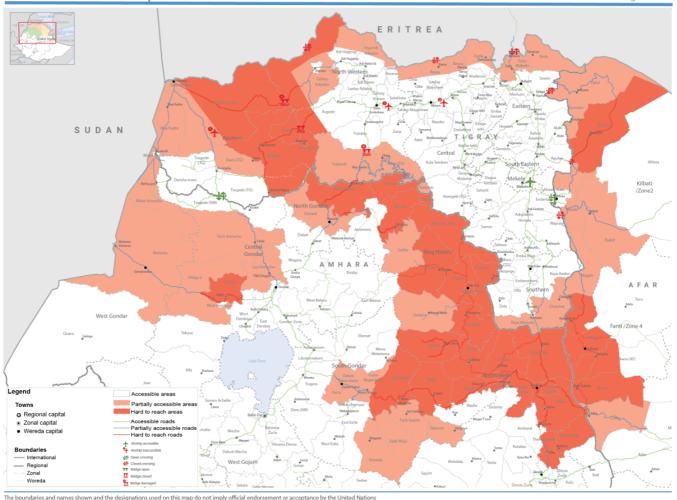
In addition to the conflict-related negative humanitarian consequences, FAO's latest Desert Locust Update issued on 23 September indicated that new summer-bred immature swarms have started to form between the Awash and Mille river in Afar Region. The scale of the breeding is currently not known as most places are inaccessible by ground and the No-Fly Zone impedes survey and control aircraft from collecting data. Nonetheless, breeding is likely to continue in the coming weeks and extend to other areas of Afar and adjacent areas of southeast Tigray and eastern Amhara, potentially impacting the harvest. Despite the prediction of dry conditions for the rest of the year, the below-average rains should be sufficient to allow swarms to mature and lay eggs, which will hatch and give rise to hopper bands. Operations in northern Ethiopia, therefore, need to be increased and scaled up to prevent further deterioration in food security.

**VISUAL** (23 Sep 2021)

**Humanitarian Access in northern Ethiopia** 



As of 31 August 2021



Creation date: 17 September 2021 Sources: OCHA Feedback: ocha-eth@un.org www.unocha.org www.reliefweb.int

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**VISUAL** (16 Sep 2021)

## Tigray Humanitarian Operational Capacity, September-December



Summary of resources needed to deliver humanitarian response

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CASH (ETB)

FUEL (LITERS)



SUPPLIES (TRUCKS)



300M

NEEDED WEEKLY TO DELIVER TARGET

200K

NEEDED WEEKLY TO DELIVER TARGET

100

NEEDED DAILY TO DELIVER TARGET

## Resource availability by cluster activity

0 – 14 days			HOW LONG DO THE AVAILABLE RESOURCES LAST TO IMPLEMENT THE ACTIVITY				
	PEOPLE ARGETED	ACTIVITY STATUS	• • •			# PEOPLE AFFECTED BY THE (UPCOMING) SUSPENSION	
Food							
Food distribution	5.2M	Partially active (15%)	7 days	22 days	0 days	5.1M	
<b>†</b> Health							
Delivery of emergency kits Vaccination for cholera (second dose)	2.3M 1.5M	Partially active (20%) Suspended	0 days 0 days	N/A N/A	0 days 0 days	2.3M 1.5M	
Nutrition							
Management of severe acute malnutrition, in OTP Management of severe acute malnutrition, in SC BSF/TSF Vitamin A supplementation  The ESNFI	56K 4K 1.4M 574K	Partially active (20%) Partially active (20%) Partially active (20%) Partially active (20%)	0 days 0 days	0 days 0 days 0 days 0 days	22 days 0 days 0 days 22 days	40k 4K 1.4M 574K	
Provision of ESNFI kits Provision of NFI items Emergency shelter assistance	525K 1.1M 998K	Suspended Suspended Suspended	0 days 0 days 0 days	0 days 0 days 0 days	0 days 0 days 0 days	525K 761K 944K	
WASH							
Water supply through trucking to IDPs living in collective sites Water supply through durable solutions Constructions of sanitation facilities for IDPs living in collectives sites WASH NFIs	525K 2.1M 525K 525K	Partially active (25%) Partially active (17%) Partially active (15%) Partially active (10 %)	7 days 7 day	0 days 0 days 0 days 0 days	N/A 1 day N/A 7 days	525K 2.1M 452K 525K	
## Agriculture							
Livestock vaccination, drug and vet supply Livestock feed Improved Vegetable Seed	370K 200K 250K	Partially active (40%) Suspended Partially active (57%)	0 days	N/A N/A N/A	45 days 0 days 45 days	370K 200K 250K	
Protection							
Protection monitoring and CRIs for PSN and PwD	300K	Active	14 days	7 days	14 days	300K	
Child Protection							
MHPSS services for children, adolescents, and caregivers Prevent and respond to separation of children from families GBV prevention and response Protect children & affected populations from SEA Gender-Based Violence	11K 18K 436K 288K	Active Suspended Partially active (10%) Partially active (10%)	*	0 days 0 days 0 days 0 days	N/A N/A 0 days N/A	10K 17K 424K 218K	
Provide health, social work or justice/law enforcement services	7K	Suspended	0 days	0 days	0 days	7K	
CP and GBV risk mitigation, prevention, and response services Provide dignity kits to women and girls of reproductive age PFA and MHPSS	180K 299K 43K	Active Partially active (10%) Active	7 days 7 days 7 days	0 days 0 days 0 days	7 days 7 days 7 days	71K 256K 27K	
₩ CCCM							
Site improvement Information management and coordination Capacity building	1.2M 1.2M 1.2M	Suspended Partially active Partially active (30%)	0 days 0 days 0 days	tbc tbc tbc	N/A N/A N/A	1.2M 1.2M 1.2M	

<sup>\*</sup> Where cash, fuel and supplies have been exhausted, partners have been able to sustain some limited activities through temporary arrangements and coping mechanisms including borrowing.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Access impediments include movement restrictions, bureaucratic impediments and insecurity

## **EMERGENCY RESPONSE** (30 Sep 2021)

## **Humanitarian Preparedness and Response**

Humanitarian partners maintain their commitment to stay and deliver to meet current and emerging needs. As of 28 September,519 UN staff (10 UN agencies) support the humanitarian response (103 international staff and 240 national staff in Mekelle and 39 international staff and 137 national staff in Shire). Similarly, non-governmental organization (NGO) partners continue to maintain a presence in Tigray, with 36 NGOs (29 INGOs and 7 NNGOs) currently responding to the needs on the ground, with at least 1,560 staff working with INGOs.

Although with significantly reduced capacity due to the depletion of stocks and resources, humanitarian partners continued to respond to some of the urgent needs in Tigray. Between 16 and 22 September, food partners have assisted more than 126,000 people, of which more than 66,000 people or 52 per cent, received only one commodity of 2 kg of pulses per person. This is compared to more than 242,000 people reached with food assistance a week earlier. More than 160,000 IDPs, including about 82,000 females, were reached with water in Mekelle, Central, South Eastern, and Eastern, and North Western Zones.

During the reporting period, nutrition partners distributed about 4,500 cartons of ready to use therapeutic food to 237 health facilities across 84 *Woredas*, along with stationaries and reporting tools supplies. Despite movement constraints of humanitarian supplies, WFP received 209 MT of ready to use supplementary food and 102 MT of Corn Soya Blend Super Cereal Plus, which will be dispatched to four partners operating in 17 *Woredas*.

On 24 September, 441 households, (2,226 people) were relocated to "Sabacare 4" IDP site in Mekelle, bringing the number of people relocated to the site to about 5,000 people since 15 September. Partners distributed tarpaulins, solar lanterns, dignity kits, food, groceries and vegetables to the relocated families.

From January to date, more than 771,000 people, including about 392,000 females, or 27 per cent of the total 2.7 million people targeted, were reached with emergency shelter and non-food items in Tigray. With completed, ongoing, and planned distributions, about 1.26 million people, 45 per cent of the targeted population, will be reached by the end of the year.

In Afar and Amhara regions, humanitarian partners are scaling up response and strengthening coordination systems. In Afar, and as of 23 September, WFP reached more than 52,000 internally displaced people with food. WFP is planning to provide food assistance to 534,000 people including host communities and IDPs in the region. During the reporting period, health partners provided 565 people with health consultation, medical treatment, and nutrition service; reached more than 16,000 people with risk communication and awareness creation activities; and 60 people with basic mental health service. Twelve health centers and posts were also supported with infection prevention and control supplies in six *woredas*.

In Amhara, and as of 28 September, the Joint Emergency Operation Program (JEOP) reached more than 201,000 with food while WFP reached more than 163,000 people in 6 *woredas*. The National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC) assisted 200,000 people in Dessie town. Nutrition partners screened 4,348 children under the age of five for acute malnutrition in three IDP sites in North Gonder and 18 IDP sites in South Wollo. Out of the screened children, 95 children or about 2.2 per cent, were identified with SAM, above the alarming 2 per cent level. They were referred to therapeutic feeding units. Some 266 children, or 6 per cent, were identified with MAM.

**CLUSTER STATUS** (30 Sep 2021)







## Needs

## **Tigray**

- Desert Locust that laid eggs in July and early August has started hatching in South, South Eastern, Central, and Eastern Zones. A verification mission to Samre Woreda in South-Eastern confirmed the presence of the first Instar stage (newly hatched) locusts.
- Support irrigation farming, seed multiplication, livestock vaccination, cash, and income-generating activities.

#### **Amhara**

· No updates.

#### Afar

No updates.

### Response

## **Tigray**

No updates since last reporting period.

### **Amhara**

· No updates.

#### Afar

· No updates.

## |←>| Gaps

### **Tigray**

- · Lack of fuel and cash is hindering the transportation of agricultural inputs.
- Lack of refrigerator at woreda level to keep vaccines and drugs.
- · Lack of chemicals to combat fall armyworm affecting maize and sorghum crops.

### **Amhara**

No updates.

#### Afar

· No updates.

## **CLUSTER STATUS** (30 Sep 2021)



## **Camp Coordination and Camp Management**



## Needs

### **Tigray**

- Food, cooking oil, non-food items, cooking energy, milling support, drinking water, dignity kits, and medications at IDPs sites.
- Safe and dignified relocations of IDPs from schools used as collective sites to the planned sites and other alternative shelters with full consultation with the displaced community.
- Privacy at the collective sites and specific support to the people with disabilities.
- Lack of scholastic materials for the displaced children at the IDPs sites.
- Additional spaces to reduce the overcrowding at the IDPs sites to reduce the risk to communicable diseases including spread of COVID-19.

#### **Amhara**

· No updates.

#### Afar

No updates.

### Response

### **Tigray**

- On 24 September, 441 households, (2,226 people) were relocated to "Sabacare 4" in Mekelle, bringing the number of people relocated to the site to 4,953 people. Partners distributed tarpaulins, tarps for floors, solar lanterns, dignity kits, food, groceries and vegetables to the relocated families.
- One partner was deployed for implementation of site management activities in five IDP sites in Abi Adi, Central Zone.
- A two-day capacity building training was organized for 150 sub-committee members, including 54 females from five IDP sites in Mekelle.
- Completion of the construction of 20 mini communal kitchens and four multi-purpose shades in four sites of Shire.

### **Amhara**

No updates.

### Afar

· No updates.

**⇔** Gaps

- Lack of cash and fuel impacts the implementation of site coordination, improvement and repair activities at IDPs sites, and the movement of partners to respond in remote collective sites.
- · Lack of internet, communications, and electric power delay timely reporting from the field, including on new IDPs.
- Lack of essential materials and services at Sabacare 4 IDP site including WASH services, kitchen sets, streetlights, adequate water supply, shades at "Sabacare 4".

· No updates.

#### Afar

No updates.

## **CLUSTER STATUS** (30 Sep 2021)



#### **Education**



### Needs

### **Tigray**

- Relocation of IDPs from schools. Currently, there are about 455,000 IDPs in 73 schools in Abi Adi, Adwa, Axum, Shire, Sheraro, and Mekelle.
- Renovation of schools damaged or looted during the conflict and clearing them from explosives in preparation of return of students to schools.
- Community mobilization and back to school campaign.
- Scholastic materials and high energy biscuits in support to students.
- · Psychosocial support for teachers.
- · Awareness raising on landmine and explosives at schools.

#### **Amhara**

- Identify alternative settlements for IDPs who sheltered in schools, view of Government's plan to open schools. Over 65 schools are currently occupied by IDPs.
- Replace educational inputs such as desks, blackboards, computers, printers, laboratory equipment, plasma TV and reference books that were damaged due to the conflict.
- Over 1,660 primary and secondary schools or 17 per cent of the total schools in the region and two colleges of teacher are reportedly completely or partially damaged by conflict, which directly affected over 1.2 million children in which 50 per cent are girls.
- Psychosocial interventions for teachers and school children to effectively run the teaching and learning process.

- Provide scholastic materials including exercise books and school bags to students.
- School feeding for children in the conflict affect areas.
- Improve the learning environment including WASH facilities for female students.

#### Afar

· No updates.

### Response

### **Tigray**

- Some 200 children completed learning programs in Mekelle and Adigrat and 1,880 children from the host community in 24 locations across the region.
- Some 375 children attending accelerated learning program (ALP) at Hintalo and Wejerat, South Eastern Zone, took
  placement exam with support from partners.
- Currently, some 4,916 children are attending different learning programs supported by partners.

#### **Amhara**

- Some 64 zonal and Woreda education personnel trained on the concepts of education in emergency (EiE) and its response mechanism.
- EiE supplies including tents, recreational kits, and school furniture provided to schools in emergency affected areas reaching about 12,000 children, including 50 percent girls.

#### Afar

· No updates.

### **⇔** Gaps

### **Tigray**

- Delay with the relocation of IDPs sheltering at schools.
- Delay with data entry and analysis of school damage assessment due to electricity blackout and communications.
- · Lack of cash to pay for teachers' salaries.
- · Lack of fuel and cash to implement education programs.

### **Amhara**

- Insecurity in North Wollo, Wagemehra and most parts of North Gondar Zones due hindering opening schools in these areas
- · Lack of funding to restore damaged schools.

#### Afar

No updates.

## **CLUSTER STATUS** (30 Sep 2021)



## **Emergency Shelter & Non-Food Items**



## **Needs**

## **Tigray**

- IDPs still live in highly congested and substandard living conditions in most collective centers. Adequate shelters are needed.
- Relocation of IDPs from schools to adequate alternative shelters.
- ES/NFIs to more than 11,000 people (5,390 males and 5,610 females) who were reportedly displaced recently from areas bordering Eritrea to Adigrat, Axum, Adwa, Shire and Sheraro.
- Immediate NFI assistance to over 2,700 IDPs who have been relocated to "Sebacare 4" site in Mekelle.

#### **Amhara**

· No updates.

#### Afar

No updates.

## Response

#### **Tigray**

- Since January, and to date, some 771,450 people, including 391,986 females, or 27 per cent of the total 2.7 million people targeted, were reached with emergency shelter and non-food items. With completed, ongoing, and planned distributions, about 1.26 million people, 45 per cent of the targeted population, will be reached by the end of the year.
- Support provided to 1,163 households (4,953 people) who moved to "Sabacare 4" IDP site in Mekelle since 15 September.

### **Amhara**

No updates.

### Afar

· No updates.

### **⇔** Gaps

### Tigray

• ES/NFI partners response capacity reduced by 65 per cent due to the current operational constraints.

- · Lack of viable land and site preparation has delayed construction of alternative emergency shelters
- Lack of supplies and market disruption due to access constraints to the region, further aggravating the IDPs' already dire living conditions.
- Low funding amidst the huge number of IDPs and possible returns.
- · Lack of fuel, electricity, communication, cash, and banking services.
- Lack of shelter construction materials in the local market leading to a spike in the prices.
- Lack of information on the living conditions and coping mechanism of the IDPs in the host communities.
- · Lack of essential NFIs in collective sites.

· No updates.

#### Afar

No updates.

### **CLUSTER STATUS** (30 Sep 2021)



Food



## Needs

### **Tigray**

- According to the latest food security analysis, over 400,000 people in Tigray Region are suffering from catastrophic hunger levels (IPC 5) through the lean season. Across the region, more than 4 million people - 70 per cent of the population – are experiencing high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC 3 or above).
- Food prices have skyrocketed in the disrupted markets in Tigray accompanied with significantly reduced purchasing power among vulnerable households.
- Timely and sustained food assistance is urgently needed to avert the risk of famine.
- Even if the conflict does not intensify further, if humanitarian and commercial supply continues to be sporadic and insufficient, the evolution of the risk factors of famine continues pointing towards the worst scenarios, particularly for October to December 2021.
- The agricultural planting season has been missed in some parts of Tigray. There is no available food stock as many people were unable to plant for months earlier this year. It is expected that food assistance will be required at least up to next year's harvest season during last quarter of 2022.
- At least 5.2 million people are targeted for emergency food assistance in Tigray.

#### **Amhara**

• IDPs and households affected by conflict are facing high levels of food insecurity due to disruption of income and food sources; loss of livelihoods and increase in food prices.

#### Afar

No updates.

### Response

### **Tigray**

- Since the launch of the second round of assistance under Northern Ethiopia Humanitarian Response Plan 2021 in mid-May, 4,309,999 people have been assisted with 64,421 MT of food in Central, Southern, North-Western, Eastern, and South-Eastern Zones as of 22 September.
- Between 16 and 22 September, food partners have distributed 1,799 MT of food assisting 126,275, out of whom 66,391 people (52 per cent) received only one commodity (2 KG of pulses per person) due to shortage of stock.
   Partners provided food in Abi Adi town, Agulae, Aheferom, Egela, Enticho town, Kola Temben and Shire town. This is compared to 242,262 people reached with food assistance a week earlier.
- The Government of Ethiopia's Round 2 distribution in Western Zone has been on hold due to the fluid security situation.
- The Joint Emergency Operation Program (JEOP) partners continue their Round 2 distribution, assisting 1,946,627 people with 32,995 MT, in Central, Eastern, Southern and South Eastern Zones as of 22 September.
- WFP and its partners completed their Round 2 distribution with 31,426 MT of food, assisting 2,363,372 people in Southern and North-Western Zones as of 22 September.
- The distribution in Shire town began on 30 August with only one commodity 2kg of pulses per person due to stock unavailability. It is ongoing with 577,409 people assisted as of 15 September.
- No partner has started Round 3 distribution even though the launch was revised to early August instead of early July
  as planned initially. The significant delay continues due to a lack of stocks and inter-Tigray operational challenges.
- To better understand the food security situation and improve the quality of assistance, partners are strengthening
  process monitoring and post-distribution surveys and planning for household-level food security surveys and market
  assessments.

#### **Amhara**

- JEOP is distributing food in North Wollo, Wag Hamra and South Wollo Zones, in Woredas that have been affected by the conflict, and where there are reports of increased IDPs.
- As of 28 September, JEOP had distributed food to 201,045 people of the planned 661,090 people to be targeted in Amhara.
- WFP is supporting with delivery of JEOP food supplies from main logistics hubs to various food distribution points in North Wollo and Wag Hamra Zones.
- WFP distributed 2,776 MT to 163,810 people out of the planned 175,536 IDPs in 6 Woredas.
- NDRMC has assisted 200,000 people in Dessie town.

### Afar

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- As of 23 September, WFP had distributed 885MT of mixed commodities to 52,233 people in Afar out of the planned 76,520 internally displaced people.
- WFP is planning to provide food assistance to 534,000 people including host communities and IDPs in Afar.
- NDRMC distributed 300MT of food to IDPs and 637MT to 189,000 food insecure people in communities in 9 Woredas
  in Zone.

### **⊢** Gaps

### **Tigray**

- With few exceptions, between April and August 2021, food partners have distributed the agreed common food basket, meant to cover 63 per cent of the caloric needs of the population. However, as rounds have stretched longer than expected (up to 4-5 months instead of 6 weeks), the distributed assistance covered is much less than the minimum caloric needs.
- At least 3,600 MT of food commodities or 90 trucks, equivalent to common food basket for around 210,000 people, are required to move into Tigray every day to sustain food assistance for at least 5.2 million people and to avert the risk of famine.
- Between 23 and 25 September, 33 trucks with food commodities (1,426 MT) entered Tigray, and 35 empty trucks
  returned to Semera from Mekelle to carry more food stock back into Tigray.
- The safety and security of cargo drivers through the Semera-Abala corridor is of great concern and requires urgent
  measures to ensure that transporters have the confidence to continue cargo movements in challenging
  circumstances.
- Lack of fuel and cash and a non-functional communication network in Tigray significantly hinder the delivery of food assistance.
- Most partners are currently operating on credit. If access to cash is not urgently resolved, partners may be soon forced to cease operations temporarily.
- The flexibility for timely inclusion of verified vulnerable new caseloads in food assistance without allocation limitation is urgently needed. Efforts to reach out to the previously inaccessible areas by food partners and conduct food distribution closer to the target communities are critical.
- Food partners are working with the local authorities to resolve the delays and inclusion/exclusion errors in regional
  authority-led beneficiary registration and targeting, including IDP populations in Shire town and Adwa Woreda. The
  main challenges faced by partners include the increasing needs on the ground, which is often greater than the
  approved caseload allocation, turnover in the local government structure, and lack of documentation among the
  affected populations.
- Lack of cooking energy and milling support remains a concern hindering food utilization. Partners are looking into the
  possibility of including transportation and food preparation associated costs in the food assistance package in
  prioritized locations.

### **Amhara**

- Delivery of food assistance remains a challenge due to insecurity, particularly in areas where there is active conflict.
- Lack of funding to meet additional needs including the increased numbers of IDPs.

#### Afar

No updates.

## **CLUSTER STATUS** (30 Sep 2021)



#### Health



### 🗖 Needs

### **Tigray**

- Essential medical equipment, supplies, and medicines are required.
- Support health facilities across the region to start operating with minimal activities as less than half of the referral hospitals are now operative.
- Post-exposure prophylaxis for Rabies is needed.
- More than 116 priority 1 health facilities that urgently need health supplies and partner support.
- Strengthen disease surveillance through early disease detection and accelerate cholera and malaria readiness and completion of prepositioning of cholera supplies.
- Complete preparations for the second round of the oral cholera vaccination campaign in high-risk areas.

#### **Amhara**

· No updates.

### Afar

· No updates.

### Response

#### **Tigray**

No update since last reporting period.

### **Amhara**

Ninety-three pregnant mothers at IDP sites were consulted for integrated antenatal care.

#### Afar

- Some 565 people received health consultation, medical treatment, and nutrition service.
- Some 16,102 people reached with risk communication and awareness creation activities
- Sixty people reached with basic mental health service
- Twelve health centers and posts supported with infection prevention and control supplies for infection management including in case of cholera outbreak in the six Woredas.

## |←>| Gaps

### **Tigray**

- Health partners capacity for essential activities continues to reduce due to limited flow of medical supplies, cash, and fuel to the region.
- · Lack of telecommunications.

#### **Amhara**

· No updates.

#### Afar

· No updates.

## **CLUSTER STATUS** (30 Sep 2021)



### Logistics



### **Tigray**

- Improved access and security to transport the required humanitarian supplies into the region.
- Additional access routes to bring humanitarian supplies into the region are required.

### **Amhara**

No updates.

#### Afar

· No updates.

## Response

### **Tigray**

During the reporting period, 42.8 MT with WASH and NFI items were transported from Mekelle hub to 3 Woredas within the Tigray region and 41.6 MT of WASH and Shelter items transported from Shire hub to another 3 Woredas on behalf of 2 partners.

### Amhara

· No updates.

#### Afar

No updates.

## **⇔** Gaps

### **Tigray**

- Only one road, via Afar, is currently partially accessible for the transport of humanitarian supplies into Tigray.
- · Lack of fuel to carry out operations.
- · Lack of telecommunications is hindering communications with partners and with the field.
- · Lack of cash to support day to day activities, procure locally and pay local staff.

#### **Amhara**

No updates.

#### Afar

· No updates.

## **CLUSTER STATUS** (30 Sep 2021)



### **Nutrition**



#### **Tigray**

- An estimated 1.4 million children under the age of 5 and pregnant and lactating women (PLW) need preventative intervention such as Vitamin A supplementation and malnutrition treatment.
- No recent nutrition survey has been conducted to assess the nutrition situation in Tigray. Nutrition partners will conduct exhaustive screening of children 6-59 months to obtain credible data.

#### **Amhara**

• Treatment for severe malnutrition IDP children under the age of five.

### Afar

• Afar Regional Emergency Nutrition Coordination Unit will carry a Rapid Nutrition Assessment in conflict affected IDP sites in Golina, Awra and Yalo woredas of Zone 4 on 28 September. Preliminary results will be available next week.

## Response

- About 4,500 cartons of ready to use therapeutic food (RUTF) distributed to 237 health facilities across 84 Woredas, along with stationaries and reporting tools supplies.
- Some 209 MT of ready to use supplementary food (RUSF) and 102 MT of Corn Soya Blend Super Cereal Plus (CSB++) arrived in Tigray for WFP. The supplies will be dispatched to four partners operating in 17 Woredas.
- During the reporting period, 59,576 children under 5 years were screened for malnutrition, in which 1,455 of them or 2.4 per cent were diagnosed with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and 10,644 or about 18 per cent with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM).
- Some 15,244 pregnant and lactating women were screened for malnutrition, of whom 12,028, or about 79 per cent were diagnosed with acute malnutrition.
- Some 1,444, children under the age of five with acute malnutrition and 5,012 moderately malnourished children received treatment.
- Some 4,192 pregnant and breastfeeding women received treatment for acute malnutrition.
- Some 18,078 children under 5 and 2,089 pregnant and lactating women received Blanket Supplementary Feeding.
- Infant and young child counselling along with optimal infant and young child feeding sessions were conducted in groups and reached 18,986 women.
- Data clinic were held for 8 nutrition cluster partners reporting staff on reporting tools, these data clinics have significantly improved the reporting rate and quality of reports received from partners.

- Three IDP sites in North Gonder and 18 IDP sites in South Wollo have been reached with screening for acute malnutrition for children aged less than 5 years. Out of 4,348 children screened, 95 children or about 2.2 percent, were identified with SAM and referred to therapeutic feeding units. Some 266 children, or 6 per cent of the screened children, were identified with MAM
- Adequate nutrition supplies for the management of severe acute malnutrition were prepositioned at nearby hubs for timely dispatching to IDP sites and conflict affected areas.

#### Afar

- Out of the 25 Mobile Health and Nutrition Teams, 5 are supporting IDP sites in Chifra, Yalo and Gulina Woredas.
- Nutrition supplies, including 1 cartoon of F-75, 1 Cartoon of F 100, 138 Cartoons of RUTF and routine drugs, have been dispatched to Chifra site.

### **⊢** Gaps

- Lack of stocks and nutrition supplies due to restricted access to the region.
- No recent nutrition survey conducted in Tigray to reflect the complete picture of malnutrition levels. This is due to lack of access to resources.
- · Lack of fuel and access to cash and banking services to carry out nutrition programs and services.
- Communications blackout hindering implementation of nutrition programs, reporting, data collection, and assessments.
- Unpaid health workers compromising health and nutrition service delivery.

Poor subnational coordination mechanism. Recruitment for a cluster coordinator is on process.

#### Afar

· No updates.

## **CLUSTER STATUS** (30 Sep 2021)



#### **Protection**



### Needs

### **Tigray**

- The inability of IDPs to meet basic needs remains a root cause of protection issues. There are reportedly increasing
  negative coping mechanisms and reports of gender-based violence (GBV) and sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA)
  incidents by partners, IDPs leaders, and host community members. Mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS)
  and tailored health services to survivors of GBV are ongoing critical needs.
- NFIs, including aid devices for persons with disability, and dignity kits to support persons with specific needs.
- Strengthen the staff capacity and knowledge gap on clinical management of rape survivors, community engagement on GBV response, mitigation and prevention
- · Comprehensive GBV services mapping and localized referral mechanisms.
- · Additional women and girls' friendly spaces in most affected areas across Tigray.
- Availability of clinical management of rape (CMR) supplies as well as training of health personnel of CMR.
- Equipment of a child friendly space, distribution of dignity kits, reinforcement of GBV case management protocol and provision of office supplies at One Stop Centers.
- Awareness campaigns and information about risks linked to unexploded explosive ordnance (UXO) and firearms in displacement sites.

#### **Amhara**

No updates.

## Afar

· No updates.

## Response

#### **Tigray**

• Bureau of Labour and Social Affairs organized a workshop in Mekelle with IDP leaders to discuss return planning.

- A two-day workshop was organized in Abi Adi on the basics of international protection, gender-based violence (GBV)
  and child protection (CP). Some 43 government and health officials attended.
- Child Protection partners reported improved linkages and referrals for family tracing to ICRC for cases requiring third country tracing. Around 168 cases of children in need of tracing were referred to ICRC in Shire.

· No updates.

#### Afar

No updates.

## **⇔** Gaps

### **Tigray**

- · Lack of fuel for transportation of stocks to conduct outreach missions to hard-to-reach areas.
- Lack of mapping services, specialized services and presence of partners in locations outside Shire and Mekelle.
- Lack of supplies, including to help people with disabilities and dignity kits.
- Capacity gap in areas such as Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and Accountability to Affected Population (AAP), protection mainstreaming, and case management.
- Proper GBV case management services remain insufficient in most locations in Tigray.
- · Lack of mental health and psychosocial support services.

#### **Amhara**

· No updates.

#### Afar

· No updates.

## **CLUSTER STATUS** (30 Sep 2021)



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)



- Completion of WASH facilities at "Sabacare-4" IDPs relocation site in Mekelle by September.
- Completion of WASH facilities in other relocation sites across the region.
- · Rehabilitation of sanitation facilities at schools used to shelter IDPs after their relocation.

- WASH NFIs for IDP sites and host communities.
- Adequate provision of WASH services across the region to prevent disease outbreaks, including water-borne diseases.

No updates.

#### Afar

· No updates.

### Response

### **Tigray**

- WASH Cluster partners supported the relocated IDPs to "Sabacara 4" with WASH services.
- During the reporting period, WASH response covered 23 Woredas in Mekelle, Central, Eastern, South-Eastern, and Southern Zones.
- Some 160,484 IDPs, including 81,832 females, in Mekelle, Central, South Eastern, and Eastern, and North Western Zones were reached with water.
- Rehabilitation of 94 water points (hand pumps) and motorized systems, reaching 81,123 people including 40,967 females in South-Eastern, Southern and Eastern Zones.
- During the reporting period, 37,578 people, including 22,547 females, reached with hygiene promotion and WASH NFIs at IDP sites and within the host community compared to 89,277 people a week earlier.

#### **Amhara**

· No updates.

### Afar

· No updates.

### **⇔** Gaps

- Limited capacity of WASH partners to support the relocation process including delayed process with the selection of new sites and limited capacity to construct infrastructures in a short period
- Lack of fuel is significantly hindering WASH interventions, including water trucking, and generators for water pumping.
- Construction of latrines and bathing units at some IDP collective sites have stopped due to lack of resources.
- Several sanitation facilities (latrines and showers) were vandalized, doors and roofs looted at "Sabacare 4" relocation site
- Permanent water supply system not completed due to lack of cash problems.
- Shortages of WASH supplies due to limited availability of NFIs at the local market and shortages of cash to replenish stocks.

· Reduction of quantity of water provided in some IDP collective sites due to lack of cash and fuel.

#### **Amhara**

No updates.

#### Afar

· No updates.

## **COORDINATION** (30 Sep 2021)

#### Coordination

Coordination platforms continue to function. The Inter-Cluster Coordination Groups (ICCG) in Mekelle and Shire are holding regular meetings. Coordination meetings between partners and the local authorities have been initiated in the main hubs in Mekelle, Shire, Adigrat, and Abi Adi. UNHCR deployed permanent staff in the five satellite hubs, while the team leaders support activating the ICCG-like coordination inter-agency coordination mechanisms (IACMs) there. OCHA is finalizing the recruitment of dedicated full-time hub coordinators and other agencies committed to deploying staff to the hubs to strengthen coordination and presence as access improves within the region. The local authorities have maintained the Emergency Coordination Center (ECC) in Mekelle as the main authorities-led coordination forum. The ECC meets once a week and provides a platform for interaction between regional authority bureaus and humanitarian partners.

On 17 September, humanitarian partners together with the Federal Government and regional and local authorities activated an Emergency Coordination Center (ECC) in Bahir Dar, Amhara, to scale up the response in the region. Currently, WASH, education, nutrition, health, agriculture and CCCM clusters are reactivated and are functional while other clusters are also planned to be activated. ICCGs are also functional in Semera (Afar) and Bahir Dar (Amhara) while a Government led Incident Command Post (ICP) remains operational in Gondar. A new ICP has been activated in Dabark in North Gondar zone.

## **EMERGENCY RESPONSE** (30 Sep 2021)

### **Funding Update**

The funding gap for humanitarian response in Ethiopia for 2021 stands at more than US\$1 billion. An estimated \$583 million has been mobilized for response towards the Northern Ethiopia Response Plan, and \$536 million for response towards the draft Humanitarian Response Plan in areas outside Tigray. However, this is far from sufficient to cover the amounting humanitarian needs. The response plans for Ethiopia, including the financial requirements, are currently being updated. The financial requirements for the Northern Ethiopia Response Plan (covering Tigray only) will increase. We are also working on further defining the needs in Amhara and Afar.

On 18 August, the Ethiopia Humanitarian Fund (EHF) launched the 2021 second reserve allocation of \$20 million. The allocation will target immediate and life-saving activities in emergency shelter, camp coordination and management, health, nutrition, protection, and water, sanitation and hygiene sectors in Tigray, Amhara and Afar.

Urgent funding to the EHF is required to continue supporting partners' response as the current fund balance stands at only \$2.5 million. Overall, the OCHA-managed pooled funds (the EHF and the Central Emergency Response Fund-CERF) have allocated \$76.5 million to the northern Ethiopia humanitarian response. At least 35 partners benefitted from the funds targeting 7.6 million people affected by the crisis.

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