

HIGHLIGHTS (23 Feb 2023)

- Resumption of banking, telecommunication, and fuel services expanding in geographic coverage and scope in Tigray.
- Tens of thousands of displaced families in North Shewa and Oromo Special Zone, Amhara Region remain in critical need of urgent humanitarian assistance.
- At least 23 woredas in Afar have reportedly exceeded the malaria monthly average threshold of the last five years.
- A 30 per cent increase in cholera cases in Oromia and Somali seen in January alone.
- Visceral Leishmaniasis (Kala-azar) disease outbreak reported in Southern Region.



IOM and the Government of Ethiopia's Community Conversation Programme serves as a forum for community members to share information on irregular migration, discuss ways to counter irregular migration and support homegrown solutions and alternatives. Photo: Kaye Viray/IOM 2022

KEY FIGURES

20M

number of people targeted for assistance

\$3.34B

funding requirements for assistance (MYR)

CONTACTS

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BACKGROUND (22 Jul 2022)

Disclaimer

This is OCHA Ethiopia bi-weekly digital Situation Report covering the humanitarian situation, needs, response and gaps country-wide. The weekly Northern Ethiopia Situation Report has been discontinued and will be included in this report. This report is prepared with the support and collaboration of cluster coordinators and humanitarian partners. In some cases, access and communication constraints mean that updates for the period are delayed and cannot be

reflected. Boundaries, names, and designations of districts/zones indicated in the report do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Please contact ocha-eth-communication@un.org for any comment or question you may have on this publication.

BACKGROUND (23 Feb 2023)

Situation Overview

People in need in northern Ethiopia continue to receive food and non-food item assistance, notwithstanding challenges to reach many. In Tigray, at least 5.2 million people have received food assistance between early October 2022 and 13 February, while a new cycle of food distribution that started on 30 December 2022 has reached 16 per cent of the targeted 5.4 million people as of 15 February. Timely verification and inclusion of vulnerable caseloads in food assistance has been one of the main challenges, particularly for urban displacement in the region. This is due to fluid population movements, high number of displaced people, unreachability of certain areas, and lack of documentation among affected populations, among others, causing delays in food distribution in some locations. Partners are also working to rehabilitate food distribution and storage facilities that were destroyed by the conflict in newly accessible areas so that communities can receive their food without traveling long distance to reach alternative distribution points.

Meanwhile, merely 1.77 million people in Amhara Region (out of the targeted 2.55 million) have been receiving food assistance since mid-November 2022. Delayed relief food distribution and incomplete baskets continue to be a challenge in some areas of the region. The Government and partners are working to address issues of varying capacities and efficiency of the relief responses of operational partners that cover different geographic areas. In Afar Region, nearly 596,700 people (out of the targeted 664,339 people) have been receiving food assistance since November 2022.

In **Tigray**, humanitarian access continues to gradually improve since November 2022 allowing partners to reach more people. A joint rapid response delivered non-food humanitarian supplies in the Eastern Zone (parts of Fatsi, Zalanbesa, and Erob) while some *kebeles* remain hard to reach as of 9 February.

The resumption of some services has also continued and is expanding in geographic coverage and scope across Tigray. Mobile (telecom) services have resumed in nearly all towns, pending in some border towns or areas where infrastructure maintenance is ongoing, including Fatsi, Zalanbesa, Dowhan, Rama, Chila and Grehu Simay. Government and private banks have also started banking services in major towns as of 7 February.

Government and partners have jointly reported that as of 6 February, more than 4,088 trucks of humanitarian cargo and fuel had arrived in Tigray, and more than half of the gas stations in Mekelle are reported to have resumed services. Moreover, the price of consumer supplies in Mekelle and other towns is stabilising, as commercial trucks continue to enter the region.

Humanitarian partners reported incidents related to the presence of unexploded ordnances (UXOs) early February in two sites in Adihageray and two others in Egela Woreda resulting in several casualties and three deaths. Partners in collaboration with regional mine action support have increased awareness activities to ensure safety of the affected people including women and children. OCHA is coordinating support from national defence authorities and regional bureaus for IDP site clearing and mobilizing humanitarian partners for mine awareness creation and response.

Population displacements have reached a new high in **Amhara**, since January 2023 leaving 169,686 people displaced in four *woredas* of Oromia Special Zone (Wello) and 213,000 in five *woredas* of North Shewa Zone. According to authorities, tens of thousands of families are in critical need of shelter and non-food-item (NFI) assistance. While an estimated 20,000

people have received about 3,000 quintals of food in North Shewa, the majority in the two zones still require support, including water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), as well as food, shelter and non-food items and protection services.

The Jara IDP site in North Wello Zone, Amhara continues to receive more displaced people (now at 8,000 people). Response with water, food and basic health and nutrition assistance remains limited in partner number and scale of assistance. In addition, intercommunal fighting had built up near the site early February. Alternative site options as well as a scale-up of humanitarian assistance are required. Similarly, further support is needed for IDPs in other parts of Amhara.

In Wag Hamra Zone, partners have commenced humanitarian assistance in Beltarf village, Abergele woreda, whereby more than 550 households (HHs) consisting of IDPs and host community are presumed to have access to clean and safe water from a borehole rehabilitated in February. Complementarily Wag Hamra zonal authorities have commenced the return of 1,200 IDPs to accessible kebeles, including Saqa and 03-Debre Birhan, in Abergele Woreda as of 15 February 2023. Return facilitation including support to return voluntariness, transportation, shelter rehabilitation and reconstruction, agriculture, and adequate public services remain as key areas for intervention in return areas. It is noted, however, that further returns are on hold until adequate return responses are prepared. Food, NFI, cash support, functional social services are identified as critical conditions pre and post return.

Afar continues to grapple with a Malaria epidemic with more than 3,600 confirmed cases reported in 36 *woredas* in several zones as of 7 February, a 7 per cent increase in cases in just one week. Similarly, at least 23 *woredas* (including in zones 1, 2, and 4) have reportedly exceeded the malaria monthly average threshold of the last 5 years. Insecticide-treated nets (ITN), diagnostic tests (RDTs) and effective medication like Artemisinin-based combination therapy (ACT) are insufficient or not available and need to be mobilized.

Return of IDPs: Afar, Benishangul Gumuz regions

Humanitarian partners have, since 31 December 2022, facilitated the return of 1,969 IDPs (from a total of 5,102) to Zone 2 of Afar (mainly Abala and Berhale), who had been living amongst the community in and around Semera. From August 2022 until mid-January 2023, return of at least 8,031 IDPs have been supported from Semera to Zone 2 (Abala and Kunneba *woredas*) in 13 batches. Around 37,000 IDPs are in need of return support, however the return process had been put on hold end of January pending rehabilitation of roads to return areas. Shelter and basic services come out as immediate needs of returning IDPs in return areas. It is crucial that partners assist in facilitation of dignified returns as well as support in return areas through cash-based assistance, and mobilization of additional resources, among other needs.

In Benishangul Gumuz, regional authorities reported that about 5,000 HHs have been returning home from Sudan where they had sought refuge. About 2,500 HHs have already arrived in Gonkoro centre, Sedal Woreda of Kamashi Zone, while arrival of about 2,500 more HHs were expected by mid-February to be settled in Gonkoro kebele/centre. Immediate needs are food and non-food item assistance.

Separately, close to 317,900 IDPs in the region, have reportedly returned to Metekel Zone with the support of the regional government as of end January 2023. Over 147,600 people who remain within camps (48,066) and host community (99,617) are facing severe water shortage due to limitations of hand pumps owing to the dry season and unsustainable water trucking support. Humanitarian assistance is required for both returning IDPs and IDPs who remain in camps.

Drought in eastern and southern Ethiopia

The number of severe acute malnutrition cases has increased in 2022 by 21 per cent in drought affected *woredas* of Afar, Oromia, Somali and SNNPR, comparing with 2021. Efforts to improve early detection and early treatment have been key in identifying these concerning cases to initiate remedial measures. Recent nutrition assessments in pocket areas in Somali

and Oromia regions show high proportion of children under five (Cu5) with wasting and pregnant and breastfeeding women (PBW) in particular. Elkare Woreda in Afder Zone of the Somali Region has recorded 2,562 severely malnourished children (SAM) from January to December 2022 (latest data available), which is a 116 per cent increase compared to 1,185 SAM cases recorded in 2021.

Oromia recorded high rates of new admissions of SAM in nutrition services. The total admission stood at 27,526 with a rate of reporting of 82.4 per cent as of December 2022. The severity shows the increase in malnutrition rates by 24.23 per cent (5,368 cases) a month earlier (November) and a 76 per cent (15,642 cases) increase since the same time last year (December 2021).

Drought affected areas in Oromia and Somali have also been grappling with cholera cases over the last few months. More than 1,131 cholera cases including 28 associated deaths have been reported as of 11 February 2023, an increase by more than 30 per cent from early January. Health and WASH partners have been responding since the first reported case late August 2022 and supporting the Oral Cholera Vaccination (OCV) campaign that commenced mid-January 2023 in the drought affected *woredas* of Oromia and Somali. In two prioritized *woredas* of Oromia about 76,000 cholera affected people (99.8 per cent of target) have received OCV, as of 7 February, in a single-dose approach, which has been considered as an intermediary measure which would still provide some immunity given the global shortage of vaccines. Somali region reported 15 suspected cholera cases from Dolo Ado, Liben Zone. Please refer to [cholera flash update](#) published 30 January 2023.

In Oromia Region, health authorities recently rolled out a vaccination campaign against measles in West Wellega Zone, specifically Begi Woreda which recently became accessible. Recently, humanitarian partners and regional authorities jointly monitored the measles outbreak in *zones* 1 (Chifra Woreda), 4 (Ewa Woreda), and 5 (Telalak, Dewe, and Dalifage *woredas*) of Afar. A total of 67 cases were identified with an incidence rate of 7/100,000, cured rate of 74.6 per cent and 6 per cent death rate. Medical supplies and response preparedness are in place.

The SNNP Regional Health Bureau reported a Visceral Leishmaniasis (VL) outbreak in South Omo and Gamo *zones*. 125 cases were reported in South Omo as of 13 February, of which 66.4 per cent were in Salamago Woreda. Nineteen cases are on treatment. Almost all areas of the South Omo Zone have been affected except for North Ari, Wub Ari and Baka Dawula *woredas*. Gamo Zone reported more than 220 cases of which 140 are in Daramalo Woreda. Partners are responding with supplies of drugs and test kits, surveillance and case management, and treatment centre rehabilitation among other activities. Blood products for Visceral Leishmaniasis patients and non-patients, as well as laboratory reagents are among priority requirements.

Influx from Somaliland

More than 83,000 people (mostly women, children and elderly) have reportedly been arriving in 15 locations in Doolo Zone, Somali Region as of 21 February having fled from Lasanood of neighbouring Somaliland, earlier in the month. *Zonal* and *woreda* authorities, as first responders, are undertaking screening and registration at the borders. While limited relief supplies have been dispatched, urgent humanitarian response is needed for the increasing number of new arrivals reported to be in a dire situation.

Emergency shelters and non-food item assistance, food, nutrition, water, and health response as well as specialized protection services that include family reunification, referral pathway and risk mitigations, are immediate priorities. Vulnerable community members, received from first responders, food assistance, non-food items (some 1,100 NFI sets) and WASH supplies (for about 3,000 people) as of 16 February, while more core relief items were in the process of being dispatched to Doolo Zone. In a [joint statement](#) released on 21 February, the Ethiopian Government and the UN have appealed to the international community for further support to the 'unfolding emergency'.

FEATURE (23 Feb 2023)

Ethiopia: Measles and cholera outbreaks pose deadly threat to already malnourished children

[Original story by Save the Children](#), published on 2 February 2023

Children are facing a growing risk of disease from cholera and measles outbreaks, raising fears for the many vulnerable children already suffering from malnutrition.

A deadly combination of severe water shortage, poor hygiene and sanitation services, including open defecation and lack of water treatment options are driving the rapid spread of cholera, with severe drought exacerbating the situation. The situation is likely to get worse as the country is now in the January-March dry season. Forecasts predict that rainfall in the upcoming rainy season in March will be below average.

In the Somali and Oromia regions, distraught mothers are arriving at malnutrition stabilization centres run by Save the Children with children showing severe symptoms and complications caused by malnutrition.

Hodan* and her family are victims of the ongoing drought in the Somali Region. They were edged out of their pastoralist way of life in the last four months, having lost three goats and three camels leaving them without a source of income. Her husband fortunately now works as a hired labourer on a farm back in their village, but Hodan still struggles to feed her family, including Ayaan*, her severely malnourished daughter of 19 months. "When I saw the child *[was]* getting worse, I decided to take her to the nearest health facility where I can get medication. That's why I came here", Hodan*says, referring to Kelafo Health Centre that had admitted 18 other children suffering from severe acute malnutrition in the first two weeks of January 2023. Ayaan* has been admitted at the Stabilization Centre at Kelafo Health Centre, where she will receive life-saving therapeutic feeding treatment.

In 2022, Save the Children reached 7,574,882 people, including 5,140,968 children through lifesaving treatment for malnutrition, food, and water distribution, among other services.

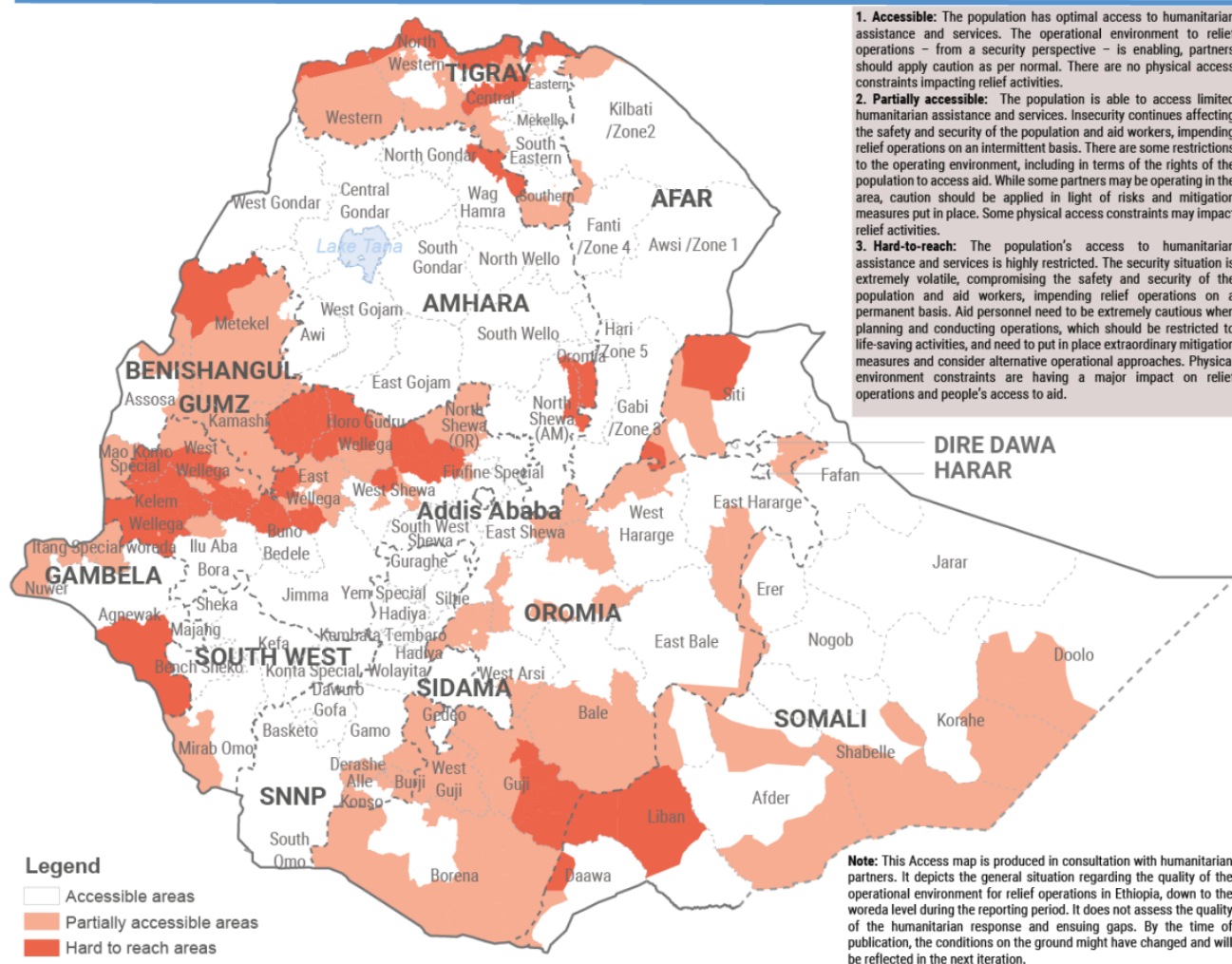
Note to Editors (Save the Children) *Names changed to protect identities.



Stabilization Centre Nurse at Kelafo Health Centre examines Ayaan 19 months, who is suffering from severe malnutrition and other complications, Photo: Save the Children/Asseged Seifu*

VISUAL (23 Feb 2023)

Access Map



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
 Creation date: 09 February 2023 Source: OCHA Feedback: ocha-eth@un.org, www.unocha.org/ethiopia, www.reliefweb.int

FEATURE (2 Feb 2023)

Funding Update

The 2022 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) is only 48.2 per cent funded as of 31 January, out of the required US\$3.335 billion. This included an estimated \$928 million received for the drought response. The HRP for 2023 is being prepared, but the needs and financial requirements are expected to remain high throughout the year.

The Ethiopian Humanitarian Fund (EHF) received a total contribution of \$72 million in 2022 from thirteen donors. Additional funding has been provided by the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF). A CERF allocation of \$10 million has been recently approved to complement EHF funding in drought affected areas and to support the response in northern Ethiopia.

Continued donors' support is urgent and critical to enable humanitarian partners to maintain and strengthen the delivery of assistance to vulnerable people in conflict and natural disaster-affected areas across the country.

VISUAL (15 Dec 2022)

Drought Operational Prioritization

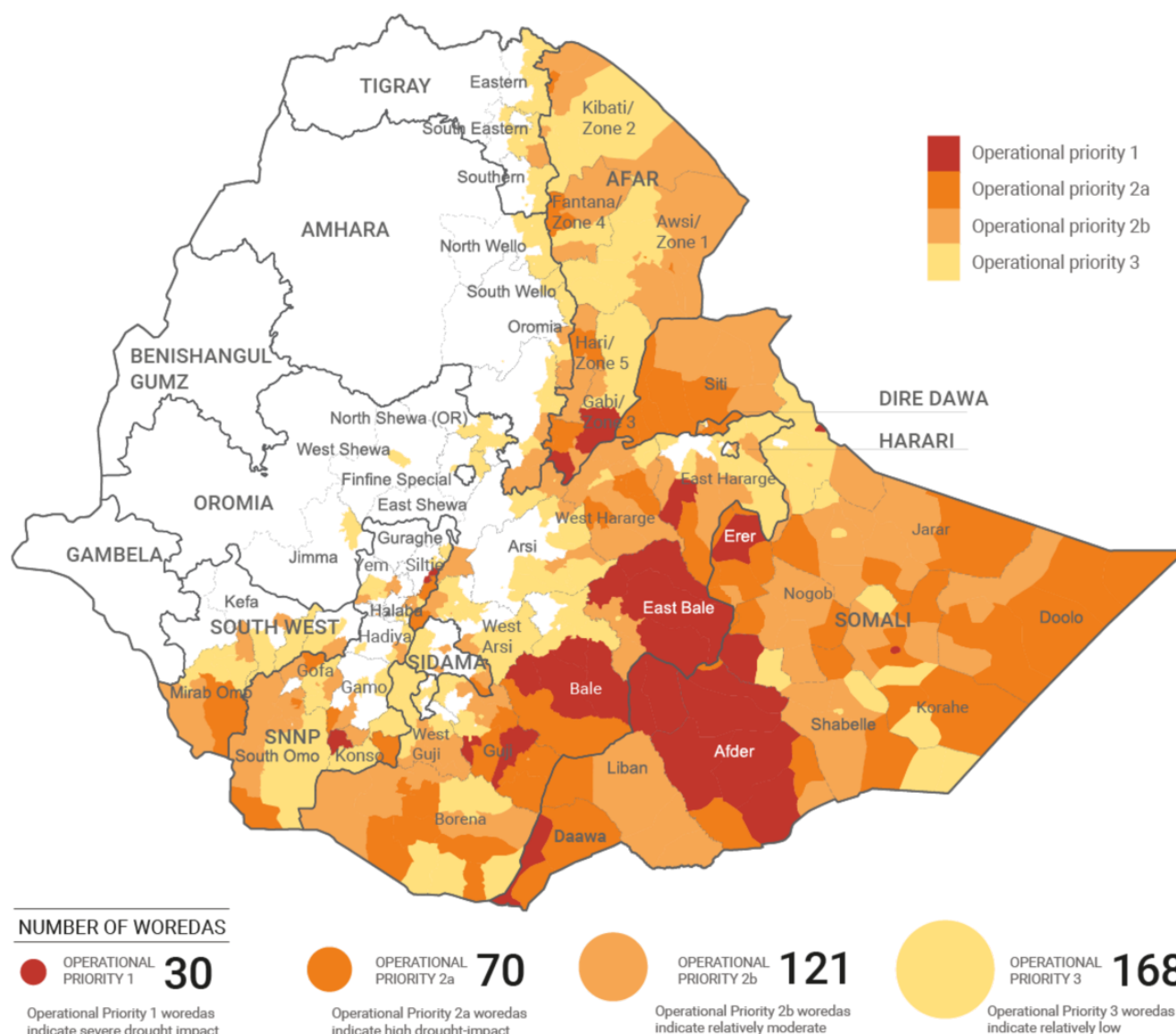
ETHIOPIA

Drought Operational Prioritization

As of 30 November 2022

The Drought Operational Prioritization model has been developed to support prioritization of the response within the drought affected areas. It is based on a weighting system that aggregates datasets on the severity of the drought at woreda-level, and is meant to flag the most critical areas requiring immediate humanitarian response. The model takes into account the severity of the drought shock, the immediate impact in terms of drought displacement, the resulting humanitarian conditions for all affected populations in the drought affected areas, and the humanitarian response already provided. This current version of the model is an update to the earlier prioritization model that was finalized in June 2022 and was included in the Drought Response Plan. All the datasets have been updated in the current model. In terms of shocks, the model considers data on the Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) and Standard Precipitation Index (SPI) for the different rainy seasons in the last 12 months, and compares the current values with the long term average conditions. On the immediate impact of the shocks, it includes data on new drought displacements and where people have departed from due to the drought. In terms of the resulting humanitarian conditions, the model includes cluster indicators on food insecurity, malnutrition, water coverage, crop and livestock conditions, disease outbreaks, children out of school, emergency shelter and non-food item availability, and negative coping mechanisms that are being employed. Finally, the model factors in the humanitarian response that has already been provided in 2022, and compares it to the people targeted in these drought affected areas.

This prioritization will continue being updated in the months ahead to capture the evolution of the drought and the associated response.



For the underlying data of the operational prioritization by woreda, see the dataset on the Humanitarian Data Exchange (HDX): <https://data.humdata.org/dataset/ethiopia-drought-prioritization-results>
The dataset of these prioritization results can be downloaded from the Humanitarian Data Exchange (HDX): <https://data.humdata.org/dataset/ethiopia-drought-prioritization-results>

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CLUSTER STATUS (2 Feb 2023)



Agriculture



Needs

- An estimated 17.5 million people in need of agricultural support in 2022 across Ethiopia, of whom 11.5 million people are targeted.
- The drought impact is expanding, increasing the number of people to be assisted and livestock to be supported. At present and since late 2021, 4 million livestock have perished, and more than 30 million livestock are emaciated and at risk. This is an increase from 3.5 million livestock deaths and at least 25 million at risk reported by mid-May 2022.
- In accordance with the forecasted dry poor rainy season (October to December), restocking and planting of long cycle crops has been deprioritized and replaced with de-stocking and planting of short cycle crops. These activities will prioritize locations with irrigation schemes.

Response

- In September, agriculture partners assisted some 300,000 people with agricultural and livelihood support bringing the total number of people assisted to 4.1 million people since the start of the year, up from 2.5 million people assisted by end August.

Gaps

- Insufficient agricultural inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, livestock vaccines and drugs and livestock feed for lack of funding.

CLUSTER STATUS (2 Feb 2023)



Camp Coordination and Camp Management



Needs

- At least 743,631 people were newly displaced across northern Ethiopia following the hostilities in August increasing the initial number of people targeted for CCCM assistance. Some 924,000 displaced people were targeted for Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) support in 2022 across Ethiopia.
- Hygiene kits, dignity kits, essential household items, medical services, food, and other services remain largely unaddressed from the last reporting period.

→ Response

- At least 543,533 people were reached with some form of CCCM assistance during October. Some of the major activities conducted during the month include the following:
- In Amhara, some 33,178 displaced people that were so far sheltered in different sites in Amhara have returned to their areas of origin. Preparations are underway to provide NFI assistance to the returnees.
- In Somali, 106 displaced households were relocated by local authorities in collaboration with CCCM Cluster from Qoloji Camp to Dhurwale *Kebele* in Kebribayah *Woreda*, Somali Region where they will have better access to services and livelihood opportunities. The relocated IDPs received cash and shelter kits.
- Also in Afar, CCCM and Protection clusters conducted a post-return protection assessment in Abala *Woreda*. Several challenges preventing sustainable reintegration were identified, particularly the absence of livelihood opportunities.
- In Tigray, several IDP site improvement activities were conducted, including 34 communal kitchens reconstructed at Sebacare 4; grid lines maintained by the *Woreda* Electric Utility Office in Selekleka IDP and Quiha IDP sites; maintenance of fence, road, door and window as well as provision of brooms in Hibret, Embadanso, Mai Woyni, Midre-Genet, Sebacare 4, Wukro, Quiha IDP sites amongst others.
- In Benishangul Gumuz, CCCM partner donated maintenance kits (axes/digging hoe, spades/shovels, wheelbarrows and hammer to Genete Mariam, Azarti-Kitili, Dibate 02 (Bole) and Dobi Ranchi IDP sites.

↔ Gaps

- Limited number of CCCM partners and lack of funding is hampering CCCM related activities, including monitoring and site improvement.

CLUSTER STATUS (2 Feb 2023)



Education



Needs

- More than 3.4 million children (1.7 million girls) do not have access to school due the impact of conflict and climate shocks across the country.
- In Tigray specifically, more than 2.3 million children (1.8 million girls) are out of school due to the closure of 2,270 schools across the region. Of the 2.3 million children, 60 per cent would be without education for the third year in a row this year.
- Inter-sector coordination being solicited to support back-to-school activities in northern Ethiopia, including reconstruction of school structures and systems.
- The cluster reached 31 per cent of targeted population as of the end of September (latest data available).

→ Response

No update provided

Gaps

- Lack of funding to support education in emergencies activities (less than half of funding received).

CLUSTER STATUS (2 Feb 2023)



Emergency Shelter & Non-Food Items

Needs

- Over 5.8 million people need emergency shelter and non-food item (ESNFI) assistance across eight regions of the country, out of which 4.1 million have been targeted.
- Over 640,000 drought-displaced people in Somali, Afar, Harari, and Oromia need ES/NFI assistance, out of which only 115,000 have been assisted to date.

Response

In the period 1 January – 31 December 2022:

- 3.5 million people assisted with ESNFI out of 4.1 million targeted.
- More than 420,000 people assisted with Emergency Shelter Assistance out of 1.42 million targeted.
- Shelter Repair Kits provided to over 94,000 people in need, out of 337,000 people targeted.

Gaps

- Stretched capacity in responding to the conflict and climate-induced displacements across the country.
- Low funding to respond to the drought situation in Somali, Oromia, Afar, and Harari regions.
- Lack of data on displaced populations outside of the main towns in Tigray, Western Oromia, and Benishangul Gumuz due to access challenges.

CLUSTER STATUS (2 Feb 2023)



Food

Needs

- 22.6 million people in Ethiopia are food insecure due to drought, conflict and increase in food prices.
- An estimated 11.8 million people are food insecure in drought affected areas of Afar, Somali, Oromia and SNNP regions and Dire Dawa City Administration.
- Worsening food insecurity among the IDPs country wide.

→ Response

- Since mid-November 2022, UN and INGO partners brought about 114,000 MT of food has been brought into Tigray as of 24 January 2023.
- As of 23 January 2023, partners assisted 16.3 million people in targeted locations (completing Round 1 of food distribution) across the country.
- An estimated 15.5 million people received food under Round 2, and close to 8.1 million in Round 3 which were commenced in 2022.
- Around 7.5 million people in Ethiopia were assisted with food rations under Round 4, while distributions are underway in some regions.
- Round 5 food distributions have also commenced in Amhara, Afar, and Somali regions with 1.3 million people assisted so far.

↔ Gaps

- Lack of humanitarian access has:
 - disrupted and delayed food distributions, in some locations in bordering areas and off main roads of Tigray;
 - created gaps in humanitarian supplies, including food assistance, in Megale, Dalol, Berhale and Abala woredas in Afar;
 - delayed food deliveries in East and West Wollega (Western Oromia), Kamashi in Benishangul Gumuz region, and Salamago in South Omo (SNNPR).
- Increase in the influx of IDPs from Oromia into Amhara is worsening food and nutrition insecurity in the region, which requires scale up of interventions by humanitarian partners.
- Shortfall in resources and pipeline breaks have contributed to incomplete food baskets and delays in food distributions in some areas.

CLUSTER STATUS (2 Feb 2023)



Health



Needs

- Opening of humanitarian access to the Tigray region has offered an opportunity for health cluster partners to scale up efforts to deliver essential health services.

→ Response

- In January 2023 alone, over 8,300 children across Ethiopia were diagnosed with malnutrition, including more than 800 admitted into various stabilization centres for treatment with medical complications.
- Approximately 281,500 people were assisted by static and mobile health and nutrition teams, of which some 83,000 IDPs were provided with essential health services in both drought and conflict-affected areas. More than 3,390 people in Bizet received COVID-19 vaccination as part of a vaccination campaign in the region. Over 435 MT of medical supplies were transported to various locations in Tigray to be distributed in priority health facilities. Close to 13,000 people received oral cholera vaccine (OCV) in two IDP sites (Berbere & Delo) in Oromia.
- A mass measles vaccination campaign targeting over 16M children in all regions of Ethiopia is underway since December 2022.

↔ Gaps

- Non-functionality of health facilities is creating a challenge for the delivery of health services in conflict-affected areas of Afar, Amhara, Benishangul Gumuz, Oromia and Tigray regions.
- The health sector remains under-resourced and underfunded amidst an increasing number of IDPs and returnees requiring essential health services, while over-reliance on Mobile Health and Nutrition Teams is costly. Shortage of ambulances to transport expecting mothers to health facilities, Lack of water quality monitoring supplies and kits in Cholera high-risk areas, coupled with low capacity to conduct such tests. Lack of food assistance for health workers and caregivers in stabilization centres.

CLUSTER STATUS (2 Feb 2023)



Logistics



Needs

- Safe and sustained access and additional ground transportation routes to transport the required humanitarian supplies to hard-to-reach areas across the country.

→ Response

- Humanitarian cargo movement via Semera, Gondar, and Kombolcha has been ongoing since mid November.
- More than 3,900 trucks were requested for approval to the Ethiopian Disaster Risk Management Commission (EDRMC) out of which more than 3,000 trucks of humanitarian cargo and fuel arrived in Tigray as of 25 January via three corridors.

- In December and January, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the receipt of approximately 2,633 m3 of assorted cargo at its warehouses for storage on behalf of 10 partners.
- Since mid-November, 43 MT of health and nutrition items have been airlifted, from Addis Ababa to Tigray.

Gaps

CLUSTER STATUS (2 Feb 2023)



Nutrition



Needs

- Assessments in 2022 show deterioration of nutrition status of population in affected areas.
- It is estimated approximately 7.4 million people will need nutrition assistance in 2023.
- Trends show there is a 23 per cent increase of severe acute malnutrition SAM cases of children with highest risk of death reaching health facilities since early 2022. From newly admitted cases 12.8 per cent were admitted to stabilization centers due to medical complications. Admission rates in November 2022 were slightly lower at 87 per cent compared to 91 per cent in October.
- Oromia, Somali, Amhara, Tigray and SNNP regions expect more cases of wasted children (burden) accounting for 90 percent of people in need (6,648,976).

Response

In the period between January and November 2022:

- An estimated 626,900 children under five were admitted to nutrition services for SAM treatment across the country. An unusual spike was observed in SAM admissions in stabilization centers in Somali region;
- Over 1.6 million children under five with moderate acute malnutrition, were assisted with targeted supplementary feeding products country wide;
- More than 1.36 million undernourished pregnant and lactating women were assisted with supplements to improve their dietary intake;
- More than 800 woredas provided SAM care services and over 150 woredas provided assistance for moderate acute malnourished children in November.

Gaps

- Inconsistent coverage in most affected drought woredas.
- Insufficient interventions to prevent wasting from malnutrition.

CLUSTER STATUS (2 Feb 2023)



Needs

- Spontaneous and planned returns to Tigray have been increasing in Afar and Amhara regions with needs to support.
- Conflict in Oromia is hindering return movements while triggering new large displacements towards neighboring Benishangul Gumuz and Amhara regions, increasing the needs.
- Violence in East and West Wellega zones, Horo Guduru Wellega Zone, Qellem Wellega Zone, and West Guji Zone, as well as some parts of Kamashi Zone in Benishangul Gumuz Region, coupled with lack of access to humanitarian aid and damaged/depleted basic services increasing protection needs for IDPs and non-displaced population in hard-to-reach areas.
- In Benishangul Gumuz, about 300,000 IDPs have been returned from Metekel zone to their areas of origin through government led activities.
- In drought affected Somali Region, the possibility of return is affected by the scarcity of livelihood opportunities, and lack of civil documentation, which further reduce freedom of movement and people access to economic opportunity.
- Somali region has been affected by increase in commodity prices, high inflation and consecutive low crop production. Insufficient food distribution and assistance in many locations remain the primary concern of the displaced population, as it increases their vulnerability and exposure to protection risks.
- Mine action activities in Northern Ethiopia remain limited to explosive ordnance risk education while the reported initial explosive ordnance victims' toll has exceeded 500 people, out of which 51 per cent are children.

Response

- An estimated 1,147 unaccompanied and separated children are cared for in Elshadai center in Tigray. Regular child protection activities including case management, parenting programmes, and cash assistance were conducted.

Gaps

- Access and movement restrictions in Benishangul Gumuz and Oromia, while in Tigray, services remain limited in hard-to-reach areas.
- Weak coordination to improve planning and implementation for asserting intention of return and relocation, across the country.

CLUSTER STATUS (2 Feb 2023)



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)



Needs

- 8.6 million people are targeted for WASH services across the country, including 2.9 million people in drought-affected areas.
- Response to an active cholera outbreak ongoing in Oromia and Somali regions.



Response

- No inputs provided.



Gaps

- Given the scope of needs across the country, many regions still lack sufficient partners' presence.
- Lack of funding.
- Water trucking in drought affected areas requires long term investments in water systems to address needs in the region. Linking emergency and long-term response needs to be further strengthened.

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