

HIGHLIGHTS (23 Sep 2021)

- The remaining WFP fuel tanker in Mekelle, which other agencies had been relying on, was depleted.
- Sixty-two trucks of humanitarian supplies arrived in Tigray via Afar, the first convoy to arrive since 7 September.
- According to a recent survey, 89 per cent of surveyed internally displaced households in Tigray prefer to return to their places of origin if food is available.
- The first groups of more than 2,700 internally displaced people were relocated from schools used as shelters to a new site in Mekelle.
- Partners continue to scale up the response and support the response efforts led by regional authorities 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

Requirements (May - December)

\$171M

Outstanding gap (Sep - Dec)

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BACKGROUND (23 Sep 2021)

Disclaimer

OCHA Ethiopia prepares this report with the support of Cluster Coordinators. The data/information collected covers the period from 14-20 September. The dashboard data below is as of 8 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 30 September.

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



CLUSTERS

10



PARTNERS

46



PEOPLE IN NEED

5.2M



PEOPLE TARGETED

5.2M



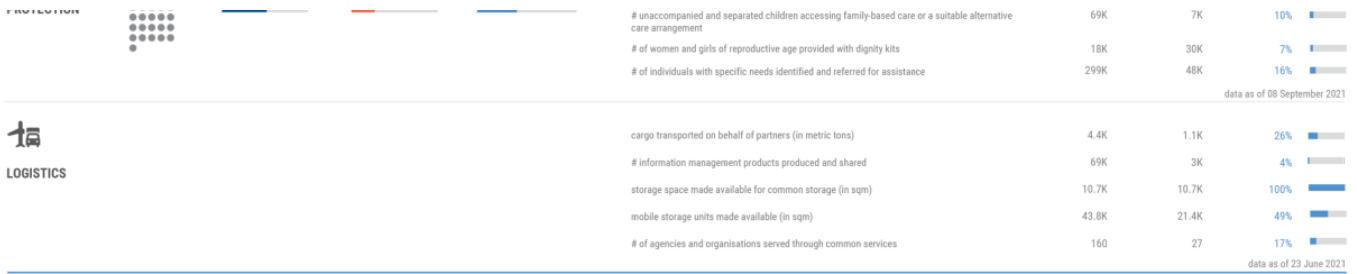
PEOPLE REACHED

4.6M

On 14 May, humanitarian partners finalized the **Northern Ethiopia Response Plan** which outlines the planned response from May to December 2021. This dashboard provides an overview of the response progress by cluster against the plan, with details on progress against key cluster indicators. The progress is monitored by clusters on a weekly basis.



CLUSTER	PARTNERS <small>Since 1 May 2021</small>	PEOPLE IN NEED	PEOPLE TARGETED	PEOPLE REACHED	KEY INDICATORS	TARGET <small>May-December 2021</small>	REACHED* <small>Since 1 May 2021</small>	% REACHED
FOOD	9	5.2M	5.2M	4.6M**	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of people reached with food assistance in round 1 (started on 27 March) # of people reached with food assistance in round 2 (started on 10 May) # of people reached with food assistance in round 3 (launched on August) 	5.20M 5.20M 5.20M	4.6M** 3.9 M 0 M	88%** 76% 0%
WASH	17	4.5M	3.2M	1.4M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of people having access to safe drinking water through emergency water trucking # of people having access to safe drinking water through durable solution # of people reached through essential sanitation and hygiene message # of people provided with lifesaving WASH NFI # of people accessing sanitation facility (latrines & bathing/hand washing facilities) 	1.84M 2.90M 2.95M 2.25M 1.22M	1.4M 911K 204K 739K 169K	78% 31% 7% 33% 14%
AGRICULTURE	14	2M	1.2M	984K	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of HH who benefited from distribution of agricultural inputs (emergency seed) # of households that received animal health support services (vaccination and treatment) # of households that received emergency animal feed (hay, forage seed, concentrate) # of households that benefited from draft power support and livestock asset restoration # of people that benefited from capacity building activities 	250K HH 736K 315K 270K 2.50M	197K HH 0 2.5K 0 79	79% 0% 1% 0% 0.1%
ESNFI	14	3.2M	2.9M	358K	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of displacements affected populations that have received non-food items that consider the most vulnerable or at risk and beneficiaries' safety # of displacements affected population receiving emergency shelter and NFI assistance that considers the needs of women, children, people with disabilities and the safety of beneficiaries # of displacements affected populations that have received Emergency Shelter to improve physical protection and health of the displacement of affected population 	1.10M 709K 1.025M	358K 279K 62K	33% 39% 6%
CCCM	3	1.8M	1.2M	130K	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of camps coordinated, including information management # of individuals benefited from community participation, mobilization/self-governance # of training provided on capacity building of stakeholders, including government camp management focal points 	100 560K 30	38 130K 3	38% 23% 10%
HEALTH	18	3.8M	2.3M	108	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of health facilities rehabilitated and are fully functional in areas affected by humanitarian crisis and health emergency # of health facilities conducting integrated diseases surveillance and reporting # MHNT in crises affected locations # of health facilities with capacity for clinical management of rape # of health facilities with capacity for clinical management of MHPSS 	100 200 100 40 40	40 108 46 14 40	40% 54% 46% 35% 100%
NUTRITION	12	1.6M	1.4M	350K	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of children 6-59 month children benefiting from BSFP # of PLW benefiting from BSFP # of children treated for SAM # of MAM children benefiting from TSFP # of MAM PLW benefiting from TSFP # of pregnant and lactating women benefiting from IYCF counseling 	658K 184K 23K 313K 225K 1.50M	350K 60K 18K 67K 61K 73K	53% 33% 80% 21% 27% 5%
EDUCATION	15	1.4M	0.72M	18K	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # emergency-affected girls and boys accessing formal or non-formal education opportunities, including early learning # emergency-affected girls and boys benefiting from learning materials # children learning in TLS/classroom repairs with safe school protocols # female and male education stakeholders trained/capacity strengthened (incl. teachers/facilitators, NGO personnel, education authorities and parents/caregivers) # emergency-affected girls and boys benefiting from emergency school feeding 	420K 720K 450K 8.4K 126K	18K 10K 8K 2K 1K	4% 1% 2% 24% 1%
PROTECTION	21	2.7M	1.4M	176K	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # women, men, girls and boys accessing CP and GBV risk mitigation, prevention, response service # of children [and caregivers] accessing mental health and psychosocial support 	436K 75K	176K 50K	40% 67%



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Creation date: 08 September 2021 Sources: Clusters Feedback: ocha-eth@un.org www.unocha.org www.reliefweb.int

*Cumulative ** 5.25 million people (100%) have been reached since the start of Round 1 (27 March)

BACKGROUND (23 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. The delivery of humanitarian supplies remains heavily constrained via the only access route to the region (Semera-Abala-Mekelle corridor). The security situation along the road remains calm but unpredictable.

On 20 September, 62 trucks of humanitarian supplies arrived in Tigray via Afar, the first convoy to arrive since 7 September. This brings the number of humanitarian trucks that entered Tigray since 12 July to 525 trucks (or less than 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 last fuel tanker entered Tigray on 29 July, over 7 weeks ago, while nine tankers in Semera (Afar) are pending Government approval. On 17 September, the remaining WFP fuel tanker in Mekelle – which other agencies had been relying on – was depleted. Meanwhile, the authorities in Tigray stated on 17 September that they would stop providing fuel to the UN and NGOs due to shortages. Partners are now relying on their remaining and limited fuel reserves.

During the reporting period, partners managed to bring into the region 17 million birr in local currency (about US\$ 370,000). This brings the amount of cash cleared and dispatched since 12 July to 144 million birr, or less than 5 per cent of what is needed. To sustain humanitarian operations, about \$6.5 million, equivalent to 300 million birr, are needed every week, either through a functioning banking system or a relaxation of the cash limitation. As per the procedures set by the Government of Ethiopia, partners can carry a maximum of 2 million birr on the UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) flight.

Medical supplies are still denied entry to the region by the Government of Ethiopia. Commercial supplies remain blocked since 28 June, leading to severe shortages of essential commodities in the private markets and a spike 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, making it challenging for people to afford basic necessities.

In addition to the above operational constraints, many of the trucks bringing humanitarian aid into Tigray – primarily vehicles from private companies contracted by WFP and other agencies – have not returned from Tigray after arrival, further impacting the ability to send relief items into the region. Among the reasons cited by the drivers are lack of fuel to return as well as fear for their security as they were subjected to beating, harassment, intimidation, and theft on the route from Semera to Mekelle.

UNHAS continues to operate two passenger flights per week between Addis Ababa and Mekelle, with 15 flights having operated to date since July. Passengers reported moderate searches at Addis Ababa airport on departure and arrival during the reporting period.

The number of food-insecure people continues to increase, with at least 5.2 million people targeted for emergency food assistance in 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 food rounds have stretched longer than expected, up to four to five months instead of six weeks, the distributed assistance covered is much less than the minimum caloric needs.

According to a recent intention survey by partners, 89 per cent of surveyed internally displaced households in Tigray prefer to return to their places of origin and 10 per cent want to locally integrate. Of those who wanted to return, 95 per cent stated that the availability of food was the main factor to be ensured before returning. This was followed by the need for safety and security (64 per cent); the renovation or reconstruction of shelter (40 per cent); and the availability of livelihood options (29 per cent). Similar trends were observed among internally displaced persons (IDPs) living in collective centers with 86 per cent of them preferring to return to their places of origin. An overwhelming majority or 99 per cent of surveyed internally displaced households said that their main need is food, followed by shelter with 71 per cent and NFIs by 63 per cent.

Between 15 and 20 September, the first IDP groups were relocated from schools used as shelters to the new relocation site "Sabacare 4" in Mekelle where 2,727 people (722 households) have been relocated. The site has a capacity to accommodate about 20,000 people.

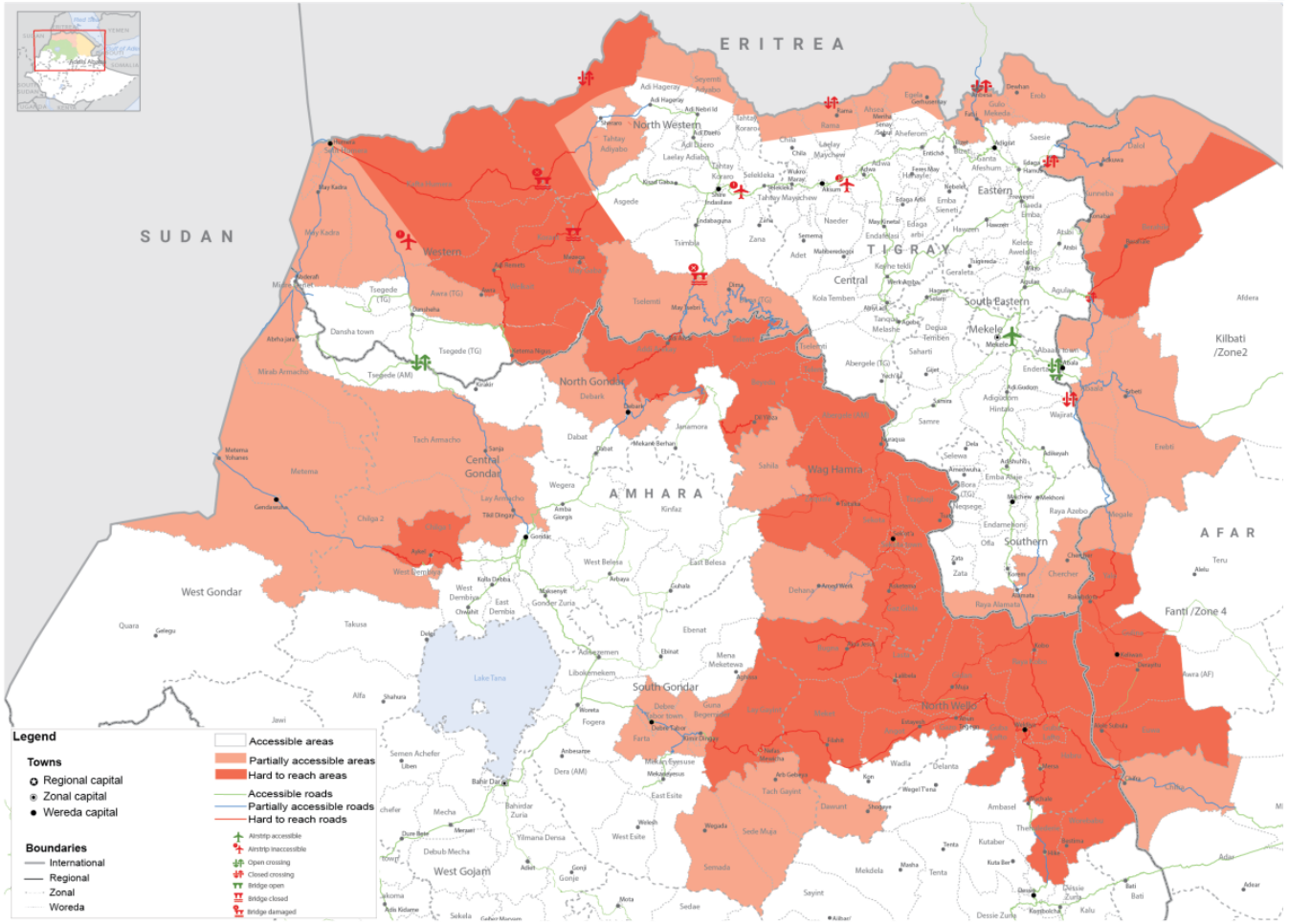
The spillover of the conflict into neighboring Afar and Amhara regions continues to affect civilians with increased food insecurity, increased displacement, and disruption of livelihoods. In Afar, it is estimated that hundreds of thousands of people are directly affected by the conflict, including several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

In Amhara, the humanitarian situation continues to deteriorate due to the active conflict along the Tigray regional border further increasing the number of IDPs, including in North Gondar, Central Gondar, South Wello, South Gondar, and Awi Zones. Unverified reports indicate that tens of thousands of people are under siege or in areas controlled by armed forces with no access to assistance (North Wollo, Wag Hemra, and North Gondar Zones). Despite challenges, including limited presence of humanitarian partners, limited or no access to some areas due to insecurity, and lack of resources, partners continue to scale up the response and to support the regional authorities-led response efforts in both regions (Afar and Amhara). To date, partners reached 148,000 people in Afar with food and about 87,000 people with safe drinking water through water trucking. About 11,600 households benefitted from emergency shelter and non-food items support and 1,552 households from cash assistance. About 57,600 IDPs received health and nutrition services.

In Amhara, nutrition partners distributed 11,089 cartons of "ready to use" therapeutic food; 126 cartons of F75 therapeutic milk; 112 cartons of F100 therapeutic milk; while 5,189 cartons of high energy biscuit were prepositioned. The National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC) distributed food to 428,588 people in conflict-affected areas. WFP food distribution is ongoing to affected populations in Dessie and Kombolcha towns, South Wello Zone.

On 17 September, the UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator, Dr. Catherine Sozi led a high-level delegation of partners to attend the reactivation of the Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC) in Bahir Dar, Amhara Region, to strengthen coordination and increase presence on the ground, and to provide technical and financial support to the regional authorities. The ECC meeting was chaired by the President of Amhara region, Mr. Agegnehu Teshager, and attended by high level government officials including the Minister of Peace, H.E. Ms. Muferihat Kamil; Commissioner for NDRMC, Mr. Ato Mitiku Kassa; and Minister of Water, and Mine and Energy, Dr. Engineer Sileshi Bekele.

Humanitarian Access in northern Ethiopia



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 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 resource availability to deliver humanitarian response

CASH (US\$)

134.5M

NEEDED TO DELIVER TARGET

0.2% capacity

200K AVAILABLE IN TIGRAY | 115M GAP DUE TO ACCESS IMPEDIMENTS*

FUEL (LITERS)

2.3M

NEEDED TO DELIVER TARGET

12% capacity

291K AVAILABLE IN TIGRAY | 1.6M GAP DUE TO ACCESS IMPEDIMENTS*

SUPPLIES (TRUCKS)

5,000

NEEDED TO DELIVER TARGET

3% capacity

100 AVAILABLE IN TIGRAY | 4,000 GAP DUE TO ACCESS IMPEDIMENTS*

Resource availability by cluster activity

Cluster Activity	PEOPLE TARGETED	ACTIVITY STATUS	HOW LONG DO THE AVAILABLE RESOURCES LAST TO IMPLEMENT THE ACTIVITY			# PEOPLE AFFECTED BY THE (UPCOMING) SUSPENSION
			CASH	FUEL	SUPPLIES	
Food						
Food distribution	5.2M	Suspended	7 days	50 days	0 days	5.2M
Health						
Delivery of emergency kits	2.3M	Partially active (20%)	0 days	N/A	0 days	2.3M
Vaccination for cholera (second dose)	1.5M	Suspended	0 days	N/A	0 days	1.5M
Nutrition						
Management of severe acute malnutrition, in OTP	56K	Suspended	0 days	7 days	tbc	40K
Management of severe acute malnutrition, in SC	4K	Suspended	0 days	0 days	0 days	4K
BSF/TSF	1.4M	Suspended	0 days	0 days	tbc	1.4M
Vitamin A supplementation	574K	Suspended	0 days	7 days	tbc	574K
ESNFI						
Provision of ESNFI kits	525K	Partially active (35%)	0 days	0 days	30 days	525K
Provision of NFI items	1.1M	Partially active (35%)	0 days	0 days	30 days	761K
Emergency shelter assistance	998K	Partially active (35%)	0 days	0 days	30 days	944K
WASH						
Water supply through trucking to IDPs living in collective sites	525K	Partially active (25%)	0 days	7 days	N/A	525K
Water supply through durable solutions	2.1M	Partially active (15%)	0 days	7 days	1 day	2.1M
Constructions of sanitation facilities for IDPs living in collectives sites	525K	Partially active (10%)	1 day	N/A	N/A	452K
WASH NFIs	525K	Partially active (20%)	14 days	N/A	21 days	525K
Agriculture						
Livestock vaccination, drug and vet supply	370K	Partially active (40%)	0 days	N/A	45 days	370K
Livestock feed	200K	Suspended	0 days	N/A	0 days	200K
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	11K	Active	14 days	N/A	N/A	10K
Prevent and respond to separation of children from families	18K	Suspended	0 days	N/A	N/A	17K
GBV prevention and response	436K	Partially active (10%)	14 days	N/A	0 days	424K
Protect children & affected populations from SEA	288K	Partially active (10%)	14 days	N/A	N/A	218K
Gender-Based Violence						
Provide health, social work or justice/law enforcement services	7K	Suspended	0 days	N/A	0 days	7K
CP and GBV risk mitigation, prevention, and response services	180K	Active	7 days	N/A	7 days	71K
Provide dignity kits to women and girls of reproductive age	299K	Partially active (10%)	7 days	N/A	7 days	256K
PFA and MHPSS	43K	Active	7 days	N/A	7 days	27K
CCCM						
Site improvement	1.2M	Suspended	0 days	N/A	N/A	1.2M
Information management and coordination	1.2M	Partially active	0 days	N/A	N/A	1.2M
Capacity building	1.2M	Partially active (30%)	0 days	N/A	N/A	1.2M

0 - 14 days | 14 - 28 days | 28 - 60 days | + 60 days

* Access impediments include movement restrictions, bureaucratic impediments and insecurity

EMERGENCY RESPONSE (23 Sep 2021)

Humanitarian Preparedness and Response

Humanitarian partners maintain their commitment to stay and deliver to meet current and emerging needs. As of 22 September, 512 UN staff (10 UN agencies) support the humanitarian response (103 international staff and 240 national staff in Mekelle and 40 international staff and 129 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.

With reduced capacity due to the depletion of stocks and resources, partners continued to respond to some of the urgent needs in Tigray Region. Since the launch of the second round of food assistance under the Northern Ethiopia Humanitarian Response Plan 2021 in mid-May, and as of 15 September, food partners assisted about 4.2 million people across Mekelle Town, Eastern, Western, Central, North Western, Southern and South Eastern Zones. Between 9 and 15 September, however, food partners have assisted a little over 242,000 people compared to more than 546,000 people a week earlier.

Between 6 and 12 September, 40 Mobile Health and Nutrition Teams (MHNTs) supported 109 health facilities and IDP sites compared to 125 facilities and sites being supported a week earlier, and 136 facilities and sites two weeks earlier. One partner completely stopped the operation of six MHNTs in two Woredas due to lack of fuel.

More than 419,000 people, including over 116,000 IDPs in Mekelle, Central, South-Eastern, and Eastern Zones were reached with water. This includes people who received water in North Western Zone during the previous reporting period as reporting was delayed due to lack of communications.

During the reporting period (13 -17 September), nutrition partners screened about 39,000 children under 5 years for malnutrition, compared to over 137,000 a week earlier. Of the screened children, 1,225 or 3.1 per cent were diagnosed with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and 7,630 or 19.6 per cent with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM). Partners also screened more than 11,000 pregnant and lactating women, compared to more than 33,000 women a week earlier, of whom more than 7,800, or about 70 per cent were diagnosed with acute malnutrition. The global acute malnutrition (GAM) is 15 per cent.

Between 13 and 20 September, Logistic Cluster partners facilitated the transport of 15 trucks with 115 MT of nutrition, NFI and shelter items from Mekelle to other parts of Tigray on behalf of seven partners.

From January to date, about 743,000 people, 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.

CLUSTER STATUS (23 Sep 2021)



Agriculture



Needs

- 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.

→ Response

- FAO is organizing transportation of 2000 litres of chemicals, 50 PPEs and 100 backpacks for the desert locust control support in affected *Woredas* with focus in South and South Eastern Zones.

↔ Gaps

- 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.

CLUSTER STATUS (23 Sep 2021)



Camp Coordination and Camp Management

? Needs

- 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.

→ Response

- Some 722 households, (2,727 people) were relocated from three IDP sites to “Sabacare 4” in Mekelle. Partners distributed tarpaulins, tarps for floors, solar lanterns, dignity kits, food, groceries and vegetables to the relocated families. Hot meals were provided to the chronically ill children and elderly.
- Mekelle Merchant Association distributed 1500 kg of maize, 1500 kg of flour and 1000 kg of firewood to an IDP site in Mekelle.
- A two-day capacity building training for 25 members from authorities and partners in Shire.
- Distribution of handwashing points and installation has been completed in six IDP sites Shire town.

- Ongoing construction of multi-purpose shades and mini communal kitchens in four sites of Shire.

↔ Gaps

- Lack of cash and fuel impacts the implementation of site coordination, improvement and repairs 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.

CLUSTER STATUS (23 Sep 2021)



Education

📋 Needs

- Relocation of IDPs from schools.
- 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 biscuit in support to students.
- Psychosocial support for teachers.

➔ Response

- No updates since last reporting period.

↔ Gaps

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

CLUSTER STATUS (23 Sep 2021)



Emergency Shelter & Non-Food Items

📋 Needs

- Relocation of IDPs from schools to adequate alternative shelters ahead of reopening of schools on 20 September.
- 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 NFIs assistance to over 2,700 IDPs who have been relocated to “Sebacare 4” site in Mekelle.

→ Response

- Since January, and to date, some 742,945 people, including 380,388 females (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 722 households (2,727 people) who moved to “Sabacare 4” IDP site in Mekelle.

↔ Gaps

- ES/NFI partners response capacity reduced by 65 per cent due to the current operational constraints.
- 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 bank services are hindering the response.
- Lack of shelter construction materials in the local market leading to a spike in the prices.
- Spontaneous movement of conflict-affected communities/IDPs is challenging the planned assistance.

CLUSTER STATUS (23 Sep 2021)



📋 Needs

- 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).
- Based on qualitative information from the field, the number of food-insecure people continues to increase. 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 any 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.

➔ Response

- Since the launch of the second round of assistance under Northern Ethiopia Humanitarian Response Plan 2021 in mid-May, 4,183,724 people have been assisted with 62,683 MT of food in Central, Southern, North-Western, Eastern, and South-Eastern Zones as of 15 September.
- Between 9 and 15 September, food partners have distributed 3,213 MT of food assisting 242,262 people compared to 546,681 people 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 its Round 2 distribution, assisting 1,840,508 people with 31,197 MT (47 per cent) of food in Central, Eastern, Southern and South Eastern Zones as of 15 September.
- WFP and its partners completed their Round 2 distribution with 31,486 MT of food, assisting 2,343,216 people in Southern and North-Western Zones as of 15 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 557,253 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.
- A one-off distribution of 39 MT of super cereal and 1.3 MT of sugar targeting 10,508 school-going children took place in Maiwoyni Secondary School IDP site in Mekelle.
- 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.

↔ Gaps

- 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 8 and 19 September, no partner has been able to bring in any food commodity into Tigray. On 20 September, 19 trucks with food commodities (562 MT) entered Tigray.
- The safety and security of cargo drivers in the corridor is also a serious concern and requires urgent measures to ensure that transporters have the confidence to continue cargo movements.
- 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 operation temporarily.
- Partners remain unable to dispatch food stock to the areas across the Tekeze River in Tselemeti and Dimma woredas due to physical access challenges as the Tekeze bridge is still not fully repaired.
- 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.

CLUSTER STATUS (23 Sep 2021)



Health



Needs

- 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.

→ Response

- Between 6 and 12 September, 40 Mobile Health and Nutrition Teams (MHNTs) supported 109 health facilities and IDP sites compared to 125 facilities and sites supported a week earlier, and 136 facilities and sites two weeks earlier. One partner completely stopped the operation of 6 MHNTs in 2 *Woredas* due to lack of fuel.
- Partners continued to conduct training and provide materials and technical support to the Regional Health Bureau and health facilities.

↔ Gaps

- 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 and cash.

CLUSTER STATUS (23 Sep 2021)

Logistics

Needs

- 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.

Response

- Between 13 and 20 September, 15 trucks with 115 MT with Nutrition, NFI and Shelter on behalf of 7 partners were transported from Mekelle to Shire, Maytsebri, Abid Adi, Mehoni, Wajirat, Degua Temben, Sahrti, Adigrat, Hawzien and Samre.

Gaps

- Only one road, via Afar, is currently partially accessible for the transport of humanitarian supplies.
- 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.

CLUSTER STATUS (23 Sep 2021)

Nutrition

Needs

- 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.

Response

- Between 13 and 17 September, 38,895 children under 5 years were screened for malnutrition, compared to 137,526 a week earlier, in which 1,225 of them or 3.1 per cent were diagnosed with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and 7,630 or 19.6 per cent with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM).
- During the above period, 18 SAM children with medical complications were admitted to in-patient treatment at various stabilization centres across the region.
- Some 11,086 pregnant and lactating women were screened for malnutrition, compared to 33,633 a week earlier, of whom 7,806, or about 70.4 per cent were diagnosed with acute malnutrition.
- Between 7 and 13 September, 4,343 children under 5 compared to 31,106 children a week earlier, received Blanket Supplementary Feeding and 2,790 pregnant and lactating women compared to 3,369 a week earlier.
- Some 3,960 pregnant and lactating women received Infant and Young Child feeding counselling compared to 14,102 a week earlier.
- Some 5,866 pregnant and lactating women received counselling on optimal infant and young child feeding practices.
- 1,209 pregnant women received Iron and Folic Acid supplements.
- Some 17,760 children under five and 1,566 pregnant and lactating women received Blanket Supplementary Feeding.
- Some 1,209 pregnant women received iron and folic acid supplementation.
- Between 31 August and 13 September, some 887 children between 2 and 5 years received deworming tablets compared to 1352 children a week earlier, and 3,322 children under 5 received Vitamin A supplementation.

↔ 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.
- Capacity gaps due to restrictions with visa issuance for staff.

CLUSTER STATUS (23 Sep 2021)



Protection

? Needs

- 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.

→ Response

- Protection partners are supporting the relocation pilot to "Sabacare 4" relocation site in Mekelle with the registration and relocation of IDPs from Ayder, Libanos and Muse sites. Protection related activities included registration, identification, and referral of persons with specific needs (89 identified), information sharing and door-to-door vulnerability, NFI needs assessments (415 households visited) and distribution of solar lights (354 households). Protection partners are setting up permanent protection services in the site such as women and girls' friendly spaces, child friendly spaces and protection desks.
- Dignity kits were distributed to women and girls of reproductive age in 2 locations Kisanet and Adi Haki IDP sites. Distribution is planned to continue in the coming weeks.
- World Vision, in collaboration with Bureau of Labour and Social Affairs, identified 19 unaccompanied and separated children in Adigrat. Out of the 19 children, 6 were assisted with psychosocial support.
- Rehabilitation and Development Organization conducted home visit to 11 people with disabilities and carried out regular assessment for 187 people with disabilities in all IDP sites in Axum and 40 people in Adwa.
- In Maichew, UNHCR conducted key informant interviews in three Woredas (Alaje, Qorem, and Alamata) to assess the protection needs. Ethiopian Red Cross Society assessed three Woredas (Raya Azebo, Mekhoni, and Raya Chercher) and identified 34 civilian children and adults with disabilities affected by the conflict.
- Some 351 people reached with GBV awareness messages.

↔ Gaps

- 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.

CLUSTER STATUS (23 Sep 2021)



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs

- 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.

Response

- WASH Cluster partners supported the relocated IDPs to “Sabacara 4” with WASH services.
- During the reporting period, WASH response covered 27 *Woredas* in Mekelle, Central, Eastern, South-Eastern, and Southern Zones.
- Some 419,466 people, including 116,115 IDPs in Mekelle, Central, South-Eastern, and Eastern Zones were reached with water. This includes people receiving water in North Western Zone during the previous reporting period as reporting was delayed due to lack of communications.
- Rehabilitation of 119 water points (hand pumps) and motorized systems, compared to 157 a week earlier, reaching 24,635 people in South-Eastern, Southern and Eastern Zones.
- During the reporting period, 89,277 people, including 40,056 IDPs, reached with hygiene promotion and WASH NFIs at IDP sites and within the host community.

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.

**COORDINATION** (23 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. WASH, education, nutrition, and health clusters have also been 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.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE (23 Sep 2021)**Funding Update**

To date, the Northern Ethiopia Response Plan mobilized US\$683 million but this is far from meeting the growing requirements. As the conflict expands to Afar and Amhara regions, needs outpace the response, and operational challenges raise costs. Accordingly, the Plan will be updated and is expected to be finalized in the first half of October.

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. Some 55 proposals have been submitted for consideration totaling \$26.8 million, indicating the increased needs. Urgent funding to the EHF is required to continue supporting partners' response as the current fund balance stands at only \$2.5 million. On 20 September, the EHF Advisory Board met to discuss the activities and performance of the fund since the beginning of the year and to define the allocation strategy for the remainder of the year.

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 23 partners benefitted from the funds targeting 7.6 million people affected by the crisis.



OCHA

ETHIOPIA - NORTHERN ETHIOPIA HUMANITARIAN UPDATES

Situation Report

Last updated: 23 Sep 2021

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