

WFP Ethiopia Country Brief October 2018

World Food Programme

October 2018

Operational context

Ethiopia is the second-most populous country in Africa with 105 million people. Over the past 7 years, Ethiopia has achieved high economic growth averaging 11 percent per annum, and reduced extreme poverty from 61 to 31 percent, enabling it to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger rates by half, as was targeted in Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 1. The Government's medium-term strategic framework Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP II) promotes agricultural development to achieve food and nutrition security, with the aim of building resilience, and places emphasis on the production of high-value crops and on livestock.

The overarching objective of GTP II is the realization of Ethiopia's vision of becoming a middle-income country by 2025. WFP Ethiopia's Country Strategy focuses on disaster-risk management and resource management, basic social services, and agriculture markets and livelihoods. The overarching goal is to reduce hunger and to contribute to Ethiopia's transformation. The Government-led Ethiopia Humanitarian Disaster Resilience Plan assesses that 8 million people in Ethiopia will require emergency food assistance in 2018, with a further 8 million assisted with cash and food transfers though the Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP).

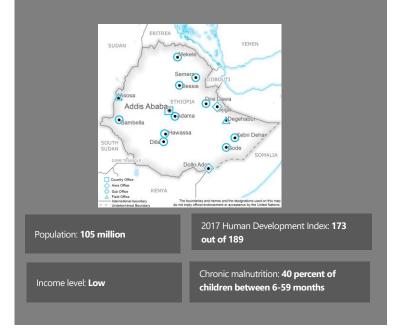


Photo WFP/Melese Awoke Caption: Fresh Food Voucher programme in Amhara Region. Country Director: Steven Were Omamo Further information: wfp.org/countries/Ethiopia **In Numbers**

36,000 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 125 million, six months (November 2018 – April 2019) net funding requirements, representing 48 percent of total requirements.

4.43 million people assisted In October 2018

Operational updates

• According to the 2018 Humanitarian and Disaster Resilience Plan (HDRP) Mid-Year Review, 8 million people require targeted relief food/cash assistance until the end of the year.

WFP Says

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- There are 2.1 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Ethiopia, of whom over 1.6 million have been displaced by conflict and insecurity.
- In October, WFP provided food assistance to 1.6 million food-insecure people identified under the 2018 HDRP, and 300,000 conflict-induced IDPs in Somali Region. WFP is also providing food assistance to 378,000 conflict-induced IDPs in the East and West Hararghe zones (Oromia Region).
- In support of the Government's Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP), WFP is providing food assistance to 995,000 'transitory' beneficiaries in Somali Region. These households are able to meet their minimum food needs at normal times, but unable to do so after shocks such as the lean season.
- Based on health screenings, WFP is assisting 482,000 moderately acutely malnourished children aged 6- 59 months, and acutely malnourished pregnant and nursing women, through the Targeted Supplementary Programme (TSFP), including conflict-induced IDPs in the Oromia and Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' regions.
- The reopening of the border-crossing points between Eritrea and Ethiopia has resulted in a significant increase in the number of new arrivals from Eritrea: 14,000 refugees have arrived in Ethiopia from 12 September to 20 October 2018. WFP has increased its food dispatches to Tigray Region to provide assistance to the new refugees.
- In October, WFP distributed food assistance to 694,000 refugees, of whom 149,300 (in 13 refugee camps) received a combination of food and cash.
- Due to funding constraints, refugees received food rations that were only 80 percent of the entitlements.
- WFP provided specialized nutritious foods to 136,000 moderately acutely malnourished children aged 6- 59 months, and acutely malnourished pregnant and nursing women, in refugee camps in October. In addition, 78,000 children in primary schools within refugee camps received school meals.

- WFP is addressing the energy requirements of children aged 6-23 months, and pregnant and nursing women, by improving their access to dietary diversity through the Fresh Food Voucher initiative. WFP provided mobile money to 2,800 households in Amhara Region in October, to buy fresh foods from local markets.
- The R4 Rural Resilience Initiative continues to support targeted smallholder farmers who benefit from the Government's PSNP. In October, 24,500 beneficiaries in Amhara and Tigray regions participated in activities that can offset the effects of drought, including the construction of hillside terraces, check dams and drains for water storage, and basin and plantation pits that absorb moisture and help cultivate plants.
- Through Satellite Index Insurance for Pastoralists in Ethiopia (SIIPE), 5,000 people registered with the Somali Micro Finance Institution. The beneficiaries also registered for mobile banking services to facilitate transactions such as insurance pay-outs. In October, 900 households received loans from the Village Economic and Social Association. In addition, SIIPE beneficiaries in the three woredas took part in activities to improve land and water management.
- WFP provided meals to 46,000 children enrolled in primary schools in food-insecure areas of SNNPR and Oromia regions.
- WFP Ethiopia provides logistics support to WFP's activities in South Sudan. WFP's Supply Chain team in Gambella Region manages logistics operations in hard-to-reach areas in eastern South Sudan, travelling by air, road and river. In October, WFP airdropped 2,900 mt of food commodities into South Sudan, thereby assisting vulnerable, conflict-affected communities in areas that are hard to reach due to either insecurity or the poor state of the roads.
- The WFP-managed United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) provides common air services for the humanitarian community to remote and challenging locations. In doing so, it facilitates the implementation and monitoring of humanitarian interventions in numerous life-saving, thematic areas. UNHAS transported 570 passengers and supported 30 humanitarian organizations in October.

Challenges

- Security remains a concern as ethnic tensions and conflicts continue in several parts of the country.
- Ration cuts continue for refugees due to insufficient resources. Donor funding is urgently needed to avoid severe pipeline breaks.
- In October, the TSFP faced critical commodity shortfalls. WFP prioritized the needs of conflict-induced IDPs in the Oromia and SNNPR regions.

Monitoring

 A nutrition survey conducted in refugee camps in Gambella Region indicated that global acute malnutrition (GAM) – a measurement of the nutritional status of a population – was 12.5 percent in five out of the seven camps. This put it below the emergency threshold of 15 percent for the first time in four years. In this region, WFP regularized and improved coverage of malnutrition prevention programme (Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme (BSFP)) and malnutrition treatment programme (Targeted Supplementary Programme) for children aged 6-59 months, and pregnant and nursing women. WFP also established partnerships with national non-governmental organizations with experience in implementing nutrition specific programmes in refugee camps in Gambella to improve nutrition services. Distribution of the general food ration has also been relatively timely, contributing to improved food security and nutrition.

Capacity building

- WFP provided training-of-trainers to woreda coordinators, woreda staff working in clinics and National Disaster Risk Management Commission staff supporting management of moderate acute malnutrition. The training included gender and protection modules to sensitize participants.
- At the request of UN Women, WFP's Protection Advisor facilitated a training of trainers on Accountability to Affected Population, Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, and Communication with Community. Twenty-five participants working for UN organizations, international and national non-governmental organizations and government counterparts attended.

WFP operations

	Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) *
Responding to Humanitarian Crises and Enhancing Resilience to Food Insecurity			
PRRO 200712 (Jul 2015 – Dec 2018)	1.58 billion	934.6 million	80 million (44%)
Food Assistance for Eritrean, South Sudanese, Somali and			
Sudanese Refugees			
PRRO 200700 (Apr 2015 – Dec 2018)	554.1 million	373.6 million	35 million (55%)
Country Programme			
CP 200253 (Jan 2012 – Dec 2018)		144.6 million	8.3 million (73%)
Provision of Humanitarian Air Services in Ethiopia			
SO 200711 (Jan 2016 – Dec 2018)	16.3 million	16.1 million	1.4 million (63%)
*November 2018 – April 2			

Donors

Austria, BASF Stiftung, Canada, China, Denmark, European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (EU ECHO), France, Germany, Japan, Luxembourg, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs/Ethiopian Humanitarian Fund (OCHA/EHF), United States of America.