



World Food Programme

WFP Ethiopia Country Brief

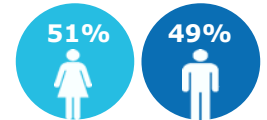
December 2018



In numbers

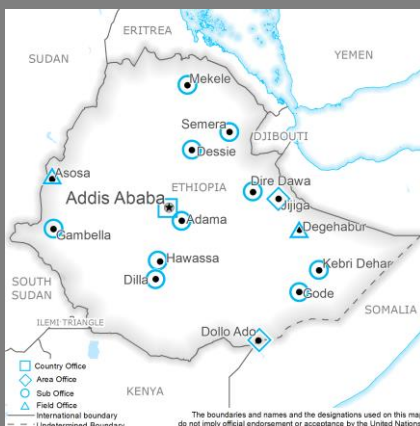
USD 153 million, January– June 2019 net funding requirements.

4.8 million people assisted
In December 2018 (including overlaps)



Operational context

Ethiopia is the second-most populous country in Africa with 105 million people. Over the past seven years, Ethiopia has achieved high economic growth averaging 11 percent per annum, and reduced extreme poverty from 61 to 31 percent. It has thereby met its targets of reducing extreme poverty and hunger rates by half, in line with 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 through the Productive Safety Net Programme.



Population: **105 million**

2017 Human Development Index: **173 out of 189**

Income level: **Low**

Chronic malnutrition: **38 percent of children between 6-59**

Operational updates

- FEWSNET projects that vulnerable people in Somali Region will likely experience Crisis (IPC 3) or Stressed (IPC 2) levels of acute food insecurity through January 2019, with populations continuing to recover from drought and recent incidents of violence and displacement. Populations in parts of Oromia and SNNP are expected to face crisis-level acute food insecurity due to conflict, which has disrupted access to food and livelihood activities.
- The consequences of climate change combined with inter-ethnic and inter-communal violence in Ethiopia have caused internal displacement. While some of the areas have always been hotspots of inter-communal tensions, the scale and frequency of the violence seen in 2018 are unprecedented, leaving over 2.4 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) in need of humanitarian assistance, an increase of 49 percent between October and December 2018.
- Some IDPs are reportedly living with host communities, while others are sheltered in collective sites, mainly in government buildings and schools.
- Under the 2018 Humanitarian and Disaster Resilience Plan (HDRP) Mid-Year Review, 8 million people required targeted relief food/cash assistance until the end of 2018. This included all those assessed as being acutely food insecure, comprising 'resident' Ethiopians, IDPs and returnees from countries such as Djibouti and Yemen. However, those displaced after the assessments in August 2018 are not included in the current HDRP. The Government and humanitarian partners are providing assistance through rapid response plans.

Emergency relief

- WFP is providing food assistance to 1.6 million food-insecure people identified under the 2018 HDRP.
- Through the integrated HDRP-PSNP cash programme, WFP is providing cash assistance using the national safety net mechanism, in an effort to better harmonize the development and humanitarian investments to 616,000 people in Somali Region.
- In addition, WFP is providing food assistance to conflict-induced IDPs in Somali Region and 382,000 conflict-induced IDPs in the East and West Hararghe zones (Oromia Region), of whom 271,000 received a combination of food and cash in December.

Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP)

- In support of the Government's 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 the lean season.

Treatment of malnutrition

- Based on health screenings, WFP is assisting 334,000 moderately acutely malnourished children aged 6-59 months, and acutely malnourished pregnant and nursing women, through targeted supplementary feeding, including conflict-induced IDPs in the Oromia and Southern Nation and Nationalities Peoples' (SNNP) regions.

Fresh food vouchers:

- Through the fresh food voucher activity, WFP is addressing the energy requirements of children aged 6-23 months, and pregnant and nursing women, by improving their access to a variety of nutritious foods. In December, WFP provided mobile money to 10,400 people to buy fresh foods from local markets in Amhara Region. The intervention also includes social and behaviour change communication to increase the awareness on diet diversification, which includes training for Health Extension Workers, a radio show on diet diversity and community theatre performances.

Satellite Index Insurance for Pastoralists in Ethiopia (SIIPE)

- Through SIIPE, 5,000 households (25,000 people) are registered with the Somali Micro Finance Institution. In December, the SIIPE team continued to orient communities as well as partners to increase local knowledge on livestock insurance in Somali Region.

R4 Rural Resilience

- The Initiative continues to support targeted smallholder farmers who benefit from the Government's PSNP. In December, 27,000 households (135,000 people) 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.

Refugee operations

- In December, WFP distributed food assistance to 620,300 refugees, of whom 168,000 (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 7,000 moderately acutely malnourished children aged 6-59 months, and acutely malnourished pregnant and nursing women in refugee camps to treat acute malnutrition. In addition, WFP provided nutritious to a total of 72,000 children aged 6-59 months and 24,000 pregnant and nursing women to prevent acute malnutrition.
- **School feeding:** 106,000 children in primary schools and pre-schools in refugee camps received school meals in December.

Logistics support to South Sudan

- 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 December, WFP airdropped 1,800 mt of food and transported 1,900 mt of food across the river.

United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

- The WFP-managed 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 December.

Challenges

- Insecurity in several parts of Ethiopia has created major operational challenges for humanitarian agencies on the ground. These challenges include looting, road blockages, damage to commercial trucks and other assets, restrictions to staff movement, and delays faced in assistance deliveries.
- Ethnic tensions and conflicts continue in several parts of the country. The security situation in refugee camps in Gambella Region remains volatile with ethnic tensions between the Nuer and Anuak peoples.
- Ration cuts continue for refugees due to insufficient resources. Donor funding is urgently needed to avoid severe pipeline breaks.
- Public work activities under SIIPE have been postponed to the beginning of 2019 due to the uncertainty caused by regional government reforms in Somali Region.

WFP country strategy

Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019)

| Total Requirement (in USD) | Allocated Contributions (in USD) | Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) * |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| 556 million | 19.5 million | 153 million |

*January - June 2019.

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.