

WFP Ethiopia Country Brief, August 2019

World Food Programme

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Operational Context

Ethiopia has achieved notable progress over the past decade, from economic growth averaging ten percent per annum (from 2007-2017), to a reduction in extreme poverty and hunger rates by half (61 to 31 percent). The Government's Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP II) envisions Ethiopia as a middleincome country by 2025. The GTP II prioritizes support to the agricultural sector to enhance food and nutrition security and build resilience. WFP's portfolio is designed to support and complement national efforts, with key support areas focused on disaster risk management, basic social services and resilience building. The Government-led Ethiopia Humanitarian Response Plan 2019 identified 8.3 million people in Ethiopia requiring humanitarian assistance in 2019.



Contact info: Para Hunzai (para.hunzai@wfp.org) Country Director: Steven Were Omamo Further information: <u>wfp.org/countries/Ethiopia</u> Photo: WFP/Photolibrary **In Numbers**

19,400 MT of food distributed

US\$ 177 Million (October 2019-March 2020) net funding requirements

1.6 Million people assisted in August 2019



- In August, WFP assisted 1.6 million beneficiaries- 50 percent of the planning target; 87 percent of this assistance was provided via food transfers, 13 percent via cash-based transfers and four percent via a climate risk reduction insurance scheme.
- Under the relief activity, 33,000 people were assisted, which is only 18 percent of planned in distributions for Round 3 (distributions are still ongoing and will be completed by mid-October as planned). This activity has three subcomponents: (i) Relief food assistance to Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP)-identified beneficiaries in Somali Region; (ii) Relief food assistance to internally displaced persons in East and West Hararghe in Oromia Region; and (iii) Relief cash assistance under the HRP-Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP) integrated cash pilot. To meet the full needs for October 2019 - March 2020, US\$ 51 million is required to be able to support these interventions.
- WFP provided specialized nutritious food to approximately 480,000 malnourished pregnant and nursing women and children aged 6-59 months (96 percent of the planned figure) for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition. Due to funding constraints, WFP was forced to re-prioritize assistance amongst "priority one" districts in April, (covering only 65 percent of the full requirements). WFP required US\$ 30 million for October 2019 March 2020 to meet the full needs.
- Food and cash transfers were provided to 66,400 refugees in camps (88 percent of planned). This included fortified foods to treat and prevent moderate acute malnutrition among mothers and children under five.
- To enhance the resilience and self-reliance of refugees and host community WFP continued to scale up livelihood interventions in Somali and Gambella regions. In the coming months, the interventions will be scaled up to 100,000 households (benefiting 544,000 beneficiaries), of whom 70 percent will be refugees and 30 percent from host communities. WFP requires US\$ 42 million from October 2019 to March 2020 for the refugee response.

WFP Country Strategy

| Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2020) | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|
| Total Requirement (in USD) | Allocated Contributions (in USD) | Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) |
| 871 m | 79 m | 177 m |

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Refugees and crisis-affected populations in targeted areas are able to meet their basic food and nutrition needs throughout the year.

Activities:

- Unconditional cash and food assistance, livelihood support and emergency school feeding to crisis-affected populations.
- Nutritional support and treatment of moderate acute malnutrition to crisisaffected children aged 6-59 months, pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWG) and anti-retroviral treatment /tuberculosis – daily observed treatment clients.
- Unconditional cash and food assistance, school feeding and nutritional support to refugees, and livelihood support to refugees and host populations.

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 2: *Vulnerable and food-insecure populations are able to meet their essential food needs and establish climate-resilient livelihoods.*

Activities:

- Safe and reliable food to primary-school children, and support to the Ministries of Education and Agriculture in scaling up nutrition-sensitive school-feeding programmes.
- Conditional food assistance to chronically food-insecure households, disaster risk-management solutions, economic empowerment to women, and technical support to government for the implementation of PSNP.

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 3: Nutritionally vulnerable populations in targeted areas receive support aimed at preventing all forms of undernutrition.

Activities:

 Cash- or voucher-based transfers to PLWG and children aged 6-23 months, jointly with social behaviour and change communication, training for outreach workers, and government capacity-strengthening to contribute to national efforts to reduce stunting and prevent undernutrition.

Strategic Result 5: Developing countries have strengthened capacities to implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Strategic Outcome 4: Government institutions and the private sector benefit from capacity strengthening in the areas of early warning and emergency preparedness systems, the design and implementation of safety net programmes, and supply chain management.

Activities:

 Advisory and technical services to Government and private sector for strengthening delivery platforms and national systems, including early warning and emergency preparedness systems, safety nets programme management, and supply chain management.

Strategic Result 8: Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology, strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs

Strategic Outcome 5: Government, humanitarian and development partners in Ethiopia have access to, and benefit from, effective and cost-efficient logistics services, including air transport, common coordination platforms and improved commodity supply chains.

Activities:

- Aviation-related services to government and humanitarian partners.
- Supply chain services to government and humanitarian partners.

- Though there has been a notable decrease in the number of refugees, as per UNHCR's L3 registration, there is still a high influx of new arrivals. For example, new arrivals increased by 76 percent compared to the previous month in Dollo Ado. Refugees from Somalia were the most significant influx, stemming from chronic drought, and political instability.
- No WFP food assistance was provided in August under School Feeding as the schools were closed for summer holidays. To meet the full needs for October 2019 - March 2020, US\$ five million is required.
- Under ICSP Activity five, 193,000 people benefited from weather-index insurance under Satellite Index for Pastoralists (SIIPE) and the Rural Resilience Initiative (R4). Under R4, farmers were provided with insurance as well as facilitation to access to credit and a revolving fund. This was further complemented with financial literacy training to over 1,000 farmers. Activity five also includes Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP) Core assistance for the first half of the year. The funding requirement for both PSNP Core and Climate solutions from October 2019 - March 2020 is US\$ 11 million.
- Under ICSP Activity six, 43,000 beneficiaries benefited from fresh food vouchers, which can be redeemed to buy fruit, vegetables, and animal-source protein (such as eggs and milk). This has contributed to diversified household diets, especially for pregnant and nursing mothers within the first "1,000 days" from conception to the age of two.

Monitoring

- Data collection was completed for Activity one (relief) and Activity five (PSNP core) post-distribution monitoring in Somali Region in August.
- SCOPE registration is underway in Amhara region for the fresh food voucher intervention.

Challenges

 Some security challenges disrupted WFP operations. For example, assistance in Gambella Region for refugees was halted for two weeks following the killing of two cooperating partner staff.

United Nations Humanitarian Air Service

 Through the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service, WFP served 442 passengers from 28 organizations.

Cross-border assistance to South Sudan

 As part of South Sudan cross-border operation, 1,150 mt of food was airdropped into hard-to-reach areas in South Sudan.

Donors: (in alphabetical order): Austria. BASF Stiftung. Canada. China, Denmark, European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations, France, Germany, Japan, Luxembourg, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, UN Central Emergency Response Fund, UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs/Ethiopian Humanitarian Fund, United States of America.