



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

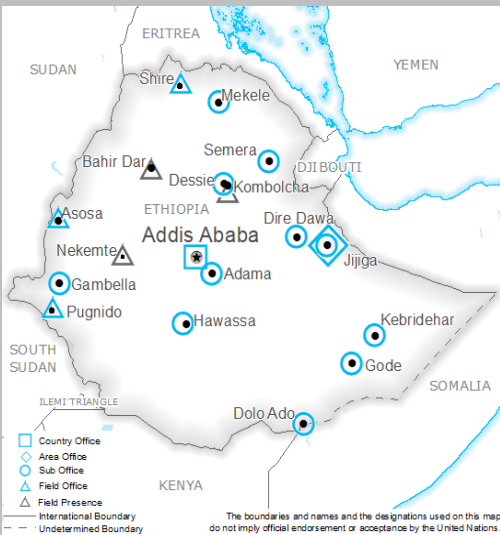
# WFP Ethiopia, Country Brief April 2020



## 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 Ten-Year Perspective Development Plan (2021-2030) envisions Ethiopia as a middle-income country.

The ten-year plan and other national policies and strategies prioritize 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 2020 currently identifies 7 million people in Ethiopia requiring humanitarian assistance in 2020.



Population: 105 million	2018 Human Development Index: 173 out of 189
Income Level: Low	Chronic malnutrition: 38 percent of children between 6-59 months

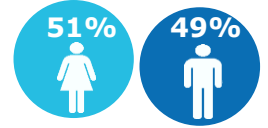
Contact info: Edward Johnson ([edward.johnson@wfp.org](mailto:edward.johnson@wfp.org))  
Country Director: Steven Were Omamo ([stevenwere.omamo@wfp.org](mailto:stevenwere.omamo@wfp.org))  
Further information: [wfp.org/countries/ethiopia](http://wfp.org/countries/ethiopia)  
Photo: WFP/Edward Johnson

## In Numbers

29,300 mt of food distributed  
USD 8 million of cash distributed

USD 125 million (May - October 2020) net funding requirements

3 million people assisted in April 2020



## Operational Updates

WFP Ethiopia is currently assisting more than 3 million people each month: relief food or cash for drought and flood-affected people, internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees; and treatment of malnourished children and women. WFP is adapting new ways of operations to ensure continuity and is also identifying COVID-19-related food assistance requirements.

The main relief food operators - the National Disaster Management Commission (NDRMC), WFP and the Joint Emergency Operation Program (JEOP) - continued dispatching food assistance for drought/flood-affected people and IDPs for 2020 rounds 1 and 2, covering April and May.

WFP is using revised protocols for food distributions and other operations to reduce the risk of COVID-19 infection to beneficiaries, partners, and WFP staff. The Food Cluster adapted WFP corporate COVID-19 guidance to be Ethiopia-specific. WFP and partners are implementing physical distancing, and hand washing. Additional distribution sites are being established to reduce large gatherings at distribution sites. Where possible, double distributions are used to limit exposure of beneficiaries to COVID-19 at distribution centres and refugee camps. Beneficiaries are informed that their double rations need to last twice the normal duration.

The Desert Locust infestations are likely to worsen food insecurity. The Ministry of Agriculture reported that Desert Locusts have consumed over 350,000 mt of agricultural produce across Ethiopia. Impacted areas are in belg crop-producing areas such as Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples' Region, zones in eastern Amhara and southern Tigray, and all pastoral areas.

The Government and the Food Cluster are estimating the number of people likely to require humanitarian assistance due to the impacts of COVID-19 and Desert Locusts. Provisional estimates are that 24 million people would be food insecure in urban and rural areas; this includes 7 million being assisted through the 2020 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), 8 million through the rural productive safety net programme (PSNP), and 0.6 million through the urban PSNP.

WFP Ethiopia's current approach can be summarised as:

- Continuity of life-saving food assistance: for (i) relief (drought/flood affected people and IDPs); (ii) targeted supplementary feeding (malnourished mothers & children); and (iii) refugees in camps.

## 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	280 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 crisis-affected 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.

- **New assistance:** (i) supply chain support for the Humanitarian Air Hub and Logistics Cluster (see below); (ii) support to scale-up the urban PSNP, with WFP to reach 17,500 people with cash assistance from July; and (iii) designing food assistance for returnees/deportees in quarantine at border areas.
- **Scaling down:** school feeding, resilience and livelihood interventions (Activity 4 and 5) are being adapted or reduced.

WFP Ethiopia continues to expand the unique “last mile” solutions to improve traceability of WFP food commodities. During April, 200,000 food items were tagged with a unique code and delivered to more than 110 locations across the country.

As part of an overall logistics response to the COVID-19 virus, WFP has led the augmentation of logistics services on behalf of the humanitarian community:

The Addis Ababa Humanitarian Air Hub cargo services have been operational since 14 April, facilitating the onward transport of COVID-19 emergency items on behalf of the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Government of Ethiopia’s partnership with the Jack Ma Foundation and Alibaba Foundation to 52 countries across Africa. Three major deliveries were completed in April and the next round of deliveries is on behalf of the African Union’s Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention.

Co-led by WFP and NDRMC, the Logistics Cluster was activated at the end of April as one of the sectors of the Ethiopian 2020 HRP, aiming to provide information management, advocacy, augmentation of logistics services to the humanitarian community. The Logistics Cluster will also facilitate access to common logistics services and timely access to logistics assets, storage and other services, in order to ensure an uninterrupted supply chain of life-saving relief items to affected populations during an emergency.

## Cross-border assistance to South Sudan

Cross-border operation: For South Sudan, WFP airdropped 2,200 mt and more than 2,700 mt of food commodities by river and road in April.

## United Nations Humanitarian Air services (UNHAS)

The United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) ensures the provision of safe, reliable, effective, and cost-efficient passenger and light cargo transport to the broader humanitarian community, development actors, and donors. In April, UNHAS transported 42 passengers and 28,000 kg of cargo, for 15 humanitarian organizations.

## WFP Ethiopia resource requirements

WFP requires **US\$125 million from May to October 2020** to maintain current food assistance plans.

National-level additional food assistance requirements for the impact of COVID-19 and Desert Locusts are still being assessed and will be included in a revised 2020 Ethiopia HRP, expected to be issued in May/June. WFP and other food assistance operators will adjust their agency requirements accordingly.

**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, USA.