



WFP Ethiopia Country Brief

August 2020

World Food Programme

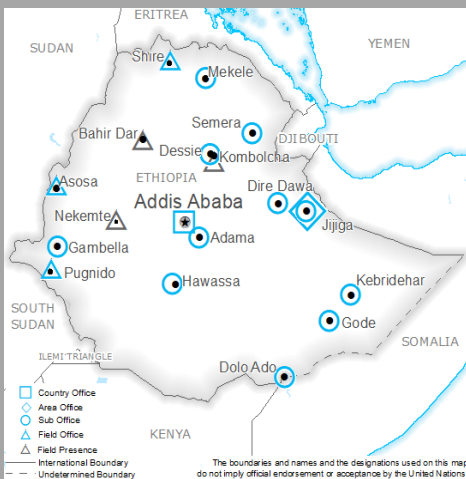
SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



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 is aligned to the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2020-2025). 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 Ethiopia Humanitarian Response Plan 2020, led by the Government with United Nations support, was updated in August and estimates that 15 million people in Ethiopia are targeted for humanitarian assistance.



Population: **109 million**

2019 Human Development Index: **173 out of 189**

Income Level: **Low**

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

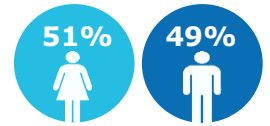
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Photo: WFP

In Numbers

2.3 million people in need assisted by WFP operations in August 2020.

11.8 million vulnerable people face acute food insecurity in 2020.

USD 213 million (October 2020 - March 2021) net funding requirements, representing 66% of total



Operational Updates

- WFP Ethiopia is currently assisting 2.3 million people each month with relief food or cash for drought and flood-affected people, internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees, and treatment of malnourished children and women.
- According to the [Humanitarian Response Plan Mid-Year Review](#) (31 August) the estimated number of acutely food-insecure people in need of food assistance in 2020, originally projected as 5.9 million, now stands at 11.8 million. COVID-19-related restrictions, flooding, conflict-related displacement, and desert locusts are the key drivers of food insecurity in Ethiopia.
- As of mid-August, 160,000 people were affected by flooding in Afar, Amhara, Gambella, Oromia, Southern Nations Nationalities and Peoples Region (SNNPR), and Somali. Of these 134,000 were displaced. The Floods have resulted in loss of livelihoods and livestock. Road inaccessibility due to flooding caused challenges to food movement in low-lying areas, mainly in Afar, Oromia, Somali and SNNPR.
- The desert locust infestations are likely to worsen food insecurity. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) reported that desert locust swarms have worsened in the Afar region. Active movement of immature desert locust swarms have also been identified between Somalia and eastern Ethiopia in August.
- 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. These include physical distancing, hand washing, temperature testing and double distributions to people at distribution sites and refugee camps. Additional storage facilities have been constructed to facilitate the double distributions and allow buffer stocks as a contingency. In accordance with the COVID-19 preparedness and response contingency plan, WFP has supported over 693,000 refugees in 26 refugee camps with food and cash assistance.
- The leading relief food operators - the Joint Emergency Operation Program (JEOP – a consortium of NGOs), the National Disaster Management Commission (NDRMC) and WFP - continued dispatching food and cash assistance for drought and flood-affected people and IDPs under the third and fourth rounds of 2020, covering June to August.

Country Strategic Plan (2020 - 2025)

| Total Requirement (in USD) | Allocated Contributions (in USD) | Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| 2.6 b | 79 m | 181 m |

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

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

Activities:

- Provide unconditional, nutrition-sensitive, cash-based and in-kind food assistance to crisis-affected populations and transitory clients of the Productive Safety Net Programme.
- Support treatment and prevention of acute malnutrition for crisis-affected children aged 6-59 months and pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWG)
- Provide unconditional, nutrition-sensitive, cash-based and in-kind food assistance, school feeding and nutrition support to refugees.

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 2: Vulnerable and food-insecure populations in targeted areas have increased resilience to shocks by 2025.

Activities:

- Provide safe, nutritious and reliable daily meals to primary school children and support to the Ministries and Bureaus of Education and Agriculture in scaling up nutrition-sensitive school feeding programmes.
- Provide nutrition-sensitive social protection, climate risk management services and capacity strengthening support for smallholder farmers, pastoralists, refugees and returnees most vulnerable to climate shocks..

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 3: Nutritionally vulnerable populations in targeted areas have an improved consumption of high-quality, nutrient-dense foods to prevent all forms of malnutrition through June 2025.

Activities:

- Provide climate-sensitive cash-based food transfers to PLWG and children aged 6-23 months, SBCC to communities, training to outreach workers and capacity strengthening to the private sector and Government to contribute to national and regional efforts to reduce stunting and prevent all other forms of malnutrition.

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

Strategic Outcome 4: Federal and regional government institutions, the private sector and local NGOs benefit from capacity strengthening in the areas of early warning and emergency preparedness systems, safety nets programme design and implementation and supply chain management through June 2025

Activities:

- Provide advisory and technical services to federal and regional government and the private sector for strengthening food assistance delivery platforms and national and regional systems, including social safety nets programme management, early warning and emergency preparedness systems, and supply chain solutions and 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 through June 2025.

Activities:

- Provide aviation and air operation services to government and humanitarian actors.
- Provide supply chain services to government and humanitarian partners.

- 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.
 - **New assistance:** (i) supply chain support for the Humanitarian Air Hub and Logistics Cluster; (ii) support to scale-up the urban productive safety net programme; and (iii) food assistance for returnees and deportees in quarantine centres at border areas.
 - **Adaptation:** school feeding, resilience and livelihood interventions (Activity 4 and 5) have been adapted or reduced.
- As part of WFP's "last-mile" solutions to improve the traceability of WFP food commodities, 1,400 mt of food items were tagged with a unique code and delivered to 108 distribution sites in the month of August.
- WFP is leading the augmentation of logistics services on behalf of the humanitarian community, contributing to the overall COVID-19 logistics response:
 - Cargo services at the Addis Ababa Humanitarian Hub have begun distribution of the 4th round Jack Ma donation. The Hub facilitates the onward transport of COVID-19 emergency items on behalf of governments, humanitarian organizations and philanthropic groups. As of August, the Hub had transported 5,400 cubic meters of cargo to 54 countries.
 - On behalf of National Disaster Risk Management Committee, the Logistics Cluster have assessed and planned the rehabilitation of warehouses to commence in September. The warehouses will be available for common storage at the request of partners.
 - The Logistics Cluster, WFP logistics, and partners have coordinated to improve the reporting and accuracy of the weekly Physical Road Access Constraint Map.
 - Co-led by UNHAS, the Logistics Cluster has supported the movement of essential cargo to increase COVID-19 testing capacities in the Somali region, on behalf of the World Health Organization (WHO).
 - To respond to the potential future distribution of COVID-19 vaccines to those in need, WHO and the Logistics Cluster have been developing a preparedness strategy, outlining the requirements for the delivery of cold-chain cargo.
 - The delivery and construction of a mobile storage unit at Dewelle point of entry has been begun. The mobile storage unit will be used by the Shelter Cluster and NDRMC in the assistance of returnees from Djibouti. The construction is set to complete in September.

Cross-border assistance to South Sudan

- Despite the ongoing challenges of security, floods, heavy rains and road inaccessibility, WFP Ethiopia continued its cross-border support to South Sudan. WFP airdropped more than 2,110 mt to 15 drop zones and over 1,765 mt of food via river to South Sudan.

UNHAS

- In August, the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) facilitated the transportation 1,164 kg of humanitarian cargo and 78 passengers, including two medical evacuations.
- Thirteen humanitarian organizations also used UNHAS services (nine non-governmental organizations and four United Nations agencies).

WFP Ethiopia resource requirements

- WFP requires **US\$ 213 million from October 2020 to March 2021** to maintain current food and cash assistance plans.