



World Food Programme

SAVING
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WFP Ethiopia Country Brief

September 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 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

5.5 million people in need assisted by WFP operations by September 2020.

11.8 million vulnerable people face acute food insecurity in 2020.

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

51%



49%



Operational Updates

- WFP Ethiopia is currently assisting millions of people with relief food or cash for: drought and flood-affected people; internally displaced persons (IDPs); refugees; and malnourished children and women. Between January and September, over 5.5 million people in need have received WFP assistance.
- Between June and September 2020, the cumulative number of confirmed COVID-19 cases increased twelve-fold. On 5 September, the nationwide state of emergency also ended.
- 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.
- The current desert locust infestations are likely to worsen food insecurity. In September, desert locusts damaged over 150 hectares of cropland. Moreover, they have moved into new areas of South Wollo and Oromia zones in Amhara Region.
- 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 fourth and fifth rounds of 2020.
- WFP has supported over 694,000 refugees in 26 refugee camps and four sites with food and cash assistance in September.
- The Ministry of Education is assessing enrolment capacities as well as hygienic and sanitation facilities in preparation to re-open schools. At least 2.6 million children, particularly the most marginalized and most vulnerable children, including girls, children in pastoralist areas, and IDPs in camps and camp-like settings, require support for safe school re-opening activities. ¹
- WFP is continuing to successfully implement livelihood interventions, including the Satellite Index Insurance for Pastoralists in Ethiopia (SIPE) and R4 Rural Resilience Initiative. Despite the challenges of desert locusts, flooding and COVID-19, WFP has assisted 15,500 households in Somali Region through SIPE. The R4 initiative has also benefited 65,000 households in Amhara and Tigray regions.

¹ OCHA, ETHIOPIA: COVID-19 Humanitarian impact Situation Update No. 13, 18 September 2020

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	213 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:

- WFP Ethiopia's approach in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic 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" solution 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 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 continued during September, transporting cargo on behalf of the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) to 52 countries.
 - In September, the Logistics Cluster assisted with the donation and construction of a mobile storage unit on behalf of the NDRMC and the Shelter Cluster to assist with returnees at the Dwelle point of entry. Further rehabilitation work started, including erecting ten warehouses in Adama which will provide storage capacity for partners.
 - The Logistic Cluster started a cold chain COVID-19 vaccine preparedness plan in consultation with WHO, UNICEF, and the Ministry of Health. The plan involves purchase of relevant facilities including construction of refrigerated containers to be made available for cold-chain storage of potential vaccines and other essential items.
 - As part of an innovative approach to supply chain management, WFP partnered with Roambee (a private sector company) to improve commodity tracking including humidity, temperature, and location services. Pilots will take place along nine regional routes in Ethiopia and Djibouti to identify internet blackspots and any other challenges.

Cross-border assistance to South Sudan

- Despite the ongoing challenges of security, floods, heavy rains and road inaccessibility, WFP continued cross-border support to South Sudan. WFP airdropped more than 1,972 mt in South Sudan from Gambella in 64 rotations.

UNHAS

- In September, the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) facilitated the transportation 2,143 kg of humanitarian cargo and 112 passengers, including two medical evacuations.
- Twenty humanitarian organizations also used UNHAS services (16 non-governmental organizations and four United Nations agencies).