



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Ethiopia Country Brief

November 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 11.8 million people in Ethiopia are targeted for humanitarian assistance.

Between October and December 2020, an estimated 6.7 million people are projected to be highly food insecure¹. This is as a result of poor forecasts for the October-December Deyr-Hageya rainy season, civil unrest, insecurity and the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic¹.



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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In Numbers

19,500 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 2.1 m cash-based transfers made

USD 210 m (December 2020 - May 2021) net funding requirements (33 percent of the total requirement)

1.8 million people assisted in November 2020

51%



49%



Operational Updates

General Food Assistance

- In the month of November, WFP has assisted 1.8 million people with food or cash assistance. These include drought and flood-affected people, internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugees, and malnourished children and women.
- The leading relief food operators - the Joint Emergency Operation for Food Assistance in Ethiopia Program (JEOP - a consortium of non-governmental organisations), the National Disaster Management Commission (NDRMC) and WFP - continued to dispatch food and cash assistance for drought and flood-affected people and IDPs under the fifth round of distributions for 2020. To date, a total of 4 million beneficiaries received food assistance through cash-based transfers (CBT) and in-kind food distributions.
- WFP continues to carry out livelihood interventions, including the Satellite Index Insurance for Pastoralists in Ethiopia (SIPE) and Rural Resilience Initiative "R4"; activities are temporarily halted in the Tigray Region due to the ongoing crisis. Despite the challenges posed by the invasion of desert locusts, flooding and the COVID-19 pandemic, WFP managed to assist 15,500 households in the Somali Region through SIPE and 65,000 households through the R4 initiative in Amhara and Tigray regions in 2020.
- In November, WFP served over 707,800 refugees (375,100 women and 332,700 men) in 26 refugee camps through in-kind food and cash-based transfer (CBT). Over 11,110 metric tonnes (mt) of food were distributed and USD 714,000 transferred.

Fresh Food Voucher (FFV) initiative

- WFP transferred the sixteenth round of vouchers to 23,300 households (120,400 individuals) in the Amhara Region. The FFV initiative supports households with pregnant and lactating women/children under two years of age to improve their access to fresh food through vouchers. It also benefits local economies.

School feeding activities

- School year begun on 1 November, and WFP resumed feeding activities in favour of 187,000 children, ensuring safe measures are implemented in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Cross-border assistance to South Sudan

- Despite the ongoing challenges of security, floods, heavy rains and road inaccessibility, WFP continues cross-border support to South Sudan. WFP airdropped more than 2000 mt in South Sudan from Gambella.

Logistics services

- Through the Addis Ababa Humanitarian Air Hub, managed by WFP, over 50 cubic metres of personal protective equipment was delivered November to 41 African countries on behalf of the Organization for African First Ladies of Development.

¹ FAO-WFP early warning analysis of acute food insecurity hotspots, October 2020 <http://www.fao.org/3/cb1907en/CB1907EN.pdf>

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	210 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.

- In collaboration with the Innovation Accelerator and Romabee, a company that provides sensor-based devices to track shipments up to delivery points, WFP began implementing the Roambee Sprint Programme which saw the real-time tracking of vehicles along key corridors. The project will continue into 2021.
- In line with the Ethiopia Humanitarian Response Plan, the Logistics Cluster continued augmenting storage capacity for partners across the country through the provision of mobile storage units. The Cluster is also extending its assistance through needs assessments amid the ongoing conflict in Tigray Region.

Gender and protection

- Based on the recommendations of a survey carried out on beneficiaries in Gambella Region through complaints-and-feedback mechanism (CFM) and consultations with partner organisations such as ARRA, UNHCR, Mercy Corps, Save the Children, the WFP toll-free hotline for feedbacks on WFP's assistance was extended to the people of the region. 141 participants from the refugee and host community were sensitized on the CFM and the toll-free hotline.

UNHAS

- In November, the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) transported 1.05 mt of light humanitarian cargo and 192 passengers.
- Twenty-five humanitarian organizations (20 NGOs and 5 UN agencies) used UNHAS services.

Challenges

- The COVID-19 pandemic impacts WFP's interventions. Different measures are implemented to ensure:
 - **Continuity of life-saving food assistance for:** (i) relief (drought /desert locust affected people and IDPs); (ii) treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (targeted supplementary feeding for malnourished children and women); and (iii) refugees in camps.
 - **New assistance:** (i) supply chain support for the Humanitarian Air Hub and Logistics Cluster (see below); (ii) support to flood-affected people; and (iii) food assistance for returnees/deportees in quarantine at border areas and in COVID-19 isolation and treatment centres.
 - **Adaptation:** school feeding, resilience and livelihood interventions have been adapted in the context of COVID-19.
- WFP activities in Tigray Region were temporarily halted until safe access is restored. WFP provides food assistance to 50,000 refugees in four camps in Tigray who last received a two month ration in mid-October. In addition, WFP provided supplementary feeding to 90,000 people in the region and assisted 201,000 people with insurance-based support to smallholder farmers to help build their resilience. Over a million people in Tigray were supported with food assistance by the federal government (relief and safety net).

Donors (in alphabetical order)

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