



World Food Programme

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LIVES

# WFP Ethiopia Country Brief February 2024



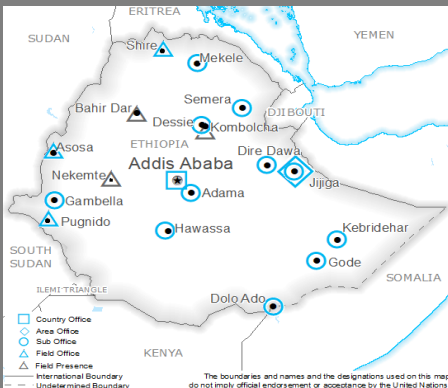
## Operational Context

Ethiopia continues to face conflict, drought and floods over the past few years, and these have attributed to growing food insecurity. The peace agreement that ended the active conflict in Tigray region has been followed by intense armed conflict in other regions, primarily in Amhara. WFP operations face high risk and cost to ensure food is delivered safely and on time to the targeted beneficiaries.

The Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) 2024 targets 20.4 million people at the inter-sector space of facing food, nutrition, protection needs due to violence, conflict, extreme drought, and floods. Under the food cluster, 15.8 million people need emergency food assistance across the country. The majority of those in need during the first quarter of 2024 are in drought-affected areas of Tigray, Afar and Amhara regions.

Ethiopia is hosting close to one million refugees and asylum seekers from South Sudan, Somalia, Eritrea, and Sudan. The influx of refugees from Sudan continues to be a concern.

WFP's net funding requirement remains at USD 192 million for the next six months.



Population: **126 million**

2022 Human Development Index:  
**175 out of 191**

Income Level: **Low**

Chronic malnutrition: **41 percent**  
of children between 6-59 months

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Photo: WFP/Michael Tewelde

## In Numbers

**3.2 million** people assisted



**USD 2.2 million** cash-based transfers provided

**USD 180 million** March - August 2024 net funding requirements

**38,525 MT** of nutritious food distributed.

## Operational Updates

- WFP reached a total of 3.2 million people with food and nutrition assistance representing 74 percent of the February target across its activities.

## Relief

- WFP reached a total of 1.9 million people with in-kind food assistance across Afar, Amhara, Tigray and Somali regions. This includes assistance of 1.5 million people in conflict and drought affected districts of Northern Ethiopia and 72,000 people under the flood response in Somali region.

## Nutrition Activities

- WFP provided 1,730 mt of specialized nutritious foods for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition to 328,300 children under the age of five, pregnant and breast-feeding women and girls in Amhara, Oromia, Tigray, Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Republic (SNNPR) and Somali regions.
- WFP also conducted selections for financial service providers and retailers' assessment as part of voucher modality implementation to treat wasting in the Amhara region.

## Support to Refugees

- In February, WFP assisted 491,200 people distributing 5,400 mt of food and USD 450,800 in cash-based transfers representing 56 percent of February plan. Security issues in Gambella and other regions disrupted distribution causing delays. Of the total, 26,000 individuals were new arrivals from Sudan in Kumer, (Amhara region) and Kurmuk (Benshangul-Gumuz region).
- In addition, WFP provided 134 mt of food to 11,000 school children and through the school meals programme. WFP also reached 21,000 children and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls at all refugee camps with malnutrition treatment services.

## School Meals

- To promote nutrition and school attendance among school children, WFP delivered school meals to 261,000 school children in Afar, Amhara, Oromia, Tigray and Southern Ethiopia, of which 138,300 school children were supported through the home-grown school feeding programme (HGSF).
- WFP provided guidance and technical assistance to the Government of Ethiopia in the celebration of the 9<sup>th</sup> African school feeding day to be held on March in Dire Dawa town.

## Fresh Food Vouchers and SBCC

- The Fresh Food Vouchers (FFV) programme supports households with pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls, and children under the age of five, to improve their dietary diversity through access to fresh food and social behavioral change (SBC). In February, WFP reached 10,300 people with SBC activities and 87,900 beneficiaries through the FFV programme.

<sup>1</sup> the estimates inserted are based on three-month average

Country Strategic Plan (2020 - 2025)		
Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
3.9 b	650 m	180 m
Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food		
<b>Strategic Outcome 1:</b> <i>Shock-affected populations in targeted areas and refugees in camps can meet their basic food and nutrition needs throughout the year.</i>		
<b>Activities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide unconditional, nutrition-sensitive, cash-based, and in-kind food assistance to crisis-affected populations and transitory clients of the Productive Safety Net Programme.</li> <li>Support treatment and prevention of acute malnutrition for crisis-affected children under 5 and PLWG.</li> <li>Provide unconditional, nutrition-sensitive, cash-based and in-kind food assistance, school feeding and nutrition support to refugees.</li> </ul>		
Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food		
<b>Strategic Outcome 2:</b> <i>Vulnerable and food-insecure populations in targeted areas have increased resilience to shocks by 2025.</i>		
<b>Activities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> <li>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.</li> </ul>		
Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition		
<b>Strategic Outcome 3:</b> <i>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.</i>		
<b>Activities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> </ul>		
Strategic Result 5: Developing countries have strengthened capacities to implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)		
<b>Strategic Outcome 4:</b> <i>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.</i>		
<b>Activities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> </ul>		
Strategic Result 8: Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology, strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs		
<b>Strategic Outcome 5:</b> <i>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, improved commodity supply chains and information technology through June 2025.</i>		
<b>Activities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide aviation and air operation services to government and humanitarian actors.</li> <li>Provide supply chain services to government and humanitarian partners.</li> <li>Provide coordination and logistics services to the humanitarian community through the Logistics Cluster.</li> <li>Provide on demand food procurement services.</li> </ul>		

- ### Livelihood Support and Climate Risk Management
- WFP supported 89,500 people to build their resilience and livelihood under the livelihood, resilience and climate risk management initiative in Afar, Amhara, Tigray, Gambella and Somali regions representing 52 percent of the planned target for February.
  - In Somali regions WFP and cooperating partners held a community discussion in Gode and Dolo Ado district on IFTIIN project implementation and outcome particularly on the irrigation systems. The objective of the discussion was to devise a utilization strategy aligned with Community-Based Participatory Planning principles.
  - In Somali region, as a one-off agriculture input distribution, WFP distributed 220 kilogram of onion seed to 220 household members of four cooperative union in Bokolmanyo district. Government regional bureau and cooperating partners facilitated the seed planning and distribution process.

- ### Supply Chain
- Last Mile Solution (LMS) captures food movements in real time to ensure timely receipt confirmation at food distribution points using cell phones and devices. Bag Marking Solution (BMS) enhances food traceability during transport and handover to cooperating partners by printing customized information on bags and cartons prior to dispatch. In February, WFP confirmed 28,000 mt of food commodity at 172 locations at 94 percent completion rate. While WFP marked a cumulative total of 28,400 MT in February 2024.
  - In February, WFP dispatched a total of 5,800 MT for refugee operations and 13,100 MT of food for relief accounting to 60 and 41 percent of the planned in February respectively.

- ### United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)
- In February, UNHAS transported 0.92 mt of humanitarian cargo and 236 passengers within Ethiopia.

- ### Accountability to Affected Populations
- WFP prepared a training on mainstreaming gender into WFP's operation to WFP staff and partners in Tigray and Amhara regions. The training is part of the environment and social safeguarding plan and focused on mitigation and prevention strategy.
  - During the reporting month, WFP provided training to 80 WFP supply chain staff on Inclusion and Humanity with the theme of 'Appreciate Others' and 'Champion Respect' in Amhara, Oromia and Dire Dawa regions as part of the respect plus campaign.

- ### Challenges
- WFP is facing a funding shortfall of USD 180 million from March until August 2024.
  - WFP encountered delays in food distribution for January allocation in four camps in Gambella region due security problems. Distribution was made in the month of February.
  - WFP school feeding program remain to be significantly affected by the drought in Afar. Reports indicate water sources of a whole sub-district are drying with no access to water that is preventing school meal preparation. Some schools have been reported to migrate to other locations.

**Donors (in alphabetical order):** Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, the UN Central Emergency Response Fund, The Ethiopian Humanitarian Fund, France, Germany, Japan Luxembourg, Norway, South Korea, the Strategic Resource allocation Committee, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America.

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