

WFP Ethiopia Country Brief May 2024



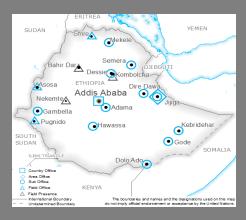
SAVING LIVES CHANGING LIVES

Operational Context

Ethiopia has continued to face conflict, drought, and flooding, and inflation leading to increasing food insecurity. Despite the peace agreement ending active conflict in the Tigray region, intense armed conflict has erupted in other regions, primarily Amhara and Oromia. As a result, WFP operations face elevated risks and costs to ensure safe and timely food deliveries to the most vulnerable individuals.

The Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) 2024 targets 20.4 million people with food, nutrition, and protection needs due to violence, conflict, extreme drought, and floods. According to the Food Cluster, 15.8 million people need food assistance across the country. The majority of those in need during the second quarter of 2024 are in drought and conflict-affected areas of Afar, Amhara, Oromia, and Tigray regions.

Ethiopia is hosting close to one million refugees and asylum seekers from South Sudan, Somalia, Eritrea, and Sudan. The influx of new refugees from Sudan continues to be a priority. WFP's net funding requirement remains at USD 374 million for the next six months (June-December).



Population: 126 million

2022 Human Development Index: 175 out of 191

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

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In Numbers





2.7 million people assisted

USD 2.7 million cash-based transfers provided

USD 374 million June - December 2024 net funding requirements

26,000 MT of nutritious food distributed.

Operational Updates

Relief

- WFP reached 1.35 million individuals with 18,200 metric tons of inkind food and USD 1.7 million in cash assistance, accounting for 72 percent of the May plan of 1.87 million individuals in the four regions of Afar, Amhara, Tigray, and Somali. Insecurities and fuel shortages in Amhara region and road blockages in Somali region delayed dispatches.
- WFP concluded real time monitoring in the four regions. Ninety-five
 percent of the households expressed their satisfaction with WFP's
 digitized distribution and scooping approach. In Amhara and Tigray
 regions, 80 percent of households expressed concern about
 insufficient quantity of food. The survey recommended that all
 beneficiaries, especially in the Tigray region, should receive complete
 food baskets to address nutritional needs adequately

Nutrition Activities

 WFP distributed 1,200 metric tons (mt) of specialized nutritious foods to treat 334,000 children under five, pregnant, breastfeeding women and girls suffering from moderate acute malnutrition in Afar, Amhara, Oromia, Tigray, Southern Ethiopia, and Somali regions representing 52 percent of the May plan. WFP continues to face challenges with contracted commercial transporters for the last-mile delivery.

Support to Refugees

- WFP assisted 495,500 refugees across 29 camps and sites, delivering 4,600 mt of in-kind food, achieving 57 percent of the monthly plan.
 WFP was unable to conduct food distributions in four major camps in Gambella region due to insecurity that restricted food movement.
- WFP provided nutritious food to 127,600 children under five, pregnant and breastfeeding women. WFP also provided hot meals once a day to 30,100 school children across all camps.

School Meals

- WFP provided daily school meals to 365,200 school children across 1,029 schools in Afar, Amhara, Tigray, Southern Ethiopia and Oromia regions, representing 90 percent of the May plan. This includes 146,000 school children supported through the home-grown school feeding programme (HGSF) in Amhara and Southern Ethiopia regions.
- Through the HGSF programme, WFP procured local food worth USD 766,000 reaching 80 percent of the school children planned for May. Due to inadequate food quality of the local procurement, some schools were not reached during the reporting period.

Fresh Food Vouchers and SBC

 The Fresh Food Vouchers (FFV) programme supports households with children under the age of five, pregnant, breastfeeding women and girls, to improve dietary diversity by providing cash vouchers for fresh food purchase coupled with Social Behavioral Communication (SBC). In May, WFP assisted 17,000 individuals in Afar, Amhara, and Somali regions, representing 100 percent of the May plan.

Country Strategic Plan (2020 - 2025)

Total Requirement (In USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
6.36 b	2.96 b	374 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Shock-affected populations in targeted areas and refugees in camps can 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 under five and 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 schoolchildren 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, improved commodity supply chains and information technology through June 2025.

Activities:

- Provide aviation and air operation services to government and humanitarian actors.
- Provide supply chain services to government and humanitarian partners.
- Provide coordination and logistics services to the humanitarian community through the Logistics Cluster.
- Provide on demand food procurement services.

Livelihood Support and Climate Risk Management

- WFP reached 142,300 individuals through resilience building of smallholder farmers in Afar, Gambella and Somali regions and climate risk management initiatives (R4) in Amhara and Tigray regions. For the May plan, 17 percent of the target were reached due to operational challenges and resource constraints.
- WFP continues to support access to finance for smallholder farmers and pastoralists through village loan and saving associations (VSLAs). As of May, more than 60,000 households (47 percent female headed) were organized under 2,000 VSLA's in Amhara, Gambella and Somali regions.

Supply Chain

- In May, WFP confirmed the movement of 27,700 mt of food commodities across 192 locations through the Last Mile Solution real-time food tracking system. To improve food traceability during transport, WFP bag marked 24,100 mt of food commodities during the reporting period.
- WFP continues to face supply chain disruptions across its activities due to insecurity, fuel shortage, road blockage, inadequate skill of commercial drivers and poor infrastructure. These issues have impacted WFP's operational efficiency in resources and time.

United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

• In May, UNHAS transported 0.52 mt of humanitarian cargo and 310 passengers within Ethiopia.

Capacity Strengthening

WFP organized a lessons' learnt workshop to mark the conclusion of WFP third party implementor agreement under the shock responsive component of the Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP) in Tigray. WFP's value as a third party implementor, accountability in its contribution to social cohesion and capacity strengthening of government PSNP staff at regional and district levels were highlighted as key lessons learned.

Cross-Cutting

 In May, WFP received over 3,100 cases through the Community Feedback and Response Mechanism, almost one-third were from Tigray region. Of the total cases, 57 percent were complaints while the 42 percent were requests for assistance, information and other miscellaneous requests. WFP has addressed 51 percent of the cases while 49 percent are pending closure.

Challenges

- Funding Gap: WFP requires USD 374 million to cover its response for the next six months (June-December 2024), relief and refugee operations will face in-kind shortfall in August and September 2024 respectively.
- Insecurity/Operation: The driver of Medical Teams International (MTI), a WFP cooperating partner, was shot and killed in Amhara region. He is one of the seven aid workers who have lost their lives in line of humanitarian duty in Ethiopia in 2024. Thirty-one village saving loan associations (VSLA) in Gambella remain inactive due to insecurity hampering their potential to save.

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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