



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Ethiopia Country Brief July 2025

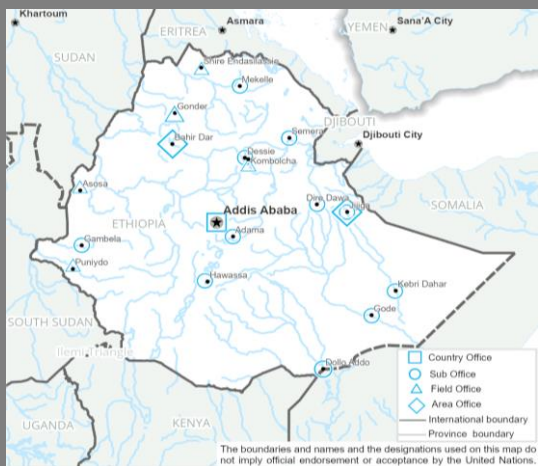


Operational Context

Ethiopia continues to experience conflict, drought, flooding, and inflation, exacerbating food insecurity. While the peace agreement ended active conflict in the Tigray region, division amongst political factions and non-government armed group armed clashes in other regions, particularly in Amhara and Oromia, has increased risks and costs for WFP. This makes it more challenging to deliver food safely and on time to the most vulnerable populations.

At the peak of the lean season (July to September), the food cluster (WFP, the Ethiopia Joint Emergency Operation Programme (JEOP) and the Ethiopian Disaster Risk Management Commission (EDRMC) targeted 4.1 million people based on partner's operational capacity. A recent assessment will further confirm the final figures, while the Humanitarian Response Plan for 2025 remains unreleased. ([OCHA Humanitarian Response Priorities and Critical Funding Requirements and Gaps](#)).

Ethiopia is also hosting more than one million refugees and asylum seekers from South Sudan, Somalia, Eritrea, and Sudan. The influx of around 70,000 new refugees from South Sudan and Sudan continues to be a priority. Fueled by insecurity, the number and condition of internally displaced people (IDP) remain a concern.



Population: **126 million**

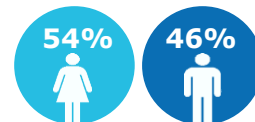
Human Development Index: **176 out of 193**

Income Level: **Low**

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

In Numbers

1.7 million people assisted



USD 4 million cash-based transfers provided

13,300 metric tonnes (Mt) of food distributed

USD 187 million net funding requirement for six months (August 2025- January 2026)

Operational Updates

Relief Response

- Following the handover of operations in northern Ethiopia to JEOP, WFP will continue to deliver food assistance in the Somali Region, targeting internally displaced persons and other vulnerable populations in HEA phases 4 and 5. Beneficiary registration will be supported by biometric data collection.
- In July, WFP reached 253,700 people with 3,200 mt of food and USD 884,300 in cash assistance under its relief response. However, after two months of reduced rations (80 percent in May and June), WFP observed negative coping strategies among vulnerable populations and IDPs, including skipping meals and the sale of assets to meet their household food needs. Thanks to additional funding from donors, WFP restored the full ration in July, which will help to prevent further deterioration in food security. With this funding, WFP can support vulnerable people and IDPs through year-end.

Refugees Assistance

- WFP assisted 846,000 refugees across 30 camps and sites, achieving 94 percent of the July target through in-kind and hybrid (cash and food) modalities, distributing 8,960 mt of food and USD 440,160 in cash-based transfers (CBT). In addition, WFP reached 21,730 children (6-23 months), pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBWG) with nutrition support to prevent and manage malnutrition.
- As part of the CBT expansion strategy, WFP provided hybrid assistance to 177,500 people (21 percent of the refugee caseload) across nine camps in the Afar, Benishangul-Gumuz and Somali regions. WFP launched its first CBT distribution in IDP camps in Qoloji, the Somali region.
- In response to the influx of South Sudanese refugees, WFP and partners reached more than 48,000 individuals with essential food commodities at Yawoul and Luakdong food distribution points in the Gambella region. However, further distributions are on hold due to challenges related to limited WASH facilities and insecurity. Once resolved, WFP will resume distributions, in addition, the Government of Ethiopia and UNHCR will also continue with relocation and registration.

Nutrition Activities

- WFP reached 261,300 children and PBWG (67 percent of the target) across nine regions with 1,117 mt of specialized nutritious foods. The 33 percent shortfall against the target is largely due to a shortage of specialized nutritious food, which forced WFP to further prioritise assistance, reducing the planned caseload by 136,800 people.
- To prevent stunting and malnutrition among children aged 6-23, WFP distributed fresh food vouchers amounting to USD 470,700 to 70,100 households with children aged 6-23 and PBWG, reaching 100 percent of the target.

Contact info: Jurian Steeghs, jurian.steeghs@wfp.org; Liya Girma, liya.girma@wfp.org

Country Director: Zlatan Milisic

Further information: wfp.org/countries/Ethiopia and @WFP_Ethiopia X account.

Photo caption: Nyibol Gatyang Luoay, a South Sudanese refugee, mother of five, preparing lunch with WFP food distribution at the Yolkwuol food distribution point, Gambella region, near the South Sudan border. ©WFP/Michael Tewelde

Country Strategic Plan (2020 - 2025)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
6.31 b	3.25 b	187m

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 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.
- 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 form 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.*

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 SDGs

Strategic Outcome 5: *Government, humanitarian and development partners 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 services to government and humanitarian actors.
- Provide supply chain services to government and humanitarian partners.

- To complement fresh food vouchers, WFP reached 5,600 women and men with social and behaviour change communication. These sessions aimed to promote optimal maternal, infant, and young child nutrition (MIYCN) practices by influencing social norms and encouraging healthier dietary behaviours.

School Meals

- In July, WFP supported the strengthening of national systems by assessing the efficiency and capacity of smallholder cooperative unions as potential bulk suppliers. The assessment aimed to determine their ability to operate at scale. Additionally, WFP provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Education in the implementation of the Home-Grown School Feeding initiative.
- Based on lessons learned from the previous school year, WFP streamlined the implementation of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with government partners and addressed procurement delays to reduce carryover stocks and improve timely food deliveries ahead of school reopening in September this year.

Livelihood Support and Climate Risk Management

- To help farmers in Tigray cope with climate change, WFP supported agricultural productivity and water management through irrigation infrastructure on 48 hectares of land and the distribution of 78 mt of improved seeds. These efforts benefited 8,000 farming households.
- WFP supported the formalisation of 86 Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs) with 1,802 members (including 760 women) into 25 Farmers' Primary Cooperatives (FPCs) across five regions. Fourteen of these cooperatives have already been certified, strengthening local structures and promoting economic empowerment.

Cross-cutting Action

- To mitigate protection risks for newly arrived South Sudanese refugees, WFP assessed safety and protection conditions for women and children at four entry points and relocation sites in Gambella. A temporary community feedback helpdesk revealed key concerns, with refugees citing inadequate shelter and hardships caused by the rainy season as the main challenges.
- WFP, in collaboration with the Ministry of Women and Social Affairs, co-developed the Disability Inclusion Policy—a strategic document under the National Disability Inclusion Coordination Forum (NDICF). The policy was informed by inputs from field staff and helpdesk providers to address the root causes of exclusion.

Supply Chain

- WFP strengthened accountability and transparency by enhancing its community feedback mechanism: all fleet trucks and light vehicles now display high-visibility stickers with the hotline number (6063). This allows the public to report concerns related to vehicle operations and conduct in real time, thereby enhancing transparency and accountability. The feedback received will support continuous performance monitoring, targeted training, and improve road safety, while reinforcing WFP's commitment to excellence in humanitarian logistics.

Challenges

- In July, WFP's operations faced challenges due to insecurity in the Amhara and Oromia regions, as well as heavy rains and inadequate infrastructure, leading to access constraints and delays.
- WFP is facing a severe shortage of Super Cereal, with a pipeline break expected in October. Critical funding gaps remain across WFP's operations, with the refugee response facing the most immediate needs. Without additional resources, WFP's refugee operation will face severe funding constraints by November 2025.

Donors (Alphabetical order):

Canada, Denmark, the European Commission, Ethiopia (World Bank), France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Malta, Norway, private donors, Republic of Korea, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, the UN Central Emergency Response Fund, UN Sustainable Development Goals Fund, and the United States of America.