

# Horn of Africa – Complex Emergency

JULY 21, 2023

## SITUATION AT A GLANCE



- Cholera continues to spread throughout Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia as flooding, damaged WASH infrastructure, and a lack of available health care services exacerbate the disease outbreak.
- Recent armed clashes in Ethiopia’s Oromia Region have left many health facilities inoperable while prompting elevated needs for medical care.
- Despite favorable rains in Kenya from March to May, vulnerable people in pastoral areas continue to face Crisis—IPC 3—levels of acute food insecurity due to diminished livestock production, high food prices, and low income levels.
- Somalia’s April-to-May *gu* rains moderated drought conditions, but more rainfall is required to alleviate the impact of the three-year drought.



<b>TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING</b>	USAID/BHA <sup>1</sup>	\$1,314,432,682
	State/PRM <sup>2</sup>	\$132,314,977
For the Horn of Africa Response in FY 2023	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,446,747,659</b>

*For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 6*

<sup>1</sup> USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA)

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

### Cholera Outbreaks Continue in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia

Inadequate water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) resources and limited humanitarian access to affected areas continue to exacerbate the cholera outbreaks that populations in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia have faced for many months. In Ethiopia, the UN reported more than 12,000 confirmed cases as of June 25—a more than 85 percent increase since May 7—across 79 *woredas*, or districts, in the country. Since the first recorded cases in August 2022 and the declaration of an outbreak by the Government of Ethiopia’s Ministry of Health on September 16, 2022, cholera has continued to spread across the country due to the limited availability of oral cholera vaccines, reduced humanitarian access from flooding and insecurity, and water contamination. Additionally, high rates of malaria and malnutrition have contributed to the ease of infection transmission in Ethiopia, while the June-to-September *kiremt* rains may trigger new flooding across the country, potentially hindering response efforts, the UN reports. In response to the ongoing cholera outbreak in Ethiopia, USAID/BHA partner the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) had administered approximately 1.9 million oral cholera vaccine doses throughout southern Ethiopia’s Oromia, Somali, and Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples (SNNP) regions as of May.

In Kenya, cholera cases increased 46 percent between February and the end of May, largely attributable to the effects of the March-to-May long rains which resulted in flood-related displacement and damaged WASH infrastructure, according to UNICEF. Health actors had recorded nearly 11,400 suspected or confirmed cholera cases as of June 14, the UN World Health Organization (WHO). In both Ethiopia and Kenya, the case fatality rate (CFR)—1.4 and 1.6 percent, respectively—is greater than the WHO’s emergency threshold of 1 percent, indicating insufficient access to and quality of treatment.

In Somalia, though the cholera CFR remains below the WHO’s emergency threshold at 0.3 percent, case transmission has continued in 28 drought-affected districts since 2022, according to the UN agency. Health actors in Somalia recorded more than 10,600 suspected cases between January 2 and July 2, though the number of cases reported has decreased by 35 percent since June 18.

### Attacks in Ethiopia’s Oromia Region Damage Health Infrastructure

Ongoing violence in Oromia has extensively damaged or destroyed critical health infrastructure, limiting vulnerable populations’ access to health care, a State/PRM partner reports. In West Wollega Zone’s Begi *woreda*, non-state armed group (NSAG) actors had damaged or looted nearly all of Begi’s 42 health facilities as of June 22, limiting access to health facilities for the zone’s population of an estimated 100,000 people. In Horo Guduru Wollega Zone’s Guduru Primary Hospital—which serves more than five *woredas*—NSAG actors damaged and looted ambulances, beds, medicines, and surgical sets during recent armed clashes. Concurrently, violence has prompted an increase in the number of patients admitted to Oromia’s hospitals, where health care workers are unable to meet patients’ needs due to violence-induced damage and supply shortages. Health needs are particularly high in Oromia’s Borena, East Wollega, Guji, and West Wollega zones, a State/PRM partner reports.

### Arrivals in Ethiopia’s Guba *Woreda* in Need of Multi-Sector Assistance

Arrivals from Sudan into Ethiopia’s Benishangul Gumuz Region require significant multi-sector humanitarian assistance as of June, according to the Assessment Capacities Project (ACAPS). Since the outbreak of conflict in Sudan in mid-April, thousands of people have crossed into Ethiopia via unofficial border crossings in Metekel Zone’s Guba *woreda*, located in Benishangul Gumuz, where security

conditions have improved. Many recent arrivals are Ethiopian nationals who initially fled to Sudan following conflict in Metekel in 2019. Relief actors estimate between 8,000 and 12,000 individuals had crossed into Guba from Sudan, and between 9,000 and 22,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) had returned to their places of origin within Guba as of June 30, ACAPS reports. Arrivals require shelter assistance, with some new arrivals reportedly staying in informal sites using makeshift houses or sheltering under trees for weeks, as the previous conflict in Metekel damaged community infrastructure and destroyed homes. The affected population is also in need of food, health, livelihood, protection, and WASH assistance.

### **Crisis Levels of Acute Food Insecurity Persist in Kenya**

Vulnerable populations in pastoral areas of Kenya are expected to continue experiencing Crisis—IPC 3—levels of acute food insecurity through January 2024, as households begin early recovery from the three-year drought in the region, the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) reports.<sup>3</sup> The above-average long rains have partially replenished forage, pasture, and water sources and improved livestock body conditions, and incoming cash and in-kind food assistance—including from USAID/BHA partners—is expected to prevent severe outcomes in Mandera, Marsabit, Turkana, and Wajir counties during the June-to-September dry season. Nonetheless, recovery is likely to take several years, as lingering effects of the historic drought continue to impede food security and livelihoods in the region. For example, herd sizes and milk stocks—both critical sources of income and nutrition for pastoralist households—remain low. Sustained high maize prices and below-normal sources of income also continue to limit household purchasing power.

FEWS NET projects additional improvements in food security conditions in Kenya may follow the forecasted above-average October-to-December short rains. However, agropastoralist and pastoralist populations may refrain from selling their remaining livestock to replenish their herd sizes, so income and purchasing power may remain limited following the rains due to low livestock sales and high food prices. In agricultural areas, the short rains are expected to support crop production, but the high cost of living will likely keep households in Stressed—IPC 2—levels of acute food insecurity through January 2024, according to FEWS NET.

### **April-to-June *Gu* Rains Support Early Drought Recovery in Somalia**

The April-to-June *gu* rains concluded in May with an overall positive effect on drought conditions in Somalia, though significantly more rainfall is required to alleviate the impact of the three-year drought, the WASH Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian WASH activities, comprising UN agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other stakeholders—reports. Accumulated rainfall, despite inconsistent distribution around the country, has enabled some vegetation to regenerate, moderated severe drought conditions, and partially replenished groundwater sources in many areas of Somalia. However, high prices for water in rural areas that previously experienced rainfall deficits will likely continue and significantly more rainfall is needed to support recovery, according to the cluster.

<sup>3</sup> The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a multi-partner initiative that developed a standardized scale to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries and time, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5—for acute food insecurity.

## KEY FIGURES



13

USAID/BHA partners providing food assistance across Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia



14

USAID/BHA partners providing health services to vulnerable communities in Ethiopia and Somalia



19

USAID/BHA partners providing nutrition assistance across Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia



13

USAID/BHA partners providing protection services to drought-affected communities in the Horn of Africa

## U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

### FOOD SECURITY

To address acute food insecurity in the Horn of Africa, USAID/BHA supports 13 partners, including the UN World Food Program (WFP), across Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia to provide emergency food assistance—including U.S.-sourced pulses, vegetable oil, and wheat or sorghum—to populations in greatest need, including refugee households. USAID/BHA partners in the region also provide cash transfers to food-insecure households, enabling them to purchase food from local markets, where available.

### HEALTH

USAID/BHA supports 11 NGOs and three UN agencies to improve access to health care services across Ethiopia and Somalia. USAID/BHA partners provide medical supplies, support mobile health units, and train community health workers to address urgent health needs, often integrated with nutrition and WASH programming. In addition, State/PRM partners support essential health interventions for asylum seekers, refugees, and other vulnerable populations in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia.

### NUTRITION

USAID/BHA partners are leading efforts to prevent and treat wasting—the deadliest form of malnutrition—across Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia. Working through 15 NGOs and four UN agencies, USAID/BHA supports community-centered and evidence-based programs aimed at decreasing malnutrition-related illnesses and mortality by strengthening prevention efforts, as well as identification and treatment of wasting, particularly among children and pregnant and lactating women. USAID/BHA nutrition partners in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia implement life-saving nutrition services as part of the national health systems and integrate nutrition assistance with food security, health, livelihood, and WASH interventions to prevent excess mortality and improve resilience among drought-affected households.

### PROTECTION

While partners integrate protection concerns into all USAID/BHA- and State/PRM-supported activities, USAID/BHA is also supporting 13 implementing partners responding to conflict- and drought-generated protection needs across the Horn of Africa. Partners are expanding gender-based violence (GBV) case management support, training social workers and community-based case workers, and providing dignity kits—which contain items to address the specific needs of women and girls—to GBV survivors. Implementing partners are also providing mental health and psychosocial support services to conflict-affected communities in the region. In addition, State/PRM supports partners in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia to provide protection services to crisis-affected refugees and IDPs.



29

USAID/BHA partners providing WASH support to vulnerable populations

## WASH

USAID/BHA and State/PRM support WASH programming throughout the Horn of Africa to prevent communicable disease outbreaks, including cholera and acute malnutrition in children and mothers. State/PRM continues to reach IDPs and refugees with critical WASH activities, such as supporting the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) with the rehabilitation of boreholes in Ethiopia's Somali and SNNP regions. In addition, through partnership with four UN agencies and 25 NGOs, USAID/BHA supports partners in conducting critical WASH activities, including conducting hygiene awareness sessions, providing safe drinking water to people in need, and rehabilitating water systems destroyed by conflict. USAID/BHA partners are also training local health workers to prevent and treat suspected cholera cases in their own communities.

### CONTEXT IN BRIEF

- Populations across Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia struggle with a confluence of recurring climatic shocks, widespread food insecurity, and reduced access to livelihoods. These ongoing challenges, exacerbated by persistent conflict and resultant displacement, contribute to sustained humanitarian needs and ongoing complex emergencies. USG humanitarian assistance is designed to remain flexible and respond to needs as they arise, providing support to crisis-affected populations across the Horn of Africa.
- USAID/BHA continues to respond to acute needs resulting from persistent dry weather in parts of Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia, with five consecutive seasons of poor rainfall between 2020 and 2022 leading to the most severe drought on record in the Horn of Africa in the last 70 years. Critical water shortages in drought-affected areas have significantly undermined livestock conditions, livelihoods, and food security. The legacy USAID Office of Food for Peace and legacy USAID Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance responded to heightened food and nutrition needs resulting from drought in Ethiopia between 2015 and 2018, as well as drought in Kenya and Somalia between 2016 and 2018.
- Intercommunal conflicts in Ethiopia have generated displacement, exacerbated humanitarian needs, and impeded humanitarian access since 2018. In Somalia, ongoing conflict—related to al-Shabaab attacks and resultant military operations, as well as intercommunal violence—continues to contribute to displacement and food insecurity, while restricting access to livelihoods. Sustained life-saving assistance, coupled with interventions aimed at building resilience, is critical to help conflict-affected households meet their basic needs and rebuild assets.
- On October 28, 2022, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Tracey Ann Jacobson renewed the declaration of humanitarian need (DHN) for Ethiopia for FY 2023 to assist vulnerable populations adversely affected by armed conflict and climatic shocks, including the ongoing drought. On October 19, 2022, U.S. Ambassador Margaret C. Whitman renewed the DHN for Kenya for FY 2023 due to the drought-driven complex emergency. On October 11, 2022, U.S. Ambassador Larry E. André renewed the DHN for Somalia for FY 2023 in response to the ongoing complex emergency, including climatic shocks and protracted conflict.

**USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE HORN OF AFRICA RESPONSE IN FY 2023<sup>1,2,3,4</sup>**

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>FUNDING IN ETHIOPIA FOR THE HORN OF AFRICA RESPONSE</b>			
<b>USAID/BHA</b>			
Action Against Hunger/USA (AAH/USA)	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Oromia, Somali	\$2,500,000
CARE	Agriculture, Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Oromia, Somali	\$4,000,000
Concern	Nutrition, WASH	Somali	\$2,230,000
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	Food Assistance—U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Countrywide	\$87,491,685
	Agriculture, Food Assistance—Cash Transfers for Food	Oromia; SNNP	\$13,352,413
Ethiopia Red Cross Society	Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Oromia	\$2,111,463
Fayyaa Integrated Development Organization (FIDO)	Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Benishangul Gumuz	\$1,000,000
Food for the Hungry (FH)	Agriculture, WASH	Benishangul Gumuz	\$1,000,000
GOAL	Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Oromia, SNNP, Somali	\$5,000,000
International Medical Corps (IMC)	Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Oromia	\$3,000,000
iMMAP	Humanitarian Coordination, Information Management, and Assessments (HCIMA); Humanitarian Policy, Studies, Analysis, or Applications	Countrywide	\$500,000
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	Health, HCIMA, Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA), Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$18,000,000
Initiative for Pastoralists Communication (IPC)	Agriculture	Amhara, Oromia, SNNP	\$2,000,000
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Somali, SNNP, Oromia	\$6,000,000
Mercy Corps	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Oromia, SNNP, Somali	\$2,000,000
Organization for Welfare and Development in Action (OWDA)	Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Somali	\$499,160
People in Need (PIN)	MPCA, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Oromia, SNNP	\$1,500,000
Plan USA	MPCA, Protection	Oromia	\$999,9999
Save the Children (SCF)	Agriculture, Health, MPCA, Nutrition, WASH	Oromia, Somali	\$5,000,000
Swiss Church Aid (HEKS)	Agriculture, WASH	Oromia	\$700,000
UNICEF	Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Countrywide	\$15,000,000
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	HCIMA	Afar, Amhara, Beneshangul Gumuz, Oromia, SNNP, Somali, Tigray	\$2,500,000
WFP	Food Assistance—Cash Transfers for Food; Nutrition	Afar, Amhara, Benishangul Gumuz, Gambela, Oromia, Somali, Tigray	\$63,561,612

	Food Assistance—U.S. In-Kind Food Aid; Nutrition	Afar, Amhara, Benishangul Gumuz, Gambela, Oromia, Sidama, SNNP, Somali, Tigray	\$109,994,219
World Vision	Agriculture, Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Oromia, SNNP	\$3,150,000
	Program Support		\$82,866
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA DROUGHT FUNDING FOR ETHIOPIA IN FY 2023</b>			<b>\$353,173,416</b>
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<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$60,200,000
UNICEF	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$4,100,000
IOM	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$1,600,000
UN Population Fund (UNFPA)	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)	Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$1,350,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR ETHIOPIA IN FY 2023</b>			<b>\$68,250,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE HORN OF AFRICA RESPONSE IN ETHIOPIA IN FY 2023</b>			<b>\$421,423,416</b>
<b>FUNDING IN KENYA FOR THE HORN OF AFRICA RESPONSE</b>			
<b>USAID/BHA</b>			
AAH	Agriculture, Food Assistance, Nutrition, WASH	Isiolo, Mandera	\$7,000,000
Concern	Agriculture, Food Assistance, Nutrition, WASH	Marsabit, Samburu, Turkana,	\$9,000,000
IRC	Agriculture, Food Assistance, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Samburu, Turkana	\$5,000,000
Kenya Red Cross Society	Food Assistance, Nutrition, WASH	Baringo, Turkana, West Pokot	\$7,000,000
Rural Community Development Agency (RACIDA)	Agriculture, Food Assistance, Nutrition, WASH	Mandera	\$9,000,000
SCF	Agriculture, Food Assistance, Nutrition, WASH	Garissa, Wajir	\$9,500,000
WFP	Food Assistance—Cash Transfers for Food; Nutrition	Baringo, Garissa, Isiolo, Kitui, Mandera, Marsabit, Samburu, Tana River, Turkana, Wajir	\$110,600,000
	Food Assistance—U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Garissa, Isiolo, Kitui, Mandera, Marsabit, Samburu, Tana River, Turkana, Wajir	\$38,656,013
Wajir South Development Association (WASDA)	Agriculture, MPCA, WASH	Wajir	\$3,000,000
World Vision	Agriculture, Food Assistance, Nutrition, WASH	Kitui, Tana River	\$7,000,000
	Program Support		\$63,310
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR KENYA IN FY 2023</b>			<b>\$205,819,323</b>
<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
Windle International	Education	Garissa, Turkana	\$1,499,977
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$18,100,000
UNHAS	Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$865,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR KENYA IN FY 2023</b>			<b>\$20,464,977</b>
<b>TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE HORN OF AFRICA RESPONSE IN KENYA IN FY 2023</b>			<b>\$226,284,300</b>
<b>FUNDING IN SOMALIA FOR THE HORN OF AFRICA RESPONSE</b>			
<b>USAID/BHA</b>			

Implementing Partners	Food Assistance, Health, HCIMA, MPCA, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$282,281,336
UNICEF	Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
	Food Assistance—U.S. In-Kind Food Aid, Nutrition	Countrywide	\$6,000,000
WFP	Food Assistance, Nutrition	Countrywide	\$388,675,000
	Food Assistance—U.S. In-Kind Food Aid, Nutrition	Countrywide	\$68,317,558
	Program Support		\$166,049
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR SOMALIA IN FY 2023</b>			<b>\$755,439,943</b>
<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
Implementing Partner	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$23,000,000
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$20,600,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR SOMALIA IN FY 2023</b>			<b>\$43,600,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE HORN OF AFRICA IN SOMALIA IN FY 2023</b>			<b>\$799,039,943</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of June 23, 2023 and reflect estimated values of assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement, which are subject to change.

<sup>2</sup> USAID/BHA emergency funding for the Horn of Africa includes funding in both drought and non-drought areas of Ethiopia, as well as emergency funding in drought-affected areas of Kenya and Somalia. Funding specific to the Northern Ethiopia Crisis response can be found in [Northern Ethiopia Crisis Fact Sheets](#). In drought-affected areas across the Horn of Africa, USAID/BHA funding is responding to emergency needs related to drought as well as conflict and other emergency shocks.

<sup>3</sup> State/PRM funding for the Horn of Africa includes some Northern Ethiopia Response Funding.

<sup>4</sup> State/PRM also provided an additional \$2.5 million in FY 2023 to support Somali refugees in Djibouti, in addition to the total represented in this Fact Sheet.

## PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [interaction.org](https://www.interaction.org).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed, often in the affected region; reduce the burden on scarce resources, such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space; can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
  - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [cidi.org](https://www.cidi.org)
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [reliefweb.int](https://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at [usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)