

# Ethiopia – Northern Ethiopia Crisis

JULY 29, 2022

## SITUATION AT A GLANCE

<p><b>7-7.5</b> MILLION</p> <p>People Facing Severe Acute Food Insecurity in Afar, Amhara, and Tigray</p> <p><i>USAID – October 2021</i></p>	<p><b>9.4</b> MILLION</p> <p>People Targeted for Humanitarian Assistance in Afar, Amhara, and Tigray</p> <p><i>UN – January 2022</i></p>	<p><b>2.5</b> MILLION</p> <p>People Displaced Across Northern Ethiopia</p> <p><i>IOM – April 2022</i></p>	<p><b>49,600</b></p> <p>Refugees From Northern Ethiopia in Eastern Sudan</p> <p><i>UNHCR – May 2022</i></p>
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- An estimated 260 MT of fertilizer arrived in Tigray Region on July 17, marking the first shipment of urgently needed fertilizer to reach the region for farmers to utilize during the ongoing June-to-August *meher* planting season.
- Thousands of IDPs have begun to relocate toward their areas of previous residence in Afar Region. IDPs face urgent humanitarian needs as they relocate to areas damaged by conflict and lacking livelihood opportunities.
- The compounding effects of conflict and drought are contributing to rising malnutrition levels in Afar Region.



<p><b>TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING</b> For the Northern Ethiopia Crisis Response in FY 2022</p>	<p>USAID/BHA<sup>1</sup></p> <p>State/PRM<sup>3</sup></p>	<p>\$661,859,556<sup>2</sup></p> <p>\$26,300,000<sup>4</sup></p>
<p><i>For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 6.</i></p>		<p><b>Total \$688,159,556</b></p>

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

<sup>2</sup> Total value of food assistance and associated costs adjusted from estimated to actual values.

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM).

<sup>4</sup> Funding in this fact sheet includes assistance to refugees residing in Tigray, which is also reported in the U.S. Government (USG) Ethiopia fact sheet as part of the Ethiopia Complex Emergency.

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

### Fertilizer, Multi-Sector Assistance Reach Tigray Amid Fuel Shortage

More than 260 metric tons (MT) of urgently needed fertilizer reached Tigray's capital city of Mekele on July 17, while a second convoy carrying nearly 2,000 MT of fertilizer supplies arrived in Mekele on July 19, the UN reports. The deliveries mark the first shipments of humanitarian partner-procured fertilizer, led by UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to arrive in Tigray for use during the ongoing June-to-August *meher* planting season. With the support of USAID/BHA and other donors, FAO launched its efforts in June to supply farmers in Tigray with agriculture inputs to improve crop production and limit the negative effects of food insecurity in the region.

The arrival of fertilizer comes amid an overall increase in the level of assistance reaching Tigray since the March 24 Government of Ethiopia (GoE) humanitarian truce declaration. During June, approximately 2,500 trucks organized by the Logistics Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian logistics activities, comprising UN agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other stakeholders—arrived in Mekele carrying nearly 108,000 MT of multi-sector relief commodities, including more than 163,000 MT of food assistance, representing the most trucks to reach Tigray in one month since July 2021. Despite the scale-up in assistance arriving in Mekele, relief actors continue to caution that the ongoing, severe fuel shortage affecting the country has hindered humanitarian actors' ability to dispatch assistance to more remote *woredas*—or districts—across Tigray. Two tankers carrying an estimated 96,000 total liters of fuel for relief actors' operational use arrived in Mekele on July 21 and 23, representing the first humanitarian fuel deliveries to the region since June 21. On July 26, WFP imported 14 fuel tankers from Djibouti containing approximately 700,000 liters of fuel, which are currently staging in Semera to join a convoy into Mekele. This is the first successful import of fuel under the humanitarian waiver first issued in June which allows up to 2 million liters per month. The UN estimates that 2 million liters of fuel per month are required for relief actors to support the humanitarian response inside Tigray.

### Recently Returned IDPs and Populations at IDP Sites Face Urgent Needs

Thousands of internally displaced persons (IDPs) relocated toward their areas of previous residence within Afar throughout June, both voluntarily and through GoE-organized efforts, the UN reports. Most individuals displaced due to the northern Ethiopia conflict in Afar had relocated as of mid-July, while regional authorities in Afar continue to support the relocation of IDPs. Moreover, regional authorities project a total of 50,000 IDPs will likely return to their areas of previous residence between July and October. Recently relocated IDPs and returnees urgently require emergency shelter; food assistance; and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) supplies in their areas of return, where conflict damaged houses and other civilian infrastructure, including health facilities and water systems. Regional authorities have requested humanitarian support for recently relocated IDPs, recent returnees, and the 50,000 projected returnees, the UN reports.

Meanwhile, in Amhara Region, humanitarian needs remain similarly high among populations residing in displacement sites. Regional authorities continue to relocate IDPs to North Wello Zone's Jarra site, relocating nearly 30,000 of the planned 58,000 IDPs from the zone's Kobo town as of July 22, according to the UN. While several humanitarian organizations are providing services at the site, food and shelter assistance remained inadequate as of early June. USAID/BHA partners have expanded food, health, shelter, WASH, and other assistance at Jarra in recent months to respond to the needs of populations residing at the site. Meanwhile, in Amhara's South Wello Zone, the estimated 3,000 IDPs and refugees residing at the Turk displacement site require urgent humanitarian assistance due to overcrowding and a

lack of basic services, according to a June 29 UN assessment. The site requires WASH services to minimize the negative health consequences from an inadequate number of latrines. Additionally, residents at the site face further health and protection risks due to access constraints, and, due to the lack of adequate shelter, many residents have been forced to sleep either using plastic sheets as cover or on the ground while exposed to open air.

## Malnutrition in Afar Continues to Rise as Nutrition Supplies Are Exhausted

Rising levels of food insecurity and malnutrition persist in Afar due to the compounding effects of conflict—and resultant displacement and loss of livelihood opportunities—and drought, the UN reports. In Afar’s conflict-affected Zone 2, 70,000 children are experiencing severe wasting, a life-threatening form of malnutrition, and at least 80,000 children ages five years and younger and more than 50,000 pregnant and lactating women are experiencing moderate wasting. Despite the pressing need for supplementary feeding and nutrition services for the 200,000 people suffering from malnutrition, supplies to treat moderate wasting have been unavailable in Afar since mid-June due to global food and nutrition supply shortages, which are projected to continue through mid-September, according to the UN. Relief actors warn that moderate wasting cases may deteriorate into severe wasting cases due to such operational challenges; only an estimated 12,000 of the 55,000 children targeted to receive severe wasting treatment—or 21 percent—were reached with nutrition services between January and May.

### KEY FIGURES



**5.6 Million**

Crisis-affected people reached with food assistance in northern Ethiopia in 2022 to date



**101,000**

Children treated for severe wasting in northern Ethiopia by UNICEF during 2021

## U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

### FOOD SECURITY

In response to acute food needs across northern Ethiopia, USAID/BHA is supporting the Catholic Relief Services (CRS)-led Joint Emergency Operation (JEO) consortium of NGOs, as well as the UN World Food Program (WFP), which operates with the support of other implementing partners, to provide emergency food assistance—including U.S.-sourced cereals, pulses, and vegetable oil—to vulnerable populations in Afar, Amhara, and Tigray. WFP completed a round of assistance in Afar and Amhara in mid-May, reaching more than 630,000 people in Afar and an estimated 650,000 people in Amhara with in-kind food assistance between March and May. WFP’s most recent round of assistance for both Afar and Amhara commenced in mid-June, aiming to reach the same number of people in each region with in-kind food assistance. In Tigray, the JEO consortium and WFP have reached nearly 4.6 million people with one month’s worth of food assistance in 2022 to date amid severe operational constraints, having curtailed operations due to supply shortages in late 2021.

### NUTRITION

USAID/BHA supports 11 partners in their efforts to prevent and treat malnutrition across conflict-affected areas of northern Ethiopia. Using a community-based approach, USAID/BHA partners promote recommended infant and young child feeding practices through one-on-one counseling and group education sessions to improve nutrition outcomes. The UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and other USAID/BHA partners are also working to strengthen fixed-location health facilities and support mobile health and

nutrition teams (MHNTs), providing essential medical services to more than 48,000 IDPs and host community members across northern Ethiopia during April. In Afar and Amhara, UNICEF and USAID/BHA NGO partners are also providing specialized treatment for malnutrition in children ages five years and younger. UNICEF and its partners screened more than 930,000 children younger than five years of age for malnutrition in Amhara during May, identifying approximately 12,400 cases of severe wasting and 100,000 cases of moderate wasting. Meanwhile, in Tigray, the UN agency screened nearly 191,000 children for malnutrition, identifying nearly 4,000 cases of severe wasting and nearly 21,000 cases of moderate wasting during the month. Also in May, USAID/BHA provided more than 2,600 cartons of ready-to-use therapeutic food to increase access to nutrition treatment supplies in Tigray.



**372,000**

IDPs in Afar, Amhara, and Tigray reached with medical consultations since November 2020

## HEALTH

The USG supports 13 partners providing critical health care services in northern Ethiopia through community health facilities and mobile health units. USAID/BHA partners have supported integrated MHNTs throughout Afar, Amhara, and Tigray, which provide critically needed health and nutrition services to remote and hard-to-reach areas, though the number of MHNTs active in Tigray has been reduced significantly due to lack of supplies and fuel. MHNTs serve an essential function in areas where most health facilities have been damaged and where ongoing insecurity continues to impede crisis-affected populations' access to health services. USAID/BHA partner International Medical Corps (IMC) has provided outpatient consultation to nearly 372,000 IDPs across Afar, Amhara, and Tigray through the operation of 20 MHNTs from the beginning of the response in November 2020 to late July 2022. With State/PRM support, an implementing partner has distributed essential medicines and other medical supplies to violence-affected health facilities in Afar, northern Amhara, and Tigray. Additionally, State/PRM supports the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to provide health assistance to refugees in Tigray, including those sheltering in North Western Zone's Adi Harush and Mai Aini sites.



**16**

USG-supported partners providing dedicated protection services in Afar, Amhara, and Tigray

## PROTECTION

In response to protection needs resulting from the crisis in northern Ethiopia, the USG supports 16 partner organizations conducting protection programs as humanitarian access and security conditions permit. Partners are expanding gender-based violence (GBV) case management support, training social workers and community-based case workers, providing dignity kits—which contain items to address the specific needs of women and girls—to GBV survivors, and establishing child-friendly spaces, among other activities. In addition, State/PRM supports UNHCR and another implementing partner to provide protection and other multi-sector assistance to crisis-affected refugees and IDPs. With State/PRM support, UNHCR has scaled up protection services in Adi Harush and Mai Ani refugee sites.



**10,100**

People reached with IOM shelter assistance in Afar and Amhara during June

## SHELTER AND SETTLEMENTS

USAID/BHA supports crisis-affected populations with emergency shelter support in Afar, Amhara, and Tigray through 10 implementing partners. With USAID/BHA funding, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) reached more than 5,400 crisis-affected individuals across four IDP sites in Amhara and nearly 4,700 IDPs across seven IDP sites in Afar with emergency shelter assistance and life-saving relief commodities during June. Partners are also distributing relief commodity kits—which include bed mats, blankets, and wash basins—to recently displaced individuals, among other activities. In addition, State/PRM supports UNHCR to provide shelter assistance to refugees and IDPs in Tigray.



**187,000**

People in Afar, Amhara, and Tigray reached with safe drinking water during May

## WASH

USAID/BHA and State/PRM are supporting 14 partners to distribute WASH supplies and other relief commodities to crisis-affected and displaced populations in northern Ethiopia, as well as delivering equipment to support the rehabilitation of WASH infrastructure damaged during the crisis, constructing or rehabilitating water supply systems, and providing handwashing facilities and sanitation services in IDP sites and health facilities. USAID/BHA partner UNICEF provided safe drinking water through water trucking services to an estimated 187,000 people in Afar, Amhara, and Tigray during May. Moreover, UNICEF conducted hygiene promotion and community engagement sessions on WASH-related diseases to an estimated 22,000 people in IDP camps in Mekele and Tigray’s Central, Eastern, and North Western zones throughout May.



**\$35 Million**

In dedicated USAID/BHA logistics support

## LOGISTICS SUPPORT AND RELIEF COMMODITIES

USAID/BHA and State/PRM partners are providing essential logistics support for the humanitarian response in Afar, Amhara, and Tigray. With USAID/BHA support, WFP is providing critical coordination and logistics services—including transportation and storage of life-saving commodities—to the humanitarian community through the Logistics Cluster. Between July 2021 and July 2022, the Logistics Cluster has transported an estimated 809 MT of humanitarian supplies to Tigray on UN Humanitarian Air Services (UNHAS) cargo flights.

## CONTEXT IN BRIEF

- Following weeks of escalating tensions between regional and federal authorities, clashes erupted between the Tigray People’s Liberation Front (TPLF) and the Ethiopia National Defense Forces (ENDF) in several locations across Tigray on November 4, 2020. Although the GoE declared victory on November 28, clashes continued. After a sharp escalation in fighting in late June 2021, the GoE declared a unilateral ceasefire, ENDF elements withdrew from Tigray, and the TPLF gained control of much of the region as the conflict expanded to neighboring Afar and Amhara. On November 2, 2021, the GoE declared a nationwide state of emergency in response to renewed and spreading hostilities; the Ethiopian parliament voted to lift the state of emergency on February 14, 2022. ENDF elements regained control of parts Afar and Amhara following the withdrawal of TPLF elements on December 20. On March 24, the GoE declared, and the TPLF agreed to, a humanitarian truce.
- Security conditions remain volatile, with conflict continuing to threaten populations in affected areas of Afar, Amhara, and Tigray, including displacing individuals within Ethiopia and into adjacent areas of eastern Sudan.
- On November 18, 2021, then-U.S. Ambassador to Ethiopia Geeta Pasi redeclared a disaster for Ethiopia for FY 2022 due to the continued humanitarian needs resulting from the complex emergency—including the entrenched armed conflict in northern Ethiopia—and the impact of climate, conflict, food insecurity, and health shocks on vulnerable populations across the country.
- On March 1, 2021, USAID activated a Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) to lead USG humanitarian response efforts to the crisis in northern Ethiopia. USAID also stood up a Washington, D.C.-based Response Management Team to support the DART.

### USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE NORTHERN ETHIOPIA CRISIS RESPONSE IN FY 2022<sup>1</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/BHA</b>			
Action Against Hunger (AAH)	Health, Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA), Nutrition, WASH	Amhara, Tigray	\$3,000,000
Alight	Protection, WASH	Tigray	\$1,500,000
CARE	Agriculture, Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS)	Amhara, Tigray	\$4,000,763
Center for Victims of Torture (CVT)	Protection	Tigray	\$2,500,000
Concern Worldwide	Health, Nutrition, Shelter and Settlements	Amhara, Tigray	\$864,449
CRS	Food Assistance – 163,380 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Amhara, Tigray	\$232,732,292
	Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Tigray	\$4,000,000
FAO	Agriculture	Tigray	\$32,000,000
FHI 360	Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Afar, Amhara, Tigray	\$7,500,000
GOAL	Health, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Afar, Amhara, Tigray	\$4,000,000

IMC	Health, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Afar, Amhara, Tigray	\$5,500,000
iMMAP	Humanitarian Coordination, Information Management, and Assessments (HCIMA)	Afar, Amhara, Tigray	\$999,674
IMPACT Initiatives	Humanitarian Coordination, Information Management, and Assessments (HCIMA)	Afar, Amhara, Tigray	\$500,000
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Afar, Amhara, Tigray	\$4,000,000
IOM	Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Afar, Amhara, Tigray	\$7,000,000
Mercy Corps	Agriculture, MPCA, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Afar	\$3,051,000
Organization for Rehabilitation and Development in Amhara (ORDA)	WASH	Amhara	\$500,000
Plan USA	Protection	Afar, Amhara, Tigray	\$5,049,999
Samaritan's Purse	Health, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Amhara, Tigray	\$5,491,527
Save the Children (SCF)	Health, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Afar, Amhara, Tigray	\$6,000,000
UN Population Fund (UNFPA)	Health, Protection	Afar, Amhara, Tigray	\$950,000
UN Humanitarian Response Depot	Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$248,359
UNICEF	Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Afar, Amhara, Tigray	\$24,928,188
	Nutrition	Afar, Amhara, Tigray	\$2,000,000
	Nutrition—940 MT of U.S. In-Kind Specialized Nutrition Products	Afar, Amhara, Tigray	\$4,999,999
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	HCIMA	Afar, Amhara, Tigray	\$3,000,000
UN World Health Organization (WHO)	Health, HCIMA	Afar, Amhara, Tigray	\$2,499,355
WFP	Food Assistance—9,670 MT of Local, Regional, and International Procurement (LRIP), Nutrition	Afar, Amhara, Tigray	\$129,500,000
	Food Assistance—U.S. In-Kind, Nutrition	Afar, Amhara, Tigray	\$119,529,279
	Logistics	Afar, Amhara, Tigray	\$33,500,000
World Vision	Health, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Afar, Amhara, Tigray	\$5,800,000
ZOA	Agriculture, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Afar, Amhara, Tigray	\$3,200,000

**TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING** **\$661,859,556**

**STATE/PRM**

Implementing Partner Multi-Sector Assistance Tigray \$6,400,000

UNHCR Multi-Sector Assistance Tigray \$19,900,000

**TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING** **\$26,300,000**

**TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE NORTHERN ETHIOPIA RESPONSE IN FY 2022<sup>2</sup>** **\$688,159,556**

**USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE NORTHERN ETHIOPIA CRISIS RESPONSE IN FY 2021**

**TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING** **\$473,410,249**

**TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING** **\$57,120,000**

**TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE NORTHERN ETHIOPIA RESPONSE IN FY 2021<sup>2</sup>** **\$530,530,249**

**USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE NORTHERN ETHIOPIA CRISIS RESPONSE IN FY 2020**

**TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING** **\$99,200,908**

<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>	<b>\$7,325,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE NORTHERN ETHIOPIA RESPONSE IN FY 2020<sup>3,4</sup></b>	<b>\$106,525,908</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE NORTHERN ETHIOPIA RESPONSE IN FY 2020-2022<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>\$1,325,215,713</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 April 26, 2022.

<sup>2</sup> Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

<sup>3</sup> USAID/BHA FY 2020 funding includes emergency food assistance from the former Office of Food for Peace and non-food humanitarian assistance from the former Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance.

<sup>4</sup> This total represents funding previously reported on the USG Ethiopia FY 2020 Fact Sheet #4 and East Africa FY 2020 Development & Disaster Risk Reduction Fact Sheet, both dated September 30, 2020. This funding was redirected to address new humanitarian needs stemming from the conflict in Tigray.

<sup>5</sup> This total includes \$326,361 in FY 2020 supplemental funding through USAID/BHA for COVID-19 preparedness and response activities and \$2,425,000 in FY 2020 COVID-19 supplemental funding through State/PRM. This total also includes \$3,310,000 from State/PRM in FY 2021 American Rescue Plan Act Migration and Refugee Assistance funding to respond to COVID-19.

<sup>6</sup> In FY 2021, State/PRM provided \$45,388,900 toward the northern Ethiopia response in the Horn of Africa region, bringing the total USG funding for FY 2021-FY 2022 to more than \$915 million. A portion of this funding is also reported in the USG Sudan 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)