



Kesahnet Goytom and her mother Belaynesh Gebre Meskel in Mai Tseabri IDP site.

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Humanitarian Action for Children

Ethiopia

HIGHLIGHTS

- The expansion of the northern Ethiopia crisis beyond Tigray into neighbouring Afar and Amhara regions has caused significant displacement and created a new wave of humanitarian needs. Now 26.3 million people are in need across Ethiopia. This includes 14 million children, 6 million women and 4.3 million people with disabilities. Of these, 4 million people are displaced -- an increase in the number of IDPs by 1.3 million since April 2021.
- To save lives, UNICEF is implementing a rapid response mechanism to expedite the delivery of life-saving supplies and support to hard-to-reach, vulnerable populations across all regions of the country.
- To address the expanding northern Ethiopia crisis, UNICEF is widening its partnerships, rapidly dispatching emergency supplies to government and NGO partners, and pre-positioning supplies for immediate use as needed across all three regions affected by the conflict including ready-to-use therapeutic food and water, sanitation and hygiene non-food items, and through deployment of Mobile Health and Nutrition Teams.
- UNICEF is appealing for US\$248.3 million to reach 6.9 million people and over 3.7 million children in Ethiopia with humanitarian assistance in 2021. This includes UNICEF's revised 2021 Northern Ethiopia Response Plan (Tigray, Afar and Amhara) scaling up targets and budgets - with a funding requirement of US\$108 million.

KEY PLANNED TARGETS



852,700

children and women accessing health care



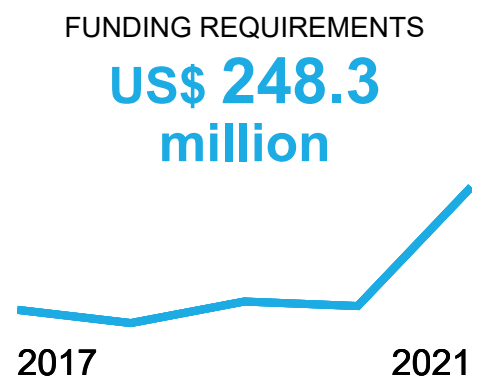
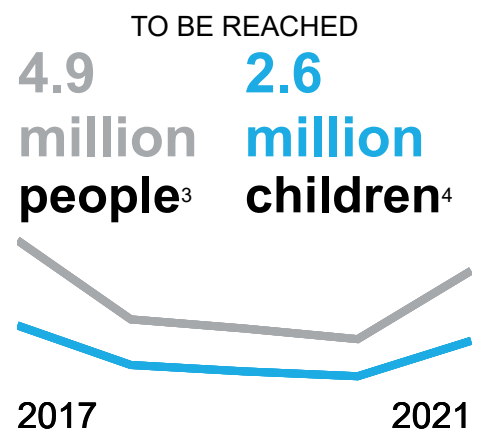
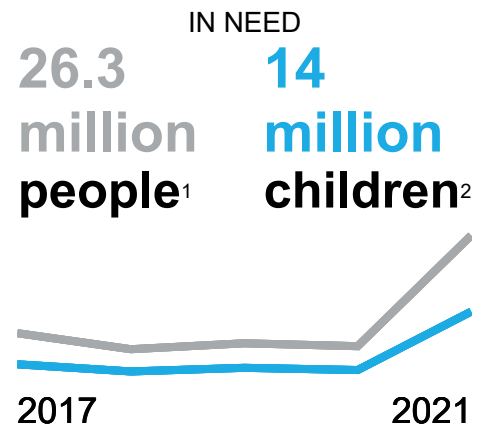
4.9 million

people reached with critical water, sanitation and hygiene supplies and services



94,180

children/caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support



HUMANITARIAN SITUATION AND NEEDS

The complex humanitarian situation in Ethiopia has intensified in recent months with increased overlapping crises, exacerbating an already challenging context and situation for children and women across the country. Most recent data show nearly 26.3 million people are currently in need of humanitarian assistance, up from 23.5 million in February 2021⁵. This includes 14 million children, 6 million women and 4.1 million people with a disability⁶. Revised funding requirements have emanated from the expansion of the conflict in Tigray into the neighboring regions of Amhara and Afar which have seen an increase in displacement from 797,608 displaced persons in April 2021 to now over 2.1 million people across these three regions alone – an increase of 164 per cent⁷. Assessments carried out across the regions indicate the conflict has led to the widespread destruction of health facilities, occupation of schools by displaced persons, and lack of communication services, electricity, water, fuel and cash⁸. The major challenges at this time include lack of access to food and nutrition, water, shelter and protection⁹.

Further to the highly complex situation facing populations in the north, there are ongoing acts of inter-communal violence and conflict mostly often along ethnic and political lines in Amhara, Oromia, Somali, Benishangul-Gumuz and Gambella, as well as growing food insecurity – with an estimated 500,000 people facing IPC 5 famine¹⁰ – and daily increases in COVID-19 cases nationwide¹¹ coupled with cases of cholera, measles and vaccine-derived polio across the country.

As a combined result of conflict, displacement, food insecurity, natural disasters and disease outbreaks, children across Ethiopia are facing alarming multi-dimensional poverty, violence, and lack of access to critical services to ensure their well-being including protection and education. Women and girls are particularly at risk of gender-based violence and harmful practices. The risks they face are increasingly diminishing a decade of gains in improving the quality of life of children in Ethiopia.

The inter-agency Humanitarian Response Plan and Northern Ethiopia Response Plan are concurrently under revision to reflect the increased needs of populations due to the exacerbating needs nationwide. Provisional estimates suggest that nearly 3 million additional people are in need of humanitarian assistance since April this year, including nearly 1.5 million more children, and that an additional 1.3 million people have been displaced in the north.

Resources available to respond to the humanitarian needs in Ethiopia are insufficient and risk leaving millions of children, women and men without the supplies and services they require to survive.

SECTOR NEEDS¹²



Nutrition

1 million children under 5 years need SAM treatment



Water, sanitation and hygiene

10.1 million people need clean and safe water



Child protection, GBVIE and PSEA

3.5 million children need core child protection services¹³



Education

8.5 million children need education

STORY FROM THE FIELD



The spillover of the Tigray conflict has spread across five woredas (districts) in the North Shewa Zone of the Amhara region. Health facilities also sustained significant damage in towns like Ataye and nearby areas, disrupting critical services to mothers and children. Since the conflict began in March this year, UNICEF is on the ground working closely with the regional health bureau by providing emergency medicines, hygiene supplies and therapeutic food. In addition, 414 health care providers were trained in social mobilization and provision of Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (MNCH) services in emergency situations.

[Read more about this story here](#)

Hayat Mahmud and her son, Suali Seid, are screened for nutritional status. Suali, who is nearly two years old, is moderately malnourished and given high energy biscuits.

HUMANITARIAN STRATEGY

UNICEF will continue to provide life-saving services for children and families in Ethiopia impacted by conflict, intercommunal violence, natural hazards and public health emergencies, and who are facing severe and increasing food insecurity and protection-related risks. Early preparedness and contingency planning will accelerate the response particularly in parts of the country affected by the expanding and complex conflict dynamics.

UNICEF has increased its footprint on the ground, notably in the Tigray region, and will enhance capacity in Amhara and Afar to strengthen readiness levels to respond to the growing crisis in these areas. UNICEF will continue to leverage its partnerships with government, national and international NGOs. Across the country, UNICEF will deliver equitably, based on the severity of needs, mitigating child migration and ensuring durable solutions by building resilience.

Under the Level 3 Emergency Procedures for Northern Ethiopia, UNICEF is expanding its operations throughout the region. Through the activation of a rapid response mechanism across the country, integrated multi-sectoral responses in displacement settings, as well the deployment of third party monitors, UNICEF will ensure the delivery of supplies and services in hard-to-reach and conflict-affected areas where gaps in partner presence persist.

UNICEF will scale up delivery of integrated services through common platforms, cross-referrals and communication for development strategies that capitalize on UNICEF's field presence and leverage its cluster leadership roles in WASH, nutrition and child protection and co-leadership in education. UNICEF will address the specific needs of girls, boys, women and men by disaggregating data by sex, harmful practices and barriers to accessing services such as education, health, nutrition and protection. Partner reporting will also be enhanced.

Protection will be at the centre of UNICEF's response with a special focus on child protection and GBV. Monitoring-reporting of/addressing child rights violations, prevention and mitigation of GBV will be streamlined across all programme responses and accountability to affected populations assured through improved reporting mechanisms. Girls, boys, adolescents, women and men will be consulted and equipped to meaningfully engage in the planning, implementation and monitoring of the response. UNICEF is also committed to the protection from exploitation and abuse, and has strengthened its reporting mechanisms in this regard and is contributing to interagency efforts to establish community-based complaint mechanisms.

UNICEF's response will be informed by a conflict-sensitive approach that involves programme and situational monitoring (including through third party means in hard to reach areas). UNICEF will leverage systems and communities capacities to ensure the operationalization of the humanitarian-development-peace nexus. UNICEF will also continue to seek out the involvement of adolescents as agents of social cohesion in their communities.

Progress against the latest programme targets is available in the humanitarian situation reports: <https://www.unicef.org/appeals/ethiopia/situation-reports>

2021 PROGRAMME TARGETS¹⁴



Nutrition¹⁵

- **555,407** children aged 6 to 59 months with severe acute malnutrition admitted for treatment¹⁶
- **643,081** primary caregivers of children aged 0 to 23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling



Health

- **824,500** children aged 6 to 59 months vaccinated against measles
- **852,700** children and women accessing primary health care in UNICEF-supported facilities¹⁷



Water, sanitation and hygiene¹⁸

- **2,252,915** people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene
- **610,000** people accessing appropriately designed and managed latrines
- **4,898,593** people reached with critical water, sanitation and hygiene supplies (including hygiene items) and services
- **6,925,930** people reached with key messages on hygiene behavior



Child protection, GBVIE and PSEA

- **94,180** children and caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support¹⁹
- **616,132** women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention or response interventions²⁰
- **694,253** people with access to safe channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse²¹
- **14,800** unaccompanied and separated children reunified with their primary caregiver or provided with family-based care/alternative care services



Education

- **1,905** schools implementing safe school protocols (infection prevention and control)
- **318,667** children accessing formal or non-formal education and/or skills development trainings, including early learning²²



Social protection and cash transfers

- **109,366** households reached with humanitarian cash transfers across sectors

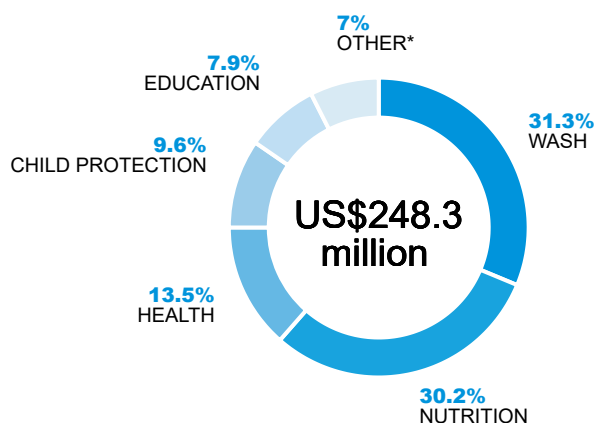


C4D, community engagement and AAP

- **17,879,667** people reached with messages on access to services²³
- **407,200** people who shared their concerns and asked questions/clarifications to address their needs through established feedback mechanisms

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS IN 2021

UNICEF requires US\$ 248.3 million to meet the humanitarian needs of children, adolescents and women in Ethiopia in 2021, including US\$ 108 million for the Northern Ethiopia Response. This represents an increase of US\$55.6 million due to the expanding conflict in the Northern regions of Tigray, Amhara and Afar and an increase of 164 per cent of displaced people across these conflict-affected regions. This funding is critical to ensuring people can be reached through humanitarian deliveries/corridors, rapid response mechanism, pre-positioning of supplies and expanding humanitarian partnerships to reach the most vulnerable populations in need, with priority to IDPs/refugees/their host communities and conflict-affected populations. This will ensure UNICEF can reach those newly displaced as well as for those in protracted displacement to ensure the critical provision of nutrition services for children with SAM, protection-related services for boys, girls and women, including case management and reunification of separated children with their families, provision of learning opportunities for out of school children, access to safe water and sanitation facilities and cash transfers to meet immediate household needs.



Appeal sector	Revised 2021 HAC requirement (US\$)
Nutrition	74,975,284
Health	33,626,778
WASH	77,635,566
Child protection	23,805,477
Education	19,733,445
Social Protection	8,000,366
C4D	8,891,811
Cluster coordination	1,623,326
Total	248,292,053

*This includes costs from other sectors/interventions : C4D (3.6%), Social Protection (3.2%), Cluster coordination (<1%).

Appeal sector	Original 2021 HAC requirement (US\$)	Revised 2021 HAC requirement (US\$)	Funds available (US\$) ²⁴	Funding gap (US\$)	2021 funding gap (%)
Nutrition	51,009,671	74,975,284	30,582,794	44,392,490	59.2%
Health	23,102,620	33,626,778	10,775,573	22,851,205	68.0%
WASH	62,798,005	77,635,566	25,812,476	51,823,090	66.8%
Child protection	15,007,587	23,805,477	12,434,997	11,370,480	47.8%
Education	17,340,041	19,733,445	9,104,508	10,628,937	53.9%
Social Protection	5,725,721	8,000,366	3,188,934	4,811,432	60.1%
C4D	16,052,138	8,891,811	129,600	8,762,211	98.5%
Cluster coordination	1,623,326	1,623,326	1,564,859	58,467	3.6%
Total	192,659,109	248,292,053	93,593,741	154,698,312	62.3%

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ENDNOTES

1. Government of Ethiopia National Disaster Risk Management Commission and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, 'Ethiopia: Humanitarian Need Overview, OCHA, February 2021; IOM DTM Site Assessment round 26; IOM Emergency Site Assessment (ESA) round 9; IOM's weekly Event Tracking Tool (ETT), as of 30 July 2021.
2. Ibid.
3. UNICEF to be reached figure is based on the highest programme coverage target from the WASH sector for people to be reached with key messages on hygiene behavior. This includes 3,462,965 women and girls, including 1,246,667 people and children with disabilities.
4. This represents 53 per cent of the total number of people to be reached, and includes 1,800,742 girls and 660,734 children with disabilities.
5. Government of Ethiopia National Disaster Risk Management Commission and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, 'Ethiopia: Humanitarian Need Overview, OCHA, February 2021; IOM DTM Site Assessment round 26; IOM Emergency Site Assessment (ESA) round 9; IOM's weekly Event Tracking Tool (ETT), as of 30 July.
6. 17.6 per cent of people have a disability according to World Health Organization and World Bank, 'The World Report on Disability', 2011; IOM DTM Site Assessment round 26; IOM Emergency Site Assessment (ESA) round 9; IOM's weekly Event Tracking Tool (ETT), as of 30 July.
7. IOM DTM Site Assessment round 26; IOM Emergency Site Assessment (ESA) round 9; IOM's weekly Event Tracking Tool (ETT), as of 30 July.
8. UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) Situation Report 26 August 2021
9. Inter-agency assessments across the three regions.
10. IPC Acute Food Insecurity Analysis May - September 2021, Issued June 2021
11. Ethiopian Public Health Institute (EPHI) Status update on COVID-19 Ethiopia September 7, 2021.
12. 2021 Humanitarian Needs Overview; draft 2021 Humanitarian Response Plan Mid-Year Revision (unendorsed by Government of Ethiopia); draft 2021 Northern Ethiopia Response Plan revision (unendorsed by Government of Ethiopia).
13. Due to space constraints, the following acronyms appear in the appeal: GBViE -- gender based violence in emergencies; PSEA -- prevention of sexual abuse and exploitation; C4D -- communication for development; and AAP -- accountability for affected populations.
14. 2021 Humanitarian Needs Overview; draft 2021 Humanitarian Response Plan Mid-Year Revision (unendorsed by Government of Ethiopia); draft 2021 Northern Ethiopia Response Plan revision (unendorsed by Government of Ethiopia).
15. Ibid.
16. Target of 50% of needs is based on cluster target per the draft provisional targets for the 2021 Humanitarian Response Plan Mid-Year Review and draft revision of the Northern Ethiopia Response Plan.
17. Out of the total number of consultations, 40% will be of children under five years of age, 34% will be of women and the remaining 26% will be of men. This will include refugee children, women and men.
18. UNICEF WASH targets are proportional to the needs and UNICEF's contribution to the WASH cluster target together with other WASH humanitarian actors.
19. This is determined by the combined 2021 HRP and Northern Ethiopia Response Plan 50% target of the Child Protection Area of Responsibility.
20. GBViE targets have been integrated across all sectors with targets per sector as follows: WASH - 315,000; Child Protection -- 220,000; Education -- 36,920; Social Protection -- 44,014; Health -- 90; and Nutrition -- 108.
21. PSEA targets have been integrated across all sectors.
22. UNICEF Education targets are proportional to the needs and UNICEF's contribution to the Education cluster target together with other Education in emergencies actors.
23. The population targeted is greater than the total number of people/children to be reached as the target includes mass media outreach.
24. The figures provided are as of July 2021.