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Reporting Period: 1 – 31 August 2021

# Ethiopia Country Office

## Humanitarian Situation Report No. 7

*Includes Northern Ethiopia Response*



### Situation in Numbers



**14 million**

children in need of humanitarian assistance (HNO 2021)



**26.3 million**

people in need (HNO 2021)



**4 million**

internally displaced people (DTM, 2021)<sup>1</sup>



**795,108**

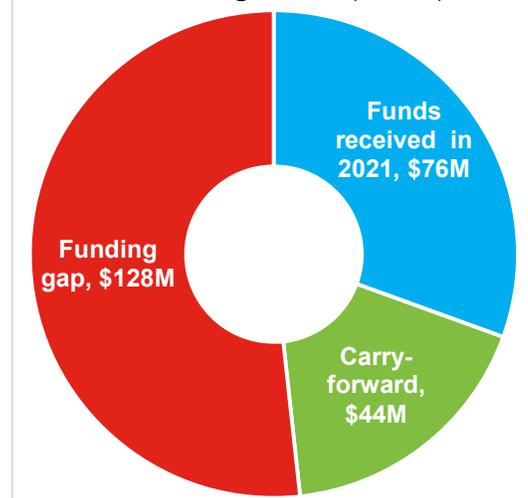
pending and registered refugees (UNHCR, 31 August 2021)

**UNICEF HAC Appeal 2021**  
**US\$ 248.3 million**

### Highlights

- UNICEF continues to provide over 3.5 million people with access to safe water supply through rehabilitation and expansion of existing water schemes and water trucking across the country.
- Over 906,242 children under five in Tigray have been screened for malnutrition since January, of which 18,617 children under five have received SAM treatment.
- In August, UNICEF reached 229 children (144 girls and 85 boys) who experienced violence with medical, social and legal services in Amhara, Benishangul-Gumuz, Gambella (for refugee children), Oromia, Somali and Southern Nations Nationalities and People's Region (SNNPR).
- Since the start of the conflict in Tigray, UNICEF has provided psychosocial support to a total of 40,180 children and their caregivers across the conflict-affected northern regions.
- UNICEF continues to provide education assistance for internally displaced and emergency-affected out-of-school age children in collaboration with the Ministry of Education (MoE), Regional Education Bureaus (REBs) and NGO partners. A total of 142,008 children (48 per cent girls) have been reached through the provision of formal or non-formal education emergency-affected regions, including 17,549 children (49 per cent girls) receiving 'Bete (My Home)' integrated education and child protection services in Tigray.
- Out of a total revised funding requirement of over US\$ 248.3 million, there remains a significant funding gap of US\$128 million. UNICEF strongly appeals to donors to address the critical gap, which unless filled, will prevent life-saving humanitarian assistance for over four million displaced children, women and men and affected communities across the country, most critically in areas where conflict, inter-communal violence, food insecurity and lack of protection are severely disrupting access to basic services and any measure of safety and well-being.

### Funding Status (in US\$)



<sup>1</sup>IOM DTM Site Assessment round 26; IOM Emergency Site Assessment (ESA) round 7.

## Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

Across the country UNICEF and partners are witnessing a rapid increase in admissions among children under 5 who are suffering from severe acute malnutrition. Over 40,000 more children have been admitted for treatment as compared to the same period of 2020: this shows a 20 per cent increase, with higher rates notably in regions witnessing conflicts and displacements. In Tigray, 18,600 children have been admitted from February to August this year compared to 8,900 in 2020 (SAM admissions excess of 100 per cent increase). In Afar region, as of July, admissions increased by 17 per cent.

Based on a recent [OCHA](#) report, poor agricultural yields are expected in Tigray as only 320,000 hectares of farmland have been cultivated out of the 1.3 million hectares as most farmers only had a narrow window during the planting season. In addition, desert locusts were reported in 19 *woredas* in South Eastern and Central Zones with a high risk for hatching. According to [IPC](#) analysis, an estimated 5.5 million people in Tigray and neighbouring regions of Afar and Amhara are facing high levels of acute food insecurity. A total of 3.1 million people are in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and 2.1 million people in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) and over 350,000 people in Catastrophic situation (IPC Phase 5). Despite efforts of humanitarian aid, the nutrition situation is expected to worsen through September 2021.

According to the Afar Regional Disaster Prevention and Food Security Program Coordination Office (DPFSPCO), by the end of August 2021, over 140,000 people were displaced in Afar due to the cross-border expansion of the conflict from Tigray. This is in addition to the 50,000 IDPs that fled in the earlier phase of the conflict in November 2020 and who have not returned since then. Another 257,000 people living in 10 *woredas* bordering Tigray have been affected by the conflict while an additional 500,000 people in three zones of Awsi, Kilbati, and Fanti are at high risk of displacement if fighting continues. Similarly, armed clashes between the Afar and Issa ethnic groups in the southern part of the region has cumulatively displaced over 39,000 people. With the multiple emergencies simultaneously occurring in Afar region, including the aforementioned armed conflicts, as well as flood hazards, protracted drought, acute food insecurity and COVID-19, the Afar Regional Disaster Prevention and Food Security Program Coordination Office (DPFSPCO) has proposed to designate all 39 *woredas* of the Afar region as hotspot priority one *woredas*.

The humanitarian situation in Amhara region is deteriorating due to the increasing needs of existing IDPs and a new wave of IDPs as a result of the escalating conflict in Tigray. According to the regional Disaster Risk Management (DRM), in addition to the 878,261 protracted IDPs in North Showa and Awi zones, the Tigray conflict alone has displaced a total of 774,492 people in North Wollo, North Gondar, South Wollo and Wag Humira zones. The region is hosting over 700,000 IDPs in nine zones, including over one million IDPs in host communities. The ongoing conflict has severely affected agricultural production and interrupted basic social services. Flooding has also been reported in East Dambia and Libo-Kemkem *woredas*. An assessment conducted by the RHB identified damaged health facilities (22 hospitals, 233 health centers, over 1000 health posts and 29 Ambulances) which poses serious burden on the health system is heavily overburdened and essential service provision is seriously affected. In conflict affected areas (7 zones and 62 *woredas*) and estimated 635,000 outpatient visits, 7,500 pregnant women, 15,233 vaccination target children and 33,000 people with chronic illnesses have not been able to access lifesaving medical services and regular follow-up.

The security situation in Metekel and Kamashi zones in Benishangul-Gumuz region remains fragile and unpredictable; road access to Bullen, Guba, Wombera and Dibati *woredas* in Metekel zone and all five-conflict affected *woredas* (Sedal, Yasso, Agalomiti, Kamashi and Mijiga) of Kamashi zone is still restricted. As of late August, a total of 361,775 people have been displaced out of whom an estimated 230,054 IDPs are in hard to reach areas. Out of the total displaced population, 56,880 are reported to be children under five years of age and 19,881 are pregnant and lactating women. Furthermore, during the reporting period, approximately 2,000 IDPs settled in Oda *woreda* from a neighboring *woreda* in Kamashi zone. Compounding the difficulties in the region is the lack of functional health care facilities and thus dearth of essential health and nutrition services for emergency affected populations.

In Gambella, as a result of flooding that occurred in July, a total of 794 households (3,850 individuals) were displaced in Lare *woreda* as reported by the Disaster Prevention and Food Security Agency (DPFSA). Those affected remained displaced in host communities and schools in August, among the affected population 765 under five children, 2567 under 18, and 310 pregnant and lactating women are reported. Additionally, over 250 maize farms were flooded, carrying long term food insecurity consequences for families whose lives and livelihoods depended on these farms. While Malaria and Diarrhoea are the main diseases reported from displacement site, UNICEF and WHO, in collaboration with partners are responding with humanitarian aid. The flood has affected the population in Pagak, but no significant impact has so far been reported.

Conflict and inter-communal clashes have obstructed access to and delivery of humanitarian response in Guji, West Guji, Kelem and Horoguduru, as well as East and West Wellega Zones of Oromia. The volatile situation poses as a challenge to back-to-learning campaigns and children's enrolment for the upcoming school year.

As of 31 August 2021, a total of 308,134 COVID-19 confirmed cases and 4,675 deaths (case fatality rate (CFR) = 1.52%) were reported since the onset of outbreak in March 2020. A total of 276,842 (90 per cent) patients have recovered.

There was an increased trend of confirmed cases (three-fold), positivity rate, severe cases and deaths observed in August 2021, which suggests the country is in the third wave of COVID-19 pandemic. Since the initial outbreak, the highest recorded daily cases (2,095) and the highest daily positivity rate (20.9 per cent) were reported on 25 August and 27 August respectively 2021.

Out of the total cases in the country, Addis Ababa has reported the highest number with 206,449 COVID-19 positive cases. This is followed by Oromia and Amhara with 41,195 and 12,255 cases, respectively. Due to current conflict in Tigray, no new COVID-19 cases have been reported by the region nor neighbouring woredas in Amhara (North Wollo, Waghimera, part of South Gondor and Part of North Gondor zones) and Afar (zone 4 and zone 2) region since July 2021.

A total of 6,745,590 COVID-19 vaccines have been received while 6,957,760 doses are in pipeline. So far, over 2.4 million people have been vaccinated of which 431,821 people have received full dose.

## Summary Analysis of Programme Response

### Health

UNICEF continues to support the delivery of messages focused on COVID-19 and cholera prevention, maternal, neonatal and child health (MNCH) service availability and utilization, gender-based violence (GBV), and hygiene behaviours. During the reporting period, over 852,840 people were reached across the country including 89,911 people in Tigray, 157,050 people in Somali, 28366 people in Amhara, 300,903 people in Oromia and 276,610 people in Afar. Cumulatively since January 2021, over 6.6 million people have been reached with comprehensive messages including on COVID-19 delivered via volunteers, house-to-house visits, and during social mobilization events.

In the reporting period, UNICEF distributed emergency drug kits (EDKs) for provision of primary health care to IDPs and other vulnerable communities across the country. A total of 77 EDKs, enough to provide medical consultations for 192,500 cases, were distributed to Amhara (47) and Oromia (30) regions; the kits will ensure mothers and children can access medical consultations and care. In total since the beginning of the year UNICEF provided 755 EDKs in eight regions able to cover 1,887,500 medical consultations. In addition, in the reporting period, 36,000 N95 masks and 50,000 surgical masks were distributed to Amhara region for prevention of COVID-19 transmission and for continuation of essential health services with a focus on conflict-affected areas.

In July 2021<sup>2</sup>, a total of 33,304 new medical consultations were conducted (36.2 per cent were of children under five years and 37 per cent were of women) in Afar and Somali regions through 62 UNICEF supported Mobile Health and Nutrition Teams (MHNTs). Since January 2021, a total of 237,157 medical consultations have been conducted: 121,694 in Afar and 115,463 in Somali. Of these, 97,275 consultations (41 per cent) were of children under five and 82,793 consultations (35 per cent) were of women.

UNICEF continued to support the Gambella Regional Health Bureau to provide vaccinations for South Sudanese refugee children at entry points and refugee camps. In August 2021, 165 children received polio vaccinations and 134 children received measles vaccinations at entry points in Gambella. Since January 2021, a total of 4,806 children received polio vaccinations and 5,740 children received measles vaccination at entry points. In July, a total of 312 children were vaccinated for measles at refugee camps. Since January a total of 9,021 children were vaccinated for measles across the refugee camps in Gambella.

### Health - Northern Ethiopia Response (Tigray, Amhara, Afar)

During the reporting period, through UNICEF supported MHNTs and health facilities, a total of 25,904 children and women received medical consultations, of which 10,818 were in Tigray, 13,062 in Amhara and 2,024 in Afar region.

In Tigray, UNICEF distributed 40 EDKs and 30 inter-agency emergency health kits (IEHKS) to 40 health facilities. Since January, a total of 177 EDK and renewable kits enough for 422,500 consultations were distributed to Mobile health nutrition teams (MHNTs) and to health centres in IPC5 and IPC4 *woredas*. Out of the 24 Solar Directive Drive (SDD) freezers and refrigerators delivered to Regional Health Bureaus (RHBs), 22 were installed at *woreda* health offices and health centers in the region (7 Central Zone, 6 North West Zone, 1 South East Zone and 8 Eastern Zone). Additionally, 20 cold boxes and 200 vaccine carriers were distributed to health facilities. However, more efforts and support is required to re-establish the cold chain system that was heavily impacted by the conflict-associated events.

Five zonal emergency health consultants continue to provide technical support to affected health facilities supporting the facilities with medical supply management, revitalizing facility-based coordination platforms, providing on-the-job training and technical support, and recording reviews and observations for quality service improvements. Between July to August, six zones, 34 *woredas* and 65 health facilities were visited and supported by UNICEF emergency health consultants in the region.

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<sup>2</sup> MHNT report from Somali and Afar is delayed by one month. August report will be captured in September.

In Amhara, 77 EDKs, enough to reach 117,500 people, were distributed in conflict affected woredas of the region. In Afar, five MHNTs were deployed to provide primary health care in conflict-affected areas bordering Tigray region.

UNICEF along with WHO is advocating with federal authorities for the undertaking of a large measles vaccination campaign in conflict affected regions of Tigray, Amhara, Afar, Benishangul-Gumuz, Oromia and SNNP. Nationwide polio (nOPV2) campaign is planned for October targeting 16,970,321 children in the three regions.

### **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)**

In the reporting period, UNICEF provided 379,886 people with access to safe water supply through rehabilitation/expansion of existing water schemes, in addition to 3,139,263 people reached from January - July. A total of 226,848 people was reached through provision of non-food items (NFIs) in addition to 690,319 people reached since the beginning of the year. Altogether, 46,346 people had improved access to basic sanitation facilities, in addition to 208,366 people reached from January - July. Furthermore, UNICEF provided technical and financial support for the delivery of risk communication messages to 83,037 people. This is in addition to 1,975,742 people who were reached from January - July.

Out of the 379,886 people provided with clean water supply, an estimated 7,000 community members in SNNPR benefitted from rehabilitation of four water supply schemes in South Omo Zone Hamer and Benatsemay *woredas*. In addition, two borehole rehabilitations were completed in the same *woredas* of South Omo benefiting approximately 1,000 households (5,000 people). In Oromia, through the provision of financial support to the Regional Water Bureau (RWB), 75,740 people benefited from the rehabilitation and maintenance of non-functional water schemes. In Benishangul-Gumuz, in collaboration with Plan International (a Rapid Response Partner (RRM) partner) and RWB, 12 non-functional water schemes (7 in Dangur and 5 Pawe *woredas*) were rehabilitated benefiting 3,960 people.

In collaboration with the RWBs, RHBs and 4 NGO partners<sup>3</sup>, UNICEF was able to support through its Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) 226,848 people with critical lifesaving WASH supplies in six regions of Amhara, SNNPR, Oromia, Benishangul-Gumuz, Afar and Tigray. In SNNPR, 27,000 people affected by floods and conflict benefited from the distribution of WASH supplies in Duguna Fango *woreda* of Wolayita zone and South Bench *woreda* of Benchi Sheko Zone. In Oromia, 62,921 people received essential WASH NFIs in Guji, Bale, East Bale, Borena, West Harargie and East Harargie Zones. In Gambella, 1,504 refugees received WASH NFIs and in Benishangul-Gumuz, 4,050 people were reached with critical WASH supplies (including hygiene items) in Metekel Zone, Genete Mariam.

A total 83,037 people were reached with basic hygiene messages through public awareness campaigns using mobile audio vans, health extension workers, and community volunteers and behavioral change communication (BCC) materials with a focus on COVID-19 and cholera infection prevention and control (IPC). Out of the total people reached in the month of August, 2,500 people were reached with hygiene and sanitation promotion in Afdem and Mulli, Somali; the activity was mainstreamed with the ongoing nutrition activities as part of Anticipatory Action to mitigate the drought. In Oromia, 15,308 IDPs and host communities have received key messages on personal hygiene practices, disease prevention, behavioral change, prevention of COVID-19 and preparation and use of water chemicals in Guji, Borena, East Wellega, East Hararghe, West Harargie Zones. In Benishangul-Gumuz, 642 IDPs in Metekel zone, Genete Mariam site were reached with key messages on hygiene practices. Furthermore, in Gambella, 2,519 people (1,083 women, 297 men, 631 girls, 493 boys and 15 people with disabilities) were reached with hygiene messages such as safe excreta management, COVID-19 preventive measures and domestic hygiene.

In the reporting period UNICEF supported 46,346 people to access basic sanitation facilities, in addition to the 208,366 people reached since beginning of the year. A total of 42,700 people in Oromia are now accessing latrines in East Hararge and West Guji zones, in addition individual households have constructed 11 new latrines in Guji Zone as part of the cholera outbreak response. Furthermore, 650 people in Gambella in refugee camp now have access to basic sanitation facilities.

### **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) - Northern Ethiopia Response (Tigray, Amhara, Afar)**

In the reporting period, a total of 293,186 people had access to safe water supply through water trucking. This included 222,700 beneficiaries (IDPs and host communities) in Sheraro through partnership with Danish Refugee Council (DRC); 6,968 beneficiaries were reached in three *woredas* (Keyih-Tekly, Kola-Temben and Degua Tembien) through maintenance of 11 non-functional hand pumps in partnership with Action Against Hunger (AAH), Catholic Relief Services (CRS), and Relief Society of Tigray (REST); and 47,518 people were reached through provision of water chemical to treat water supplies in six *woredas* in partnership with World Vision. In addition, through the established Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM), UNICEF in partnership with CARE provided 16,000 people in Galikoma, Digdiga and Semera-Logia sites in Afar with access to safe water. Over 280,800 people continue to have access to safe water in host communities and IDPs in Mekelle town through 12 water trucks operated by UNICEF partner Ethiopian Red Cross, while 9,968 people in Abi Adi health centre had access to safe water through Action Against Hunger.

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<sup>3</sup> Rapid Response Mechanism partners: CRS, CARE, GOAL and Plan International

UNICEF, through its partners, distributed critical lifesaving WASH supplies to 129,373 people in Amhara, Afar and Tigray regions. In Afar, 23,000 people who are sheltered in Chifra, Digdiga, Logia-Semera and Aba'ala *woredas* received WASH NFI supplies. In Amhara, 12,475 IDPs people were reached with distribution of WASH supplies in Debark, North Gondar Zone and Dessie, South Wollo Zone. In Tigray, 95,898 people were reached with distribution of WASH NFIs UNICEF directly distributed to 28,142 people in eight IDP sites in Mekelle while 67,756 people were reached in six *woredas* with water treatment through World Vision.

In Amhara, 47,068 people/IDPs sites and host communities were reached with hygiene promotion activities ongoing in Ephrat-Gidim, Shewa Robit, Jiletimuga, Artuma Fursi, Tehuledere, Kutaber, Agoba and emergency prone *woredas*. In addition, 15,000 people were reached with hygiene messages on safe excreta management, COVID-19 preventive measures and domestic hygiene in Tigray.

CRS maintained latrines for host communities in Adigrat town which is expected to benefit 2,996 people.

## Nutrition

During the reporting period, UNICEF continued providing lifesaving therapeutic and preventative nutrition services to affected populations including IDPs, refugees and vulnerable host populations reaching more than 2.8 million children and women. Among these, 47,184 children received treatment for severe acute malnutrition (SAM) – cumulatively 290,758 since January - and 2,232,500 children received Vitamin A supplements. A total of 404,598 pregnant and lactating women received infant and young child feeding (IYCF) counselling, while 149,299 pregnant women have received folic acid, and 17,593 IDPs received High Energy Biscuits (HEBs).

In Benishangul-Gumuz, due to recurrent security problems, nearly half of all health centres in Metekel and Kamashi zones are no longer providing routine essential health and nutrition services. Accordingly, UNICEF-supported five MHNTs were able to screen children and refer 157 children with SAM for treatment in Metekel zone.

In Gambella, mass nutrition screening and Vitamin A supplementation were conducted in August. A total of 43,085 children 6-59 months (99.6 per cent of target) were supplemented with Vitamin A; 28,133 children 24-59 months (94.6 per cent of target) were dewormed; and 43,085 children were screened wherein 163 cases of SAM and 494 cases of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) were identified. UNICEF delivered and prepositioned 360 cartons of ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF) for emergency preparedness which is expected to support the response until end November.

In Oromia region, SAM remains the major public health problem affecting children particularly in drought prone areas. The current conflict between the government and unidentified armed groups (UAGs) in Wellega and Guji zones have had an adverse impact on food security in low land areas of the region worsening malnutrition. UNICEF deployed six Emergency Nutrition Officers (ENO) to the hotspot zones, who are helping to ensure quality of SAM management in addition to supporting sub-regional cluster coordination. UNICEF also delivered and prepositioned 16,000 cartons of RUTF, which is expected to last until end of October while more supplies will be distributed from current supplies cleared for delivery.

In SNNPR and Sidama regions, nutrition supplies, including RUTF, were delivered to all zones and currently there are no reports on shortages of nutrition supplies. The delivered supplies are expected to last until the end of September 2021. UNICEF has also deployed 3 ENOs who are providing technical, monitoring and coordination support.

In Somali region, UNICEF delivered nutrition supplies to Daawa, Doolo, Shabele, and Sitti zones and four *woredas* in Fafan zone (Harshin, Harawo, Kebribayah and Shebeley). The supplies were prepositioned in anticipation of potential flash floods across *woredas* downstream from Shebele river and are expected to ensure delivery of lifesaving treatment until the end of October if immediately used.

## Nutrition - Northern Ethiopia Response (Tigray, Amhara, Afar)

By the end of August, UNICEF in collaboration with partners had reached cumulatively 906,242 children under five in Tigray with screening, albeit screening some children more than once. From the number screened, proxy SAM averages around 2 per cent and MAM around 15 per cent. UNICEF and partners also screened 238,468 PLWs and the average MAM among them was recorded to be more than 50 per cent.

In terms of services, 18,617 children under five have received SAM treatment since February and 5,183 children in August alone. The number of children reached with SAM services by the end of August represents more than 33 per cent of the Tigray response Targets. Among pregnant mothers, 16,348 received Iron Folate supplements while counseling on recommended IYCF practices reached 115,775 mothers and caregivers. UNICEF also reached 49,302 children 6-59 months with vitamin A and 28,907 children 2-59 months have been dewormed.

UNICEF established partnerships with 7 NGO partners, including IMC, IRC, GOAL, CRS, WVI, AAH and CONCERN to support the health system to mobilizer and deliver above services. In addition, UNICEF supported the Tigray Regional Health Bureau to establish 30 MHNTs to deliver integrated primary health care and nutrition services. This has ensured that lifesaving services reach the most vulnerable. On cluster coordination and leadership, UNICEF established the subnational cluster in Mekelle and another in Shire to ensure harmony among the partners in nutrition. Two International

Cluster Coordinators have been recruited by UNICEF for these roles in Tigray. Seven Third Party Monitors have been engaged to ensure effective monitoring of the interventions in hard to reach areas. In the terms of supplies, UNICEF has mobilized adequate capacity ensuring zero stock out. So far more than 20,000 cartons have been delivered by UNICEF in Tigray.

As a result of the expansion of the Tigray conflict, UNICEF deployed five MHNTs to six *woredas* in Afar, namely Yalo, Kalawan, Awra, Ewa, Chifra and Teru. Through those MHNTs 15,989 children were screened for nutritional status and 527 cases of SAM were identified and admitted to outpatient therapeutic programmes (OTPs) for treatment. UNICEF also delivered 5,944 cartons of RUTF which are expected to last until the end of October 2021. UNICEF also supported with capacity building of health workers; 182 health workers gained knowledge and skills on the revised national guidelines for SAM treatment. These health workers were selected from all conflict affected *woredas* across Afar region.

In Amhara, UNICEF is the process of establishing partnerships with five INGOs to augment the capacity of the RHB in the affected areas, including North Gondar, West Gondar, Central Gondar, South Gondar, Waghmra, South Wollo and North Wollo. 20 MHNTs have also been supported to deliver lifesaving primary health care and nutrition services. UNICEF deployed five Emergency Nutrition Officers (ENOs) to support coordination, conduct assessments, support response, supervision and reporting. UNICEF also supported the capacity building of 22 health care providers in South Wollo zones on the newly endorsed SAM management guidelines integrated with IYCF in emergencies. In addition, UNICEF delivered 11,089 cartons of RUTF that is expected to last until the end of October. An increase SAM caseload is expected as initial MUAC screening has shown 3 per cent SAM and 19 per cent MAM from 2,200 children screened. Furthermore, UNICEF delivered 5,189 cartons of High Energy Biscuits which were distributed for 893 children and 1,440 pregnant and lactating women (PLW).

### Child Protection

UNICEF continued supporting regional bureaus and NGO partners to strengthen child protection case management and referral pathways across hotspot locations. In August, 229 children (144 girls, 85 boys) who experienced violence received medical, social and legal/law enforcement services in Amhara, Benishangul-Gumuz, Gambella (for refugee children), Oromia, Somali and SNNPR. In addition, 127 children (63 girls, 64 boys) were reunified with their families and placed under alternative care arrangements which, includes foster care and kinship care.

In cooperation with NGOs partners such as Plan International, World Vision and Imagine 1Day, UNICEF continued providing integrated packages of mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) and education interventions, referred to as 'Bete' approach, which includes a strong focus on community-based prevention and risk mitigation. In August, 2,260 children (1,099 female and 1,161 male) and their caregivers were reached with community-based psychosocial services through access to safe spaces and socio-emotional learning using a validated package contextualized for Ethiopia in Amhara, Benishangul, Gambella, Oromia, SNNR and Somali regions. In addition, caregivers were provided with parenting skills education. This session helped caregivers in coping with their own emotions, comprehending their children's emotional manifestations, providing sensitive, positive, and appropriate feedback to their children's behaviour, and learning alternatives to harmful techniques of child discipline.

UNICEF supported its partners to strengthen community-based child protection mechanisms to identify or refer cases and operationalize the referral mechanism for reported gender-based violence (GBV) cases to access multi-sectoral response services. Sensitization activities were conducted with community-based structures to raise awareness on protection issues, specifically on GBV and harmful practices. Through these activities, 3,552 community members (2,286 females, 1,266 male) were reached with key messages that promote prevention of violence against children and GBV. The awareness-raising sessions also focused on the benefits of early reporting of GBV incidents (within 72 hours) and availability of services (including GBV referral pathways). This has improved the timely reporting of GBV cases to service providers. In this reporting period, 18 cases of sexual violence (100% girls) were referred for multisectoral response services such as health, psychosocial support and legal aid in five IDP sites in Somali region. In addition, 9,925 IDPs (8,866 female and 1,059 male) had access to a safe and accessible channel to report sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA).

### Child Protection - Northern Ethiopia Response (Tigray, Amhara, Afar)

UNICEF's Child Protection and GBV response in Tigray Region and affected *woredas* of Amhara and Afar has reached a total of 149,504 children and women since the beginning of the conflict. In August, UNICEF and partners reached a total of 7,493 girls and boys, women and men across conflict-affected areas of Amhara and Afar with GBV risk mitigation and response interventions, case management services, support to GBV survivors and unaccompanied and separated children (UASC), as well as MHPSS for children and their caregivers and prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA).

In Afar, UNICEF assigned five social workers to Logiya IDP site to provide basic PSS service for children and caregivers, community awareness on child protection issues, and case management. Community service workers and social workers were all provided with COVID-19 preventive and response key messages. UNICEF also conducted multisectoral assessments in two selected IDP sites in Afar, identifying severe child protection and GBV risks for displaced children and women living in the sites.

Since the start of the conflict, UNICEF has provided psychosocial support to a total of 40,180 children and their caregivers across the three regions. In August alone, 3,549 children and their caregivers were reached with psychosocial support through trained social workers, out of which 3,468 IDPs (2,768 female and 656 children) were living in Dessie IDP site and 81 children were living in Afar.

Furthermore, as part of GBV risk mitigation and prevention and increasing awareness on availability of GBV services, a total of 3,644 community members (2,846 female) were reached through awareness-raising and community outreach activities on GBV, referral pathways, reporting mechanisms and available services. Furthermore, 176 community members (78 female) were reached with awareness raising activities focusing on prevention, mitigation, and responses to GBV. A total of 48,039 community members have so far been reached in conflict affected areas. In the reporting period, a total of 125 adolescent girls and seven women were reached with dignity kits in Dessie IDP sites in Amhara Region, bringing the total number of women and girls who received the kits and other material support to 21,560. An additional 10,000 dignity kits are currently being procured for further distribution across Tigray, Amhara and Afar regions.

UNICEF and partners have identified and supported a total of 4,137 unaccompanied and separate children (UASC) since the start of the conflict. In August, 665 children were identified as unaccompanied and separated in Tigray region, and 10 children were reunified. The remaining are in alternative care, but partners are reporting constraints in this activity as families are not able to cope with supporting additional children with food and cash. In the reporting period, an additional 27 UASC (15 female) were supported in Amhara region. Twenty children (11 female) at risk of losing parental care were identified in North Gondar IDP sites and placed in kinship care arrangements, with case management services provided by social workers. In Dessie IDP sites, seven UASC (4 female) were identified by child protection experts, one of which was referred to a safe space in Dessie Town until family-based care arrangements are finalized. Since the beginning of the conflict, 3,472 UASC have been identified and supported by UNICEF and partners.

In Megale and Aba'ala *woredas* of Afar Region, a total of 17 children (10 girls) with protection risks were identified and supported by the social workers and linked for nutrition support.

As part of UNICEF's commitment to PSEA, UNICEF and partners were able to reach an additional 124 community members (78 female) in Afar on PSEA, reaching a total of 34,749 community members since the start of the conflict across all three regions.

## Education

UNICEF continued to provide education assistance for internally displaced and emergency-affected out-of-school age children in collaboration with the Ministry of Education (MoE), Regional Education Bureaus (REBs) and NGO partners. To date, a total of 142,008 children (48 per cent girls) have been reached through the provision of formal or non-formal education emergency-affected regions, including 17,549 children (49 per cent girls) receiving 'Bete (My Home)' integrated education and child protection services in Tigray. UNICEF is scaling up its partnerships to provide integrated education and child protection assistance to reach additional 30,025 children in Afar, Oromia, and SNNPR in collaboration with Edukans Foundation and Imagine 1 Day.

In partnership with Geneva Global Ethiopia (GGE), UNICEF continues to provide access to safe and quality education for approximately 10,000 displaced and emergency-affected children (46% girls) in Babile, Midgatola, Mayu Muluqe, Chenakson, and Sasiga in Oromia.

Through Education Cannot Wait (ECW) support, UNICEF also continued to partner with World Vision to support 4,520 children (48% girls) with education services in Chilga I, Chilga II, East Dembia and West Dembai *woredas* in Central Gondar. In August 2021, World Vision provided catch up / remedial classes for 744 students (360 girls) in the intervention *woredas*, while the deteriorated security situation in Chilga area continued to pose a challenge in access to and the delivery of education activities there.

With UNICEF financial and technical support, the SNNPR REB provided a five-day training in late August on play-based pedagogy, preparation of playing materials and classroom management in Alaba town for 98 pre-primary facilitators (41 female) from across 11 emergency-affected *woredas* of SNNPR and Sidama.

## Education - Northern Ethiopia Response (Tigray, Amhara, Afar)

UNICEF, in partnership with Imagine 1 Day, World Vision, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), and REB have cumulatively reached 77,290 children - 17,549 children (48 per cent girls), including 670 out-of-school children reached in August) through the provision of 'Bete (My Home)' integrated education and child protection assistance focusing on

Accelerated Learning Programme (ALP) and Accelerated School Readiness (ASR) activities, as well as the provision of scholastic materials for 59,741 children in government schools led by REB with UNICEF support in conflict-affected *woredas* of Amhara. Further, in areas bordering with Tigray region in Afar and Amhara, UNICEF and Plan International are constructing upgradable temporary learning spaces (TLS) to benefit some 2,500 crisis-affected children.

UNICEF, through its partnership with Imagine 1 Day, continued to reach 4,969 children (48 per cent girls) with ASR and 2,310 (48 per cent girls) children with ALP services. The partner operates in 98 TLS (43 and 55 tents set up in Mekelle and Shire respectively) and 19 existing classrooms in Mekelle and Shire. In the reporting period, 5,868 children completed the ASR / ALP programmes and received certificates of participation, enabling these children to be admitted into schools once re-opened.

UNICEF, in partnership with World Vision, continued to support integrated education and child protection '*Bete (My Home)*' services, in six *woredas* in South East Zone of Tigray (Enderta, Hintalo, Wojerat, and Deguea Tembien, Samre and Seharti). In total, 5,212 children (49 per cent girls) and 1,880 pre-primary children (49 per cent girls) have accessed accelerated learning opportunities, and partners have used existing school premises to deliver the services. UNICEF education programme is also initiating collaboration with International Rescue Committee under the multi-sectoral project to provide Early Childhood Care and Development (3,861) and ASR/ALP (2,000) services, linked with child protection services aiming to reach additional 5,861 children (48 per cent girls) in Tigray.

The construction of TLS is ongoing in *woredas* in Afar and Amhara affected by the conflict. In Afar, TLS and gender segregated latrine construction at Gugye and Hameligolo Primary schools in Aballa *woreda* were completed and will serve a total of 447 children (159 girls) in September 2021. The TLS construction in Leyeli stands at 85 per cent progress and the construction of gender-segregated latrines was completed in Megalla *woreda*. Conversely, the construction of TLS in Arado remained interrupted due to the ongoing conflict there.

### Social Protection

UNICEF has been working closely with the Amhara Bureau of Labour and Social Affairs (BoLSA) to develop a targeting protocol and cash transfer operational manual. These have been instrumental in establishing a pilot humanitarian cash transfer response for IDPs in North Shewa and Oromo Special zones. While the process has progressed well, targeting has been difficult, as the number of IDPs is far beyond the resources available. In August, 10 IDP households that were missed from the July cash transfer were included, bringing the total number of IDPs receiving cash transfers to 346 households (1,195 IDPs).

Based on lessons learned, UNICEF has been working to expand the provision of cash to IDPs in Dessie city, and continues to work with the regional government to implement a targeting process in order to distribute US\$ 480,000 of cash support to support IDPs.

### Communications for Development (C4D)

UNICEF continued to support the delivery of messages focused on COVID-19 prevention, mitigation and response as well on COVID-19 vaccinations. During the reporting period, over 852,840 people were reached across the country including 89,911 people in Tigray, 157,050 people in Somali, 28366 people in Amhara, 300,903 people in Oromia and 276,610 people in Afar. Cumulatively since January 2021, over 6.6 million people have been reached with comprehensive messages including on COVID-19 delivered via volunteers, house-to-house visits, and during social mobilization events. Over 594 volunteers, health workers, and community workers were trained and mobilized to disseminate the key messages. In June 2021, UNICEF had conducted a Community Rapid Assessment on COVID-19 which indicated that the populations willingness to take COVID-19 vaccine which was around 80 per cent in Ethiopia. UNICEF is undertaking a quantitative survey to understand the main behavioural and social drivers of COVID-19 vaccination, preliminary findings will be available in mid-November 2021.

UNICEF provided technical and financial support to the Ministry of Health for two rounds of workshops with media agencies which were conducted with an objective to strengthen awareness of the media professionals on the types of COVID-19 vaccines including prioritized populations, in order to support the promotion of vaccine uptake. More than 55 representatives from 10 press agencies, 11 radio stations, and 24 national/regional/private television stations participated in the workshops.

In Amhara, Efratana Gidem and Shewarobit *Woredas*, 3,693 IDPs and members of the host community shared their thoughts, concerns and raised questions about Covid-19 and other health issues. The feedbacks and concerns were shared among the relevant pillars in the Emergency Operating Center for action.

### Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy

UNICEF actively leads on humanitarian coordination in the critical areas of Nutrition, WASH, Child Protection, and Education at the national and regional levels. UNICEF is also a member of the Emergency Shelter/NFI, Food and Logistics clusters.

UNICEF, through the Child Protection Area of Responsibility, continued to work with the protection cluster to ensure a coordinated response to the Northern Ethiopia crisis through the review of EHF second reserve allocation proposals. Six Child Protection and Gender-Based Violence (CP/GBV) specific projects are being reviewed by the EHF advisory board for an envelope of US\$ 2.6 million. The proposals focused on support to survivors of violence and abuse, CP/GBV case management and specialised services as well as development and strengthening of CP/GBV referral pathway for multi-sector response in the priority locations.

During the reporting period, the CP AoR has also coordinated the mid-year review (MYR) process with AoR members covering the whole country, except Tigray. There was a slight increase (from 518,411 to 554,575) in children and caregivers targeted by child protection services, mainly due to the spill over of the Tigray crisis into Afar and Amhara.

Further to the above, UNICEF deployed one Child Protection in Emergency (CPiE) specialist to Dessie and one CPiE specialist to North Gondar to coordinate the CP-GBV humanitarian response in eastern Amhara to respond to the increasing needs induced by conflict in the region.

UNICEF and Save the Children (SCI), under the leadership of the Ministry of Education (MoE) continue to co-lead the federal Education Cluster. During the reporting period, significant improvement was observed in the coordination between the federal Education Cluster and sub-national clusters. Gambella and Somali sub-national education clusters actively provides updates and participated in federal-level Education Cluster meetings. All sub-national clusters have managed to organize one coordination meeting with their partners and several bi-lateral consultations in August to discuss and complete the Mid-Year Review (MYR) of the inter-agency Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP). By the end of July a total of 555,707 (47.2 per cent girls) Out of School Children (OOSC) affected by conflicts and natural disasters gained access to education. The interventions by partners included distribution of teaching and learning materials, establishment of Temporary Learning Space. The children also benefited from Accelerated Learning Programme (ALP), and Accelerated School Readiness (ASR).

Finally, UNICEF continued to provide WASH Cluster leadership at the national level and in all the regions. UNICEF is also leading the review and proposal of expressions of interest for the Ethiopian Humanitarian Fund (EHF) reserve fund allocation for the WASH cluster. Accordingly, under Afar's envelope of US\$ 770,000, eight partners have applied for EHF funding, and two have been selected based on identified criteria.

## Funding Overview

UNICEF Ethiopia's 2021 revised Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) appeal for US \$248,292,024 is required to sustain life-saving and humanitarian services for women and children in Ethiopia. By the end of August, US \$119,852,850 has been received towards the appeal, leaving a funding gap of 51 per cent. Towards UNICEF's appeal for the Northern Ethiopia Response in the amount of US \$108,100,517, there is a significant funding gap of 47 per cent.

Without sufficient funding, over 500,00 children will not have access to SAM treatment, over 300,000 children will not have access to formal or non-formal education and/or skills development training, including early learning opportunities, over 94,000 children will not have access to mental health and psychosocial support, and over 2.2 million people will be deprived of clean and safe water supply. UNICEF expresses its sincere gratitude to the following donors for their valuable contributions; the UK's FCDO, USAID, Canada, ECHO, OFDA, CERF, SIDA, Denmark, Finland and Japan.

## Human Interest Stories and External Media

### UNICEF Ethiopia Humanitarian Response

- Emergency Response (Health): [Helping health workers help their communities during crisis](#)
- Emergency Response (Child Protection): [Social workers help displaced families to cope and recover from trauma](#)
- Emergency Response (Social Protection): [Humanitarian cash grant help families rebuild their lives in Ethiopia](#)

## Social Media



[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [YouTube](#) | [Instagram](#) | [unicef.org/ethiopia](https://www.unicef.org/ethiopia)

UNICEF Ethiopia Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) Appeal: [Ethiopia Appeal | UNICEF](#)

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## Annex A

### Summary of Programme Results

Sector	2021 HAC including Northern Ethiopia Response		2021 Northern Ethiopia Response*	
	Jan – Dec Targets	Cumulative Jan – Aug Results	Jan – Dec Targets	Cumulative Jan – Aug Results
<b>Nutrition**</b>				
Number children aged 6 to 59 months with severe acute malnutrition admitted for treatment	<b>555,407</b>	290,758	<b>56,208</b>	19,229
Number children 6-59 months receiving Vitamin A supplementation every six months	<b>1,446,966</b>	3,368,596	<b>598,553</b>	74,339
Number of primary caregivers of children aged 0 to 23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling	<b>643,081</b>	662,561	<b>274,727</b>	56,545
Number of pregnant women receiving iron and folic acid supplementation	<b>249,000</b>	151,211	<b>160,000</b>	16,775
<b>Health</b>				
Number of children aged 6 to 59 months vaccinated against measles	<b>824,500</b>	14,450	<b>774,000</b>	525
Number of children and women accessing primary health care in UNICEF-supported facilities (MHNT in Afar and Somali and provision of EDK in IDP and other vulnerable communities)	<b>852,700</b>	648,461	<b>346,500</b>	159,245
Number of health care facility staff and community health workers who received personal protective equipment	<b>12,000</b>	34,067	<b>10,000</b>	12,329
Number of people affected by cholera accessing life-saving curative interventions	<b>25,800</b>	1,571	<b>4,800</b>	-
<b>WASH</b>				
Number of people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene	<b>2,252,915</b>	3,519,199	<b>1,502,915</b>	1,532,849
Number of people accessing appropriately designed and managed latrines	<b>610,000</b>	254,712	<b>400,000</b>	83,496
Number people reached with critical water, sanitation and hygiene supplies (including hygiene items) and services	<b>4,898,593</b>	917,167	<b>898,593</b>	203,401
Number of people reached with key messages on hygiene practices	<b>6,925,930</b>	2,058,779	<b>1,325,930</b>	525,594
Number of facilities (treatment, isolation quarantine sites) accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene (emergency water trucking, roto tanks) to prevent COVID transmission.	<b>300</b>	42	<b>0</b>	8
Number of health care facilities with improved sanitation (this includes rehabilitation / fixing of existing latrines)	<b>300</b>	20	<b>0</b>	0
<b>Child Protection</b>				
Number of girls and boys who have experienced violence reached by health, social work or justice/law enforcement services	<b>26,177</b>	3,354	<b>12,000</b>	773
Number of unaccompanied and separated children accessing family-based care or a suitable alternative	<b>14,800</b>	5,250	<b>11,000</b>	4,137
Number of children and caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support	<b>94,180</b>	50,167	<b>35,000</b>	40,180
<b>Education</b>				

Number of schools implementing safe school protocols (infection prevention and control)	<b>1,905</b>	216	<b>1,205</b>	74
Number of children accessing formal or non-formal education and/or skills development trainings, including early learning	<b>318,667</b>	142,008	<b>168,000</b>	77,290***
Number of children receiving learning materials	<b>537,096</b>	86,784	<b>348,000</b>	15,149
Number of children supported with distance/home-based learning	<b>72,600</b>		-	****
<b>Social Protection</b>				
Number of households reached with humanitarian cash transfers across sectors	<b>109,366</b>	9,903	<b>57,800</b>	4,461
<b>PSEA</b>				
Number of people with access to safe channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse (Cross-sectoral)	<b>694,253</b>	126,127	<b>364,544</b>	34,749
<b>GBViE</b>				
Number of women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention or response interventions (Cross-sectoral)	<b>616,132</b>	130,610	<b>220,000</b>	48,039
<b>Communication for Development (C4D)</b>				
Number of people reached with messages on access to services	<b>17,231,657</b>	6,481,581	<b>690,000</b>	1,225,136
Number of people who shared their concerns and asked questions/clarifications to address their needs through established feedback mechanisms	<b>407,200</b>	122,025	<b>7,200</b>	3,693

\*Northern Ethiopia Response includes Tigray, Amhara and Afar response targets and results related to the Tigray crisis.

\*\*Nutrition results cover the period January to July 2021 for all regions except Tigray, which captures results through August 2021.

\*\*\* This number includes the children accessing learning opportunities in Tigray region and the 59,741-primary school-age children supported with education by the Amhara REB with UNICEF support.

\*\*\*\* The most marginalized children affected by multiple emergencies, including COVID-19, have been targeted to receive learning materials in response to ensure the continuity of learning whether in temporary learning spaces or to ensure continuity of "home"-based learning which is reflected in the indicator above # children receiving learning materials.

## Annex B 2021 HAC Funding Status including Northern Ethiopia Response

Sector	2021 HAC including Northern Ethiopia Response	Total Funds Available (USD)			Funding gap (USD)	
		Funds received in 2021	Carry over	Total	\$	%
Health	33,626,778	5,678,965	6,761,607	12,440,571	21,186,207	63%
Nutrition	74,975,283	27,634,522	15,803,290	43,437,812	31,537,471	42%
Child Protection, GBViE, PSEA	23,805,446	10,683,689	6,163,683	16,847,371	6,958,075	29%
Education	19,733,445	5,891,881	3,212,626	9,104,506	10,628,939	54%
WASH	77,635,566	22,570,095	12,133,954	34,704,048	42,931,518	55%
Social Protection	8,000,366	3,188,934	0	3,188,934	4,811,432	60%
C4D, community engagement and AAP	8,891,811	129,600	0	129,600	8,762,211	99%
Cluster Coordination	1,623,326	0	0	0	1,623,326	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>248,292,024</b>	<b>75,777,690</b>	<b>44,075,160</b>	<b>119,852,849</b>	<b>128,439,179</b>	<b>52%</b>

## Annex C 2021 Northern Ethiopia Response Funding Status

Sector	2021 Northern Ethiopia Response	Total Funds Available	Funding gap (USD)	
			\$	%
Nutrition	25,750,984	22,838,297	2,912,687	11%
Health	12,908,480	6,336,699	6,571,781	51%
Child Protection	6,455,737	4,724,087	1,731,650	27%
WASH	31,658,927	15,177,516	16,481,411	52%
Education	11,809,115	3,506,141	8,302,974	70%
Social Protection	4,729,600	1,382,381	3,347,219	71%
PSEA	930,646	750,000	180,646	19%
GBViE	5,081,302	0	5,081,302	100%
C4D	768,280	129,600	638,680	83%
Monitoring / operational cross-cutting costs	8,007,446	2,221,747	5,785,699	72%
<b>Total</b>	<b>108,100,517</b>	<b>57,066,468</b>	<b>51,034,049</b>	<b>47%</b>