

# TIGRAY CRISIS RESPONSE

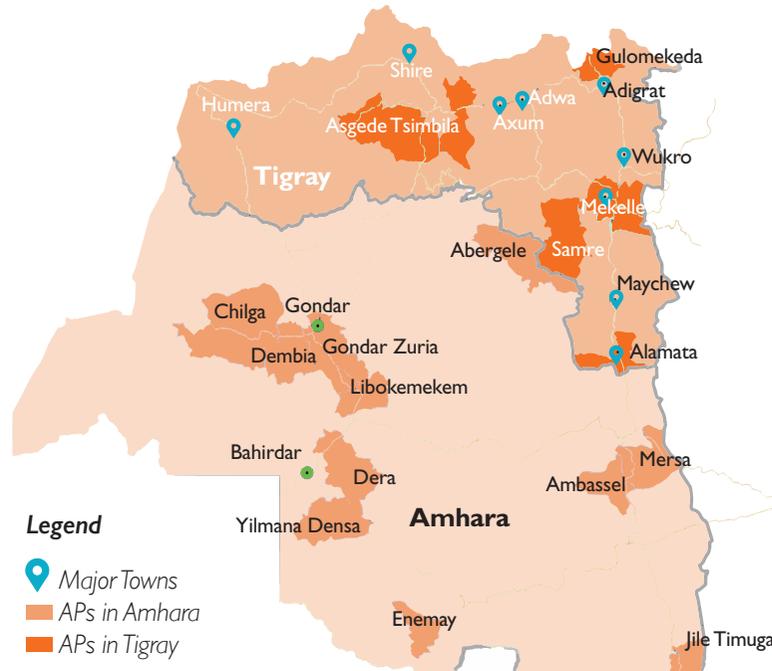
Situation Report #2 11 DECEMBER 2020



## SITUATION OVERVIEW

On Wednesday 4 November 2020, Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed announced he had ordered a military response to an “attack by the ruling party of the Tigray region” on the largest air force base in the country, and the Federal Council of Ministers declared a six-month State of Emergency in Tigray Region. The Tigray Regional State announced that air space was closed and road transportation, phone and internet were cut within the Tigray Region and in bordering areas in Amhara Region. This crisis has increased the number of children in need of humanitarian assistance in Tigray region to 2.3 million (UNICEF), which the United Nations has described as a “full scale humanitarian crisis”. Although there are signs that the open conflict may be coming to an end, the region remains tense. A large but unquantified still unconfirmed number of civilians in Tigray are internally displaced, and more than 45,000 are believed to have crossed the border into Sudan. World Vision has 83 staff, 7 Area Programmes, 11 grant-funded projects, and 19,254 registered children in Tigray.

World Vision Ethiopia Operational areas in Tigray and Amhara



**Legend**  
 Major Towns  
 APs in Amhara  
 APs in Tigray

## KEY MESSAGES

- World Vision is deeply concerned for the safety and well-being of vulnerable populations, especially children.
- We call on all participants in the current emergency to prioritise the protection of civilians so that life-saving humanitarian interventions can start again.
- World Vision adheres to the principles of humanitarian neutrality and neither participates in partisan politics, nor takes sides in conflict. Our focus and concern are on children and communities, based on humanitarian need.

## Estimated number of people in need



## Funding status (US\$)



## TIGRAY CRISIS RESPONSE HIGHLIGHTS

### RESPONSE CONTEXT

Tigray currently hosts various categories of vulnerable groups which include 855,000 people who are currently targeted in the 2020 humanitarian response plan (750,000 non-displaced people, 100,000 IDPs and 5,000 IDP returnees). In addition, there are 96,000 refugees in Tigray and over 1 million PSNP beneficiaries who need regular support [1].

The evolving situation in Tigray could bring an additional 1.1M people in need, the majority of whom may be displaced within the region and across the regional borders into Amhara and Afar, while several others could be displaced across the borders to Sudan and Eritrea. Currently more than 45,689 Ethiopian refugees are in Sudan, 45% of whom are children [2].

Lack of communication and road access has prevented partners from assessing the situation on the ground and identify needs. There are currently 31 partners currently involved in non-refugee response operation in the region, including 16 INGOs, 9 UN agencies, 4 National NGOs and 2 Government agencies [3].

1 <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/document/ethiopia-ethiopia-humanitarian-preparedness-plan-november-2020>

2, 3 [https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/ethiopia/document/ethiopia-tigray-region-humanitarian-update-situation-report-no7-01-dec?ct=\(EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_I\\_](https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/ethiopia/document/ethiopia-tigray-region-humanitarian-update-situation-report-no7-01-dec?ct=(EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_I_)

[DEC\)&goal=0\\_82a80d2ffe-0810b1396e-109578465](https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/ethiopia/document/ethiopia-tigray-region-humanitarian-update-situation-report-no7-01-dec?ct=(EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_I_)

 **OUTCOME 1:** *protect lives and livelihoods of conflict affected people by providing food assistance and livelihood recovery support*

NA

 **OUTCOME 2:** *Improve health status, protection and dignity of affected households (HHs) by providing and creating access to shelter and non-food items (NFI)*



#### Health

Essential medical supplies delivered to health facilities to manage severe trauma cases at a total cost of US\$26,200.



#### Shelter/NFI

Procurement for emergency shelter and non-food is underway for a total of 300 HHs which cost US\$73,041

A consortium of INGOs: Save the Children, World Vision, Action Against Hunger and Norwegian Refugee Council (SWAN) has prepositioned emergency shelter and non-food items, and in Gonder zone (Dembia and Makeshete) which address a total of 1,000 HHs

 **OUTCOME 3:** *Enhance access to safe drinking water and to appropriate sanitation and hygiene for the displaced / host communities*



#### WASH

Purchase and positioning of WASH materials has been carried out including the purchase of 17,000 laundry Soaps (250 gram), 17,000 body soaps (250gram), 153 cartons of water treatment chemicals, and 10 HTH chlorine tablets (US\$23,310)

Additionally, based on WASH cluster request, World Vision procured 20,000 soaps, 50 cartons of face masks, 600 hand-washing soaps (500ml), 1,000 powder soaps (500gm) and 1,200 bleach bottles (800 ml).

Of the total procured; 1,500 body soaps, 400 powder soaps, 300 bleach bottles, 200 hand washing soaps, and 50 cartons of face masks was distributed to Alamata General Hospital (US\$12,000)

 **OUTCOME 4:** *Improve access to health and nutrition services with a special focus on preventing the spread of communicable diseases and acute malnutrition*



**Nutrition**

Based on the cluster Multi Agency Nutrition Task Force(MANTF) request, World Vision has expressed its interest to distribute High Energy Biscuit (HEB) which is procured by UNICEF and prepositioned by OCHA for Alamata displaced children.

 **OUTCOME 5:** *Ensure protection for children, women and vulnerable groups, including dignity kits and psychosocial support*



**Protection**

Procured and prepositioning of life saving food items for children (powder milk and biscuits) and dignity kits (reusable sanitary pad, underwear, laundry and bath soap, head scarf) with a total funding of US\$80,918.

 **OUTCOME 6:** *Provide support for the rehabilitation of damaged schools and ensure that children to return to school in a conducive and safe atmosphere*



NA

 **OUTCOME 7:** *Support coordination and collaboration efforts across the humanitarian agencies on the ground*

**Preparedness**

A CATIII national office response has been declared, and subsequent EMS structure, response plan, crisis management committee (CMT), and NEPRF financial procedures have been approved and are in place

**Assessment**

UN cluster; active participation  
INGO cluster; World Vision Ethiopia in lead role, assessment is underway. The first assessment to Alamata is completed. The second assessment team is in Gondar, Amhara, undertaking in assessment seeking approval to enter into West Tigray.

**Donor Pre-Positioning**

USAID, ECHO, UNICEF

**Coordination and Advocacy**

Humanitarian INGO (HINGO) network; Advocacy meeting with national level government together with UN for universal access and protection of civilians and humanitarian staff

**Security**

Access is still restricted to Alamata.  
Blackout communications still in place with the exception of Alamata. Communication lines are improving into Mekelle but very limited.

**Staff safety and wellbeing**

World Vision has seven area programs and one cluster program office in Tigray, with a total staff of 83. Serious concern for staff wellbeing due to severe shortage of food, cash, water, medicine and basic supplies.

Delivery of cash into Alamata for the five staff there.  
Basic food supplies have been partly dispatched and on route to Tigray on accessible areas.

## TIGRAY CRISIS RESPONSE HIGHLIGHTS

### NEEDS AND GAPS

Humanitarian preparedness plan (Tigray) targets nearly 2 million people in Tigray, Amhara and Afar with life-saving assistance at a cost of US\$75.6 million. The targeted population includes existing humanitarian caseload and additional 1.1 million people expected to need assistance as a result of the conflict. The total 'top priority' funding requirements to facilitate the minimum preparedness activities to response to the projected needs between November 2020 and January 2021 is US\$96.9 million. Considering available resources, the outstanding requirements is US\$75.6 million (as of December 1, 2020)

Tigray Crisis Response plan requires a total of US\$10M, of which US\$1.45M (14.5%) is secured internally so far, with the remaining gap of US\$8.55M.

### LIST OF FUNDERS/DONORS

NEPRF, Local income, SWAN, COVID 19 pooled fund

### PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT



Christian Today (interview with Edward Brown, National Director of World Vision Ethiopia): <https://www.christianitytoday.com/news/2020/november/tigray-ethiopia-conflict-christian-sudan-refugees-abi-y-tplf.html>



Rhema Radio New Zealand (interview with Stephen Court on Tigray crisis on 6 December 2020): <https://www.rhema.co.nz/resource/WorldVisioninEthiopia>



ABC News Australia (TV interview with Karmen Trajkov Till on Tigray Crisis): <https://storyhub.wvi.org/C.aspx?VP3=SearchResult&UT=20MDYFIEFJ6N>

Find more on Tigray Crisis content on Story Hub : <https://storyhub.wvi.org/CS.aspx?VP3=DamView&VBID=20MDQYB2BM6I&PN=1&WS=AssetManagement>

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