# TIGRAY CRISIS RESPONSE

Situation Report #10 1 4 A P R I L 2 0 2 1

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

Almost five months on since the start of the conflict in Tigray, World Vision Ethiopia Area Programme in Tigray the humanitarian situation on the ground is extremely dire and far from improving, despite very significant efforts from the UN and its partners to scale up assistance. The ongoing hostilities, with clashes and ambushes reported in most parts of the region, not only impact safety and wellbeing of millions of civilians but also constrain humanitarian actors' ability to operate and support people affected. In parts of Southern and South Eastern Tigray, for example, access has been curtailed for over a month and the road from Alamata to Mekelle remains closed, blocking humanitarian operations in the area.

## FRITREAN PRESENCE AND ITS HUMANITARIAN IMPACT

On 23 March, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, in a parliamentary address, acknowledged that Eritrean troops had crossed the border into Tigray during the conflict. Later on 26 March, the Prime Minister issued a statement informing that Eritrea had agreed to withdraw its troops from Tigray. The Prime Minister also acknowledged for the first time that atrocities, including rape, had been committed and promised that the perpetrators would be held to account.

### https://reports.unocha.org/en/country/ethiopia/

According to OCHA 30 March 2021 situation report; the conflict in Tigray continues to drive massive displacement across the Region, with tens of thousands of people arriving into Shire. Axum and Adwa over the last weeks.

Aid workers are scaling up the response and have assisted over I million people with food and more than 630,000 people with clean water. WASH services are improving in IDP sites.

https://reports.unocha.org/en/country/ethiopia/





## **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 lifesaving 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 concernare on children and communities, based on humanitarian need.







# **TIGRAY CRISIS RESPONSE HIGHLIGHTS**

# **RESPONSE CONTEXT**

- Further Assessment Capacities Project (ACAPS) food security brief note showed that there are 4.5 people in need of humanitarian assistance, of which 420,000 internally displaced peoples (IDPs) are estimated to be in host communities and 61,719 refuges in Sudan since 7 November. The report also indicated that US\$34 million unmet requirements of the response plan.
- Despite ongoing efforts, the overall humanitarian response remains deeply inadequate compared to the needs on the ground. Limited access due to both increasing insecurity and bureaucratic obstacles, as well as restricted funding, continue to hamper humanitarian operations.

https://www.acaps.org/country/ethiopia/crisis/ complex-crisis **OUTCOME 1:** protect lives and livelihoods of conflict affected people by providing food assistance and livelihood recovery support

## Shelter/NFI

WVE dispatched ES/NFI kits to Mekelle which benefit a total of 285 HH ( budget source – WV-Singapore \$ 50K)

WV-US – \$226,000 for Chercher district for 660HH

Staff Recruitment on going

Beneficiary targeting ongoing

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

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Health

WV Ethiopia under SWAN project distributed medical kits of different types worth US\$123,559 to five hospitals and six health centers in Mekelle, Adigrat, Wukro and Shire. The medical kits meant to address the primary and advanced health demands of up to 340,000 people. **OUTCOME 3:** Enhance access to safe drinking water and to appropriate sanitation and hygiene for the displaced / host communities

WASH 12,500 people benefited from 2500 full package WASH NFI

distribution in Adwa, central Tigray.

7500 people benefited from 1500 full package WASH NFI distribution in Enda Silassie Town and in Adi Kentibay IDPs site in North Tigray.

108,000 people (8300 IDPs and 97,700 community members) benefited from 9000 m3 water trucking in Mekelle

126,379 people benefited from 6120 m3 water trucking in Enda Aba Guna, Enda Silassie, Adi Daero, and Selekeleka towns in North West Tigray.



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

### Nutrition

WV Ethiopia field level agreement /FLA/ proposal submitted to World Food Programme for the implementation of Targeted/Blanket Supplementary Feeding programme (TSFP/BSFP) in six districts in South Tigray, two districts in South West and the districts in East zone of Tigray region.

### Nutrition screening:

Shire IDPs Site: 376 children under five have been screened (23 with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and 52 with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) cases). Likewise, 89 pregnant and lactating women (PLW) screened and from this 39 were MAM cases. The Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) for malnutrition in children under five is 20% while for pregnant and lactating women is 44%.

South Tigray: Through mass screening (CHD), 2012 under five children have been screened and out of this 62 are with SAM cases and 229 are MAM cases.
168 pregnant and lactating women screened and 84 of them are MAM. All of them are linked to the feeding site according to their nutritional status.

Mekele: 1377 children under five have been screened among host communities. 23 with SAM cases and 43 MAM cases. Also 512 PLW have been screened and 72 of them are with MAM cases. All of SAM and MAM cases are linked to therapeutic feeding programme.

## South Tigray Response:

Supportive supervision and technical onsite support have been provided to 12 health facilities including Korem, Alamata, Maichewu and Mehoni hospitals. On job training/coaching provided to health workers (HWs) and 26 health extension workers /HEWs) on Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM) guidelines, Infant and young child feeding (IYCF) promotion, support and counseling, and supply chain management. **OUTCOME 5:** Ensure protection for children, women and vulnerable groups, including dignity kits and psychosocial support

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## Protection

Three days training given to 45 people (21 female) on case management, standard operating procedure and psychological first aid for stakeholders who came from different district and zonal sector offices.

Community outreach session conducted at Adi Haki, Hawelti and Meseret IDPs site in Mekelle which focused on basic concepts of child protection and gender based violence. Accordingly, a total of 1,417 households (846 female) reached.

Child friendly recreational activities both indoor and outdoor activities conducted in the three IDP sites enabling 2,874 children (1,379 girls) to participate at the session.

Child, women and girls Friendly Spaces site selection and volunteer's selection have been finalized in Mekelle, Machew, and Mehone in collaboration with Bureau of Labor and Social Affairs (BOLSA).

Provided cash assistance to 50 gender based violence (GBV) survivors, 2500 birr to each, for legal and psycho social support services.

Two parenting skill groups (50 caregivers/25 participants) including foster parents formed to discuss on parenting skill education.



**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 CAT-III 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

#### New funding in pipelines

WFP US\$405, I 18, UNICEF US\$308,567.2 OFDA/BHA US\$1,292,000, ECHO US\$553,573.4, JPF US\$160,000 OFDA/BHA US\$520,000 for CP/GBV as well as US\$ 5 million multi-sectoral grant project proposal submitted to USAID/BHA to respond acute crisis in Tigray

## Coordination and Advocacy

WVE – has actively engage in all cluster/coordination meeting in Mekele, which is in cluster Meeting, HINGO, ECC; actively participating on Shire UNHCR led meeting by assigning staff based in Shire.

Assessment has been conducted in South Eastern, North Western, Eastern and North Eastern Tigray, totally in 13 Woredas and 3 cities.

## Security

There has been sporadic crossfire between government forces and assailants (rebels). Following this number of IDPs has been increasing putting pressure on food supply chain, overall tension is high in the region. High military deployment Destruction and loss of I life and injury on citizens due to sudden cross fire Bomb attack by assailants

#### Staff safety and wellbeing

World Vision Ethiopia has delivered food supplies for 84 WV-Tigray staff in collaboration with World Food Program. Additionally, WVE has provided 10 bags (100Kg each) supplementary food for Tigray staff.



## Cash and digital business

WV Ethiopia has revised its sponsorship budget from all the seven Area Programmes in Tigray to address the immediate humanitarian needs of 44,655 sponsored children families and IDPs with over US\$500,000 in Enderta, Wukuro, Samre, Gulo Mekeda, Aseged Tsembela, Alamata, and Medebay Zana districts.

Until 15 March 2021, World Vision has provided multi-purpose cash assistance to 6,782 households (6391 RCs families and 391 IDPs families) amounting over 2.3 million birr to enable them cover Food, Protection, WASH, Health, Shelter, and NFIs needs and services such as transportation and milling. Cash has not distributed to Samre AP due to ongoing insecurity in the area.

### Challenges

Shortage of vehicles, no transportation access to Ofla and Chercher in South Tigray

Insecurity and instability hindering access to beneficiaries in rural areas particularly in Ofla and Chercher

Absence of therapeutic food and routine medications.

Closure of some APs due to fear of violence

It is difficult to provide comprehensive health care due to dysfunctional health system in the region and absence of data at some health facilities

Most of the items required for nutrition programme are non-receipt items and that hindered procurement and delivery of consumable supplies for TFP sites and IYCF-E service in Mekelle.

# **NEEDS AND GAPS**

Humanitarian preparedness plan of Tigray targets nearly 4.5 million people in Tigray, Amhara and Afar with life-saving assistance at a cost of US\$ \$729.9 million. The targeted population includes existing humanitarian caseload and additional 1.3 million people expected to need assistance because of the conflict. The total 'top priority' funding requirements is \$ 1.3 Billion

(https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Situation%20Report%20-%20 Ethiopia%20-%20Tigray%20Region%20Humanitarian%20Update%20-%2028%20Feb%20 2021.pdf).

Considering available resources from different internal and external funding sources, the outstanding requirements is US\$ 1.292 Billion; while the remaining \$729.9 M is received.

Due to the rising needs of the crisis, the needs vastly outstripped the requirements estimated in the response plan that was developed during the first weeks of the conflict. Therefore, WVE targets to require a total of US\$ 22.6 M, of which US\$ 3.6 M (16.3%) is secured internally so far, with the remaining gap of US\$ 18.9M.



# **TIGRAY CRISIS RESPONSE HIGHLIGHTS**

# **LIST OF FUNDERS/DONORS**

NEPRF, Local income, SWAN, COVID 19 pooled fund, Irish aid, WV Korea, WV Singapore, WV Taiwan, WV Australia, WV-US, WV Netherlands, WFP, UNICEF, OFDA/BHA, ECHO, JPF USAID/BHA

## **PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**

Edward Brown, WV Ethiopia National Director and Paul Turnbull, World Food Programme, Ethiopia Country Director and Representative had live discussions with the UK based Parliament TV on the situation in Tigray on 18 March 2021. <u>https://www.parliamentlive.tv/Event/Index/ff1a43d9-0a05-4bba-9ce2-33b26afb878f</u>

# **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

#### Edward Brown

Samuel Tilahun

National Director, World Vision Ethiopia E-mail: Edward\_Brown@wvi.org Office: +251-116-293348 Mobile: +251966216625 skype: fasteddyw Director, Humanitarian and Emergency Affairs E-mail: Samuel\_Tilahun@wvi.org Office: +251-116-29-33-50 | Mobile: +251-911-715-362 skype: samuel\_tilahun Communications and External Relations Manager E-mail: Kebede\_GizacewAyalew@wvi.org

Kebede Gizachew Ayalew

Office: +251-116-29-33-50 Mobile: +251-966-270-109 Skype: kebede.gizachew 1