

# TIGRAY CRISIS RESPONSE

Situation Report #12 **11 MAY 2021**



## SITUATION OVERVIEW

The security situation in Tigray remains largely unchanged this week - unpredictable and volatile. Active hostilities in Central, North-Western, Eastern, South-Eastern and Southern Tigray continue to be the main access impediment for scaling up operations in rural areas, restricting the freedom of humanitarian movement to reach all people in need. Furthermore, disrupted communications in several parts in the region is causing a delay in reporting and monitoring of progress of aid distribution. Challenges in visa extensions for staff of NGO partners is also restraining their capacity to continue with projects. The population's access to health care remains highly limited in rural areas. The scale of food insecurity continues to be large and dire.

The interim Regional Administration has estimated that 4.5 million people need food assistance across Tigray region. An additional 631,775 displaced people were included in the plan for the 2021 round 1 (a round lasts about six weeks) food distributions.

COVID-19 testing is neither common nor systematic. World Vision Ethiopia assumes that COVID-19 is widespread among the affected population in Tigray.

<https://reports.unocha.org/en/country/ethiopia/card/5EhBh4Xf5z/>

According to OCHA 6 May 2021 situation report;

- Three food operators have distributed more than 19,000 metric tons of food for the first round of assistance for 2021, reaching 1.1 million people across the region

- COVID-19 screening started in all targeted 15 health facilities in Mekelle

- At least US\$443 million have been allocated to respond to the crisis but more is needed particularly for non-food assistance.

[https://reports.unocha.org/en/country/ethiopia?ct=t%28EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_07\\_APR%29&goal=0\\_82a80d2ffe-074bbb5d76-109578465](https://reports.unocha.org/en/country/ethiopia?ct=t%28EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_07_APR%29&goal=0_82a80d2ffe-074bbb5d76-109578465)

## World Vision Ethiopia Area Programme in Tigray



### Legend

APs in Tigray

## KEY MESSAGES

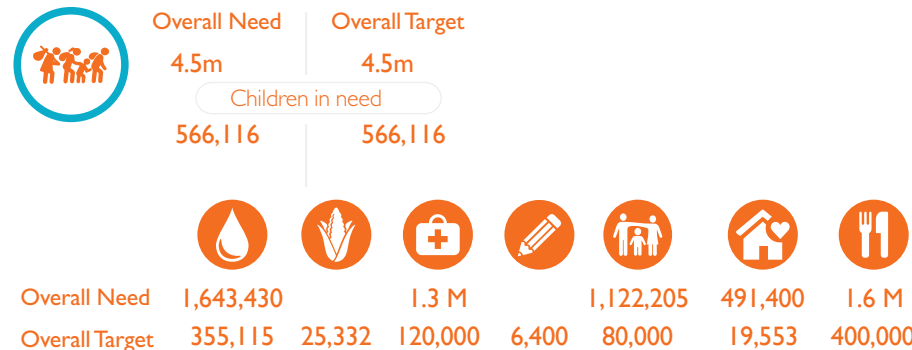
World Vision is deeply concerned for the safety and well-being of vulnerable populations, especially children.

World Vision is deeply concerned about the state of humanitarian access across Tigray Region, but with particular emphasis on access to Shire, Samre, and rural communities. We call on all participants in the current armed hostilities to prioritize the protection of civilians and to enable humanitarian access so that life-saving humanitarian interventions can continue unhindered.

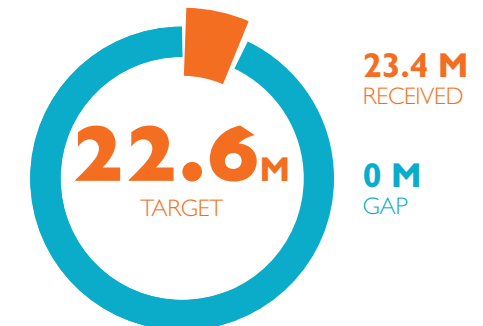
World Vision is gravely concerned about extent of reported gender-based violence (GBV) in Tigray. We call on all relevant authorities at all levels to use their influence and power to bring an end to violence of all kinds against non-combatants.

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

There are currently 220 UN staff supporting the humanitarian response in the region (60 international and 105 national staff in Mekelle and 6 international and 49 national staff in Shire), and over 1,500 more aid workers with international and national NGOs. Humanitarian organizations continue to deploy additional staff to support the scale up of operations and ensure protection-by-presence amid reports of ongoing violence against civilians. There are 51 partners (Government, UN, NGO) operating across the region.

<https://reports.unocha.org/en/country/ethiopia/card/1LUkRBqwdul>

On 26 April, Humanitarian Coordinator to Ethiopia, Catherine Sozi, along with heads of UNFPA and IOM, and the Ambassadors of Finland, Japan, and Canada visited Mekelle to assess and respond collaboratively with regional authorities to the increasing needs of conflict-affected populations in Tigray. The delegation visited "Sabacare 4" camp (under construction) for internally displaced people, the Ayder Hospital One Stop Center, which provides psycho-social and medical care to women and girl survivors of sexual gender-based violence, and a safe space for children of survivors.

<https://reports.unocha.org/en/country/ethiopia/card/68KAf81cf6/>



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



#### Shelter/NFI

A total of 218 households are targeted in this response; out of this 196 household are fully damaged shelter and the rest 22 are partially damaged.

Cash transfer provided to 196 households whose houses are fully damaged, US\$ 155 (6,200 Birr) per household and for 22 households whose houses are partially damaged, US\$80 (3,200 Birr) per household

The procurement of materials like corrugated iron sheet and nails of various size are in a good progress and this will be completed in the coming two weeks until the end of April.

Around 15 households have already completed preparations to start house reconstruction in Chercher district.



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



#### 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


Hygiene promotion training given to 200 individuals (102 male) in South Tigray zone: 55 individuals from Chercher district, 62 individuals from Alamata town 83 individuals from Mekhoni district,

Full package WASH NFI distributed to 750 households (3750 individuals), including jerry cans, bucket, washing basin, laundry soap and multipurpose soap in Raya Azebo and Ofla districts in South Tigray.

150,000 sachet of water treatment chemicals distributed to 750 households in Raya Azebo and Ofla districts in South Tigray.

10 drums of High Test Hypochlorite (HTH) chlorine supplied to Mekelle City Administration to support the ongoing water trucking service to IDPs benefiting 2915 IDPs in the city.

83 households (325 individuals) received full package NFI (Jerry cans, bucket, washing basin, laundry Soap and multipurpose soap) in Mekelle.

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



**Nutrition**

**Capacity building trainings**

Provided capacity building trainings for 86 health extension workers, and 14 frontline health workers in integrated management of acute malnutrition (IMAM) guideline in South Tigray Response cluster

**Support health facilities in the treatment of acute malnutrition for IDPs in Mekelle**

***Therapeutic Feeding Programme supplies***

To strengthen stabilization and outpatient therapeutic feeding centers, different supplies are provided to the centers. Some of these supplies are blanket, playing materials, plastic table, paddle wooden, ladles, chair, laundry soap, scrubbing brush, calculator, bleach, broom, mop, measuring jug, registration book, plastic cup, washing basin, plastic basin, electric kettle, thermos, mattress, handwashing barrel with faucet and weight stand.

***Essential medicines for the management of Acute Malnutrition in Outpatient therapeutic programme (OTP) and Stabilization Center (SC)***

The project supported drugs like albendazole, TTC eye ointment, miconazole cream, Zinc Oxide, amoxicillin, cotrimoxazole, digital thermometer, NG tube, disposable syringe, pediatric cannula and glucose 40% for OTP and SC sites.

***Establishment of breast feeding spaces***

To protect, promote and support Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) programme in nutrition rehabilitation centers, the project initiating integration of IYCF counselling services

Three breast-feeding corners are established in three health facilities in Mekelle health facilities where chairs, tables and counselling aids are provided.

In South Tigray, 12 breast-feeding corners are established at nutritional rehabilitation centers. All breast feeding corners are equipped with under five, pregnant and lactating women IYCF registration books and counselling cards, referral formats.

156 health extension workers (HEWs) and 64 health workers (HWs) are capacitated on the promotion, protection of breast feeding and exclusive breast feeding, timely introduction of complementary feeding and continued breast feeding, IYCF integration into CMAM.

***Care takers food***

640 kg of wheat flour, 250 liters of vegetable oil and 16 kg of iodized salts are procured and distributed to nutritional rehabilitation centers and 142 caretakers in South Tigray Response area

**Nutrition screening, orientations and linkage to nutrition programmes**

***Mekelle IDPs Site***

Nutritional screening for children under five and pregnant and lactating women (PLW) is conducted in IDP sites. Hence, 580 PLW screened where 201 of them were with moderate acute malnutrition. From 1835, children screened, 71 are with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and two of them severely malnourished. SAM cases are linked to nearby therapeutic feeding programme (TFP) sites and MAM cases linked to targeted supplementary feeding programme (TSFP).

Community level screening also supported, where 756 PLW screened and 336 were with acute malnutrition. 1700 children screened and out of which 117 were with MAM cases, 17 uncomplicated SAM cases and two of them with complicated SAM cases.

### **South Tigray**

Nutrition screening orientation, referral linkages and community mobilization/ sensitization provided for 156 health extension workers (HEWs) and 64 health workers (HWs) in Endamehoni, Maichew, Neksega, Zata, Ofla, Korem, Mehoni and Raya Alamata districts. Our projects supported 56 nutrition sites in planning and conducting nutrition-screening activities.

Through nutrition project 80 health posts are equipped with supplies needed for nutrition screening activities like MUAC tapes, screening registration books, pregnant and lactating women screening registration books, reporting formats, and referral forms.

Vehicle support provided for all districts to facilitate transportation of RUTF, MUAC tapes, high energy biscuits and referral cases of SAM patients from community to health facility and vice versa.

The project also supported 2500 referral paper formats for nutrition centers

### **Supportive Supervision and Technical Support**

#### **South Tigray Response**

Technical support and ongoing on job trainings provided in four hospitals (Korem, Alamata, Maichew and Mehoni hospitals), and 16 health centers. On job training provided for 64 HWs on SAM management admission and discharge criteria, supply chain management, referral linkage, follow up, filling of multi chart, anthropometry, and routine medication provision.

#### **Mekelle(Emergency Nutrition Response)**

World Vision organized joint supportive supervision to TFP sites in Mekelle City in order to assess the progress of the project, to identify strengths/gaps, to provide technical assistance and to check supply status. Regional health bureau, regional emergency nutrition coordination unit (ENCU), and officials from respective sub cities participated during the integrated visit and facility based direct feedback. As a result, three OTP sites, two SC sites and two breastfeeding corners supervised. The visit involves direct interview, observation and reviewing documentations.



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



#### **Protection**

One-day workshop provided to 135 people (65 women) on basic concept of child protection and GBV, participants from women office, law enforcement bodies, community representatives, faith leaders and volunteers took part from Raya, Mehoni, Chercher and Ofla districts.


Tea talk discussion conducted at Mekelle IDPs site women and girls friendly spaces and 50 women groups participated on the discussion.

Indoor and outdoor recreational activities conducted at four targeted districts in southern Tigray (Wefriselam elementary school, Dogel elementary school, Menker elementary school and Chercher high school) child friendly spaces. A total of 1435 children (614 girls) participated both at indoor and outdoor activities.

Identified unaccompanied and separated children to facilitate family tracing and unification (FTR) service at five targeted districts in Mekelle and southern Tigray. Therefore, a total of 59 separated and unaccompanied children (37 girls) identified in Mekele, Ofla, Raya Chercher and Maychew.

Identified at risk and vulnerable children for case management service in five districts and a total of 61 children (43 girls) identified for case management service in Mekelle, Ofla, Chercher, Mehoni, and Maychew.

Recruitment process is underway to employ 58 Child Protection (CP) Gender Based Violence (GBV) projects staffs for UNICEF and BHA projects. Accordingly, a total of 58 (14 CP/GBV officers, 40 social workers, 3 mental health psycho social support (MHPSS) specialists and one coordinator will be employed shortly.

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




**Education**

A one-day training was organized for Enderta Area Programme staff and Enderta Education Office officials on education in emergencies (EiE). 26 participants (9 female) were attended

Request for 70 tents, 87 Early Child Development (ECD) kits, 141 recreational kits and 87 school in a carton has been submitted to UNICEF head office to respond to EiE need in Mekelle, Axum and Shire IDPs.

Shortlisting of applicants for education officer position (UNICEF grant) finalized and submitted to People and Culture.

School level camping was organized in collaboration with education officials to initiate education in emergency in ten schools of Enderta District. The campaign was organized through community discussion to start community level reading activities and accelerated school readiness programme.

 **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\$405,118, 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 districts and 3 cities.

**Security**

There has been sporadic crossfire between government forces and TPLF 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 life and injury on citizens due to sudden cross fire

Bomb attack by combatants

### 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.

### Capacity Building

HEA provided a two-day humanitarian accountability and Sphere standards training for Southern Tigray, Mekelle, South East Tigray and Eastern Tigray cluster emergency response team. A total of 40 staff attended (8 female).

### Challenges

Limited funding opportunity

Lack of access.

Schools are not functioning and education offices at different levels are not active

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 Area programmes 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 US\$ 1.3 billion

<https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Situation%20Report%20-%20Ethiopia%20-%20Tigray%20Region%20Humanitarian%20Update%20-%2028%20Feb%202021.pdf>.

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

Due to the rising needs of the crisis, the needs are vastly outstripped the requirements estimated in the response plan that was developed during the first weeks of the conflict. Therefore, WV Ethiopia has revised its funding requirement targets to a total of US \$22.6 million, of which US\$ 23.4 million has been secured from WV partnership, UN agencies and BHA (USAID) including both cash and commodity value.

## 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.

<https://www.parliamentlive.tv/Event/Index/ff1a43d9-0a05-4bba-9ce2-33b26afb878f>

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