



UNFPA ETHIOPIA HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

SITUATION REPORT - MARCH 2024

SITUATION OVERVIEW

The humanitarian crisis in Ethiopia continues to be severe, characterized by a combination of factors such as conflict, mass displacement, disease outbreaks, and climate-related shocks. As outlined in the [2024 Humanitarian Response Plan](#), which requires \$3.24 billion, approximately **15.5 million individuals require comprehensive assistance** across regions, including **4.5 million internally displaced persons (IDPs)**. Humanitarian partners, led by the Ethiopian Disaster Risk Management Commission (DRMC), have put in place flood preparedness and readiness plans for the *belg* rainy season (March – May), including identification of high flood-risk areas in Afar, Amhara, Oromia, Somali, and Southern regions.

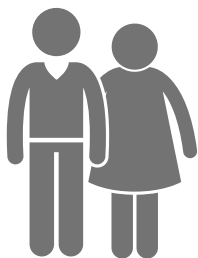
Climate change-induced weather shocks – such as drought and floods – continue to impact the most vulnerable across Ethiopia. The escalating **El Niño-induced drought** is worsening food insecurity and malnutrition rates, with 6.9 million individuals in need of assistance in drought-stricken areas, including 74,000 people newly displaced due to drought-related factors nationwide. Similarly, in **Somali**, more than 1.2 million people are predicted to face flooding due to the *belg* rainy season, with about 773,000 expected to be displaced across various zones [1]. In **southern regions**, around 145,000 individuals may be affected, leading to 64,000 displacements, including in **South Ethiopia, Central Ethiopia, South West Ethiopia, and Sidama regions**. Floods are also expected to impact **Oromia, Amhara, Afar, and Tigray Regions** with an estimated half a million people affected and triggering over 169,000 new internal displacements [2].

Ongoing hostilities and security challenges persist in various regions of the country, contributing to ongoing humanitarian needs and hindering response efforts. From February to April, **renewed clashes between Afar and Somali-Issa communities** over territory and resources have resulted in heavy casualties and the displacement of over 200,000 people from both communities. In March, the **Amhara Region**, home to approximately 670,000 IDPs, witnessed the displacement of thousands of individuals due to active hostilities in several areas of the North Shewa, and Oromia Special zones, as well as bordering areas with Tigray region. Similarly, **Tigray** continues to host nearly 1 million IDPs (42% of the national caseload), primarily due to the northern Ethiopia conflict (2020-2022), while relocation and recovery efforts continue amidst heightened capacity and resource constraints.

With April marking the one-year anniversary of the onset of the **crisis in neighboring Sudan, Ethiopia continues to receive a mass influx of forcibly displaced populations** through several bordering towns, mainly Metema (Amhara) and Kurmuk (Benishangul Gumuz). According to OCHA, nearly 122,500 people have crossed into Ethiopia with Sudanese nationals accounting for 47 per cent of arrivals, while Ethiopian returnees and third country nationals (TCNs) make up 39 and 14 per cent. Amid limited operational capacity and resources, partners continue to assist new arrivals with food, water, shelter, protection, and health services [4].

PROGRAMME UPDATES

SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH



179,069

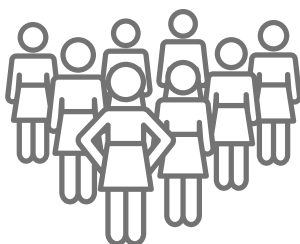
Individuals reached with sexual and reproductive health services and information across affected regions of Ethiopia

(March 2024)

• Key Achievements

- **23,195 conflict-affected individuals** – in Afar, Amhara, Somali, and Tigray regions – **reached with sexual and reproductive health services**, including maternal and newborn services, through multiple strategic partnerships.
- **2,208 deliveries assisted** by UNFPA-supported skilled birth attendants or midwives in health facilities across affected regions.
- **14,126 pregnant and lactating mothers screened** for acute malnutrition with 8,471 pregnant women provided with food and nutrition supplements across affected regions.
- **279 clean delivery kits distributed** to pregnant women in crisis-affected areas of Amhara and Tigray regions to prevent infection during childbirth, one of the leading causes of maternal mortality.
- **67,567 affected individuals reached with integrated GBV/SRH awareness creation sessions** on STI/HIV prevention and risk mitigation, family planning, birth preparedness, and personal hygiene management by health extension workers deployed across IDP sites and health facilities in affected regions.

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (GBV)



241,676

Women and girls reached with comprehensive GBV services and information in affected regions

(March 2024)

• Key Achievements

- **128,210 women and girls reached with GBV services** and awareness-raising activities at WGFS by social workers and outreach teams.
- **47,159 women and girls in reached with structured Psychosocial Support (PSS)**, including case management, counseling, group and individual psychosocial support sessions by social workers in Amhara, B/Gumuz, and Tigray Regions.
- **693 women and girls received dignity kits and sanitary pads** for menstrual health management, with 212 individuals receiving emergency funds and voucher assistance to access services and other health-related needs.
- **5,227 women, girls, men, and boys attended Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) sessions** in Afar (60), Amhara (19), B/Gumuz (218) and Tigray (4,930) regions.

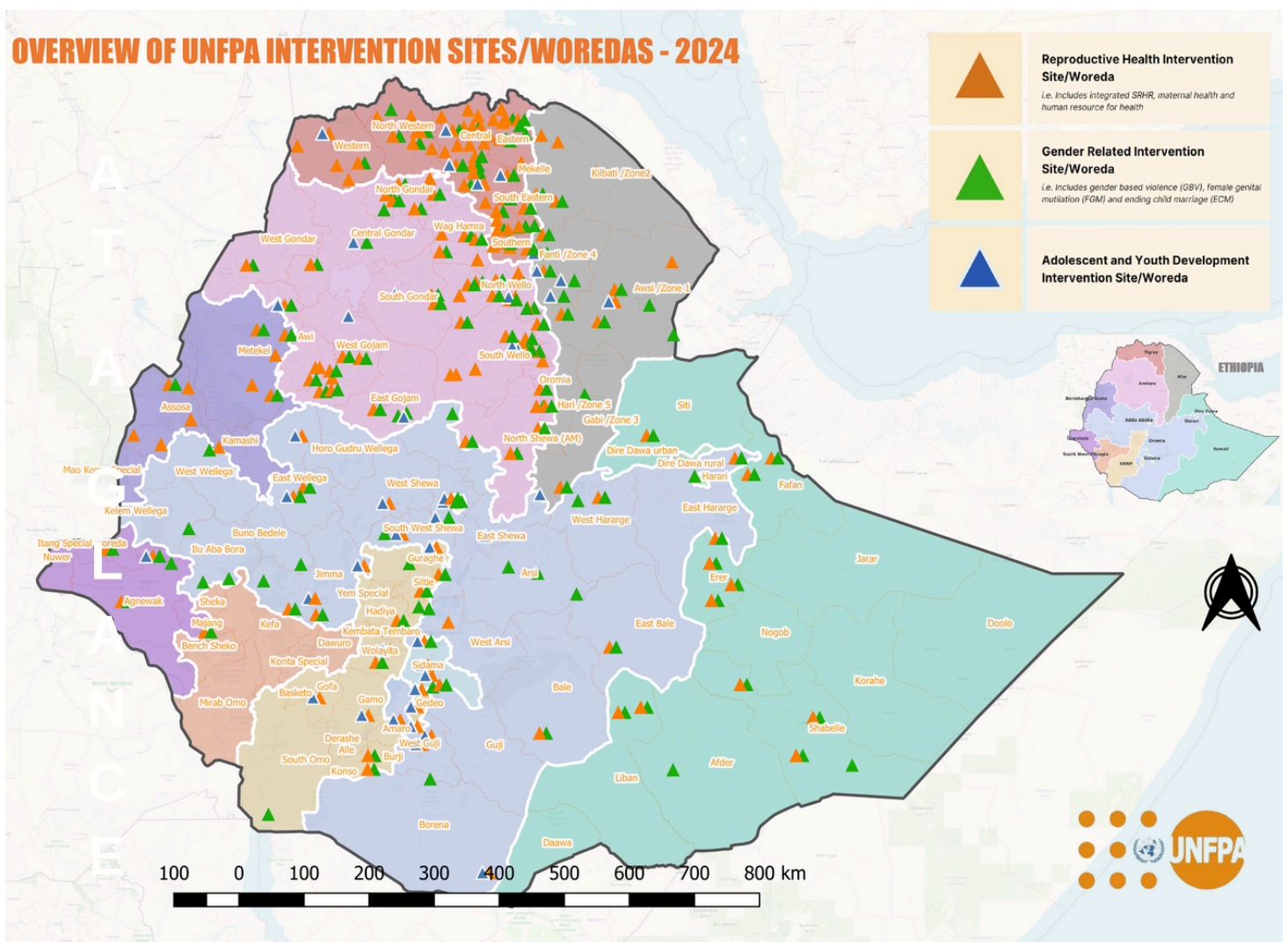
PROGRAMME UPDATES

COORDINATION & PARTNERSHIPS

UNFPA has:

- Continued to participate in various humanitarian coordination platforms, including the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG) and Health and Protection Clusters. It also continues to lead the GBV sub-cluster and SRH Working Groups at the national and sub-national levels.
- **Mobilized a total of USD 11.5 million within the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus** programming from Denmark, Canada, CERF, Korea, and Itochu Corporation in 2024. The resources will be largely used to scale up interventions within the humanitarian, development, peace nexus.
- **As lead of the GBV Area of Responsibility (AoR)** supported the drafting of the 2024 Country Refugee Response Plan in collaboration with UNHCR and the Federal Returnee Services (RRS), including UNFPA Refugee Response – with a funding appeal of USD \$7.3 million - to respond to the needs of refugees and asylum seekers entering from Sudan, South Sudan, and Somalia. Similarly, the GBV AoR published the **GBV Response Monitoring Dashboard for 2024**, available [here](#).
- **As the co-lead of the Youth, Peace, and Security (YPS) Taskforce**, and in partnership with the Ministry of Women and Social Affairs (MoWSA), UNFPA continue supporting the development the National Action Plan on Youth, Peace, and Security, including a key stakeholder mapping and the organization of the 1st National Conference on YPS to be held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

OVERVIEW OF UNFPA INTERVENTION SITES/WOREDAS - 2024



PROGRAMME UPDATES

LOGISTICS & OPERATIONS



29.6 Metric Tons

of medical equipment and supplies aiming to support SRH services at health facilities in Gambella, Sidama, Southern Ethiopia, Oromia, Central Region, Southern Ethiopia, Somali and Tigray regions.

(March 2024)

- Followed up on new national and international recruitments as well as on the procurement of additional IARH Kits and assorted medical equipment and supplies to scale up UNFPA's humanitarian response in crisis-affected populations across the country in 2024.

COMMUNICATIONS & ADVOCACY

- In partnership with UN Women, organized the commemoration of the International Women's Day 2024 aiming at mobilizing development partners and stakeholders to invest in women and accelerate progress toward gender equality and sustainable development goals. The commemorative video is available [here](#) as well as [the story](#) and [social media](#) posts.
- Organized the [launching ceremony of the new partnership between UNFPA and Itochu Corporation](#) aiming to support women's empowerment through menstrual health, hygiene, and livelihood promotion in Ethiopia.
- In partnership with the Ethiopian Statistical Service (ESS), organized a [handover ceremony of servers to the Sidama and Central Ethiopia regions](#) to strengthen the Integrated Management Information System (IMIS).
- Developed and disseminated UNFPA Ethiopia's Annual Report '[Pathways to Equality: Saving Lives and Advancing Rights for All in Ethiopia](#)' showcasing the major achievements and milestones accomplished in 2023.
- With the support of Canada, in collaboration with the Tigray Regional Health Bureau, [launched a campaign at Suhul Shire General Hospital](#) to address the needs of more than 10,000 women in need of pelvic-organ prolapse (POP) treatment and care.

STORIES FROM THE FIELD



[\[Read more\]](#)

Zeyneb Ibrahim's journey in the Afar Region of Ethiopia is a testament to resilience and determination amidst adversity. Married off at 18, she faced the daunting challenges of early motherhood without proper support or resources. However, with the crucial assistance of UNFPA, Zeyneb accessed vital maternal health services, including safe childbirth and postnatal care. Through her advocacy for education and determination to break the cycle of early marriage in her family, Zeyneb exemplifies the transformative power of maternal empowerment and community support.

RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

2024

Funding Required: 45,000.000 USD

Funding Received: 11,568,557 USD

Our Donors:

BMGF
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CERF
Denmark
ITOCHU Corporation
Japan
Norway
Spain
Sweden
KOICA
USAID
World Bank / UNOPS

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pregnancy is wanted, every
childbirth is safe and every
young person's potential is
fulfilled



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