More than 25.9 million [1] people across Ethiopia are estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance and 4.2 million have been internally displaced due to conflicts, climate-related shocks, disease outbreaks and the socioeconomic impacts of the COVID 19 pandemic. Conflict and displacement in the north has left more than 9 million people in need in Afar, Amhara and Tigray regions, and severe drought is already affecting 6.8 million people more across the eastern and southern parts of the country [2].

In the lowlands of Somali, Oromia and Southern Nations, Nationalities and People’s (SNNP) regions, three consecutive failed rainy seasons have resulted in severe drought causing successive harvest failures, water shortages and large-scale livestock death. A month into the current rainy season there are no rains yet. If this continues it would worsen food insecurity and malnutrition, mass displacement, disease outbreaks and result in heightened protection risks for millions of people. While humanitarian partners continue to scale up operations, at least 286,000 people are estimated to be displaced across 26 most affected zones [3]. On April 26, donors pledged US$1.39 billion for humanitarian and development response to respond to the worst drought across the Horn of Africa since 1981.

In northern Ethiopia, after the declaration by the Federal Government of a “humanitarian truce” on March 24, 2022 to facilitate humanitarian assistance into Tigray, humanitarian partners continue to scale up much-needed assistance across Tigray, Amhara and Afar regions. In Tigray, despite the relative improvement in access allowing for the resumption of road convoys, the rate at which assistance is arriving into the region remains far below of what is required to respond to the needs of 5.2 million people. In Afar and Amhara regions, the situation remains relatively calm - with some exceptions, particularly in western Amhara and zone 2 in Afar region - with partners scaling up essential services to both returnees and newly displaced persons. Across the three regions, more than 2.1 million [4] people are estimated to be displaced as a result of conflict and 9.4 million people need humanitarian assistance.
**PROGRAMME UPDATES**

**SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH**

- **Northern Ethiopia Response**
  - **45,539 conflict-affected individuals reached with midwifery services** by deployed midwives and clinical mentors in partnership with the Ethiopian Midwifess Association (EMwa), Marie Stopes International (MSI), Maternity Foundation, Maedot, World Vision, and IOM in Afar, Amhara and Tigray regions.
  - **An ambulance and emergency reproductive and dignity kits** – procured with the support of the Danish MFA – to be handed over to Chifra woreda on May 11, 2022.
  - **22,172 individuals reached with 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 health facilities in Afar (2,750), Amhara (8,163) and Tigray (33,227) in partnership with EMwa, MSI, Maternity Foundation, Amhara Women Association (AWA) and the Organization for Social Services, Health and Development (OSSHD).
  - Reinstated field presence of international staff in Mekelle on April 19 and assessments are being done to resume field presence in Shire, Tigray, after leaving in October 2021.

- **National Humanitarian Response**
  - **5,372 conflict-affected persons from Benishangul Gumuz reached with reproductive and midwifery services** by five deployed midwives in partnership with Ethiopian Midwife Association (EMwA).
  - **521 young people accessed family planning methods and 582 were reached with peer education training sessions** on youth-friendly SRH services through the 15 Youth Friendly Corners (YFS) established by UNFPA with the support of KOICA in Oromia and SNNP Regions.
  - Finalized the work plans of the Organization for Welfare & Development (OWDA) for integrated SRH and GBV response in Somali region, and EMwA for SRH response in Benishangul Gumuz.
PROGRAMME UPDATES

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (GBV)

UNFPA Response to GBV across Ethiopia
(Since March 2021)

- **11** Women & Girls’ Friendly Spaces supported by UNFPA
- **18** One-Stop Centers strengthened with UNFPA’s support across 7 regions
- **8** Safe Shelters supported by UNFPA in 5 regions

12,229 individuals reached with GBV prevention and risk mitigation awareness-raising activities across the north
(April 2022)

659 individuals reached with psychological support and counseling across Northern Ethiopia
(April 2022)

- **Northern Ethiopia Response**
  - 2 psychosocial health officers recruited and trained on psychosocial first aid and counseling (PSS) to support the provision of MHPSS to GBV survivors in Sekota and Debark IDP sites (Amhara Region) in partnership with Marie Stopes International.
  - **12,229** conflict-affected people reached with GBV prevention and risk mitigation awareness-raising sessions and sensitization activities in partnership with OSSHD, Amhara Women Association, Maternity Foundation, MSI, Food for the Hungry International (FHI) and EMwA.
  - Supported **659** displaced individuals with individual and group counseling and Psychological First Aid in partnership with Food for the Hungry International at 2 IDP sites in Tigray region.

- **National Humanitarian Response**
  - Two motorbikes handed over to Dilla and Bule Hora One Stop Centers (OSCs) to strengthen the referral linkage for psychosocial support, Clinical Management of Rape (CMR), legal and protection services for GBV survivors with the support of KOICA in SNNP and Oromia Regions.

Tsedenya, Mahlet, Kalkidan, Getutuj, Samrawit pose with their UNFPA Dignity Kits at Nifas-mewucha Elementary School, Amhara Region. During April 2022, UNFPA has distributed more than 11,000 Dignity Kits in partnership with Regional Bureaus and with the financial support of CERF to vulnerable women and girls across Amhara Region.

Photo by UNFPA Ethiopia - Paula Seijo.
**PROGRAMME UPDATES**

**COORDINATION & PARTNERSHIPS**

UNFPA has:

- Continued with the onboarding of 15 Implementing Partners (IPs) to scale up operations across 6 regions in Ethiopia (Amhara, Afar, Somali, Benishangul Gumuz, Tigray, and SNNP Regions). Seven work plans have been signed to provide lifesaving intervention in northern Ethiopia while an additional eight IPs are completing the process to start supporting operations in other underserved regions.
- Transferred nearly 4 million ETB into Tigray for staff salaries and to sustain critical humanitarian response interventions across the region.
- Signed a top-up grant of $800,000 USD with the Government of Sweden for humanitarian response in the country.
- Organised in collaboration with the CP/GBV AoR and Ethiopia PSEA Network a two-day Training of Trainers (ToT) on the GBV Pocket Guide for non-GBV Specialists working in affected regions across the country. The training was held in Addis Ababa on the 25th and 26th of April with the financial support of the Danish MFA.
- Conducted a three-day GBV AoR Handbook Training for nearly 50 GBV AoR representatives of the sub-national clusters to ensure better coordination and leadership on GBV programming and response across Ethiopia’s emergency affected regions.

**LOGISTICS & OPERATIONS**

**11,000 DIGNITY KITS**

Distributed to conflict-affected women and girls in Amhara region  
(April 2022)

**6 MT OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES**

Including IARH Kits and PPEs dispatched to Afar Regional Health Bureau  
(April 2022)

- Following up on the second dispatchment of nearly 8 metric tons of SRH Kits into Tigray to provide 30,000 midwifery services across health facilities in the region.
- Following up on upcoming distributions of SRH Kits and dignity kits for Amhara and Afar regions, including personal hygiene items and PPEs for COVID 19 prevention.
- Initiated the procurement of over 1,000 IARH Kits, 9 ambulances and assorted medical equipment from several donors to expand SRH-GBV-MHPSS service provision for conflict-affected populations across Afar, Amhara, Benishangul Gumuz, Somali and Tigray regions.
- As part of the Human Resources Plan (2021-2022), two international posts have been approved - GBViE/PSEA Specialist and Humanitarian Programme Analyst - to support the scale up of humanitarian interventions across the country.

UNFPA Ethiopia in partnership with UNHCR distributed delivery kits to pregnant women at Semera IDP site, Afar.  
Photo by UNHCR Ethiopia.
PROGRAMME UPDATES

COMMUNICATIONS & ADVOCACY

- Conducted a field mission to Debark and Debra Tabor (Amhara) to document the SRH efforts of MSIE Mobile Units at IDP sites supported by Norway and Denmark MFA as well as the distribution of dignity kits by the Regional Health Bureau with the financial support of CERF.
- Continued the capacity building efforts of Implementing Partners (IPs) with an on-site training on communication and field visibility requirements by UNFPA Ethiopia.
- Showcased UNFPA support to pregnant and lactating women at Maedot Maternity Waiting Home at Sabacare 4 Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camp in Mekelle, Tigray.

COMMUNICATIONS & ADVOCACY

“I have survived my pregnancy on hardly one meal a day. Now, I am concerned about my baby’s health as we are living on minimum food in the camp”, says Daniet, during her regular postnatal care check-up at the maternity clinic in Sabacare 4, an internally displaced person (IDP) camp on the outskirts of Mekelle, Tigray Region.

[Read the full story here]

GBV AOR & ETHIOPIA PSEA NETWORK

“In accordance with our “Do No Harm” principle, we have a joint responsibility to design & implement programming in a way that minimises GBV risks & ensures accessibility for vulnerable groups”

Dr. Catherine Sozi, UN Resident Coordinator at a Training of Trainers on GBV Pocket Guide organized by the GBV AoR and Ethiopia PSEA Network on April 25, 2022.

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STORIES FROM THE FIELD

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[Read the full story here]
Delivering a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person’s potential is fulfilled

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