Ethiopia continues to face complex humanitarian challenges caused by the consequences of a devastating two-year conflict in northern Ethiopia, the effects of severe drought in the eastern and southern parts of the country, and heightened levels of armed violence in some parts of the country, particularly Oromia Region. More than 20 million people are estimated to be in need of live-saving assistance, with women and children making up more than two-thirds of the people in need in 2023.

Drought remains a significant driver of displacement in Ethiopia mainly affecting the southern and eastern parts of the country. About 24 million people are currently living in drought-affected areas, of whom 13 million vulnerable pastoralists and agro-pastoralists are targeted for life-saving assistance in 2023. Consecutive failures of the short and long rainy seasons continue to worsen an already very dire situation of food insecurity, malnutrition and health conditions of affected populations, with eroded coping capacities and increased vulnerabilities. Health risks related to complications from malnutrition and disease outbreaks have multiplied at a time when access to health services has decreased. In addition, the drought is raising significant protection concerns as communities resort in negative coping mechanisms, including child marriage. As reported by OCHA, child marriage cases have increased by 131 per cent in the first half of 2022 compared to the same time in 2021 [1].

In northern Ethiopia, although access to hard-to-reach areas has improved substantially after the signing of the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement (COHA) in November 2022, the response remains below the scale of needs. In Tigray, partners continue to scale up the dispatch of humanitarian supplies via four corridors through Afar and Amhara regions although some areas in Central, Eastern and Western zones in the region remain hard-to-reach. Commercial flights, electricity, telecommunications and banking services have been gradually restored across the region. In Amhara, North Shewa, South Wello and West Gojjam zones continue to receive hundreds of thousands of IDPs [2] following reported fighting in areas bordering with Oromia region, aggravating an already deteriorated humanitarian situation in the region. In Oromia Region, ethnic clashes and a fluid security situation continue to drive internal displacement while humanitarian access to people in need remains limited.

[1][2] UNOCHA Ethiopia Humanitarian Situation Report (2 Feb 2023)
PROGRAMME UPDATES

SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

31,181
Individuals reached with HIV/STIs care in crisis-affected regions
(February 2023)

214
Midwives deployed to scale up maternal and reproductive health services across 5 regions (February 2023)

- Key Achievements

- **52,617 conflict-affected individuals** – in Afar, Amhara, SNNPR, Somali and Tigray regions – reached with sexual and reproductive health services, including maternal and newborn services, by deployed midwives and health extension workers (HEWs) through multiple partnerships.

- **2,215 pregnant and lactating women (PLW) screened for acute malnutrition** and provided with iron and folic acid supplements in Amhara, Somali and Tigray regions.

- **14,198 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 health facilities through multiple strategic partnerships.
**Key Achievements**

- **31,958** women and girls reached with gender-based violence multi-sectoral services and referrals through UNFPA-supported Women and Girls’ Friendly Spaces (WGFS), One-Stop Centers and Safe Houses.
- **25,458** women and girls – Amhara, SNNPR, Somali and Tigray Regions – reached with Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) and outreach activities outside of WGFS.
- **366** dignity kits with menstrual and personal hygiene items distributed to vulnerable women and girls in partnership with Maedot in Tigray Region.
- Provided **multipurpose cash support to GBV survivors** in partnership with World Vision Ethiopia and Food for the Hungry International in Amhara and Tigray regions.

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**COORDINATION & PARTNERSHIPS**

UNFPA has:

- Continued to participate in various humanitarian coordination platforms, including the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCCG) and Health and Protection Clusters.
- **Mobilized a total of USD 21.4 million within the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus programming** from World Bank, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Irish Aid, Italy, Norway, Japan and USAID for the first quarter of 2023. Resource mobilization efforts from Canada, Spain and other donors are in the pipeline. The resources will be largely used to scale up humanitarian interventions.
- As the GBV AoR lead, a detailed GBV Service mapping was concluded in the Tigray Region reaching 19 Health Facilities and 4 One Stop Centres to assess the scope of Clinical Management of Rape (CMR) and SRH services, data management capacity, personnel and supplies availability.
- Led – jointly with IOM – the development of the TOR on the Youth, Peace & Security Technical Working Group, including the nomination of young participants, the mapping of interventions and needs of young people to be included in the Youth, Peace and Security agenda.
**PROGRAMME UPDATES**

**LOGISTICS & OPERATIONS**

**6,972**

Dignity Kits dispatched to be distributed to women and girls of reproductive age in Afar and Tigray regions *(February 2023)*

**147**

Metric tons of IARH Kits & medical devices dispatched to 29 Implementing Partners in 9 regions *(February 2023)*

- Dispatched 147 metric tons of Inter-Agency Reproductive Health (IARH) Kits, Dignity Kits and assorted medical equipment to be distributed by 29 Implementing Partners across 8 affected regions - Afar, Amhara, Benishangul-Gumuz, SNNPR, Sidama, Somali, Oromia and Tigray Regions – and the Addis Ababa City Administration.

- **Handed over Information and Communication Equipment (ICT) to the Ethiopia Statistical Service.**

- Followed up on the upcoming 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.

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**UNFPA: SNAPSHOT OF HUMANITARIAN INTERVENTION SITES/DISTRICTS - 2022**

*Source: UNFPA Ethiopia*
PROGRAMME UPDATES

COMMUNICATIONS & ADVOCACY

- Showcased the efforts to strengthen protection services through Women and Girls’ Friendly Spaces to drought-affected women and girls in Oromia Region with the support of the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF).
- Organized the launching of a new project funded by the Embassy of Japan to address the sexual and reproductive health and gender-based violence needs of emergency woredas in Amhara and Benishangul Gumuz.
- Advocated - jointly with UNICEF - to renew the commitment to end Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) in Ethiopia.

DONOR MINUTES

"The health sector is our top priority in the development cooperation in Ethiopia. Japan provides various medical equipment and mobile clinics to strengthen the overall health system in Ethiopia. The project we are launching today is part of this effort,"

says H.E. Ms. Ito Takako, Ambassador of Japan in Ethiopia

[Read more]

FROM THE FIELD

“I advised one of my friends about the consequences of early marriage. After three days, she got divorced and the family sent her back to school. She is very happy now”

says Aradat Deder, an eleven-year old student from Oromia Region

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

UNFPA National Humanitarian Response Plan (2023)

Funding Required: 45,000,000 USD
Funding Received: 21,400,000 USD

Our Donors:
- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- Canada
- Denmark
- Ireland
- Italy
- Japan
- Norway
- Sweden
- USAID
- World Bank / UNOPS

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