

# UNFPA ETHIOPIA HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

## SITUATION REPORT - DECEMBER 2023

### SITUATION OVERVIEW

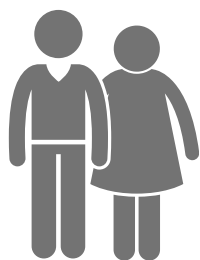
As of December 2023, Ethiopia is teetering on the brink of a **significant humanitarian crisis**, brought about by recurring and often overlapping challenges that severely undermine communities' resilience. These crises stem primarily from the intersection of four major factors: **climate-related issues such as floods and droughts, armed conflicts, disease outbreaks, and economic upheavals**. The compounding effect of these shocks is driving an increasing number of people into situations of displacement, food insecurity, malnutrition, disease outbreaks, and heightened protection concerns. **Over 20 million people, including 4.5 internally displaced persons, are in need of humanitarian assistance**, according to OCHA [1].

Extreme weather events such as **drought and floods are increasing and severely affecting** the lives and livelihoods of millions of people. In **Tigray, Afar, Amhara**, and certain areas of the **Oromia, Southern, and Southwest regions**, drought is once again inflicting significant hardship with **nearly 4 million people in urgent need of multi-sectoral assistance**, as highlighted by the Ethiopia Disaster Risk Management Commission [2]. At the end of December 2023, regional authorities of **Amhara and Tigray** sounded the alarm about the critical humanitarian situation arising from food insecurity and drought. Erratic rains have adversely affected crop and livestock production, hampering the communities' recovery efforts as communities are still grappling with the lingering effects of a severe drought and the devastating northern conflict. In December, the **Amhara** authorities reported 43 woredas/districts in nine zones experiencing a severe drought, impacting nearly 1.7 million people in need of assistance [3]. In **Tigray**, rain shortage has caused drought in 36 districts across five zones and nearly 1.4 million people in need of immediate assistance, including close to a million IDPs for whom humanitarian aid serves as vital lifeline [4]. Other regions in Ethiopia, particularly the **southern and southeastern areas of Somali, South Ethiopia, South-West Ethiopia, and Oromia**, are recovering from five successive seasons of below-average rainfall. The rainy season from March to May 2022 has been noted as the driest in the past 70 years leaving 17.2 million people in Ethiopia requiring lifesaving assistance in 2023 [5]. Meanwhile, most of these areas received heavy rains in season from October to December 2023 resulting in **floods** that affected at least 1.5 million people and displaced over 616,000 people [6]. Despite significant resource constraints and operational challenges, including ongoing hostilities in certain areas, the government and humanitarian partners are intensifying life-saving efforts in the most impacted regions across the country.

Since the onset of the **Sudan crisis** in April, over 91,500 people has entered Ethiopia through multiple border points of entry (PoE), primarily at Metema in the West Gondar Zone and Kurmuk in the Assosa Zone, situated in the Amhara and Benishangul Gumz regions, respectively. The majority of arrivals, accounting for 43 percent, are Ethiopian returnees, followed by Sudanese nationals at 39 percent, and third-country nationals at 18 percent [7]. In Metema PoE, partners continue to provide medical services, including the provision of Psychosocial First Aid (PFA), and sexual and reproductive health services for expectant mothers.

## PROGRAMME UPDATES

### SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH



35,430

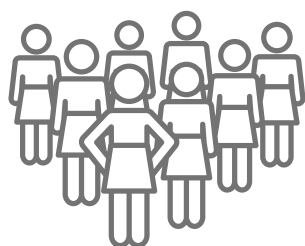
Individuals reached with sexual and reproductive health services and information affected regions of Ethiopia

(December 2023)

#### • Key Achievements

- **35,430 conflict-affected individuals** – in Afar, Amhara, B/Gumuz, SNNP, 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 strategic partnerships.
- **2,071 deliveries assisted** by a UNFPA-supported skilled birth attendants or midwives in health facilities across affected regions.
- **5,634 pregnant and lactating mothers screened** and provided with food and nutrition supplements across affected regions.
- **7,145 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 Afar, Amhara, B/Gumuz, SNNP, Somali and Tigray regions.

### GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (GBV)



65,870

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

(December 2023)

#### • Key Achievements

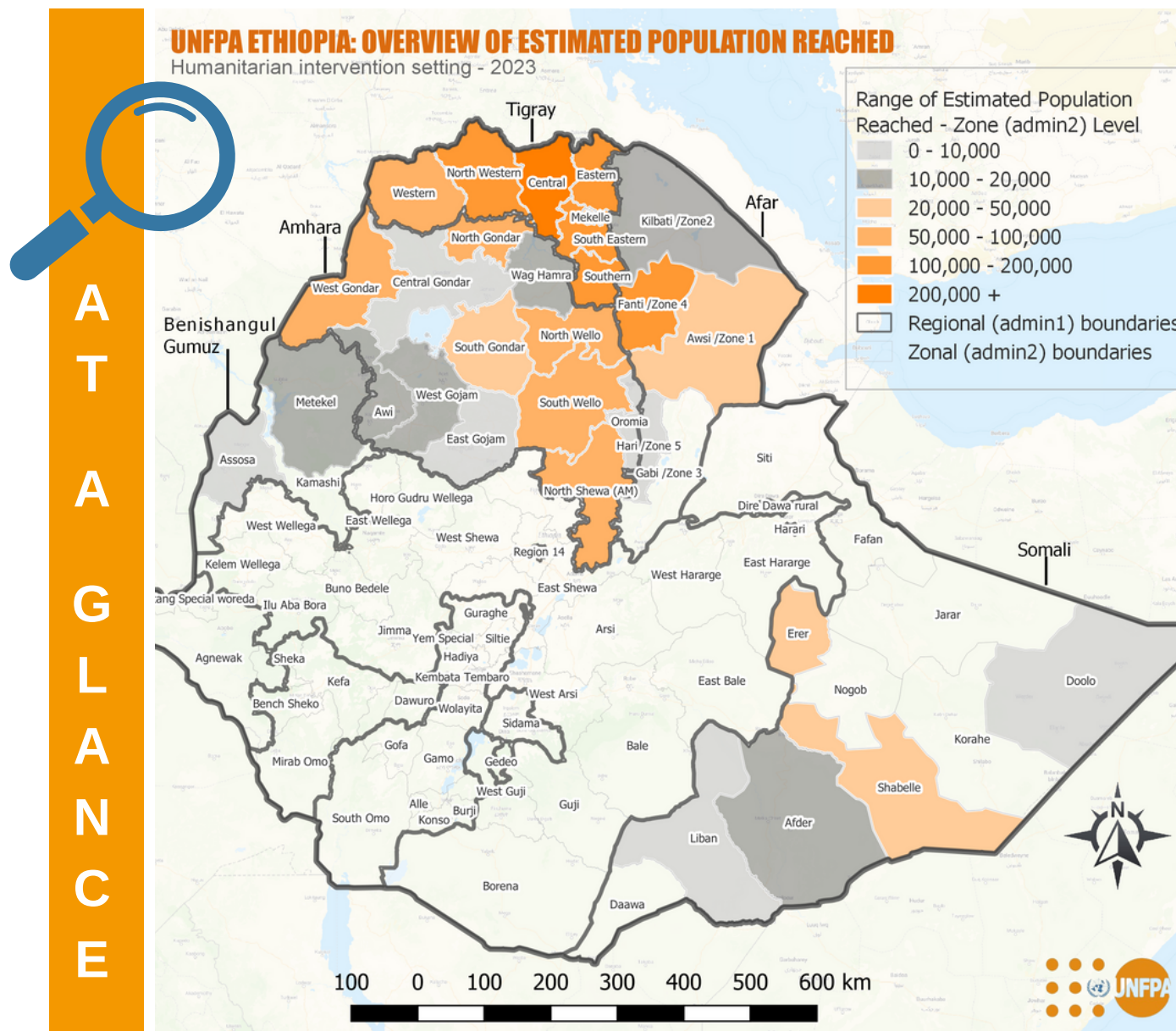
- **65,870 women and girls reached with gender-based violence multi-sectoral services** and referrals through 40 UNFPA-supported Women and Girls' Friendly Spaces (WGFS), 30 One-Stop Centers and 10 Safe Houses.
- **3,473 women and girls** – SNNP, Somali and Tigray Regions – **reached with Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)** and outreach activities outside of WGFS by social workers and outreach teams.
- **6,122 dignity kits, and sanitary pads distributed** to support the menstrual and personal hygiene need of vulnerable women and girls in partnership with Maedot (866), World Vision (2,048), International Medical Corps (1,966), Food for the Hungry (1,211), and Women's Association of Tigray (31) in selected areas of 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.

## PROGRAMME UPDATES

### COORDINATION & PARTNERSHIPS

UNFPA has:

- **Mobilized a total of USD 31.2 million within the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus** programming from World Bank, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, BPRM, Irish Aid, Italy, Norway, Japan and USAID for 2023. Resource mobilization efforts from Canada, Spain, CERF, and other donors are ongoing for humanitarian response. The resources will be largely used to scale up interventions within the humanitarian, development, peace nexus.
- **Organized in partnership with the Ethiopian Public Health Institute (EPHI)**, an advocacy workshop on Sexual and Reproductive Health in the presence of the Ministry of Health (MOH) and **SRH Working Group** partners. In addition, the Facilitator Guide and Participant Manual on GBV prevention and response in emergencies was finalized and submitted for endorsement to the Ministry of Health (MOH).
- **UNFPA, in partnership with the UN Resident Coordination Office and UNDP**, organized a three-day capacity building workshop for 45 trainees/members of the **Youth, Peace, and Security Technical Working Group (YPS TWG)** for better YPS programming in conflict-affected regions of Ethiopia.





## PROGRAMME UPDATES

### LOGISTICS & OPERATIONS



212

IARH kits, and medical equipment items distributed to **Tigray** aiming to serve nearly **3,000 individuals** and **41 health facilities** to provide sexual and reproductive health services.

(December 2023)

• **Key Achievements**

- 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

- Supported the commemoration of the **World Aids Day** as part of the ‘16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence’ campaign in Addis Ababa, Gambella, B/Gumuz, Tigray, and SNNPR in the presence of government officials, partners and relevant stakeholders.
- Organized in partnership with the Embassy of Spain and its Cooperation Agency (AECID), the Embassy of Ireland, Sweden, Brussels, EU, and UN Women, **a high-level panel on GBV in crisis contexts in Ethiopia** to advocate for further investment on GBV prevention and response with development partners and relevant stakeholders.
- Supported in partnership with the Ministry of Health the **launching workshop for the ‘Costed Implementation Plan for the National Family Planning Program 2023/2030’** to reach a family planning prevalence rate of 54% nationwide by 2030.

### DONOR MINUTES

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“The bodies of women and girls are war territory. Every day of the year, we must raise our voices to declare the bodies of women and girls free of conflict. This situation should make us wake up and act.”

H.E. Manuel Salazar, Ambassador of Spain in Ethiopia, during the high-level panel on GBV in Crisis Contexts in Ethiopia celebrated on the 6th of December in Addis Ababa.



[\[Read more\]](#)

## SPECIAL UPDATE

### 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

TWITTER DECK



[#16DaysOfActivism](#) Amhara Women Association & [@UNFPAEthiopia](#) with relevant stakeholders raised their voice to denounce gender-based violence no matter where, when, or any situation - there is [#NoExcuse](#) or justification for GBV.



[#WorldAidsDay](#) commemorated in [#Gambella](#) with youth & stakeholders. HIV is threatening the well-being of young people. Substance abuse & lack of awareness were highlighted as the main causes. Participants called for increased support for the fight against HIV/Aids. [#16Days](#) [#NoExcuse](#)



[#16DaysOfActivism](#) [#DayOfPWD](#) [@ECDDEthiopia](#) with [@UNFPA](#) support is participating in [#16Days](#) disability inclusion week at [@ECA\\_OFFICIAL](#). The week is celebrated with consultations & exhibitions under the theme "United in action to rescue & achieve the [#SDGs](#) for with & by persons with disabilities" [#NoExcuse](#)

## FROM THE FIELD

**"I am putting my  
pieces back  
together"**

says Azeb\*, a GBV survivor after receiving care in a UNFPA-supported space in B/Gumuz.

[\[Read more\]](#)



## RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

2023

**UNFPA National Humanitarian Response Plan (2023)\***

*(\*revised as of July 2023)*

**Funding Required: 48,200,085 USD**

**Funding Received: 31,253,643 USD**

### Our Donors:

AECID  
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation  
BPRM  
Canada  
Denmark  
Ireland  
Italy  
Japan  
KOICA  
Norway  
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**Delivering a world where every  
pregnancy is wanted, every  
childbirth is safe and every  
young person's potential is  
fulfilled**



UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND (UNFPA)

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