After almost one year of conflict, the political dynamics across Northern Ethiopia changed dramatically on June 28 following the unilateral declaration of ceasefire by the Federal Government with the subsequent withdrawal of the Ethiopian National Defense Forces (ENDF) and the control of most areas of Tigray region by the Tigray People’s Liberation Front (TPLF). In July, the conflict spiraled into the neighboring regions of Afar and Amhara prompting mass displacement and a dire humanitarian situation leaving an estimated 7 million people in need across the three regions (5.2 million in Tigray and the rest from Amhara and Afar regions). Approximately 3 million people are estimated to be displaced as a result of the conflict across Northern Ethiopia: 2.1 million people in Tigray, 789,035 in Amhara (North Gondar, Central Gondar, South Wollo, South Gondar, and Awi zones) and 323,000 in Afar (zones 2 and 4), according to recent assessments by regional authorities and humanitarian partners.

During the reporting period, the conflict continues to escalate with active fighting - including airstrikes in Tigray’s capital, Mekelle - and expanding across areas of the Afar and Amhara regions. Humanitarian partners have significantly reduced or even suspended response programs due to the lack of fuel, cash and supplies. The delivery of humanitarian cargo to Tigray via Afar - the only route available - remains severely restricted with partners unable to replenish stock and sustain operations on the ground. In Afar and Amhara regions, humanitarian partners are scaling up the response and strengthening coordination mechanisms on the ground in support of regional authority-led responses while humanitarian access remains challenging in some conflict-affected areas.

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The overall humanitarian situation in Northern Ethiopia remains unpredictable and volatile while the situation continues to deteriorate with the expansion of hostilities into the neighboring Afar and Amhara regions. In addition to the 2.1 million people displaced within Tigray, there is a rapid increase of displacements across the regional boundaries in the neighboring Afar and Amhara regions. According to the Amhara Disaster Risk Management Center (DRMC) an estimated 1.7 million IDPs are in need of humanitarian assistance, with nearly 800,000 people newly displaced as result of the spill over of hostilities into the region. The largest number of IDPs in Amhara are found in Dessie town (350,000), 190,739 in Wolkait–Tegede, 62,559 in North Gondar and 69,510 in South Gondar. In Afar, the Regional Disaster Prevention, Preparedness, and Food Security Coordinator office (DPFSPCO) estimates that over 334,000 individuals have been displaced as a result of the conflicts in Tigray, conflicts between Afar and Issa communities (along the borders of the Afar and Somali regions) and weather-related disasters. According to DPSFPCO, nearly 83,696 of the conflict-affected IDPs are inaccessible and without humanitarian assistance in Awsi and Hari Rasu zones.

Across Tigray, an estimated 3.8 million people need to access health care while lack of essential medical equipment, vaccines and medicines is severely affecting the health system capacity to deliver services to those in need. According to OCHA, 80% of essential medication is no longer available while most health facilities are not functional due to damage and lack of supplies. In Afar and Amhara regions, the situation continues to deteriorate with partners’ operational presence and capacity to respond still short of the needs. As reported by Amhara DRMC, ongoing hostilities in the region have caused an extensive damage on the health system structure with nearly 810 health facilities affected and 25 ambulances looted in the region. In Afar, as reported by the DPFSPCO, 49 health facilities have been partially or totally destroyed with limited service provision in conflict-affected areas bordering with Tigray region.

As conflict spills across Northern Ethiopia, the protection needs - particularly for gender-based violence, exploitation and abuse - continue to increase while services are still limited due to active hostilities, insecurity and low operational presence. In Tigray, protection services are limited to Mekelle and Shire.
due to the lack of fuel, cash and supplies\textsuperscript{5}. In Amhara and Afar regions, the mapping of information on GBV prevention and response activities is still ongoing across areas bordering with Tigray. The current challenges and operational constraints to deliver protection services across Northern Ethiopia place conflict-affected populations at greater risk of life-threatening physical, psychological, and health consequences.

Despite the operational challenges UNFPA maintains its commitment to scale up the provision of services to meet the current and emerging humanitarian needs across Northern Ethiopia. UNFPA’s Preparedness and Response Plan for the Northern Ethiopia crisis focuses on preventing and responding to gender-based violence and bridging protection, gender equality and MHPSS, while building back capacity on sexual and reproductive health and rights in the conflict-affected regions in Northern Ethiopia. UNFPA has presence in Mekelle and Shire (Tigray Region), Semera (Afar Region) and Bahir Dar (Amhara Region) with International and National Surge Capacity Specialists supporting the Northern Ethiopia Response.

**UNFPA’S RESPONSE**

### Sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR)

*Of the people in need\textsuperscript{6}:

- **1,300,000** are women of reproductive age
- **117,846** are currently pregnant women
- **13,094** expected births per month
- **624,000** are adolescent girls (10-19)

**Tigray Region**

- **1,127 internally displaced persons** supported with family planning methods, clean delivery kits, STI/HIV treatment and other reproductive health services by the Mobile Health Units deployed in partnership with Marie Stopes International (MSI) in Mekelle and Adigrat, Tigray. In addition, Mobile Health Teams reached **2,119 individuals with GBV/SRH outreach community awareness sessions** (18) in Mekelle and Adigrat, Tigray.
- **Reached 100 women of reproductive age** with SRH awareness sessions for service demand in partnership with Food for the Hungry International (FHI) at Sabacare 4 IDP site in Mekelle, Tigray.
- **Distributed 3 SRH Referral Kits #12 - 1 Kit 12 to ERCS and 2 to Save the Children International** - to support the provision of sexual and reproductive health services at health facilities and IDP sites in Tigray region.
- **Oriented and deployed 24 senior midwives and 20 Health Extension workers (HEWs)** in partnership with Ethiopian Midwives Association (EMwA) to 12 selected health facilities - 5 primary hospitals and 7 health centers - and 36 health posts across Tigray.

\textsuperscript{5}Ibid.

\textsuperscript{6}Based on Minimum Essential Service Package (MISP) calculator: https://iawg.net/resources/misp-calculator

https://ethiopia.unfpa.org
• **Deployed 21 health staff** - 1 Coordinator, 4 General practitioners, 4 midwives, 1 psychiatrist, 1 Community Mobilizer, 1 Data Collector and 9 Support personnel - *in partnership with Maedot* to provide comprehensive SRH services in the Maternity Waiting Home at Sabacare 4 IDP site in Mekelle, Tigray. The recruitment of health personnel for the Maternity Waiting Home at Adigrat has been completed.

**Amhara Region**

• **Distributed 2 SRH kits #12 in partnership with the Amhara Regional Health Bureau to 2 Health Facilities** to serve 200 mothers with life-saving emergency blood transfusions located in conflict-affected zones bordering with Tigray region.

• **1,337 people reached through house-to-house visits on SRH and GBV prevention** measures in partnership with the Amhara branch of Ethiopian Red Cross Society (ERCS) at Wolkayt, Dabat and Debark woredas in Amhara region.

**Afar Region**

• **Conducted the GBV/CP services and partners’ mapping** across conflict-affected areas bordering with Tigray for better coordination of scale up services across the region.

• **454 people reached with critical information on SRH/GBV service availability** through community group discussions and house-to-house awareness raising visits by 27 ERCS - community volunteers deployed at IDP sites in Chifra, Teru-Digdiga and Aba’ala districts in Afar region.

### AT A GLANCE

#### MIDWIFERY SERVICE PROVISION

(*Cumulative numbers per reporting period and since March 2021*)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REGION</th>
<th>PARTNER</th>
<th>SERVICE PROVIDED</th>
<th>FROM 15-31 OCT</th>
<th>GRAND TOTAL (SINCE MAR, 2021)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AFAR</td>
<td>ERCS</td>
<td><em># deliveries attended to by skilled provider</em></td>
<td><em>339</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em># outpatients for post-natal care (PNC) within 42 hr.</em></td>
<td><em>353</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em># outpatients for antenatal care consultations (ANC)</em></td>
<td><em>827</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em># outpatient visits for family planning (male and female)</em></td>
<td><em>602</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em># visits for STI/HIV counseling, screening, testing or other treatment</em></td>
<td><em>859</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em># referrals for higher level of obstetric care/emergency (mother/newborn)</em></td>
<td><em>11</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em># clinical management of rape visits completed within 72 hr. of assault</em></td>
<td><em>3</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em># of ANC outpatients visits, including PMTCT</em></td>
<td><em>727</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Afar</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,721</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Amhara</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,243</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

https://ethiopia.unfpa.org
### Situation Report_ 15 to 31 October 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Area</th>
<th>ERCS</th>
<th>MSI</th>
<th>SAVE THE CHILDREN</th>
<th>UNHCR</th>
<th>Total Amhara</th>
<th>Total Tigray</th>
<th>GRAND TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em># visits for STI/HIV counseling, screening, testing or other treatment</em></td>
<td><em>1,340</em></td>
<td><em>1,690</em></td>
<td><em>958</em></td>
<td><em>60</em></td>
<td><em>5,240</em></td>
<td><em>1,127</em></td>
<td><em>1,127</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em># of referrals for higher level of obstetric care/emergency (mother/newborn)</em></td>
<td><em>82</em></td>
<td><em>228</em></td>
<td><em>12</em></td>
<td><em>2</em></td>
<td><em>228</em></td>
<td><em>39</em></td>
<td><em>39</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em># of clinical management of rape visits completed within 72 hours of assaults</em></td>
<td><em>12</em></td>
<td><em>103</em></td>
<td><em>13</em></td>
<td><em>13</em></td>
<td><em>103</em></td>
<td><em>15</em></td>
<td><em>15</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em># of ANC outpatients visits, including PMTCT</em></td>
<td><em>440</em></td>
<td><em>981</em></td>
<td><em>12</em></td>
<td><em>12</em></td>
<td><em>981</em></td>
<td><em>62</em></td>
<td><em>62</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Amhara</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,240</strong></td>
<td><strong>32,783</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1,127</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,127</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GRAND TOTAL**: 41,744

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UNFPA Ethiopia Response to the Northern Ethiopia Crisis

Situation Report_ 15 to 31 October 2021

*Note: Due to a persistent communication blackout within Tigray, the reporting of midwifery services is inconsistent and challenging over time.

**Sexual and Gender-based Violence (GBV)**

**Tigray Region**

- 5,779 individuals reached with GBV prevention and risk mitigation awareness raising sessions and sensitization activities, including referral linkage to health care services in 6 Women Community Centers and 2 Women and Girls’ Friendly Spaces (Mekele) and in Shire IDP camps in partnership with OSSH (945), ERCS (114), Food for the Hungry International (182), Mums for Mums (300) and Marie Stopes International (4,236).

**Amhara Region**

- Provided psychosocial counseling and referrals for clinical care to GBV survivors in partnership with Amhara Women Association in Debark woreda, North Gondar zone.
- 1,337 individuals reached through door-to-door awareness raising sessions on GBV prevention and risk mitigation measures at schools and market places in partnership with Ethiopian Red Cross Society (ERCS) at Wolkait, Debark and Dabat town, Amhara region.

**Afar Region**

- Provided remote technical guidance for ERCS’ midwives operating in Digdiga IDP returnee camp on GBV safe referral mechanisms and protocols, including GBV service availability in the zone.

**Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)**

**Tigray Region**

- Supported 335 internally displaced adults and 532 children with Psychological First Aid (PFA) and social service referrals in 5 IDP sites - Kestatee Berhan, Kisanet, Adi Haki, Alene and Ethio-China - in Mekelle (Tigray) through 234 trained PFA providers from OSSH and trained community-based counsellors from Tigray Regional Health Bureau.

Photo by @UNFPAEthiopia.
AT A GLANCE

UNFPA’s GBV Awareness and Risk Mitigation Chart (Oct, 2021)

79,698 individuals reached with GBV awareness raising sessions and risk mitigation measures

GBV Awareness and Risk Mitigation per Region

GBV Awareness and Risk Mitigation per Gender/Age

GBV Awareness and Risk Mitigation in Tigray per Partner
Logistics and Operations

- **Dispatched 5 trucks from Adama Logistics Cluster to Mekelle loaded with 10,000 blankets and sheets and 20,000 bars of soap** to be distributed across IDP camps and health facilities in Tigray region.
- **Establishment of M-Supply platform** to track stock acquisition, pre-positioning and warehousing for CO and the Logistic Cluster for the Northern Ethiopia Response.

Coordination and Partnerships

UNFPA has:

- Continued to follow up the recruitment of international and national technical staff for Mekelle and Addis for the scale up of UNFPA operations in Amhara, Afar and Tigray regions.
- Coordinated the onboarding of new partners and revision of work plans with World Vision, International Medical Corps (IMC), Action for the needy in Ethiopia (ANE), Care, Maedot and Marie Stopes International (MSI).
- Reviewed the Implementing Partner Management System to readjust project’s implementation and financial expenditure amid the current operational challenges with partners and donors for the Northern Ethiopia Response.
- Technical guidance on the development of a M&E Plan and standardized monitoring tools to be implemented across the Northern Ethiopia Response.

GBV AoR Coordination

UNFPA as the lead agency for GBV AoR coordination:

- Updated the GBV AoR 5Ws Matrix Dashboard capturing GBV partner presence, performance and service provision according to the Humanitarian Response Plan from January to October, 2021 for Tigray region.
Edited 6 photo-albums from the field mission to Amhara and Afar to capture UNFPA’s Response to conflict-affected women and girls on the ground.

Participated in a field mission to Gambella to document the official handover ceremony of SRH Kits to regional authorities, including monitoring visits to Gambella General Hospital, Jewi Refugee Camp and UNFPA-supported Youth SRH Clinic providing STI/HIV services in the region.

Special thanks to the major donors supporting @UNFPAEthiopia Response to the Northern Ethiopia Crisis:

**CERF 2020** - 1,500,539 USD | **Emergency Fund** - 1,343,032 USD | **Danish MFA** - 1,600,000 USD

**CERF 2021** - 2,500,003 USD | **USAID** - 1,637,527.00 USD | **Ethiopia Humanitarian Fund (EHF)** - 449,633.27 USD | **Iceland** - 250,000 USD | **Sweden** - 197,000 USD | **Friends of UNFPA** - 4,000 USD

**Funding required: 15,581,865 USD**

- Funding received: $9,481,734.27
- Funding gap*: $6,100,130.73
Delivering a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person’s potential is fulfilled

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