



UNICEF Ethiopia/2020/Tewodros Tadesse

Nathan Fitsum, 4, washes his hands with soap and water provided with UNICEF support before entering his local health centre in Addis Ababa.

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for every child

Humanitarian Action for Children

Ethiopia

HIGHLIGHTS

- In Ethiopia, 23.5 million people, including 12.5 million children, 5.6 million women and 4.1 million persons with disabilities, urgently need humanitarian assistance.¹ This is double the number of people in need in 2020 due to the impact of the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19), desert locust infestation, and inter-communal violence. The conflict in Tigray region which erupted in November 2020 has created a major humanitarian crisis with large part of the region's 5.7 million inhabitants in need of emergency assistance.
- In 2021, UNICEF will deliver life-saving services to children and families and apply a targeted, multi-sector systems strengthening approach through its partners and eight field offices and using cash-based solutions.
- Particular attention will be given to protection needs given the centrality of this matter in the Tigray related conflict. In this regard, UNICEF will scale up its response to child protection and gender-based violence issues,
- UNICEF will address the specific needs of girls, boys, adolescents, women and men using a conflict-sensitive approach, emphasizing accountability to affected populations and focusing on the prevention of and response to gender-based violence and sexual exploitation.
- UNICEF is appealing for nearly US\$193 million to reach 4.75 million people and over 2.5 million children in Ethiopia with humanitarian assistance in 2021.

KEY PLANNED TARGETS



522,199

children admitted for treatment for severe acute malnutrition



791,000

children and women accessing health care



4.8 million

people reached with critical water, sanitation and hygiene supplies and services

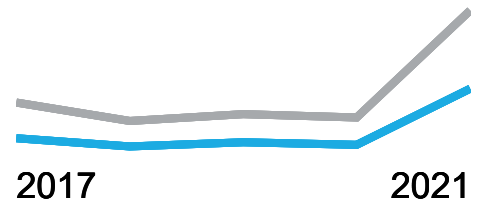


77,826

children/caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support

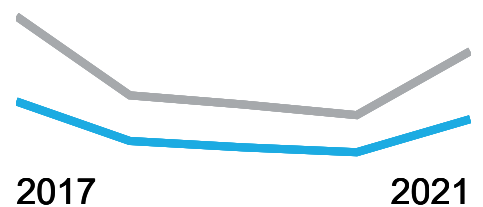
IN NEED

23.5 million people² **12.5 million children**³



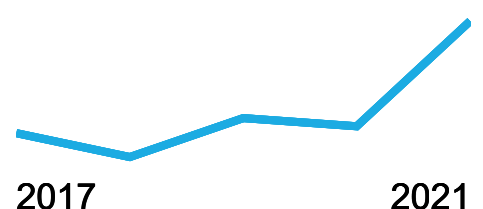
TO BE REACHED

4.8 million people⁴ **2.5 million children**⁵



FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

US\$ 192.7 million



HUMANITARIAN SITUATION AND NEEDS

The humanitarian situation in Ethiopia is complex, with 23.5 million people currently in need of humanitarian assistance as of February 2021, up from 19.2 million in August 2020.⁶ This includes 12.5 million children, 5.6 million women and 4.1 million people with a disability.⁷ Additional needs have emanated from the socio-economic impact of COVID-19,⁸ the desert locust infestation, the conflict in Tigray and the looming drought situation in at least three regions of Ethiopia. The country remains vulnerable to other disease outbreaks and floods. The pandemic has threatened the gains made to children's well-being, particularly due to its impact on poverty levels, the delivery of maternal, newborn, child, adolescent and youth health care and education and protection services. Given that women are primarily responsible for procuring and cooking food, rising economic and food insecurity places them at heightened risk of gender-based violence. Yet support for survivors of gender-based violence has been severely disrupted due to overburdened health systems grappling with COVID-19.

The locust infestation has devastated livelihoods and directly impacted food security for millions of people.⁹ An extended rainy season has led to flooding that has destroyed livelihoods, services and road infrastructure and caused displacement.

According to the HNO, the conflict in Tigray (started in November 2020) has prompted a major displacement within the region and outside, with a large part of the region's 5.7 million inhabitants in need of major emergency assistance and protection. Ongoing insecurity and inter-communal violence also are noted in other regions of Ethiopia notably in Amhara, Benishangul Gumuz and SNNPR. They have also led to displacement and further constrained humanitarian access. In total, some 2.7 million people, including 1.6 million children, are currently displaced.¹⁰ The return of more than 1.3 million internally displaced people (52 per cent of them women) has further depleted community resources and increased humanitarian needs.¹¹

In addition, 10.1 million people lack access to safe drinking water and sanitation; 1 million children are severely malnourished, with needs expected to rise;¹² 1.2 million children are affected by displacement caused by recurrent man-made and natural disasters has disproportionately affected school closures; and at least 1.2 million children require education and protection services.¹³ Ethiopia hosts over 801,451 refugees,¹⁴ including 452,681 children.¹⁵

Children and women are extremely vulnerable to, and disproportionately impacted by, COVID-19, other disease outbreaks, displacement and the loss of livelihoods. Refugees and internally displaced persons, particularly women and girls, will require protection from gender-based violence and referral to services.

The resources available to respond to the humanitarian needs in Ethiopia are currently insufficient. The limited number of partners,¹⁶ COVID-19-related operational restrictions, challenging topography, pockets of insecurity and access constraints are hampering the provision of humanitarian assistance.

SECTOR NEEDS



Nutrition

1 million children under 5 years need SAM treatment¹⁷



Water, sanitation and hygiene

10.1 million people need clean and safe water¹⁸



Child protection, GBViE and PSEA

3.2 million children need core child protection services^{19,20}



Education

8.5 million children need education²¹

STORY FROM THE FIELD



Social worker Tirusew Getachew interviews a young girl who was recently deported from Saudi Arabia amid the pandemic. The information she gathers is critical to providing support to children.

When the COVID-19 pandemic began, Ethiopia introduced a 14-day mandatory quarantine for arrivals. Returnee migrants, many of whom were women, adolescents and children, were ill equipped for the quarantine period.

In partnership with the Ministry of Women, Children and Youth, the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), UNICEF sent social workers to support case management for adolescents and children, distribute dignity kits and provide mental health and psychosocial support or service referrals. Tirusew Getachew was assigned to identify and register unaccompanied children and youth, many of whom are victims of human trafficking.

[Read more about this story here](#)

HUMANITARIAN STRATEGY

In 2021, UNICEF will deliver life-saving services for children and families in Ethiopia who have been displaced by conflict, impacted by COVID-19 and other disease outbreaks and affected by climatic shocks, natural hazards and malnutrition.²² Early preparedness and contingency planning will accelerate the response.

Given the chronic and protracted nature of the needs, UNICEF will apply an equity-based, multi-sector, systems-building approach in its humanitarian action. Where possible, cash-based solutions will be provided through the Government's existing social protection system to strengthen its ability to respond to the needs of the most vulnerable following sudden shocks.

UNICEF will leverage its extensive footprint in Ethiopia, including through its strong capacity for community outreach and its partnerships with the Government and national and international non-governmental organizations. In some of the regions, UNICEF will increase its footprint on the ground, notably in the Tigray region, to complement the ones already existing. UNICEF will deliver equitably, based on the severity of need, mitigating child migration and ensuring durable solutions by building resilience.

Integrated services will be delivered through common platforms, cross-referrals and communication for development strategies that capitalize on UNICEF's field presence and leverage its cluster leadership roles in WASH, nutrition and child protection and co-leadership in education. UNICEF also co-leads the COVID-19 response Risk Communication and Community Engagement Pillar with the Ministry of Health.

UNICEF will address the specific needs of girls, boys, women and men by disaggregating data by sex, harmful practices and barriers to accessing services such as education, health, nutrition and protection. Girls, boys, adolescents, women and men will be consulted and equipped to meaningfully engage in the planning, implementation and monitoring of the response. Positive parenting practices will be encouraged across all sectors.

UNICEF's response will be informed by a conflict-sensitive approach that involves monitoring, responding to and adapting to the changing operational context, including socio-political-ethnic dynamics. Response interventions will link humanitarian and development responses that are conflict-sensitive and promote peacebuilding and social cohesion. These will integrate context-relevant peacebuilding and social cohesion strengthening to address the causes and impacts of conflict. Throughout this work, UNICEF will emphasize the active engagement of adolescents as peacebuilders in their communities.

Protection will be at the centre of UNICEF's response given the wide challenges faced in this regard, with special focus on child protection and gender-based violence. UNICEF is also committed to the protection from exploitation and abuse, and has strengthened its reporting mechanisms in this regard and is contributing to inter-agency efforts to establish community-based complaint mechanisms.

Progress against the 2020 programme targets is available in the humanitarian situation reports: <https://www.unicef.org/appeals/ethiopia/situation-reports>

2021 PROGRAMME TARGETS



Nutrition

- **522,199** children aged 6 to 59 months with severe acute malnutrition admitted for treatment²³
- **568,354** primary caregivers of children aged 0 to 23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling



Health

- **70,500** children aged 6 to 59 months vaccinated against measles
- **791,000** children and women accessing primary health care in UNICEF-supported facilities²⁴
- **22,000** health care facility staff and community health workers who received personal protective equipment



Water, sanitation and hygiene

- **1,400,000** people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene²⁵
- **390,000** people accessing appropriately designed and managed latrines
- **4,750,000** people reached with critical water, sanitation and hygiene supplies (including hygiene items) and services



Child protection, GBViE and PSEA

- **77,826** children and caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support²⁶
- **616,132** women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention or response interventions²⁷
- **421,371** people with access to safe channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse²⁸



Education

- **1,300** schools implementing safe school protocols (infection prevention and control)²⁹
- **300,667** children accessing formal or non-formal education and/or skills development trainings, including early learning³⁰



Social protection and cash transfers

- **101,866** households reached with humanitarian cash transfers across sectors



C4D, community engagement and AAP

- **17,879,667** people reached with messages on access to services³¹
- **400,000** people who shared their concerns and asked questions/clarifications to address their needs through established feedback mechanisms

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS IN 2021

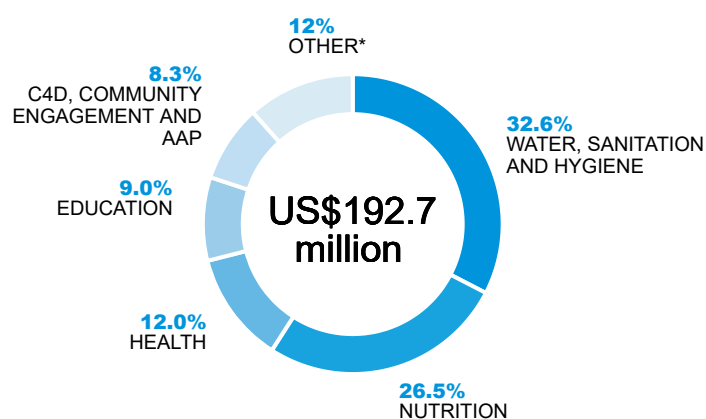
UNICEF requires nearly US\$193 million to meet the humanitarian needs of children, adolescents and women in Ethiopia in 2021 (including our Tigray crisis Response Plan). With this funding, UNICEF will be able to facilitate the continuity of essential services and learning for children and adolescents in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as new and protracted displacements.

The appeal incorporates the COVID-19 response and ongoing humanitarian needs. Ethiopia is one of the Blueprint countries, where UNICEF will work closely with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to operationalize a fairer deal for refugee children and host communities.³²

This appeal represents a US\$53.3 million increase over the 2020 appeal. This is due to the larger number of people in need and the higher budgets for WASH, child protection core services including case management family tracing and reunification (FTR) of unaccompanied and separated children (UASC), MHPSS psychosocial support service and health with the inclusion of COVID-19-specific initiatives and gender-based violence and prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse programmes, as well as the Tigray crisis.

Cluster coordination for nutrition, WASH, education and the child protection area of responsibility is also included, in line with lessons learned and agency commitments to ensure sustained leadership.

Without adequate and timely funding in 2021, UNICEF and its partners will be unable to address the critical humanitarian needs of children and families in Ethiopia.



Sector	2021 requirements (US\$)
Nutrition	51,009,671
Health	23,102,620
Water, sanitation and hygiene	62,798,005 ³³
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	15,007,587 ³⁴
Education	17,340,041 ³⁵
Social protection and cash transfers	5,725,721 ³⁶
C4D, community engagement and AAP	16,052,138
Cluster coordination	1,623,326
Total	192,659,109

*This includes costs from other sectors/interventions : Child protection, GBViE and PSEA (7.8%), Social protection and cash transfers (3.0%), Cluster coordination (<1%).

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ENDNOTES

1. Government of Ethiopia National Disaster Risk Management Commission and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, 'Ethiopia: Humanitarian Need Overview, OCHA, February 2021. The number of displaced people with a disability is based on self-reporting to UNICEF.
2. Ibid.
3. Ibid.
4. Food security will be concern of 13.74 million people (58 per cent) out of 23.8 Million PIN and most of this need covered by Ethiopian government. UNICEF to be reached figure is based on the highest programme coverage target from the WASH sector for people to be reached with critical WASH supplies and services. This includes 2,384,500 women/girls and 2,365,500 men/boys. Some 836,000 people are expected to have a disability (17.6 per cent of people have a disability according to World Health Organization and World Bank, 'The World Report on Disability' 2011.)
5. This represents 53 per cent of the total number of people to be reached, this includes 1,263,785 girls and 443,080 children with disabilities (17.6 per cent of people have a disability according to World Health Organization and World Bank, 'The World Report on Disability' 2011.)
6. Ethiopia: Humanitarian Need Overview February 2021.
7. Ibid.
8. United Nations Ethiopia, 'Socio-economic Impact of COVID-19 in Ethiopia', UN, Addis Ababa, May 2020; and United Nations Children's Fund, 'Technical Assistance on Public Finance Management (PFM) including a focus on social sectors, socio-economic analysis', UNICEF, July 2020.
9. New swarms are expected towards the end of the year and into 2021. 'Ethiopia: Draft Humanitarian Response Plan January 2021'.
10. International Organization for Migration Displacement Tracking Matrix, 'Ethiopia Round 23', IOM, September 2020.
11. International Organization for Migration Displacement Tracking Matrix, 'Ethiopia National Displacement Report 5; Site Assessment Round 23 & Village Assessment Survey Round 6 August- September 2020', IOM, September 2020.
12. Ethiopia: Humanitarian Need Overview February, 2021.
13. Ibid.
14. UNHCR, 28 February 2021.
15. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, 'Ethiopia Country Refugee Response Plan: The integrated response plan for refugees from Eritrea, Sudan, South Sudan and Somalia January 2019-December 2020', UNHCR, January 2019.
16. In the second half of 2020, a reduction in United Nations, non-governmental organization and government partners involved in the humanitarian response in Ethiopia dropped from 88 in December 2019 to 67 partners by the end of May 2020. Ethiopia: Humanitarian Response Plan Mid-Year Review'.
17. Government of Ethiopia, Humanitarian Need overview , February 2021
18. Ibid.
19. Due to space constraints, the following acronyms appear in the appeal: GBViE (gender-based violence in emergencies); PSEA (prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse); C4D (communication for development); and AAP (accountability to affected populations).
20. 'Ethiopia: Humanitarian Response Plan 2020 Mid Year Review'.
21. Ibid.
22. This work will be carried out in line with the Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action. UNICEF leads cluster coordination for the WASH, nutrition and education clusters and the child protection area of responsibility.
23. UNICEF's targeted 100 per cent case load of SAM treatment (503,799 children's targeted in Draft Humanitarian Response Plan).
24. Of the total number of consultations, 40 per cent will be children under 5 years; 34 per cent will be women; and 26 per cent will be men. A total of 32,222 will be new arrival refugees.
25. This target is proportional based on the expected contributions of others and will be reviewed at mid-year.
26. The target is determined referring 2021 HRP 50% of the AOR target plus 35,000 people for Tigray response. the final number is therefore 50% of the AOR target, and UNICEF's own targets for the Tigray response combined.
27. Gender-based violence targets have been integrated across all sectors. The following targets will be achieved per sector: nutrition: 108; health: 90; WASH: 315,000; child protection: 220,000; education: 36,920; social policy: 44,014.
28. Prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse targets have integrated across all sectors. The following targets will be achieved per sector: nutrition: 108; health 90; WASH: 315,000; child protection: 11,622; education: 36,920 ; social policy: 57,631.
29. This indicator is adjusted from "number of children's accessing schools implementing safe school protocols" to "number of schools implementing safe school protocol"
30. This target is proportional based on the expected contributions of others and will be reviewed at Draft Humanitarian response Plan January 2021.
31. The population targeted is higher than the total number of people/children to be reached because the target includes mass media outreach.
32. Ethiopia's appeal for the Blueprint is US\$97.2 million (US\$49 million from UNICEF), over 18 months from June 2020 to December 2021. Through the Blueprint, UNICEF and UNHCR aim to reach 2.95 million children by the end of 2021.
33. The cost driver of WASH funding requirements includes the logistical costs of delivering services to beneficiaries in hard-to-reach areas, which is further complicated by unpredictable security concerns and poor infrastructure.
34. The total cost of gender-based violence in emergencies activities is US\$4,126,744. This cost is calculated average unit cost.
35. The cost drivers of WASH funding requirements include offshore procurement costs and the logistical costs of delivering services to beneficiaries in hard-to-reach areas, which is further complicated by unpredictable security concerns and poor infrastructure.
36. This budget is to fund cash contingency in emergency top ups. This is added to monthly installments.