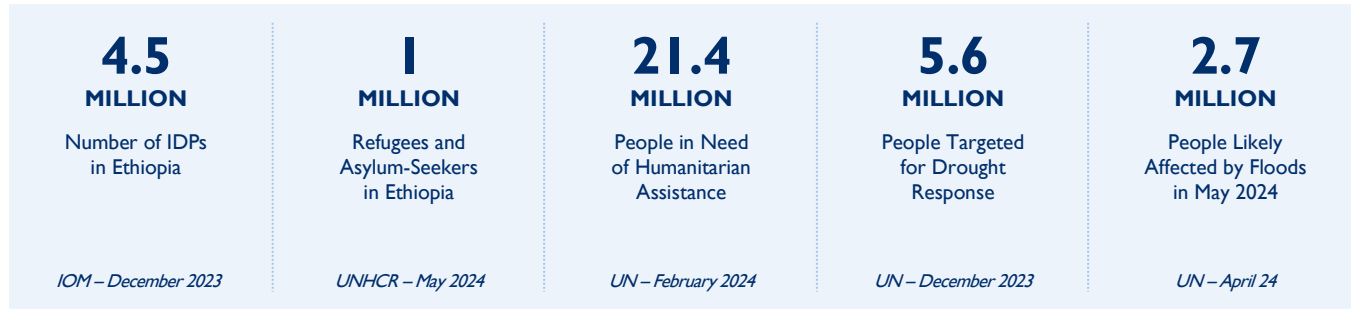


Ethiopia – Complex Emergency

JULY 29, 2024

SITUATION AT A GLANCE



- Ethiopia continues to face climatic shocks triggered by above-average rainfall since April. Heavy rainfall prompted landslides in late July in South Ethiopia, resulting in the deaths of at least 257 people. Previously, flooding between April and May adversely affected more than 590,000 people countrywide.
- Refugees residing in camps in Amhara experienced an increase in violence and reduction of services, prompting 1,300 refugees to leave the sites in May.
- A FAO–WFP report in June estimated approximately 13 million individuals, including 4.5 million IDPs, were expected to be in need of humanitarian food assistance between July and September.



TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING	USAID/BHA ¹	\$200,549,070
For the Ethiopia Response in FY 2024	State/PRM ²	\$19,430,000
Total		\$219,979,074

For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 6.

¹ USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA)

² U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

Above-Average Rainfall Triggers Flooding and Landslides Across Ethiopia

Above-average rainfall since April has generated flooding and landslides across Ethiopia, resulting in deaths, displacement, and damage to houses. On July 21 and July 22, landslides triggered by heavy rainfall in South Ethiopia Regional State's Gofa Zone had resulted in the deaths of at least 257 people and affected more than 15,000 people as of July 25, according to the UN. In response, local authorities, in coordination with the Government of Ethiopia (GoE) and the Ethiopian Red Cross Society, conducted search-and-rescue operations and dispatched assistance sufficient to meet the immediate needs of approximately 500 landslide-affected individuals. Meanwhile, a UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)-led inter-agency rapid assessment team comprising UN agencies and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), including USAID/BHA partners, deployed to the affected areas on July 23 to assess the impact of the landslides. Previously, heavy rainfall between April and May generated widespread flooding that affected approximately 590,000 people and displaced 95,000 others across Afar, Amhara, Central Ethiopia, Oromia, Sidama, Somali, South Ethiopia, and Tigray regions, according to the UN. The flooding also led to the destruction of 3,000 houses, the deaths of at least 2,900 livestock, and the damage of more than 148,000 acres of agricultural land, worsening pre-existing vulnerabilities, particularly in conflict- and drought-affected areas, the UN reports. Furthermore, the Ethiopia Disaster Risk Management Commission forecast additional above-average rainfall during the remainder of Ethiopia's June-to-September *kiremt* rainy season.

The heavy rainfall and associated flooding are exacerbating cholera outbreaks, which have been occurring across the country since August 2022. Suspected cases of cholera nearly doubled between April and May, increasing from 9,000 cases to more than 16,000 cases recorded in 2024, due in part to flooding, as well as poor sanitation and lack of safe drinking water, according to the Ethiopian Public Health Institute (EPHI) and Health Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian health activities, comprising UN agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders. However, health actors recorded 19,200 suspected cholera cases and 143 associated deaths in between January 1 and July 2, representing a more than 50 percent decrease in suspected cases between mid-May and July 4. The decrease is in large part attributed to a national campaign led by EPHI, which providing awareness raising activities on cholera detection, prevention, and treatment in cholera-affected areas. Additionally, with USAID/BHA support, FHI 360, the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), and other relief actors are providing health and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance to support the cholera response.

Sudanese Refugees Face Insecurity, Lack of Access to Services

Insecurity and inadequate services in Amhara's Awlala and Kumer refugee sites—which collectively hosted approximately 7,500 Sudanese refugees as of July—prompted 1,300 refugees to depart the sites in May, according to State/PRM partner the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). As of mid-July, the majority of refugees who departed were reportedly sheltering on the sides of roads in areas outside the sites. Prior, refugees reported experiencing abductions, attacks, and robberies by unidentified armed groups in the refugee sites, according to the UN. Due to the ongoing insecurity at the Awlala and Kumer sites, UNHCR and the Ethiopian Refugee Returnee service began refugee relocations to a new refugee site in Amhara region, located in close proximity to an Ethiopian National Defense Force (ENDF) installation to increase refugee security. UNHCR had facilitated the relocation of more than 900 Sudanese refugees to the new site as of July 23. Further, vulnerable populations, including refugees, in Amhara have been adversely affected by constraints on humanitarian operations due to access and resources challenges, compounded by overburdened public services, following the influx of Sudanese refugees and asylum-seekers in April 2023. Approximately 133,000 new arrivals—including

Sudanese refugees, Ethiopian refugee returnees, and returning Ethiopian migrants—entered Ethiopia from Sudan between April 2023 and June 2024, according to UNHCR. New arrivals require food, health, nutrition, protection, and WASH assistance. Ethiopia hosted more than 1 million refugees and asylum-seekers as of May 31.

Approximately 13 Million People in Need of Food Aid July to September

Approximately 13 million individuals, including 4.5 million internally displaced persons (IDPs), across Ethiopia are expected to be in need of humanitarian food assistance between July and September, according to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)-UN World Food Program (WFP) June 2024 Hunger Hot Spot report. Relief actors, primarily through USAID/BHA funding, prevented worse food security outcomes by reaching 3.8 million people in April with food assistance, according to Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET). However, humanitarians are facing resource shortfalls and FEWS NET forecast that the overall scale of need will outpace the supply of assistance during the July-to-September lean season, contributing to widespread Crisis!—IPC 3—or worse levels of acute food insecurity.³ As a result, humanitarians are prioritizing food assistance delivery to the most vulnerable populations in severely conflict- and drought-affected areas to mitigate food consumption deficits and further use of negative coping mechanisms.

Furthermore, the prevalence of acute malnutrition among children ages five years and younger and pregnant and lactating women (PLW) remains high across the country due in part to disease outbreaks and lack of access to adequate health and WASH services, according to the Nutrition Cluster. The cluster recorded nearly 58,000 severe acute malnutrition (SAM) cases across Ethiopia in March, bringing the total number of SAM cases recorded since the beginning of the year to approximately 162,000. While admissions for treatment of SAM in March were consistent with the same period in 2023, Afar and Oromia recorded an increase in admissions. Afar recorded nearly 3,800 SAM admissions in March, a 20 percent increase from February and a nearly 90 percent increase compared to the same period in 2023. Similarly, Oromia recorded nearly 27,000 SAM admissions in March, a 30 percent increase from February and a 35 percent increase from the previous year. While the increase can be attributed in part to improved screening efforts, it may also indicate deteriorating conditions, the Nutrition Cluster reports. In response, USAID/BHA partner UNICEF reached 278,500 children ages five years and younger and PLW with nutrition screenings in May, representing a 130 percent increase compared to the same period in 2023, and provided treatment to more than 32,600 children experiencing SAM.

Tigray IRA Begins Returning IDPs to Areas of Prior Residence

On May 31, the Tigray Interim Regional Administration (IRA) announced a comprehensive plan to return 690,000 displaced persons to their areas of previous residence in North West, Southern, and Western zones of the region, UNICEF reports. As part of the IRA's plan, at least 8,700 IDPs returned to their areas of previous residences in North West's Mai Tsebri and Tselemti *woredas*, or districts, between June 29 and July 5, according to national media. The relocation aims to improve IDPs' access to services and alleviate overcrowding at Endabaguna, the UN reports. However, IDP returnees have expressed concerns regarding their safety due to possible presence of armed militant groups, as well as lack of basic services in areas of return, national media reports. Nearly 841,000 people remained internally displaced in Tigray as of December 2023, the majority having been displaced for approximately two years, with Ethiopia hosting approximately 4.5 million IDPs, according to an International Organization for Migration (IOM) monitoring report published in June.

³ The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a multi-partner initiative that developed a standardized scale to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries and time, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5—for acute food insecurity. An "!" indicates that the phase classification would likely be worse without current or planned humanitarian assistance.

KEY FIGURES



3.7 Million

People reached with USAID/BHA-funded emergency food assistance in June.



17

USAID/BHA partners providing health services to populations in Ethiopia



\$115 Million

In dedicated USAID/BHA support for nutrition programming in FY 2024

U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

FOOD SECURITY

To address acute food insecurity in Ethiopia, USAID/BHA supports WFP and an international nongovernmental organization (INGO)-led consortium to provide emergency food assistance—including U.S.-sourced peas, vegetable oil, and sorghum—to populations in greatest need. USAID/BHA partners also provide cash transfers to food insecure households, enabling them to purchase food from local markets where available. Since resuming food distributions in early December 2023, USAID/BHA partners continue to scale up life-saving food assistance, including in Afar, Amhara, Oromia, Somali, and Tigray.

HEALTH

USAID/BHA supports 17 NGOs and four UN agencies providing critical health care services—often integrated with nutrition and WASH activities—in Ethiopia by providing life-saving medical supplies and medicines, supporting mobile health units, and training community health care workers to address urgent health needs. USAID/BHA partners also support integrated mobile health and nutrition teams (MHNTs), which provide critically needed health and nutrition services to remote and hard-to-reach areas. MHNTs serve an essential function in areas where most health facilities have been damaged during conflict, and where ongoing insecurity continues to impede crisis-affected populations' access to health services.

NUTRITION

USAID/BHA partners are leading efforts to prevent and treat wasting—the deadliest form of malnutrition—across Ethiopia. Working with 15 NGOs and four UN agencies, USAID/BHA supports community-centered and evidence-based programs aimed at decreasing malnutrition-related illnesses and mortality. USAID/BHA partners help strengthen prevention efforts, as well as the identify and treat wasting, particularly among children and PLW. USAID/BHA nutrition partners in Ethiopia implement life-saving nutrition services within local health systems and integrate nutrition assistance with food security, health, livelihood, and WASH interventions to prevent excess mortality and improve resilience among conflict- and drought-affected households. State/PRM also supports two implementing partners providing targeted nutrition services for refugees suffering from malnutrition, as well as ante and post-natal maternal care in Afar and Gambela regions.



15

USAID/BHA partners providing protection services to populations in Ethiopia

PROTECTION

While partners integrate protection considerations into all USAID/BHA- and State/PRM-supported activities, USAID/BHA is also funding 15 implementing partners responding to conflict-, drought-, and flood-generated protection needs across Ethiopia. Partners are expanding gender-based violence (GBV) case management support, training social workers and community-based case workers, and providing dignity kits containing items to address the specific needs of women and girls to GBV survivors. Partners are also providing mental health and psychosocial support services to conflict-affected communities. In addition, State/PRM supports implementing partners in Ethiopia to provide protection services to IDPs and refugees.



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USAID/BHA partners providing shelter and settlements support in Ethiopia

SHELTER AND SETTLEMENTS

USAID/BHA continues to support crisis-affected populations in Ethiopia with emergency shelter assistance through nine implementing partners. With USAID/BHA funding, IOM provides construction, maintenance, and repair assistance for emergency shelters at IDP sites, as well as site management capacity building and emergency shelter kits. Partners are also distributing relief commodity kits—which include bed mats, blankets, and wash basins—to recently displaced individuals. In addition, State/PRM supports UNHCR to provide shelter assistance to IDPs and refugees.



\$4.8 Million

In dedicated USAID/BHA support for WASH programming in FY 2024

WASH

USAID/BHA and State/PRM support WASH programming across Ethiopia to prevent and respond to communicable disease outbreaks and to avert illness-related acute malnutrition in children and mothers. USAID/BHA supports IOM, the UNICEF, and 26 NGO partners providing critical WASH assistance in Ethiopia, including conducting hygiene awareness-raising sessions, providing safe drinking water to people in need, and rehabilitating water systems destroyed by conflict. USAID/BHA partners are also training local health workers to prevent and treat suspected cholera cases in their communities.

CONTEXT IN BRIEF

- Populations across Ethiopia struggle with the confluence of recurring climatic shocks, persistent conflict, widespread food insecurity, and reduced access to livelihoods. These ongoing challenges contribute to sustained humanitarian needs.
- USAID/BHA continues to respond to acute needs resulting from persistent dry weather in parts of Ethiopia, with five consecutive seasons of poor rainfall between 2020 and 2022 in southern lowland parts of the country leading to severe drought. Critical water shortages in drought-affected areas have significantly undermined food security, livelihoods, and livestock conditions. Moreover, El Niño-induced heavy rainfall and associated flooding in late 2023 have destroyed critical infrastructure, displaced households, heightened the risk of waterborne disease transmission, and led to the loss of livelihoods.

- Intercommunal conflicts in Ethiopia have exacerbated humanitarian needs, generated displacement, and impeded humanitarian access since 2018. Lingering conflict in northern parts of Ethiopia stems from the aftereffects of fighting between the Tigray People’s Liberation Front (TPLF) and the ENDF in several locations across Tigray from 2020 to 2022 that later expanded to neighboring Afar and Amhara. On November 2, 2022, GoE and TPLF officials signed the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement (CoHA)—as well as a follow-up agreement on November 12, 2022—outlining steps for establishing unfettered humanitarian access to Tigray by air and road. Security conditions in northern Ethiopia have improved following CoHA and follow-up agreement, allowing for the resumption of robust humanitarian assistance operations across Afar, Amhara, and Tigray. However, armed group activity continues to restrict access in some areas, such as in Amhara, where clashes between the ENDF and Fano militia have been ongoing since August, and Oromia, where the Oromo Liberation Army continues to clash with the ENDF and Fano militia.
- Sustained life-saving assistance and interventions aimed at building resilience are critical to help conflict-affected households meet their basic needs and rebuild assets.
- On October 20, 2023, U.S. Ambassador Ervin J. Massinga renewed the declaration of humanitarian need for Ethiopia for FY 2024 to assist vulnerable populations adversely affected by armed conflict and climatic shocks, including ongoing drought and flooding.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE ETHIOPIA RESPONSE IN FY 2024^{1,2,3}

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/BHA			
Action Against Hunger/USA (AAH/USA)	Agriculture, Health, Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA), Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Benishangul-Gumuz, Oromia, Somali	\$6,000,000
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	Agriculture; Food Assistance—Cash Transfers for Food; Local, Regional, and International Procurement; Nutrition; WASH	Countrywide	\$48,489,159
	Food Assistance—Cash Transfers for Food, U.S. In-Kind Food Aid; Nutrition—U.S. In-Kind Specialized Nutrition Products	Countrywide	\$19,168,519
Center for Victims of Torture (CVT)	Protection	Tigray	\$2,000,000
Development for Peace Organization (DPO)	MPCA, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Amhara, Oromia, Somali, Tigray	\$2,000,000
Danish Refugee Council (DRC)	Humanitarian Coordination, Information Management, and Assessments (HCIMA)	Countrywide	\$300,000
Swiss Church Aid (HEKS/EPER)	Agriculture, MPCA, Protection, WASH	Somali	\$2,500,000
iMMAP	HCIMA, HPSAA	Amhara, Oromia, Sidama, Tigray	\$1,500,000
International Potato Center (IPC)	Agriculture	Tigray	\$2,000,000
OCHA	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$3,000,000
UN Development Program (UNDP)	HCIMA	Addis Ababa, Amhara, Tigray	\$999,914
Vétérinaires Sans Frontières/Germany (VSF/G)	Agriculture, MPCA, WASH	Afar	\$3,000,000
WFP	Nutrition	Countrywide	\$38,100,000
	Nutrition—U.S. In-Kind Specialized Nutrition Products	Countrywide	\$71,098,398

Program Support			\$393,084
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING			\$200,549,074
STATE/PRM⁴			
Implementing Partner	Health, Protection, WASH	Countrywide	\$3,500,000
UNHCR	Camp Coordination and Camp Management, Education, Health, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$15,930,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$19,430,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE ETHIOPIA RESPONSE IN FY 2024			\$219,979,074

¹ USAID/BHA plans to provide an additional \$22.9 million in FY 2024, totaling approximately \$243 million in humanitarian assistance from the USG as announced on April 16.

² Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of July 29, 2024.

³ Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

⁴ PRM has contributed \$1 million toward the Sudan response in Ethiopia in FY 2024 as of June 24, 2024, which is reported separately in the USG Sudan Fact Sheet.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at interaction.org.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed, often in the affected region; reduce the burden on scarce resources, such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space; can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: cidi.usaid.gov
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at reliefweb.int

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at [usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)