



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

The compounding impacts of desert locusts, the effects of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, conflicts, natural hazards, and the poor macroeconomic context continue to threaten the food security and livelihoods of millions of people in Ethiopia, limiting their capacity to cope with future shocks and stressors.

Objectives

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is working with partners in the Food Security Cluster to:

- Improve immediate food security.
- Protect and restore livelihoods, related food and income sources.
- Build resilience against current and future shocks.
- Foster early recovery.

Activities



Enhance animal health

supplementary livestock feed | livestock destocking for households at risk of losing a significant portion of herds | restocking of core breeding animals | animal vaccination and treatment



Improve agricultural production and restore agriculture-based livelihoods of affected households

provision of improved locally-adapted drought-tolerant crop (cereals, pulses and vegetables) and fodder seeds | essential farm tools and equipment | extension and advisory services | income-generating activities | rehabilitation of essential productive infrastructure through cash for work



Ethiopia

Humanitarian Response Plan 2021



to assist
6.7 million people



FAO requires
USD 42 million

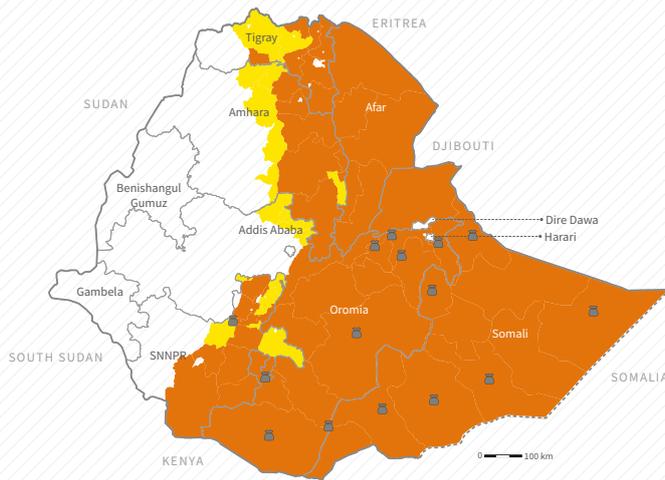


period
January–December 2021



Many rural households engaged in agriculture and pastoralism are yet to recover from the 2016/17 El Niño-induced drought, one of the worst in Ethiopia's history. Without urgent action, there is a high risk of the affected population falling into even higher levels of insecurity.

Projected acute food insecurity situation (January–June 2021)



Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC)



Source: IPC. 2020. *Ethiopia: Acute food insecurity analysis, October 2020–September 2021*. [online]. Rome, Italy. [Cited 10 February 2021]. www.ipcinfo.org/ipc-country-analysis/details-map/en/c/1152818/

Situation analysis



12.9 million people projected to be in high acute food insecurity



1.8 million internally displaced people



+141 453 cases of COVID-19, including **2 145** deaths



1.1 million people affected by floods, of whom **342 000** were displaced



200 000 ha of cropland and **1.3 million** ha of pasture and browse damaged by desert locust infestation

Impact on food security

Urgent humanitarian assistance needs in Ethiopia are projected to have more than doubled, from 8.4 to 21.7 million people in early 2021. Contributing to this are multiple shocks including desert locusts, the effects of COVID-19, conflict and extreme weather events.

Immediate and essential measures to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 have led to the deterioration of the humanitarian situation, with annual inflation in Ethiopia reaching 22.9 percent in April 2020, the highest in almost a decade, and prices of both food and non-food items exponentially increasing. Combined with the depreciation of the Ethiopian Birr, this has raised the cost of the local food basket, limiting households' purchasing power and exacerbating other vulnerabilities.

The desert locust upsurge, which has ravaged the Greater Horn of Africa since late 2019, has led to extensive damage and losses to crops, pasture and rangelands. The upsurge is

likely to persist through at least the end of 2021, threatening crop production and livestock productivity. Further disrupting livelihoods across Ethiopia were flash floods that inundated farmland and rangeland, resulting in significant crop losses.

Ongoing insecurity in Tigray and inter-communal conflicts have also contributed to rising food insecurity and malnutrition, disrupting supply chains, economic activities and the delivery of humanitarian assistance.

With over 80 percent of Ethiopians reliant on the agriculture sector for their livelihoods, timely assistance is required to ensure that they are able to resume their livelihood activities and regain access to nutritious food, productive assets and essential sources of income.

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