

- Civil unrest that started on 18 July in Sidama zone of SNNP region led to the displacement of more than 900 people, mostly women and children.
- The multiplicity of localized armed conflicts in Ethiopia is underpinning the need to adopt a ‘protection and conflict sensitive programming’ approach to avoid putting the affected population and aid personnel at risk (“do no harm”).



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More than 900 people displaced due to ethnic violence in Sidama zone, SNNP region

Civil unrest that started on 18 July in Sidama zone of SNNP region resulted in the displacement of more than 900 non-Sidamas living in the region into Bore *Woreda*, Guji zone, Oromia region. The IDPs are currently sheltered in churches, mosques and host communities in Bore *Woreda*. The situation was particularly worse in Ulla, Chorone, and Bona *Woredas* of which share borders with Guji zone of Oromia region. A joint Government-humanitarian partners IDP site-level observation as of 23 July 2019 witnessed about 481 IDPs were registered in Bore *Woreda*, of which 457 live within an orthodox church (Bore Saint Mary Church) while 24 are in Bore mosques. About 50 children and 30 aged peoples are among these IDPs. IDPs expressed that they lost properties and some of them separated from their families during the unrest. Bore town is 10KM away from Ulla *Woreda* of Sidama zone and 205 KM away from Nagele town, the capital of Guji zone. The Guji zone Disaster Risk Management Office (DRMO) is providing maize, CSB++, and oil while the host community is also providing blankets and food. The DRMO mentioned that IDPs will be assisted until they return to their places of origin and but also noted the growing need for food, NFI, sanitation and health support.

Initially characterized by clashes between Sidama youths and security forces in protest of the announcement by the National Electoral Board of a delayed timeframe for holding a referendum on the issue of Sidama Statehood; the violence gradually took on an inter-communal character when non-Sidama owned properties were reportedly targeted for attack. Since 21 July, the region was put under a federal security forces-led command to restore law and order.

IDP Advisory Group commissions a Risk Analysis in IDP return areas

Following the mass Government-led return of IDPs to areas of origin, the Ethiopia IDP Advisory Group commissioned the Protection Cluster, IOM – DTM team and OCHA to carry out Risk and Response analysis in IDP return areas, with the aim to identify risks for IDPs or partners. The analysis focuses in areas where protection, availability of services to IDPs and access concerns converge i.e. East and West Wollega, East and West Hararge West Guji, Guji and Borena (Oromia); Kamashi (Benishangul Gumuz); Gedeo (SNNP); Siti, Fafan, Dawa/Liben (Somali).

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Government of Ethiopia and humanitarian partners are conducting a need-based joint targeting in West Guji zone of Oromia region between 12-31 July 2019. A similar targeting exercise that took place in Gedeo zone of SNNP region between 29 May and 6 July 2019 identified a total of 94,000 returnees who should be prioritized for multi-sector response.
- The National Disaster Risk Management Commission and UNDP launched a four-year project to support the recovery of 50,000 households affected by the Gedeo/West Guji inter-communal violence at a cost of US\$20 million.

The multiplicity of localized armed conflicts in Ethiopia is underpinning the need to adopt a ‘protection and conflict sensitive programming’ approach to avoid putting the affected population and aid personnel at risk (“do no harm”). The various Risk Analyses map the convergence of risks in IDP return areas, which partners should consider when planning a response, prioritizing available resources. The analysis is a compilation of the protection concerns and the availability of services/lack of thereof to IDPs, down to the *kebele* level (with the exception of Somali region), adding – in a separate layer - an analysis of humanitarian access.

The Risk Analysis aims to provide valuable information on the hotspot areas with the most risks. It does not provide instructions on where to intervene, which remains the decision of each cluster/partner in Ethiopia, in coordination with the relevant authorities.

Joint Government-partners need based targeting ongoing in West Guj zone

The Government of Ethiopia and humanitarian partners are conducting a need-based joint targeting in West Guji zone of Oromia region between 12-31 July 2019. The joint targeting aims to identify the most vulnerable people with the most urgent cases to be prioritized for multi-sector response across Bule Hora (26 *kebeles*), Hambella Wemena (29 *kebeles*), and Birbisa Kojewa (11 *kebeles*) *woredas*. So far, more than 50,000 returnees have been identified in 33 *kebeles* out of the planned 66 *kebeles* in three *woredas*. While World vision contributed most of the staff in the targeting team (34 staff), the zonal administration, UN agencies and CRS contributed logistic expert support. The targeting team have standardized the targeting procedure, including SOPs, registration formats and multi-cluster questionnaires. Key components from the Guidelines for Needs-Based Targeting of Humanitarian Response in Displacement Areas were also included.

A similar targeting exercise that took place in Gedeo zone of SNNP region between 29 May and 6 July 2019 identified a total of 94,000 returnees who should be prioritized for multi-sector response across Gedeb (15 *kebeles*), Kochere (9 *kebeles*), Wonago (1 *kebele*) and Yirgachefe (11 *kebeles*) *woredas*.

However, no IDPs or secondary displaced persons were targeted to receive humanitarian assistance which is a cause of concern OCHA is following up with authorities. OCHA also formed a joint targeting group to replicate, harmonize and, advocate for joint targeting across the country.



Figure 1 Targeting team discussing with returnees. Photo Credit: OCHA

Some 1.3 million people anticipated to be affected by floods during the *kiremt* season

A joint Government–Humanitarian Partners’ National Flood Contingency Plan identified 1.3 million people across nine regions and two city administrations who are expected to be affected by river and flash floods during the *kiremt* (June to September) rainy season. Out of these, some 331,373 people (25 per cent) are likely to be displaced. The estimation of the population to be affected and displaced is based on the 2017 regional and national Flood Contingency Plans, the Emergency Preparedness and Response Plans (EPRP), historical data and the 2019 *kiremt* season Flood Alert issued in June. The Contingency Plan lists flood response requirements by sector, as well as mitigation and preparedness measures.

- A joint Government–Humanitarian Partners’ National Flood Contingency Plan identified 1.3 projected to be affected by river and flash floods during the kiremt (June to September) rainy season. Out of these, some 331,373 people (25 per cent) are likely to be displaced.
- Zinash, a resident of Dilla Town, SNNP region, had only little income when she generously started supporting IDPs since the onset of the Gedeo-Guji conflict in April 2018. “Humanity is supporting the affected population with what one can,” she says.

According to the 2019 *kiremt* weather update by the National Meteorological Agency (NMA), western Ethiopia, i.e. Benishangul Gumuz, Gambella, western Amhara, western Oromia, and the western highlands of SNNPR are anticipated to receive above normal rainfall; while eastern and parts of central Ethiopia, western Somali and southern Oromia are expected to receive dominantly normal rainfall. Meanwhile, Afar, most of Amhara, northern parts of Somali and Tigray are expected to experience normal to below normal rainfall during the season. Localized heavy rainfalls are likely to cause flash and/or river floods in low lying areas.

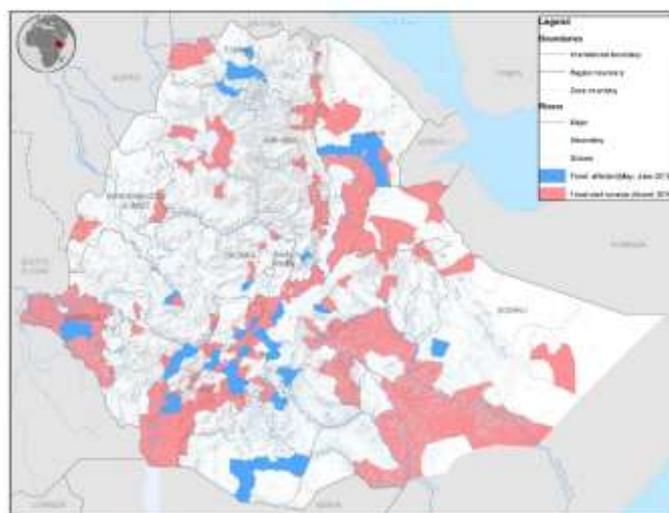


Figure 2 Flood risk and currently affected areas, 2019

Humanity in Action

Ms. Zinash lives in Dilla Town of Gedeo zone, SNNP region. A small family business managed by herself and her husband in Dilla Town is the main source of income for the family. Zinash also produces traditional pottery materials to support the family with additional income.

Zinash started supporting IDPs since the onset of the Gedeo-Guji conflict in April 2018 that resulted in massive displacement and suffering. “The host community were the first to respond to IDPs as the living conditions were so devastating, with limited assistance being provided,” said Zinash. Initially, Zinash participated in a community mobilization activity where all members of the host community gathered food and non-food items for the IDPs. At the peak of the crisis, she provided coffee, tea and bread for IDPs.



“When we realize that IDPs do not have any means of survival even for one day, the community could not bear to watch them suffer.” Zinash added, Married and a mother of six children, Zinash also shared her kitchen with a number of IDPs to allow them to have a decent place to cook the food provided them by the Government and various humanitarian actors. Furthermore, she has been offering whatever money she could spare to IDPs to cover some of their basic needs, especially for children. For more than a year, she has been providing various assistance to the affected population until their return in July 2019.

Her family, Zinash said, has been a great support in encouraging her to do what she can to support the IDPs.

In her message to the world, Zinash said that every human being should feel and show a sense of humanity in his/her everyday life. Humanity is supporting the affected population with what one can.

Personal stories of IDPs in Nedjo Town, West Wollega zone

- Giden, a 16-year-old IDP child and Asnaku, a 40-year-old woman who reside in Nedjo Town, West Wollega zone do not want to go back to Kamashi (BGR) where they have lost their beloved family members, property and all belongings. They both wish to start a new life in Oromia region and hope that the Government provide them with the necessary support to make this a reality.

The story of Giden: an IDP child living in a collective site at Nedjo Agricultural FTC, West Wollega zone

Giden is a 16-year-old IDP child who has been living at the Nedjo Agricultural FTC IDP collective site (West Wollega zone) for the last nine months together with her 40-year-old mother and six sisters and brothers. She was displaced from Agelo Meti *woreda* of Kamashi zone (Benishangul Gumuz) following the inter-community violence that broke out in the area in October 2018. The father of Giden was killed during the violence. Giden and her mother and other IDPs residing in the collective site hope that the Government will provide them with land and property in order to re-build their life in Oromia region. The IDPs in this collective site expressed that they do not want to go back to Kamashi where they have lost their beloved family members, property and all belongings. The government is planning to relocate them to a former refugee camp as a mid-term solution for these families.



Figure 3 IDPs located in Nedjo IDP collective camp Agriculture Farmer Training Centre. Photo Credit: OCHA

The story of Asnaku Asfaw: an IDP women living with the host community in Nedjo Town of West Wollega zone

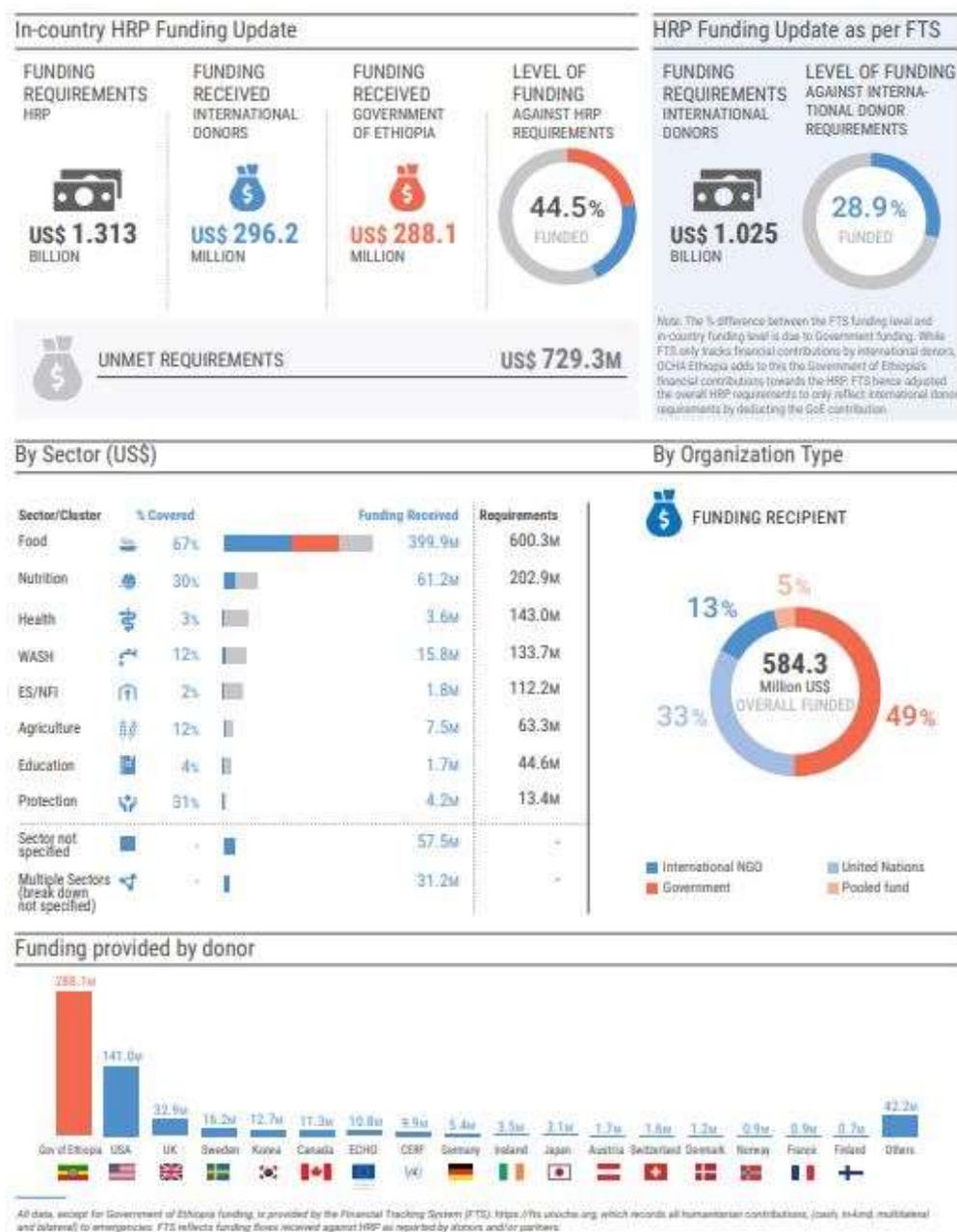
Asnaku Asfaw is a 40-year-old IDP women who has been living with the host community in Nedjo Town since October 2018. She was displaced from Agelo Meti *woreda* of Kamashi zone (Benishangul Gumuz) following the inter-community violence that broke in the area. She has six children living with her in a rented private house. Asnaku was born in West Wollega. She got married 22 years ago and moved to Kamashi zone with her husband where they lived happily as farmers. Asnaku echoed her wishes to start a new life in Oromia region with her husband and children. She says that the trauma experienced during the violence in Kamashi was too much and she never wishes to go back there.

Humanitarian funding update, as of 10 July 2019

- US\$20 million allocated to support the recovery of 50,000 households affected by the Gedeo-West Guji Guji inter-communal violence. For more on this go to <https://bit.ly/2YWFw1q> and/or <https://bit.ly/2NUo0qA>

Government contributes additional US\$117 million in humanitarian aid

An additional \$117 million allocation by the Government of Ethiopia to the 2019 Ethiopia Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) brings the total Government contribution to \$288.1 million in 2019. Government contribution accounts for 21.9 per cent of the total funding received so far while, the contribution from international donors (\$296.2 million) is 22.5 per cent. Currently, the 2019 Ethiopia HRP is 44.5 per cent funded.



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