

SECTION ONE

*RELIEF ACTION PLAN AND APPEAL
FOR VICTIMS OF NATURAL DISASTERS
IN ETHIOPIA*

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Following the near total failure of the 1999 *belg* harvest (short-season, which typically accounts for approximately 5 percent of the total food production for the year), there were hopes that a good *meher* season would help farmers to recoup their losses and help to increase the overall food availability throughout the country. However, the *kiremt* rains started one to two months late in most places, and many areas that rely on early rains during April and May for preparation of the soil and planting of short-cycle crops did not receive their first rains until July. Once they began, rains were erratic throughout the growing season, causing drought in some places and waterlogging in others. The WFP/DPPC and WFP/FAO Crop Production and Food Assessment teams that visited every zone of the country during November – December reported significant reductions in production levels from previous year and expected yield levels.

In the pastoral areas of southern and south-eastern Ethiopia, the short season rains, which normally fall during the period October – December and are vitally important for the replenishment of water resources and recovery of grazing, largely failed leading to a high mortality rate among livestock herds (especially cattle) and clear signs of increasing rates of malnutrition among women and children. With main season rains in these lowland areas not expected until April/May, pastoral communities in the Somali region, Borena and parts of South Omo are expected to face increasing hardship and distress as the current dry season progresses.

This Relief Action Plan and Appeal for Assistance issued by the UN Country Team in Ethiopia outlines immediate activities to be undertaken to relieve the effects of the current food crisis in the most affected parts of the country. It outlines activities proposed by individual UN agencies to be undertaken as part of a consolidated effort by the UN system in Ethiopia to assist the Government in its relief efforts, and to take steps to avert the major humanitarian emergency that will surely develop if steps are not taken now.

A number of arrangements are available to the donor community to facilitate their contributions:

- Additional food aid pledges are urgently needed and donors can pledge food directly to the DPPC, WFP or to NGOs in support of its new proposed Emergency Operation.
- As outlined in this document, several UN agencies have developed specific action plans for providing assistance to needy communities and urgently need additional funding if the highest priority programmes are to be implemented immediately.
- The UN Country Team, through UNDP, can receive funds in support of the joint activities outlined in this Action Plan and then re-allocate these resources to individual specialized UN agencies to meet the most urgent needs.
- The federal DPPC and a number of NGOs working with drought affected populations will need additional support and can receive funds directly.

In its annual statement of emergency requirements and appeal for assistance, launched on 21 January 2000, the Government of Ethiopia estimated that 836,800 MT of assistance is needed to deliver to 7.7 million victims of natural disasters over the course of the year 2000. The Government's Appeal also includes assistance in the areas of water and sanitation, health care, and logistics as well as for various capacity building initiatives aimed at improving coordination and delivery of assistance.

The need for assistance to farmers and pastoralists affected by natural disaster is made more crucial by the fact that agricultural production has been lower than expected for the past three years, and that many farmers have expended their assets to meet their most basic food needs, and by the fact that repeated failures of rain in the pastoral areas have weakened herds. The Government places high priority on providing assistance to the needy, as was evidenced in 1999 by its pledge of 20,000 MT of grain for farmers suffering from crop failure (as well as the National Fundraising Committee's pledge of 5,000 MT for the internally displaced). The Government's Appeal figures, which were derived through extensive assessments undertaken jointly with UN agencies, NGOs and donors and discussions at all levels of local government, are, in the view of the UN Country Team, appropriate and justifiable.

The UN Country Team programme of assistance to victims of natural disasters includes the following priorities interventions requiring donor support:

- Food: Resourcing for approximately 250,000 MT of food aid will be sought by WFP, sufficient to assist 2.3 million beneficiaries (amounting to 30 percent of those identified in need) in ten regions, for varying duration between April and December 2000. An additional 36908 MT of cereals has already been approved under a WFP emergency operation budget revision to meet the food needs of 820,200 people between January and March 2000, an operation that is currently half resourced and in need of further donor contributions.
- Storage: Funding for the provision of twelve moveable storage units of approximately 500 MT capacity has been requested by WFP; donor resources for constructing storage sheds under employment generation schemes (EGS) has also been included in the appeal.
- Health: Support for the procurement of antibiotics, oral rehydration salts and medical supplies for treatment of diarrhoeal diseases will be sought; the provision of malaria control supplies is a priority in areas where poor nutrition has increased the population's vulnerability. WHO will be seeking donor support for the provision of HIV testing kits while donors are asked to support EPI and other essential health services to pastoralists in drought-affected areas through UNICEF and WHO.
- Nutrition: Resources are being sought by UNICEF for the establishment of a national/regional Nutrition Coordination Unit within the DPPC/B.
- Water and Sanitation: With additional donor support, UNICEF will provide assistance in assessing water and sanitation problems and needs in drought affected areas, short-term water tankering in areas where no other options are available, rehabilitation of old and non-functioning schemes, construction of new water supply schemes, promotion of environmental sanitation and hygiene practices, and support for construction of community, school and latrines.
- Education: To support continuing school attendance within increased adverse conditions and linked to an expanded school feeding programme with WFP, UNICEF will provide educational materials for 124,000 targeted groups of children in the worst affected areas as well as synthetic water tanks, construction of water lines and tankering for 72 schools, training for teachers in the planning, design and programme implementation, and will collect data/information regarding the number of primary school-age children (age-wise and grade-wise) in drought-affected areas in order to identify zones, weredas and schools

for planning and designing education interventions for children in drought-affected areas in seven regions. WFP will provide food and has requested support for utensils to assist students in an additional 450 schools in the worst affected weredas.

- Agriculture Sector Support: FAO will seek donor support for the provision of seeds to drought affected farmers in Tigray and Amhara regions, and sweet potato vines to farmers in East and West Hararghe (Oromiya Region). Small farmers and landless poor in Tigray will receive irrigation pumps and modern beehives, respectively, to help them regain their productivity and income-earning potential, and reduce their dependence on food aid.
- Special Relief Assistance in Pastoral Areas: Donor assistance will be needed by UNICEF for the provision of material assistance to 10,000 targeted vulnerable individuals in pastoral areas, including shelter materials, hand tools and other equipment.
- Monitoring, Reporting and Information Management: Additional funding is required to enable the UN-Emergencies Unit for Ethiopia to maintain an increased level of field monitoring, reporting operational support and data management services on behalf of the UNCT and donor community. In order to ensure interventions for pastoralist communities are most relevant and take into account conditions and factors at the household level, UNICEF will recruit a pastoralist field monitor who will bridge interventions to locally appropriate conditions and needs. WFP will continue its initiative of hiring additional food-aid monitors countrywide and subcontracting local NGOs to assist in monitoring in pastoral areas.

Without immediate and balanced assistance in the above-mentioned sectors, the current food shortages will lead to extreme hardship for people in the most affected areas. The experience of 1999 has shown that people are now living at the edge of their subsistence capabilities, and the specters of mass stress migration, widespread malnutrition, and outbreaks of disease are looming. Concerted efforts by the Government, the UN system, NGOs, and the donor community are needed to prevent significant loss of life and to help enable people to recover from total destitution to become productive once again.

2. CONTEXT

2.1 Background

During the final months of 1999, UN agencies participated in the DPPC-led joint pre-harvest and needs assessment as well as the annual FAO/WFP crop production and food needs assessment. A special assessment of non-food needs in selected areas (North Wello, Wag Hamra, Western Zone of Tigray, Borena, and Afder and Gode zones of Somali Region) was also conducted by technical experts from the various UN agencies. Activities and needs outlined in this Relief Action Plan and Appeal are based on the findings of these assessments, as well as consideration of the Government's own appeal and ongoing monitoring by UN agencies.

The unusual climactic conditions that characterized the 1999 *meher* season varied between regions, making it difficult if not impossible to generalize on a country-wide basis about the factors which have led to the current crop failures and increased food needs. This said, it is still possible to identify contributing factors at a more localized level:

- In some cases lack of available seeds or farmers' inability (as a result of repeated crop failures in recent years) to purchase or borrow seeds limited the area planted;
- Due to the weak state of both the farmers and oxen, as well as the poor 1999 *belg* rains, land preparation for the *meher* crop was poor both qualitatively and in terms of coverage;
- Late start of the rains in many areas resulted in poor and delayed seed germination;
- late start of rains also resulted in replacement of high yielding cereal crops with shorter cycle, lower yielding cereals and pulses;
- Low rainfall in some western areas that are traditionally surplus-producing resulted in a reduced maize harvest and adversely affected the overall national food balance sheet;
- Unusually heavy rains in other areas (particularly parts of the east and north) washed away young plants and caused excessive waterlogging;
- Mid- and late season hail and frost severely damaged existing crop stands, particularly in some highland areas of Amhara;
- Unusual timings of precipitation and planting resulted in unusual weed infestations over large areas;
- As a result of significant out-migration, particularly during the first half of the year, there was a lack of crop tending and weeding;
- Infestation of crops by pests such as armyworm and black beetle in some areas;
- Flooding occurred in some parts of West and East Hararghe as well as crop producing areas in southern Afar and Gambella;
- As a result of previous crop failures and asset erosion, many farmers borrowed significant amounts of food or cash to survive through to the *meher* harvest and had to repay their debts with most or all of their harvest; this severely reduced the amount available for household consumption.

The poor 1999 *meher* harvest compounded a situation in which the last three *belg* harvests have been poor (many agronomists and agricultural experts say that this trend indicates that the overall role of the *belg* harvest is diminishing in importance with respect to national food production), as have the last three *meher* seasons. Shortage of income generation and diversification opportunities as well as the closure of some markets near to the Eritrean border as a result of the conflict with that country have placed additional strain on household coping mechanisms. Increased charcoal and firewood sales during 1999 resulted in significant price declines in both of these commodities, and caused concern for the environment, which in most of the affected areas is already severely degraded. As people have exhausted their assets, they have become increasingly dependent upon relief food, to the point that limited availability of relief food commodities in the early part of 1999 led to unusual stress and labour migration in many areas (including East Hararghe, South Wello, North Wello, and South Tigray).

This slide into greater destitution has not only rendered people more vulnerable to household food shortages, but has also made them more susceptible to disease outbreaks, has increased the burden of walking long distances for water, and resulted in higher rates of school dropouts as entire households have migrated to urban areas or require children's labour to meet basic subsistence needs. Many households have sold their draught animals, seeds and farming equipment to pay for their immediate food needs and are not in a position to adequately prepare their fields for the next planting season. Cereal prices are unusually high, and livestock prices are reported to be lower than normal.

In pastoral areas, failure of the short rains (April – May) as well as the main rainy season (October – December) in 1999 have weakened animals and created a problem of severe water shortage. In many areas of Borena and the Somali region, large losses of livestock, especially cattle, were reported at the end of 1999, and with the next rains not expected before April, the situation is expected to deteriorate further. Food aid as well as emergency water supply, human health care, and veterinary care are all urgently needed in these areas.

On 21 January 2000, the Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission (DPPC) issued its Requirements for the Year 2000 for both Victims of Natural Disasters and Internally Displaced Persons. The Government estimates that 7.7 million people are affected by food shortage due to natural disasters, requiring 836,800 MT of food. (Total food needs for both victims of natural disasters and the displaced for the year 2000 are estimated at 898,936 MT).

Table 1: DPPC Food Requirement for Victims of Natural Disaster in 2000

Region	Drought-Affected Population	Food Requirement
1. Tigray	1,047,400	146,081 MT
2. Afar	272,704	17,168 MT
3. Amhara	2,534,915	292,947 MT
4. Oromiya	1,598, 246	159,608 MT
5. Somali	1,321,000	130,395 MT
6. Beni Gumuz	4,201	315 MT
7. SNNPR	852,740	83,991 MT
8. Gambella	46,600	3,840 MT
9. Harari	7,070	318 MT
10. Dire Dawa	47,459	2,136 MT
TOTAL	7,732,335	836,800 MT

Source: DPPC, 21 January 2000

2.2 Host Country Institutional Framework

The National Policy on Disaster Prevention, Preparedness and Management, promulgated in November 1993, provides the legal and institutional framework for the Government of Ethiopia's response to this emergency. The main government counterpart for co-ordinating the UNCT response is the Federal DPPC, which works in close co-operation with the administrations of the affected regions, the technical line ministries, principally the Ministries of Health, Water and Education, and non-governmental organisations. The Federal DPPC also plays a central role in organising and co-ordinating joint needs assessments with the UNCT, NGOs and donors, and is responsible for preparing consolidated appeals for international assistance and managing the allocation and delivery of relief resources. At the regional level, various working mechanisms have been established to coordinate with regional governments and the relevant line bureaux.

2.3 UN Country Team Framework

Under the overall leadership of the UN Resident Co-ordinator, the UN Country Team in Ethiopia has developed a co-operative framework for the design, implementation and monitoring of an integrated humanitarian response to the Ethiopian Government's appeal for international assistance to meet the needs of victims of natural disasters.

Working under the authority of the UNCT, this present Relief Action Plan and Appeal has been formulated as a joint, inter-agency exercise aimed at providing a flexible mechanism for the rapid utilisation of a variety of funding sources and arrangements, including donor emergency funding given in direct support of the UNCT multi-sectoral humanitarian programme. The practical implementation of the programme will be achieved by the operational agencies (primarily WFP, UNICEF, WHO, FAO, UNDP, and UNFPA but other agencies may also participate) using established operational mechanisms and modalities. As a UNCT initiative, however, the programme comes under the UN Resident Co-ordinator while decisions concerning co-ordination, planning, monitoring and reporting will be handled co-operatively within the mandate of the UN Disaster Management Team (UN-DMT), which comprises the senior management of the operational UN agencies.

While the operational agencies will be responsible for monitoring and providing technical reporting on the implementation of the different sectoral components of the programme, generic/contextual reporting on the humanitarian situation as well as general narrative reporting to donors on the programme and information/data management will be managed by the UN Emergencies Unit for Ethiopia (UN-EUE) on behalf of the UN-DMT.

3. PROJECT OUTLINE

3.1 Problem to be Addressed

An estimated 7.7 million people are currently affected by natural disasters in Ethiopia. Of these, households in South, Central and Eastern Tigray; North and South Wollo, Wag Hamra, North Gondar, North Showa, East and West Hararghe, Welayita and Konso Special Wereda, Borena, and most zones of Somali Region are, for a variety of reasons, particularly badly affected. In addition to increasing relief food distributions other urgent interventions include the provision of supplementary foods, expanded EPI coverage and other medical interventions, emergency water and sanitation, seed distributions and special programmes for livestock, shelter, and improved field monitoring and analysis.

The UNCT humanitarian programme is intended to strengthen federal and regional government efforts to assist populations affected by the drought, using an approach which is consistent with the overall development priorities of the Government of Ethiopia and which emphasises support to the existing social and relief services infrastructure. Recognizing that in some areas where local government capacity is quite weak, both local and international NGOs are in a position to make a significant contributions to the emergency response, the UNCT will seek to strengthen existing mechanisms of cooperation and collaboration with the NGO community at all levels.

3.2 Target Beneficiaries

The UNCT programme will benefit farmers and pastoralists in areas affected by crop failure and/or depletion of grazing and livestock watering areas. In particular, efforts will be made to work with the Government to ensure that those targeted for both food and non-food assistance include the most destitute (those having suffered from repeated crop failures), in the most remote areas. The programme also seeks to help special groups who may be at particular risk, including the elderly, women and young children.

3.3 Programme Strategy

This Relief Action Plan and Appeal has been designed to be fully supportive and complementary to the Government of Ethiopia's relief appeal issued on 21 January 2000. The interventions described reflect the established areas of technical competence within the UN Country Team and the resources and funds sought are intended to be commensurate both in terms of the urgency and scale of relief needs in the country and the present implementation capacity of the specialized UN agencies and their partners.

This emergency will require a number of quick interventions using a variety of funding mechanisms and approaches if the highest priority needs are to be met. In view of the urgency of the situation, the UN Country Team has decided on the following strategy:

- Heads of UN Agencies will make requests to their respective headquarters for funding from the various agency special emergency funds that exist.
- Where possible and in agreement with government, some existing UN programmes could be re-targeted to include the most vulnerable areas or resources re-allocated to undertake specific interventions. An example of this approach would be prioritising existing EPI programmes in the vulnerable areas.
- Where critical interventions cannot be met from the above sources the UN Country Team, through this document, is appealing to the international community for additional resources and pledges through either of the following two mechanisms:
 1. Donors can choose to fund individual UN agencies directly using established channels and mechanisms or fund Government or NGOs in a similar manner.
 2. Donors can provide funds to the UN Country Team which, in consultation with the Government, will then be allocated to priority interventions. This type of intervention is based on the common UN approach as outlined in this document.

3.4 Implementation Arrangements

This programme is a collaborative effort of the Government and UN Country Team in Ethiopia. The programme has been designed to make the optimal use of the management capacities, expertise and resources available from the operational and technical agencies working in the country, while avoiding any duplication of effort and making the best use of existing working arrangements with government and other partners.

WFP is proposing a new Emergency Operation for food assistance to victims of natural disasters and is seeking to provide approximately 250,000 MT of food for 2.3 million people in ten regions between April and December, as well as an amount from its Bridging Appeal (November – March) for 60,414 MT of which 31,763 MT has already been resourced. WFP will take the lead in providing relief food assistance, including supplementary food, and logistics.

FAO will be responsible for support to the farming sectors while UNICEF and WHO will cover health issues. UNICEF will apply its extensive programme and operational experience at national, zonal and wereda levels in revitalizing EPI in low coverage areas; expanding access to clean drinking water and basic sanitation; providing technical support to a more effective national, and especially regional/sub-regional nutrition surveillance system with relevance both to food aid and supplementary food aid targeting as well as the overall health response; ensuring appropriate targeting and distribution of supplementary foods and blankets to children under five as well as pregnant and lactating women, and reducing drop-out rates from primary schools. Although a specific project targeting children and women in need of special protection (CWSPN) is not featured in this appeal, UNICEF will apply a cross-cutting gender mainstreaming strategy in all drought interventions, drawing on the technical support of its Gender and Development Unit and existing programmes in this area including assistance for street mothers and children, advocacy and dissemination of rights based materials. WHO will assist in improving access to essential drugs for the destitute. In the process, all agencies will work with each other and with national, regional and wereda level Government counterparts and NGOs.

Other UN agencies may also be involved either directly or through support to the operational agencies. The UN Emergencies Unit for Ethiopia (UN-EUE), which acts under the authority of the UN Resident Co-ordinator, will assist with operational support services to the agencies working in the field as well as engaging in an expanded level of field monitoring, information and data management and overall reporting.

For essential and technical services – health, nutrition, education, agriculture, water and sanitation, protection – the individual specialist agencies already enjoy well-established working relationships with the relevant line ministries and governmental agencies, several of which are already collaborating with the UN on national programmes for development as well as for emergency response and rehabilitation. These linkages have proven to be particularly well-developed in Tigray and Amhara regions where the administrations are relatively sophisticated and technically competent. As much as possible the UNCT will work through the established line ministries and co-ordination mechanisms, expanding existing programmes where possible and providing additional capacity building support as needed.

For food distributions, WFP works in partnership with DPPC and the DPP offices at regional, zonal and wereda levels. This is particularly effective in Tigray and Amhara regions where the existence of WFP sub-offices ensures regular and productive contact with officials in the zones and weredas. However, owing to a lack of human and institutional capacity, particularly at those levels nearest to the beneficiaries, timely, accurate and relevant information has not always been available.

3.5 Co-ordination and collaboration arrangements

The overall response of the United Nations to this crisis in Ethiopia is being managed by the UN Resident Co-ordinator supported by the UN Disaster Management Team, which meets regularly and is functioning as the primary coordination mechanism within the UN Country Team. Comprising the heads of the operational agencies, their emergencies officers and staff of the UN-EUE, this forum is an opportunity for the senior UN staff to share information on developments, establish priorities and responsibilities and recommend appropriate inter-agency action. When requested, the UN Resident Co-ordinator and Heads of Agencies meet with the Commissioner of the DPPC to consult on issues concerning policy, resource mobilisation and operational co-ordination. At a working level, technical experts from the specialized UN agencies participate in joint needs assessments, technical working groups and other information sharing and operational committees that may be convened by the DPPC.

Sectoral co-ordination will be ensured through the UNCT system with each agency held accountable through the UN-DMT for ensuring that there is a free flow of information regarding their individual plans and activities, and that maximum co-ordination with Government is maintained. At the working level, the agencies involved in field operations will be responsible for ensuring that their activities are co-ordinated with other partners - government and NGOs - to avoid duplication of inputs and efforts and to maximise available resources.

3.6 Reasons for UN Country Team assistance

The collaborative approach being advocated in this Relief Action Plan is largely derived from the UN Secretary General's on-going reform process and in continuation of earlier joint approaches taken by the UNCT in Ethiopia on the issue of the internally displaced. This places a strong emphasis on decentralisation of authority and the achievement of a unity of purpose among the specialised UN agencies at the country level.

Apart from the potential organisational advantages of a collective response to this emergency, the UNCT approach was also seen as the best way to maximise the potential impact of the UN's contribution to the overall humanitarian effort. Too often in the past, the UN response has been seen as fragmented and diffuse with considerable overlap and duplication with the activities of governmental and non-governmental actors. The pooling of expertise and resources under the joint authority of the UNCT is expected to greatly improve overall co-ordination and provide the basis for a more coherent and cost-effective response.

4. PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

The overall objective of this component of the UN Country Team humanitarian programme for 2000 is to save lives and alleviate the human, social and material consequences of natural disasters, mainly drought and crop failure, in the most severely affected areas of the country. In this regard, the emphasis will be on helping to keep people in the worst affected areas from exhausting all of their coping strategies, and on helping them to maintain a standard of living whereby they are able to resume productive activities on their farmland or with their herds with the start of the next rainy season.

In close cooperation with the federal and regional governments and NGOs working in the affected regions, the programme aims to provide support to the following sectors: food relief assistance; health and supplementary feeding; agricultural sector support; water and environmental sanitation; education; shelter and field monitoring, reporting and data management. Linked to the overall implementation strategy, a secondary objective is to further the development aims of the federal and regional governments by linking the provision of relief assistance to the strengthening of the existing services infrastructure.

Within the framework of this Relief Action Plan and Appeal, the humanitarian activities of the UN Country Team are therefore intended to be implemented along traditional lines, emphasising local partnership, capacity building and support for long-term development objectives.

As in the initial emergency response, as much as possible the UNCT will continue to work through the established line ministries and co-ordination mechanisms, expanding existing programmes where possible and providing additional capacity-building support as needed.

Given the complex and urgent nature of this crisis, programme and contextual monitoring and reporting are included as important elements of this Relief Action Plan as is information and data management. The primary objective here is to ensure that the delivery of assistance is undertaken in an efficient and well co-ordinated manner based on a thorough knowledge and understanding of the status of the programme.

5. SECTORAL ACTIVITIES AND SUPPORT COMPONENTS

5.1 *Relief Food Assistance and Logistics*

WFP launched a bridging appeal for Emergency Operation 6143 "Relief Food Assistance to Victims of Meher and Belg Crop Failure" on 23 November 1999. While part of the appeal was to cover unmet needs for November and December 1999, provision was also made to assist an estimated 820,200 people with 36,908 MT of food for the first three months of 2000. Of the total 60,414 MT requested by WFP for the five months, 31,763 MT of foods (including 706 MT of famix and 500 MT of CSB) have been received as of mid-January 2000 from the European Union, Finland, Norway, Japan, Ireland and the United States.

WFP has prepared a proposal for a new Emergency Operation to cover approximately 30 percent of the relief grain needs for victims of natural disaster for a nine month period from April to December 2000. Under this proposal it is foreseen to assist approximately 2.3 million people with 250,000 MT of commodities, 80 percent of which is cereals, and the balance blended food.

5.1.1 Overall Objective

To support the Government's efforts in saving lives and livelihoods and improving the nutritional status of people affected by natural disaster, with special focus on women and children.

Specific Objectives include the following:

- To meet the minimum food requirements of pastoralists affected by drought and subsistence farmers who have experienced insufficient *meher* and *belg* crop yields in 1999, and whose traditional coping mechanisms are unable to sustain them.
- To contribute to preserving household assets, particularly oxen, thus ensuring that the long-term vulnerability of households does not increase.
- To maintain or improve the nutritional status of affected vulnerable populations, with a particular focus on women and the young, thereby reducing their susceptibility to disease.
- To increase the institutional and human resources capacity of the Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission and other implementing partners.
- To strengthen partnerships between WFP and other multi and bilateral agencies and relevant government offices.

5.1.2 Proposed activities and interventions requiring funding

Approximately 217,359 MT of cereals will be distributed to 2.3 million beneficiaries in ten regions, for an average of six months between April and December 2000. All beneficiaries will receive a cereal ration of 15 kgs per month, while particularly vulnerable individuals (estimated at 35 percent of the population) will receive a monthly supplementary ration of 4.5 kg of blended food in identified priority weredas in order to help improve their nutritional situation. The list of priority weredas will be jointly determined by DPPC, WFP, UNICEF, UN-EUE and SCF/UK. WFP proposes to try and resource 32,641 MT of blended food (29,674 MT plus 10 percent contingency), or approximately 50 percent of the total estimated requirements. The operation will be implemented through the DPPC.

In order to ensure timely grain distributions, borrowings will be made from the Emergency Food Security Reserve. While WFP undertakes to deliver from the ports to the major transportation hubs, DPPC will be responsible for delivering both the cereals and blended foods to the final distribution points. With regards to supplementary food, it is proposed that an emergency nutrition coordination unit be established within the early warning department of DPPC. Such a unit will assist in maintaining countrywide nutritional surveillance, targeting, pipeline management, training of local level health and DPP staff, and coordinating distributions. The proposal for the coordination unit is a joint initiative between WFP and UNICEF, and bringing it into being will entail further close collaboration with the various actors involved, including: DPPC, WHO, donors and NGOs. Under the plan it is foreseen that WFP would accept primary responsibility for resourcing the supplementary food and procuring required non-food items, UNICEF would provide technical advice and assistance in monitoring, donors would provide funding and health agents, WHO and NGOs would be called upon to provide training and assist in implementation. (See also section 5.2 - Health and Nutrition)

Efforts will be made to secure some of the cereal and supplementary food locally, although this will be limited by internal production capacity constraints and price considerations. Currently, market prices for famix are high owing to an increase in the price of raw materials. Transportation costs have also risen, both making it difficult to give an accurate estimate of costs at this stage.

In addition to food aid, a request has been made for the supply of twelve moveable storage units of approximately 500 MT capacity each, as well as to cover the building costs of beneficiaries constructing storage sheds under employment generation schemes (EGS). Both initiatives support the Government policy of delivering food as close to the beneficiaries as possible, thereby reducing the long distances that some beneficiaries are obliged to walk to collect their rations. WFP will be responsible for the delivery and installation of the temporary warehouses.

Currently, there is a severe lack of roadworthy vehicles at the zonal level to allow for appropriate monitoring and follow-up of the food security situation. Accordingly, WFP proposes to provide six field vehicles to facilitate local level monitoring. As an interim measure, using its own resources UNDP is currently finalizing the rental of a number of four-wheel drive stationwagons on behalf of the DPPC. These vehicles will be deployed to priority zonal DPP offices in Amhara and Oromiya region.

As an initiative to expand coverage to needy primary school children in the worst affected areas WFP has already mobilized US\$ 6.1 million to cover food needs (4,900 MT high energy biscuits and 2,300 MT famix) as an additional component to development project 4929 "Improving Education through School Feeding". However, WFP has not been able to mobilize the required cash funding to secure the non-food items required to make this initiative work. Accordingly, US\$ 150,000 (which includes indirect support costs) is being requested under the new Emergency Operation to purchase items such as cups, bowls, basins, water buckets, and cooking utensils for an additional 145,000 students in approximately 450 schools in the worst affected areas.

5.1.3 Logistics

Since the outbreak of hostilities between Ethiopia and Eritrea, Assab and Massawa ports have been closed to any cargo destined for Ethiopia. This situation has also changed transport prices and altered the primary transportation corridors and infrastructure used to deliver food from the port of entry to secondary distribution hubs.

The WFP Country Office moved quickly to assess the capacity of the port of Djibouti and to organize clearing and shipping operations to ensure maximum efficiency. In response to the issues involved in transferring all port operations to Djibouti, a co-ordinated Food Aid Transport System (FATS) was developed. As a result, a fleet of on average 250 to 300 dedicated trucks is currently operating with WFP. These vehicles are leased from approximately 10 trucking companies, with an option to bring the total up to as high as 500 trucks at 15 days' notice, as was the case during the last quarter of 1999. FATS is backed with field staff in new locations and Patrol Officers who ensure the smooth flow of trucks. In addition, an arrangement has been made with Ethio-Djibouti Railway to transport up to 3,000 MT of food aid per month. Being centrally co-ordinated in this manner, multilateral and bilateral agencies as well as NGOs are assured of being able to access a system which will facilitate the movement of commodities from port to destination in the shortest time possible.

Given the large tonnages of relief assistance expected in the year 2000, it is not possible to rely solely on Djibouti port. Therefore, logistics has been exploring options for also channeling food through the Port of Sudan for beneficiaries in the north and northwest of the country, and the Port of Berbera in North-West Somalia, for distributions in the east and southeast of the country. Use of these new corridors is being worked on in close collaboration

with both the Sudan and Somalia country offices. Under this new strategy it will be necessary to know the food pipeline situation and proposed distribution allocations as much in advance as possible in order to have food arrive at the “appropriate” port.

In support of the UNCT Relief Action Plan, WFP will also assist other UN agencies in both internal logistics arrangements as well as cargo movements from Djibouti.

5.1.4 Indicative Budget Summary of New Proposal

Item	Amount (USD)
Commodities	42,000,000
Transport/Logistics	47,000,000
Direct Support Costs	3,800,000
Other Direct Operational Costs	600,000
Indirect Support Costs	5,500,000
Overall Total	98,900,000

5.2 Health and Nutrition

The past has witnessed a significant number of people living in areas of crop failure. The number of people in need of food aid is rising and is now estimated at approximately 7.7 million for 2000. Unfortunately, the situation has continued to deteriorate, largely as a result of the emergence of additional crop-dominant areas becoming increasingly vulnerable and rising pastoralist needs. Recent surveys indicate that the situation could very likely further deteriorate before it hopefully improves during the June-August 2000 *belg* harvest. Pockets of severe malnutrition have been identified and in the affected areas levels of malnutrition in general are likely to rise. Malnutrition, particularly among young children, increases susceptibility to disease and contributes to high rates of mortality.

The top seven causes of ill health in drought-prone areas are malaria, diarrhea, intestinal parasites, upper respiratory tract infections, pneumonia, tuberculosis, and skin diseases. These diseases are frequently associated with malnutrition and together can lead to serious ill health and death. Malaria especially has shown an alarming increase in prevalence in recent years. Vaccination coverage, in general as well as in drought-prone areas in particular, has been found to be low while cold chain facilities remain inadequate in many areas. In general, a shortage of essential drugs and medical supplies, laboratory reagents and HIV test kits, and cold chain supplies has been reported as commonplace. The need to upgrade the skills and knowledge of health workers through improved in-service training has also been recognized as a priority in many of these remote, drought-prone regions as has the need for better coordination between different actors in the health sector.

In the past, UNICEF has assisted with the targeting of supplementary food to the drought affected population and has provided support to the Expanded Programme of Immunization (EPI). The World Health Organization has also worked to improve levels of immunization as well as providing emergency health kits, essential drugs, HIV/AIDs prevention programmes and specialized training. WHO has also assisted the malarial programme and control of communicable diseases such as meningitis in the drought affected areas through the provision of drugs and capacity building.

5.2.1 Objectives

To prevent a deterioration of the health and nutritional status and excessive morbidity and mortality especially among women and children in drought-affected and food insecure regions of Ethiopia.

5.2.2 Proposed Activities

In areas affected by drought and severe food insecurity, malnutrition can be the most serious public health problem and may be the leading cause of death, whether directly or indirectly. Improved targeting of food aid, including supplementary food to those worst affected, is of paramount importance to avoid excessive levels of malnutrition and death. Thus, to improve the targeting capacity to the most needy communities at kebele and sub-kebele levels UNICEF will support a proposed Nutrition Coordination Unit within the DPPC. This unit will act as a coordinating body for all supplementary and therapeutic feeding programmes in the country, it will focus on expanding nutritional surveillance programmes to all chronic drought prone areas of the country, emphasize the importance of effective data collection and applied analysis and ensure no gaps exist in the information critical to targeted supplementary food response at community (as opposed to individual) levels.

WHO is working with the Ministry of Health to strengthen the capacity to combat selected priority diseases. This will be extended towards strengthening surveillance mechanisms in the drought-affected areas. In addition, support will be given to strengthen health units serving the affected population through the provision of drugs, development of surveillance systems and capacity building.

Because diarrhoeal diseases are common and often severe in drought affected areas, antibiotics and medical supplies for treatment of diarrhoeal diseases will be provided. Furthermore, as malaria is a significant health problem in the some of the drought affected areas, malaria control efforts will also be supported

Health facilities in drought-affected areas will be revitalized by providing additional assistance, such as essential drugs and medical supplies, laboratory reagents and supplies (including HIV testing kits), and establishing an effective cold chain system. In addition, health facilities that are not currently functioning will be organized at least to provide emergency health care through the mobilizing and supporting health workers within the zone or region at large.

Pastoralist groups are particularly hard hit as they depend almost entirely on adequate rainfall for survival. In addition, they are difficult to reach in terms of preventive health care services. Emphasis will be placed on reaching these groups. To prevent morbidity and mortality from vaccine-preventable diseases, EPI will be supported, in particular outreach activities.

5.3 Water and Environmental Sanitation

Frequent drought in many parts of the country has significantly affected the ground water level and hence several water supply schemes have become non-functional. Also many springs and water ponds are completely dry. Therefore, people are forced to go long distances to fetch water, in most of the cases these sources are unprotected and hence contaminated. In some cases, people walk for four to six hours to get a pot/can of water. Environmental sanitation and hygiene situation has further deteriorated due to the unavailability of water to communities.

The funds mobilized from 1999 emergency appeal helped to provide some assistance in Oromiya, Amhara, Somali, Dire Dawa and SNNRP regions. Water tankering was supported in some areas including Eastern Hararghe, benefiting some 45,000 people for 3 to 4 months. In Oromiya, 10 shallow wells were drilled and water supply schemes constructed. Sanitation improvement in four towns in Amhara region was supported benefiting over 100,000 people. Also in the same region 3 bore wells were drilled, 5 old water schemes rehabilitated and water committee members for each scheme trained, benefiting 15,000 people. In SNNRP region, water supply schemes were rehabilitated in five towns (Shakiso, Shore, Gelcha Wacha, Lante and Sawla), benefiting some 80,000 people. The provision of water through the emergency programme has substantially reduced the burden of fetching water by women and girls. Significant reduction in water and sanitation related diseases have been reported bring overall health benefits to the community, particularly to the children.

Although the emergency programme partially helped a number of communities in drought affected areas, many thousands of people, especially in southern and south-eastern parts of the country (Borena, Bale, southern parts of the Somali Region and South Omo zone of SNNP Region) are still in urgent need of water assistance, including the use of tankering, provision of synthetic storage tanks and water bladders. The failure of the summer rains in 1999 has further aggravated the problem and also many new areas have been affected by the drought. If timely assistance is not provided, mortality and morbidity related to water-, sanitation- and hygiene-related diseases will increase greatly, particularly among children and old people.

5.3.1 Objectives

The overall objective of the project is to reduce the morbidity and mortality among population in drought affected areas, particularly among the children, due to water-, sanitation- and hygiene-related diseases through the provision of safe water and improved sanitation and hygiene practices.

5.3.2 Proposed Activities

- Assessment of water and sanitation problems and needs in drought affected areas.
- Short-term water tankering in areas where no other options is available.
- Rehabilitation of old and non-functioning schemes.
- Provision of tanks and bladders and construction of new water supply schemes.
- Create awareness on environmental sanitation and hygiene practices.
- Support construction of community, school and household latrines.
- Routine monitoring and evaluation of all supported activities.

5.3.3 Implementation Arrangements and Coordination

UNICEF will work closely with the respective regional Bureau of Water, Mines and Energy and the Bureau of Health in coordinating water supply and sanitation activities in the affected areas. This will link to recently formed Drought Task Force Committees set up at regional and zonal levels to link all key aspects of emergency drought response including health, nutrition, education and shelter/relief components. The role of operational NGOs is also a vital part of effective and timely response strategies. UNICEF interventions will be supported by technical staff from the Addis Ababa office and special field monitors to link with local communities in pastoral areas. Efforts will be made to overcome major constraints faced in 1999 such as slow preparation of activities and delay in implementation, procurement of supplies and fund disbursement. A “turn-key approach will be followed to speed up the implementation. This was successfully done in drought affected areas in 1999.

5.3.4 Budget

Region	Activity	Estimated budget in USD
Somali	Assessment and preparation of action plan	6,000
	Water tankering	90,000
	Rehabilitation of old schemes	100,000
	New water supply schemes	284,000
	Environmental sanitation and hygiene	50,000
	Monitoring and evaluation	20,000
	Sub-total	550,000
Oromiya (Bale & Borena zones)	Assessment and preparation of action plan	3,000
	Water tankering	50,000
	Rehabilitation of old schemes	60,000
	New water supply schemes	332,000
	Environmental sanitation and hygiene	80,000
	Monitoring and evaluation	25,000
	Sub-total	550,000
SNNPR	Assessment and preparation of action plan	2,000
	Water tankering	10,000
	Rehabilitation of old schemes	50,000
	New water supply schemes	318,000
	Environmental sanitation and hygiene	50,000
	Monitoring and evaluation	20,000
	Sub-total	450,000
Amhara (Wag Hamra and North and South Wello zones)	Assessment and preparation of action plan	2,000
	Water tankering	-
	Rehabilitation of old schemes	100,000
	New water supply schemes	263,000
	Environmental sanitation and hygiene	65,000
	Monitoring and evaluation	20,000
	Sub-total	450,000
Project Support Costs		300,000
Total		2,300,000

5.4 Education Sector Assistance

The severe drought which currently affects about 6.8 million persons in seven regions (Afar, Tigray, Amhara, Oromiya, Somali, SNNPRS and Gambella) of Ethiopia is resulting in low attendance and high drop-out rates in primary schools in these areas. The total number of primary school pupils living in the drought affected areas is about 500,000. The causes of low attendance and high drop-out rates at the primary school stage of education include, among others, the inability of parents to meet the cost of educational materials and clothes required for schooling, the need for children to participate in household chores, severe protein energy malnutrition among children due to deficiency in food intake and the lack of basic amenities like drinking water supply in schools and in the community. The situation calls for a series of complementary measures to enable pupils to continue their education. The proposed programme designed to ensure uninterrupted education of children in drought affected areas is an attempt in this direction.

5.4.1 Objectives

- To ensure the continuity of basic/primary education for 124,000 out of 500,000 primary school children in drought-affected areas in seven regions of Ethiopia;
- To encourage children to attend school and to reduce absenteeism and drop-out rates among primary school pupils;
- To meet the nutritious requirements of primary school children in the worst affected areas in order to minimise the possible damage on health, growth and development of children coordinated with the proposed expanded WFP school feeding programme.

5.4.2 Strategy

- Strengthen the capacity of the staff of the Regional Education Bureaux, Zonal Education Departments and Wereda Education Offices for effective planning, implementation and monitoring of educational interventions for children in drought-affected areas;
- Reducing direct cost of schooling of children in drought-affected areas in order to enable them to continue their education and to reduce absenteeism and drop-out rates;
- Support school feeding programmes for the benefit of children in worst-affected areas;
- Support social mobilisation and communication activities to elicit community/donor interest and participation in programmes designed to promote education of children in drought-affected areas.

5.4.3 Proposed Activities

- Collection of data/information regarding the number of primary school-age children (age-wise and grade-wise) in drought-affected areas in order to identify zones, weredas and schools for planning and designing education interventions for children in drought-affected areas in seven regions;
- Provision of educational materials (exercise notebooks, ball-point pens, pencils, ruler, erasers and school bags) for 124,000 targeted groups of children in worst affected areas
- Provision of synthetic water tanks, construction of water lines and tankering for 72 schools;

- Training of teachers in the planning, design and implementation of programmes to meet the educational needs of children and adolescents in drought-affected areas;
- Monitoring and evaluation of programme implementation and effectiveness.

5.4.4 Budget Summary

Activity description	Budget estimates (In USD) by Region							Total
	Tigray	Afar	Amhara	Oromiya	Somali	SNNPRS	Gambella	
Collection of data regarding the number of primary school-age children	2,000	500	2,000	2,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	9,500
Provision of educational materials	200,000	2,400	400,000	232,000	28,000	104,000	24,000	990,400
Construction of water tanks	192,400	-	-	74,000	-	-	-	266,400
Training of teachers in the planning, design and implementation of programmes for children and adolescents in drought-affected areas	10,000	1,000	15,000	15,000	5,000	10,000	6,000	62,000
Monitoring and evaluation of programme implementation and effectiveness	1,000	500	1,000	2,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	7,500
Transportation of supplies and equipment	10,000	1,000	10,000	10,000	6,000	10,000	8,000	55,000
Project Support Costs	209,000							209,000
Total	415,400	5,400	428,000	335,000	41,000	126,000	40,000	1,599,800

5.4.5 Implementation Arrangements and Coordination

Educational programmes for children in drought-affected areas will be coordinated by UNICEF and implemented in collaboration with WFP especially with regard to the school feeding programme. At the central level the programme will be implemented in collaboration with DPPC and Ministry of Education. Activities at the regional level will be implemented under the overall supervision of the regional education bureaux in collaboration with the relevant zonal education departments and wereda education offices. Wereda administration and education offices, in collaboration with the emergency committees established at all levels, will be responsible for distributing the supplies/equipment and monitoring the utilisation of these supplies/equipment and the implementation of all activities.

5.4.6 Monitoring

Education interventions for children in drought affected areas in the seven regions will be reviewed at the end of the first quarter of programme implementation, and mid-course corrections will be made after reviewing the on-going assistance. The regional education bureaux, relevant zonal education departments and wereda education offices will periodically monitor the implementation of these urgent education interventions.

5.5 Agricultural Sector Support

The Ethiopian cropping calendar depends on two rainy seasons. The *belg* rains which fall between February and April and the *meher* rains starting in early July to October. East and West Haraghe (Oromiya Region); Wag Hamra, eastern parts of North and South Gondar, North and South Welo, North Showa and Oromiya zones of Amhara region; and southern parts of Tigray are all areas where farmers are highly dependant on the *belg* rains and where acute food shortages have been identified. For farmers in these areas, failure of the 1999 *belg* rains exacerbated their already precarious situation. They depleted their assets, exhausted their coping mechanisms, and now face severe difficulties in meeting their food requirement and acquiring their own seeds for the forthcoming planting seasons. Their recovery depends on the outcome of the next *belg* harvest in June/July 2000.

Through three ongoing approved Technical Cooperation Projects valued at US\$ 1,200,000 FAO is currently providing seeds and technical assistance to the Government of Ethiopia for the provision of seed to some 60,000 farmers in these three regions. The projects, which have been resourced through FAO Rome, are purchasing approximately 2,325 MT of maize, sorghum, barley, teff, wheat and vegetable seeds – sufficient to plant in excess of 43,000 hectares at a rate of about half a hectare per family. The scale of the need, however, outstrips the limited assistance provided through these existing projects and FAO is now seeking donor support to enable the provision of seed assistance to be extended to a further 90,000 drought affected farmers together with additional assistance for a further 10,000 farmers in the form of irrigation pumps and beehives.

5.5.1 Objective

To provide agricultural assistance to farmers in the areas most affected by crop failure to enable them to be able to plant crops for the next *belg* and/or *meher* seasons, thereby helping them to reverse their condition of destitution.

5.5.2 Proposed Activities

Assistance is targeted to Tigray, Amhara and Oromiya Regions:

- In Tigray Region, seeds will be provided to up to 40,000 destitute farm families who are affected by failure of *belg* and/or *meher* rains;
- In Amhara Region, seeds will be provided for up to 40,000 destitute farm families affected by failure of *belg* and/or *meher* rains;
- In East and West Hararghe zones of Oromiya Region, sweet potato vines will be distributed to up to 10,000 chronically food insecure farmers;
- Treadle irrigation pumps will be provided to up to 5,000 drought-affected farming households in Tigray Region;
- Modern beehives will be provided to up to 5,000 landless or small-holder farming households in Tigray.

5.5.3 Budget Summary

Activity	Cost (in US\$)
Seeds for 40,000 farmers in Tigray	875,000
Seeds for 40,000 farmers in Amhara	796,000
Sweet potato vines for up to 10,000 farmers in E/W Hararghe	227,000
5,000 irrigation pumps	519,000
5,000 modern beehives	426,000
Total	2,843,000

5.6 Special Relief Assistance in Pastoral Areas

Beyond conventional response, detailed elsewhere in this appeal, UNICEF seeks to support special needs in pastoral areas including the provision of shelter and other relief materials and tools and equipment to facilitate local efforts to expand access to safe drinking water by local road construction and improvements.

5.6.1 Objectives

- To mitigate the effects of exposure and the depletion of household assets through the timely provision of relevant shelter and relief materials to 10,000 vulnerable household in pastoral and other drought affected areas.

5.6.2 Proposed Activities

- Local procurement of durable relief and shelter materials and transport to target areas
- Distribution and targeting through effective local counterparts including NGOs with demonstrated skills and community level capacity.

5.6.3 Budget

Item	Number	Cost (USD)
Hand tools	12,000	20,000
Blankets	12,000	17,000
Project Support Cost	-	9,300
Total		46,300

5.7 Monitoring, Reporting and Information Management

Acting on behalf of the UN Resident Coordinator and the UN Disaster Management Team, the UN Emergencies Unit for Ethiopia will undertake regular field monitoring and needs assessments in all areas where the UN is providing humanitarian assistance. In conjunction with the specialized agencies, the information gathered will be disseminated as widely as possible through the regular publications issued by the Emergencies Unit in order to provide the UN, donors, NGOs and the Government with a broad overview of the relief situation as it evolves. The Emergencies Unit will also continue to provide support to the UN-DMT in its coordinating role, and will support the UN Country Team in its resource mobilization efforts. A need identified during the course of 1999 has been for improved data/information collecting, sharing and analysis, especially with regard to operational issues. As part of the overall UNCT humanitarian response in 2000 (for both natural disasters and IDPs) in cooperation with the relevant government institutions the Emergencies Unit will be strengthening this aspect of its work with the aim of improving the current availability of critical data resources for decision makers.

In support of UNICEF programme assistance for pastoralist populations in southern Oromiya and Somali regions, it is considered of paramount importance that service delivery and monitoring functions are based on knowledge, appreciation and awareness of local customs, tradition and language, whether in terms of food sharing practices, the acceptance by mothers of child immunization or the expression of rights based concerns. UNICEF proposes to fund an experienced Somali/Borena speaker as an emergency field monitor covering southern Oromiya and southern Somali region with appropriate knowledge of local conditions and practices in order to guide and inform UNICEF emergency WES, health and nutrition interventions.

5.7.2 Objectives

- Providing credible, authoritative analysis and reporting on the humanitarian situation in areas being targeted for assistance by the UN Country Team;
- To support and enhanced the resource mobilization efforts of the Government and UNCT;
- Improve availability of critical operational data/information for decision makers;
- Ensure relevant, effective interventions and regular feedback on inputs and ongoing needs by the deployment of a community-focused field monitor in pastoral areas.

5.7.3 Proposed Activities

- Recruitment, selection and deployment of appropriate UNICEF field monitor with relevant language and communications skills to ensure socio-cultural relevance of interventions;
- Expansion of ongoing UN Emergencies Unit field monitoring and support operations to ensure comprehensive coverage of all affected areas targeted for UNCT assistance;
- Strengthening of information/data collection, analysis and management services.

5.7.4 Implementation arrangements

Reporting and monitoring of the technical aspects of this humanitarian programme will be the responsibility of the individual specialized agencies and their partners. In most cases, mechanisms already exist for the routine monitoring of activities in the field and the costs are already covered through the core resources of the agencies or will be integral to the activities themselves. With the aim of improving coordination, the UN Emergencies Unit, working in close cooperation with the DPPC and other partners, will provide contextual reporting and analysis, highlighting issues of general concern, operational constraints, new needs and opportunities for improved collaboration. While indications of funding sufficient to cover the core operations of the Emergencies Unit for 2000 have been secured, additional support is still required to ensure adequate field reporting and operational support can be provided to all areas of Ethiopia where there are significant humanitarian needs. Strengthening the Emergencies Unit's capacity for the collection and analysis of operational data/information also requires further donor support.

5.7.5 Budget

Item	Agency	Cost (USD)
Pastoralist field monitor (11 m/m)	UNICEF	15,000
Expanded field support, monitoring and reporting	UN-EUE	80,000
Information/data collection and analysis	UN-EUE	20,000
Total		115,000

6. CONCLUSION

Current conditions in Ethiopia give great cause to be concerned. If substantial and timely food and non-food assistance is not provided to agricultural and pastoral households, it is likely that the incidence of stress-migration and the levels of malnutrition and morbidity from preventable illnesses are all likely to increase beyond the 1999 levels. In 1999, a major humanitarian emergency was averted through rapid response from donors and flexible programming of resources by the Government and its partners. The fact that a major tragedy was avoided, however, should not lull one into a false sense of security. The relief operation in 1999 only succeeded in delaying the effects of the problem. If adequate assistance is not available in time, the crisis will not only return, but will be much larger in magnitude, coverage of the country, and severity.

Ultimately, the people of Ethiopia need long-term solutions to improve their access to cash, their agricultural productivity, and their off-farm income generation opportunities. In the current political climate prevailing in the Horn of Africa, such types of assistance are shrinking rather than increasing. Donors are urged to consider the greater needs carefully and to appreciate the linkages between curtailment of long-term assistance and escalation of humanitarian needs.

7. SUMMARY OF RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS

Sector	Agency Appeals (USD)					Totals
	WFP	UNICEF	FAO	WHO	UN-EUE	
Food Aid & Logistics	98,900,000					98,900,000
Health & Nutrition		782,000		725,000		1,507,000
Water & Environmental Sanitation		2,300,000				2,300,000
Education Sector Assistance		1,599,800				1,599,800
Agricultural Sector Assistance			2,843,000			2,843,000
Special Relief Assistance		46,300				46,300
Monitoring, Reporting		15,000			100,000	115,000
Totals	98,900,000	4,743,100	2,843,000	725,000	100,000	107,311,100

Note: of the total appeal, US\$ 42 million is for food aid commodities and US \$47 million for food transport.

SECTION TWO

*RELIEF ACTION PLAN AND APPEAL
FOR INTERNALLY DISPLACED CIVILIANS
IN ETHIOPIA*

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SECTION TWO:

RELIEF ACTION PLAN AND APPEAL FOR INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS IN ETHIOPIA

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The border dispute between Ethiopia and Eritrea that first erupted into fighting in May 1998 continues, despite sustained efforts aimed at reaching a negotiated political settlement. The Ethiopian government estimates that at present 349,837 people remain displaced from the conflict area in the northern regions of Tigray and Afar.¹ Most have been integrated into host communities, but where local populations are not able to bear the burden of hosting, a recent SCF/UK survey indicates that in addition to a few camp-like settlements some of the displaced continue to live in make-shift shelters and caves.

Appeals by the government issued during the early days of the conflict (in June and September 1998) received substantial funding, both from international partners as well as from Ethiopians residing inside and outside the country. The National Fundraising Committee has thus far raised more than 213,000,000 birr; a large portion of these funds are being used to assist the displaced as well as returnees from Eritrea. Among the most recent expenditures by the Government was an allocation by the committee for 5000 MT of food to meet the immediate needs of the displaced at the end of 1999.

Despite these resources, assistance for the displaced are now virtually exhausted. Food supplies in particular are extremely limited with new grain pledges covering cereal needs only until February. Most displaced are completely dependent upon relief assistance, since they lack access to their farmland and many have lost their livestock and other productive assets. Although some water, sanitation and health support has been provided, the conditions in the displaced settlements and areas hosting significant numbers of integrated displaced are precarious and in need of improvement. In addition, in order to halt further environmental destruction, alternative sources of fuel (besides wood or charcoal) are needed. Even if a peace settlement is reached during 2000, most people will be unable to return to their homes due to the threat of landmines in and around their homes and farms, as well as the fact that they have lost their access to their property and assets. They are expected to continue to be dependent upon assistance throughout the year.

On 21 January 2000, the Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission (DPPC) issued its Requirements for the Year 2000 for both Victims of Natural Disasters and Internally Displaced Persons. This document outlines a programme of assistance to the displaced which includes relief food aid as well as shelter, water and sanitation, health care, education, and livestock support. The DPPC appeal included 62,136 MT of food assistance and more than US\$ 18 million in the sectors of health, water, sanitation, education, shelter, and household materials.

This Relief Action Plan and Appeal for Internally Displaced Persons is issued by the UN Country Team in Ethiopia in support of the Government's appeal and as a supplement to the ongoing efforts of the Ethiopian government to provide assistance to the displaced population. Planned activities are based on assessments carried out by UN agencies during December 1999 in Tigray and Afar regions, discussions with regional officials in both regions and on-going technical assistance and programme collaboration provided by operational agencies. The assessment teams were made up of technical specialists in each of the sectors. This Appeal represents individual agencies' willingness to support various

¹ This figure includes those who have been returned from Eritrea since the start of the conflict.

sectors of the Government's appeal, based on their respective areas of specialization, considerations of the amount and kind of assistance likely to be made available through UN headquarters, individual UN agency budgets, and supplementary pledges from donors. Components of this appeal are also designed to be consistent with the kind and amount of assistance to the displaced that the UN agencies have been involved in since the beginning of the conflict. It is hoped that in this way, the effectiveness and sustainability of individual inputs will be maximized.

This document outlines actions that the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) has already undertaken or proposes to take in support of the displaced, and identifies immediate actions to be undertaken with funding from existing or re-programmed resources within the UN system and contributions from the donor community. Additional funds requested total US\$ 23,850,000 for food assistance in either cash or kind and US\$ 3,672,800 in pledges for non-food assistance to meet the most critical and urgent needs. The proposed activities and programs outlined here will be further developed and refined in conjunction with the DPPC and/or appropriate line ministries, local administrations and, where appropriate, NGOs. A number of arrangements are available to the donor community to handle donations:

- Additional food aid pledges are urgently needed and donors can pledge food directly to the DPPC, WFP, in support of its new Emergency Operation for the internally displaced, or to NGOs conducting programmes for the displaced population.
- As outlined in this paper, several UN agencies have developed specific action plans for providing assistance to the displaced and urgently need additional funding if the highest priority programs are to be implemented immediately.
- The UNCT, through UNDP, can receive funds in support of the activities outlined in this Action Plan and then re-allocate these resources to individual specialized UN agencies to meet the most urgent needs.
- Many NGOs working with the displaced will need additional funding and can receive funds directly.

The UN Country Team Action Plan and Appeal outlines the priority areas of emergency assistance in support of the Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission's appeal for assistance to displaced persons. As this is an emergency intervention, possible rehabilitation and reconstruction needs have not been included. When the conflict is resolved it is anticipated that the UN Country Team will work closely with government in developing the necessary reconstruction and rehabilitation programmes, a large part of which would be rehabilitation of the agriculture and pastoral sectors.

2. CONTEXT

2.1 Background

Currently, there are three main areas of tension along the 1,000 km border between Ethiopia and Eritrea: Badme and Sheraro, in the western border area known as the "Yirga Triangle" between the Tekezze and Mereb rivers (Western Zone of Tigray Region); Tsorona - Zalambessa - Alitena, in the central border section (Eastern Zone of Tigray Region) near the main road leading from Ethiopia to the Eritrean capital Asmara, and Bure in the eastern border section (Zone 1 of Afar Region) on the main road to the Eritrean Red Sea port of Assab.

In the Tigray Region's Eastern Zone, the displaced originate from the conflict areas in Irob and Gulomeheda weredas and are now located in Adigrat town and the surrounding rural areas. In the Central zone, most people have been displaced from the town of Rama and the surrounding areas and are presently residing in Adwa town and its environs. In the Western zone, most of the displaced originate from the disputed Yirga triangle and are presently in areas south of the triangle up to and including the town of Shire (Endaselassie); the balance have been displaced from Humera town and its environs and have moved further south to the villages of Bereket and Ba'eker.

In Afar, most of the displaced are living near Bure and Elidaar. They are being served by the government, Médecins du Monde, and the Afar Pastoralist Development Association (a local NGO), and also indirectly supported by UNICEF, WHO and other UN agencies.

In Tigray, there has been some shifting in displaced populations during 1999. Following the fighting in the Badme area in February 1999, many of those who had been displaced to Zeben Gedena from Sheraro town returned. The town is now bustling with activity, and has in fact become a host community for other IDPs who remain displaced from Badme and other areas close to the border. A new settlement, known as Wahla Ni'hibi, has been opened, and is a priority for providing shelter, water, health and sanitation services.

A very few IDPs have returned to their homes. Some have done so even in the face of continuing threat of shelling or the presence of landmines. Several individuals, when questioned by UN staff, were told that they had returned because the assistance they had received had not been sufficient or regular enough to support them in the areas of displacement. Upon returning to their homes, many have found that they are not able to adequately cultivate their fields due to the suspected presence of mines, military personnel, and the fact that many of the households are in effect female-headed. Some of these returnees continue to receive rations, since they do not produce enough food to be able to become completely self-sufficient, and the possibility of being displaced again remains high.

WFP, through its food distributions to the displaced over the last year, and several international NGOs in their work with the displaced, have the impression that the government's figure of the total number of displaced is realistic. Registration of the displaced people in Tigray has been carried out by elected community representatives, many of whom are women, and government officials from among the displaced. Each community representative, who in some cases were elected prior to the conflict, registered members of the community who have been displaced. The lists are then screened by the community for accuracy before being finalized and submitted to the local authorities.

In addition to the loss of agricultural production, many of the displaced have lost their other means of livelihood as well. Many people left their homes with few personal belongings, including livestock. Most are unable to support themselves. Cross-border petty trade, which previously made up a significant portion of the local economy in border areas and included livestock sales as well as sales of vegetables, spices, and *gesho* (used in brewing local drinks), has been completely suspended. This has dramatically limited the ability of those living close to the border to have access to cash. To some extent, the livestock trade has been buoyed by the demand from the military, but in general a decline in purchasing power of the local residents has been observed.

In addition to the stress created by the war environment, most of the displaced come from areas that are chronically drought affected, and many have been dependent upon external assistance for many years. Many host families, who are now at the end of their coping strategies, are relying upon assistance as well due the fact that they have suffered from crop failure this year.

In Tigray Region, assistance to the displaced is coordinated by the Tigray Emergency Coordination Committee, which is composed of regional government administration and bureaux and relevant NGOs. A joint UN office has been maintained in Mekele since March 1999 with the full time presence of WFP and UNICEF, supported by UNDP.

2.2 Host Country Institutional Framework

The National Policy on Disaster Prevention, Preparedness and Management, promulgated in November 1993, provides the legal and institutional framework for the Government of Ethiopia's response to this emergency. The main Government counterpart for co-ordinating the UN Country Team response is the Federal Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission (DPPC), which works in close co-operation with the administrations of the affected regions (in this case, the Tigray Regional State and the Afar Regional State), the technical bureaux, principally Health, Water and Education, the concerned DPPBs and non-governmental organisations such as the Relief Society for Tigray. The Federal DPPC also plays a central role in organising and co-ordinating joint needs assessments with the UN Country Team, NGOs and donors, and is responsible for preparing consolidated appeals for international assistance and managing the allocation and delivery of relief resources.

2.3 UN Country Team Framework

Under the overall leadership of the UN Resident Co-ordinator, the UN Country Team (UNCT) in Ethiopia has developed a co-operative framework for the design, implementation and monitoring of a comprehensive humanitarian response to the Ethiopian Government's appeal for international assistance to meet the needs of civilians displaced by conflict with Eritrea.

Under the authority of the UNCT, this present Relief Action Plan and Appeal has been formulated as a joint, inter-agency exercise aimed at providing a flexible mechanism for the rapid utilization of a variety of funding sources and arrangements, including donor emergency funding given in direct support of the UNCT multi-sectoral humanitarian program. The practical implementation of the programme will be achieved by the operational agencies (primarily WFP, UNICEF, WHO, UNDP, and UNFPA but other agencies may also participate) using established operational mechanisms and modalities. As a UNCT initiative, however, the programme comes under the UN Resident Coordinator while decisions concerning co-ordination, planning, monitoring and reporting will be handled co-operatively within the mandate of the UN Disaster Management Team (UN-DMT), which comprises the senior management of the operational UN agencies.

While the operational agencies will be responsible for monitoring and providing technical reporting on the implementation of the different sectoral components of the program, generic/contextual reporting on the humanitarian situation as well as general narrative reporting to donors on the programme will be managed by the UN-DMT, supported by the UN Emergencies Unit for Ethiopia (UN-EUE).

3. PROJECT OUTLINE

3.1 Problem to be Addressed

Internally displaced civilians in Afar and Tigray regions of Ethiopia have limited options to return to their homes under present circumstances. Although serious outbreaks of disease and high rates of malnutrition have thus far been averted through the efforts of regional government and its national and international partners, the displaced population remains extremely vulnerable to these hazards. In addition, much of the shelter and household items previously distributed has become worn and are no longer usable; replacement is necessary. Finally, it is necessary to continue to provide special protection to the most vulnerable of the displaced population, and to provide an integrated programme of humanitarian mine action (including mine awareness) in order to minimize the risks of accident and injury to the civilian population.

As much as possible, the approach of the UN thus far has been to build on existing long term development programmes in the affected areas, especially in the health, water and education sectors. By doing so, though financially modest, the UN response has been strategically significant in enabling the regional authorities to assist the displaced through an expansion of existing services rather than through the creation of a parallel infrastructure as so often happens in such emergencies. This experience has proven to be effective, although shortage of resources has meant that the UN has not been as able to be as pro-active partner to the government as it would have liked.

While it is fervently hoped that parties to the conflict will reach a peaceful settlement during the course of 2000, such an agreement is not likely to lead to immediate return of all of the displaced persons. Infestation of farms and grazing areas by landmines has reportedly already led to scores of civilian deaths and injuries, and many people are reluctant to return until the mines have been cleared. Those who have come from contested areas may choose not to return until sovereignty is determined. Farmers who do not return to their fields by May or June will not be able to plant for the next *meher* harvest, and those who are dependent upon cross-border livestock and food commodity trade are not likely to see market activity restored immediately; they will continue to be dependent upon food assistance for the foreseeable future.

Although this Relief Action Plan and Appeal is based upon field assessments and experience gained through the last twenty months of working with the displaced, conditions on the ground are highly volatile and subject to change. Therefore, some changes to the plan may need to be made as conditions dictate. The UN system, in co-operation with the DPPC and local officials, will continue to monitor the situation and make adjustments to this Relief Action Plan as necessary.

3.2 Target Beneficiaries

The direct beneficiaries of the UNCT Humanitarian Programme are war-affected civilian populations in the Tigray and Afar administrative regions of Ethiopia, targeting especially the rural displaced, communities hosting displaced populations and other vulnerable groups such as unaccompanied minors, women and children.

Displaced people and camp dwellers are exposed to many factors that increase the risk of poor health, physical and mental abuse and other negative conditions. These factors typically include: over-crowding, inadequate water supply, poor sanitation, inadequate diets both in terms of quantity and quality of food, a lack of physical and social protection, inadequate health services and health care. These factors increase the risk of epidemics including, meningitis, diarrhoeal diseases and acute respiratory infections and sharply increase the risk of a vicious cycle of infection-malnutrition-infection taking hold, particularly among young children, pregnant and lactating women, unless appropriate and efficient measures are put in place. Moreover, removed from their normal communities and often disorientated, displaced persons often experience discrimination that can lead to their social marginalization and exclusion from basic services.

Distribution Sites and Displaced Beneficiaries

Region/Zone	Present Distribution Site	Number of Beneficiaries
Tigray-Western	Baeker	22,173
	Bereket	6,000
	Sheraro	36,000
	Adi Hageray	18,243
	Adi Daero	13,000
	Shire	21,000
Tigray-Eastern	Kerseber	32,155
	Araero	8,398
	Bizet	4,456
	Adigrat	45,587
	Araro	22,946
Tigray-Central	Edaga Rebut	15,900
	Abake	50,000
	Enticho	20,515
	Adwa	2,563
Total Tigray		315,936
Afar-Zone 1	Dupti	1,000
	Alidar	17,500
Afar-Zone 2	Afeder	3,000
	Dallole	5,000
	Berhahile	2,720
	Ereberti	4,681
Total Afar		33,901

Source: DPPC Assistance Requirements in 2000 for Internally Displaced January 2000

3.2.1 Women and children as particular target groups

Out of the estimated 349,837 internally displaced people more than 75 per cent are assumed to be children and women. Among displaced populations, women, children and the elderly generally suffer the most. They often have fewer income generation opportunities, and thus are more likely to be impoverished, particularly in areas such as Tigray and Afar which are among the poorest parts of one of the poorest countries in the world. Women and children (including a number of orphans) who are separated from other family members and find themselves in a strange social environment are often traumatized and disorientated. They are consequently more vulnerable to abuse, marginalisation and discrimination. Situations of

social dislocation, such as that prevailing in northern Ethiopia, pose particular dangers to women during pregnancy, childbirth, or post-partum recovery. These situations also expose women and adolescents to greater risks of sexual exploitation, abuse and violence. Displaced people, particularly women, are also more at risk of contracting sexually transmitted diseases including HIV/AIDS, since families are often split and increasing poverty and lack of other income generation opportunities forces many displaced women into prostitution.

3.3 Programme Strategy

The UNCT humanitarian programme is intended to strengthen federal and regional government efforts to assist civilians displaced by the conflict, using an approach which is consistent with the overall development priorities of the Government of Ethiopia and which emphasizes support to the existing social and relief services infrastructure.

Based on the UN response framework developed in June 1998 and implemented throughout 1999, this Relief Action Plan and Appeal provides a formal proposal and basis for the utilization of emergency funds made available to UN agencies, either individually or as a consolidated programme of the UN Country Team, depending on available funds and donor preferences. The Action Plan summarizes the overall objectives, operational strategies, reporting responsibilities and budgets of the UN agencies that will be most directly concerned with the implementation of the programme.

In addition to incorporating a summary of the operational plans of individual agencies, the Action Plan and Appeal covers the various institutional arrangements for internal and external co-ordination, monitoring the implementation of the programme and information sharing as well as providing a conceptual framework for the evaluation of the programme.

3.4 Resource Mobilization

This emergency will require a number of quick interventions using a variety of funding mechanisms and approaches if the highest priority needs are to be met. In view of the urgency of the situation, the UN Country Team has decided on the following strategy:

- Heads of UN Agencies should make requests to their respective headquarters for funding for programmes serving the displaced from the various agency special emergency funds that exist.
- Where possible and in agreement with government, some UN programmes could be re-targeted to the most vulnerable areas or resources reallocated to undertake specific interventions. Examples of this approach include redirecting of assistance previously targeted for weredas from which people have been displaced to areas hosting the displaced, re-prioritizing water development and rehabilitation activities to areas that face significant burdens from hosting the displaced, etc.
- Where critical interventions cannot be met from the above sources the UN Country Team, through this document, is appealing to the international community for additional resources and pledges through either of the following two mechanisms:
- Donors can fund the Government, individual UN agencies, or NGOs directly through their regular channels.

- Donors can provide funds to the UNCT directly; the Disaster Management Team, acting on behalf of the UNCT and in collaboration with the Government, will then allocate the funds to priority interventions to be carried out by UN agencies with relevant government and/or NGO partners. This approach, developed in the June 1998 Relief Action Plan for Assistance to War Affected Civilian Populations in Tigray and Afar, was used throughout 1999 in a programme funded by the Netherlands Government and implemented by UNICEF, UNFPA, and UNDP.

The current Relief Action Plan and Appeal summarizes the overall objectives, operational strategies, reporting responsibilities and budgets of the UN agencies that will be most directly concerned with the implementation of the program.

3.5 Implementation Arrangements

This programme is a collaborative effort of the Government and UN Country Team in Ethiopia. The programme has been designed to make the optimal use of the management capacities, expertise and resources available from the operational and technical agencies working in the country, while avoiding any duplication of effort and making the best use of existing working arrangements with government and other partners.

WFP already has an emergency operation, which will continue until the end of March 2000, for food assistance to civilians displaced by the conflict. Under a proposed new Emergency Operation to assist the internally displaced a total of 46,452 MT of mixed commodities (including 36,720 MT of cereals, 3,856 MT of Blended food and 2,938 MT each of pulses and vegetable oil) is sought for distribution over a period of nine months starting in April 2000. WFP will be taking the lead in providing relief food assistance, including supplementary food and logistics through a new Emergency Operation now under preparation.

WHO, UNFPA and UNICEF will cover health issues. UNICEF will also apply its extensive programme and operational experience at national, regional and sub-regional levels in supporting EPI outreach services, expanding access to safe drinking water and community sanitation; assisting in uninterrupted basic education for displaced children, promoting landmine awareness education and providing blankets, soap and plastic sheet for the most needy. WHO will assist in improving access to essential drugs for the destitute while UNFPA will concentrate on Reproductive Health and the prevention of HIV/AIDS. In the process, all agencies will work with each other and with national, regional and wereda level Government counterparts and NGOs.

Other UN agencies may also be involved either directly or through support to the operational agencies. The UN Emergencies Unit for Ethiopia (UN-EUE), which acts under the authority of the UN Resident Co-ordinator, will assist with operational support services to the agencies working in the field as well as general monitoring, information management and overall reporting.

For essential and technical services such as health, nutrition, education, water and sanitation, protection etc. the individual specialist agencies already enjoy well-established working relationships with the relevant line ministries and governmental agencies, several of which are already collaborating with the UN on national programmes for development as well as for

emergency response and rehabilitation. These linkages have proven to be particularly well-developed in Tigray region where the regional administration is relatively sophisticated and technically competent. As much as possible the UNCT will work through the established line ministries and co-ordination mechanisms, expanding existing programmes where possible and providing additional capacity building support as needed.

The emphasis on national execution in Ethiopia, which is established government policy, means that the number of NGOs working directly as implementing partners with the UNCT has diminished somewhat. Should a potential escalation of the conflict lead to significantly increased needs among the displaced population, however, the adoption of a more flexible approach will be advocated in order that the needs can be addressed in a timely fashion. In the north, the Relief Society of Tigray (REST) is already a key player providing relief assistance to the displaced and an established partner for the UN; a number of other—both national and international—NGOs are also ready to become more operational if required and requested by the Government.

Unlike in Tigray, the capacity of the Afar regional government is relatively weak and lacking in both expertise and experience. There are also relatively few NGOs active in the region. Though the numbers of displaced have been manageable so far, an escalation of the conflict, especially if there is any extensive military action in the east, could result in the need for a major relief operation in what is a remote and logistically difficult region. While the UN has been able to implement its initial relief response through existing DPPC and line-ministry channels, any further expansion of the programme might require either a greater degree of operational involvement on the ground or the identification of additional NGO partners.

3.6 Coordination and Collaboration Arrangements

The overall response of the United Nations to this crisis in Ethiopia is being managed by the UN Resident Coordinator acting in close consultation with the UN Disaster Management Team (UN-DMT), which is meeting weekly under his chairmanship. Comprising the heads of the operational agencies, their emergencies officers and staff of the UN Emergencies Unit for Ethiopia, this forum is an opportunity for the senior UN staff to share information on developments, establish priorities and responsibilities and recommend appropriate inter-agency action.

At the Government's request, the UN Resident Coordinator and Heads of Agencies are also available to meet with the Commissioner of the DPPC. This is the forum where issues concerning policy, resource mobilisation and operational co-ordination can take place.

Ensuring sectoral coordination will be a responsibility of the UN Resident Coordinator with each agency held accountable through the UN-DMT mechanism for ensuring that there is free flow of information regarding their individual plans and activities. At the working level, the agencies involved in field operations will be responsible for ensuring their activities are coordinated with other partners - government and NGOs - to avoid duplication of input and effort and to maximise available resources.

Sectoral co-ordination will be ensured through the UNCT system with each agency held accountable through the UN-DMT mechanism for ensuring that there is free flow of information regarding their individual plans and activities, and that maximum co-ordination with Government is maintained. At the operational level, the agencies involved in field

operations will be responsible for ensuring that their activities are co-ordinated with other partners – government and NGOs – to avoid duplication of inputs and efforts and to maximise available resources.

3.7 *Reasons for UN Country Team assistance*

The collaborative approach being advocated in this Relief Action Plan and Appeal is largely derived from the UN Secretary General's on-going reform process and in continuation of earlier joint approaches taken by the UNCT in Ethiopia on the issue of the internally displaced. This places a strong emphasis on decentralisation of authority and the achievement of a unity of purpose among the specialised UN agencies at the country level.

Apart from the potential organisational advantages of a collective response to this emergency, the UNCT approach was also seen as the best way to maximise the potential impact of the UN's contribution to the overall humanitarian effort. Too often in the past, the UN response has been seen as fragmented and diffuse with considerable overlap and duplication with the activities of governmental and non-governmental actors. The pooling of expertise and resources under the joint authority of the UNCT is expected to greatly improve overall co-ordination and provide the basis for a more coherent and cost-effective response.

3.8 *Principles of Engagement*

The conflict between Ethiopia and Eritrea involves a dispute between two well-organised, legitimate and stable governments, the armed forces of which are disciplined, professional and acting under a formal command and control structure. In 1999, despite several bouts of intense fighting, there was a demonstrated willingness on both sides to exercise restraint in order to allow for political negotiations to take place with several intermediaries, most notably under the framework of the OAU peace process. Despite the fact that these discussions have so far failed to bring about a settlement, there is considerable hope that the two sides will continue to keep their forces involved under firm political control and to conduct operations with restraint and in accordance with recognised international humanitarian law. It is also expected that the normal administrative structures and social services in the affected areas will continue to function and to fulfil their responsibilities as vis-à-vis their constituents.

Even so, the importance of implementing a programme of humanitarian assistance that takes into account the special circumstances of the conflict and that is subject to thorough and independent monitoring is fully recognised. To provide a high degree of accountability and transparency, the UN Country Team humanitarian programme has been designed with a strong monitoring and reporting element, a provision that should also help guarantee that the assistance provided is proportional, balanced and delivered in accordance with internationally accepted standards of impartiality and neutrality.

The freedom of the United Nations to independently monitor the delivery of its humanitarian assistance, in accordance with the special status of the organisation, is a right generally recognised and supported by the Government of Ethiopia. In the context of the current crisis, however, it is understood that both the federal and regional governments have legitimate security and safety concerns that may act as constraints to the free movement of staff in the immediate conflict area. The United Nations and Government of Ethiopia will continue to liaise closely with each other, to maintain adequate field monitoring capacity while ensuring

the safety of staff and reflecting the real and changing security considerations existing on the ground.

The circumstances of the dispute between Eritrea and Ethiopia are clearly complex and sensitive. The provision of relief assistance in this context requires adherence to internationally recognised humanitarian standards and principles, international human rights law and respect for individual rights and the rights of children. The implementation and monitoring of this Relief Action Plan will therefore be undertaken in the context of international law governing the legal obligations of warring states to provide and/or permit the provision of humanitarian assistance to affected civilians. More specifically, the implementation of the UNCT humanitarian programme as described in this Relief Action Plan and Appeal will be in accordance with the "Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement", issued by the UN Economic and Social Council in February 1998; in particular, Section IV, "Principles Relating to Humanitarian Assistance".

4. PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

The overall objective of this programme is to save lives by immediate emergency response while alleviating the human, social and material consequences of the conflict with regard to displaced civilians and their host communities, focussing primarily on support to the following sectors: health and nutrition; water and environmental sanitation; education; special protection needs (including protection from the threat posed by landmines and unexploded ordnance); and, shelter. Linked to the overall implementation strategy, a secondary objective is to further the overall development aims of the federal and regional governments by linking the provision of relief assistance to strengthening the existing services infrastructure. In this context, where assistance is provided for the construction of new facilities, such as water supplies, health services or schools, the aim will be to establish these as part of the permanent service infrastructure that will benefit the local community in the future. By channelling the bulk of the assistance through local governmental and non-governmental institutions, it is also intended that the programme will contribute to the building and strengthening of local capacities for both relief and development.

Within the framework of the Relief Action Plan, the humanitarian activities of the UN Country Team are therefore intended to be implemented along traditional lines, emphasising local partnership, capacity building and support for long-term development objectives. The sectors are those where the operational UN agencies already enjoy well-established working relationships with the relevant line ministries and governmental agencies. As much as possible, the UN agencies will continue to work through established line ministries and co-ordination mechanisms, expanding existing programmes where possible and providing additional capacity-building support as needed.

Given the dynamic nature of the crisis, and the sensitivities of providing material assistance in a conflict situation, programme and contextual monitoring and reporting are included as important elements of the Relief Action Plan and Appeal. The primary objective here is to ensure that the delivery of assistance is undertaken in an efficient and well-coordinated manner based on a thorough knowledge and understanding of the status of the programme and the prevailing humanitarian situation in the war-affected areas in Tigray and Afar. Secondly, this component is seen as part and parcel of the evaluation process, providing the

background information and data required for determining the cost-effectiveness, impact and coverage of the programme.

In addition to the sectoral and monitoring components of the programme, funds will also be allocated for the provision of common support services, including telecommunications and the continued operation of the joint UN field office which was established for this purpose in Mekele in 1999. These aspects of the programme have proven to provide a solid basis for collective action in the field and have enabled agencies to avoid the costly duplication of effort that would result from the establishment of parallel coordination and administrative mechanisms in the field.

5. SECTORAL ACTIVITIES AND SUPPORT COMPONENTS

5.1 Relief Food Assistance and Logistics

In November 1999 WFP approved a budget revision for Emergency Operation 6080 (“Relief Food Assistance for Ethiopians Internally Displaced by the Ethiopia-Eritrea Conflict”) to allow for a four month extension from December 1999 to March 2000.² In large part this was necessitated by the slow resourcing of the operation during 1999, which made it impossible for WFP to deliver the planned commitments within the stipulated timeframe. However, towards the end of the year the situation improved, and as of early January 2000, 96.7 percent of the operation had been resourced, the details of which are found in the following table:

<i>Commodity</i>	<i>Amount Requested (MT)</i>	<i>Amount Pledged (MT)</i>	<i>% Resourced</i>	<i>% Shortfall Remaining</i>
Cereals	36,720	35,398	96.4	3.6
Pulses	2,938	2,801	95.3	4.7
Vegetable Oil	2,203	2,160	98.0	2.0
Blended Food	2,754	2,740	98.2	1.8
Salt	368	368	100.0	
Sugar	368	366	99.5	0.5
Total	45,351	43,833	96.7	3.3

Source: WFP

As a follow-up to the initial phase, WFP is currently preparing a proposal for a new Emergency Operation to assist the internally displaced with 46,452 MT of food for a nine month period from April to December 2000.

² Copies of and additional information on the existing WFP Emergency Operation (EMOP 6080) and the proposed new EMOP, as well as the EMOP for those suffering from natural disasters can be obtained from the WFP Office.

5.1.1 Objectives

The objectives of WFP assistance are:

- to provide for the basic food needs of 272,000 displaced people in order to save lives
- to ensure a minimal nutritional level for 272,000 displaced people
- to minimize the overall burden on already food insecure host communities and host families

5.1.2 Proposed activities and interventions requiring funding

The internally displaced will receive approximately 36,720 MT of cereals and 2,938 MT each of pulses and vegetable oil in the form of a monthly ration of 15 kgs of cereals, and 1.2 kgs each of pulses and vegetable oil. An estimated 35% of those to be assisted are considered to be particularly vulnerable, including children under five, pregnant and lactating women, and the elderly. In addition to the general ration these individuals will each receive a monthly supplementary ration of 4.5 kg of blended food for a total of 3,856 MT of blended food.

In order to ensure timely grain distributions, borrowing against confirmed pledges will be made from the EFSRA. To the extent possible, the cereal food aid under this emergency operation will be purchased locally as per the recommendations of the FAO/WFP Crop and Food Supply Assessment mission (November – December 1999). Pulses and blended food may also be purchased locally or regionally. Given the significant draw down of resources from the Emergency Food Security Reserve (EFSR), it is important that the resources pledged under this EMOP are delivered on a timely basis.

The operation will be implemented through the DPPC, and its main partner in Tigray, the Relief Society of Tigray (REST). REST has extensive experience in managing large relief operations and has the staff and infrastructure to enable it to effectively target and deliver the food provided under this EMOP. WFP will closely monitor the entire implementation process.

In addition to food aid, it is proposed to supply six moveable storage units of approximately 500 MT capacity each to support the Government policy of delivering food as close to the beneficiaries as possible, thereby reducing the long distances that some beneficiaries are obliged to walk to collect their rations. WFP will be responsible for the delivery and installation of these warehouses. It is also proposed to provide fifteen manual grinding mills to reduce the burden on women, both in terms of time and energy expenditure, in having to grind grain at home.

Currently, there is a severe lack of roadworthy vehicles at the zonal levels to allow for appropriate and timely monitoring and follow-up of the food security situation. Accordingly, WFP proposes to provide four field vehicles to facilitate local level monitoring.

5.1.3 Logistics

Since the outbreak of hostilities between Ethiopia and Eritrea, Assab and Massawa ports have been closed to any cargo destined for Ethiopia. This situation has also changed transport prices and altered the primary transportation corridors and infrastructure used to deliver food from the port of entry to secondary distribution hubs.

The WFP Country Office moved quickly to assess the capacity of the port of Djibouti and to organize clearing and shipping operations to ensure maximum efficiency. In response to the issues involved in transferring all port operations to Djibouti, a co-ordinated Food Aid Transport System (FATS) was developed. As a result, a fleet with an average of 250 to 300 dedicated trucks is currently operating with WFP. These vehicles are leased from approximately 10 trucking companies, with an option to bring the total to as many as 500 trucks, as was the case during the last quarter of 1999, with only 15 days' notice. FATS is backed with field staff in new locations and patrol officers who ensure the smooth flow of trucks. In addition, an arrangement has been made with Ethio-Djibouti Railway to transport up to 3,000 MT of food aid per month. Being centrally co-ordinated in this manner, multilateral and bilateral agencies as well as NGOs are assured of being able to access a system which will facilitate the movement of commodities from port to destination in the shortest time possible.

Given the large tonnages of relief assistance expected in the year 2000 is it not possible to rely solely on the Port of Djibouti. Therefore, WFP has been exploring options for channeling additional food through Port Sudan for beneficiaries in the north and northwest of Ethiopia. Potential use of this new corridor is being worked on in close collaboration with the Sudan country office. Under this new strategy it will be necessary to be able to forecast the food pipeline situation as early as possible in order to schedule food to arrive at the "appropriate" port.

Locally purchased commodities will be transported from suppliers' warehouses to either the main transport hub in Mekele for onforwarding to final distribution points (FDPs), or directly to the FDPs, as per distribution plans agreed upon with the Government. In the case of imported commodities, WFP will similarly arrange for transportation from the port to either the main transport hub in Mekele, where it will be broken down into smaller consignments and then shipped to the FDPs, or (where road conditions allow), directly to the FDPs. Currently, a total of thirteen FDPs are being used. They are villages deemed to be "safe" and which are close to where the majority of the displaced people are currently hosted. In both cases, WFP will arrange transportation by contracting private transport companies.

In support of the UNCT Relief Action Plan and Appeal, WFP will also assist other UN agencies in both internal logistics arrangements as well as cargo movements from Djibouti or other appropriate ports.

5.1.4 Indicative Budget summary of the New Proposal

Activity	Cost Estimate in US \$
Commodities	10,500,000
Transport and Logistics	10,500,000
Direct Support Costs	1,000,000
Other Direct Operational Costs	450,000
Indirect Support Costs	1,400,000
GRAND TOTAL	23,850,000

5.2 Health and Nutrition

Since the start of the displacement, much effort has been made by the Regional Authorities to provide a minimum package of health services to the displaced. Health services have been re-established to some extent and existing services have been extended. WHO is currently working with the national authorities at different levels to strengthen surveillance of priority diseases and build capacities in epidemic preparedness and control. Strong efforts have been made to obtain a high immunization coverage, in particular for deadly diseases like measles, and high dose vitamin A capsules have been provided on a regular basis. As a result of the efforts major outbreaks of diseases have been avoided. In the past, UNICEF has provided support to the Expanded Programme of Immunization (EPI) and the promotion of maternal and child health (MCH) services to provide for safe child delivery and mother care. Nutrition education and surveillance have also been supported. WHO has provided Emergency Health Kits while UNFPA undertook extensive training programmes in the use of the Reproductive Health Kits provided during 1999.

5.2.1 Objectives

As with the previous interventions in the health sector for the displaced, the main objectives of the UN health programme will be to prevent excessive morbidity and mortality among displaced children and women and improve access to basic medical services and supplies.

5.2.2 Proposed Activities

In year 2000, emphasis will be placed on strengthening and expanding the existing primary health care services provided to the IDPs. Under previous assistance programmes for the displaced, UNICEF provided significant material support to the EPI programme and during 2000 the emphasis will be on logistics support, training and capacity building to improve EPI outreach to avoid morbidity and mortality from vaccine preventable diseases. Furthermore, as malaria is a significant health problem in the IDP areas, UNICEF will continue to support malaria control efforts through expanding the coverage of IDP families with permethrin treated mosquito nets, spraying operations and the supply of anti-malaria drugs. WHO will

coordinate support for capacity building programmes in communicable disease surveillance and epidemic preparedness and control. Poor nutrition, particularly among young children, increases susceptibility to disease and contributes to high rates of mortality. Nutrition education and surveillance activities will consequently continue to be supported. Finally, as the affected population plays an important part in disease prevention and control through the application of and adherence to, good public health practices, health education activities including education on HIV/AIDS prevention and malaria control will be supported. Following the training activities undertaken in 1999, UNFPA will undertake back-stopping support and supervisory activities in order to ensure that quality reproductive health services are provided to the affected population.

5.2.3 Implementation and Coordination Arrangements

WHO's support in the health and nutrition sector will be coordinated with UNFPA and UNICEF. In general, UNFPA will be responsible for reproductive health interventions and HIV/AIDS while WHO will cover HIV/AIDS education and training within their overall health training programmes. WHO will assist with basic medical supplies for health centres and capacity building in disease surveillance and control of epidemic diseases. UNICEF, building upon previous health programmes for the displaced, will continue support for EPI and malaria control. Coordination in the health sector, particularly concerning training programmes and capacity building interventions will be extremely important and a special emphasis will be placed on ensuring that health education training programmes are fully integrated with agency interventions in malaria control, EPI, HIV/AIDS and nutrition.

5.2.4 Budget

UNICEF Programmes

Activity	Cost in US\$
<i>EPI support</i>	
Outreach and transport assistance	106,000
Training of community health workers	20,000
Operational support to outreach activities	20,000
Supervision and monitoring	10,000
Subtotal	156,000
<i>Malaria control</i>	
Antimalarial drugs	6,000
Bednets (32,000)	150,000
Permethrin for impregnation of nets	9,000
Malathion for spraying	100,000
Training & Operational costs	23,000
Project Support Costs	66,000
Subtotal	354,000
TOTAL – UNICEF	510,000

WHO Programmes

Activity	Cost in US \$
<i>Disease Surveillance and Nutrition Education</i>	
Training & Operational support	100,000
Supervision, monitoring and coordination	15,000
HIV/AIDS testing kits	4,000
Subtotal	119,000
Health Education (including HIV/AIDS)	
Training & Operation support	50,000
Supervision, monitoring and coordination	15,000
Subtotal	65,000
<i>Basic Medical Supplies</i>	
25 WHO Standard Emergency Health Kits	375,000
TOTAL WHO	559,000

UNFPA Programmes

Activity	Cost in US \$
HIV/AIDS Prevention	
Various reproductive health kits, contraceptives and trauma kits, including air freight	133,000
Monitoring	4,000
TOTAL UNFPA	137,000

GRAND TOTAL: UNICEF, WHO and UNFPA	1,140,000
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5.3 Special Food Needs (supplementary food)

Although some supplementary food was given during 1999, its effectiveness was limited by the fact that it was generally given to children under five, but not to pregnant or lactating women. For 2000, it is proposed to provide some supplementary food to the health facilities to distribute to children and women with acute malnutrition, and to cooperate more closely with the Women's Association to target those women most in need. WHO, through their proposed education and training programmes, will be working closely with both WFP and UNICEF in these special nutrition interventions.

(See relief food assistance, Section 5.1)

5.4 Water and Sanitation

In 1999, through the UNICEF Water and Sanitation Emergency programme, a number of shallow boreholes and deep boreholes were constructed and provided potable water supply to IDPs in Tigray and Afar regions. This support helped to avert health crisis in many areas where IDPs have settled. Provision of water to IDPs also reduced the pressure on existing water supplies of host communities in nearby areas. Construction of permanent water supply schemes, in addition to health benefits, reduced the burden of water collection by women and girls. This enabled them to utilize their time for other productive activities including attending school by girls. Wherever water supply schemes were established, a Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) committee was established and trained on the operation and maintenance of the scheme, as well as on sanitation and hygiene aspects.

The living conditions of IDPs in 1999 have worsened in many areas due to lack of water supply and poor sanitation. Strains have been placed on host communities already coping in many areas with the effects of drought. It is reported that an additional 290,000 IDPs still need assistance to improve water supply and environmental sanitation conditions in their living areas. The Bureau of Health in Tigray has reported that the morbidity and mortality is steadily increasing in places where there is lack of water supply and poor environmental sanitation conditions.

5.4.1 Objectives

The overall objective of the project is to reduce the morbidity and mortality among IDPs, particularly among children, with respect to water, sanitation and hygiene-related diseases through the provision of safe water and improved sanitation and hygiene practices.

5.4.2 Proposed Activities

- Assessment of water and sanitation problems and needs in IDP areas
- Rehabilitation of old schemes
- Extension of pipelines and construction of new water points for IDPs
- Construction of new water supply schemes for IDPs
- Promotion of awareness on environmental sanitation and hygiene practices
- Support for construction of community, school and household latrines
- Routine monitoring and evaluation of all supported activities

5.4.3 Implementation Arrangements and Coordination

While the Bureau of Water, Mines and Energy, and the Bureau of Health coordinate all water supply and sanitation activities in the region, with UNICEF initiative, a Steering Committee consisting of all concerned government departments, UN agencies and NGOs has been established for Tigray region to coordinate all activities supported through the Emergency programme. A similar committee will also be established for Afar region soon. Regular coordination meetings are also held to avoid overlapping and duplication of activities with the regular development programme. Efforts will be taken to overcome major constraints faced in 1999, such as slow preparation of activities and delay in implementation, procurement of supplies and fund disbursement. A “turn-key” approach will be followed in the future to speed up the implementation. Additional staff will be mobilized to regularly

monitor all activities and provide timely technical and logistics support. UNICEF's ongoing presence in the joint UN office in Mekele is expected to facilitate continuous local assessment and analysis facilitating more timely response.

5.4.4 Budget

Region	Activity	Estimated budget in US\$
Tigray	Needs assessment and preparation of action plan	2,000
	Rehabilitation of old schemes	15,000
	Extension and new water points	60,000
	New water supply schemes	218,000
	Environmental sanitation and hygiene	100,000
	Supply of 10,000 jerry cans	12,000
	Monitoring and evaluation	25,000
	Sub-total	\$432,000
Afar	Needs assessment and preparation of action plan	1,000
	Rehabilitation of old schemes	5,000
	Extension and new water points	10,000
	New water supply schemes	40,000
	Environmental sanitation and hygiene	20,000
	Supply of 2,000 jerry cans	2,000
	Monitoring and evaluation	4,000
	Sub-total	\$82,000
Project support costs		77,000
Total		\$591,000

5.5 Education Sector Support

In 1999, a series of education interventions including provision of shelter materials and classroom furniture for temporary schools, as well as educational materials were undertaken to ensure continuity of education services to approximately 44,000 internally displaced school-age children in Tigray Regional State and about 1,000 children in Afar. However, due to insufficient funds, it was not possible to implement all the proposed interventions. Despite the absence of basic infrastructure facilities, classes in 1999 were conducted in caves, tree shades and open fields in Tigray. Schools located in areas adjacent to host communities are also accommodating the displaced students in addition to their own local residents. This has resulted in enormous pressure on facilities and teaching staffs in these schools. The influx of displaced children has resulted in overcrowding of students in classrooms, and shortage of teachers and teaching-learning equipment/materials.

The lack of adequate financial support for the education programme is leading many displaced children to discontinue their schooling and has exacerbated the problem of the poor quality of teaching-learning processes for those who remain in the schools. There is, therefore, a need to intensify efforts to provide access to quality education for the internally displaced children.

5.5.1 Objective

The objective of the Emergency Education component of the UNCT's assistance to the war displaced is to ensure the continuity of basic/primary education for 27,000 out of 44,000 primary school children in Tigray and 1,000 primary school children in Afar affected or displaced by the conflict.

5.5.2 Strategy

- Strengthen capacity of the staff of the Regional Education Bureaux, Zonal Education Departments and Wereda Education Offices for effective planning, implementation and monitoring of educational interventions for displaced children
- Enhance capacities of existing primary schools in localities inhabited by displaced persons through provision of school furniture and equipment to accommodate additional enrolment in primary schools
- Reduce direct cost of schooling of displaced children by providing free educational materials and clothing in order to enable them to continue their education
- Promote advocacy and communication activities to elicit community/donor support to, and participation in, programmes designed to promote education of displaced children
- Enhance knowledge and skills of in-service primary school teachers and education officials in the planning, design and implementation of programmes to meet the psycho-social needs of displaced / traumatised children and adolescents

5.5.3 Proposed activities

Tigray Region

- Collection of data/information regarding the number of primary school-age children (age-wise and grade-wise) among displaced population groups in order to plan and design emergency education interventions
- Provision of tents for the establishment of 50 temporary classrooms
- Provision of classroom furniture (student benches) and blackboards to 50 temporary classrooms.
- Provision of educational materials (exercise notebooks, ball-point pens, pencils, ruler, erasers and school bags) and clothing for 27,000 targeted groups of displaced children
- Training of teachers in the planning, design and implementation of programmes to meet the psycho-social needs of displaced/traumatised children and adolescents
- Monitoring and evaluation of programme implementation and effectiveness

Afar Region

- Collection of data/information regarding the number of primary school-age children (age-wise and grade-wise) among displaced population groups in order to plan and design emergency education interventions
- Provision of tents for the establishment of 10 temporary classrooms
- Provision of classroom furniture (student benches) and blackboards to 10 temporary classrooms.
- Provision of educational materials (exercise notebooks, ball-point pens, pencils, ruler, erasers and school bags) and clothing for 1,000 targeted groups of displaced children

- Training of teachers in the planning, design and implementation of programmes to meet the psycho-social needs of displaced/traumatized children and adolescents
- Monitoring and evaluation of programme implementation and effectiveness

5.5.4 Budget

Activity description	Estimated cost (in US\$)
Tigray Region	
Collection of data/information regarding the number of primary school-age children (age-wise and grade-wise) among displaced population groups in order to plan and design emergency education interventions	2,000
Provision of tents for the establishment of 50 temporary classrooms (\$4000 x 50)	200,000
Provision of classroom furniture (student benches) and blackboards to 50 temporary classrooms (\$30 x 600) + (\$ 28 x 50)	19,400
Provision of educational materials (exercise notebooks, ball-point pens, pencils, ruler, erasers and school bags) to 27,000 targeted groups of displaced children (\$8 x 27,000)	216,000
Provision of clothing to 27,000 targeted groups of displaced children (\$6 x 27,000)	162,000
Training of teachers in the planning, design and implementation of programmes to meet the psycho-social needs of displaced / traumatized children and adolescents	20,000
Monitoring and evaluation of programme implementation and effectiveness	2,000
Transportation of supplies and equipment to project areas	15,600
Subtotal	637,000
Afar Region	
Collection of data/information regarding the number of primary school-age children (age-wise and grade-wise) among displaced population groups in order to plan and design emergency education interventions	500
Provision of tents for the establishment of 10 temporary classrooms (\$4000 x 10)	40,000
Provision of classroom furniture (student benches) and blackboards to 10 temporary classrooms (\$30 x 120) + (28 x 10)	4,000
Provision of educational materials (exercise notebooks, ball-point pens, pencils, ruler, erasers and school bags) for 1,000 targeted groups of displaced children (\$8 x 1,000)	8,000
Provision of clothing to 1,000 targeted groups of displaced children (\$6 x 1,000)	6,000
Training of teachers in the planning, design and implementation of programmes to meet the psycho-social needs of displaced / traumatised children and adolescents	4,000
Monitoring and evaluation of programme implementation and effectiveness	1,000
Transportation of supplies and equipment	5,000
Subtotal	68,500
Project support costs	105,000
Grand Total	810,500

5.5.5 Implementation Arrangements and Coordination

The educational activities for internally displaced children will be coordinated by UNICEF and will be implemented in collaboration with other UN agencies such as UNESCO and WFP as well as NGOs. At the central level the programme will be implemented in collaboration

with DPPC and the Ministry of Education. The activities at the regional level will be implemented under the overall supervision of the Regional Education Bureaux in collaboration with the relevant Zonal Education Departments and Wereda Education Offices. The Wereda Administration and Education Office, in collaboration with the Emergency Committees at all levels, will distribute the supplies/equipment and monitor the utilisation of these supplies/equipment and implementation of all activities.

5.5.6 Monitoring

The education programmes for displaced children in Tigray and Afar Regions will be reviewed at the end of the first quarter of programme implementation, and midcourse corrections will be made after reviewing the on-going assistance. The Regional Education Bureau, relevant Zonal Education Departments and Wereda Education Offices will periodically monitor the implementation of the emergency education interventions.

5.6 Relief and Special Assistance Activities

In 1999 UNICEF provided \$350,000 of assistance for displaced populations in Tigray and Afar regions including plastic sheeting, blankets and mosquito nets for 7,000 families and 110 large sized tents. Expectations that internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Tigray would be able to return to their home areas and an end to the fighting were proven unfounded as the conflict continued through and beyond the rainy season. It is estimated that up to 40% of the IDPs in Tigray are living in makeshift shelters and in caves—roughly 120,000-150,000 people. Given the progressive wear and tear of plastic sheeting and blankets provided in early 1999, these items will need to be replaced to protect children and families from the elements of sun, cold and rain.

5.6.1 Objective

To mitigate the effects of exposure, relevant shelter materials shall be provided in a timely manner to 14,000 vulnerable IDP households.

5.6.2 Activities

- Local procurement of durable shelter materials and transport to target areas;
- Selection of the most vulnerable households with children under five years;
- Targeted distribution and follow up monitoring by the UNICEF Mekelle emergency office. To the maximum degree possible, assessments and shelter material distributions will be coordinated with related WFP food activities.

5.6.3 Budget

Item	Number	US\$
Blankets, each	20,000	240,000
Rolls plastic sheeting (200m ²)	1,800	540,000
Project support costs		117,000
Total		897,000

5.7 Humanitarian Mine Action

During 1999, UNICEF supported the implementation of a pioneering community-based land mine awareness education project, targeting over 300,000 displaced people in Tigray region, based on the international land mine awareness education guidelines. This involved a collaborative project with the Rehabilitation and Development Organization (RADO), a national NGO, to train trainers from community level organizations in the region including teachers, youth, farmers and women's associations of whom over 300 were trained and a related community educator network established. In collaboration with UN agencies, NGOs and government at national and regional levels, UNICEF seeks to sustain this capacity to provide mine awareness programmes for all IDPs in Tigray and to apply successful aspects of this model to other areas in Ethiopia where the menace of land mines threatens daily life, and livelihood.

Also during 1999, the UN Country Team embarked upon a strategy formulation exercise in preparation for an integrated humanitarian mine action programme. This programme, which would complement the activities that UNICEF has already begun, would seek to provide support to the Ethiopian government in its efforts towards reducing the threat of landmines and unexploded ordnance to civilians, through capacity building, technical assistance, victims' assistance, and other related activities, to be undertaken by the individual UN agencies according to their area of specialization and in accordance with the UN Policy on Mine Action. A full project proposal is currently being developed and will be made available soon.

5.7.1 Objective of the Landmine Awareness Programme

The aim of the landmine awareness programme is to strengthen, sustain and expand land mine awareness education among most vulnerable populations in Tigray, Afar and other affected areas

5.7.2 Activity

- Technical support and guidance to continuing land mine awareness education provided by UNICEF land mines consultant (international for 6 months, national for 10 months)

5.7.3 Budget

Item	Number	US\$
Staffing and technical support	11 months (February-December)	75,000
Provision of material		10,000
Project support costs		14,500
Total		99,500

5.8 Children and Women with Special Protection Needs (CWSPN)

The analyses surrounding the conflict between Eritrea and Ethiopia have shown that certain circumstances place children and women in considerable danger compared to their counterparts in similar situations. These include children and women separated from their families; orphaned children; children and mothers living on the streets; sexually abused women and girls; families threatened with separation due to HIV/AIDS; and other highly vulnerable risk groups. The most recent interventions have involved the provision of support to regional authorities in limited reunification project for displaced children separated from parents, trauma counselling for mothers and the supply of basic materials to assist traumatized mothers and orphaned children due to the conflict. These projects are ongoing, but alone fail to address the problems of CWSPN. Protection interventions in emergency situations must be expanded to better address the most vulnerable women and children.

5.8.1 Objectives

The objectives of the Special Protection activities for women and children are:

- To protect displaced women and children from extraordinary hardships such as separation from families, abuse, and other psychosocial manifestations
- To ensure that displaced women and children with specific protection needs are targeted for allocations and interventions in UN emergency plans.
- Provide support to community-based counselling and trauma management capacities through training and technical support.

5.8.2 Proposed activities for funding

- Rapid assessment of vulnerability to identify women and children who are disproportionately affected by displacement.
- Re-unification of displaced children with their families or foster families to minimize the numbers of unaccompanied children.
- Establishment of emergency women's centres with counselling services to support women who are pregnant, abused or lack access to basic services for their families

5.8.3 Budget

Activity	US\$
Rapid assessment by BOLSA offices in affected regions	2,000
Women's centres managed by WAO regional offices (3 x \$8,000)	24,000
<i>Re-unification of 100 displaced children by previously trained professionals</i>	25,000
Provision of soap, sanitary napkins, etc.	8,000
Support to community-based training and technical support	5,000
Project support costs	4,800
Total	68,800

5.9 Monitoring and Evaluation

The innovative nature of this collaborative Relief Action Plan, and the special circumstances of the conflict, requires that the UN Country Team place particular emphasis on effective field monitoring, regular reporting and the efficient management of information. These components are intended to form a basis for the ongoing review of the programme during the implementation phase, enhance transparency and accountability, and providing background (contextual) information and analysis for the final evaluation exercise.

Providing background analysis and reporting on the humanitarian situation in Tigray and Afar has been a major preoccupation of the UN Emergencies Unit since the early days of the conflict. Drawing on this experience, the Unit will continue to provide the following services within the context of the UNCT programme: (1) Analysis and reporting on the wider humanitarian and social consequences of the conflict; (2) Monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the UNCT programme in the field; and (3) Preparation of periodic and final narrative reports on the status of the UN Country Team's operations in the field.

The Emergencies Unit has already added additional experienced national field officers to its staff, and has increased its capacity for reporting and field monitoring. Using information from the field, regular situation reports will be prepared as public domain documents intended to describe any changes in the humanitarian picture, highlight important developments and flag unmet relief needs. More specialised briefing papers and detailed studies of specific issues will also be prepared as required by the UN Resident Coordinator and donors. As additional financial requirements are already covered under the UNCT Appeal for victims of natural disasters, additional funds for the EUE are not being requested in this Appeal. If there were a significant change in the present situation of the internally displaced then the UN-EUE might request additional resources to meet these new needs.

6. SUMMARY OF RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS

SECTOR	Agency and Estimated Costs (USD)				
	WFP	UNICEF	WHO	UNFPA	TOTAL
Food, logistics and related costs	23,850,000				23,850,000
Sub total – food assistance					23,850,000
Health and Nutrition		510,000	559,000	137,000	1,206,000
Water & Sanitation		591,000			591,000
Emergency Education		810,500			810,500
Relief and Special Assistance		897,000			897,000
Humanitarian Mine Action		99,500			99,500
Special Protection Needs		68,800			68,800
Sub total non-food assistance		2,976,800	559,000	137,000	3,672,800
GRAND TOTAL	23,850,000	2,976,800	559,000	137,000	27,522,800

SECTION THREE

RELIEF ACTION PLAN AND APPEAL FOR REFUGEE AND REPATRIATION OPERATIONS IN ETHIOPIA

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SECTION THREE:

RELIEF ACTION PLAN AND APPEAL FOR REFUGEE AND REPATRIATION OPERATIONS IN ETHIOPIA

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1. PROJECT OVERVIEW

Ethiopia currently hosts some 250,000 refugees, mostly from Somalia and the Sudan. Other Countries of origin of refugees are Angola, DRC, Uganda, Kenya, Burundi, Rwanda, Djibouti, Yemen and Iraq. The Ethiopian programme is one of Africa's longest running refugee programme in the Horn of Africa. The major thrust of the programme for the year 2000 is to meet the protection and care and maintenance needs of the various population groups, and to seek durable solutions for their situation, whenever this is feasible.

2. OBJECTIVES

The major objectives of the UNHCR Branch Office in Ethiopia for the year 2000 can be summarised as follows:

- provide international protection, material assistance and related community services for the more than 250,000 mainly Somali and Sudanese refugees;
- promote lasting or durable solutions through voluntary repatriation for Somali and Kenyan refugees, and local settlement and self-sufficiency for Sudanese refugees;
- improve assistance to respond to the particular needs of refugee women and children whose assistance projects are streamlined in the general programme;
- facilitate the dispersal of an estimated 50,000 Ethiopian nationals from the Eastern refugee camps with subsequent rehabilitation and consolidation of the camps;
- mitigate environmental degradation and rehabilitate selected community services infrastructure and degraded areas around the refugee settlements.

3. HOST COUNTRY INSTITUTIONAL & LEGAL FRAMEWORK

Ethiopia has acceded to the 1951 Convention, its 1967 Protocol and the 1969 OAU Convention. Ethiopia has pursued an open asylum policy and practice. At the national level, the basis for refugee protection is found mainly in the Ethiopian Constitution. The process for the adoption of a refugee specific legislation is well underway and should be in place in the year 2000.

The Administration for Refugee and Returnee Affairs (ARRA) is the UNHCR government counterpart and major implementing partner supported by national and international NGOs specialising on sectoral activities.

4. UN COUNTRY TEAM FRAMEWORK

The UN Country Team (UNCT) in Ethiopia is a co-operative framework for a joint assessment, design, implementation and monitoring of an integrated humanitarian response to the Ethiopian Government's appeal for international assistance to meet the needs of drought victims, Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and refugees. The UN Resident Co-ordinator is responsible for the overall co-ordination of the UN Country Team activities.

5. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

On behalf of the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic Ethiopia ARRA is responsible for the overall project implementation, co-ordination and security arrangements at different stages and levels assisted by other Government agencies. International and national NGOs (see list of implementing partners) assist in the overall implementation at the field level. The UNHCR Branch Office in Addis and sub-offices in Gambella and Jigjiga and the Field Office Assossa are directly responsible for policy guidelines, co-ordination and monitoring of the overall implementation.

A list of Government and NGO implementing partners is given below:

- Administration for Refugee and Returnee Affairs
- Ethiopian Road Authority
- Office of Natural Resources Development and Environmental Protection
- Regional Bureau for Water Resources Development
- CARE International Ethiopia
- Development and Inter-Church Aid of Ethiopian Orthodox Church
- Handicap International
- Hope for the Horn
- Jesuits Refugee services
- Médecins Sans Frontiers- Holland
- Opportunities industrial Centre-Ethiopia
- Radda Barnen/Save the Children Sweden
- Rehabilitation and Development Organisation
- Save the Children-USA
- Refuge Care (ZOA)

6. INTER-AGENCY CO-ORDINATION

UNHCR co-operates with many other UN and multi-lateral agencies such as WFP, UNFPA, UNDP, WHO, UNICEF, UNESCO, IOM, ECA, OAU, ICRC and IGAD in ensuring that refugee assistance and protection are properly co-ordinated within the synergy clusters of the UN Country Team.

WFP is directly responsible for the provision of adequate food to in-camp refugees and returnees. In addition, WFP promotes basic education for young girls through provision of food as an incentive. Through this joint effort UNHCR and WFP strive to improve literacy of refugee girls. With UNFPA and WFP, reproductive health programme geared towards assisting women is jointly implemented in the Eastern and Western camps. The programme is aimed at creating awareness on Sexually Transmitted Diseases with Emphasis on HIV/AIDS prevention.

The concept of a “continuum” from relief to development, under which UNHCR initiates relief and rehabilitation activities before handing-over to development actors, remains an important tool for inter-agency co-operation. In Ethiopia, this concept is fully demonstrated through the UNDP/UNHCR/IGAD initiative. The initiative is aimed at conflict prevention,

management and resolution; and the alleviation of humanitarian crisis through the development of area based plans of actions for phasing out humanitarian assistance, while simultaneously developing and supporting development programmes in the sub-region. In addition, UNHCR has agreed with the ECA on a proposed study to examine closely the economic impact of refugee/returnee movements upon the economic development of countries emerging from conflict. With the above objective, UNHCR is hoping to emphasise the need to bridge the gap between “relief” and “development”.

UNICEF and UNHCR work closely in the implementation of water schemes benefiting both refugees and nationals, especially in the Somali National Regional State. In general, UNHCR is satisfied with its relations with sister UN agencies and other regional and sub-regional organisations.

7. BENEFICIARY POPULATION

7.1 Sudanese Refugees: Western Ethiopia

The main objective of UNHCR for the Sudanese refugees in 2000 is to provide protection and multi-sectoral care and maintenance assistance to some 70,243 refugees from southern Sudan pending the identification of durable solution, mainly through local integration and resettlement to third countries of asylum.

7.1.1 Strategy

Efforts will continue to be made to persuade the authorities to make available additional land for diverse agricultural activities in order to improve the refugees’ capacity for food production. Hand-in-hand with the agricultural activities, emphasis will be largely given to the rehabilitation and protection of the natural environment in and around the refugee camps that are affected by the refugees and nationals.

Sudanese Refugees in Western Ethiopia by Camp and Population

<u>Camp</u>	<u>Population</u>
Bonga	13,570
Dimma	9,226
Funyido	30,658
Shirkole	<u>16,819</u>
Sub-total	70,273

The demographic breakdown of the Sudanese refugees as at 31 December 1999 is presented in the table overleaf:

Sudanese refugees						
Age group	Male	%	Female	%	Total	%
0-4	7317	50.41	7198	49.59	14515	20.66
5-17	13064	55.63	10418	44.37	23482	33.41
18-59	16030	53.13	14141	46.87	30171	42.93
60 +	925	43.94	1180	56.06	2105	3.00
Total	37336	53.13	32937	46.87	70,273	100

7.1.2 Beneficiary description

The southern Sudanese refugees are located in four different sites in western Ethiopia *viz.*, Bonga, Dimma, Funyido and Shirkole. The refugees at Bonga are almost entirely Uduk while the refugees at Funyido and Dimma are predominantly Nuer (around 87%) followed by Anuak.

The majority of the refugees in Shirkole are Maban (55%) followed by Uduk (16%) the other minority tribes are Nuer, Funj and Dinkas.

The total number of refugees in all the four camps is 70,273 as at 31 December 1999; the majority were male 53% and female 47%. The majority of the refugees are between 18 to 59 years of age.

Almost all the Uduk refugees in Bonga and Shirkole are farmers. The rest of the refugees in all the three camps are agro-pastoralists. There are also a few refugees who have semi- skills, such as teachers, social workers, health assistants, artists, carpenters, masons ...etc

7.2 Somali Refugees: Eastern Ethiopia

7.2.1 UNHCR's role and purpose in the Somali refugee operation

The main objective of UNHCR for the Somali refugees in 2000 is to provide protection and multi-sectoral care and maintenance assistance while continuing to work closely with all concerned partners on the on-going repatriation programme.

7.2.2 Strategy

With regard to durable solution in terms voluntary repatriation, substantive progress was made with the Somali caseload. In 1999, a total of 22,990 Somalis were assisted to repatriate. So far, since the inception of the voluntary repatriation in 1997, over 82,000 persons have been assisted by UNHCR to return to NW Somalia. While the repatriation operation has been intermittently marred for various reasons, the current figures remain encouraging. The achievement of this particular programme objective goes hand in hand with that of the dispersal and reintegration into their villages of origin, of Ethiopian nationals as well as Ethiopian returnees from Somalia who have all settled in the refugee camps. It is expected that with the dispersal of nationals, phased closures and consolidation of the camps, the total number of refugees in the Eastern camps would be reduced significantly.

In the year 2000 UNHCR plans to repatriate some 60,000 Somalis to Northwest Somalia. The refugees will receive a cash allowance to enable them to feed themselves while in-transit and WFP will supply a repatriation food package. Temporary shelters will be constructed in Ethiopia for screening and registration purposes and to provide interim housing for refugees pending their return to their communities of region. Then they will be transported to various areas in Northwest Somalia. UNHCR will give social attention to the most vulnerable refugees.

The refugees have no direct access to employment apart from a few of them being employed by UNHCR and its Partners. They have no access to land other than the small plots they are given for erecting their tukuls. A limited number of them, especially women have become self-employed in petty trade and commerce benefiting from a revolving fund availed by UNHCR through the Implementing partners.

There are at present some 172,621 Somali refugees hosted in eight camps in Eastern Ethiopia. The breakdown of the refugee caseload by camps, major clan and major areas of origin and return as at 31 December 1999 is as follows:

<u>Camps</u>	<u>Persons</u>	<u>Major Clan</u>	<u>Area of Origin/Return</u>
Hartisheik	17,473	Issaq	Hargeisa
Kebribeyah	11,622	Marehan & Harti	Somalia
Camaboker	26,590	Issaq	Hargeisa, Burao
Rabasso	14,811	Issaq	Hargeisa, Burao
Daror	33,950	Issaq	Hargeisa, Burao
Aisha	13,938	Issa	Zeila, Lughaya
Teferiber	29,101	Gadabursi	Boroma
Darwanaji	25,136	Gadabursi	Boroma
Total	172,621		

Demographic Data of the Beneficiary Population

Somali Refugees in Eastern Ethiopia						
Age Group	Male (absolute numbers)	(%)	Female (absolute numbers)	(%)	Total (absolute number)	(%)
0-4	7,402	49.63	7,512	50.37	14,914	8.64
5-17	39,040	51.19	37,224	49.81	76,264	44.18
18-59	31,738	43.61	41,039	56.39	72,777	42.16
60>	4,603	53.11	4,063	46.89	8,666	5.02
Total	82,783	47.96	89,838	52.04	172,621	100.00
Major Locations: Hartisheik, Teferiber, Darwanaji, Darror, Rabasso, Camaboker, Aisha and Kebribeyah refugee camps in Eastern Ethiopia						

7.2.3 Beneficiary description

With regard to the economic background of the refugees, although there was no specific base line survey conducted, it is believed that the majority of the refugee population is of rural

origin with pastoral economic base. The refugees have established their own traditional and clan based, but very effective and acceptable organisational structures (in the form of refugee committees) for the management of their political, economic, social and cultural affairs. The refugee women have also formed their committees. These committees, if they are to be properly approached and utilised, are instrumental in the overall planning and implementation of the care and maintenance assistance programme as well as the voluntary repatriation operation.

8. **SECTORAL ACTIVITIES:** Proposed 2000 for the Western camps

S/N	SECTOR	OBJECTIVES
1.	FOOD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure an <u>uninterrupted/timely</u> monthly supply of food, in collaboration with WFP, to refugees in all four camps equivalent to an average of 1900 Kcal / PPD to complement the food deficit due to the limited food production possibilities (land restriction). • Ensure an effective and efficient distribution of food rations to beneficiaries through regular monitoring
2.	TRANSPORT/ LOGISTICS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To secure all-year-round access to all the camps through the maintenance/construction of road networks.
3.	HOUSEHOLD ITEMS/ DOMESTIC NEEDS/HOUSEHOLD ITEMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To assess refugee domestic needs and meet these needs through existing camp-based refugee production workshops (for soap, sanitary kits, fuel saving stoves, clothes) and through local and international procurement. • To distribute NF items to new arrivals and phase-out the general distribution of replacement items such as blankets, cooking pots and Jerry cans.
4.	WATER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To install a fully operational water system which will meet the needs of the entire refugee population (especially Bonga) and, if funds allow, to some local residents living around the camps/settlements. Integrate refugees in the maintenance/management teams of the water points in the camps.
5	SANITATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To maintain the ratio of one pit latrine to every twenty persons. Shirkole refugees will be encouraged to dig more latrines to meet this standard. Conduct cleaning campaigns at least twice a month in all the camps.
6.	HEALTH & NUTRITION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce the malnutrition rate in 2000 in the camps as ffs: 10-12% in the case of Bonga and 12-14% in the case of Fugnido. Rates in Shirkole and Dimma will be maintained to the current acceptable levels • These rates will be maintained in the year 2000 if not brought even lower.
7.	COMMON SERVICES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that by the end of 2000, the various refugee community sectoral committees (CSCs) covering key sectors of the programme will be operating independently and will be actively involved in the implementation & management of their respective sectors.

S/N	SECTOR	OBJECTIVES
8.	EDUCATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the enrolment of children attending formal and non-formal education activities during the course of 2000, to 60% of the school-aged population in the settlement out of which 40-45% will be female. • Continue to implement and expand a pilot distance secondary education (by correspondence) in Fugnido camp in 2000.
9	CROP PRODUCTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To increase the number of refugees engaged in farming to 60% with emphasis on horticulture (vegetable production). To organise refugees to form farming associations that should strengthen their capacity to better manage this sectoral activity.
10.	ANIMAL HUSBANDRY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To increase the number of refugees engaged in animal husbandry in the camps during the course of the year 2000 as ffs: over 500 heads of family in Fugnido 250 in Bonga and Dimma will be engaged in cattle breeding and / or small animal husbandry. • Create refugee cattle or small animal husbandry associations to operate like small businesses or income generating units.
11.	FORESTRY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To lay greater emphasis (through out 2000) on the protection of existing resources and newly planted seedlings, ensuring a survival rate of no less than 70-75%. • To increase the involvement of refugees in seedling planting and environmental resources management. 25-30% of the seedlings produced in the nurseries will be planted directly by the refugee community with a survival rate of no less than 60%. • To use the environmental data system developed throughout 2000 to strategize reforestation activities.
12.	INCOME GENERATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the number of refugees engaged in income-generating activities by 10% by the end of year 2000.

SECTORAL ACTIVITIES: Proposed 2000 for the Eastern camps

S/N	SECTOR	OBJECTIVES
1	FOOD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In co-operation with WFP, ensure that the supply of a complete basket of food as stipulated by the Joint Food Assessment mission reaches the camp without interruption in 2000. • The family based food distribution that was initiated in 1998 will be strengthened in all the camps in 2000 • Women to take the lead role in both the supervision and actual distribution of food.
2	TRANSPORT/ LOGISTICS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate the transport operation to the camps by ensuring all major routes are properly maintained. e.g. The Jiggiga-Lafaissa-Darwanaji and Teferiber roads.
3	DOMESTIC NEEDS/ HOUSEHOLD/ SUPPORT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Throughout 2000 the refugee needs in terms of non-food items will be adequately met.
4	WATER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of water transmission line from Jerrer valley boreholes to Kebribeyah town to supply water to local/refugees at Kebribeyah town & reduce the distance of water tankering to locals & refugees at Hartisheik. • Upgrading of Lafaissa town water distribution system (second phase) • Construction of water distribution system (pipelines, water points, etc.) for locals & refugees in Kebribeyah • Construction of Haffir (earth) dams at Hartisheik & other selected areas for collection & storage of rainwater in order to stop/reduce water tankering. • Operation and maintenance of existing bore hole & pipeline systems in refugee & returnee areas to ensure proper operation of water systems. • Construction of additional shallow wells at Teferiber & Darwanaji refugee camps to cater for the added demand of water during droughts.
5	SANITATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain basic hygienic standard by trying to reach a ratio of one pit latrine for every 20 person and organise a regular all camp cleaning campaign and awareness campaign in sanitation.
6	HEALTH/ NUTRITION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain satisfactory levels of health and nutrition and ensure that gross and under five mortality rates are <0.5/10,000/day and <1/10,000/day respectively and under five malnutrition prevalence rates are (<10% for global malnutrition and 1% for sever malnutrition less than 80% wfh)
7	SHELTER/OTHER INFRASTRUCTURE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep the road leading to the camps accessible at all times. • Closure of Darwanaji camp and consolidating (moving) the residual refugee caseload to Teferiber and eventual closure of Teferiber camp.

8	COMMUNITY SERVICES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Systematically involve refugees in the design/ implementation of community services activities at camp level. • Assess the impact of existing skills training (sewing, needlework, basket weaving) and income generation activities under refugee management and strengthen and expand activities if impact is positive through the engagement of an implementing partner. • Continue to promote awareness at the community level, harmful traditional practices (FGM and early marriage) that affect the female population. • Adopt a cross border approach to the promotion of awareness to ensure the effectiveness of the programme.
9	EDUCATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase enrolment/attendance of primary school students by 15% during 1999-2000 academic year. • Improve the quality of education at the primary school level.
10	ENVIRONMENT/ FORESTRY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote environmental protection, soil erosion control and reforestation projects in all refugee and returnee impacted areas.

9. WFP ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME FOR REFUGEES

For the past decade WFP has provided food assistance to refugees from Somalia who arrived in 1988 and again in 1991; Sudanese refugees who first arrived in the late 1980s and continue to flee conflict in Sudan; and finally, refugees from Kenya who fled ethnic conflict in 1993.

Refugees in Ethiopia, especially in the East, have limited access to land or other sources of income and therefore rely on WFP food rations. WFP's Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) – "Food Assistance for Refugee in Ethiopia and for Refugee Repatriation"- will be presented to the Executive board in February 2000. The PRRO will provide food assistance up to 262,940 Somali, Sudanese and Kenyan refugees in Ethiopia in the year 2000. WFP, with its partners, UNHCR, ARRA and NGOs, will assist in the rehabilitation of refugee impacted areas and aim to improve school enrolment in the Western Refugee camps, especially of girls, through a school feeding programme. Finally, food packages will be distributed to repatriating Kenyan and Somali refugees to assist them through the reintegration phase upon their return to their homeland.

Women comprise just under half of the refugee population in Ethiopia. In the Somali refugee camps, women head about 60 percent of the households. In the Sudanese camps women head about 20 percent of the households. In order to maximise the impact of food assistance, WFP with its partners, have made efforts to ensure that women continue to play a meaningful role in managing and distributing food aid the refugee camps.

Number of Beneficiaries Under PRRO 6180 – First Year			
	Sudanese refugees 2000-2001	Somali refugee 2000-2001	Kenyan refugees 2000-2001
Relief			
General distribution	70,000-90,000	169,000	3,940
Special feeding programmes	10,800	20,280	0
Repatriation		40,000 – 60,000	3,940
Recovery			
FFW pilot prgs. in refugee impacted areas ³	10,000	15,000	
School feeding	7,000		
Food Requirements			
Total food requirement in MTs	19,959	40,584	1,290
TOTAL 61,833 Metric Tons*			

*Note the total value of food commodities, transport, handling and miscellaneous support costs under the first year of the PRRO is estimated at US \$ 33,291,003

³ Total beneficiary numbers based on total family members benefiting from project, calculated at 5 members per family.

10. UNHCR BUDGET SUMMARY:

Activities	Cost in USD
Protection, Monitoring and co-ordination	2,776,529
Community Services	548,160
Crop Production	158,211
Domestic Needs/Household Support	1,549,169
Education	1,106,722
Food	262,037
Forestry	520,215
Health/Nutrition	1,865,894
Income Generation	98,882
Legal Assistance	387,508
Livestock	69,217
Operational Support (to Agencies)	2,114,389
Sanitation	189,060
Shelter/Other Infrastructure	470,284
Transport/Logistics	4,404,837
Water (Non-agricultural)	2,020,215
Total Operations	18,541,329
Programme Support	4,056,733
Total	22,598,062

The budget above reflects the Ethiopia component of the UNHCR global appeal released to donors in Geneva in December 1999. In order to meet the needs of refugees in Ethiopia as well as ensure adequate protection, UNHCR is therefore requesting donor contributions of US \$ 22,598,062 for the year 2000.