Overview

With an estimated 91,000 people fleeing to Ethiopia's Doolo Zone since the beginning of the conflict, refugees urgently need food and nutritional assistance. The Doolo Zone have already been severely affected by prolonged drought that has rendered people in the host community vulnerable to food insecurity. WFP, the Refugees and Returnees Service (RRS) of the Ethiopian Government in collaboration with the local authorities began general food distribution on 28th March in three kebeles hosting a large number of refugees; Docmo, Goob and Hegaale, with plans to distribute food in the newly established Mirqaan Settlement and Hegaale in incoming weeks.

Key figures

- **4 partners** collaborating
  - Local Government, RRS, UNHCR, WFP
- **83,450 individuals** have received food
- **61,100 individuals** have received high energy biscuits and date bars
- **16.95 kg of food** is being distributed for each household
- **4 rub halls** have been constructed in Mirqaan to preposition food

NEEDS

- As an estimated 80,000 people take shelter outside the Mirqaan Settlement, activities aimed at reducing food insecurity targeting both the host community and refugees are urgently needed.
- Livelihoods including food and income sources have been severely disrupted across the Doolo Zone and food insecurity concerns are increased due to the prolonged drought.

RESPONSE

- The first cycle of general food distribution has been completed with over 80,000 people across the Doolo Zone receiving food, reaching over 91% of the people targeted. Additionally 60,000 individuals received high energy biscuits and date bars to date.
- Community engagement activities regarding the second phase of the general food distribution has been completed, informing refugees about the modalities of the second phase.

Number of People Received Food Assistance (cumulative)

![Graph showing the number of people receiving food assistance over time](image)

The inter-agency community responded to the high rates of food insecurity by distributing food in three kebeles hosting a large number of refugees. - UNHCR/Diana Diaz

GAPS

- The prolonged drought has had long-lasting implications on the food value chains, therefore, concrete planning around humanitarian cash transfers is needed to ensure self-reliance of individuals is increased and socio-economic inclusion of refugees is facilitated.
- Limited partner presence on the ground hinders efforts to establish reliable population and demographic data on the household food insecurity levels across the Doolo Zone.

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