

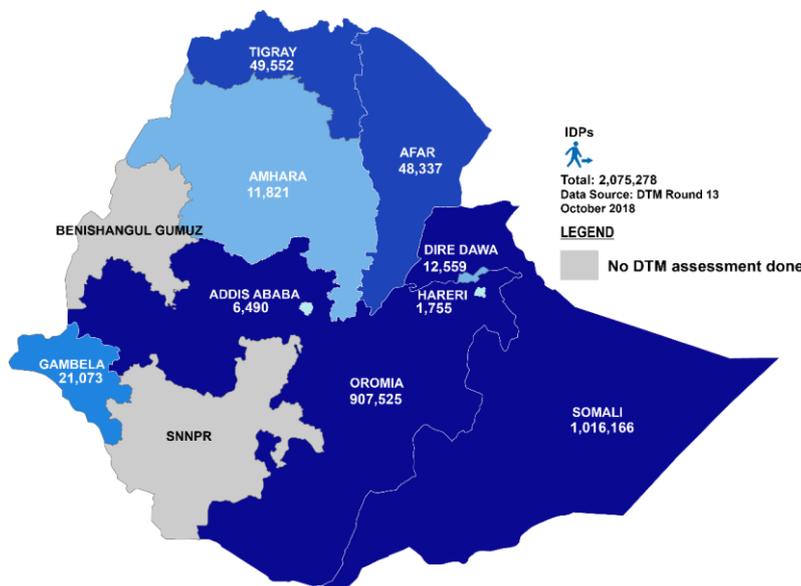
Ethiopia

December 2018

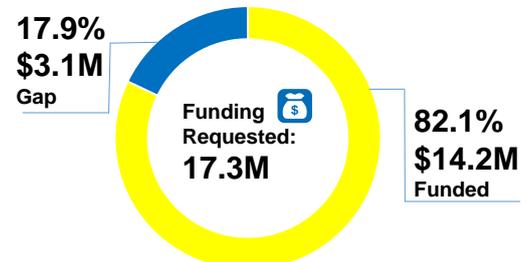
In 2018, some **2.5 million people** in Ethiopia have been internally displaced due to internal conflicts and climate induced factors.

Protection monitoring project begun in October 2018 through the joint efforts of UNFPA, UNICEF, UNOHCHR and UNHCR in West Guji Zone through EHF funds obtained by the Protection Cluster.

The Protection Cluster has been participating in Humanitarian Needs Overview as well as Humanitarian Response Plan exercises in preparation to the 2019 response.



FUNDING:
Requested through HDRP for 2018
USD 17.3 M



PROTECTION CLUSTER HIGHLIGHTS

Cluster name	Established	Frequency of meetings	Crises addressing
National Protection Cluster	2008	Fortnightly in Addis Ababa	Conflict and climate-induced IDPs
Gambella Region Protection Cluster	Dec 2016	Monthly in Gambella	Conflict and climate-induced IDPs
Somali Region Protection Cluster	Sept 2017	Fortnightly in Jijiga	IDPs due to drought, conflict, flooding
Gedeo Zone Protection Cluster	Aug 2018	Weekly in Dilla	Conflict-induced IDPs and returned IDPs
West Guji Zone Protection Cluster	Aug 2018	Weekly in Bule Hora	Conflict-induced IDPs and returned IDPs

- According to DTM Round 13, there are 2,075,278 individuals who have been displaced across the different locations of Ethiopia. This figure however does not include the displacement situations across the Kamashi, Benishangul Gumuz/West and East Wolleg Zones, Oromia Region and Gedeo Zone, SNNPR/West Guji Zone, Oromia Region. It is estimated that at least 250,000 people are displaced inside Benishangul Gumuz region and across the border in Oromia region as per the operational response plan for the two locations. The number of

displaced individuals across Gedeo and West Guji is more than 550,000 as per data included in the 2018 humanitarian partners' contingency plan for this context.

- The Protection Cluster has proposed 1 million USD to reach 100,000 IDPs for the Benishangul Gumuz and Oromia displacement situations for protection activities including safe space establishment, psychosocial support, family tracing and reunification, dignity kit distribution, support to documentation and housing and land and property issues and protection/human rights monitoring works and trainings.
- From Nov-Dec 2018 the Protection Cluster participated in the three-week Meher assessment throughout Ethiopia. The Cluster updated its assessment checklists used during the previous seasonal assessments and also mainstreamed protection in other sector's checklists.
- Three rounds of protection monitoring were conducted in West Guji Zone by UNHCR, UNICEF and OHCHR staff, covering a total of 15 sites with a total population of 54,155 individuals.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- **Protection Monitoring:** Protection monitoring activity in West Guji Zone started in October 2018 by protection mandated UN Agencies pending the recruitment of protection monitoring consultants by UNICEF, UNFPA and UNHCR. OHCHR has already hired four consultants. Similarly, UNHCR and its partner Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus Development and Social Service Commission (EECMY-DASSC) conducted protection monitoring activities in Gedeo and West Guji Zones. EECMY carried out 697 assessments in both zones (248 in IDP sites, and 449 in Return sites).
- **Protection Cluster Missions:** The Protection Cluster conducted a mission to Bahir Dar from 18-19 Dec to collect relevant information to identify key protection concerns and information gaps in the aftermath of the displacement of individuals from Kamashi Zone of the Benishangul Gumuz Region. The Protection Cluster Coordinator, CP/GBV Sub-Cluster Coordinators and UNOHCHR staff participated in the mission.
- **Advocacy Works and Strategic Documents:**
 - The Somali Region Sub-National Protection Cluster drafted a protection strategy which has been shared with the protection cluster members for final inputs prior to finalization of the document.
 - The National Protection Cluster developed a brief outline of scenarios and recommended approaches of the Cluster, for IDP returns in SNNP and Oromia Regions.
 - The Protection Cluster led the designing and implementation of a series of activities to mark the 16 days of activism against violence towards women and girls. The campaign was launched at the Kera collective in site of the Gedeo Zone through a general sensitization event involving focus group discussions with a cross-section of the IDPs population.
- **Partnership:** UNHCR met with the Deputy Dean of the Law School of Bule Hora University and the Head of the Law School of Dilla University to gain a better understanding of the legal framework and practice relating to Housing, Land and Properties (HLP) Rights in West Guji and Gedeo Zones as well as to assess available capacity for legal assistance and possible collaboration.

CHALLENGES

- Protection monitoring activities are limited due to security restrictions in a number of locations in West Guji Zone due to ongoing small-scale clashes and the presence of an armed opposition group.

CONTACT

Kristin Arthur, Protection Cluster Coordination, email address: arthur@unhcr.org, +251 936010672

Noah Sempira, Information Management Officer, sempiira@unhcr.org, +251 903182671

Gelila Dereje, Assistant Protection Officer, dereje@unhcr.org, +251 944140799