



IN NUMBERS



5.5 million people in high acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3+), of whom **353 000** people in Phase 5 (Catastrophe) in Tigray



2.1 million IDPs (Internally displaced people)



Agriculture is the main source of food and livelihood for over **80%** of the population in Tigray

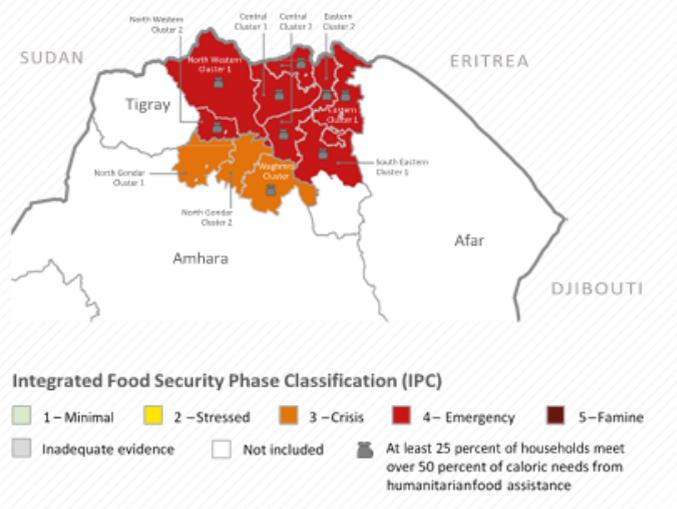


USD 30 million needed to assist **1.4 million** people between June and December 2021

KEY MESSAGES

- The takeover of Mekele city by the Tigray Defense Force (TDF) on 28 June 2021 was peaceful. On the same day, the Federal Government declared a ceasefire citing the need to ensure that the ongoing agricultural season is a success. As of 30 June, reports indicate TDF is also in control of Adigrat, Adwa, Axum and Shire.
- Electricity and telecommunications remain cut off throughout the region, with the exception of two United Nations (UN) compounds. The UN has remained in Tigray and continues to deliver humanitarian assistance.
- The Tigray region is currently facing a complex humanitarian crisis, with an alarming increase in food insecurity and loss of livelihoods, as a result of armed conflict.
- Farmers have limited access to their farms, inputs and services. Agricultural infrastructure, including veterinary clinics, has been destroyed. Pastoralists and agropastoralists have lost livestock as a result of looting, displacement and diseases.
- About 2.1 million people have been displaced across the region and into neighbouring areas.
- As of June 2021, there are about 3.1 million people in northern Ethiopia in Phase 3 (Crisis) and 2.1 million in Phase 4 (Emergency), of whom, if not supported with agricultural inputs, a large number would likely fall into Phase 5 (Catastrophe) and destitution.
- FAO urgently seeks USD 30 million to support 1.4 million people between June and December 2021 through agricultural production support, income generation and livestock protection assistance.
- FAO has immediately reprogrammed USD 2 million and USD 1 million from internal resources to support farmers (250 000 people) with seeds, livestock vaccination and treatment (2.4 million small ruminants and 1.2 million cattle), cash transfers, as well as the restocking of veterinary clinics. FAO is also planning to support the reactivation of some small businesses engaged in vegetable production and marketing, poultry, small ruminants and fattening centers. Also planned is the establishment of marketing groups for livestock products (eggs, milk, animal skins) and fruits (fresh and juices).
- FAO is also planning to leverage on the International Fund for Agricultural Development's work on irrigation schemes to scale up irrigated crop production.

Projected (July–September 2021)



BACKGROUND

- Since November 2020, conflict in Ethiopia's Tigray region has forced the displacement of more than 2.1 million people across the region and into neighbouring ones.
- Consequently, more than 5.5 million people in northern Ethiopia require emergency assistance, representing nearly 61 percent of the analyzed population; of whom 80 percent depend on agriculture as a main source of livelihood.
- While humanitarian needs continue to increase, access to humanitarian assistance and essential goods remains inadequate amidst continuing insecurity and significant disruptions to basic services.
- The implication of recent political changes is not yet clear.

CHALLENGES TO FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

- Agriculture is the main source of food and livelihood for over 80 percent of the population in Tigray. However, the sector has been severely affected, leaving many people with limited sources of food and livelihood opportunities.
- Insecurity has hindered communities from engaging in agricultural activities and accessing inputs and services. The fighting started during the end of the 2020 *Meher* season, preventing many farmers from accessing their fields and harvesting their crops. The extent of the damage to crops is estimated at 1.3 million ha, according to the Tigray Agriculture Bureau.
- Pastoralists and agropastoralists have lost livestock as a result of looting, displacement, and diseases. Veterinary services have been disrupted and an estimated 158 of 198 veterinary clinics were looted, burned, or destroyed. Moreover, livestock diseases such as *peste des petits ruminants* and sheep and goat pox in small ruminants and lumpy skin disease in cattle are endemic in Tigray and causing high mortalities.

IMPACT ON FOOD SECURITY

As of June 2021, about 5.5 million people in Afar, Amhara and Tigray are in high acute food insecurity, representing nearly 61 percent of the analyzed population. Of these, 353 000 people are in Catastrophe level of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 5) in Tigray alone, the highest numbers recorded in the last decade.

FAO AND AGRICULTURAL CLUSTER INTERVENTIONS

FAO has immediately reprogrammed USD 2 million and USD 1 million from internal resources to support farmers (250 000 people) with seeds, livestock vaccination and treatment (of 2.4 million small ruminants and 1.2 million cattle), cash transfers, as well as restocking of veterinary clinics.

Activity	Woredas targeted	Beneficiaries (households)
Crop production (wheat, teff, onion and tomato seed distribution)	24	51 1000
Livestock support (vaccination)	20	186 804
Rehabilitation of veterinary clinics (veterinary drugs and equipment)	48 Clinics	N/A
Unconditional cash transfers**	14	30 000
		262 200



Ongoing seed distribution in Tigray. So far, 11 000 households have been reached. @FAO

The Agricultural Cluster is planning to assist 260 000 households for the *Meher* season. To date, approximately 45 percent have been reached. After the 2020 harvest was missed due to the onset of conflict, the impact of missing the 2021 agricultural season would be catastrophic. The end of the planting window for cereals is fast approaching, hence seed distributions should resume and be completed immediately. Moreover, there is a need to maximize on irrigated cropping and other off-farm livelihood options.

FUNDING

FAO has developed a response plan and requires USD 30 million to assist 1.4 million people in need from June through December 2021



Restore the capacities of 375 000 people to produce, access and consume diversified nutritious food - unconditional cash | provision of cereals, legumes and vegetable seeds | training, extension and advisory services

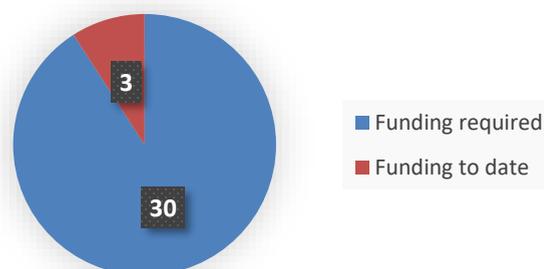


Protect and safeguard the livestock assets of 1.25 million people - livestock treatment and vaccination | animal feed for core breeding animals | training, extension and advisory services



Food security analysis, coordination and information management
Conduct integrated agricultural livelihoods, food security and nutrition situation assessments | harmonize planning and implementation | enhance capacity of partners in the food security sector (accountability to affected populations, gender-based violence)

Funding status (USD million)



CONTACT

FAO Representation in Ethiopia | Addis Ababa, Ethiopia | FAO-ET@fao.org

FAO Office of Emergencies and Resilience | Rome, Italy | QER-Director@fao.org