

2019 First Round Ethiopia Humanitarian Fund Standard Allocation

Allocation Strategy Paper

Project Proposal Deadline: (30 April 2019)

I. Allocation Overview

A) Introduction

This document outlines the strategic objectives for the 2019 First Round Ethiopia Humanitarian Fund (EHF) Standard Allocation. In accordance with operational modalities outlined in the EHF Operational Manual issued by the Humanitarian Coordinator (HC), a Standard Allocation¹ is triggered following the launch of the Government / Partner Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) and its subsequent prioritization exercise (led by the Inter-Cluster Coordination Forum) that identifies acute relief needs and major gaps that require urgent response in the context of the HRP. The HC, in consultation with the Advisory Board determines the amount to be allocated through the allocation.

This allocation strategy supports critical humanitarian response priorities and funding gaps that were agreed upon and presented in the Humanitarian Response Plan for 2019. The ‘Ethiopia Immediate Humanitarian Funding Priorities’ was released following preparatory work at regional level (consultation with regional Disaster Risk Management Technical Working Group partners) and within sector-specific clusters (co-chaired by Government Line Ministries), Cluster Coordinators and key UN and NGO partners were convened by OCHA to consider response priorities and the most-critical funding gaps for the next six months in the context of the HDRP. The priorities have been reviewed and endorsed by the Humanitarian Coordinator, Ethiopia Humanitarian Country Team and the Commissioner of the National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC). The Response Plan lays out prioritized multi-sector humanitarian needs in 2019 targeting 8.3 million people with emergency food and non-food assistance amounting to US\$ 1.314 billion.

An allocation of **\$30 million** was considered and approved by the HC to support the most critical funding gaps that are expected to emerge in the coming months of 2019. The current allocation is made possible with the generous financial support of EHF donors, which will support urgent needs in agriculture/livestock, education, ES/NFI, health, nutrition, protection and WaSH sectors. Key humanitarian issues include continuing issues of conflict-driven displacement crises; malnutrition and water shortages in identified hotspot priority areas; and disease outbreaks and protection concerns due to conflict.

The EHF allocation is based on \$2.9 million carry over; paid contribution of US \$ 5.2 million and a pledged contribution of \$22.2 million in the pipeline. Disbursement to partners will be made as per actual transfer/deposit of donor contributions.

¹After initial discussion and guidance from the appropriate cluster coordinator, applications are to be submitted on the OCHA Grants Management System (GMS). For further guidance on the process (including allocation modalities, strategic review and project prioritization), please refer to the EHF Operational Manual, at <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/ethiopia/document/ehf-operational-manual>

B) Humanitarian Situation

In 2018, Ethiopia saw a dramatic increase in internal displacement as a result of inter-communal violence in various pockets of the country. At present, there are around 3 million internally displaced persons, around 2.4 million of whom were displaced by violence. Given the scale and the frequency of the violence being reported, and pending a political solution, more displacements are expected to occur, and the internally displaced people (IDPs) will continue to require multi-sector assistance well into 2019.

Protection risks and lack of access to safe water and sanitation coupled with poor hygiene and sanitation are also still rife in displacement areas and in drought and flood-affected communities, posing serious health outbreak risks, including Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD). Over 3,000 AWD cases were reported in 2018. While there has been a drastic reduction in the number of AWD cases being reported nationwide, the outbreak is still active in some regions of the country. The impact of poor sanitation practices on the health of IDPS and IDP returnees is particularly concerning, especially in areas where the infrastructure is weak.

The 2018 rains were generally satisfactory in most parts of the country. Despite this, pastoralist and agro-pastoralist communities who suffered two previous consecutive years of severe droughts and who have lost productive assets, as well as pocket areas that suffered failed seasonal rains in 2018, will continue to require coordinated humanitarian assistance and recovery support throughout 2019.

C) Humanitarian Response Plan

The 2019 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) seeks \$1.314 billion to reach 8.3 million people with emergency food and non-food assistance. Some 4.3 million people are targeted for nutrition support, including 609,961 children under five years of age targeted for the treatment of severe acute malnutrition (SAM). More than 7.2 million people are targeted for emergency water, sanitation and hygiene response and some 4.8 million people to receive emergency health services. In addition, 1.4 million people are targeted for emergency agriculture and livestock interventions, while 2.7 million displaced people and returnees are projected to benefit from emergency shelter and NFI assistance until the end of the year.

The 2019 Humanitarian Needs Overview identified 8.86 million people with humanitarian needs. Out of this number, the 2019 HRP targets 8.3 million people with life-saving assistance protection and basic services and livelihood support, assisting primarily drought-affected communities, IDPs and IDP returnees until the end of the year.

The HRP is presented around three ‘pillars’ covering: prevention and mitigation / response and response preparedness / national system strengthening and recovery. The three mutually-reinforcing strategic objectives developed to guide humanitarian action in 2018 continue to be: (1) Lives are saved and sustained; (2) *Protection services for affected communities are provided*; and (3) Livelihoods and basic services delivery are supported to strengthen resilience to recurrent shocks

For this allocation, applications received will be reviewed in the context of Strategic Objective 1: *Lives are saved and sustained*; and Objective 2: *Protection services for affected communities are provided*. This is in line with the Fund’s policy which under the direction of the HC, aims to support timely disbursement of funds to the most critical humanitarian needs as defined in the annual Government/Partner Humanitarian Appeal.

II. Allocation Strategy

A) Purpose of the Allocation Strategy and linkages to the HRP

The Prioritization Statement representing *critical and immediate response/funding gaps* for the coming months of 2019 as related to each cluster/sector was released on 29 March after review and endorsement by the EHCT.

The largest share of the immediate priority funding gaps is with the WASH and ES/NFI sectors, followed by the Nutrition and Health sectors. In addition, US\$ 6 million is allocated for Somali region response for which priorities are determined locally in consultation with sub-national inter-cluster group.

At the EHF Advisory Board Meeting of 9 April, the HC announced an allocation of \$30m targeting immediate and life-saving activities in WASH (\$5.5m), ES/NFI/Cash (\$5.5m), Nutrition (\$5.25), Education (\$1.5m), Health (\$4m), Agriculture/Livestock (\$1.0m) and Protection (\$1.0m) sectors, support to scale up of UNDSS security presence (\$0.25); and Somali region response (\$6m). The allocation will go to support the priority requirements outlined in the Prioritization Statement as described above, including access to safe water, averting pipeline breaks, support to health and nutrition service provision and responding to the shelter and other needs of IDPs and ensuring continuity of presence of partners already implementing in priority *woredas*.

B) Allocation Breakdown

The EHF allocation was made in the context of immediate Cluster priorities for the coming months of 2019 and in consideration of (a) maintaining NGO support in nutrition hotspot areas (b) Strengthening response to existing and new IDP caseloads in Benishangul Gumuz, Oromia, Somali and SNNPR²; (c) Critical pipeline support needs. Out of the total \$30 million allocation, \$6 million is dedicated Somali region, to be determined locally in consultation with sub-national inter-cluster group; and \$24 million is for priority activities elsewhere in the country as outlined in the prioritization statement.

The first round EHF Standard Allocation window is prioritized as follows:

Sectors for response	Amount in million (US\$)	Coordination
Agriculture and Livestock	1.00	Agriculture Cluster
Education	1.50	Education Cluster
Emergency Shelter/ Non-Food Items	5.50	ES/NFI Cluster
Health	4.00	Health Cluster
Nutrition	5.25	ENCU
Protection	1.00	Protection Cluster
WASH	5.50	WASH Cluster

² This allocation takes note of the MoP Strategic Plan to address Internal Displacement in Ethiopia. Activities which support Objective 3 of the Plan (Providing interim multi-sector humanitarian assistance to IDPs in areas of displacement, **return or relocation**) are encouraged.

Common Services	0.25	UNDSS
Somali region	6.00	Sub-National ICCG
Total	30.00	

C) Prioritization of Projects

In coherence with the 2019 Humanitarian Prioritization Statement published on 29 March 2019, this allocation will prioritize support to activities that address the below requirements:

- 1) address immediate, lifesaving needs with immediate impact on the lives and livelihoods of targeted beneficiaries
- 2) are time critical, ensuring timely delivery of emergency response activities;
- 3) are critically enabling of other multi-sector responses would not be possible;
- 4) are responsive to the sectoral plans, which include a “short list” of prioritized activities and locations linked with highest priorities identified in HRP;
- 5) are based on known funding gaps and cost effectiveness;
- 6) are implemented by organizations that regularly participate in federal and local coordination efforts;
- 7) project duration should be set at the minimum necessary for efficient implementation of the project and may not be longer than 12 months;
- 8) projects should be cost efficient and should include the following cross-cutting themes: accountability to affected populations, ‘do no harm’, protection, gender and age;
- 9) are coordinated to avoid project implementation or funding overlap.
- 10) project locations to be linked with highest priorities identified in HRP
- 11) With this allocation, the EHF is implementing the Gender with Age Marker methodology.

Applicants are advised to consult:

<https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/other/content/iasc-gender-age-marker-gam-2018>

D) 2019 First Round EHF Standard Allocation Strategic Priorities

Sectors	Prioritized Activities	Geographic Areas	Amount in million (US\$)	Coordinating Organization
Agriculture & Livestock	Animal health services	Priority areas in Afar, Amhara, Oromia, SNNP Somali and Tigray regions	1.00m	FAO
	Provision of emergency seed for prioritized IDPs (as appropriate by planting season)			
Emergency Shelter/ Non-Food Items	Procurement and provision of Distribution of ES/ NFI support in kind and in cash	Priority areas in Oromia, Benshangul Somali & SNNPR	5.5m	IOM
Education	Provision of biscuits, accelerated school readiness and accelerated learning programme	IDP affected populations	1.5m	UNICEF
Health	Purchase and placement of Health Kits supplies to enable the health activities of the MHNTs of NGOs and support to Regional Health Bureaus	Countrywide as prioritized by the Health Cluster	4m	WHO
Nutrition	NGO Presence in Priority one woredas with low capacity to manage significant increase in Acute malnutrition . Support to GoE surge (with exit strategy)	Priority one woredas as triaged as the most critical by the ENCU	5.25m	ENCU
	Pipeline support to nutrition commodities.	Countrywide		
Protection	IDP Site Management. Activities in support of Protection activities, HRP objectives 1 &2	Priority areas in Oromia, Benshangul, SNNP and Somali	1.0 m	UNHCR
	Support to partners integrating protection in projects of other sectors			
WASH	Provision of safe water supply to IDPs and host communities Installation of sanitation facilities in IDP sites;	Oromia, SNNP, Benshangul and Somali regions	5.5m	UNICEF
Common Services	Rapid scale up of UNDSS security support	Oromia, Benshangul	0.25m	UNDSS
Sectors to be determined in consultation with sub-national and inter-cluster group	Priorities for all critical sectors within parameters of HRP and activities described in Prioritization Document	Somali (priority areas)	6.0m	Sub-National ICCG
TOTAL			30m	

III. Timeline and Procedure

Activity	Indicative duration	Stakeholders involved
EHF eligible ³ partners submit applications through GMS	10 working days from 15 April (by 30 April)	Partners
Strategic review completed CCs present portfolio to AB	5 working days (by 07 May)	AB, CCs, HFU
HC endorsement	2 working days (by 09 May)	HC
Re-submission of applications	3 working days (by 14 May)	Partners
Financial and technical review & re-submission of budget	5 working days (by 21 May)	CCs, HFU, FCS, Partners
Project proposals re-submission	2 days (by 23 May)	Partners
HC to share list of project proposals with AB & HC Final Approval	2 days (by 28 May)	HC, AB, HFU
Finalization of Grant Agreement	4 working days (by 03 June)	Partners, HC, HFU

Criteria for Technical Review of Projects

- All applications must be subject to technical review, usually led by cluster coordinators or through a process organized by OCHA if the application is from the Cluster Lead agency.

IV. Allocation Approach

- With locations and response requirements clearly defined, the primary modality of this allocation will be the proactive identification of appropriate partners for the response through cluster coordination and working group mechanisms. This approach will ensure efficient prioritization and rapid processing of applications.
- Organizations that have ongoing EHF project and apply for the same activities and locations under this allocation should clearly indicate how the new funding will complement the previously EHF-funded project. The decision on funding will be subject to that value of the currently ongoing IP projects, taking into consideration the EHF-assigned risk levels and the relevant thresholds.
- All proposals to clearly outline how project will ensure attention to protection issues and targeting of the most vulnerable groups. EHF will be accepting of additional budget lines in this regard as reasonable.
- Sectoral allocations should deprioritize Somali region and liaise with sub national cluster coordinators to access the Somali allocation.
- **Applications received after the deadline will not be processed.**

³ Eligible organizations are international and national NGOs and organizations of the Red Cross Movement who have undergone the due diligence and capacity assessment process to receive funding from the EHF and UN Agencies.

Key Contacts

- 1) EHF Management Team: *Tim Mander (mander@un.org)*
- 2) EHF feedback and complaint mechanism: *feedback-ehf@un.org*
- 3) Cluster Contacts

Title	Organization	Full name	Email
Agriculture Cluster Coordinator	FAO	Farshad Tami	Farshad.Tami@fao.org
Education Cluster coordinator	UNICEF	Moges Derebew	et.edu.im@humanitarianresponse.info;
ES-NFI Cluster Coordinator	IOM	Yodit Gutema	mgutema@iom.int ; shelternfi.ethiopia@gmail.com
Health Cluster Coordinator	WHO	Wilbert Shiihaji	shihajiw@who.int
Nutrition Cluster Coordinator	UNICEF	Orla O'Neil	oorla@unicef.org
Protection Cluster Coordinator	UNHCR	Kristin Arthur	arthur@unhcr.org
WASH Cluster Coordinator	UNICEF	Itsuro Takahashi	itakahashi@unicef.org
Somali region Coordinator	UN OCHA	Saeed Mohamoud Hersi	hersis@un.org