

Ethiopia: Gedeo-West Guji Displacement Crisis

Situation update No.7

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OCHA



Highlights

- The Government and partners have taken several measures to enhance response coordination and to boost response capacity at site level. Two Emergency Operation Centers (EOCs) were established in Dilla Town in Gedeo zone and in Bule Hora Town in West Guji zone.
- Federal and regional authorities are working on finding a lasting solution to the IDP crisis in Gedeo and West Guji zones.
- Government and partners have been scaling up response over the last month, but funding gap remains high.

I. Displacement overview

In recognition to the need for urgent scaled-up multi-sector response and based on a working scenario of the displacement situation continuing for at least the next six months, the National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC) and humanitarian partners had released a multi-sector Response Plan on 22 June 2018, targeting 818,250 people displaced (IDPs) by the Gedeo-West Guji violence at a cost of US\$117.7 million. The Plan aims to address life-saving needs of the IDPs, ensure dignified temporary living conditions, mitigate/prepare for potential public health outbreaks, including measles and acute watery diarrhea (AWD) and ensure protection for vulnerable groups.

The planning figure has changed since the release of the response plan. As of 14 August 2018, the number of IDPs has reduced to a total of 694,327 persons (106,135 HHs) in Gedeo zone. The IDPs are spread across Bule, Dilla Zuria, Kochere, Gedeb, Wanago, Yirgachefe woredas and Dilla and Yirgachefe Towns.

In West Guji zone, zonal authorities confirmed that there are at least 189,010 people (33,394 HH) at 43 collective sites and 18 host communities. The IDPs are spread across Abaya, Birbirsa Kojowa, Bule Hora, Gelana, Hambela Wamena and Kercha woredas.

The Government of Ethiopia is working on finding a lasting solution to the IDP crisis in Gedeo and West Guji zones. For this, the Aba Gadas (traditional leaders) from both West Guji (Oromia) and Gedeo (SNNP) zones, have continued convening a series of peace and reconciliation conferences since 28 July to initiate a voluntary return of IDPs to their places of origin. On 10 August 2018, NDRMC confirmed that all returns will respect humanitarian principles of safety,



Figure 1 Blanket distribution at GedebTVET Site. Phot Credit OCHA Ethiopia

dignity, voluntariness, and sustainability. While it is necessary to follow up on evolving needs as more IDPs start returning, Government and partners need to continue their scaled-up response to address the still significant gaps.

The key priorities are emergency shelter and non-food items, food and health outbreak prevention, including through camp decongestion and massive expansion of WaSH interventions. The National Disaster Risk Management Commission is facilitating the expedited customs clearance within Government for incoming relief supplies, including shelter and non-food items.

II. Coordination Arrangements

The Government and partners have taken several measures to enhance response coordination and to boost response capacity at site level. Two Emergency Operation Centres (EOCs) were established in Dilla Town in Gedeo zone and in Bule Hora Town in West Guji zone. The EOC response has been established since 7 July 2018 for the Gedeo zone and since 19 July for the Guji zone. The EOC is structured with key sectors under the leadership of Federal and Zonal government officials. The EOC comprises of Management, Operations, Planning, and Logistics sections.

In Gedeo zone, Food, WASH, Health & Nutrition, Protection (and Child Protection Sub-Cluster), Emergency Shelter & NFI, Education, and Logistics clusters have been established under the Operations Section of the EOC. Also, a Site Management Working Group is being set up in mid-August. Clusters and partners are scaling up the emergency response, but there are still major gaps that require immediate attention, namely in Education, WASH, Health & Nutrition, ES/NFI, among others.

In West Guji zone, Food, WASH, Health, Nutrition, Protection, Site Management and Shelter and NFI clusters have been established. There is still a lack of education partners in West Guji and the Agriculture cluster have yet to be set up. Clusters and partners are scaling up the emergency response, but there are still huge gaps that require immediate attention in WASH, Health, Nutrition, Shelter & NFI, and protection.

The National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC) and humanitarian partners have deployed staff to support the EOCs. WHO, UNICEF, UNCHCR, WFP, IOM, and UNFPA have deployed national and international multi-sector experts to both zones, including incident managers, emergency coordinators, WaSH experts, surveillance officers, medical nutritionists, moderate malnutrition management experts, information management officers as well as security experts. GOAL, People in Need, IRC, World Vision, NRC, MSF-Spain, Save the Children, Plan International, MCMDO, Action Aid, CARE, Christian Aid are NGOs with operational presence in the IDP-hosting woredas across both zones.

III. Response and gap

EDUCATION

Response

- The response plan for Gedeo zone has been approved by the Regional Education Bureau. In line with the plan, Educational Cluster is preparing for school year 2018/2019 starting in September. A rapid assessment was conducted to evaluate damaged schools and the situation of schools used as shelter space in Gedeb, Yirgachefe and Kochere woredas.
- West Guji Zonal Education Office has done a thorough assessment of school facilities throughout the zone which are affected by the conflict.
- 34 schools have been assessed to be partially or totally damaged; 7 were totally damaged and 27 schools were partially damaged. (11 in Kercha; 8 in Hambela Wamena; 13 in Gelana; 2 in Bule Hora)
- Priority areas have been identified for Education in Emergencies programming for students that are still displaced.

Needs/Gaps

- In Gedeo zone, there is a huge need of rehabilitation of damaged schools and securing learning spaces: 70 IDP sites in Gedeo zone have been used as collective centers for IDPs. 8 schools reported fully damaged and 4 schools partially damaged. Catch-up classes for students who got their classes interrupted or did not manage to take their final exams.
- Zonal Education Office is leading the Cluster Coordination for the sector in West Guji, however, there are no education partners to support response efforts.
- Catch up classes for learners who got their classes interrupted or did not manage to write their exams.
- Plans need to be put in place to enable classes to resume in those schools that are being used as collective centres when schools open. This includes the replacement of furniture that has reportedly been damaged by the displaced people.

FOOD SECURITY

Response

- As of 14 August, the 2nd round of relief food distribution is underway in Gedeo zone: on average 76 per cent of planned distribution is completed. 5 woredas (Dilla Town, Dilla Zuria, Kochere, Gedeb and Bule) are covered by JEOP and the remaining 2 woredas (Yirgachefe and Wenago) by NDRMC.
- In West Guji, 1st round relief food distribution is at 90 per cent and 2nd round distribution is underway at 96 per cent for cereal, 91 per cent for Oil and 184 per cent for supplementary food (more due to compensate for pulses).
- JEOP (WV) will be starting distribution in six of the IDP woredas (Kercha, Hambela Wamena, Abeya, Gelana, and Birbirs Kojowa) starting in Round 3.

Needs/Gaps

- 90 per cent of food for round 2 has been dispatched while the current distribution completion rate is at 76 per cent in Gedeo.
- In West Guji, there is a 10 per cent gap in 1st round and 11 per cent gap for cereals, 9 per cent for oil from the 2nd round.
- No pulses in basket, there is also a gap in food preparation supplies (spices, salt), food utensils (pots and pans) and cooking fuel (firewood).
- Food for care takers at SC will be supported with food rations to decrease the number of defaulters in SCs.

HEALTH

Response

- In Gedeo zone, measles vaccination campaigns have been completed in four woredas (Dilla town, Dilla Zuria, Wonago, and Bule). In remaining woredas (Kochere, Yirgachefe, and Gedeb), a mop-up campaign is ongoing. In total the campaign targeted 934,352 children (IDP and host communities)
- In addition to 600 zonal medical staff, approximately 300 medical personnel have been assigned at health facilities.
- 53 emergency essential medicines and supplies kits (EDK and IEHK) have been distributed.
- In line with the development of health response plan in West Guji zone, 150 health workers were mobilized and deployed to provide health services through 3 static clinics, 6 Mobile Health and Nutrition Teams (MHNT), 21 health centers and 2 stabilization centers established in hospitals.
- In the six affected woredas medical screening for different communicable and chronic diseases were conducted.
- Provided maternity services in 15 health centers and 2 hospitals in six woredas.
- In the month of August health partners and centers provided over 11,000 OPD consultations/treatment to

adult patients and over 7700 consultations/treatment to U5 patients in IDP locations. Over 56,600 people have received health education.

- Onsite surveillance mentorship support provided at Bilida, Birbirsa kojowa, Kercha town and Abaya. Routine weekly surveillance data has been collected and analysis has started from 2 woredas.
- Measles vaccination campaign commenced in all woredas, 77,346 children vaccinated on Day 1 in 8 woredas, of the target 610,702 children in 10 woredas of the zone.

Needs/Gaps

- Lack of routine vaccination in all sites, psychosocial care for affected communities.
- Additional 11 temporary static facilities and 2 MHNTs teams required; logistical support to deployed staff.
- Weak early warning and event monitoring for potential health emergencies at IDP sites.
- Shortage of EDKs; Stabilization Center (SC) kits, medical equipment, and NFI (Blanket, beds, heaters etc.) for SCs.
- AWD preparedness: repositioning of AWD supplies, identification of a potential location for CTCs.
- Needs/gaps in West Guji include:
- Weak referral system, inadequate number of ambulances available in all woredas; new ambulances have arrived at the zonal health bureau and are to be deployed to West Guji Zone.
- Establishment of temporary measles case isolation centers in all the 10 collective centers.
- Drugs inventory for IDP community are not conducted on a regular basis, leading to times when critical drugs are not available.
- Weak laboratory investigation and confirmation.
- Limited health promotion activities for IDPs.
- Unavailability of Psychosocial care personnel and non-provision of mental health services for IDPs
- Critical shortage of operational cost.



Response

- In Gedeo zone, screening of all children under 5-years-old at IDP sites/host communities is being conducted and treatment of SAM is available in 23 Stabilization Centers (SCs) and 157 OTP sites.
- As of 14 August, total of 48,204 children and 18,101 pregnant and lactating mothers (PLW) have received TSFP support: distribution completion rate is at 83 per cent.
- In West Guji zone:
- 24 OTPs and 2 stabilization centers have been established.
- Six SCs (Bule Hora HC, Kercha HC, Kercha Hospital, Gerba HC, Ela Dima HC (B/K) & Tore HC) received strengthened training on nutrition services.
- Follow up on stock status for repositioning in Bule Hora HC, Kercha HC, Kercha Hospital, Gerba HC, Ela Dima HC Darssa Sake HC (B/K) & Tore HC.
- Mass screening completed in all woredas, 138,219 U5 children were screened (some kabeles in Gelana were not screened due to insecurity) screened children were also supported with vitamin A supplementation. Validation of results ongoing with Nutrition Cluster.
- TSFP has been distributed 54.1 per cent to target for U5s and 50.2 per cent to PLWs. Distribution is ongoing this week.

Needs/Gaps

- In Gedeo zone, an additional 6 SCs are urgently required.
- Lack of skilled personnel to attend to SAM treatment.

- Urgent need for training for health workers.
- WaSH gap in SCs.
- In West Guji, three more SC sites need to be established.
- High prevalence of SAM, and rapid progressions MAM to SAM, as a result of increased vulnerability due to: food distribution is not full basket, poor sanitation & Hygiene, poor health condition.
- Having screening data separately for IDPs.



Response

- Protection training was organized on 3 August for Cluster Leads, co-Leads and government officials
- 1960 unaccompanied and separated children were identified and registered in 77 IDP sites
- 5200 Dignity Kits for women distributed in Kochere and Bule.
- In West Guji,
- UNHCR along with NDRMC has started the protection and community structure mapping and covered Abayyaa, Kercha, Hambela Wamena and Birbirsa Kojowa.
- Partner assessments is still ongoing by UNHCR.
- Planning for PFA training for BoWCA has been initiated by UNHCR and WHO.
- UNHCR was able to support MSF Spain to start their PSS project in Kercha through coordinating with EOC coordinator to overcome challenges.
- Provision of the CPiE training by UNICEF to key government actors and front-line workers such as Zonal and woreda WCA, LSA, Justice, Education and DRMC and a total of 35 participants are participating in the CPiE in emergency Training which has started in Adama.
- 1088 unaccompanied and separated children have been identified, to date 26 unaccompanied minors and separated girls and boys reunified with their families and/or placed in appropriate alternative care.
- Recruitment and deployment of 1 Child Protection in Emergency Officers for West Guji is undergoing.
- 12 children were referred for health support to health post and health center and referred to multi-sectorial services upon their needs in Birbirsa Kojowa and Kercha woredas.

Needs/Gaps

- Family tracing, psychosocial support, SGBV response, the establishment of referral pathways, Dignity kits.
- In West Guji,
- Lack of protection partners, including Child Protection, on-ground and service providers. Lack of funding continues to hinder scale up of protection partners and services.
- Lack of responses with Family tracing, child protection, psychosocial support, Sexual & Gender Based Violence.
- Lack of consistent and comprehensive information and statistics.
- Inadequate multispectral emergency response, referral mechanism and vulnerability support.



Response

- In Geddo zone:
- 9 communal shelters have been constructed in collective centers, out of 30 planned;
- 6,200 shelter kits, 42,400 blankets, 9,500 hygiene kits were distributed.
- There is a planned and ongoing distribution of 20,000 NFI kits in Gedeb, 11,300 NFI kits in Yirgachefe, 2000 NFI kits in Wenago, 10,000 NFI kits in Kochere and 3600 in Dilla Town and 1400 kits in Dilla Zuria.

- 20,203 NFI pieces (jerrycans, jugs, cooking pots) were distributed across all 7 woredas.
- In West Guji,
- Distribution of available NFI responses on-going with huge gaps still remaining.
- Plastic sheeting has been delivered 49% and Blankets 38% of required needs respectively.

Planned response:

- NRC/UNHCR: 3,000 HH in Bilida Kajowa; Hambela Wamena (partial kits); distribution to begin this week.
- MSF: 10,000 HH in Kercha (partial kits); additional 5,000 kits from the original planned distribution to be provided by MSF.
- Goal: 1081 HH in Gelana (partial kit); distribution completed this week in Gelana Woreda.

Needs/Gaps

- A total of 113,760 households are in need of ES/NFI support, especially cooking pots and sleeping mats in Yirgachefe and Kochere. Additional funding is necessary for 11,000 households in Gedeo zone.
- In West Guji, there are still critical gaps remaining in addressing the emergency Shelter & NFI needs across all six woredas. (51 per cent gap with Blanket, 62 per cent gap with plastic sheet, 95 per cent gap with plastic cup, 94 per cent gap with plastic plate, 100 per cent gap with mattress, 63 per cent gap with cooking pot, 82 per cent gap with Jerrycan, 92 per cent gap with Iron Oven, 91 per cent gap with Shelter kit and 77 per cent gap with sleeping mats).
- Shelter particularly while returning back and with the coming Hagaya rains, NFIs for cooking, water storage, Clothes and blankets are urgently needed due to low temperatures across West Guji.
- Urgent funding is needed to address critical gaps, especially in household items.
- Need for agreement on standard delivery for NFIs.



LOGISTICS

Response

- Manage Logistics Overview Map of Gedeo and West Guji for organizations' operational planning
- Compile and share logistics-related information such as available storage, transport companies and truck accessibility to woredas and Final Distribution Points (FDPs).

Needs/Gaps

- There remains a lack of information on road access to certain FDPs.\



WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

Response

- Water treatment chemicals, body and laundry soaps, jerry cans have been distributed in all woredas, gap remains.
- 10 water trucks have been deployed (out of 71 trucks required). Rehabilitation and expansion of water schemes are ongoing.
- 524 latrines were constructed out of the minimum target of 3,523 in Gedeo.
- In West Guji 2250 liters of fuel for water scheme at Kercha delivered, supported by IRC. Water trucking is meeting the 42% of the required need in Kercha town and 46% of the required needs in Bilida and Michi-cha. Partners continue to scale up water delivery in both locations.
- 6 Roto installations were completed in Kercha. Plans are in place to install 17 rotos in other 5 woredas.
- Water Rehabilitation assessments completed by ZWO, UNICEF and IRC. 45 site in 3 woredas (Karcha, Galana, Birbisa kojowa) by IRC and 4 sites visits (Karcha, Bule Hora, Galana) by ZWO and UNICEF.

- Over 414,000 Water Treatment Chemicals (WTCs), for households, were distributed in Kercha along with education on the utilization of WTC.
- 10 Hygiene promotion sessions completed in Kerecha and Bilida with 5200 participants educated in personal hygiene, handwashing, menstrual hygiene and safe disposal of child feces.
- Three sanitation campaigns were conducted at Kercha town and Bilida. At Kercha sanitation campaign about 150 people were participated. Solid waste collected and buried, stagnant water sources were cleared. At Bilida, different solid wastes collected and stagnant water sources were cleared.

Needs/Gaps

- Gap: water trucking 86 per cent, maintenance of water supplies 70 per cent, construction of shallow wells 99 per cent. In general, coverage of WaSH NFI remains low.
- Not yet reached the minimum standard of the Gedeo response: water supply 5L/person/day (water trucking) and 1 latrine for 100 people
- In West Guji, Water supply is not covering the daily requirements in Kercha town and Bilida and Michicha IDP locations. There is a gap of 46 per cent gap in Bilida and Michicha and 58 per cent in Kercha Town.
- Latrine ratio is still very high; most collective centers do not have latrines. Only 132 have communal latrines have been constructed thus far.
- Planned rehabilitation of existing water points to be scaled up urgently.



SITE MANAGEMENT

Response

- Capacity building training organized in Dilla Town and Gedeb
- Site improvement at the TVET site in Gedeb, including the construction of 10 communal kitchens
- One community communication desk in Gedeb woreda and one information desk in Dilla Town have been set up.
- In West Guji, SMS is currently having weekly meetings in Kercha woreda with woreda officials and partners.
- Community committee meetings held at site level.
- SMS visit to Abaya.
- Capacity building for SMS partners has been rescheduled for this week. Site Improvement works is ongoing in various collective sites, with four communal shelters and four communal kitchens built.

Needs/Gaps

- Capacity building for actors and site improvement.
- Need to scale up site management activities in other woredas/IDP sites in West Guji.

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