

HIGHLIGHTS

- Ireland contributes an additional €3.4 million to the Ethiopia Humanitarian Fund



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Affected population	7.95 m
MAM	4.16m
SAM	370,000
# of people displaced due to conflict	1.9 m
# of people displaced due to climatic shocks	0.5 m

FUNDING

US\$1.494 billion

Requirement for the 2nd half of 2018 Ethiopia Humanitarian and Disaster Resilience Plan

Funding shortfall: **US\$478 million**

Ireland contributes an additional €3.4 million to the Ethiopia Humanitarian Fund (EHF)

On 19 November 2018, Ms. Sonija Hyland, Ambassador of Ireland to Ethiopia, and Mr. Aeneas Chuma, the UN Humanitarian/Resident Coordinator (a.i.) signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) for Ireland's additional contribution of €3.4 million to the Ethiopia Humanitarian Fund (EHF), the OCHA - managed pooled fund. This additional funding brings Ireland's total contribution to EHF to €7.9 million this year, the largest ever annual support to the EHF from Ireland. Ireland, the fourth largest donor to EHF in 2018, has been supporting the pooled fund every year since 2011. During the signing ceremony, the Humanitarian/Resident Coordinator appreciated Ireland's commitment to address critical humanitarian needs in the country through sustained funding made to respond to the needs identified in the annual Humanitarian and Disaster Resilience Plan (HDRP). Mr. Chuma also acknowledged the key coordination role Ireland has been playing as a co-chair of the Humanitarian Resilience Donors Group (HDRG) as well as the strong links with the Ethiopian Humanitarian Country Team (EHCT) and other coordination platforms. Ireland has also served as a donor representative on the EHF advisory board since 2016.

The EHF received US\$77.8 million from six donors so far this year, including from the United Kingdom, Germany, United States of America, Ireland, Sweden, and Switzerland. The EHF made three allocations in 2018, allotting \$61 million, supporting more than 100 multi-sector projects in health, nutrition, WaSH, Agriculture, Education, Protection and NFIs implemented by INGOs and UN agencies. The Fund started the year processing a bridging allocation of \$11.35 million in late November 2017, supporting 14 projects. Two standard allocations are finalized for \$38.8 million, supporting 73 projects and a third allocation (Reserve) for \$30 million is being finalized.



Figure 1 Ms. Sonija Hyland and Mr. Aeneas Chuma signing Ireland's additional €3.4 million contribution to EHF.
Photo Credit: RCO Office

2018 Ethiopia Humanitarian Appeal underfunded

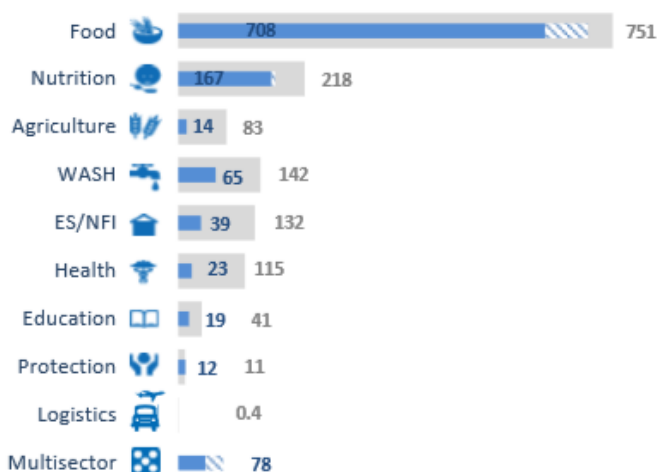
As of 31 October 2018, the funding status for the 2018 Ethiopia Humanitarian and Disaster Resilience Plan (HDRP) Mid-Year Review is at 68 per cent. From the total requirement of US\$1.494 billion identified in the HDRP to address critical humanitarian needs of close to 8 million people, Government and partners were able to mobilize some \$1.016 billion (excluding pledges), leaving a gap of \$478 million for the year. From the total amount, \$559 million was raised by international partners, \$342 million by Government and \$215 million was carried over from the 2017 humanitarian response. An additional \$111 million was pledged towards the Appeal. While the Food (\$708 million from the planned \$751 million) and Nutrition (\$168 million from the planned \$218) sectors were well funded, other sectors were mostly funded at below 30 per cent. Pillar 1 (Prevention and Mitigation) and Pillar 3 (National Systems Strengthening and Recovery) of the Appeal received almost no funding.

Government and partners need to advocate for increased funding for the 2019 response, as needs are anticipated to remain high in the country. At present, the 2018 Government-led multi-agency needs assessment is ongoing (from 17 November to 15 December) in all regions. The assessment will take stock of the performance of the *kiremt* (summer) rains on harvest in cropping areas and the performance of the short seasonal *deyr/hagaya* (autumn) rains in the lowland areas of south and southeastern Ethiopia. The result of the assessment will help determine the humanitarian requirements for Ethiopia in 2019.

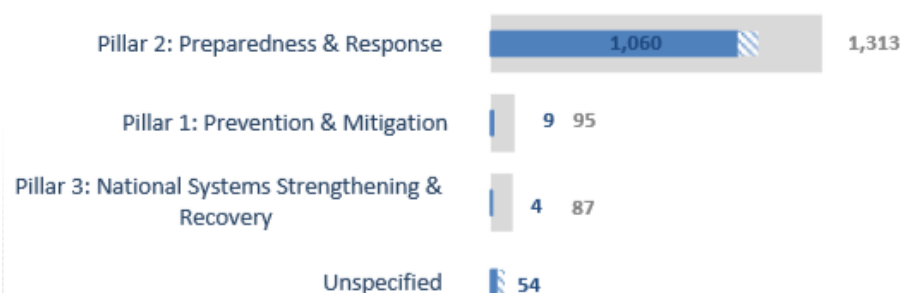
Funding shortfall remains a challenge for Government and partners's humanitarian, as well as durable solutions efforts.

Ethiopia: 2018 HDRP Funding Update (as of 31 October 2018)

Requirements and funding per sector - \$million



Requirements and funding per pillar- \$million



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- 2018 Ethiopia Humanitarian Appeal underfunded

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- Reports of new displacement continue amidst remarkable political and human rights reforms in Ethiopia
- Humanitarian partners mainstream accountability to affected populations

Reports of new displacement continue amidst remarkable political and human rights reforms in Ethiopia

An inter-communal violence that started on 13 April and continued through June 2018 along the borders of Gedeo (SNNPR) and West Guji (Oromia region) zones had displaced close to one million people. About 142,000 people were displaced in Somali region immediately after the 4 August 2018 inter-communal violence in Jijiga between ethnic Somalis and highlanders residing in the town. More recently, an estimated 240,000 people were displaced from Benishangul Gumuz region due to the unprecedented inter-communal violence in Kamashi zone on 26 September. Despite the deployment of federal security forces to quell the violence, reports of conflict continue to this day.

Similarly, on 12 November 2018, renewed violence between the Gebra and Garre communities left some 15,000 people displaced in Moyale town, a Town that belongs to both Oromia and Somali regions.

Government and partners are providing assistance to Gedeo-Guji IDPs in both displacement areas and in areas of return, but funding gap remains a huge challenge. Government provided limited assistance to Benishangul Gumuz IDPs due to continued clashes and international humanitarian partners are preparing a response plan that would help them scale up response as the security situation improves.

On a positive note, the Government of Ethiopia has been putting in place political, economic and human rights reforms since the change of leadership in April 2018, and rapid and remarkable results were achieved so far.

Accountability to affected populations mainstreamed in seasonal assessment

In a bid to sensitize the accountability of humanitarian operators to communities affected by disasters, OCHA briefed team leaders of the 2018 *meher* seasonal assessment (ongoing from 17 November to 15 December 2018) on the significance of engaging affected communities throughout the humanitarian program cycle. The objective of the briefing was to encourage team leaders to spend proportionate time to interact with affected communities throughout the assessment period. The session highlighted how the humanitarian response is strengthened and better targeted when partners provide communities with relevant information, listen to their voices and concerns and address the issues accordingly.

Experience from past needs assessment in Ethiopia shows that engagement with affected communities needs to be enhanced. OCHA will continue to work with partners to ensure that communication and community engagement (CCE) and accountability to affected populations (AAP) mechanisms are in place. There is a plan to develop a national CCE/AAP strategy for Ethiopia by 2019. The idea of initiating a national plan on CCE/AAP was also highlighted to a group of communication and advocacy experts who participated in the 2018 – 2019 HDRP Communication and Advocacy Strategy Development Workshop that was held on 12 June 2018.



Figure 2 Team leaders of the 2018 meher season assessment receiving training. Photo Credit: OCHA Ethiopia

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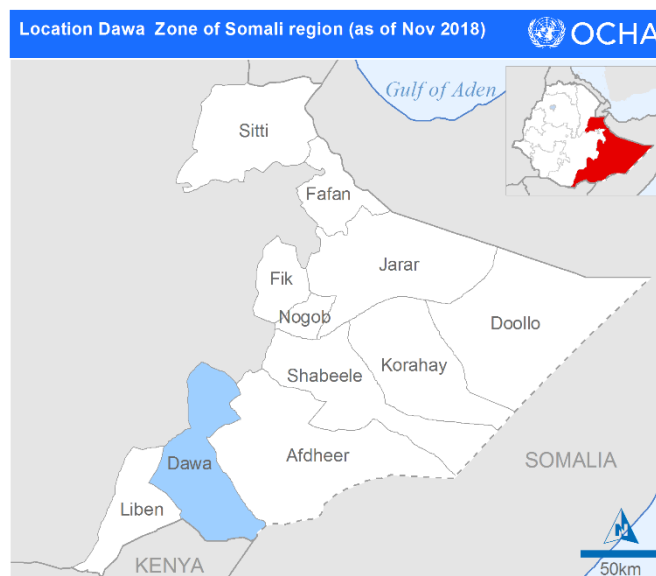
- Partners call for urgent prepositioning of relief commodities in Dawa zone, Somali region.

Partners call for urgent prepositioning of relief commodities in Dawa zone, Somali region

Road blockages due to poor road conditions and sporadic communal clashes continue to constrain humanitarian partners from providing assistance to nearly half a million IDPs in Dawa zone of Somali region. At least 3000 tons of relief food is required monthly to address the needs of the IDPs.

International humanitarian partners have not been able to deliver full-scale humanitarian assistance to IDPs and host communities in the area for the past six months, resulting in an upsurge in malnutrition and disease outbreaks. Delivering

relief food and non-food items via the preferred Adama-Hawassa-Moyale asphalt road was hampered due to sporadic clashes along Oromia and Somali regional boundary. The other alternative route through Somali region using the Galuun Bridge, which has itself limited capacity, is expected to further deteriorate during the spring rainy seasons. Hence, humanitarian operators are working with Government counterparts to preposition available commodities and supplies before the *gu*/spring rains soon begin.



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