



World Food Programme
Programme Alimentaire Mondial
Programa Mundial de Alimentos
برنامج الأغذية العالمي

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

WFP Tigray
Shot: 26 May–01 June21
various Tigray Region, Ethiopia
TRT: 03:06

SHOTLIST:

:00-:32

GVS WFP food distribution to people in hard to access rural area of Adi Millen, the nearest town being over 35 km away. These people have lost all their livelihoods to conflict and can no longer sustain themselves. WFP has reached more 1.4 million people in Tigray with lifesaving food.

Shot: 26May2021

Adi Millen

:32-:47

GVs centre for Internally Displaced People (IDPs) hosting people forced to flee their homes by conflict. This is one of 2 centres in Enda Baguna that altogether host 27,000 IDPs.

Shot: 28May2021

Enda Baguna

:47-1:11

GVs of people being tested for malnutrition. A total of 350,000 people in Tigray region are suffering from catastrophic levels of hunger (IPC 5) and famine is a risk unless food and livelihood assistance continues to be scaled-up, unimpeded by access issues, and hostilities cease. WFP provides nutrition support to children and pregnant or nursing women and has been reaching over 100,000 people every month with fortified foods across almost all zones of the regions. WFP has delivered 355,000 emergency nutrition rations since February.

Shot: 30May2021

Adigrat



1:11-1:50

SOT Maria Santamarina, WFP Head of Programme and Operations

(English):

"So this is a region that even prior to the conflict has been affected by shocks in recent years. We had the desert locusts this past year, hail storms, some pockets of the region that are already chronically affected by drought. It means that this is an area that is already a bit on the edge and so now with the conflict, the disruption of health systems the collapse of markets in many areas, the inability to plant today because people don't have access to seeds fertilizer or the security to be able to plant number that for WFP the number one priority is going to continue to be that humanitarian assistance until the situation allows people to resume their livelihoods activities and meet their own food security needs."

Shot: 01June2021

Mekele

1:50-2:06

Aster (*real name withheld*) and one of her sons carrying WFP food received at distribution to the temporary shelter where they now stay.

Shot: 29May2021

Adi Millen

2:06-2:11

Aster and family members pick up the pieces from the burnt shell of their home. During the attack Aster's livestock was decimated and her crops millet sorghum and teff were all burned, leaving her family with no means to survive. The family is currently sheltering in an abandoned construction a few kilometers from where their family home once stood.

Shot: 29May2021

Adi Millen

2:11-2:44

SOT Aster - *real name withheld*, (Tigrinya):



“There were about 20 of them. They gathered around my house and thrashed all my crops . I have nightmares of my house from before it was burned and we had to flee to another area. They kept getting closer, burning all the harvested crops and straw and continued setting fire to everything. They burned everything I had.”

Shot: 29May2021

Adi Millen

2:44-3:06

Aster with her family and neighbours eating food prepared with WFP rations.

Shot: 29May2021

Adi Millen

ENDS

A total of 350,000 people in Tigray region are suffering from catastrophic levels of hunger (IPC 5) and famine is a risk unless food and livelihood assistance continues to be scaled-up, unimpeded by access issues, and hostilities cease.

- The latest Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis found that 353,000 people in Tigray are in IPC 5. Across the region, 4 million people - 70 percent of the population – are experiencing high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC 3 or above).
- The severity of acute food insecurity is expected to increase through September, particularly in Tigray, with over 400 000 people projected to face starvation (IPC 5, Catastrophe) without urgent and unhindered aid.

The brutal reality for WFP is that for every person we reach with life-saving food assistance there are countless more, especially in rural areas, who we can't reach. Humanitarian access for WFP and partners is essential to avoid a catastrophe in Tigray.

- WFP swiftly mounted an emergency food assistance operation in Tigray, deploying more than 180 staff and increasing food distributions to reach 1.2 million people, but that is barely half of the number we should be reaching.



- The ability of people in Tigray to access vital services and for WFP to reach them with food assistance is essential to avoid a catastrophe. Access must be extended well beyond major cities to include people in rural and difficult to reach areas.

We must not allow hunger to tighten its grip on millions of Tigrayans due to violence and conflict. WFP is calling for three things to prevent a catastrophe in Tigray.

- Unimpeded access for WFP and partners to all areas of Tigray is vital to reach those most in need of lifesaving food assistance.
 - An immediate ceasefire; conflict continues to destroy lives and livelihoods as well as block humanitarian access.
 - WFP needs US\$203 million to scale-up its response in Tigray and get lifesaving food assistance to people in desperate need.
- **The situation in Tigray is extremely grave. IPC Phase 5 Catastrophe is identified in parts of the region but the threshold for famine is not yet reached. There is an opportunity right now for us to launch a collective, collaborative effort to prevent a full-scale famine. And that requires full, unfettered and facilitated access.**
 - The IPC report says while no area is currently classified as being in a famine, if the situation deteriorates in the coming months with intensified conflict hampering the delivery of food assistance during the lean season, analysts believe that a famine might result in Central, Northwestern and Eastern zones.

Facts & figures

- People reached with emergency food assistance by WFP in Tigray
1.4 million
- People estimated in need of emergency food assistance in Tigray
5.2 million
- People to receive emergency food assistance from WFP in Tigray
2.1 million
- Funding WFP needs to reach 2 million people in the next 8 months
US\$203 million
- People receiving food assistance in Tigray before the conflict under the



Humanitarian Response Plan & Government Productive Safety Net Programme

1.6 million

- Refugees currently receiving WFP food assistance in Tigray

29,000

- People in Ethiopia being assisted by WFP before the Tigray conflict

6.2 million

WFP OPERATIONS

- WFP co-leads the food cluster and logistics cluster and leads the emergency telecoms cluster bringing together the response.
- WFP has deployed more than 150 staff to Tigray since the start of the conflict and continues to build up its workforce and increase food distributions. WFP has also delivered three monthly food rations to 29,000 refugees in two refugee camps in Tigray since the start of the year.
- WFP has a total of eight warehouses in Mekelle, two of which are used by the Logistics Cluster. WFP also has storage facilities in Shire and have so far erected 16 Mobile Storage Units in the region, adding 5,170 metric tons of storage capacity for the response.
- WFP is currently seeking more than 70 additional vehicles for its fast-growing Tigray operations.

WFP STATEMENT

9 June 2021

WFP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: IMMEDIATE ACCESS FOR LIFESAVING FOOD DELIVERIES IN TIGRAY IS CRITICAL

ROME – Alarming new data has today confirmed the magnitude of the hunger emergency gripping Tigray, where at least 4 million people face severe hunger and **350 000** of them are facing famine. The lack of information on people's food security in western Tigray in the IPC analysis (<http://www.ipcinfo.org/ipc-country-analysis/details-map/en/c/1154897>) is also deeply worrying.

The United Nations World Food Programme has swiftly mounted an emergency food assistance operation deploying more than 180 staff and increasing food distributions to reach 1.4 million people,



yet that is barely half of the number we should be reaching. Other agencies are also struggling to reach many of the rest of Tigray's hungry.

The brutal reality for our staff in Tigray is that for every family we reach with life-saving food, there are countless more especially in rural areas whom we cannot reach. We have appealed for humanitarian access **but are still being blocked by armed groups.**

The ability of people in Tigray to access vital services and for WFP to reach them with food assistance is essential to avoid a catastrophe. Access must be extended well beyond major cities to reach people in desperate need wherever they may be, with adequate assistance and without delay.

Violence and conflict are allowing hunger to tighten its grip on millions of Tigrayans who have been forced to flee their homes. Our teams tell me that in 53 villages they visited, 50 percent of mothers and almost a quarter of children they've been screening are malnourished. Millions of people urgently need food. Without it, many of them will die.

Three things are needed to prevent hunger from claiming millions of lives in Tigray; **a ceasefire, unimpeded access for WFP and partners to all areas, and the money to expand our operations to meet the growing numbers of people who desperately need emergency food assistance.**

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The United Nations World Food Programme is the 2020 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate. We are the world's largest humanitarian organization, saving lives in emergencies and using food assistance to build a pathway to peace, stability and prosperity for people recovering from conflict, disasters and the impact of climate change.

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