



Protection Cluster Monthly Report

September 2019

Humanitarian Needs/Latest Assessment Findings

West Guji and Gedeo

- Post return assessment in 14 kebeles in Gedeo zone confirmed the existence of pockets of IDPs living within the community the Yirgachefe and Gedeb woredas of Gedeo zone. These individuals are not receiving assistance due to a lack of recognition from the local government.
- In addition to the post return assessment, a joint rapid assessment was conducted in Chiricu and identified IDPs in the area. To address the displacement, the kebele authorities have made arrangements to buy parcels of land from private individuals that IDPs can purchase a piece of land (6x15m) for ETB 4000 per household. The payment modalities are flexible and IDPs have been allowed to occupy the land, work and make the payments progressively. However, the woreda-level authorities consider the IDPs as illegal occupants and therefore the lack of coordination between kebele and woreda is concerning.
- Joint re-targeting was conducted from 29 August - 03 September in 19 kebeles of Abaya woreda. The objective was to register 33,325 returnees for humanitarian assistance.

Housing Land and Property

- HLP site assessment for Hibbo Mollicha of Kercha woreda was conducted and preliminary findings include:
 - Secondary occupation: there appears to be functioning alternative/informal dispute resolution mechanisms in the area utilized by both authorities and members of the community. Very few cases were reported to formal dispute resolution structures.
 - At least six secondary occupation disputes were reported to the kebele authorities and five were finalized and decisions made in favor of the pre-displacement occupants of the land.
 - After the conflict, those who engaged in land transactions informally, are now being denied possession of the land by original owner. Such disputes were reported to be resolved at community level through community elders.
- HLP site assessment in Chiricu kebele, Yirgachafe woreda (Gedeo)
 - Report findings indicate that there is secondary displacement ongoing in the area with a makeshift collective site established by IDPs. These individuals are originally from Chiricu but were displaced to the neighboring Haru kebele when the conflict broke out. Lack of humanitarian assistance was identified as one of the reasons the IDPs have not returned to areas of origin.

East and West Hararge

- Key findings of the Multi-Agency IDP Returnees Need Assessment conducted on 15-26 August include:
 - Need to strengthen peace consultations both at regional and lower administrative levels to ensure peaceful co-existence; increase in protection partner presence; improve data availability on UASC, persons with disabilities and older persons; need for livelihood opportunities in return areas; need for psychosocial support service providers.

East and West Wollega

Gender-Based Violence

- UNFPA field office conducted field visits to Haro Limu woreda (WoWCYA and Haro health center), Limu Woreda (WoWCYA and Gelila health center), Sasiga Woreda (WoWCYA and Angar health center) and Gida Ayana General hospital in East Hararghe and identified the below gaps:
 - GBV focal persons at woreda level urgently need capacity support on basic GBV concept, PSEA and case management; lack of knowledge on utilizing reproductive health kits at Angar health center; lack of free health care services for GBV survivors at health center and hospital; lack transportation to survivors referred to one stop center for further support and comprehensive response.

Housing, Land and Property

- Access issue for 311 HHs living in Amistegn kebele in East Wollega (Sasiga woreda) for whom the authorities have discouraged any form of assistance and they are in dire need of shelter.
- Displaced families in Nejo woreda report land grabbing in Kamashi as the reasons why they re-returned to West Wollega.
- Landless households who were previously share croppers in Kamashi have been displaced back to the Wollegas as they have not been able to claim back land they previously used to lease in Kamashi.
- Many of the formal and informal migrants from other parts of Ethiopia that settled along the border of Kamashi and East Wollega do not have formal land titles.
- Loss of documentation when displaced is a common occurrence either because houses were totally burnt or just general loss of documents.

Somali

- 3,055 HHs are expected to be relocated from Qoloji IDP site to eight different locations however significant planning is still underway for a relocation of such a large amount of people.
- Another 4,000 HHs are planned to be relocated to Golchano, Fafan zone of which 200 HH were moved in August. An assessment in Golchano was conducted and a number of protection concerns were raised regarding the relocation of such a high number of IDPs to this area.
- 104 IDP households departed Millennium Park IDP site in Dire Dawa and arrived in Awbarre woreda, Fafan zone, in August, with a further 50 HH expected to arrive. Their departure was triggered by inter-clan conflict. DPPB provided the IDPs with food and partial NFI kits and protection cluster partners conducted an assessment of the situation. These IDPs are currently settled in a primary school and are expected to leave before the academic year starts in September 2019.

Child Protection and Gender-Based Violence

- Multi-Agency Rapid Assessment of IDPs and host communities in Filtu, Liban zone, was conducted on 26 -27 August 2019 and it was reported that three women were raped due to the inter-clan conflict.
- Joint rapid flood assessment has been conducted on 24 to 26 August 2019. Protection related findings include:
 - The flooding affected 2,355 HHs (320 HH Kelafo and 2035 HH Mustahil) with total population of 14,130 persons and displaced 1,650 HHs. Needs include shelter, food, basic household NFI items, safe drinking water. Out of the affected people 7,913 are children.
 - The floods have exacerbated and escalated the existing child protection issue like child labor, early marriage, separation, neglect, and high risk to exploitation/violence in the affected areas.

Humanitarian Response

East and West Wollega

Site Management Support

- IOM SMS team has deployed to Nekemte. East Wollega zonal DRMO has tentatively given the green light for SMS support in most affected return kebeles. A meeting is scheduled with West Wollega zonal DRMO to discuss access to IDPs, including in collective sites in West Wollega.

Child Protection and Gender-Based Violence

- Three GBV survivors were referred to the One Stop Center in Nekemte for services; four separated children were reunified with their biological parents.
- Emergency CERF funded CPIE activities initiated in East Wollega to scale-up response and coverage for the identification and response to children at risk, including UASC, PSS support and community based GBV intervention. Child protection actor has provided PSS to 142 children engaged in temporary child friendly spaces as well as awareness session for 232 individuals on the prevention of family separation and GBV.
- CPIE and MHPSS (incl. PFA) training was provided to the new social service workers from BoWCYA in Kamashi zone between 26-30 August. Intensive case management training on case management based on national case management framework will be provided in coming weeks.

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support

- Recreational activities conducted to help strengthen community-level social support networks as well as special ceremonies conducted for families that were unable to provide funerals for friends and family members that passed during the conflict.
- Basic counselling with a survivor centered approach conducted and persons in need of specialized mental health services were referred to appropriate services. MHPSS caseload of 25 individuals across seven woredas.
- Awareness sessions on the rights of persons with mental health issues conducted.
- IOM has presently one MHPSS counselor supported by five voluntary community mobilisers conducting MHPSS activities in East and West Wollega.

Somali Region

Child Protection and Gender-Based Violence

- 4000 dignity kits delivered to WoWCA offices in the Somali region (Erer, Shinile, Afdem, Meiso, Babile, Gursum, Awbere, and Harshin) to be provided to girls and women of reproductive age.
- CP/GBV AoR established and co-chaired by UNFPA and UNICEF.
- Emergency CERF funded CPIE activities initiated in the Somali region with particular focus on the Liben and Dawa zones.

Housing, Land and Property and Legal Identity

- Joint workshop conducted for 20 NRC and Humanity and Inclusions staff in Dollo Ado to build the capacity on how to prevent and respond to protection threats against persons with disabilities.
- Workshop held on legal identity for 120 kebele authorities and local leaders from Deka Suftu.
- NRC has ongoing ICLA activities in the Somali region (Erer, Dollo, Liben, Korehe zones). During this reporting period, a total of individuals 70 received counselling and/or legal assistance services, and 26 obtained legal identity / civil documentations.

West Guji and Gedeo

General Protection

- Protection monitoring is ongoing in the region and 35 persons with disabilities and lactating mothers were identified and referred to appropriate services.
- Rehabilitation projects are underway in the zones to repair the Sike Bokosa health post and primary school in Baya as well as room dedicated to services for GBV survivors in Bule Hora hospital.

Housing, Land and Property

- Data compilation and analysis is ongoing for Damage and Loss Assessment by Bule Hora University.
- 529 IDPs in Hambella and Kercha woreda in West Guji received information on HLP rights and procedures through organized group information sessions.
- Legal aid clinics were facilitated in Hibbo Molicha, Kercha where 77 individuals received legal counselling on replacement of legal tenure documents that were destroyed during the conflict, and disputes over land holding. Arrangements are underway to support the woreda land use and administration office to facilitate replacement of the lost land holding documents.
- 21 Protection Monitors in Bule Hora received an induction on HLP, referral pathways for HLP cases encountered during protection monitoring and how to populate the HLP mapping tool with input from the protection monitoring.
- HLP due diligence guidance notes for shelter actors were prepared and shared with the shelter cluster and zonal DRMO officials in Gedeo and West Guji. A final draft of the document was endorsed at regional level and forwarded to Addis for discussion and input at national level.

Site Management Support

- IOM SMS has launched kebele level coordination and community meetings in returnee areas.
- Decommissioning and rehabilitation of Kera former IDP site, Dilla town, completed.

Child Protection and Gender-Based Violence

- CMR training provided for 12 health care providers from Wenago and Gedeb health center.
- Strengthened two community-based structures (two women saving groups) in Bule Hora woreda of Toma Meti and Gerba 02 kebeles and provided orientation on basic concept of GBV prevention, SGBV services directory and emergency reproductive health availability.
- Community awareness raising on SGBV prevention and response, SGBV services directory, SRH/GBV services availability and accessibility and adolescent safe sex practice were organized in different kebeles in West Guji and a total of 5336 target groups were reached.
- SRH awareness raising on ANC, PNC and institutional delivery conducted and reached 580 individuals.
- Facilitation of referral for two GBV survivors in Abaya and Birbirs Kojowa woredas. Both survivors received PSS, safety/security services by WoWCYA and police of the respective woredas.
- 56 UASC children are identified and registered.
- A capacity building training on child protection was provided to 268 local officials.
- Translation of child protection referrals pathways in Oromo is finalized and circulated to the protection cluster members.

Dire Dawa and East Hararge

- Since announcement by Somali Region DPPB/DRMB in the last DSWG that relocation of Millennium Park residents (Dire Dawa) will not take place until after Qoloji relocations have been completed, IOM SMS has renewed agreement with Dire Dawa DRMO to allow soft SMS intervention, even if physical upgrades have been cancelled.
- Emergency CERF funded activities initiated with Imagine One Day in East and West Hararge for CPiE. Activities include emergency CP identification and case management response to children at risk, PSS support and GBV response and prevention.

Inter-Cluster Issues

- Shortage of scholastic materials for returnee students for the upcoming academic calendar.
- Request for Education Cluster (or focal point) to be activated in the Wollegas/Kamashi.
- A consortium is set to provide multi-purpose cash assistance to 10,000 HHs secondarily displaced people in East and West Wollega. Request has been made to liaise with the Protection Cluster to assist in identifying persons most in need.

Advocacy Messages

- IDPs residing in Millennium Park in Dire Dawa are at risk of immediate forced eviction and a clear update is needed from both the Dire Dawa and Somali Region authorities on: (1) current arrangements for assistance to IDPs that were relocated by the authorities from Millennium Park to Somali Region (Erer Woreda, Sitti Zone) and those that self-relocated to Aw Barre, and (2) plans for the relocation of remaining residents, including ensuring they are informed and consent to the relocation, as well as ensuring their basic needs are met until the time of their relocation as well as after the relocation. Food remains an ongoing priority need of the IDP residents in Millennium Park.
- Assistance is still not reaching the persons most in need and in particular IDPs who have not returned. Advocacy is needed with federal and local authorities to acknowledge and recognize that there are still pockets of individuals with no determined status and are thus excluded from services.

Gaps and Constraints

- Insufficient food assistance to the affected population in West/East Wollega and Kamashi zones and as a result people are selling their belongings (i.e. NFIs) and instances of females engaging in transactional sex have been reported. Additionally, poor management of SGBV cases due to weak capacity at the woreda level is an ongoing concern to address through increased service provision.
- In the Somali Region, there are significant unmet legal identity needs due to lack of availability of legal identity / civil documentation and limited Vital Events Registry Agencies (VERA).
- In Gedeo zone, relations between kebeles, woreda and zonal officials remains disjointed and challenging in terms of getting accurate figures and numbers of beneficiaries and to plan a comprehensive integrated response. HLP support and interventions needed in Gedeo zone.
- Very limited protection services presence in East/West Hararge zones and Dire Dawa.

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