

## HIGHLIGHTS

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## Ethiopia allocates more than US\$18 million to rehabilitate internally displaced people

On 4 January 2018, the Government of Ethiopia announced an allocation of ETB 500 million (\$18.6 million) to rehabilitate over 500,000 people displaced by the border conflicts between Oromia and Ethiopian Somali regional states. The allocation was made after the House of People's Representatives (HPR) received a report by a team deployed to see the conditions of the displaced people. According to the report from 5-11 November 2017 in 16 districts of both regions, many people lost their lives, sustained injuries and hundreds of thousands of people were displaced and exposed to various protection concerns, including sexual abuse. The team confirmed that the displaced people were not getting adequate educational and health care services and called for Government and partners to scale up the ongoing response. The team also suggested the need to fast-track the implementation of the Oromo-Somali peace conference, as part of the wider national peace conferences that are currently ongoing, and restore peace and normalize relations between the two communities affected by the conflict. The Oromia-Somali intercommunal conflict has displaced close to 857,000 people. For more on this: <http://bit.ly/2Eb9ssH>

## FIGURES

Affected pop.	8.5 m
MAM	3.6 m
SAM	375,000



Figure 1 more than 4,000 IDPs receiving for assistance at Hamaressa camp, East Hararge. Photo Credit: OCHA

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- The Government of Ethiopia has announced the allocation of \$10.5 million for school feeding program to benefit 1.3 million children, including conflict-displaced and drought-affected children in the first half of 2018.
- Since March 2017, more than 100,000 undocumented Ethiopian migrants have returned from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

## Over 1.3 million students to benefit from school feeding program

Ethiopia has allocated \$10.5 million for school feeding program to benefit 1.3 million children in the first half of 2018. According to the Minister of Education, Dr. Tilaye Gete, drought-affected children and those displaced by the recent Oromia-Somali conflict will be prioritized. In addition to drought and conflict-affected students, the program will be implemented in areas where education coverage is low and will include secondary school students. The current allocation is part of the National School Health Nutrition Strategy that aims to minimize school dropout rate, absenteeism and poor academic performance. The allocation was made based on the results of the November/December 2017 multi-sector needs assessment.

Meanwhile, a 5 January 2018 UNICEF report indicated that there are an estimated 84,659 conflict-induced IDP children of primary school age who currently do not have access to any education services in Oromia and Somali regions. Up to 14,000 children may have been separated from their families as a result of the Oromia-Somali conflict. The report also noted that 120,000 children



Figure 2. Most of the displaced by the border conflict are children and women.  
Photo Credit: Mengistu/OCHA

under the age of 5 and 20,000 pregnant and lactating women are in need of emergency nutrition services. The agency said \$2.9 million was required for education of children of primary school age, and an additional \$2.9 million for vaccines, emergency drugs, logistics and technical health support for the internally displaced. Some \$2.6 million was also required for nutritional needs of the displaced children under 5 and 2,400 pregnant and lactating women.

## Undocumented Ethiopian migrants returning from Saudi Arabia exceeds the 100,000 mark

As at 5 January 2018, more than 100,000 undocumented Ethiopian migrants residing in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) have returned to Ethiopia since March 2017. After the final amnesty period has ended, the number of irregular migrants deported from KSA jumped from an average of 1,000 per week to 3,000. Trend analysis has indicated that the number of returns could rise even higher in the coming weeks, according to the International Organization for Migration. The KSA started expelling undocumented migrants following the expiration of the last extension of the amnesty window on 16 November 2017.

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