

**ChildFund International/ Ethiopia Country Office**

**North Amhara Conflict Humanitarian Situation Report [#2 ]**

**[Amhara Region** **-Ethiopia]**

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**[Date Range Covered by Report- August 1- October 31, 2021]**

**Part 1: The Overall Situation**

The Armed conflict that erupted last year in November 2020 in Tigray Region of Ethiopia, has now been rapidly intensified to other regions of the country specifically to many zones of Amhara and Afar Regions. Besides, the war between the Federal Government and Tigray Liberation armies, ethnic based armed conflict was also taking place between March 19 and Mid-April 2021 within North Shoa and Oromo Special Zones of Amhara Regional state. These deadly conflicts besides causing deaths and damages of properties that belongs to hundreds of thousands of people, have also led to widespread displacement of populations. Existing sources from the government office, revealed that more than 1,700,000 people have been displaced from the Tigray, Amhara and Afar regions altogether. In Amhara region alone Southwest, central, and North Gondar, Waghmera, North and South Wello and Oromo special zones are directly affected by the war. The U.N.'s Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission joint investigation report that was disclosed on November 3, has witnessed that brutal atrocities including rape, torture and executions was committed on the civilians during the last one year of fighting in the Northern ethiopia.

The humanitarian situation in the areas under conflict is totally deteriorating whereby movement of humanitarian workers in and out of Tigray by road has been blocked since 28 October, while movement within Amhara and Afar regions is also restricted due to the ongoing war between the two parties. IDPs who displaced from North Wollo and used to settle in Desse and Kombolcha towns are also forced to move forward to North shoa zone due to the escalating fighting in the two cities.

The Ethiopian federal government also declared a nationwide state of emergency effective, November 2, 2021.

**Part 2: The Situation in Areas Where ChildFund Works**

1. **Situation Analysis**

ChildFund has suspended the grant project implementation that was being implemented in Waghimra and N/Wello zones as those areas were captured by the TPLF almost three months ago. In recent weeks the war has also been expanding towards woredas where ChildFund Ethiopia’s Sponsorship program operates. Many IDP are coming towards Debre Berhan city, the capital city of North Shoa zonal where Tesfa Berhan CFDO- ChildFund’s LP has sponsorship program and to Addis Ababa. As of end of October 2021, a total of 10,000 IDPs have reached to the City of D/Birhan and relocated with in temporary camps in youth centers, kebele administration offices, schools, and government offices. The rest majority is dispersed in the town to live in a rented house or with relatives.

The people coming to Debre Berhan town do not have basic life-saving items for their survival. They have nothing to eat, wear or shelter in. The rapid assessment made by the LP has witnessed that people are sleeping on the bare cemented floors and student combined desks. The weather condition is too cold as it is a chilly season now. This makes it difficult to adapt as most people are coming from relatively lowland areas. This will increase the risk of exposure to diseases like pneumonia. Pregnant and lactating mothers and newborn babies are also part of the IDPs who are not getting balanced diet. IDP children and youth are not attending school. The same is also true to students in Debre Berhan as schools are becoming IDP centers. The number is increasing day by day, as the invading forces are advancing to capture more towns and assassinate innocent civilians. The attention of the government structure at this time is diverted to securing peace and order in the town and beyond. Thus, the IDPs are not getting appropriate support. The host communities on the one hand do not adequately organized and have also been exhausted as they were supporting the previous IDPs that were displaced due to the conflict in Ataye and Oromo special zones as of March of 2021 on the other hand.

1. **Needs Analysis**

As part of the effort to respond to the crises, the Zonal Disaster prevention and food security office has again requested the Partners operatizing in the area including ChildFun Ethiopia and its Local partner -Tesfa Birhan to extend emergency support to the displaced communities.

Some of the immediate supports requested by the government and needs confirmed by the LP are:

* + **Food,** NFIs; like blankets, mattresses, clothes, and items for cooking, washing, drinking and collecting and storing water.
  + Sanitary materials such as sanitary pad and soap especially for women and girls
  + Water treatment chemicals and water collecting materials are remained critical.
  + The issue of Covid-19 and other communicable disease is also one critical area due to the overcrowded and no protection measures are in place.

ChildFund and the LP has decided to shift some portion of the subsidy budget for the emergency response while preparing this Sitrep for additional resources to reach more number of needy children, lactating and pregnant mothers, people with disabilities and other vulnerable groups.

**Proposed Response Interventions and Budgets Requirements**

ChildFund and its local partner, TesfaBirhan Child and Family Development Organization are planning to address some of those humanitarian needs. Accordingly, it is planned to reach 2,408 IDP households and their children who are more vulnerable.

Taking the urgency of the situation into account, the CO and the LP have agreed to make the response a onetime Cash transfer. According to the market assessment made by the LP, markets around D/Birhan town are physically accessible, safe and do not require significant resources (time or otherwise) to access. So, the IDPs can quickly buy the goods from the town and the surrounding markets and able to meet their immediate needs.

The support entails a total budget of Birr 3,612,000 Birr (77,003USD/ 1USD = 46.907 Birr). So far, the country office and the LP altogether were able to allocate 500,000 Birr (10,659.39 USD) from Subsidy funds. Childfund Ethiopia thus like to appeal for more donation to finance the proposed activities to reach the target children and other needy IDPs.

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1. Partnership and coordination

ChildFund and its local partner, Tesfa Birhan Child and Family Development Organization, are closely monitoring the situation and collaborating with the local government to strengthen its emergency and recovery activities. The collaboration and coordination among different actors, NGOs, GOs and community is however very important.

1. Program

Education

Child Protection √

Health

Food √

WASH

1. Staffing

Major HR issues: No major HR issues; existing staff can manage the project in coordination with government experts.

Visits: None

Departures: None

Arrivals: None

Staff on the Ground:

1. **Terefe Sisay, Executive Director, Tesfabirhan CFDO; tesfaberhancfdo@gmail.com /251-934-713721**
2. **Sisay Worku, Sr. Emergency Program Specialist, ChildFund Ethiopia: sworku@childfund. org( Tel. +251-911-880093**
3. **Person 2**
4. **Person 3**
5. **Person 4**

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1. Donors

Proposals and concept note submitted:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Donor | Program | Amount |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

Confirmed funding: **None**

1. Finance
2. Media/Communications

Information and media contact:

Information and media contact:

Spokespeople – languages spoken:

| Resources | What’s available | URL |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Photos |  |  |
| Case studies |  |  |
| Press releases |  |  |
| Blogs |  |  |
| Press coverage |  |  |
| Videos |  |  |

1. Additional information
2. Next steps

Further need assessment will be taken place