



NORTHERN ETHIOPIA EMERGENCY RESPONSE SITUATION REPORT

Situation Report No: 38

Photo: WHO distributed 1.96 MT of emergency medicines and medical supplies to eight health cluster partners in Shire, Tigray

Date: September 18 – September 24, 2023

Key Figures



Key Achievement Highlights

- WHO Shire hub delivered 1.97 MT of emergency medicines and medical supplies, which were received from ECHO, CERF, and BHA, through eight health partners to reach an estimated 30,000 catchment population.
- WHO Afar expedited the handover of 6 Metric Tons of cholera supplies to four health facilities in the region.
- This week, 63, and in total 3,943 cholera suspected and epi-linked cases with 72 deaths (CFR:1.8%) have been reported from 30 woredas, town administrations, and one refugee camp in the Amhara region.
- WHO is supporting the OCV mass vaccination campaign, launched on Sep 16, 2023, in 8 outbreak districts of eight zones to vaccinate 1,720,966 people in Amhara
- WHO provided Public Health Emergency Management training for 173 woreda-level participants who are Rapid Response Team members in the central and northwest zones of Tigray.
- Psychological first aid training was provided to 25 community leaders of Laelay Maichew woreda for two days by Mums for Mums.



Epidemiologic situation

- Malaria remains the highest cause of morbidity. Malaria cases increased by 15.6% in Afar and decreased by 19.9% in Tigray compared to the previous week.
- Measles outbreak: 4 & 2 suspected cases from Tigray and Afar, respectively, are under investigation.
- A total of 7 Suspected meningitis cases were reported from Afar region in week 37.
- A total of 202 new Cholera cases were reported from Afar region in week 37.

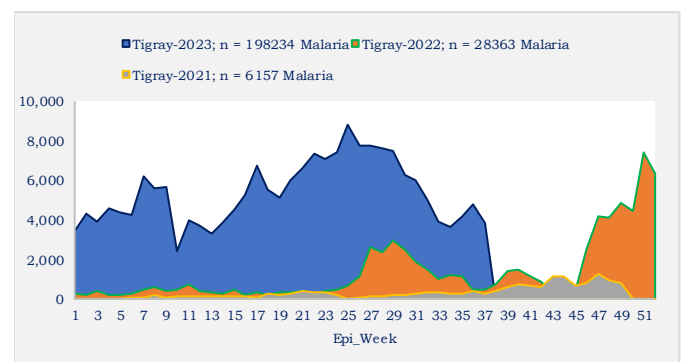
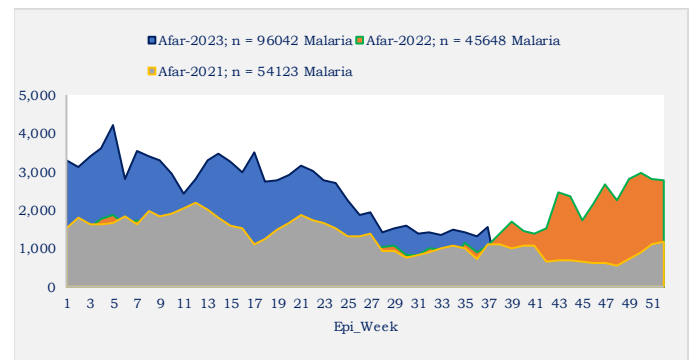
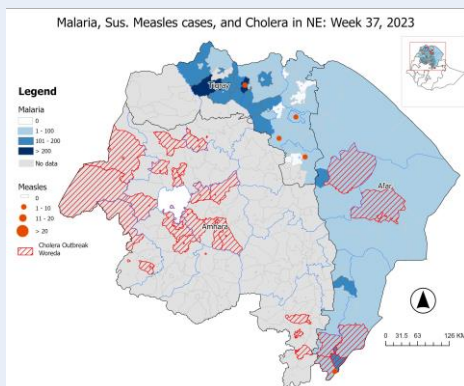


Figure: Trends of Malaria in Northern Ethiopia: as of week 37, 2023



WHO Response

- WHO Shire hub delivered 1.97 MT of emergency medicines and medical supplies, which were received from ECHO, CERF, and BHA, through eight health partners to reach an estimated 30,000 catchment population.
- WHO Afar expedited the handover of 6 Metric Tons of cholera supplies to four health facilities in the region.
- WHO Amhara teams are supporting the OCV mass vaccination campaign, launched on Sep 16, 2023, in 8 outbreak districts of eight zones to vaccinate 1,720,966 people. The running coverage is about 95% of the target.
- WHO Health Cluster deployed 21 MHNTs through 8 health partners: IRC, SP, MTI, MSF-Holland, IMC, IOM, PIE, and WVI to IDP sites and hard-to-reach woredas in Tigray.
- WHO provided Public Health Emergency Management training for 173 woreda-level participants who are Rapid Response Team members in the central and northwest zones of Tigray.
- In Tigray, 4670 children were screened for malnutrition. 567 & 24 children were identified as MAM and SAM, respectively.
- Health Cluster Partner, MDM, provided MHPSS services for a total of 202 individuals at Ahsea and Debreharmaz health centers in Ahsea woreda
- In Collaboration with Afar RHB, WHO is deploying 6 Mobile Health and Nutrition Teams in the region.
- MhGAP training provided for 30 Health workers from 30 health facilities in Afar.
- Health education on cholera was provided to 2000 participants in Dubti town to improve awareness creation.
- Onsite SAM mentorship and coaching were done to 13 Stabilization centers health workers in eight facilities.
- Psychological first aid training was provided to 25 community leaders of Laelay Maichew woreda for two days by Mums for Mums.
- Technical and logistic support for outbreak preparedness and response for Cholera, Measles, Malaria, COVID-19, Rabies, and Dengue is ongoing across the 3 regions.
- Technical support on Nutrition, RCCE, MHPSS, WASH, Surveillance, PRSEAH, GBV, and other health services is ongoing.



Gaps and challenges

- The hostility in Amhara continues to disrupt the critical humanitarian response. WHO is working with implementing partners such as the Ethiopia Red Cross Society to cover gaps in emergency healthcare services.
- Inaccessible areas in North-west and southern Tigray Region affecting humanitarian response
- Limited internet connectivity and security issues in parts of Amhara and Afar regions, affecting report completeness.
- Limited partner involvement in Amhara to respond to the complex emergencies in the region.
- Critical gaps in WASH supplies in health facilities with stabilization centers for malnourished children in Afar and Tigray; WASH cluster partners engaged to remedy the gap.
- Continued influx of IDPs in Tigray, creating high demand for health services and stretching the available capacities.
- Gaps in the availability of equipment in tertiary hospitals, including theatre, radiological, and laboratory equipment in conflict-affected zones.

Next steps

- Closely monitor the performance of ongoing OCV campaigns in the Amhara region and solve identified issues.
- Mobilize essential emergency drug kits, trauma kits, Malaria and cholera Kits, and access to last-mile delivery in Amhara.
- Conduct IPC and WASH assessment and free residual chlorine testing in health facilities, IDP sites, and host community in Tigray
- Facilitate the distribution of IPC/WASH supplies to Health Facilities in the southern zone, Tigray.
- Continue the ongoing assessment on Cholera preparedness and response on selected cholera hot spot woredas in Tigray.
- Support RHBs and Woreda health offices to strengthen Cholera outbreak preparedness and response
- Strengthen active and passive surveillance of cholera, measles, and other outbreak-prone diseases in all regions
- Continue technical and coordination support on Nutrition, RCCE, MHPSS, WASH, Surveillance, PRSEAH, GBV, and other health services.

For more detail information please visit: [NE weekly site reports and epidemiologic presentations](#)

Contacts

Marjorie MUPANDARE

Incident Manager
Northern Ethiopia Humanitarian Response
mupandarem@who.int

Dr. Nonhlanhla DLAMINI

WHO Representative (ai)
WHO COUNTRY OFFICE for ETHIOPIA
dlaminin@who.int