

## SITUATION UPDATE



*An International Medical Corps staff member conducts a mental health clinical consultation at Wukar Duba IDP site, Shire town.*

### FAST FACTS

- International Medical Corps is operating 23 mobile medical units (MMUs), which have reached more than 914,419 internally displaced persons (IDPs) settled in 37 IDP sites in the Afar, Amhara and Tigray regions.
- International Medical Corps' MMUs are providing integrated health, nutrition, gender-based violence (GBV), mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services.
- Our medical and logistics teams have continued to provide services despite unpredictable security conditions and supply-chain constraints, and have achieved a success through a recent airlift of medical supplies.

It has been more than 17 months since the start of the conflict in northern Ethiopia, and the situation remains dynamic. However, due to the recent conflict in Abala, Berhale, Erbeti and Yalo in the Afar region, more than 600,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) have fled to Semera and the surrounding sites.

Due to the evolving situation, there are an estimated 2.2 million IDPs in Amhara, Tigray and Afar. The conflict has rendered 2,343 health facilities non-functional in the Amhara and Afar regions, including 453 health centers, 1,850 health posts and 40 hospitals. Out of the affected health facilities, 163 health centers, 642 health posts and 14 hospitals have been destroyed, and equipment and supplies looted.

Despite the continuing challenges, International Medical Corps has delivered services and support to those affected by the conflict. Recent humanitarian flights into Tigray, which have delivered medicines and medical supplies, have been helpful in addressing some of the current challenges in our operation.

### International Medical Corps Response

International Medical Corps continues to provide vital nutrition, health, gender-based violence (GBV), mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services to IDPs in the Afar, Amhara and Tigray regions. International Medical Corps operates 23 mobile medical units (MMUs) in the regions, with nine in Tigray/Shire, eight in Amhara and five in Afar. Our programs are operating in areas that are hosting 620,000 people located across 37 IDP sites. In the past two weeks, we have provided 15,072 outpatient consultations, screened 10,759 people and served 1,019 MHPSS clients. The MMUs provide a range of services, including outpatient consultations, nutrition screenings, perinatal consultations, family planning services and health education.

Due to the nature of the conflict, International Medical Corps has had to constantly relocate its MMUs to ensure the safety of the teams and continued service to IDPs. Accordingly, we have redeployed one of our teams from Chifra to Semera, to work with our other teams that were relocated from Abala and Berhale to support our response in Semera.

International Medical Corps also continues providing emergency healthcare services in Embadanso, one of the biggest camps, with 140,000 IDPs. In addition, our teams provide services to host communities. Given the increased demand for healthcare and lack of health facilities, this has created an additional demand on our services and supplies.

Since the beginning of our response, International Medical Corps MMUs have provided 265,036 outpatient consultations, with 143,787 in Shire, Tigray; 76,611 in Dansha (in Wolkait, Tsegede and Kafta Humera); 31,636 in Amhara; and 13,002 in Afar. We have begun providing services in Semera and Chifra (in the Afar region) over the last month, as a result of the influx of IDPs from locations where conflict has escalated.

Our MMUs have screened 163,196 children under 5 and pregnant and lactating women (PLWs) for acute malnutrition. Of the children and PLWs screened, 60,363 were in Tigray, 78,091 were in Dansha, 17,508 were in Amhara and 7,234 were in Afar. The proxy prevalence of moderate acute malnutrition for children under 5 and PLWs is 10.5% and 27.6%, respectively, while the prevalence of severe acute malnutrition remained the same, at 2.3%. Over the past two weeks, International Medical Corps' emergency response teams in Afar/Semera, Gondar and Shire provided 15,072 consultations and screened 10,759 children under 5 and PLWs for malnutrition.

International Medical Corps also has been providing WASH services in Axum, Shiraro and Shire woredas. In the past two weeks, we reached more than 2,698 people through hygiene promotion, covering such topics as handwashing, proper use of latrines, safe household-water handling and COVID-19 prevention. Though International Medical Corps teams had been delivering clean water via trucks daily, we have had to suspend this activity due to lack of fuel. The total amount of water delivered to date remains at 11,823 cubic meters. Since the beginning of our intervention, we have reached 132,019 people with WASH activities.

In response to the region's lack of supplies, and to logistical hurdles, International Medical Corps' logistics team is working closely with the UN Logistics Cluster and relevant authorities to obtain air-freight approval. However, some supplies are still stuck in transit to Tigray. To maintain medical services despite these supply-chain constraints, International Medical Corps is exploring all options to procure and transport drugs to relevant MMUs and health facilities.