

SITUATION UPDATE



Solid-waste management organized by International Medical Corps WASH staff at IDP sites and in the host community of Sheraro town.

The security situation in the border towns of the Amhara and Afar regions has been static since early April. Nevertheless, more than 3.9 million people in Tigray and more than 10 million people in Amhara have been affected by war and need health services and interventions. In Afar, only 94 of 414 health facilities (22%) are functional, including two hospitals and 31 health centers. In Amhara, more than 500 health facilities and 1,706 health posts have been affected and need to be rehabilitated, renovated and supported with equipment and supplies to be operational.

Despite the continuing challenges, International Medical Corps has continued to offer services and support to those affected by the conflict. Recently there have been increased humanitarian flights to Tigray, which has enabled International Medical Corps to deliver medicines and medical supplies to the most vulnerable communities affected by the conflict. In addition, World Food Programme (WFP) truck convoys into Tigray containing food, nutrition and WASH supplies continue, supplementing relief efforts and providing much-needed supplies. However, the lack of fuel remains a pressing issue, as it hinders our ability to scale up our response. The upcoming onset of the rainy season will exacerbate the fuel-shortage issue, as mitigation measures will be harder to implement. International Medical Corps will continue to send in more supplies over the coming weeks to support people in need.

International Medical Corps Response

International Medical Corps continues to provide vital nutrition, health, GBV, MHPSS and WASH services to internally displaced persons in the Afar, Amhara and Tigray regions. We operate 20 MMUs in the regions (four in Afar, two in Amhara, five in Tigray and nine in West Tigray), providing a range of services, including outpatient consultations, nutrition screenings, perinatal consultations, family-planning services and health education. We also operate one surge team consisting of two medical officers in the Dansha, Tigray, region. Our programs are operating in areas that are hosting 595,000 people located across 26 sites for internally displaced persons (IDPs). In the past two weeks, we have provided 11,093 outpatient consultations, screened 3,739 people for disease and served 361 MHPSS clients.

International Medical Corps also continues to provide emergency healthcare services in the Embadanso, Tigray, region, one of the largest camps, with 140,000 IDPs, while providing services to host communities. The increased needs around healthcare and lack of health facilities have created additional demand for our services and supplies. The onset of the rainy season has resulted in increased malaria and dysentery cases in some locations.

Since the beginning of our response, International Medical Corps MMUs have provided 371,874 outpatient consultations, with 195,207 in Shire, Tigray; 89,667 in Dansha (in Wolkait, Tegede and Kafta Humera); 49,451 in Amhara; and 37,539 in Afar.

FAST FACTS

- International Medical Corps is operating 20 mobile medical units (MMUs) that have provided services to more than 600,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) settled in 26 IDP sites, as well as affected host communities 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.
- In the past two weeks, International Medical Corps received 114 cartons of ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF) from UNICEF in Mekelle. These will be used to support our nutrition response in Tigray.

Our MMUs have screened 226,908 children aged under 5 and pregnant and lactating women (PLWs) for acute malnutrition. Of the children and PLWs screened, 83,658 were in Dansha, 76,798 were in Tigray, 23,441 were in Amhara and 43,041 were in Afar. The proxy prevalence of moderate acute malnutrition for children under 5 and PLWs is 12% and 28% respectively, while the prevalence of severe acute malnutrition remained the same, at 3%. Over the past two weeks, International Medical Corps' emergency response teams in Semera (Afar region), North Gondar (Amhara) and Shire (Tigray) provided 11,093 healthcare consultations and screened 3,739 children under 5 and PLWs for malnutrition.

International Medical Corps also has been providing WASH services in Axum, Shiraro and Shire woredas in Tigray. In the past two weeks, we reached more than 20,660 people through hygiene promotion sessions covering such topics as handwashing, proper use of latrines, safe household-water handling and prevention of COVID-19. We are delivering clean water via trucks daily, with 14,836 cubic meters delivered so far. Since the beginning of our intervention, we have reached 165,509 people with WASH activities.

In response to the region's lack of supplies and logistical hurdles, International Medical Corps teams are working closely with UN clusters and relevant authorities to obtain air-freight approval as needed. In the first week of July, International Medical Corps received 114 cartons of ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF) from UNICEF in Mekelle, which will be used to support our nutrition response in Tigray for two weeks. With the increased frequency of road convoys into Tigray, we have been able to deliver assorted WASH supplies procured in Addis Ababa, including soap and other WASH-related non-food items. We also are keeping our teams in Afar and northern Amhara supported and supplied with essential items for a comprehensive response.

International Medical Corps continues to explore all options to continue procurement and transportation of drugs to our MMUs and supported health facilities, in an ongoing effort to maintain medical services and continuity of healthcare. This includes 1.4 metric tons of medicines and medical supplies awaiting airlift from Addis Ababa.