

Country sheet







HI Team and intervention areas

The HI Ethiopia program has 102 staff members.

Ethiopia



General country data

General data

Country	Ethiopia	South Sudan	France
Population	126 527 060	11 088 796	67 935 660
IHDI	0.324	0.377	0.825
SIGI Score	30.8	27.4	0.99
Maternal mortality	267	1223	8
GINI Index	35	44.1	30.7
Population within UNHCR mandate	4 307 847	1 595 370	693 598
INFORM Index	7.1	8.3	2.3
Fragile State Index	98.1	109	28.8
Public social protection	7.4	16.4	100%
Net ODA received	4 925.6	2 077.7	

Humanitarian law instruments ratified by the country

Humanitarian law instruments	Status
Mine Ban Treaty	Ratified on 29 Nov 2004 on Nairobi Summit
Convention on Cluster Munitions	Not signed
UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	Ratified
Convention on Child Rights	Ratified

Geopolitical analysis

Social/cultural/demographic elements

Ethiopia has long been considered a stable country, but intense inter-ethnic conflict and intercommunal violence persist. Despite the peace agreement ending active conflict in the Tigray region, the regions in northern Ethiopia are still reeling from the impact of the 2 years conflict, which ended in November 2022. Intense armed conflict has erupted in other regions, primarily in Amhara and Oromia. The intensity and frequency of alternating droughts and floods increased, sometimes hitting the same regions.

Ethiopia and the rest of Eastern Africa Region is also home to some of the world's largest and worst humanitarian crises driven by climate change, conflicts, political instability, diseases, and

economic shocks. Nearly 67 million people are now in need of assistance including refugees and asylum seekers in the Eastern Africa region, accounting for more than 21 per cent of the global humanitarian caseload. Some of the world's hunger hotspots are in Eastern Africa where more than 55 million people face acute hunger. The food insecurity situation is also dire in Ethiopia, while in South Sudan the number of people facing starvation is projected to more than double this year. More than 2.6 million children under age 5 face severe acute malnutrition in Ethiopia, Burundi, Eritrea, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan and Uganda. (UNOCHA, Sept 2024)

Ethiopia also continues to face a major humanitarian crisis caused by climate shocks, disease outbreaks, conflict and insecurity, aggravated by economic and financial challenges. 2024 is an exceptional year in terms of compounded negative humanitarian conditions. To address these needs the 2024 Ethiopia Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) requires US\$ 3,237 billion to target over 15 million people, including 4 million internally displaced people (IDPs) (UNOCHA, 2024).

Economic elements

With about 126.5 million people (2023), Ethiopia is the second most populous nation in Africa after Nigeria, and one of the fastest-growing economies in the region, with an estimated 7.2% growth in 2022/23. However, it also remains one of the poorest, with a per capita gross national income of \$1,020. Ethiopia aims to reach lower-middle-income status by 2025.

Ethiopia's strong growth rate builds on a longer-term record of growth over the past 15 years where the country's economy grew at an average of nearly 10% per year, one of the highest rates in the world. Among other factors, growth was led by capital accumulation, through public infrastructure investments. Ethiopia's real gross domestic product (GDP) growth slowed down from 2019/20 to 2021/22 due to multiple shocks including COVID-19, with growth in industry and services easing to single digits. However, agriculture, where over 70% of the population is employed, was not significantly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, and its contribution to growth slightly improved compared to previous years.

The consistently high economic growth over the last decade resulted in positive trends in poverty reduction in both urban and rural areas. The share of the population living below the national poverty line decreased from 30% in 2011 to 24% in 2016 and human development indicators improved as well. However, gains are modest when compared to other countries that saw fast growth, and inequality has increased in recent years. Furthermore, conflicts in various parts of Ethiopia risk undermining the economic and social development progress the country has achieved. The government has launched a 10-Year Development Plan, based on its 2019 Home-Grown Economic Reform Agenda, which runs from 2020/21 to 2029/30. The plan aims to sustain the high growth achieved under the Growth and Transformation Plans of the previous decade while facilitating the shift towards a more private-sector-driven economy. It also aims to foster efficiency and introduce competition in key growth-enabling sectors (energy, logistics, and telecom), improve the business climate, and address macroeconomic imbalances.

The value of Ethiopia's currency has fallen by +50% against the US dollar after the government relaxed currency restrictions. The government reversed its long-standing policy of fixing the exchange rate in a bid to secure a loan of \$10.7 billion from the International Monetary Fund and World Bank. The country has been struggling with chronic foreign currency shortages particularly in recent years.



The economy has suffered due to a brutal two-year civil war in the northern Tigray region, which ended in 2022, and ongoing conflicts in other regions, making it difficult for the country to attract much needed foreign investment.

Under the new policy announced, the value of the Ethiopian currency - the birr - will be set by the market. The change allows commercial banks to buy and sell foreign currencies at negotiated prices.

Previous similar devaluations of the birr were followed by sharp spikes in the cost of food and other items - especially items imported from abroad. To cushion the transition and stave off inflation and market instability, Ethiopia's government has pledged to provide subsidies on essential goods such as petrol as well as extra help for low-income workers. One of the reasons cited by the central bank for the new policy was the flourishing of an "unanchored" parallel market, where, up until the policy change, the dollar was costing double the official rate. Importers were often forced to turn to the parallel market to purchase dollars because of a chronic shortage of foreign currency, meaning that some of the higher costs have already been priced in.

But there are fears that the value of the birr might now continue to fall below the rate it was fetching on the parallel market. Currently, the exchange rate is 113birr per a dollar. (BBC, July 2024)

Summary of HI presence in the country

HI has been operating in Ethiopia since 1986, with the provision of rehabilitation services for refugees in the Somali region. This led to rehabilitation units in eleven hospitals from 1996 to 2000. HI extended its activities in 1997 by launching a mine risk education project to support the repatriation of Somali refugees living in Ethiopia. HI also diversified its operations to improve quality of life for vulnerable people with disabilities and to respond to emergency situations.

Over the years, HI has worked in the following areas: Inclusive Education, HIV/AIDS prevention, Livelihoods, Disaster Risk Reduction, Child Protection, Disability Mainstreaming, Gender Based Violence, Empowerment of DPOs, Food Security, Humanitarian Assistance for people with disabilities and children with disabilities in Refugee camps and IDPs through physical rehabilitation and WASH interventions. Recently, HI has also been highly involved in the sector of Humanitarian Mine action in the norther part of the country.

U Overview on ongoing projects

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Project Title and Main sectors of intervention	Main activities	Beneficiaries	Partners	Location	Projets start and end date	Donors Who finance the project
Integrated Protection and Livelihood Opportunities for Refugee Response in Gambella Camps of Ethiopia Sectors: • Protection • MHPSS • Livelihood • Rehabilitation • IHA	 Provide regular evidence-based protection analysis, including on inclusion of persons with disabilities Identify and support individuals with specific needs with information and access to key services Conduct awareness raising sessions to improve community understanding of human rights, humanitarian assistance, and available services. Provide specialized individual protection assistance - MHPSS and caregiver support; physical rehabilitation, including assistive devices and NFI support to persons with disabilities. Provide capacity building and guidance to support a more inclusive and trauma informed humanitarian response. 	9 250	• DRC	Nguenyyiel & Jewi refugee camps; & Itang & Gambella Zuria Woreda (host community)	August 2022 - July 2025	PRM via DRC
Integrated emergency Nutrition, IYCF, and FSL support to South Sudanese refugees and host community in Gambella region, Ethiopia Sectors: • Rehabilitation	 Screening U5 children for development delay and linking those children with development delay/at risk of development delay with Stimulation Therapy (ST) services. Provision of Stimulation Therapy for Severe Acute Malnourished Children (ST-SAM) Capacity building for humanitarian staff, incentive workers and other staff on identification of disability cases, developmental delays in children, 	6 204	• AAH	Nguenyyiel refugee camp	September 2022 – September 2025	PRM via AAH

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• IHA	 general concept of early childhood development and inclusion of children with disabilities. Provision of physical and functional rehabilitation services and assistive device for children with disabilities. To raise community awareness on the prevention, early identification and treatment of development delay and common impairments among under five (U5) children. 					
Brighter Outcomes: Strengthening CSOs for Displaced Children's Education Sector: • Refugee & IDP Inclusive Education	 HI trains SC field staff and CSOs on disability-responsive mainstreaming approaches and community awareness campaigns to support the rights of CwDs HI designs professional development workshops for primary teachers and pre-primary facilitators at selected teacher training centers, with support from SC, CSOs and CBOs HI facilitates summer training program to primary teachers, with support from SC and CSOs HI facilitates summer training program to preprimary facilitators, with support from SC and CSOs HI facilitates summer training program to preprimary facilitators, with support from SC and CSOs HI delivers workshops to education authorities, with support from CSOs, focused on budget considerations HI conducts screenings to identify CWDs and their related needs in primary and pre-primary schools, in collaboration with education authorities, RRSs and CSOs HI procures school-based disability-responsive equipment and materials and assistive learning aids, in consultation with SC, CSOs and CBOs 	850 children with disabilities	• OREB, SREB, Local CSOs, RRSs	Bale IDPs from Oromia Regions, Dolo bay IDPs & Dolo ado Refugees from Somali region	July 2023 - June 2026	Global Affairs Canada via SCI

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	 HI, in collaboration with CSOs and CBOs, procures and distributes assistive learning devices to CWD based on screenings HI, in collaboration with CSOs and CBOs, conduct relevant training for caregivers of CWDs and teachers on use of assistive learning devices 					
Surge provision and capacity strengthening of Physical and Functional Rehabilitation Services for Mekele (Tigray regional state) and Addis Ababa, Ethiopia Sector: • Rehabilitation	 Conduct identification, assessment and referrals of 2000 individuals with physical and functional limitations due to conflict and illness Physiotherapy service sessions provision to 2000 targeted beneficiaries Procure and provision of 800 assistive devices/mobility aids based on the assessment finding of rehabilitation specialists and training on the use of the devices Referral of 200 persons with physical and functioning difficulties and health problem to specialized care service providers, covering referred beneficiary transport, food and accommodations costs in Mekele Tailored Non-Food Items (NFIs), including hygiene and sanitation, menstrual kits, toilet chair, mattress, etc will be provision to the most vulnerable, with physical and functional limitation services Conduct detailed capacity assessment (P&O parts production, wheelchairs adaptation/modification technical staff skill development needs) by rehabilitation technical specialist Based on the rehabilitation specialist needs and gaps assessment findings, two in Tigray Regional State (Ayder Referral Hospital and Tigray Veterans Associations) and two in Addis Ababa (Ethiopian 	2 513	 Ayder Referral Hospital Tigray Veterans Association (TVA) Ministry of Health Defense Forces Referral Hospital in Addis Ababa 	Mekelle, Tigray region Addis Ababa	Oct 2023 to Sept 2024	CDCS

Hi,	Prosthetic and Orthotic Services (EPOS) and Defence Forces Referral Hospital), procure and provide mobility aids, P&O machinery missing parts and P&O materials to enable them function with	F	H_CountryShe	et-External_Lo	ong_ETHIOPIA-202	4
	 their full capacities Training of trainers for occupational /physiotherapists/P&O of rehabilitation service institutions professionals by outsourced rehabilitation/P&O specialists Provide technical support to four rehabilitation service provider institutions (Ayder Referral Hospital, Tigray Veterans Associations of Tigray regional state as well as Ethiopian Prosthetic and Orthotic Services (EPOS) under the Ministry of Health in Addis Ababa and Defence Forces Referral Hospital in Addis Ababa) by trained HI project staff. Organize awareness raising event on the rights and inclusion of persons with disabilities to access locally available services in Mekele Organize one day training for partners and 					
	 Organize one day training for partners and government counterparts on Disability Inclusion Organize two advanced trainings (one main and another refreshment) for rehabilitation department staff and health workers on physical and functional rehabilitation in Mekele 					
Strengthen the provision of access to livelihood including education and rehabilitation services Sectors: • Rehabilitation,	 Expected result 1: Users are empowered and mobilised to guarantee improved access for all to inclusive services. Continue awareness raising campaigns about access to education, rehabilitation and social inclusion of Persons with disabilities in the communities. 	1 070	•	Somali Regional state, Fafan Zone, District/ Woreda of Gursum	January 2023 - December 2027	MoFA Luxembourg

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Economic Inclusion, Inclusive Education	 Access to rehabilitation services for people with disabilities Continue through medical/rehabilitation referral, home based physical stimulation, tele rehabilitation, Capacity Building of care givers, assistive device/mobility aids provision/maintenance. Establish for five new kebeles and strengthen old Kebele CBR committees to support project outputs/outcomes Strengthen and support youth club, school Clubs and PSS safe space centers in schools to advocate and mobilize for FR, IE and SEI for inclusive services. Increase resilience for persons with disabilities and mothers of children with disabilities through the establishment of inclusive IGA groups and inclusion into existing services for employment (Job placement and Vocational skills structures). Strengthen umbrella Organization of Persons with Disabilities (OPD). Strengthen existing PTSA to support enrolment of children with disability in to the school system. 		
	 Expected result 2: The quality of services provided is sustainably improved. Strengthening/Capacity Building of Rehabilitation Centers and schools (including construction of rooms and ramps for Karamara rehab center and schools safe space). Capacity Building of Professionals of FR, IE and social insertion. Capacity Building of Health outreach and CBR workers. Training for staff of local authorities and CBR committees on management of socio-economic 		

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integration, access to education, employment,	
sustainability.	
Provide training/sensitization on Gender and Non- discrimination principles mainstructures and	
discrimination principles mainstreaming and	
sustainability of inclusive services for stakeholders'	
employees.	
Expected result 3: Decision-makers coordinate their	
efforts to ensure the implementation of reference	
frameworks and inclusive strategies.	
Continue in collaboration with BoWSA at Woreda	
level quarterly coordination meetings for public and	
private actors delivering services for Persons with	
disabilities and caregivers.	
Arrange National workshops in collaboration with the	
BoWSA on CBR practices, strategies guidelines and	
lessons learned.	
Strengthen local CBR systems (the strategic	
document and Referral system) through linkage to	
rehabilitation and health service providers and	
BoWSA in the targeted communities.	
 Reinforce the implementation of Woreda strategy 	
and action plan for access to employment, vocational	
training and development of economic activities for	
persons with disabilities with a special focus on	
women with disabilities in collaboration with local	
authorities and NGOs.	
 Engage BoWSA, OPDs, and the community 	
members in the capitalization/ strengthening of	
activities to create access to socio-economic	
inclusion for Persons with disabilities and their	
families.	

	 Strengthen OPDs, PTSA and CBR committees and CBR workers on school enrolment of children with disabilities. The project focuses on community-based adaptation and resilience actions addressing the impacts of climate change as the primary objective. The most vulnerable groups and individuals, particularly people with 	<u> </u>	IL_CountryShe	et-External_Lo	ong_ETHIOPIA-20	24
Inclusive Community Based Adaptation and Climate Resilience Actions in Three Woredas of Somali Regional State of Ethiopia Sectors: Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation	 disabilities, will be supported to play an active role as change makers for local climate action and governance, adding value to the objective of the proposed project. The following key activities will play a major role in achieving the specific objectives Inclusive and participatory climate vulnerability and capacity assessments using Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) tools, with active support and engagement of EPRLA officials in implementing the PRA methodology. Based on the findings of the assessments, development, validation and support to the implementation of local adaptation and resilience-building plans in collaboration with OPDs, local governments and humanitarian actors working on climate change. Inclusive early warning systems and weather information at community level Awareness-raising of institutions and service providers and advocacy activities on inclusion and climate resilience along with OPDs at local and national level. 	2 250		Fafen Zone, Gursum, Shebelle and Jigjiga Woreda, Somali region	November 2023 - October 2026	MoFa Lux

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Individuals and households living in Aware Woreda of Jarar Zone, Somali Regional State, Ethiopia increased their resilience to climate- induced malnutrition Sectors: • Livelihood	 Overall Objective: To improve the food and livelihood security of households with under 5 severe and acute malnourished children living in Awaare Woreda of Jara Zone in Somali region. Specific Objectives: To address immediate life-saving food needs of the most vulnerable U5 SAM/MAM children recovering from drought/flood induced malnutrition among internally displaced people and host communities through unconditional cash provision. To strengthen the economic and adaptive capacities of households to recover from climate and conflict-related shocks by providing start-up capital and training for income generating activities to help improve households' food and nutrition security. 	364		Aware Woreda of Jarar Zone, Somali Regional State	Janvier – Septembre 2024	MoFaA Lux
ECHO 2.1 - Protection- integrated multi-sectoral lifesaving services for the most vulnerable IDPs and host communities in Northern Ethiopia Sectors: • Health & rehabilitation, • Protection,	Protection - Integrated lifesaving response targeting conflict-affected IDPs and host communities in the most affected woredas of Tigray and Amhara regions. It aims at responding to the immediate emergency needs of most at-risk groups via prevention and direct service delivery. First, the consortium will improve access to lifesaving emergency health interventions by strengthening the health facility's capacity to provide functional and physical rehabilitation service as well as Mental health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) care, but also with sufficient outreach and robust referral pathways. This	41 572 individuals	Rehabilitation and Development Organization (RaDO), HelpAge International (HelpAge), and	North west Zone (Shire and Shiraro woredas) and Central zone (Adwa and Axum woredas) of Tigray regional state	April 2024 - Mars 2025	ECHO

 MHPSS Mine-action 	will include provisions of assistive devices and PSS for people with injury/mobility impairment and individualized assistance packages for affected people to reduce morbidity burdens, permanent disability, and/or preventable mortality at the time of new shocks. Overall, the consortium will target mine/ERW victims, GBV survivors, persons with disabilities, and older people through the provision of case management, referrals, and follow-ups.	ŀ	IL_CountryShe Federation of Ethiopian Associations of Persons with Disabilities (FEAPD)	et-External_Lo Northe Wollo zone of Amhara regional state (Guba Lafto and Habru Woredas)	ong_ETHIOPIA-20	24
Comprehensive Humanitarian Mine Action Response to Conflict- Affected Population in Ethiopia Sectors: Land release, Physical and functional rehabilitation EORE	 Global Objective: To reduce the impact of explosive ordnance for conflict-affected population in the Tigray region of Ethiopia. Specific Objectives: Reduce vulnerability and improve the resilience of conflict-affected community groups through land release, victim assistance, and capacity-building activities in the Tigray regions. Result 1. ERW threats, death, and Injury are reduced, and safety is increased through land-release activities. Result 2. Population Affected by EO contamination, including EO victims and people with disabilities have increased and more inclusive access to basic services. Result 3: National Mine Action and other relevant stakeholders can provide inclusive quality service to the community. 	864	Ethio- Professionals' Security Solutions (EPSS)	Tigray regional state in 5 zones • Eastern • South Eastern • Central and North west	June 2024 - June 2026	CDCS
Ensuring inclusion of people with disabilities in humanitarian assistance	OBJECTIVE 1 – To enhance the knowledge and skills of WFP employees and cooperating partners on disability inclusion and disability inclusive humanitarian action.			Somali and Sidama Regions	Octobre 2024 - Avril 2025	WFP

	Constitution of WED to one local	HI_CountryS	Sheet-External_Long_E	THIOPIA-2024
and improved food security	 Capacity-building of WFP teams, local partners, community leaders and key stakeholders on inclusive food security and disability mainstreaming. Selection, Coaching & Mentorship of WFP and OPDs. 			
	 OBJECTIVE 2 - To strengthen the engagement between WFP and OPDs for improved localized efforts on disability inclusion. OPDs Mapping and Assessment. And engagement with WFP and CPs Training OBJECTIVE 3 - To strengthen data generation/collection and documentation on disability, specifically on targeting and prioritization. 			
	 Capacity building training for WFP MEAL staff on iMEAL (Inclusive Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning) and disability data collection and documentation using WGQ's. 			
	 OBJECTIVE 4 – To improve accessibility of selected WFP Food Distribution Sites and WFP sub-offices. Conduct Accessibility Audit in WFP FDP and WFP sub-office located in the two regions i.e., Somali and Sidama. 			

Comprehensive Humanitarian Mine Action (HMA) response in conflict-affected areas of Tigray regional state, Ethiopia. Sectors: • Land release, • Physical and functional rehabilitation • EORE	 Project Outcome: Reduced negative impact of conflict through the implementation of a comprehensive approach to Humanitarian Mine Action. Output 1: Communities in contaminated/affected areas have capacities to manage EO related risks. Output 2: Improved safe access to local communities through the Land Release process Output 3: The population affected by EO contamination, including EO victims and people with disabilities, has improved and more inclusive access to basic services Output 4: National and Regional Mine action authorities and other relevant stakeholders can provide inclusive 	F 74 800 people including : 37 399 women, 37 401 men and 7 300 people with disability	ll_CountryShe	et-External_Lo North- Western, Central, Eastern, and South- Eastern zones of Tigray regional state	June 2024 - May 2026	GFFO
Multi-Year Resilience Program II (MYRP II) Sectors: • Education • Rehabilitation	 quality service to the community. Main activities Higher proportion of crisis-affected and marginalized boys and girls (IDPs, returnees, and host communities out-of-school) access to learning Crisis-affected and marginalized boys and girls (IDPs, returnees, and host out-of-school) enroll and remain in relevant school-level formal and non-formal learning programmes. Refugee children, including those with disabilities are enrolled and retained in refugee/ formal and non-formal learning programmes. 	363 953 (218 461 girls and 145 492 boys) Out of these 17 332 are children with disabilities (10 403 girls and 6 929 boys)	Save the Children Development Expertise Centre (DEC) Forum for African Women Educationalist s (FAWE)	Amhara, Tigray and Somali regions	October 2024 - September 2027	Education Cannot Wait (ECW) via Save the Children

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 Communities, parents/caregivers demonstrate support in enrolment and retention of marginalized girls and boys (IDPs and returnees, and children with all forms of disabilities) and take collective positive actions together. Schools and communities are capacitated on coping strategies, climate adaptive and disaster-risk reduction strategies for long- term resilience building Crisis-affected and marginalized boys and girls (out-of-school IDPs and returnees, host community, refugees, children with disabilities) demonstrate improved literacy and numeracy levels Schools provide children with disabilities a safe environment supporting their wellbeing and learning Teachers, students and education personnel are capacitated and linked to specialized and non-specialized MHPSS support School heads and management are capacitated on leadership, inclusion and safeguarding systems Refugee and IDP teachers and vulnerable boys and girls are provided with specialized MHPSS and conflict-mitigation and prevention approaches Crisis-affected and marginalized girls and boys (IDPs and returnees, children with 	Norwegian Figure Refugee Council (NRC) OWS Development Fund (OWS-DF) Tigray Development Association (TDA) Image: State of the stat

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	disabilities and refugees) demonstrate high rates of transition in education pathways
	Transitioned girls and boys are supported and capacitated on IGAs/TVET and related livelihood pathways after completion of non- formal learning programmes
	Transitioned girls and boys and their caregivers/mothers are supported through apprenticeships, training and seed grants for setting up small businesses
	Expanded capacities of relevant stakeholders at all tiers for coordination of emergency education and recovery tasks
	Expanded capacities of relevant stakeholders at all tiers for coordination of emergency education and recovery tasks
	Regional systems have representation of local voices including community supported organizations, parent-teacher-student associations (PTSAs) and key community groups
	Regional early warning systems function to mitigate disruptions to learning and support education continuity in the face of a crisis



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