CERF ALLOCATION REPORT ON THE
USE OF FUNDS AND ACHIEVED RESULTS

ETHIOPIA
RAPID RESPONSE
DROUGHT
2024

24-RR-ETH-63876

Ramiz Alakbarov

Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator

PART I – ALLOCATION OVERVIEW

Reporting Process and Consultation Summary:		
Please indicate when the After-Action Review (AAR) was conducted and who participated.	06/12/2024	
Please confirm that the report on the use of CERF funds was discussed with the Humanitarian and/or UN Country Team (HCT/UNCT).	Yes ☒	No ☐
Please confirm that the final version of this report was shared for review with in-country stakeholders (i.e. the CERF recipient agencies and their implementing partners, cluster/sector coordinators and members and relevant government counterparts)?	Yes ☒	No ☐

1. STRATEGIC PRIORITIZATION

Statement by the Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator:

This CERF allocation bolstered the humanitarian response in the high-land drought-affected through an integrated multi-sector and coordinated response that is strengthened through a parallel EHF allocation. While primarily aiming at preventing further deterioration of the crisis due to food insecurity and malnutrition this allocation had also support initial rebuilding of coping capacities and livelihoods of the vulnerable communities. Targeted vulnerable communities had immediate access to a comprehensive package of essential and critical emergency life-saving assistance that directly contributes to reducing the risk of morbidity and mortality, while they had also been empowered to prioritize their critical needs in the most dignifying manner through multi-purpose cash programming.

CERF's Added Value:

This allocation is triggered due to an indication of drought conditions in Afar, Amhara and Tigray which is feared to push vulnerable people already suffering from a multifaceted humanitarian crisis due to climate shocks (floods, landslides, etc), economy situation, conflict, and diseases outbreaks into a far worsen situation. This CERF allocation has served as a catalyst for additional donor money and to strengthen the diplomatic relationship with the Ethiopian Disaster Risk Management Commission (EDRMC), following the announcement that arrangements have been made to deal with possible effects of climate change in the areas of the country that benefit from the Belg rainy season (March-May) and the Joint Statement by the RCHC and EDRMC Commissioner. In this regard, efforts were being made to make humanitarian assistance worth Birr 9.2 billion accessible to 6.6 million people in the coming months (January, February and March 2024). In addition, this CERF allocation will enhance political buy-in and help better position the humanitarian community to fulfil its mandate towards the donor community.

Did CERF funds lead to a fast delivery of assistance to people in need?

Yes ☒ Partially ☐ No ☐

The security situation and limited access in Amhara has partially delayed the fast delivery of assistance across the Region. Through the partnership with National NGOs, UN Agencies have accessed last mile distribution sites. Partners have recognized the essential role of OCHA and UNDSS to ensure safety and security to the sub-grantees. For the future, there are high concerns with regards to possible increasing costs for transportation. Private contractors are now transferring the risk to clients, requiring extra budgets for transportation.

UNICEF has piloted an innovative monitoring to monitor the effective last mile distribution of supplies, adding geo-tags on RUTF cartoon to ensure live tracking of supplies. This process will ensure a faster delivery of items and reduce aid diversion.

Did CERF funds help respond to time-critical needs?

Yes ☒ Partially ☐ No ☐

The UN agencies stated that the time-critical needs were met in this allocation. UNICEF has added that the rapidness of the response has been ensured by the nature of CERF which allows replenishment of the existing humanitarian supplies pipeline. However, in the context of Afar, challenges such as deep boreholes, high-temperature water, and a scattered population have impeded the achievement of the outmost outcomes from these investments. In addition to that, the region is in recurring emergency situations around the year and nexus emergency with durable solution would be the best option for Afar region to build climate resilience WASH systems. For WFP, this allocation was critical to support the food response in Afar and Tigray. When WFP received the funds, there was a huge funding gaps for transportation to WFP warehouses.

Did CERF improve coordination amongst the humanitarian community?

Yes ☒ Partially ☐ No ☐

CERF allocation improved coordination amongst the humanitarian community by leveraging on the 1st Priority Humanitarian Response and Critical Funding Gaps, which is an Addendum of the 2024 Humanitarian Response Plan and aimed to guide operational partners to prioritize response to the most urgent needs, including those triggered by El-Nino induced drought. Partners and cluster confirmed alignment with prioritization of most critical interventions highlighted, emphasising the life-saving aspects of the core activities. Consultation process to discuss the EHF parallel allocation strategy has taken place at various forums, including with the Cluster Lead Agencies, HCT, ICCG, the EHF Advisory Board and OCHA sub-offices.

Did CERF funds help improve resource mobilization from other sources?

Yes ☒ Partially ☐ No ☐

All the UN Agencies have underlined the criticality of this allocation in a moment when fundings are progressively decreasing. The CERF allocation, and its complementarity with the EHF, has triggered additional funding from other sources, for example FCDO, BHA (especially for MAM treatment supplies), JAICA and the Belgium Government (these entities are not funding the Ethiopia Humanitarian Fund). Depreciation has ensured additional resources to reach the persons in need.

Considerations of the ERC's Underfunded Priority Areas[1]:

This CERF allocation addressed underfunded humanitarian priorities in the drought affected areas, primarily by preventing further deterioration of prolonged drought through provision of critical emergency life-saving assistance that directly contributes to reducing the risk of morbidity and mortality. In this regard almost 44,706 persons in need have been assisted with Nutrition services while over 400,00 persons received stable food commodities to support the HHs coping mechanisms during the dry season.

Table 1: Allocation Overview (US$).

Total amount required for the humanitarian response	**272,897,708**
CERF	17,000,001
Country-Based Pooled Fund (if applicable)	20,000,000
Other (bilateral/multilateral)	5,000,000
Total funding received for the humanitarian response (by source above)	**42,0000**

Table 2: CERF Emergency Funding by Project and Sector/Cluster (US$)

Agency	Project Code	Sector/Cluster	Amount
FAO	24-RR-FAO-007	Food Security - Agriculture	5,666,667
UNICEF	24-RR-CEF-014	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	3,796,667
UNICEF	24-RR-CEF-014	Nutrition	1,870,000
WFP	24-RR-WFP-012	Food Security - Food Assistance	3,400,000
WFP	24-RR-WFP-012	Nutrition	2,266,667
Total			**17,000,001**

[1] In January 2019, the Emergency Relief Coordinator identified four priority areas as often underfunded and lacking appropriate consideration and visibility when funding is allocated to humanitarian action. The ERC therefore recommended an increased focus on these four areas to ensure that they be given due consideration by RC/HCs and HCTs/UNCTs when prioritizing life-saving needs for inclusion in CERF requests. These areas are: (1) support for women and girls, including tackling gender-based violence, reproductive health and empowerment; (2) programmes targeting disabled people; (3) education in protracted crises; and (4) other aspects of protection. While CERF remains needs based, the ERC will be looking for country teams to prioritize projects and mainstreamed activities that systematically and effectively address to these four historically underfunded areas. Please see the questions and answers on the ERC four priority areas here.

Table 3: Breakdown of CERF Funds by Type of Implementation Modality (US$)

Total funds implemented directly by UN agencies including procurement of relief goods	**13,671,809**
Funds sub-granted to government partners*	1,146,106
Funds sub-granted to international NGO partners*	1,218,835
Funds sub-granted to national NGO partners*	963,251
Funds sub-granted to Red Cross/Red Crescent partners*	0
Total funds transferred to implementing partners (IP)*	**3,328,191**
Total	**17,000,001**

* Figures reported in table 3 are based on the project reports (part II, sections 1) and should be consistent with the sub-grants overview in the annex.

2. OPERATIONAL PRIORITIZATION:

Overview of the Humanitarian Situation:

Northern Ethiopia has experienced severe drought-like conditions, impacting around 3.3 million people who are already facing challenges from years of conflict, climate shocks, economic downturns, and disease outbreaks. FEWSNET projections for February-May 2024 estimated 19-20 million people will be food insecure at the peak, with some expected to be in the 'Famine' (IPC5) category. Malnutrition levels are alarmingly high at 21.8 per cent, significantly over the 15 per cent emergency threshold. There are mounting reports of deaths due to starvation. Additionally, efforts to address this crisis are severely hindered by politicization of the situation, continuing conflicts, and a lack of international donors willing to scale up the response.

Operational Use of the CERF Allocation and Results:

This $17 million CERF allocation helped avert the situation from heading into a full-blown catastrophe by kick-starting immediate life-saving activities, mobilizing additional financial resources, and improving coordination. The allocation addressed the multi-sectoral needs of 689,620 people in response to drought in Ethiopia. The CERF response aimed to support the affected people and communities through a multi-sectoral response targeting the Nutrition, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, Food Security sectors. The assistance was delivered by UNICEF, FAO and WFP.

People Directly Reached:

This allocation reached 791,661 individuals, including 28% women and 41% girls and boys (<18). Overall, all UN Agencies have exceeded their initial sectorial target. This has ensured an increased target of 102,000 persons.

People Indirectly Reached:

The nutrition response included the delivery of Social Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) messages on Maternal, Infant, and Young Child Nutrition (MIYCN) practices. While the primary beneficiaries were children under 5 and pregnant and lactating women, the indirect beneficiaries included over 139,000 caregivers and household members and the wider community. Further, 62,500 people (12,500 households) indirectly benefitted from the services of the 90 trained agricultural extension agents in the three regions. The cash injected in the local economies catalysed businesses through increased sales and profits.

Table 4: Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding by Sector/Cluster*

	Planned					Reached				
Sector/Cluster	**Women**	**Men**	**Girls**	**Boys**	**Total**	**Women**	**Men**	**Girls**	**Boys**	**Total**
Food Security - Agriculture	96,280	94,620	112,050	112,050	**415,000**	106,165	104,335	123,555	123,555	**457,610**
Food Security - Food Assistance	120,826	125,758	67,965	70,738	**385,287**	150,934	157,095	84,900	88,366	**481,295**
Nutrition	16,267	0	14,482	14,482	**45,231**	15,742	0	14,789	14,175	**44,706**
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	32,340	31,071	28,679	27,554	**119,644**	47,085	45,238	41,755	40,117	**174,196**

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

Table 5: Total Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding by Category*

Category	Planned	Reached
Refugees	0	0
Returnees	83,000	91,666
Internally displaced people	47,145	168,847
Host communities	559,475	531,148
Other affected people	0	0
Total	**689,620**	**791,661**

Table 6: Total Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding*			**Number of people with disabilities (PwD) out of the total**	
Sex & Age	**Planned**	**Reached**	**Planned**	**Reached**
Women	191,431	228,321	63,010	34,996
Men	195,146	233,148	23,931	39,025
Girls	150,135	163,363	20,242	31,084
Boys	152,908	166,289	20,520	30,260
Total	**689,620**	**791,661**	**127,703**	**135,335**

PART II – PROJECT OVERVIEW

3. PROJECT REPORTS

3.1 Project Report 24-RR-FAO-007

1. Project Information			
Agency:	FAO	**Country:**	Ethiopia
Sector/cluster:	Food Security - Agriculture	**CERF project code:**	24-RR-FAO-007
Project title:	Emergency agricultural livelihoods assistance for drought affected communities in Afar, Amhara and Tigray regions		
Start date:	10/03/2024	**End date:**	09/09/2024
Project revisions:	No-cost extension ☒	Redeployment of funds ☐	Reprogramming ☐

Funding		
	Total requirement for agency's sector response to current emergency:	**US$ 190,522,938**
	Total funding received for agency's sector response to current emergency:	**US$ 4,500,000**
	Amount received from CERF:	**US$ 5,666,667**
	Total CERF funds sub-granted to implementing partners:	**US$ 1,106,293**
	Government Partners	US$ 789,823
	International NGOs	US$ 290,850
	National NGOs	US$ 25,620
	Red Cross/Crescent Organisation	US$ 0

2. Project Results Summary/Overall Performance:

Through this CERF RR grant, FAO aimed at delivering critical assistance to **415,000** people (83,000 households) affected by drought in Amhara, Tigray and Afar regions, with quality crop seeds, livestock feed plus cash and essential animal health services.

With this funding, FAO assisted a total of 457,610 people (91,522 households) impacted by drought, exceeding the planned target by over 10 percent. This includes 371,250 people (74,250 households) provided with animal health services, 19,850 people (3,970 households) supported with 952.8 MT of livestock feed (Total Mixed Ration-TMR) and 50,000 people supported with 449 MT of agricultural inputs. In addition, 106,210 people (21,242 households) from the total beneficiaries above were provided with Unconditional/Multi-Purpose Cash (MPC) cash assistance. Furthermore, out of 106 210 people who benefited from the cash assistance, 69 850 people (50,000 crops and 19 850 livestock feed) received input plus cash support, while the remaining 36,360 people (7,272 households) were supported with cash only. Regarding capacity building, the project supported refresher training for 898 Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs) and field animal health staff, as well as 90 agricultural extension agents. The trained animal health workers supported the implementation of the participatory disease surveillance and reporting and participated in the vaccination campaign. The trained agricultural extension agents were able to provide support to direct and indirect beneficiaries in the target

locations. The assistance positively contributed to saving lives and livelihoods of drought-affected communities by protecting critical livestock assets through the distribution of livestock feed, and provision of animal health services (including treatment and vaccination) to approximately 3.3 million animals. The support also enabled beneficiaries of crop inputs to produce food for their families and contributed to improved food availability in the target communities.

According to an evaluation assessment conducted by FAO in August 2024, 64 percent of feed beneficiaries reported improvement in livestock body condition while 54 percent reported increased milk production. Besides, agricultural input beneficiaries reported higher food production compared with non-beneficiaries by 46 percent, more income from sale of agricultural produce by 44 percent and consumed more food by 28 percent. Furthermore, beneficiaries reported better food consumption compared with non-beneficiaries, for instance, 64 percent of beneficiaries had an acceptable food consumption score compared with 54 percent among non-beneficiaries. The same study also reported that the beneficiaries used the cash provided to purchase food, farm inputs, clothing and livestock assets, in that order of priority. This reveals that in addition to the cash helping to meet immediate needs, it is also used to build resilience by investing in productive assets.

3. Changes and Amendments

In general, project activities were implemented as per the work plan. The project supported a total of 457,610 people (91,522 households), an increase of 42,610 people (8,522 households) compared to the initial target, exceeding the planned target by more than10 percent, due to the accrued savings that was reprogrammed to support additional beneficiaries.

Furthermore, the project accrued savings from the contracts budget line due to engagement of the three bureaus of agriculture and livestock in Amhara, Tigray and Afar regions to implement the animal health component of the project, which costed less than initially budgeted. These savings together with the value of the seeds that could not be found on the market were re-programmed to provide Unconditional/Multi-Purpose Cash assistance to additional 36,360 beneficiaries (7,272 households). These changes were affected through a request for No Cost Extension that was approved by OCHA.

During the implementation process, the project lost 9 MT of wheat seed to looting by armed groups in Amhara region. This incidence was officially reported to OCHA.

4. Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding*

Sector/cluster	Food Security - Agriculture									
	Planned					Reached				
Category	**Women**	**Men**	**Girls**	**Boys**	**Total**	**Women**	**Men**	**Girls**	**Boys**	**Total**
Refugees	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	**0**
Returnees	19,256	18,924	22,410	22,410	**83,000**	21,233	20,867	24,783	24,783	**91,666**
Internally displaced people	13,479	13,247	15,687	15,687	**58,100**	14,863	14,607	17,439	17,439	**64,348**
Host communities	63,545	62,449	73,953	73,953	**273,900**	70,069	68,861	81,333	81,333	**301,596**
Other affected people	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	**0**
Total	**96,280**	**94,620**	**112,050**	**112,050**	**415,000**	**106,165**	**104,335**	**123,555**	**123,555**	**457,610**
People with disabilities (PwD) out of the total										
	17,330	17,032	20,169	20,169	**74,700**	18,363	21,745	21,745	20,540	**82,393**

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

5. People Indirectly Targeted by the Project

Besides providing direct support to the direct beneficiaries, the project also had a larger impact on beneficiary communities by improving food availability through local production and strengthening local markets. Further, by successfully implementing livestock vaccinations and providing animal health services, the project contributed to ongoing efforts to prevent and control major transboundary animal diseases and other regionally important diseases, resulting in significant community-level benefits for all livestock and livestock owners. Moreover, the project's support for crop production trainings and agricultural extension services benefited the entire population in the targeted villages. Likewise, the project helped to enhance the capacity of community-based animal health workers (CAHW) and animal health experts, which contributed to improving the quality of animal health services in the target areas which is continuing beyond the end of the project. The delivery of animal health services has indirectly benefitted approximately 480,000 people (96,000 households) through the continued services of the trained CAHWs and experts. The increased food production in the target areas contributed to improved food availability and access beyond the direct beneficiaries. Further, 62 500 people (12 500 households) indirectly benefitted from the services of the 90 trained agricultural extension agents in the three regions. The cash injected in the local economies catalysed businesses through increased sales and profits.

6. CERF Results Framework

Project objective	To save lives and livelihoods of vulnerable drought affected people in Afar, Amhara and Tigray regions
Output 1	Improved access to quality crop production inputs plus Cash for vulnerable drought affected households

Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage? Yes ☒ No ☐

Sector/cluster	Food Security - Agriculture			
Indicators	**Description**	**Target**	**Achieved**	**Source of verification**
Indicator 1.1	Ag.1 Number of people receiving agricultural inputs	50 000	50,000	LoA and monitoring reports
Indicator 1.2	Ag.5 Quantity of agricultural inputs distributed in MT	458	499	LoA reports and monitoring reports
Indicator 1.3	Cash.2a Number of people receiving sector-specific unconditional cash transfers	50 000	86,360 (of this 36,360 people did not receive any agricultural inputs)	Cash distribution reports, and LoA reports
Indicator 1.4	Cash.2b Total value of sector-specific unconditional cash transfers distributed in USD	1 000 000	1,727,200	Cash distribution reports, and LoA reports
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		FAO procured all the planned 458MT, however, 9 MT of wheat seed was looted by armed groups in Amhara during transportation to the distribution sites. Therefore, only 449 MT of seed was distributed. This implies 150 households received partial kits. Further, due to savings from the sub grants budget line and exchange rate related savings on the supplies, the unspent funds were reprogrammed to provide unconditional cash to additional 36,360 people (7,272 households). The reprogramming was approved through a No Cost Extension submitted to OCHA.		

Activities	**Description**	**Implemented by**
Activity 1.1	Procurement of agricultural inputs	FAO
Activity 1.2	Identification and contracting of implementing partners	FAO
Activity 1.3	Community mobilization, beneficiaries targeting and registration	FAO, Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI), World Vision, Afar Region Livestock, Agriculture and Natural

		Resources Development Bureau and Amhara and Tigray region Agriculture and Natural Resource Development Bureaus.
Activity 1.4	Distribution of agricultural inputs plus cash	FAO, Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI), World Vision, Afar Region Livestock, Agriculture and Natural Resources Development Bureau, Amhara and Tigray region Agriculture and Natural Resource Development Bureaus and Commercial Bank of Ethiopia (CBE)
Activity 1.5	Post Distribution Monitoring	FAO, Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI), World Vision, Afar Region Livestock, Agriculture and Natural Resources Development Bureau and Amhara and Tigray region Agriculture and Natural Resource Development Bureaus.

Output 2	Improved access to supplementary livestock feed plus cash by vulnerable drought affected pastoralists households

Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage? Yes ☐ No ☒

Sector/cluster	Food Security - Agriculture			
Indicators	**Description**	**Target**	**Achieved**	**Source of verification**
Indicator 2.1	Ag.3 Number of people receiving animal feed	19 850	19,850	LoA reports, monitoring mission reports
Indicator 2.2	Ag.5 Quantity of animal feed (TMR) distributed in MT	952.8	952.8	LoA reports, monitoring mission reports
Indicator 2.3	Cash.2a Number of people receiving sector-specific unconditional cash transfers	19 850	19,850	Cash distribution reports, and LoA reports
Indicator 2.4	Cash.2b Total value of sector-specific unconditional cash transfers distributed in USD	397 000	397,000	Cash distribution reports, and LoA reports
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		NTR		

Activities	**Description**	**Implemented by**
Activity 2.1	Procurement of animal feed	FAO
Activity 2.2	Selection and contracting of implementing partners	FAO
Activity 2.3	Community mobilization, beneficiaries targeting and registration	FAO, Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI), and Afar Region Livestock, Agriculture and Natural Resources Development Bureau
Activity 2.4	Distribution of animal feed plus cash	FAO, Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI), and Afar Region Livestock, Agriculture and Natural Resources Development Bureau
Activity 2.5	Post Distribution Monitoring	FAO, Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI), and Afar Region Livestock, Agriculture and Natural Resources Development Bureau

Output 3	Drought affected people have improved access to animal health services including vaccination and treatment

Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage?			Yes ☐	No ☒
Sector/cluster	Food Security - Agriculture			
Indicators	**Description**	**Target**	**Achieved**	**Source of verification**
Indicator 3.1	Number of people receiving animal health support	375,000	371,250	LoA reports, monitoring mission reports
Indicator 3.2	Ag.2 Number of animals vaccinated and/or treated3 200 000 animals (725,000 cattle and 2 475 000 small ruminants)	3,200,000	3,368,000	LoA reports, monitoring mission reports
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		NTR		

Activities	Description	Implemented by
Activity 3.1	Mobilization of animal health supplies	FAO
Activity 3.2	Selection and contracting of implementing partners	FAO
Activity 3.3	Community mobilization and beneficiaries targeting	FAO, Afar Region Livestock, Agriculture and Natural Resources Development Bureau, Amhara and Tigray region livestock development Bureaus.
Activity 3.4	Provision of vaccination and treatment services	FAO, Afar Region Livestock, Agriculture and Natural Resources Development Bureau, Amhara and Tigray region livestock development Bureaus.
Activity 3.5	Post Distribution Monitoring and technical back stopping	FAO

7. Effective Programming

CERF expects partners to integrate and give due consideration to cross-cutting issues such as Accountability to Affected People (AAP), Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), People with disabilities (PwD), Centrality of Protection as well as Gender and Age. In addition, the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) has identified four underfunded priority areas[2] often lacking appropriate consideration and visibility: women and girls, people with disabilities, education and protection. **The following sections demonstrate how cross-cutting issues and the ERC's four underfunded priority areas have been addressed through project activities and should highlight the achieved impact wherever possible.**

a. Accountability to Affected People (AAP)[3]:

The project implementation process ensured participation of the affected communities. The communities, through their representatives, participated in selecting and targeting the most vulnerable people based on their specific needs, as well as validating the beneficiary selection criteria prior to the selection process. The project adopted participatory approaches that included kebeles and vulnerable beneficiary representatives to avoid exclusion errors, particularly women and minority groups. Committees were formed to identify proposed agricultural and livestock inputs and to oversee their implementation. Furthermore, the existing M&E system was used to

[2] These areas include: support for women and girls, including tackling gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive health and empowerment; programmes targeting people with disabilities; education in protracted crises; and other aspects of protection. The ERC recommended an increased focus on these four areas to ensure that they be given due consideration by RC/HCs and UNCTs/HCTs when prioritizing life-saving needs for inclusion in CERF requests. While CERF remains needs-based, the ERC will be looking for country teams to prioritize projects and mainstreamed activities that systematically and effectively address to these four historically underfunded areas. Please see the Questions and Answers on the ERC four priority areas here.

[3] AAP and PSEA are part and parcel of IASC commitments, and therefore mandatory for compliance for all UN agencies and partners. Agencies do not necessarily need to establish new AAP and PSEA mechanisms for CERF projects if functioning ones are already in place. For more information please refer to the IASC AAP commitments.

encourage community participation and feedback through participatory post-distribution monitoring, community consultations, and complaint feedback mechanisms.

b. AAP Feedback and Complaint Mechanisms

FAO has an established complaints and feedback mechanisms (CFM). These include help desks set up during beneficiary registration, suggestion boxes at community centres, community-based committees, community focal points, and participatory monitoring and evaluation structures. Complaints committees were formed in target communities and vetted by the community members. The committees were composed of representatives of women, youth, local leaders, disabled and elderly-headed households to reduce exclusion errors as much as possible. Beneficiaries were sensitised to report their grievances if any through the various structures listed above. Grievances that could not be resolved through the community level structures were escalated to the implementing partner. Further, FAO also established a toll-free hotline number 7333 for beneficiaries to report issues that are confidential in nature or that have not been appropriately resolved by the community structures or implementing partners. It should be noted that during the implementation of the project, minimal complaints were received from beneficiaries and in most cases related to exclusion of non-beneficiaries, but they were resolved locally, at the community level.

c. Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA):

FAO has Zero tolerance to Sexual Harassment, Exploitation and Abuse (SEA). Although FAO had put in place frameworks to address issues of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), no related complaint was received. All staff and stakeholders were reminded of FAO's policy of Zero tolerance to Sexual Harassment, Exploitation and Abuse. FAO's PSEA policy was adequately discussed with implementing partners during the project implementation inception workshop. In addition, specific PSEA clauses were inserted in all contractual documents including Letters of Agreement (LoA) and procurement of goods and services contracts with the implementing partners. FAO established community-based complaints mechanisms and raised PSEA and FAO policies/procedures awareness to targeted community members.

d. Focus on women, girls and sexual and gender minorities, including gender-based violence:

FAO is committed to operating in a way that does not create or increase risk or harm to the people it serves. FAO promotes accountability, empowers beneficiaries, and ensures their participation, in line with the Do No Harm principle. FAO ensured that vulnerability criteria such as age, gender, origin, or social status were considered, and that vulnerable people had equal access to support and services. FAO ensured that vulnerable female beneficiaries, especially female headed households were prioritised for assistance. FAO further ensured female representation in all community structures and/or platforms established during the implementation of project activities. To secure the safety of women and girls, FAO assessed protection issues and ensured that all entitlements were provided to safe proximities where women and children can freely move. Furthermore, all distribution/treatment sessions were concluded early enough to ensure that the beneficiaries travel home before dusk, but also to save them time. The additional unconditional cash support considered those with impairments, pregnant women, and the elderly like labour constrained households while distributing cash.

e. People with disabilities (PwD):

People with disabilities is one the major targeting criteria for FAO delivered assistance. Vulnerable households with People with Disabilities (PwD) and/or households headed by PwD who met the criteria were given priority for receiving assistance. For their safety (particularly for women and girls with disabilities), the support (such as agricultural input distribution, animal vaccination) were carried out in their safe proximities.

f. Protection:

The project was designed to reduce protection risks especially for the most vulnerable households. FAO ensured that all planned assistance was balanced and not directed towards specific target groups. Beneficiaries were identified through a participatory process in collaboration with local communities. The supply of inputs and unconditional cash enabled vulnerable households to meet their immediate

needs, reducing the likelihood of reverting to negative coping strategies and protecting them from socioeconomic exploitation such as child labour and gender-based violence. Further, the delivery of assistance close to the beneficiaries' dwellings contributed to reducing exposure to protection risks such as GBV, especially for the most vulnerable beneficiaries.

g. Education:

Customized essential extension-support and livestock production trainings was conducted to ensure optimal production, following improved animal management practices, good crop production practices and post-harvest management. Essential extension support and crop production trainings were held to improve crop production skills and knowledge, as well as to ensure that inputs are used appropriately. However, these were not limited to registered beneficiaries but extended to the entire communities to improve crop production practices. Similarly, the project improved the technical competence of community-based animal health workers (CAHWs) through trainings in animal health services.

8. Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)

Use of Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)?

Planned	Achieved	Total number of people receiving cash assistance:
Yes, CVA is a component of the CERF project	Yes, CVA is a component of the CERF project	106,210

If **no**, please describe why CVA was not considered. Where feasible, CVA should be considered as a default response option, and multi-purpose cash (MPC) should be utilised wherever possible.

If **yes**, briefly note how CVA is being used, highlighting the use of MPC, and if any linkages to existing social protection systems have been explored.

FAO promoted the use of Cash+ as a flexible tool for promoting resilience and social protection. By providing cash transfers plus crop seeds and animal feed, beneficiaries were able to meet their immediate needs such as health, clothing, debt repayment and investment, while also supporting their livelihoods and productive capacity, reducing the risk of resorting to negative coping strategies during the lean periods. Each beneficiary household received unconditional cash transfer of USD 100).

The physical disbursement of the cash was undertaken by a Financial Service Provider (FSP), the Commercial Bank of Ethiopia (CBE) supported by the implementing partners. The cash transfers were preceded by a market assessment to determine feasibility and appropriate modality. The cash distributions were carried out in locations where it was deemed safe for both beneficiaries and staff of the financial institutions that supported the project implementation.

Parameters of the used CVA modality:

Specified CVA activity (incl. activity # from results framework above)	**Number of people receiving CVA**	**Value of cash** (US$)	**Sector/cluster**	**Restriction**
Distribution of unconditional/multi-purpose cash (MPC) to crop beneficiaries	50,000	US$ 1 727 200	Food Security - Agriculture	Unrestricted
Distribution of unconditional/multi-purpose cash (MPC)	19,850	US$ 397,000	Food Security - Food Assistance	Unrestricted

Distribution of unconditional/multi-purpose cash (MPC) only	36,360	US$ 727,200	Food Security - Food Assistance	Unrestricted

9. Visibility of CERF-funded Activities

Title	Weblink
NTR	**NTR**

3.2 Project Report 24-RR-CEF-014

1. Project Information

Agency:	UNICEF	**Country:**	Ethiopia
Sector/cluster:	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Nutrition	**CERF project code:**	24-RR-CEF-014
Project title:	Provision of life-saving WASH and Nutrition services to drought-affected populations in Tigray, Amhara and Afar		
Start date:	14/03/2024	**End date:**	13/09/2024
Project revisions:	No-cost extension ☐	Redeployment of funds ☐	Reprogramming ☐

Funding

Total requirement for agency's sector response to current emergency:	**US$ 53,458,611**
Total funding received for agency's sector response to current emergency:	**US$ 500,000**
Amount received from CERF:	**US$ 5,666,667**
Total CERF funds sub-granted to implementing partners:	**US$ 2,221,898**
Government Partners	US$ 356,284
International NGOs	US$ 927,984.26
National NGOs	US$ 937,630.20
Red Cross/Crescent Organisation	US$ 0

2. Project Results Summary/Overall Performance:

The project reached a total of 174,196 individuals (88,840 females) through WASH interventions. Among these, 16,359 were internally displaced persons (IDPs) of whom 8,343 females. A total of 20 water systems were solarized and rehabilitated—3 in Afar, 4 in Amhara, and 13 in Tigray—benefiting 157,837 people (80,497 females). Additionally, water trucking at the Abi Adi IDP site was conducted for three months, reaching 16,359 people (8,343 females) in Tigray. Below is a breakdown of the solarized and rehabilitated water systems:

- Afar: Solarization of 3 water systems in Hado water system of Adar woreda, Su'ula in Elidar woreda, and Gimirida in Megalle woreda.
- Amhara: Solarization of 4 water systems in Tsitsika, Lasta, Dahnna and Tsagbiji woredas.
- Tigray: Tanqaumlash, K/awalaelo, Rama, Hahaile, Egela, Hintalo, Edaga-Arbi, Ofla, Raya-Alamata, Ahsea and an upgrade from generator to solar system, including replacement of damaged pipelines in Hahaile woreda.

16,746 people (8,540 females) were reached with a functional handwashing facility. UNICEF also constructed and rehabilitated 21 blocks of latrines (6 in Amhara and 15 in Tigray). 13 of the latrines were in schools and 8 in health care facilities. The sanitation interventions included rehabilitation, including piped water supply connection, new construction, installation of handwashing facilities, desludging and provision of latrine cleaning kits. Through the WASH non-food items (NFIs), UNICEF reached 67,440 people (34,800 females), of these, 13,488 (7,284 females) in Afar, 20,232 (10,318 females) in Amhara and 33,720 (17,197 females) in Tigray. The WASH NFIs procured are in table below:

DESCRIPTION	UNIT	QTY
Aqua tabs (strip 10 TA)	strip	56,652.00
Water Purification Chemical Bishan Gari	EA	242,760.00
Body soap 250 g	Pcs	134,880.00
Soap, laundry, 250g	Pcs	134,880.00
Sanitary pad	pack	68,800.00
Underwear for girls, small, 10-13 years	Pcs	68,800.00
Bucket, plastic, 20l	Pcs	2,700.00
Jerrycan 20 l	Pcs	5,400.00
Water Tank(10m3)	Pcs	9.00
HTH Chlorine (70%) Calcium hypochlorite	Drum	68.00

CERF significantly supported UNICEF efforts to address high-risk moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) across 33 woredas, 11 in Tigray, 14 in Afar, and eight Amhara regions. This strategic intervention aimed to prevent the escalation of MAM cases to severe acute malnutrition. With this grant, UNICEF procured 17,378 cartons of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF), facilitating the treatment of 28,964 children (14,175 girls) identified as high-risk MAM, with specific figures highlighting 9,654 treated in Tigray (5,327 female), 9,655 in Amhara (4,924 female), and 9,655 in Afar (4,924 female). Furthermore, in partnership with the Ministry of Health, UNICEF built the capacity of healthcare providers on high-risk MAM treatment. UNICEF trained 1,648 healthcare providers (917 females) across the three regions, (827 in Amhara (537 female), 258 in Afar (62 female), and 563 in Tigray (318 female)). This comprehensive approach underscores the importance of direct intervention and healthcare provider training in effectively mitigating malnutrition in vulnerable populations. In addition, 139,390 primary caregivers of children under 5 years reached with the IYCF key message during the reporting period in the three regions (73,267 in Tigray, 65,296 in Afar, and 827 in Amhara).

3. Changes and Amendments

There have been no changes, but treatment for high-risk Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) in three woredas of Amhara was delayed due to security issues that impacted essential preparations, such as capacity building and supply pre-positioning at health facilities. These preparations were completed two months after the project began. UNICEF and the regional health bureau have since ensured that supplies are in place, so all identified high-risk children receive the necessary assistance.

4. Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding*

Sector/cluster	Nutrition									
	Planned					Reached				
Category	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Refugees	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	**0**
Returnees	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	**0**
Internally displaced people	0	0	60	60	**120**	0	0	158	151	**309**
Host communities	0	0	14,422	14,422	**28,844**	0	0	14,631	14,024	**28,655**
Other affected people	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	**0**
Total	**0**	**0**	**14,482**	**14,482**	**28,964**	**0**	**0**	**14,789**	**14,175**	**28,964**
People with disabilities (PwD) out of the total										
	0	0	724	724	**1,448**	0	0	739	709	**1,148**

Sector/cluster	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene									
	Planned					Reached				
Category	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Refugees	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	**0**
Returnees	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	**0**
Internally displaced people	6,468	6,214	5,736	5,511	**23,929**	9,417	9,047	8,351	8,024	**34,839**
Host communities	25,872	24,857	22,943	22,043	**95,715**	37,668	36,191	33,404	32,094	**139,357**
Other affected people	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	**0**
Total	**32,340**	**31,071**	**28,679**	**27,554**	**119,644**	**47,085**	**45,238**	**41,755**	**40,117**	**174,196**
People with disabilities (PwD) out of the total										
	3,234	3,107	2,868	2,755	**11,964**	**4,709**	**4,524**	**4,176**	**4,0121**	**7,420**

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

5. People Indirectly Targeted by the Project

The Su'ula Manda Daba project is a multi-village water supply initiative. The solarization of the water source have benefited Manda village, which is about 8 kms away, through easy access to water for trucking through various means of transportation. This have benefited an estimated 10,000 people.

During this reporting period, 139,390 primary caregivers(mothers) of children under 5 years received key IYCF messages in the three regions (73,267 in Tigray, 65,296 in Afar, and 827 in Amhara) during malnutrition screening and regular follow-up.

6. CERF Results Framework

Project objective	Reduce nutrition-related morbidity and mortality among children under two and improve WASH services for drought-affected populations in Tigray, Amhara, and Afar
Output 1	Rehabilitation, preventative maintenance, expansion of existing water supply systems, water storage, upgrading of generator systems to solar and water trucking.

Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage? Yes ☐ No ☒

Sector/cluster	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene			
Indicators	**Description**	**Target**	**Achieved**	**Source of verification**
Indicator 1.1	WS.15 Number of communal water points (e.g., wells, boreholes, water taps stand, systems) constructed and/or rehabilitated	14	18	Partner reports UNICEF monitoring reports
Indicator 1.2	WS.6 Number of people accessing sufficient and safe water for drinking, cooking, and/or personal hygiene use as per agreed sector standard	119,644	174,196	Partner reports UNICEF monitoring reports
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		Three water systems in Afar, four in Amhara and 13 in Tigray were solarized and rehabilitated, reaching 157,837 people (80,497 females). Water trucking was also provided in Abi Adi IDP site for 3 months, reaching 16,359 people (8,343 females) for three months, in Tigray region.		

Activities	**Description**	**Implemented by**
Activity 1.1	Detailed social and technical assessment to identify needs and prepare designs, specifications, and Bills of Quantities of requirements for rehabilitation works	• Organization for Rehabilitation and Development in Amhara • Relief Society of Tigray • International Medical Corps • CARE International • OXFAM • Tigray Regional Water Bureau
Activity 1.2	Procurement of supplies and services required for the planned, rehabilitation, upgrading of boreholes, and expansion of distribution networks based on designs	• Organization for Rehabilitation and Development in Amhara • Relief Society of Tigray • International Medical Corps • CARE International • OXFAM • Tigray Regional Water Bureau

Activity 1.3	Implementation of the works for the 14 planned, rehabilitation, upgrading of boreholes, and expansion of distribution networks based on assessment findings and designs, 7 systems in Tigray reaching 59,822 people, 4 systems in Amhara reaching 35,893 people, and 3 systems in Afar reaching 23,929 people (Total: 119,644 people)	• Organization for Rehabilitation and Development in Amhara • Relief Society of Tigray • International Medical Corps • CARE International • OXFAM • Tigray Regional Water Bureau
Activity 1.4	Refresher training of WASH committees as part of the rehabilitation process on operation and maintenance of the rehabilitated water systems	• Organization for Rehabilitation and Development in Amhara • Relief Society of Tigray • International Medical Corps • CARE International • OXFAM • Tigray Regional Water Bureau
Activity 1.5	Water trucking based on critical needs	• Relief Society of Tigray • International Medical Corps • OXFAM • Tigray Regional Water Bureau

Output 2	Sanitation for drought-affected IDP areas and improved WASH infrastructures in Health Care Facilities			
Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage?		Yes ☐	No ☒	
Sector/cluster	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene			
Indicators	**Description**	**Target**	**Achieved**	**Source of verification**
Indicator 2.1	WS.9a Percentage of people who report using a safe, dignified and functional sanitation facility with functional handwashing facility (with soap/cleaning agent and water)	16,150	16,746	Partner reports UNICEF monitoring reports
Indicator 2.2	WS.13 Number of communal sanitation facilities (e.g. latrines) and/or communal bathing facilities constructed or rehabilitated	30	21	Partner reports UNICEF monitoring reports
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		The budget allocated for this indicator was for 30 facilities. During implementation the number of sanitation facilities reached was reduced as partners identified more critical water needs because of the drought than sanitation needs.		

Activities	**Description**	**Implemented by**
Activity 2.1	Technical assessment and design of sanitation interventions based on needs.	• Organization for Rehabilitation and Development in Amhara • Relief Society of Tigray • International Medical Corps • CARE International • OXFAM • Tigray Regional Health Bureau

Activity 2.2	Procurement of supplies and services required for the planned Construction, rehabilitation, maintenance, and cleaning of latrines.	• Organization for Rehabilitation and Development in Amhara • Relief Society of Tigray • International Medical Corps • CARE International • OXFAM • Tigray Regional Health Bureau
Activity 2.3	Implementation of the construction, rehabilitation, maintenance, and cleaning of latrines activities as per needs assessments for 16,150 IDPs (8,075 in Tigray, 4,845 in Amhara, and 3,230 in Afar) in IDP sites and at 30 institutions (schools and Health Care Facilities)	• Organization for Rehabilitation and Development in Amhara • Relief Society of Tigray • International Medical Corps • CARE International • OXFAM • Tigray Regional Health Bureau

Output 3	Create access to basic WASH NFI's to most vulnerable households in drought-affected areas			
Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage?		Yes ☐	No ☒	
Sector/cluster	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene			
Indicators	**Description**	**Target**	**Achieved**	**Source of verification**
Indicator 3.1	WS.16a Number of people receiving critical WASH supplies (e.g. WASH/hygiene kits)	67,440	68,235	UNICEF and RHB distribution reports
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		WASH Non-Food Items (NFIs) reached 68,235 people (34,800 females), 13,488 people (7,284 females) in Afar, 20,232 people (10,318 females) in Amhara and 33,720 people (17,197 females) in Tigray.		

Activities	**Description**	**Implemented by**
Activity 3.1	Beneficiary registration and for WASH NFIs	• UNICEF • Relief Society of Tigray • International Medical Corps • OXFAM • Tigray Regional Health Bureau • Afar Regional Health Bureau • Amhara Regional Health Bureau
Activity 3.2	Procurement, distribution, and Post Distribution Monitoring of critical WASH NFIs67,440 people or 13,488 households. Each kit to include sanitary wear and soap for Menstrual Hygiene Management for women and girls	• UNICEF • Relief Society of Tigray • International Medical Corps • OXFAM • Tigray Regional Health Bureau • Afar Regional Health Bureau • Amhara Regional Health Bureau

Output 4	Provision of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Feed for high-risk moderate acute malnourished children as a proactive measure to prevent their deterioration into severe acute malnutrition.		
Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage?		Yes ☐	No ☒

Sector/cluster	Nutrition			
Indicators	**Description**	**Target**	**Achieved**	**Source of verification**
Indicator 4.1	N.4 Number of people screened for acute malnutrition	80%	96%	RHB report
Indicator 4.2	Number of children under two with high-risk MAM supplemented with RUTF before they deteriorate to SAM	28,964	28,964	RHB report
Indicator 4.3	The proportion of health facilities reporting nutrition supplies stockout	5 %	1% (Amhara other 0%)	RHB report
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		No variance		

Activities	**Description**	**Implemented by**
Activity 4.1	Procurement of 17,378 cartons of RUTF	UNICEF
Activity 4.2	Distribution of RUTF to 28,964 children under two with high-risk MAM	RHB through Health facilities
Activity 4.3	Screening of children for acute malnutrition	Government Healthcare providers
Activity 4.4	Monitoring of last mile distribution	Third-party Monitors deployed by UNICEF
Activity 4.5	Capacity building on simplified and combined guidelines to identify and treat high-risk MAM for healthcare providers	RHB, with technical support from UNICEF

7. Effective Programming

CERF expects partners to integrate and give due consideration to cross-cutting issues such as Accountability to Affected People (AAP), Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), People with disabilities (PwD), Centrality of Protection as well as Gender and Age. In addition, the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) has identified four underfunded priority areas[4] often lacking appropriate consideration and visibility: women and girls, people with disabilities, education and protection. **The following sections demonstrate how cross-cutting issues and the ERC's four underfunded priority areas have been addressed through project activities and should highlight the achieved impact wherever possible.**

a. Accountability to Affected People (AAP)[5]:

To ensure accountability and encourage active participation from affected communities during service provision, UNICEF effectively engaged key community representatives, including elders, religious leaders, youth leaders, women's development leaders, and clan leaders. This collaborative approach was essential during the malnutrition screening process. The same community structures were involved in decision-making regarding the requirements for rehabilitating water systems and in identifying and prioritizing which water systems needed rehabilitation.

b. AAP Feedback and Complaint Mechanisms:

[4] These areas include: support for women and girls, including tackling gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive health and empowerment; programmes targeting people with disabilities; education in protracted crises; and other aspects of protection. The ERC recommended an increased focus on these four areas to ensure that they be given due consideration by RC/HCs and UNCTs/HCTs when prioritizing life-saving needs for inclusion in CERF requests. While CERF remains needs-based, the ERC will be looking for country teams to prioritize projects and mainstreamed activities that systematically and effectively address to these four historically underfunded areas. Please see the Questions and Answers on the ERC four priority areas here.

[5] AAP and PSEA are part and parcel of IASC commitments, and therefore mandatory for compliance for all UN agencies and partners. Agencies do not necessarily need to establish new AAP and PSEA mechanisms for CERF projects if functioning ones are already in place. For more information please refer to the IASC AAP commitments.

Community leaders also played a crucial role in mobilizing and disseminating information about the distribution of WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) Non-Food Items (NFIs). Water system users, particularly women and girls, participated in consultation events to choose the locations for water collection points.

Additionally, UNICEF utilized the ODK (Open Data Kit) tool through Third-Party Monitors (TPMs) deployed across three regions: six in Tigray, five in Afar, and nine in Amhara. Each TPM was responsible for visiting 15 health facilities to provide essential technical support and complete monthly ODK forms. These forms were critical for tracking the availability and safety of nutrition supplies, ensuring they met the needs of beneficiaries. Implementing the ODK forms significantly reduced product leakage, prevented misuse, and improved service delivery and beneficiary satisfaction.

c. Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA):

UNICEF has incorporated awareness-raising about the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) into all its nutrition and WASH programs. This strategy aims to create a strong system for effectively recording and managing PSEA-related complaints, with a significant focus on prevention and providing technical support to health facilities.

d. Focus on women, girls and sexual and gender minorities, including gender-based violence:

Nutrition interventions focus on women, the primary caregivers in households. Community consultations specifically target women and girls to tailor nutrition programs to their needs and those of boys. This approach also works to reduce gender-based violence (GBV) and sexual abuse associated with these initiatives.

In WASH interventions, women, girls, and youth engage in groups to share information on water, sanitation, and hygiene. Their participation in community consultations ensures that the improved water supply systems address the needs of all genders. By strategically locating water distribution points, we aim to decrease the risk of water-related GBV and sexual abuse.

e. People with disabilities (PwD):

The high-risk Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) treatment approach was implemented to identify and assist children at high risk of MAM before they progressed to severe acute malnutrition. This approach ensured that the program was inclusive and accessible for individuals with disabilities at the community level. During the reporting period, a total of 1,448 high-risk MAM children with disabilities (724 females) received treatment with Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF). Additionally, WASH interventions were implemented in accordance with national standards for water and sanitation facilities. These interventions ensured that communal water collection points and sanitation facilities in communities and institutions were designed to be accessible for people with disabilities.

f. Protection:

UNICEF conducted risk assessments to identify hazards and vulnerabilities linked to project activities, prioritizing the safety of at-risk individuals. To reduce gender-based violence (GBV) risks in communities, the extension of the water distribution line brought water closer to residents, minimizing protection risks for women and girls when fetching water. UNICEF conducted risk assessments to identify hazards and vulnerabilities linked to project activities, prioritizing the safety of at-risk individuals. To reduce gender-based violence (GBV) risks in communities, the extension of the water distribution line brought water closer to residents, minimizing protection risks for women and girls when fetching water.

g. Education:

NA

8. Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)

Use of Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)?

Planned	Achieved	Total number of people receiving cash assistance:
No	No	No

If **no**, please describe why CVA was not considered. Where feasible, CVA should be considered as a default response option, and multi-purpose cash (MPC) should be utilised wherever possible.

If **yes**, briefly note how CVA is being used, highlighting the use of MPC, and if any linkages to existing social protection systems have been explored.

This project's core aim was to provide treatment for children suffering from high-risk Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM), not Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA). Furthermore, Water purification chemicals are not readily available in the market, and as household drinking water safety was the key objective for WASH NFIs, other complimentary items had to be distributed in kind as a full package.

Parameters of the used CVA modality:

Specified CVA activity (incl. activity # from results framework above)	**Number of people receiving CVA**	**Value of cash** (US$)	**Sector/cluster**	**Restriction**
NA	NA	NA	US$ NA	Choose an item.

9. Visibility of CERF-funded Activities

Title	Weblink
NTR	**NTR**

3.3 Project Report 24-RR-WFP-012

1. Project Information

Agency:	WFP	**Country:**	Ethiopia
Sector/cluster:	Food Security - Food Assistance Nutrition	**CERF project code:**	24-RR-WFP-012
Project title:	Operational Cost for Food Assistance and Targeted Supplementary Feeding		
Start date:	15/03/2024	**End date:**	14/09/2024
Project revisions:	No-cost extension ☐	Redeployment of funds ☐	Reprogramming ☐

Funding

Total requirement for agency's sector response to current emergency:	**US$ 28,916,159**
Total funding received for agency's sector response to current emergency:	**US$ 0**
Amount received from CERF:	**US$ 5,666,667**
Total CERF funds sub-granted to implementing partners:	**US$ 0**
Government Partners	US$ 0
International NGOs	US$ 0
National NGOs	US$ 0
Red Cross/Crescent Organisation	US$ 0

2. Project Results Summary/Overall Performance

Nutrition: The areas of Northern Ethiopia faced conflict and drought affecting the lives and livelihoods of people and displacing many households and their families to IDP camps with significant numbers of IDPs in Tigray region. The contribution came at the time of the hunger season where access to food through both the market and own production for households are limited. Many of these woredas in Tigray have been under humanitarian assistance including treatment of moderate acute malnutrition since the conflict erupted and this has been intensified by the drought.

With the funding received from CEREF, WFP procured 708.43 MT of Super cereal plus and distributed to 15,742 pregnant and breast-feeding women in Tigray region. In the project period WFP collaborated with the NGOs in the implementation of the project.to identify the malnourished beneficiaries by the health extension workers at health post/community level with the technical support from the NGOs. As per the proposal WFP procured Super Cereal Plus to cover the gap in the pipeline and addressed the needs of pregnant and breast-feeding women. While WFP other funding sources to procure RUSF supplies to be distributed to the malnourished children.

The treatment of moderate acute malnutrition was delivered in adherence to the National Guidelines for the Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM) in Ethiopia. Key activities included nutrition screening to identify malnourished pregnant and breast-feeding women eligible for admission into the programme, supply management and treatment of malnourished cases through biweekly nutritional follow up to monitor progress and measure outcome. Out of the pregnant and breast-feeding women discharged from the programme 81.8

percent were successfully treated and fully recovered, while 12.1 percent were defaulter and 6.1 percent non responder. The results are above the Sphere Standards showing good progress.

Food assistance: WFP utilized the CERF grant to deliver and distribute 6,773.5 Mt of assorted food commodities to Afar region Dalol, Kuneba, Berhale, Mergale, Bidu, Abala, Afdera, Aura and Teru Woredas, where conflict had contributed to worsening humanitarian outcomes. The transportation, delivery and distribution costs implied several assurances integrated into the programme related to supply chain enhancements such as bag marking and digital deliveries; and distribution was conducted through partner NRC in individualized scooping through digital distribution systems with help desks and CFM integrated into distribution sites. These commodities were distributed to 481,295 food insecure people in phase 4 and 5 woredas, and IDPs in camps (share woredas), including the internally displaced people (IDPs) that were facing food gaps, due to disruption of livelihoods, particularly incomes and food sources. The CERF fundings was allocated a time when Afar region was facing a drought in the beginning of the year, followed by the peak of lean season starting in July. At this time, WFP was also facing resource shortfalls for timely movement of food commodities. Analysis of food security indicators indicates that the proportion of households that were able to meet food adequate food consumption had increased from 30% to 47 %, which shows positive impact of the food response in the targeted woredas.

3. Changes and Amendments

Nutrition: No major changes and amendments were made to the project. The implementation of the funds was in accordance with the proposal and no modifications required.
Food Assistance: The funds were utilized as per the proposal, which is cover the associated costs in the Afar region, where WFP was facing resource shortfall to move the commodities to severely food insecure woredas.

4. Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding*

Sector/cluster	Nutrition									
	Planned					Reached				
Category	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Refugees	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	**0**
Returnees	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	**0**
Internally displaced people	0	0	0	0	**0**	2,891	0	0	0	**2,891**
Host communities	16,267	0	0	0	**16,267**	12,850	0	0	0	**12,850**
Other affected people	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	**0**
Total	**16,267**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**16,267**	**15,742**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**15,742**
People with disabilities (PwD) out of the total										
	16,267	0	0	0	**16,267**	2,361	0	0	0	**2,361**

Sector/cluster	Food Security - Food Assistance									
	Planned					Reached				
Category	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Refugees	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	**0**
Returnees	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	**0**
Internally displaced people	2,638	2,746	1,484	1,544	**8,412**	46,790	48,699	26,319	27,394	**149,201**
Host communities	118,188	123,012	66,481	69,194	**376,875**	104,144	108,396	58,581	60,972	**332,094**
Other affected people	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0	0	0	**0**
Total	**120,826**	**125,758**	**67,965**	**70,738**	**385,287**	**150,934**	**157,095**	**84,900**	**88,366**	**481,295**
People with disabilities (PwD) out of the total										
	12,083	12,576	6,796	7,074	**38,529**	16,603	17,280	9,339	9,720	**52,942**

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

5. People Indirectly Targeted by the Project

Nutrition Sector: WFP's Tigray nutrition response, managed through local and international NGOs, included the delivery of Social Behavior Change Communication (SBCC) messages on Maternal, Infant, and Young Child Nutrition (MIYCN) practices. While the primary beneficiaries were children under 5 and pregnant and lactating women, the indirect beneficiaries included:

1. Caregivers and Household Members:

    - Caregivers attending health facility distribution points received MIYCN messages, which they could apply to improve overall household nutrition practices, benefiting other family members beyond the direct recipients.

2. Community Members:

    - The dissemination of MIYCN messages raised awareness about appropriate nutrition practices within the wider community, indirectly contributing to better dietary practices and reduced undernutrition prevalence in non-targeted households.

3. Health Facility Staff:

    - Through capacity-building efforts included in the program, health workers gained enhanced knowledge and skills to support improved nutrition counselling and service delivery, benefiting a broader population over time.

Food Assistance Sector: WFP collaborated with national and regional authorities to ensure a coordinated and inclusive response to food insecurity. The indirect beneficiaries included:

1. Community Members:

    - Transparent communication through community engagement mechanisms (e.g., call centers, feedback systems, and regular updates) empowered individuals to advocate for their needs, enhancing collective accountability and trust in humanitarian interventions.
    - Local communities benefitted from employment opportunities related to scooping related distribution staff and porters.

2. Other Humanitarian Partners:

    - Regular updates from WFP on distribution and operational challenges to cluster ensured the food assistance was coordinated for other programmes such as PSNP in the region.

6. CERF Results Framework

Project objective	Drought and conflict affected people in Tigray and Afar regions meet their basic food and nutritional needs
Output 1	Food Assistance: Crisis-affected people in the Afar region have access to food
Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage?	Yes ☐ No ☒
Sector/cluster	Food Security - Food Assistance

Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 1.1	FN.1a Number of people receiving in-kind food assistance	385,288	481,295	WFP reports
Indicator 1.2	FN.1b Quantity of food assistance distributed in MT	6,530MT	6,773.5MT	WFP delivery reports
Indicator 1.3	FS.2 Percentage of households who report being able to meet the basic needs of their households according to their priorities	90	90	WFP monitoring reports
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		WFP delivered and distributed more food with the CERF funding, which contributed to 125% achievement in the people assisted with the amount of food that was delivered, when compared to the target. The assisted beneficiaries noted that the food assistance contributed to improved food consumption, particularly for the most vulnerable households.		

Activities	Description	Implemented by
Activity 1.1	Well-coordinated prioritization of beneficiaries who are already targeted and digitally registered under WFP's Assurance Project.	WFP Cooperating partners
Activity 1.2	Community sensitization, distribution, and reconciliation	WFP Cooperating partners
Activity 1.3	Facilitate community engagements and monitoring	WFP Cooperating partners

Output 2	Nutrition: Moderately malnourished Pregnant breast-feeding women rehabilitated

Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage? Yes ☐ No ☒

Sector/cluster	Nutrition

Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 2.1	N.1 Number of PLBWG receiving blanket supplementary feeding (MAM prevention)	16,267	15,742	WFP reports from the field
Indicator 2.2	# Quantities of SNF distributed to PLBWG (mt)	732mt	708.403mt	WFP procurement reports
Indicator 2.3	H.7 Number of functional health facilities supported	150	160	Reports from the field
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		The MT of commodities procured are lower than planned because of price variation. The number of health facilities supported is higher than planned because of the presence of NGOs in the woredas where they have expanded coverage		

Activities	Description	Implemented by
Activity 2.1	Community mobilization, screening, and identification of Moderate acute malnutrition Children & PBW to admit to TSF	WFP signed field level agreements with NGOs to implement the programme. NGOs capacity build the health extension workers and provided technical support in the implementation
Activity 2.2	Delivery of SNF to health facilities and distribution to beneficiaries, nutritional follow-ups and discharge	WFP has delivered nutritious supplies to the woreda capital and NGOs with budgetary support from WFP delivered supplies to the health facility/distribution point

Activity 2.3	Monitoring and reporting programme implementation and performance	Monitoring and supervision were conducted by the sub office field monitors

7. Effective Programming

CERF expects partners to integrate and give due consideration to cross-cutting issues such as Accountability to Affected People (AAP), Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), People with disabilities (PwD), Centrality of Protection as well as Gender and Age. In addition, the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) has identified four underfunded priority areas[6] often lacking appropriate consideration and visibility: women and girls, people with disabilities, education and protection. **The following sections demonstrate how cross-cutting issues and the ERC's four underfunded priority areas have been addressed through project activities and should highlight the achieved impact wherever possible.**

a. Accountability to Affected People (AAP)[7]:

WFP reinforced its commitment to amplifying the voices of affected populations by embedding inclusive community engagement in all project phases. Crisis-affected people, including vulnerable and marginalized groups, were actively involved in the targeting and implementation of programme.

Community-driven vulnerability-based targeting and prioritization processes ensured meaningful participation, while feedback channels such as community feedback mechanisms (CFM), call centers, and help desks facilitated ongoing dialogue.

Context-specific communication materials, translated into local languages, informed communities about entitlements, delivery mechanisms, assistance timelines, and their rights. Feedback collected through CFMs, and public consultations prompted adjustments to project delivery, such as refining targeting criteria and addressing access challenges. Multiple communication channels—including public address systems, printed materials, local authority structures, and community sessions—ensured broad and equitable outreach, amplifying the voices of affected populations and fostering trust, accountability, and transparency in project delivery.

b. AAP Feedback and Complaint Mechanisms:

WFP maintained and strengthened its Community Feedback Mechanism (CFM) ensuring its functional, accessible, and safe while also ensuring there is timely engagement with communities, providing multiple channels such as toll-free line, and help desks managed by CPs to collect feedback from affected people. From Afar and Tigray, between 15th March – 14th September 2024, WFP CFMs recorded 9, 164 feedback reports from affected people. Of these, 29 percent of reports were received from female users, 51 percent were male, and 20 percent were not specified. Of these, 37 percent of feedback reports. were collected via the toll-free line and 63 percent via helpdesks at distribution points. Of the reports collected, 99 percent were closed, with information being provided on the spot by CFM operators, callbacks, or external referrals.

Feedback collected highlighted three main concerns from affected communities. Majority were complaints (79 percent) regarding entitlement delays, inclusion/exclusion errors, and delivery mechanism while 11 percent were requests for food and cash assistance; 6 percent were requests for information on assistance timing, location, inclusion/exclusion criteria, and assistance specifics. In Tigray, specific complaints about long travel times to Food Distribution Points (FDPs), extended waiting times, and poor communication prompted

[6] These areas include: support for women and girls, including tackling gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive health and empowerment; programmes targeting people with disabilities; education in protracted crises; and other aspects of protection. The ERC recommended an increased focus on these four areas to ensure that they be given due consideration by RC/HCs and UNCTs/HCTs when prioritizing life-saving needs for inclusion in CERF requests. While CERF remains needs-based, the ERC will be looking for country teams to prioritize projects and mainstreamed activities that systematically and effectively address to these four historically underfunded areas. Please see the Questions and Answers on the ERC four priority areas here.

[7] AAP and PSEA are part and parcel of IASC commitments, and therefore mandatory for compliance for all UN agencies and partners. Agencies do not necessarily need to establish new AAP and PSEA mechanisms for CERF projects if functioning ones are already in place. For more information please refer to the IASC AAP commitments.

WFP and its partners to enhance FDP site selection and setup. Improvements included provisions for shade, better crowd control, and clearly defined entrance and exit points, ensuring a more efficient, dignified and respectful experience for the affected people at FDPs.

Out of the total feedback received, 359 reports (4 percent) consisted of observations and suggestions, commending WFP for timely interventions and assistance.

c. Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA):

WFP upholds a zero-tolerance policy toward Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) and is steadfast in its commitment to preventing these violations. As part of this effort, WFP provides technical assistance to its partners, ensuring that services are delivered in a manner that is sensitive to the risks of SEA. To further reinforce its commitment, WFP has developed key messages on SEA and broader protection issues, which have been translated into local languages for effective communication. These messages are complemented by Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials, which include critical PSEA information and reporting channels. These materials are distributed to partners and utilized at nutrition service delivery points to convey vital messages to beneficiaries.

d. Focus on women, girls and sexual and gender minorities, including gender-based violence:

Identifying and mitigating GBV risks is a priority for WFP. Accordingly, WFP exerted efforts to bring food and nutrition assistance very closer to communities so that women and girls do not face GBV risks when they access the assistance. In the meantime, reducing their travel time to collect assistance saves time for women who already shoulder much of the unpaid care work. Moreover, as women are primary care givers for sick children the increased access to treatments caused by malnutrition relieves them from the burden of care.

e. People with disabilities (PwD):

To meaningfully include persons with disabilities, the WFP has taken measure to integrate standardized questions into its data targeting and monitoring processes. This integration has enabled the collection of disaggregated total data of 55,303 persons with disabilities receiving food assistance.

Additionally, organizations of persons with disabilities and individuals with disabilities have become part of the food distribution committees to support WFP's distribution efforts in assuring the right holders are getting access to food through modifying the distribution modalities.

f. Protection:

WFP collaborates with communities and implementing partners to ensure the most at-risk individuals and groups have safe and dignified access to food and nutrition assistance. This is achieved by preventing, reducing, mitigating, and responding to the risks and consequences of violence and abuse. The nutrition services are delivered in a manner that respects the dignity of beneficiaries, ensuring that program sites are easily accessible and within a manageable distance for the communities and located ate health centre and health posters. Additionally, by utilising feedback from the CFM, WFP continually strives to conduct food distribution sessions and service deliveries efficiently, minimising delays and site adjustment; this allows beneficiaries to return home early, reducing travel and protection risks during late hours. At program sites, service providers address queries and concerns confidentially. Furthermore, with close collaboration between WFP, its partners, community sensitization and key messaging delivered at nutrition service delivery sites and the communities are informed about the right, entitlements and complaint reporting channels.

g. Education:

NA

8. Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)

Use of Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)?

Planned	Achieved	Total number of people receiving cash assistance:
No	No	No

9. Visibility of CERF-funded Activities

Title	Weblink
@WFP is delivering critical humanitarian food assistance in Northern #Ethiopia with support from @UNCERF .	https://x.com/WFP_Ethiopia/status/1866103671899234811

CERF Project Code	Cluster/Sector	Agency	Total CERF Funds Transferred to Partner US$
24-RR-CEF-014	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	UNICEF	$519,329
24-RR-CEF-014	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	UNICEF	$418,301
24-RR-CEF-014	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	UNICEF	$297,418
24-RR-CEF-014	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	UNICEF	$246,350
24-RR-CEF-014	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	UNICEF	$384,217
24-RR-CEF-014	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	UNICEF	$25,741
24-RR-CEF-014	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	UNICEF	$99,521
24-RR-CEF-014	Nutrition	UNICEF	$93,642
24-RR-CEF-014	Nutrition	UNICEF	$53,756
24-RR-CEF-014	Nutrition	UNICEF	$83,623
24-RR-FAO-007	Agriculture	FAO	$276,085
24-RR-FAO-007	Agriculture	FAO	$31,791
24-RR-FAO-007	Agriculture	FAO	$58,558
24-RR-FAO-007	Agriculture	FAO	$15,639
24-RR-FAO-007	Agriculture	FAO	$25,699
24-RR-FAO-007	Agriculture	FAO	$12,239
24-RR-FAO-007	Agriculture	FAO	$273,284
24-RR-FAO-007	Agriculture	FAO	$129,634
24-RR-FAO-007	Agriculture	FAO	$161,217
24-RR-FAO-007	Agriculture	FAO	$25,620
24-RR-FAO-007	Agriculture	FAO	$96,526