The Provision of Information Management Support to Humanitarian Responders in Ethiopia

Context

Conflict in the northern Ethiopia, violence in other parts of the country, and natural hazards such as floods but most notably the drought in southern Ethiopia have substantially worsened the humanitarian situation in the country. The impact of COVID-19 has also been felt across the country and has over burdened the capacity of health service providers.

The expanding of the northern conflict into neighboring regions of Afar and Amhara during 2021, has left millions of people in need of assistance and protection across the region. The violence in other regions have further resulted in high numbers of displacement, damage to infrastructure and basic services.

According to the 2022 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO), more than 20 million people are estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance in 2022, more than 20 million of those are non-displaced individuals in contrast to the 5.8 million that are displaced. Returning migrants constitute an additional population group in need of humanitarian assistance.

iMMAP Ethiopia

Since May 2017, iMMAP has been supporting the humanitarian community and the government in Ethiopia with information management (IM), mapping, and analysis services to assist decision-makers in planning, coordinating and evaluating the emergency response.

The main goals of these projects are to support the response to the ongoing crisis in Ethiopia by strengthening the IM capacity of humanitarian sector members and provide situational analysis support to improve the mechanism used to identify the needs of vulnerable populations.
Progress

IMMAP’s IM services and situational analysis reports helped identify humanitarian needs in war-torn northern Ethiopia in 2021 and 2022 as well as the geographical operational presence of partners across all IMMAP supported clusters, resulting in better coordinated response activities. The support also enabled the improvement of data sharing across the humanitarian landscape and the delivery of quality reports for planning, response, and monitoring of activities as well as decision-making.

Outcomes

The project increased the availability and quality of critical data to inform programming – enabling humanitarian responders to work with improved analyses to make evidence-based decisions as per the HNO process through the use of new tools and products while consistently improving the IM capacity of partner organizations.

Northern Ethiopia Crisis Response

Since onset of the northern Ethiopia conflict, IMMAP supported humanitarian clusters map the impact of war on affected communities in Tigray, Afar and Amhara regions, contributing to the surge response. The support continued through the production of the HNO and HRP.

IMMAP IM officers have been supporting their respective clusters by developing tools to monitor the situation. IMMAP is further supporting the Federal Emergency Coordination Center (ECC) led by the National Disaster Risk Management, including in Tigray, through developing briefings to partners and donors while drafting regular situation reports to facilitate data collection.

Capacity Building

As a part of the national capacity strengthening activities, IMMAP capacity building team has conducted IM training to cluster partners based on their needs and gaps. In June and July 2022, the team delivered two rounds of in-person training to 23 humanitarian partners from the Agriculture, Food and Health Clusters.

Government Support

IMMAP Ethiopia played a crucial role in improving the information flow between humanitarian coordination and the government, enhancing collaboration around the HNO and HRP while supporting the Emergency Coordination Centers at the national level. IMMAP has also supported the regional governments of Oromia, Somali and Amhara to reinforce field coordination and information flow between national and sub-national clusters.

Recently, IMMAP has scaled up its IM support to the southern part of the country where at least 6.8 million has been affected due to the ongoing drought in the horn of Africa.

Actors Supported

- Shelter/NFI
- Agriculture
- Coordination
- Food
- Protection
- CCCM
- Health
- Nutrition
- WASH
- Government Disaster Risk Office

Humanitarian Partners Supported 81

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