



International Medical Corps staff donates drugs and medical supplies to Suhul hospital, Indasilassie town, Shire, in August.

Given the recent resumption of fighting, the security situation remains dynamic in Tigray, Afar and North Wollo. More than 3.9 million people in Tigray and more than 10 million people in Amhara have been affected and need health services and interventions. In Afar, only 94 of 414 (23%) health facilities are functional, including two hospitals and 31 health centers. In Amhara, more than 500 health facilities and 1,706 health posts need to be rehabilitated, renovated and supported with equipment and supplies to be operational.

Despite these challenges, International Medical Corps has continued to offer services and support to those affected by the conflict. With the cessation of flights and road convoys to Tigray since August 26, International Medical Corps has a contingency plan in place to guide our field teams. We will focus on continuing to provide lifesaving activities and ensuring that resources last as long as possible.

International Medical Corps Response

International Medical Corps continues to provide vital nutrition, health, gender-based violence (GBV), mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services to internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the Afar, Amhara and Tigray regions. We operate 22 mobile medical units (MMUs) in the regions (including five in Afar, seven in Amhara, five in Tigray and five in West Tigray) providing a range of services, including outpatient consultations, nutrition screenings, perinatal consultations, family planning services and health education. We also operate one surge team consisting of two medical officers in the Dansha region. Our programs are operating in areas that are hosting 800,000 people located across 26 sites for IDPs. In the past two weeks, we have provided 10,938 outpatient consultations, screened 3,349 people for disease and served 360 MHPSS clients.

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

Since the beginning of our response, International Medical Corps MMUs have provided 455,807 outpatient consultations, with 227,513 in Shire, Tigray; 124,752 in Dansha (in Wolkait, Tegede and Kafta Humera); 58,347 in Amhara (Dabat, Debarq and Kombolcha); and 45,195 in Afar.

FAST FACTS

- International Medical Corps is operating 22 mobile medical units (MMUs) that have provided services to more than 810,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) settled in 26 IDP sites, as well as to affected host communities in the Afar, Amhara and Tigray regions.
- International Medical Corps' MMUs are providing integrated health, nutrition, gender-based violence (GBV), mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services.
- Due to the fighting that restarted at the end of August, our teams in Tigray (one team from Sheraro), Afar (three teams, from Chifra, Gulina and Yalo) and Amhara (three teams from South Wollo) evacuated to the nearest safe areas.

Our MMUs have screened 260,987 children aged under 5 and pregnant and lactating women (PLWs) for acute malnutrition. Of the children and PLWs screened, 84,976 were in Dansha, 96,650 were in Tigray, 25,987 were in Amhara and 53,374 were in Afar. The proxy prevalence of moderate acute malnutrition for children under 5 and PLWs is 12% and 28.5% respectively, while the prevalence of severe acute malnutrition is 2.7%. Over the past two weeks, International Medical Corps' emergency response teams in North Gondar (Amhara), Semera (Afar region) and Shire (Tigray) provided 9,903 healthcare consultations and screened 9,349 children under 5 and PLWs for malnutrition.

International Medical Corps also has been providing WASH services in Axum, Shiraro and Shire woredas in Tigray. In the past two weeks, we reached more than 23,235 people through hygiene promotion sessions, covering such topics as handwashing, proper use of latrines, safe household water handling and prevention of COVID-19. We are delivering clean water via trucks daily, with 16,596 cubic meters delivered so far. Since the beginning of our intervention, we have reached 228,112 people with WASH activities.

In response to the region's supplies and logistical hurdles, International Medical Corps is working closely with UN clusters and relevant authorities to obtain air-freight approval and road convoy space. During the first week of July, International Medical Corps received 114 cartons of ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF) from UNICEF in Mekelle that we will use to support our nutrition response in Tigray for two weeks. In addition, our team sent 1.4 metric tons of medicines and medical supplies that had been airlifted from Addis Ababa to Mekelle last week. With the increased frequency of road convoys into Tigray, we have been able to deliver assorted WASH supplies procured in Addis Ababa, including soap and other WASH-related non-food items. We also are keeping our teams in Afar and northern Amhara supported and supplied with essential items for a comprehensive response.

International Medical Corps continues to explore all options to continue procurement and transportation of drugs to our MMUs and supported health facilities, in an ongoing effort to maintain medical services and a continuity of healthcare.