

## SITUATION UPDATE



Our mobile health and nutrition team conducts an outpatient consultation in Ambasel woreda.

### 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.
- Services were suspended on Monday October 17, due to concerns about the escalation of the situation in Tigray.

More than 3.9 million people in Tigray and more than 10 million people in Amhara have been affected by events in these regions 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 current events in Tigray. With the cessation of flights and road convoys to Tigray since August 26, International Medical Corps implemented its contingency plan to guide our field teams, and centered its focus on continuing to provide lifesaving activities and ensuring that resources lasted as long as possible.

On Thursday October 13, the situation within Tigray became very fluid, with our staff continuing to provide services while monitoring the situation. On Monday, October 17, International Medical Corps decided to suspend all services in the Tigray region and requested that staff hibernate while our teams continued assessments and examined measures to ensure the safety of staff and beneficiaries. We currently are completing this analysis, including updates from our field teams, and with the recently signed truce agreement, plan to resume services as soon as possible. In the meantime, our teams are pre-positioning supplies in multiple locations, which will enable them to scale up a response as needed within the region as soon as air and road transport resume to our operational areas.

### 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 9,958 outpatient consultations, screened 2,964 people for malnutrition and provided 51 people with MHPSS services.

Since the beginning of our response, International Medical Corps MMUs have provided 484,733 outpatient consultations, with 238,429 in Shire, Tigray; 131,978 in Dansha (in Kafta, Tegede and Wolkait humeras); 64,007 in Amhara (Dabat, Debarq Dessie and Kombolcha); and 50,319 in Afar.

Our MMUs have screened 319,887 children (aged under 5) and pregnant and lactating women (PLWs) for acute malnutrition. Of the children and PLWs screened, 88,671 were in Dansha, 138,015 were in Tigray, 34,373 were in Amhara and 58,828 were in Afar. The proxy prevalence of moderate acute malnutrition for children under 5 and PLWs is 13.9%

and 35.3% respectively, while the prevalence of severe acute malnutrition is 2.18%. Over the past two weeks, International Medical Corps' emergency response teams in North Gondar (Amhara), Semera (Afar) and Shire (Tigray) provided 9,958 healthcare consultations and screened 2,964 children under 5 and PLWs for malnutrition.

International Medical Corps has suspended WASH services in Axum, Shiraro and Shire woredas in Tigray. In South Wollo over the past two weeks, we:

- provided training to 35 members of five water-supply schemes in Werebabo woreda;
- provided refresher training for 20 health extension workers in Dessie Zuria woreda;
- supplied nine handheld megaphones to nine primary schools, to support hygiene promotion activities; and
- reached 6,419 people through hygiene promotion in Ambasel, Dessie Zuria and Werebabo woredas.

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 once road and air links resume. In the meantime, 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 the 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.