

Ethiopia Monthly Protection Overview – November 2025

PROTECTION RISKS AND THREATS

Attacks on Civilians	Amhara: China IDP camp, young men reportedly exploited under false promise of job opportunities, raising fears of deception. Increasing insecurity esp. in Jarri 2 at heightened risk, causing fear, emotional distress, and disruption of daily life. Somali: Between October 30 and November 17, multiple security incidents reported, incl. armed clashes in West Hararghe, tribal fighting in Siti Zone and cross-border kebeles, civil unrest in Dire Dawa, and the kidnapping of three truck drivers near Erer. Southern Ethiopia: Civilians reportedly killed in the Abaya district, a vehicle was burned, and movement is restricted. Due to coffee harvesting season, potential for clashes between UAGs and security forces high. Death resulting from inter-communal violence reported in Wachile district. West Oromia: Large-scale civilian attack reportedly carried out by UAGs in Nono district of West Shewa zone, resulting in civilian casualties, injury and abduction. Repeated reported incidents of civilian abduction by UAGs for ransom recorded in districts of East Wollega zone. Reported clashes between security forces and UAGs across the four Wollegas.
New Displacements	Southern Ethiopia: West Borena, conflict between the Borena and Gabriele communities displaced 187 HHs, with security operations in Cheri Nyata, Biyo Kuni, and Burka Arbicho increasing the risk of further displacement. 468 HHs in Abaya woreda displaced due to insecurity in Michicha kebele. Tigray: 37 HHs reported newly displaced from Western Zone and Sudan due to insecurity in the area. Displaced households have relocated to Ofla, Axum, and Hitsats.
Returns, Relocations and Durable Solutions	Somali: In Sitti Zone, Somali Regional DRMB-led durable relocation of IDPs to Qaraf reached cumulative total of 4,000 HHs. Somali: During the reporting period, 1,759 new Fayda IDs were issued to IDPs in Qoloji, bringing the total issued IDs to 4,021, with cumulative registrations reaching 11,017 IDPs and 874 host community members.
Socio-economic Developments	Somali: Somali Region faces severe economic strain as rapid currency depreciation, high inflation, and restricted market access drive sharp increases in food prices and deepen households' dependence on humanitarian aid.
Drought, Floods and Other Hazards	Somali: Drought-induced displacement strains protection systems in Doolo Zone, 1,975 HHs (11,000+ individuals) newly arrived in Buhodle, Geladin, Bokh, and Galhamur. Consecutive failed Gu and Deyr seasons causing severe pasture and water shortages, crop failure, and weakened livestock conditions, incl. Fafan, Nogob, Afder, Liban, Dollo, Korahe, Shabelle, and Jarar zones most affected.

	Southern Ethiopia: West Guji's Kercha District, landslide displaced over 700 HHs from Bilida Biqisa and Xedho Tora kebeles and caused approx. 37 million ETB in damage.
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ACCESS

Access by Protection Actors to Affected Population	Improved	Somali
	Remained similar	Amhara, Tigray
	Deteriorated	Southern Ethiopia, Western Oromia
Most Critical Barriers	Insecurity or hostilities (incl. presence of ERWs)	Tigray: Some locations, particularly Erob, Gule Mekeda, and Tahtay Adiyabo, remain hard to access due to security concerns near Eritrean border. Large parts of Western zone remain inaccessible and overall security remains unpredictable. Presence of unexploded ordinances in the newly accessible woredas in Eastern and Northwestern zones. Western Oromia: Abductions of humanitarian workers by UAGs reported in East Wollega and West Wollega zones Diversion of humanitarian vehicles by security forces reported in West Wollega Zone.
	Lack of partners / funding	All: Many humanitarian actors withdrawn or scale down activities creating service vacuum and limitation on services availability.
	Environmental and Logistical Constraints	Amhara: Poor road conditions to access Jarri 2 IDP site. Southern Ethiopia: Road inaccessibility hindering humanitarian activity in Kercha, Gelana and Abaya woredas. Tigray: Fuel shortages for humanitarian actors. Western Oromia: Fuel shortages, poor road conditions.
Access for Affected Population to Protection Services	Improved	
	Remained similar	Amhara, Southern Ethiopia, Western Oromia
	Deteriorated	Somali, Tigray

Most Critical Barriers	Insecurity or hostilities (incl. presence of ERWs)	Amhara: Conflict between the UAGs and security forces ongoing. Southern Ethiopia: Existence of checkpoints and restriction of public transport (motorbikes) across zones. Tigray: Few incidents of roadblocks, particularly in Adigrat.
	Protection services unavailable / available but limited resources	Somali: Lack of civil documentation among IDPs continues to hinder freedom of movement and access to essential services, incl. social, economic, and medical support. Western Oromia: Low general protection service provision. Inconsistent registration and documentation practices.

TRAININGS, PROTECTION MONITORING AND ASSESSMENTS DURING REPORTING PERIOD

Protection Monitoring	Amhara: Protection monitoring continues in Debark. Eastern Oromia: Joint monitoring conducted with woreda and zonal sector representatives in Kumbi and Gola Oda Woredas. Southern Ethiopia: Protection monitoring conducted in Bule Hora woreda. Construction of three protection desks (Adiarkay and two in Maitsebri) progressing well and will be completed soon, enabling regular PMS activities in both locations.
Assessments	Amhara: Protection assessment conducted in Dabat IDP site, North Gondar. Eastern Oromia: East Hararge Zone Bureau of Women and Children's Affairs initiated protection coordination and assessment activities in collaboration with relevant stakeholders to identify and address protection needs across the zone. Somali: MIRA findings from Dollo Ado and Filtu woredas show severe drought driving major protection risks. Southern Ethiopia: Multi-sectoral assessment conducted by OCHA in coordination with partners and government counterparts, final reports pending. West Oromia: Multi-sectoral return area assessment conducted in West Wollega Zone and Kellem Wollega zones.

TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP UPDATES

Gender-Based Violence	
Major Updates, Gaps and Challenges	Response Reach: As of October 2025, the GBV TWG has reached 1.64 million beneficiaries across 11 regions. National System Rollout: Amhara, Benishangul Gumuz, and Tigray were selected as strategic pilot regions. MoWSA has finalized the planning and site readiness assessment, the initiative is entering the implementation phase, server installation, configuration, and software deployment, following the procurement of ICT hardware (local servers, laptops, and tablets) by UNFPA. Guidance Implementation: As part of the ongoing implementation of the National GBV SOPs (2024) and the National Guideline for GBV Case Management (2025) has been launched, and dissemination is ongoing, with UNFPA support. Capacity Building: GBV Case Management training for GBV IMS digitization pilot sites in Tigray conducted. Amhara and Benishangul Gumuz regions planned for December 2025. 16 Days of Activism 2025: The commemoration officially launched by MoWSA on the 24th November, under the global theme “Unite to End Digital Violence Against All Women and Girls” and the national theme “A Society with Zero Tolerance for Violence for generation Building,” emphasizing a shared responsibility to end violence, including digital violence.
Key Regional Highlights	Amhara Funding: The Ethiopia Humanitarian Fund (EHF) allocated over \$230,000 to strengthen GBV response in Debre Birhan and Jara IDP sites. Partner Contribution: Partners (CoC, UEWCA, CARE, MSD) reached over 17,000 individuals through awareness campaigns, provided case management/PSS to nearly 2,000 survivors, distributed 1,700 dignity kits, and trained over 600 service providers. Protection Risks: Women and girls in IDP sites and host communities face escalating risks, including CRSV, rape, IPV, child marriage, and unsafe migration. Drivers of Need: Conflict and displacement remain key drivers, with acute food shortages heightening vulnerabilities for women and girls in IDP sites and host communities. Benishangul Gumuz Livelihood Success: MTI supported 15 women at the Ura WGSS with skills training; they have now begun producing clothing items. Capacity: MLWDA provided case management training to 20 One Stop Center staff members in Pawi and Assosa. Tigray

	PSEA/GBV Basics: UNHCR and the Northwest GBV WG trained 56 community leaders and IDP representatives in Axum and Mai Tsebri. Thematic Events: Workshops held for World AIDS Day and the International Day of Persons with Disabilities.
Gaps and Challenges	Escalating SGBV Rates: In Amhara, reported SGBV cases continue to increase, with 3,976 survivors receiving services since July 2023; notably, 45% of these survivors are children under 18. System Collapse: Amhara region faces collapsed formal and informal protection systems, weakened One-Stop Centers, and a lack of safe houses, compounded by large-scale education disruption. Service Gaps: Significant gaps persist in refugee-hosting areas like Metema and Dabat (Amhara), including limited materials for Women and Girls' Safe Spaces and insufficient livelihood opportunities. There are zero partners in the Northwest zone, Tigray returnee areas and limited presence in the Eastern zone despite high demand. Security & Access: Volatile security in Amhara and limited partner presence in conflict-affected areas remain critical barriers to service delivery. In Tigray, crime has emerged as a major security threat, accounting for 88% of reported incidents (including murder, assault, and sexual assault). Security concerns in IDP camps are escalating. Logistics: Fuel shortages in Tigray continue to hamper partner movements.
Mine Action	
Major Updates, Gaps and Challenges	20 EO-related accidents and 47 victims reported since January 2025, including new incidents recorded in November. 11 multi-tasking teams deployed across Afar, Amhara and Tigray to conduct EO assessments, NTS and clearance tasks. EOD Capacity development initiated with 16 participants (4 NGOs + EMAO personnel). EORE delivered in schools, IDP sites and community centres, including Community focal point training in Amhara. Gaps / Challenges EO contamination continues to block humanitarian access, particularly in areas of Afar and Amhara. EO found on main roads is limiting movement of humanitarian staff and delaying project implementation. Newly accessible locations require urgent EORE follow-up, especially for children and IDPs. Limited VA coverage vs. needs; survivors require continued psychosocial support and mobility aids. Underreporting of incidents persists due to limited partner coverage.

Key Regional Highlights	Amhara, Afar and Tigray Regions CFP training was provided to Community Focal Points in Amhara, Afar and Tigray. Abandoned and unexploded ordnance continue to exist in agricultural and pastoralist areas, restricting livestock movement and food production. EOD training ongoing in Semera, Afar.
Other	Need for EO assessment for newly accessible woredas in November including areas where IDPs are settling. Continued emphasis on integrating EHAT sessions into humanitarian partner training. Need for expanded EORE materials in local languages and low-literacy formats for IDP return areas. Continued donor engagement required to sustain EORE and VA throughout Article 5 extension period (2026–2030). To consider mine action in all developmental and humanitarian activities.
Child Protection	
Major Updates, Gaps and Challenges	Child Protection partners organized different activities celebrating International Child Day, on Nov 20th. The global theme is ‘my day my rights’. Regional adjustments to the theme, e.g. in Afar, on protection and right to play for all children. including stressing on having recreational spaces/time within schools.
Key Regional Highlights	Oromia conducted CP/GBV meetings after a long pause. The meeting discussed the update on Protection Cluster and the integration process of AoRs.
Other	Child Protection consolidated list of trainers on protection topics in Ethiopia. It helps new and old members to approach trainers to build the capacity of their staff. It also helps coordination teams to do analysis on topics that there are few trainers who can cover, it can capture trainers on protection mainstreaming topics that can be shared with other clusters. As of November 2025, the list includes 66 unique trainers (25 females) who can deliver trainings on different topics such as case management, conflict sensitivity, child rights, safeguarding, counseling, disability inclusion, gender, GBV, and PSEA.

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