

## Ethiopia Monthly Protection Overview – July 2025

### PROTECTION RISKS AND THREATS

<b>Attacks on Civilians</b>	<p><b>Afar:</b> Afar-Issa clashes reportedly caused 2 injuries and deaths to Afar pastoralists in Gewane and Harnuka woredas of Gabi Zone.</p> <p><b>Oromia:</b> Armed groups reportedly continue to target public infrastructure including kebele offices, health facilities and schools, obstructing civilians access to essential services. In Dugda Dawa woreda forced evacuation order ahead of military operations reportedly halted crop harvest, impacting food security and livelihoods.</p> <p><b>Somali:</b> Renewed inter-clan violence in Miir Khalifo kebele, Warder district of Doolo zone reportedly led to loss of four men from both clans. Ethnic tensions escalated into violent confrontations in the Marmarso neighborhood of Dire Dawa on 2 July, resulting in the reported deaths of two individuals and one person injured. On 17 July, a cross-border raid was carried out by three armed men reportedly originating from Somalia, opening fire on civilians in Dalanbiya kebele, located in Shilabo woreda of Korahe zone, killing 10 civilians and leaving several others injured.</p> <p><b>Tigray:</b> Ongoing reports of human rights violations in both the Eastern and Western Zones, including, kidnappings, and forced displacement of individuals by various armed groups to mention but a few.</p>
<b>New Displacements</b>	<p><b>Amhara:</b> Over 13,000 individuals displaced due to the ongoing conflict across five woredas in North Gondar. Since March 2025, approximately 890 HHs (2,010 individuals) have arrived at the Woynesht IDP site in North Shewa from various parts of Oromia.</p> <p><b>Somali:</b> Intra-clan conflict in Turdibi kebele of Doolo zone led to displacement of more than 7,000 individuals. Renewed ethnic-based border conflicts erupted in Hudet, Moyale, and Deka-Suftu triggered by the announcement of a new administrative structure, including the creation of two new zones, 24 city administrations, and 14 woredas. An estimated 88,000 individuals have been displaced.</p> <p><b>Tigray:</b> In July, a total of 122 HHs (476 individuals) have arrived in Shire from Western zone and Sudan, arriving in Shire. Primary reasons for displacement incl. ongoing insecurity, targeted violence, and limited access to essential services and humanitarian assistance in their areas of origin.</p>
<b>Returns, Relocations and Durable Solutions</b>	<p><b>Tigray:</b> With recent improvements in security and access, an estimated 5,000 IDPs household spontaneously returned to six kebeles in Tahtay Adiabo, 1,000 HHs to Zalanbesa town, and 217 HHs to four kebeles in Gule Mekeda woredas of Eastern Zone. Despite these sporadic returns, no humanitarian or governmental assistance provided to returning IDPs to date, only a limited number of humanitarian and faith-based organizations have provided support.</p>
<b>Socio-economic Developments</b>	<p><b>Amhara:</b> Due to the ongoing conflict and persistent road blockages, there is growing shortage of essential commodities, resulting in noticeable price increases. The transportation infrastructure has also been severely impacted, with reports of kidnappings targeting truck and cross-country bus drivers, further disrupting trade, supply chains, and the overall mobility of goods and people.</p>

	<p><b>Oromia:</b> In West Guji, favourable weather boosted crop production and livestock farming. Commodity prices remain affordable for consumers, though surplus production has driven down prices for producers. Prices of industrial materials, goods, and services have doubled. Livestock and cash crop prices, including coffee, have increased compared to the previous season, benefiting producers. However, transportation costs continue to be high.</p> <p><b>South Ethiopia:</b> Inflation on both consumable and non-consumable items emerged as a significant challenge across all communities in the zone. IDPs and returnees among the most severely affected, as rising prices have further strained already limited resources and access to basic necessities.</p>
<b>Drought, Floods and Other Hazards</b>	<p><b>Afar:</b> Following onset of the recent windstorm in Afdera town, a total of 1,750 HHs comprising approximately 10,500 individuals are heavily affected. A fire incident in Dalol woreda burnt and destroyed a total of 985 houses, alongside 600 shops and 95 restaurants.</p> <p><b>Amhara:</b> Across IDP sites in North Gondar, North Wollo, and South Wollo, severe windstorms and heavy rains have caused extensive damage to shelters. During 2025 Kiremt season, an estimated 898,312 people are at risk of flooding, with 220,697 individuals (25%) expected to be affected and 11,034 (5%) potentially displaced and hosted in temporary shelters across various woredas. 29,554 hectares of cropland are projected to be impacted by flooding and landslides.</p> <p><b>Oromia:</b> Southwest Shewa Zone of Central Oromia, torrential rainfall triggered severe flooding along the Awash River in both Ilu and Sebeta Hawas districts, displacing more than 26,000 people and damaging over 2,400 hectares of farmland. West Guji, Gelana flash flood in May affected more than 2,000 HHs and property. Majority returned while more than 150 HH still displaced. Certain parts of Hambala Wamana, Kercha, Abaya and Gelana received good rainfall and remaining woredas are dry.</p> <p><b>South Ethiopia:</b> Crop yield losses anticipated this year due to early cessation of Belg rains, expected to critically impact Kolme and Karat Zuria woredas, and to lesser extent, the lower kebeles of Segen Zuria woreda.</p>

## ACCESS

<b>Access by Protection Actors to Affected Population</b>	<b>Improved</b>	<b>Afar, Tigray</b>
	<b>Remained similar</b>	<b>Amhara, South Ethiopia</b>
	<b>Deteriorated</b>	<b>Oromia, Somali</b>
<b>Most Critical Barriers</b>	<b>Insecurity or hostilities (incl. presence of ERWs)</b>	<b>Tigray:</b> MIRA and PMS assessments in Northwestern and Eastern zones found about 80% of newly accessible areas open for humanitarian work, 56% fully and 25% partially. The remaining 19% are hard-to-reach, including two kebeles in Erob (Endalgeda, Weraetile) and villages near Eritrean border in Gule Mekeda and Tahtay Adiabo. Many families are reported to have returned to farm rather than stay in IDP

		sites without aid. However, large parts of Tigray, esp. in the west, remain inaccessible, and security situation is still fluid and unpredictable.
	<b>Lack of partners / funding</b>	<b>Oromia:</b> Low presence of protection actors. <b>Somali:</b> Largest IDP settlement in the region, Qoloji, which hosts est. 100,000 IDPs, left without active protection partners. Impact of foreign funding decrease has disrupted protection services throughout IDP sites in the region.
	<b>Environmental and Logistical Constraints</b>	<b>Oromia:</b> Restrictions imposed on transportation, checkpoints and security risks associated with armed conflict, esp. in Southern zone. <b>Tigray:</b> Poor infrastructure, including damaged roads and limited telecommunications, impedes both physical and remote engagement.
	<b>Bureaucratic and Administrative Constraints</b>	<b>Tigray:</b> In the Southern Zone, particularly in Alamata, bureaucratic delays continue to affect the timeliness of humanitarian interventions. Identified constraints include extended processing times for intervention permits, coordinating with two separate layers of command structures, and delayed responses to requests.

<b>Access for Affected Population to Protection Services</b>	<b>Improved</b>	<b>Tigray</b>
	<b>Remained similar</b>	<b>Afar, Amhara, South Ethiopia</b>
	<b>Deteriorated</b>	<b>Oromia, Somali</b>
<b>Most Critical Barriers</b>	<b>Insecurity or hostilities (incl. presence of ERWs)</b>	<p><b>Amhara:</b> Security concerns persist in Jarra and other South Wollo IDP camps, particularly for displaced persons travelling long distances to access firewood, attend public schools, or reach local markets.</p> <p><b>Tigray:</b> Safety concerns particularly severe in Tahtay Adiyabo, where 75% of respondents of assessments felt unsafe, and in Zalanbesa, where 100% reported feeling insecure. In Tahtay Adiyabo, despite removal of some checkpoints, insecurity remains across most kebelles due to the continued presence of armed actors and fear of renewed conflict. Reports of cattle theft and abduction of herders by unidentified individuals further contribute to instability.</p> <p><b>Tigray:</b> Landmines and unexploded ordnances remain serious threat across multiple woredas, especially in the newly accessible woredas of Northwestern and Eastern Zones. 7 % of respondents reported having</p>

		witnessed UXOs in their areas or communities. The highest levels of reported contamination were in Tahtay Adiyabo (66%), Erob (59%), and Zalanbesa town (50%), while Gulo Mekeda reported 31%.
	<b>Protection services unavailable / available but limited resources</b>	<p><b>Amhara:</b> Significant number of humanitarian partners have withdrawn from the area, leaving needs of IDPs largely unmet.</p> <p><b>Oromia (Southern):</b> Number of protection actors low and limited access to information by affected population.</p>

## FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND BASIC SERVICES

Service / Need	Region	Specific Areas	Details
<b>GBV Core Services</b>	<b>Amhara</b>	Jarri 1 and Jarri 2 camps	Limited resources have hindered the ability to reach all vulnerable groups, such as providing dignity kits for women and girls.
	<b>Oromia</b>	Bule Hora, Abaya, Kercha	3 rape cases and 4 cases of early marriage were reported during July.
	<b>Somali</b>	All	In past six months, 249 reported cases of GBV, comprising 89 rapes (incl. 7 involving boys), 113 physical assaults, and 55 sexual assaults. One incident of fatal rape was recorded. Extended, unsupervised trips to collect water and firewood, coupled with the lack of gender-segregated WASH facilities, persist in exposing women and girls to the threat of SGBV across all IDP hosting areas. Weak legal systems and cultural stigma hinder GBV case reporting and resolution. No child-friendly spaces or psychosocial support hubs, and overcrowded shelters. In Dollo zone's Turdibi Kebele (hosting over 7,000 IDPs), no functioning health facility reported.
	<b>Tigray</b>	All	Referral pathways are strained, and survivors face additional harm due to unmet basic needs during referrals.
<b>Child Protection Services</b>	<b>Amhara</b>	All	Many parents of IDP children unable to afford basic scholastic materials. Lack of resources not only hinders the children's ability to participate in their education but also diminishes their motivation to attend school altogether and highly affects the child protection efforts.

	<b>Oromia</b>	West Guji, Borena	Child protection services are currently inactive, with limited involvement from child protection partners, leading to increased risks for children, including exposure to forced labour, human trafficking, and denial of basic services.
	<b>Tigray</b>	All	Number of active CP AoR partners halved from 16 in 2024 to just 8 in 2025, severely impacting service delivery and coordination. Critical service gaps persist, with only two operational child-friendly spaces serving a fraction of children.
<b>Access to Justice</b>	<b>South Ethiopia</b>	Konso site	Konso site report indicates access to justice is highly constrained for affected communities as well as for the legal enforcement bodies due to budget gaps and lack of logistics, making it nearly impossible for them to properly follow up on legal support for the affected population. Victims find it difficult to move from place to place to access legal services, as transportation and other related costs are unaffordable due to the prevailing economic challenges.
<b>Civil Documentation</b>	<b>Somali</b>	Qoloji	Field visit and community consultation at Qoloji IDP settlement identified civil documentation support (e.g., national ID cards) as top priority, citing the need to restore legal identity and mobility.  Across the region 45% of IDPs without documentation face barriers to accessing financial services, fair wages, and legal protection. Marginalized groups, including persons with disabilities, are often excluded due to unaffordable fees, transportation costs, bureaucratic hurdles, and lack of awareness.
<b>Food / Nutrition</b>	<b>Amhara</b>	Debre Birhan	Access to general food assistance remains a critical concern.
	<b>Oromia</b>	Bule Hora, Abaya, Kercha	Severe acute malnutrition in children under five, leading to 8 deaths.
<b>Shelter / NFI</b>	<b>Amhara</b>	IDP sites in Jarra and South Wollo	Many shelters have also been damaged by rain and prolonged exposure to sunlight.
	<b>Amhara</b>	IDP sites in Jarra and South Wollo	Grinding mill machines within the camp are non-functional and require maintenance, forcing IDPs to rely on public mills and incur out-of-pocket expenses.
	<b>Somali</b>	All	Drought-displaced families are living in makeshift shelters constructed from sticks and plastic sheets, offering minimal privacy or protection.
	<b>Tigray</b>	All, esp. Shire	Widespread deficiencies in WASH and shelter services, particularly in Shire where 87% of shelters are damaged.

<b>Education</b>	<b>Amhara</b>	Jarra camp	Provision of education services in Jarra IDP camp is highly compromised and adolescent girls experience violence during their way to community school and they have to walk 14 kilometers every day.
<b>WASH</b>	<b>Oromia</b>	West Guji	Basic WASH facilities remain disrupted in flood-affected and conflict-impacted areas.

## TRAININGS, PROTECTION MONITORING AND ASSESSMENTS DURING REPORTING PERIOD

<b>Protection Monitoring</b>	<p><b>Amhara:</b> <a href="#">Protection monitoring</a> has been conducted in different locations, North and South Wollo, North Shewa and North Gondor through protection partners, mainly DICAC.</p> <p><b>Oromia:</b> <a href="#">Protection monitoring</a> carried out in West Guji (Bule Hora Woreda) and Borena (Gomole Woreda) by protection staff using KII, FGD, field monitoring and direct observation. Compiled data was uploaded to the host server, enabling analysis and reporting by the host partner.</p> <p><b>South Ethiopia:</b> <a href="#">Protection monitoring</a> was conducted in Gedeo Zone Yirgacheffe and Konso Zone Segen Zuri woreda by protection staff using KII, FGD, field monitoring and direct observation. Compiled data was uploaded to the host server, enabling analysis and reporting by the host partner.</p>
<b>Assessments</b>	<p><b>Afar:</b> <a href="#">MIRA assessment</a> conducted across 2 weredas in zone 2 to assess the damage to the residential structures in Afdera and Bada Admuruk kebele resulting from the recent windstorm and fire incident. The Protection cluster was represented by UNHCR, RRS, and the Bureau of Women and Social Affairs and the assessment report is available.</p> <p><b>Afar:</b> A <a href="#">Sugum assessment</a> was conducted across 12 woredas and 6 zones to evaluate livelihoods, health, and WASH. The Protection cluster was represented by Worled Vision Ethiopia and Bureau of Women and Social Affairs and the assessment report is available.</p> <p><b>Amhara:</b> <a href="#">Joint Rapid Protection Assessment</a> was conducted in the Jarra IDP sites.</p> <p><b>Amhara:</b> <a href="#">Multi-sectoral Assessment</a> was carried out in Debark to address the newly emerging displacement situation.</p> <p><b>Somali:</b> <a href="#">Gu Needs Assessments</a> conducted in the region, with Protection as one of the eight clusters assessed.</p> <p><b>Tigray:</b> <a href="#">MIRA</a> and <a href="#">Protection Monitoring and Solutions Assessment</a> conducted in Tigray's Northwestern and Eastern zones from 1-5 July.</p>

For further information, contact Protection Cluster Coordinators: **Rehema Miiro** ([miiro@unhcr.org](mailto:miiro@unhcr.org)) and **Emma Wynne** ([emma.wynne@drc.ngo](mailto:emma.wynne@drc.ngo)).