

Ethiopia Monthly Protection Overview – August 2025

PROTECTION RISKS AND THREATS

<p>Attacks on Civilians</p>	<p>Amhara: Reports of the kidnapping of three humanitarian actors in North Gondar, resulting in one fatality.</p> <p>Oromia: Reports of violent incidents occurring across East, West, and Horo Guduru Wollega zones between armed actors. Multiple kidnappings reportedly took place, with some victims released and others remain missing. Violent clan conflict along the border of Somali and Oromia in Kele Roga kebele of Chinaksen woreda, resulting in more than ten reported civilian casualties, with fighting allegedly driven by competition over resources.</p> <p>Oromia: Armed clash reported in Gomole district of Borena zone, with three civilians killed. Unidentified Armed Group (UAG) movement observed in West Guji, but no incidents reported.</p> <p>Somali: Inter-ethnic conflict in Hudet Woreda reportedly resulted in one civilian fatality and five injuries, underscoring ongoing tensions in the border areas and need for strengthened peacebuilding and protection efforts.</p>
<p>New Displacements</p>	<p>Amhara: 250 HHs, comprising 617 IDPs arrived from Oromia to Debre Birhan, but are yet to be registered. In Dabark Woreda, 4,089 HHs comprising 23,855 individuals, including pregnant and lactating women, have been displaced due to the ongoing conflict in all Kebeles, currently living in host communities of Debark city and nearby kebeles.</p> <p>Benishangul: Due to armed conflict total 1,112 individuals displaced from Kura woreda to Almahal kebele of Guba woreda. More than 4,000 individuals displaced from Jawi woreda to Mandura in Metekel zone also due to armed conflict. Newly displaced IDPs have not received any form of humanitarian assistance.</p> <p>Oromia: Following recurrent attack by UAGs on 29 and 30 August in Homa Galesa kebele, Abe Dongor district, Horo Guduru Wollega zone, around 1,000 people allegedly displaced to neighboring kebeles. Between 10 June and 15 August, around 40 households displaced in Chinaksen woreda of East Hararge zone due to conflict.</p> <p>Oromia: In Moyale district, intercommunal conflict resulted in new displacements in Wachile, Dhas and Arero woredas.</p> <p>Somali: Recurrent clashes along Oromia–Somali border continue to cause humanitarian challenges, including fatalities, injuries, property loss, and repeated displacement. Many families uprooted multiple times, hindering their ability to rebuild stable lives. Most affected woredas, Moyale, Hudet, Dekasuftu, and Kersadula in Dawa and Liban zones, are host long-standing IDP settlements. By end of July, estimated 121,170 people displaced by latest wave of conflict, which continues over border disputes.</p>

Returns, Relocations and Durable Solutions	<p>Somali: Efforts made to advance durable solutions for IDPs in Qoloji. Spatial planning for the relocation site in Goraya-Awl (Fafan Zone) has been completed to support sustainable integration. Preparations are underway for the installation of basic infrastructure, including communal facilities and shelters, ahead of the final relocation exercise scheduled for late 2025.</p>
Socio-economic Developments	<p>Amhara: Due to the ongoing conflict and persistent road blockages, there is growing shortage of essential commodities, resulting in noticeable price increases. Transportation infrastructure also severely impacted, with reports of kidnappings targeting truck and cross-country bus drivers, further disrupting trade, supply chains, and overall mobility of goods and people.</p> <p>Oromia: Inflation continues to significantly impact people's ability to afford basic needs across West Guji and Borena zones.</p> <p>Somali: Staple food prices are rising due to crop failures and inflation, worsening food insecurity in affected regions. With reduced local production and soaring market costs, vulnerable communities face growing challenges in accessing adequate nutrition.</p> <p>South Ethiopia: Inflation continues to significantly impact people's ability to afford basic needs across Konso and Gedeo zones.</p>
Drought, Floods and Other Hazards	<p>Afar: Recent flooding from the Awash and Kebena Rivers submerged farmland, damaged schools and health facilities, and contaminated water sources. Simultaneously, violent windstorms destroyed homes, schools, and other infrastructure, displacing over 5,264 households, many now in temporary shelters. Gulina, Kilalu, and Yangudi woredas were hardest hit, with 894 households displaced by windstorms. IDPs who had previously returned after the earthquake have now been displaced a second time.</p> <p>Amhara: Destruction of IDP shelters due to windstorms and heavy rains in North Wollo, North Shewa and North Gondar. Currently, over three-quarters of shelters require urgent maintenance to address life-threatening risks.</p> <p>Central Ethiopia: 26 August, heavy rainfall cause landslide in Angacha woreda of Kembata zone, damaging property and resulting in two fatalities.</p> <p>Oromia: 6 August 2025, heavy rain accompanied by hail and strong winds caused flash floods and landslides in Nekemte town, East Wollega zone, affecting kebeles 02, 03, and 07. Demolished houses and infrastructure demolished, resulting in five fatalities, including women and children.</p> <p>Somali: Severe drought in Sitti zone and neighboring areas triggered internal and cross-border livestock migration, with over 3,500 households arriving in Fafan zone in search of water and pasture. In Fafan and Sitti, failed Keren rains led to critical pasture depletion and worsening conditions.</p> <p>South Ethiopia: 27 August, heavy rainfall caused landslides displacing 3,959 people in Rapee and Bulle woredas in Gedo zone, with at least nine individuals killed and farmland damaged.</p>

ACCESS

Access by Protection Actors to Affected Population	Improved	Benishangul
	Remained similar	Amhara, Oromia, Somali
	Deteriorated	South Ethiopia
Most Critical Barriers	Insecurity or hostilities (incl. presence of ERWs)	<p>Amhara: Due to conflict and deteriorating security situation, Mekaneselam IDP site became inaccessible to humanitarian actors.</p> <p>Benishangul: Despite improved access situation, security concerns persist in some remote area, hindering humanitarian actors to provide protection and assistance. In some adjacent kebeles in border areas between Amhara and Oromia ongoing fighting affects humanitarian access.</p> <p>Oromia: Ongoing insecurity and hostilities remain major barriers to humanitarian access in East Hararge Chinakesen and Wollega zones.</p>
	Lack of partners / funding	<p>Amhara: Shortage of funding to provide protection and other services.</p> <p>Somali: Latest Gu season needs assessment identified 11 underserved woredas across six zones.</p> <p>South Ethiopia: Significant lack of partner presence due to funding shortages.</p>

Access for Affected Population to Protection Services	Improved	Benishangul
	Remained similar	Amhara, Oromia
	Deteriorated	Somali, South Ethiopia
Most Critical Barriers	Insecurity or hostilities (incl. presence of ERWs)	<p>Amhara: Security concerns persist in Jarra IDP camps, particularly when residents access firewood, attend public schools, or travel long distances to reach marketplaces.</p> <p>Oromia: Movements of UAGs and inter-communal conflicts. In Chinaksen woreda, particularly Keleroga kebele, security situation remains highly volatile due to ongoing conflict, resulting in movement restrictions. IDP communities are confined to their homes and unable to access protection services, despite pressing needs.</p>

	Protection services unavailable / available but limited resources	Oromia: Most protection partners (INGO and NNGO) in East Hararge Zone have suspended their activities due to the funding suspension and other factors, leaving IDPs severely affected.
	Environmental and Logistical Constraints	South Ethiopia: Access impeded by landslides.
	Bureaucratic and Administrative Constraints	Somali: Limited protection partner presence and humanitarian assistance in IDP-hosting areas, combined with lack of civil documentation, continue to restrict IDPs' ability to move freely and access services, as well as in seeking daily labour opportunities in nearby towns.

FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND BASIC SERVICES

Service / Need	Region	Specific Areas	Details
GBV Core Services	Benishangul	Metekel zone	Three IDP sites in the zone lack any GBV services, leaving survivors without access to essential support, case management, or referral pathways.
	East Oromia	All	Due to limited partner presence providing GBV survivor care, case management, and MHPSS services, and with only one one-stop centre per zone, many victims of GBV and conflict-related sexual violence cannot access essential support. In woredas with protection INGOs, referral pathways exist, enabling survivors to receive services and case registration; during the reporting period, over 15 survivors accessed such support in East Hararge zone. However, in woredas without GBV services, cases often go unreported as many survivors and caregivers choose to hide incidents due to the lack of available services and related constraints.
Child Protection Services	Amhara	North Shewa	Increase in cases of irregular migration and child marriage in the area.
	East Oromia	All	In East Hararge zone, reports of child protection cases are increasingly being received by government protection sectors and INGOs; however, most cases do not receive the necessary support due to the unavailability of services in many woredas.

Access to Justice / HLP	South Ethiopia	Segen Zuria and Kolme woredas	Access to justice in remains limited due to budget constraints, logistical challenges, and high transportation costs, making it difficult for affected communities to obtain legal support. Government structures face challenges in fully reaching all conflict-affected areas with essential services.
	West Oromia	Non-displaced	People in detention centers remain largely outside regular judicial oversight in western Oromia, leading to prolonged detention of individuals. Additionally, the involvement of multiple armed actors has created a complex situation that further limits access to justice, particularly for victims of human rights violations and GBV survivors.
Civil Documentation	Amhara	North Shewa	Lack of registration for newly arrived IDPs.
Health	Benishangul	Bambasi woreda, and Kamashi and Metekel zones	In most areas where IDPs/returnees are settled, there is a critical gap of health service (shortage of essential drugs); most of health facilities which were damaged during the conflict are still not functioning.
Food / Nutrition	Amhara	IDP Sites	Food assistance delayed for more than two months.
	Benishangul	Bambasi woreda, and Kamashi and Metekel zones	No adequate food distribution, with monthly food provision only one type (mais flour), and even not half basket. Lack of provision of nutritious food due mean numbers of children at the risk of malnutrition are increasing. No health facilities provide screening for malnutrition, outpatient and inpatient care for malnutrition.
Shelter / NFI	Amhara	IDP Sites	Heavy wind and rains have damaged over three-quarters of IDP shelters in North Shewa, requiring urgent collective advocacy and response to prevent further protection risks. The limited number of partners operating in shelter and NFI support has worsened the situation. In Jarri 1 and Kutaber IDP sites, 41 shelters require immediate maintenance. All IDPs remain in urgent need of NFIs, as many lack basic sleeping materials and children do not have sufficient clothing. Immediate distribution of NFIs, including kitchen sets, plastic sheets, mosquito nets, and water buckets, is critical. Additionally, lack of firewood remains a serious challenge across all IDP sites.

	Benishangul	Bambasi, Mandura and Danguri woredas	Due to prolonged displacement situation most of IDPs in the mentioned woredas have not access to adequate shelter; in generally there is no shelter partners. Due the current rainy season most shelter/plastic houses are out of use and have deteriorated.
	East / West Oromia	IDP Sites	Due to limited or no partner working on Shelter and NFI in western Oromia the IDPs living in collective sites are subjected to substandard living conditions and resultant impact on their safety and health.
Education	Amhara	All	Lack of educational support has caused a significant number of school dropouts among IDP children. In Jarra IDP sites, education services are severely affected, with adolescent girls facing risks of violence while walking long distances to school. Access to child protection, education, and livelihood support—especially for vulnerable groups like the elderly—remains a major concern. Many parents cannot afford basic school materials, limiting children’s participation, reducing motivation, and impacting their long-term development and well-being, underscoring the urgent need for targeted interventions.
	Western Oromia	All	Due to non Civilian occupation of schools and damage to schools significant numbers of students right to access to safe education hampered in all four Wollega zones.
WASH	Amhara	Tehuledere and Kutaber woredas	At Jarri 2 IDP site, severe water shortages force residents to travel up to one hour, exposing them to various risks. Meanwhile, the water tank at Jarri 1 is contaminated, posing immediate health hazards that require urgent intervention. Limited WASH partner presence has resulted in shortages of essential hygiene items—including soap, hand sanitizer, and menstrual hygiene products—across all IDP sites. Additionally, latrines at Jarri 1 and 2 are not gender-segregated, lack privacy, and have no lighting, further compromising sanitation and safety for the residents.
	Benishangul	Bambasi	There is insufficient WASH support in most IDP sites. At Bambasi 01 site, there has been no water facility for the past two years, forcing IDPs to rely on river water and exposing them to waterborne diseases and GBV risks. Across all IDP camps, latrines are either absent or below standard, further compromising sanitation and safety.
	Somali	Filtu (Liban), Fafan, and Sitti zones	Conflict-induced IDPs in Liban and Afder face acute shortages of food, shelter, and clean water.

TRAININGS, PROTECTION MONITORING AND ASSESSMENTS DURING REPORTING PERIOD

Protection Monitoring	<p>Afar: Protection Monitoring and Solution Assessments conducted in multiple kebeles of Jarra, Askoma, Ahadus Tabeya, and Korele Tabeya of Afar region using FGDs, surveys, and direct observations.</p> <p>Amhara: Protection Monitoring, Solutions Mapping, and Household Vulnerability Assessments in South Wollo Zone, targeting kebeles in Tehuledere (Jarri 1, Jarri 2, 02 Psso) and Ambasel (01 Wuchale) woredas. Data collection was completed successfully, with 707 key informant interviews conducted among community leaders, women's associations, youth groups, persons with disabilities, local authorities, and others.</p> <p>Amhara: Protection Monitoring has been carried out across all IDP sites in coordination with protection partners.</p>
Assessments and Other Reports	<p>Afar: MIRA conducted across six woredas (Afambo, Golina, Kilalu, Yangudi, Awash Fantale, and Dul-elle-as) following windstorms and flooding. Protection Cluster, represented by the Bureau of Women and Social Affairs, participated in the assessment, and the final report is available.</p> <p>Afar: DRMC established a Flood Task Force and drafted the Afar Regional Flood Contingency Plan, identifying 13 woredas expected to be affected during the 2025 Kiremt rainy season based on rainfall forecasts.</p> <p>Amhara: Joint Rapid Protection Assessment on shelter conditions carried out at Jarri IDP sites.</p> <p>Oromia: Joint Multi Sectorial Needs Assessment conducted in Borena zone to identify gaps in Food Security, WASH, Protection and Livelihood.</p> <p>Oromia: Belg Assessment ongoing across all woredas of East Hararge Zone.</p> <p>Somali: Key highlights and recommendations available from recent MIRA include findings from conflict-affected zones in Liban, Dawa, and Siti, emphasizing the need to identify appropriate responses to escalating protection needs.</p>

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