

PEOPLE TARGETED

9.8 M

PEOPLE REACHED

4.4 M *
(45%)

WOREDAS TARGETED

794

WOREDAS REACHED

396

USD REQUIRED

303.5 M

USD RECEIVED

72.8 M **
(24%)

* Excludes people receiving health messages

** Source: <https://fts.unocha.org/plans/1128/summary>

54 HEALTH CLUSTER PARTNERS

910 k MEDICAL KITS DELIVERED

1.6 M USD SPENT ON MEDICAL KITS

4 OUTBREAKS (Cholera, Measles, Malaria, and Dengue)

Highlights

- Risk of increased disease outbreaks with worsening **drought** in parts of Afar, Amhara, Somali and Tigray, and receded **floods** leaving over 616,000 people displaced and many health facilities damaged in Afar, Gambella, Oromia, Somali and South Ethiopia regions.
- Insecurity and lack of access impeding health partners to fully resume operations in **Amhara**, with internet still cut off in the region. Continued reports of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) in conflict-affected areas, including against health workers.
- 157% increase in laboratory confirmed **measles** cases in 2023 when compared to 2022 due to an increasing number of children who have never been vaccinated against measles.
- Increase of almost 500,000 **malaria** cases in one month, to 3.7M on 24 December from 3.2M on 26 November 2023.
- **Cholera remains a concern in Somali**, with most new cases reported from Jijiga and Kelafo. 11% increase in number of cholera deaths during December when compared to the preceding month, with over 30,000 cholera cases reported as of 26 December 2023, including 449 deaths. increasing Case Fatality Rate (number of cholera deaths among cholera cases) of 1.48%, when compared to 1.43% on 29 November 2023.
- Thanks to the generous support of trusted health partners, the first 2 **health cluster co-coordinators** for Ethiopia have been appointed in Gambella (Action Against Hunger) and Benishangul Gumuz (MCMDO).

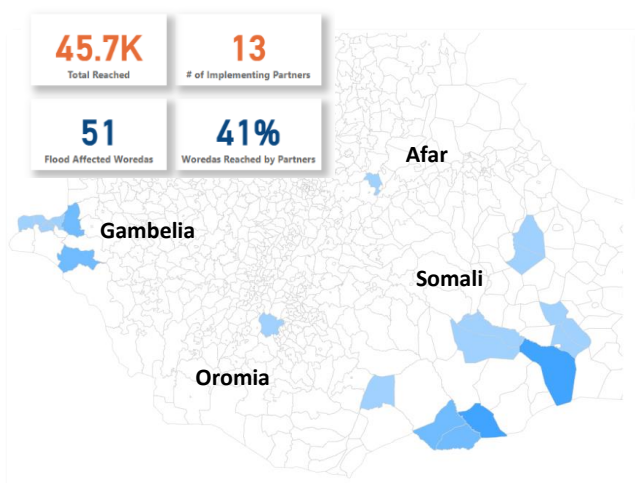
Health cluster action

Flooding

Many health centres and health posts have been damaged or destroyed by the floods, leaving the population without access to basic health services. 13 health partners are providing basic health services to almost 46k people in 21 out of the 51 flood-affected woredas.



Abakorow health centre severely damaged by floods in West Imay woreda, Afdher zone, Somali region



Health partner presence in flood-affected areas

Conflict in Amhara

Internet remains cut off in the entire region, severely impeding communication with health partners and authorities. The situation remains dire in the region, with many areas affected by ongoing insecurity. To compile lessons learned from the cholera response, an Intra-Action Review for **cholera** was conducted in Bahir Dar jointly between EPHI and the Amhara Public Health Authorities (APHI). In response to the increase in **malaria** cases, the Amhara health authorities strengthened malaria awareness among malaria hot spot zones and woredas, different regional sector offices and religious institutions.

Measles

Increase in the number of woredas with active measles outbreaks from 59 on 26 November to 67 on 24 December 2023. The majority of measles cases are reported from Southwest (36%), Oromia (23%), Amhara (16%), and Somali (10%) regions.

54% of measles cases are children under the age of 5, out of which 42% have not received any measles vaccination.

Variation in cumulative **measles** cases as of 24 December 2023

	25-Sep	29-Oct	26-Nov	24-Dec
Cases	16,713	20,782	25,104	30,389
% ↑	24%	24%	21%	21%
Deaths	127	159	195	233
% ↑↓	4%	25%	23%	-8%
CFR	0.76%	0.77%	0.78%	0.77%

Malaria

Increase in the number of woredas reporting at least one confirmed malaria case from 979 on 26 November to 1,053 on 24 December 2023. As of 24 December, 3,705,401 malaria cases including 469 deaths have been reported. The number of cases has been consistently increasing over the past months, the majority from Oromia (32%), followed by Amhara (26%), and Southwest (10%).

In the past 4 months, over 100,000 malaria cases are reported every week.

Gambella region consistently has the highest incidence rate (*number of cases per 100,000 population*).

Variation in cumulative **malaria** cases as of 24 December 2023

	25-Sep	29-Oct	26-Nov	24-Dec
Cases	2,304,227	2,873,114	3,241,862	3,705,401
% ↑	13%	25%	13%	14%

Cholera

Decrease in the number of woredas with active cholera outbreaks from 97 on 29 November to 65 on 26 December 2023. 2023, the majority in Somali (25%), Oromia (23%), Amhara (17%), followed by Dire Dawa (11%), Harari (11%), Afar (6%), Central Ethiopia or CER (5%), Tigray (2%), and South Ethiopia or SER (2%).

The cholera outbreak has been controlled in 231 woredas out of the total 296 woredas that reported cholera cases since the start of the outbreak in August 2022.

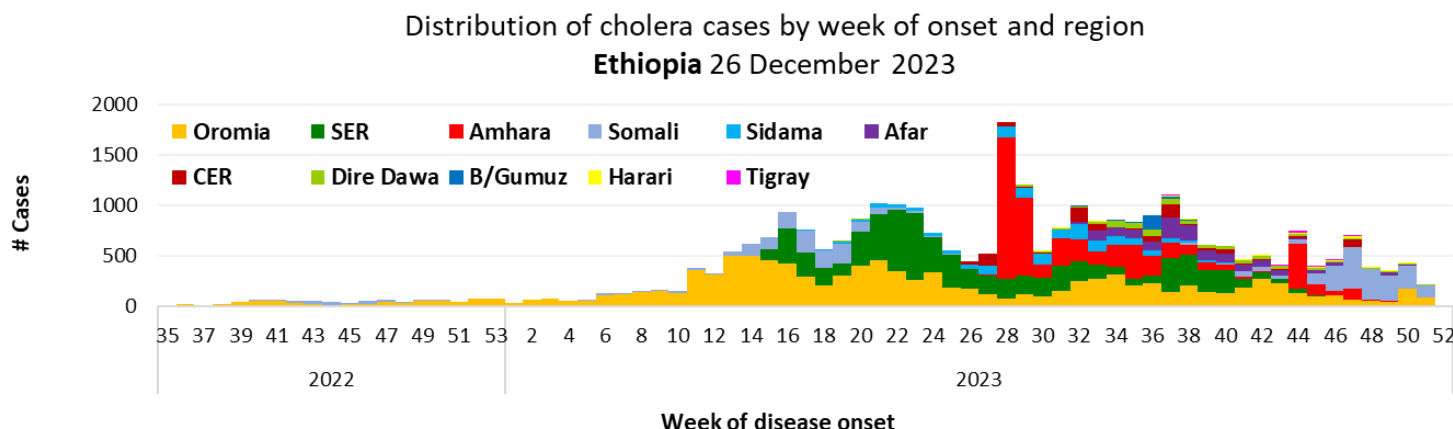
Six rounds of Oral Cholera Vaccine (OCV) campaigns have so far been conducted, targeting more than 8.5M people, with 2 more rounds currently being planned, totalling 10.4M doses.

As of 26 December 2023, **65 cholera patients are admitted** in Cholera Treatment Centres (CTC), out of which 40 in Somali and 25 in Oromia.

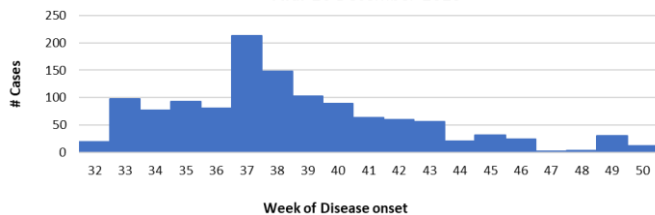
Variation in cumulative number **cholera** cases and deaths since 27 August 2022 up to 26 December 2023

	27-Sep	1-Nov	29-Nov	26-Dec
Cases	24,929	26,398	28,333	30,334
% ↑	23%	6%	7%	7%
Deaths	327	362	404	449
% ↑	21%	11%	12%	11%
CFR	1.31%	1.37%	1.43%	1.48%

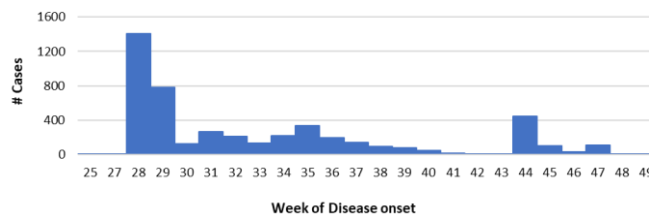
For more details, please see EPHI's interactive cholera situation report [here](#)



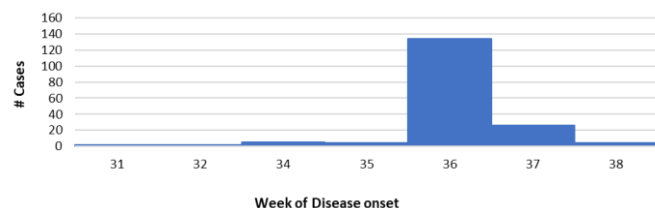
Distribution of cholera cases by week of onset
Afar 26 December 2023



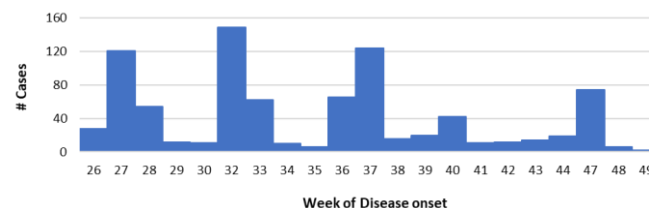
Distribution of cholera cases by week of onset
Amhara 26 December 2023



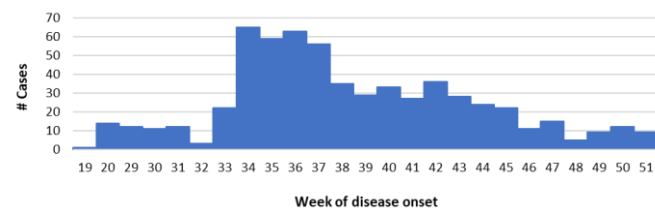
Distribution of cholera cases by week of onset
Benishangul Gumuz 26 December 2023



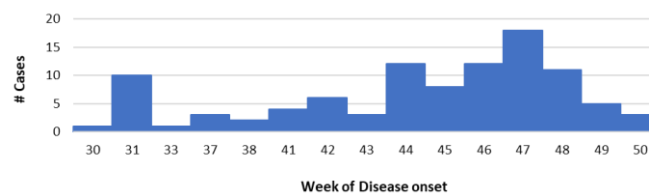
Distribution of cholera cases by week of onset
Central Ethiopia 26 December 2023



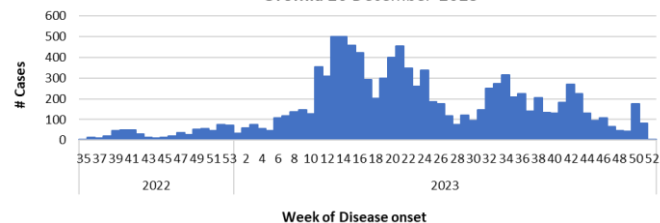
Distribution of cholera cases by week of onset
Dire Dawa 26 December 2023



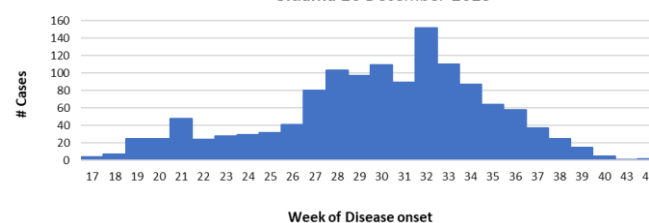
Distribution of cholera cases by week of onset
Harari 26 December 2023



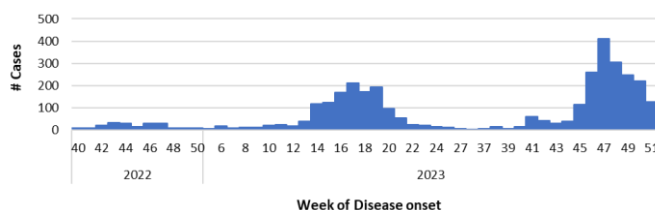
Distribution of cholera cases by week of onset
Oromia 26 December 2023



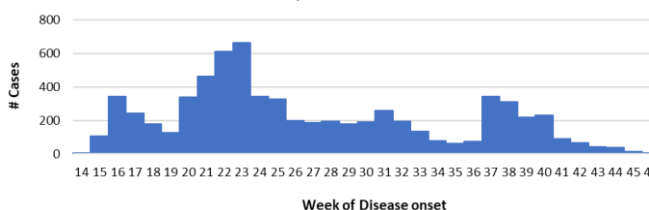
Distribution of cholera cases by week of onset
Sidama 26 December 2023



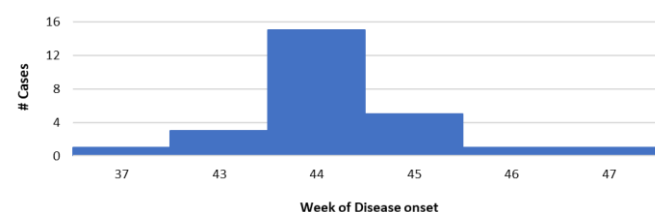
Distribution of cholera cases by week of onset
Somali 26 December 2023



Distribution of cholera cases by week of onset
South Ethiopia 26 December 2023



Distribution of cholera cases by week of onset
Tigray 26 December 2023



MDM team providing health education at Debreharmaz health post (Tigray)



Challenges

- **Focus on short-term solutions for disease outbreaks is pressing partners to reallocate scarce resources to response instead of preparedness and prevention, aimed at addressing root causes of outbreaks**
- **Ongoing insecurity** in Amhara, Benishangul Gumuz, Western Oromia, and Tigray is impeding the delivery of basic health services including immunization, distribution of bednets, surveillance and transport of samples for laboratory confirmation, resulting in increased risk of undetected disease outbreaks.
- **Health partners running out of funding** are forced to interrupt their activities, particularly **Mobile Health and Nutrition Teams (MHNT)** in remote areas.
- **El Niño** is expected to **continue to cause drought and floods** until mid-2024, further aggravating severe malnutrition resulting in an increase in mortality and morbidity.



148 copies of the Malaria Prevention and Control handbook prepared by the Health, Development and Anti-Malaria Association (HDAMA) were distributed in Amhara

Next steps

- Finalizing **2024-2025 Health Cluster Strategy and Health Cluster Preparedness and Response Plan** to be shared with health partners for their inputs
- For 2024: stronger focus on **durable solutions for safe drinking water supply systems and combating open defecation** to prevent cholera, increased **immunization coverage** and **strengthening of sexual reproductive health** to combat high maternal and neonatal mortality
- **Inclusion of HIV** in the 2024 Humanitarian Response Plan, strengthening the last-mile delivery of essential supplies
- Advocating for **MHNT as a routine health intervention** (NOT just for emergencies), particularly for Afar, Gambella, and Somali
- Extension of deadline for partners to fill in the **2023 Health Cluster Coordination Performance Monitoring (CCPM)** questionnaire until 15 January 2024 at <https://ethiopia.healthcluster.org/?ccpm>

Already over 15,000 health workers are using the Safe Delivery app in Ethiopia, which is completely free and provides in-depth information based on the latest updated Ministry of Health and WHO guidance, thanks to the Maternity Foundation

[Download the app from Google Play](#)



Health cluster monitoring visit of health facility run by IRC in Taba Weyane IDP site, Tigray



Routine immunization is severely affected by conflict, resulting in a drastic increase in measles outbreaks

