

Overview

With an estimated **91,000 people** fleeing to Ethiopia's Doolo Zone since the beginning of the conflict, refugees urgently need food and nutritional assistance. The Doolo Zone have already been severely affected by **prolonged drought** that has rendered people in the host community vulnerable to food insecurity. WFP, the Refugees and Returnees Service (RRS) of

the Ethiopian Government in collaboration with the local authorities began **general food distribution** on 28th March in three *kebeles* hosting a large number of refugees; Docmo, Goob and Hegaale, with plans to distribute food in the newly established **Mirqaan Settlement** and **Hegaale** in incoming weeks.

Key figures



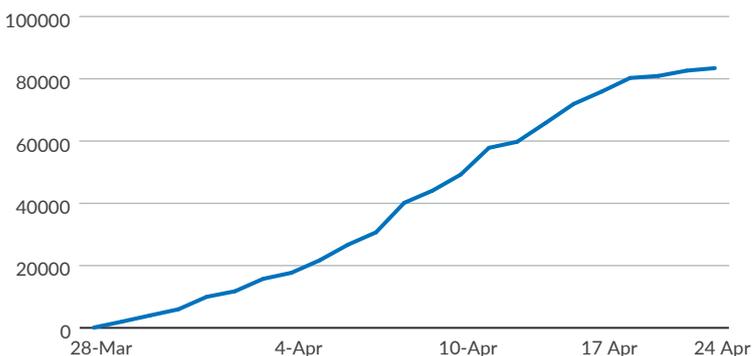
NEEDS

- As an estimated 80,000 people take shelter outside the Mirqaan Settlement, activities aimed at reducing food insecurity **targeting both the host community and refugees** are urgently needed.
- Livelihoods including food and income sources have been severely disrupted across the Doolo Zone and **food insecurity concerns** are increased due to the prolonged drought.

RESPONSE

- The first cycle of general food distribution has been completed with over **80,000 people** across the Doolo Zone receiving food, reaching over 91% of the people targeted. Additionally **60,000** individuals received high energy biscuits and date bars to date.
- Community engagement activities regarding the **second phase of the general food distribution** has been completed, informing refugees about the modalities of the second phase.

Number of People Received Food Assistance (cumulative)



The inter-agency community responded to the high rates of food insecurity by distributing food in three *kebeles* hosting a large number of refugees. ©UNHCR/Diana Diaz

GAPS

- The prolonged drought has had long-lasting implications on the food value chains, therefore, concrete planning around **humanitarian cash transfers** is needed to ensure self-reliance of individuals is increased and socio-economic inclusion of refugees is facilitated.
- Limited partner presence on the ground hinders efforts to establish reliable population and demographic data on the **household food insecurity levels** across the Doolo Zone.

UNHCR thanks donors who contributed earmarked and unearmarked funds for their support to our response to this emergency (As of May 2023)



• Refugees and Returnees Service (RRS) • United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) • World Food Programme (WFP)