

# ACT NOW

MARCH  
2016

## UNPRECEDENTED SCALE & SEVERITY

The current El Niño-driven drought is unprecedented in scale and severity. **10.2 million** farmers, herders and their families have lost harvests and livestock and fully rely on food assistance to meet basic needs. With the Government's leadership, the biggest drought response operations in Ethiopia's history is under way.

## DEVELOPMENT GAINS AT RISK

The development systems, through which a well-coordinated humanitarian response is being channeled, are over-strained. Impressive development gains made over the past decade are already in decline, including gains made in the Millennium Development Goals. Investing **US\$1.4 billion** in the drought response will safeguard **US\$30 billion** contributed by international donors in official development assistance over the past 10 years.

## UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

If Ethiopia is required to divert further funding to this crisis, there may be unintended consequences. The world has come to rely on a strong and stable Ethiopia. The country also hosts more refugees than any other country in Africa.



EL NIÑO  
CRISIS

# ETHIOPIA

A 90-DAY FUND-RAISING CAMPAIGN



## 3RD LARGEST HUMANITARIAN APPEAL

Ethiopia's Humanitarian Requirements Document (HRD) seeks **\$1.4 billion** to assist **10.2 million** food insecure people, **2.2 million** moderately malnourished children under-5 and mothers, **450,000** severely malnourished children under-5, **5.8 million** people without access to water and sanitation, as well as assistance in the health, agriculture, emergency shelter and non-food items, protection and emergency education.

## LOOMING GAPS AHEAD

The ongoing humanitarian assistance is threatened by critical funding gaps in all sectors. Available funding for food is being exhausted, which could lead to a break in food assistance by the end of April when the emergency is expected to reach its peak. Each day without food assistance increases human suffering, lengthens recovery period, strains humanitarian and development systems, and exponentially increases intervention cost. This can be prevented, with an adequately funded humanitarian response today.

## IT'S NOT TOO LATE

In the past, droughts have brought humanitarian calamity. Today government and humanitarian partners' early warning and action has averted a crisis so far. But the magnitude of this emergency requires more **ACTION NOW**.

For information on how to support Ethiopia's humanitarian appeal contact us on [ocha-ethiopia@un.org](mailto:ocha-ethiopia@un.org). To find out more about Ethiopia's Humanitarian Requirements Document please go to <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/ethiopia>

# PROTECT TOMORROW