



Protection Monitoring Report

IDPS IN WEST GUJI ZONE - ETHIOPIA

JANUARY- MARCH 2019

Overview

Since 11 April 2018, thousands of internally displaced people (IDPs) have been living in collective sites and grouped in spontaneous settlements in host communities across West Guji zone. The displaced population continues to face significant challenges in responding to their needs despite on-going humanitarian interventions due largely to secondary and tertiary displacements.

In West Guji, the protection environment remains fragile. Inter-ethnic tension and clashes as well as military operations by the Ethiopian Defence Forces (EDF) against rebel-Oromo Liberation Front (OLF) persist, causing sustained insecurity. The conflict has exposed the displaced population to heightened protection risks. It has disrupted social structures and basic services making the population more vulnerable to sexual exploitation and abuse as well as illness and financial insecurity.

Protection monitoring is one of the key humanitarian interventions; it involves collecting, verifying and analysing information in order to identify violations of rights, protection threats and risks encountered by IDPs and returnees for the purpose of advocacy as well as informing and facilitating effective responses by humanitarian actors.

This report covers the period of 01 January to 31 March 2019. It outlines key protection issues and challenges faced by the displaced population as well as sector related gaps that were either addressed or referred to relevant agencies/clusters for which a response is in progress. During the reporting period, joint protection monitoring was conducted in West Guji¹ zone involving 19 kebeles and 12 collective sites in Kercha, Hambella Wamana and Bule Hora woredas. The monitoring team conducted approximately 38 focus-group discussions in addition to key informant interviews. Additionally, joint missions were organized with other agencies (OCHA, ANE, NRC, UNHCR, OHCHR, IOM and NRC) at woreda and kebele levels for advocacy regarding site improvement and extension, to decongest sites and build sanitation facilities. OCHA, OHCHR and UNHCR also advocated for the reconstruction of a school in Hambella woreda².

¹ Kercha, Gelena, Hambella, Wamana and Bule Hora

² The location of the where NRC should reconstruct previously destroyed school or construct new school by NRC as a replacement has been a source of misunderstanding contention between the woreda and kebele leaders officials and the community.

Security

Volatile and unpredictable security situations plagued the Joint Protection Monitoring Project in the month of January. Protection monitors found themselves stuck in Bule Hora City for much of the month because of reported clashes between the EDF and the OLF. The protection monitors used this time to foster relationships with local government officials, university professors and cluster members in Bule Hora while their movement was restricted.

Peace talks initiated by traditional leaders between EDF and the OLF forces continue to face setbacks which has instilled a lack of confidence within the IDP community that a resolution will be agreed upon in the near future. In February, sporadic and recurrent attacks by unidentified armed groups and other security incidents produced new displacement in the region while creating wide spread fear among those already displaced. Subsequently, the security situation escalated in Kercha woreda where serious security incidents were observed, which suspended humanitarian interventions. Over the course of February, the security situation gradually improved, easing access for the on-going humanitarian and protection interventions in different woredas and kebeles. This improvement in the security situation continued through the month of March.

Key Findings

1. Population Movement

- Among the IDPs reached, women reported attacks and alleged sexual assaults by unidentified groups³ while on their way to fetch water and firewood. IDPs also reported threats and verbal abuse by the host community. For example, in Kercha, IDPs were allegedly threatened verbally by the host community to vacate farms as the farming season is approaching.
- Reports were received that youth groups (Qeros) chased some of the IDPs from their homes in places where there are no federal security forces in some kebeles in Bule Hora and Gelena woredas. The homes of IDPs were reportedly burnt, livestock and crops destroyed, farming tools looted. The Qeros also targeted woreda officials, which restricted their abilities to react and move in these areas.
- It was reported that some IDP men relocated to areas where daily labour positions were available and accessible.
- In February, IDPs residing on a private plot in Bule Hora woreda (Hera Kurto Kabele/Hera Elto collective site), were evicted by the owner forcing them to move to another collective site.
- In March, population movement (displacements and returns) in West Guji was dynamic and fluctuated constantly. Given significant movement of IDPs, population figures were inconsistent among key informants such as DRMO and IOM DTM. 1,620 Gujis displaced within Hambella

³It was also alleged that host community, youth and vagrants committed sexual assault against IDPs. Who is committing these sexual assaults remains unverifiable.

Wamena settled in three new collective sites⁴ in Bule Hamballa kebele; the sites are yet to be recognized by the authorities. Initially, the IDPs were residing in kebeles bordering the Gedeo zone where the security situation is still tense.

- According to key informants (DRMO, woreda and kebele officials), the population in collective sites increased significantly⁵ because IDPs migrated from host communities to collective sites to receive humanitarian assistance. Collective sites were already congested before the arrival of these IDPs and continue to be so. The sanitation facilities continue to be insufficient as IDPs move from the host community to collective sites. Similarly, partners recorded secondary movements of returnees from the host communities to collective sites due to security threats by the host community and unknown armed groups.
- Some IDPs are moving to and from host communities and places of origin to check on their properties and/or to see if they can return back sustainably. It is worth mentioning that the duration of “go and see visits” ranges from one to three days. Usually it is just one member of the family (woman or man) who travel on the go and see; the rest of the family is left in the area of displacement. Additionally, it was reported that some families are separating voluntarily (E.g. some family members remain in collective sites while the others return to their places of origin). Typically the children remain with one parent or members of the community in place of displacement, but some children are reportedly leaving their IDP parents to live in kebeles are more familiar with.

Situation of Return

- As of March, the Federal Government has yet to activate the strategic return to address internal displacement in West Guji and Gedeo zones. However, the zonal administration and local authorities are encouraging IDPs to return to their places of origin without making any arrangements and at times without ensuring security. They oblige IDPs to collect food assistance in their places of origin, this has resulted in IDPs travelling several kilometres to collect food, which sometimes is looted on the return journey by unidentified groups. This has particularly been challenging and inaccessible for persons with specific needs including for the elderly, pregnant and lactating women and people with disabilities. It was reported by partners that IDPs are also returning to kebeles in Birbissa Kajorwa woreda, however, the information cannot be verified as movement is restricted due to insecurity in the area.
- The prospect of return continues to seem unlikely due to the volatile and unpredictable security situation. Furthermore, the conditions in places of return are neither appropriate nor aligned with the principles of return⁶.
- During FGDs and individual interviews, IDPs expressed reluctance to return to their areas of origin due to security concerns⁷ and/or because of loss and damage of properties and houses. It shall be stressed here though Guji IDPs are more determined not to return to Gedeo zone while Gedeo IDPs and IDP returnees are willing, but also reluctant to return until some preconditions are met.

⁴ Kalacha (596 persons); Badesa (269 persons); Bule Mata Arba (755 persons)

⁵ Source: kobo = February (15,321 persons) and March (18,773 individuals)

⁶ Dignity, safety, voluntariness and sustainability.

⁷ Fear of recurrent inter-ethnic tensions and attacks by qeros.

- Some IDPs (both Gujis and Gedeos) reported the illegal occupation of their properties by host community members, which might be a cause for new tension if they return.
- Seemingly, Gelena woreda have a large number of returnees (mostly Gedeos) from Gedeo and West Guji who were reported to have returned since September 2018 following the request by the officials for IDPs return. It is important to mention that despite returning to their place of origin, some of them are living in the host community or collective sites because their houses are uninhabitable.
- Some IDPs conducted “go and see visits” to check on their land, home and properties, while others moved closer to their homes to observe the situation. Such is the case with a group of 25 HHs in Kercha who returned to their village but are still living in a collective site.
- A group of IDPs residing in the host community of Bule Hora woreda wished to settle in West Guji and they initiated discussion in February with the kebele leaders to formalise this request. The IDPs are still waiting for the response from the kebele leaders.

Safety and Security

- In February, within the woredas (Kercha, Gottiti and Hambella Wamena), allegedly, OLF carried out human rights violations and abuses such as assassinations and kidnappings against IDPs. The monitors received reports that two women were allegedly killed by OLF in Birbirsa Kojowa woreda. Accusing them of being spies, OLF allegedly sporadically attacked against government officials and the EDF. The security incidents caused new and secondary displacement. This delayed humanitarian interventions including food distribution in Kercha until it was safe to travel. Furthermore, the host community in Hambella Wamena woreda allegedly threatened the IDPs there, accusing them of being spies and supporting the EDF.
- In February, a fire left IDPs stranded without shelter and lifesaving assistance for weeks in one of the collective sites in Hera Lipitu kebele, Bule Hora woreda. IOM has started the rehabilitation and reconstruction of shelter and sanitation facilities at the site.
- According to the authorities, tensions between the host communities and IDPs in the Bule Hora woreda subsided in March. Authorities have claimed that bandits are the current cause of insecurity and not the result of ethnic tensions. In contrast, key informants disclosed that members of the host community (ethnic group not identified by informants) are seemingly preparing for another conflict, it is rumoured that they are allegedly selling their belongings to buy weapons.
- The security situation in Hambella Wamena woreda has partially improved but there are still few kebeles located around the border with SNNPR like Sike and Goru Bedesa where ethnic tension still exists. While returnees have settled in Gelena woreda, the sustainability of peace is affected by security threats (sporadic attacks and theft of property) on the population by bandits (Duriye in Amharic), who according to the woreda and kebele officials are beyond the control of the security forces in the area.
- In March, the security forces and representatives of the zonal and woreda administration initiated a process of reconciliation. The implementation and success of the process is yet to be seen.
- In Bule Hora woreda, Sakicha kebele, on 27 March, authorities arrested one IDP who was protesting against the unfair food distribution by the kebele leaders.

2. Protection and Human Rights Concerns

Capacity Development

- Capacity building of local authorities was carried out by OHCHR from 21-22 March on “Basic human rights, protection and human rights principles, rights of IDPs and other vulnerable groups and the role of human rights in peace building, conflict mitigation and resolution”. The targeted beneficiaries were officials from six WoWCYA, ZoWCYA and woreda administrators. The training was well received by 45 participants including 18 female and committed to apply the knowledge acquired in their work.
- Meanwhile the daily coaching and capacity building of protection monitors was facilitated by UNHCR and OHCHR mainly on the protection of IDPs and Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV). Moreover, protection and human right mainstreaming for UN agencies and humanitarian partners has continued with a joint effort between UNHCR and OHCHR.
- There continues to be little effort by local government officials to hold perpetrators of human rights violations/abuses accountable. There has not been a single known prosecution during the reporting period.

Child Protection

- Key informants reported an average of 98 cases of child marriage in Gelena, Bule Hora and Kercha woredas. The child protection partners (Imagine 1 Day and the ZOWCA) are addressing the issue in collaboration with WoWCYA. They are conducting sensitization sessions and trainings of IDPs/host community and kebele leaders. However, it is worth mentioning that child marriage has been a common practice in the region, even prior to the displacement. It may now be more prevalent due to the negative effects of conflict and displacement.
- The head of WoWCYA reported there are 953 unaccompanied and separated IDP children, including orphans, identified and supported by child protection partners in Kercha woreda. Moreover, 205 separated children have been reunified by Imagine 1 Day with family or caregivers with at least one parent through the support of kebele officials since the conflict receded.
- Kebele officials reported the identification of 200 children without adult care in Ela Farda kebele, Kercha woreda in addition to 953 unaccompanied and separated minors mentioned above. These children initially resided with their parents and family members as IDPs in Gedeb woreda in Gedeo zone. Reportedly, the children returned to Kercha (original place of origin) as they are familiar with the environment and society. The children are currently living in difficult conditions within the host community while working in coffee farms as daily labours to sustain themselves. Their parents have remained in Gedeb. Due to the tense security situation, which has restricted movement, there is no humanitarian access in the area, making it difficult to document and assess the needs of these children.

Sexual and Gender-Based Violence

- During focus group discussions held mainly with women ages 19-55 years, they reported two cases of rape and three cases of attempted rape in Bule Hora and Gelena woredas. These cases were referred to appropriate actors to respond. Nevertheless, no information about the alleged perpetrators was provided and the survivors did not press charges or report the incidents to the police or justice departments. Reproductive health and Post Exposure Preventive Treatment (PEP) kits are available at six health posts in all six woredas⁸ and the Kercha Hospital. UNFPA has also deployed seven SGBV officers in the six woredas to assist WoWCYA and ZoWCYA.
- It has been reported that inter-ethnic conflict has triggered divorces between mixed Guji-Gedeos families. As a result, most women were abandoned with their children without any source of income or assistance from their now ex-husbands. The exact number of such cases is unknown and will continue to be monitored.
- In Gelena, women specifically reported attacks and sexual assaults by bandits or vagrants (commonly known as ‘Duriye’ in Amharic) while on their way to fetch water and firewood, meanwhile kebele leaders advised them to walk in groups as they claimed the situation is beyond their control.
- Key informant interviews (Kerecha WoWCYA) reported some women have resorted to negative coping mechanisms such as transactional sex as a source of income. Meanwhile, UNFPA are working towards building the capacity of WoWCYA and ZoWCYA responsible for case management services for survivors of SGBV.

Housing, Land and Property

- Damaged houses were reported as one of the main reasons hindering return of IDPs to their places of origin.
- At Hera Lipitu kebele, Guji IDPs reported their land and other properties are occupied by Gedeos living in Gedeb woreda.
- Kebele officials conducted a damages and loss assessment in Ela Farda kebele and discovered that 336 houses were destroyed during the crisis. However, IDPs expressed concerns that assessments carried out by the government and humanitarian agencies do not lead to any response.
- In Ela Farda Kebele, Kercha woreda, Guji IDPs are occupying the houses left behind by Gedeo IDPs during the conflict. While the kebele official confirmed the issue, no action has been taken against those illegally occupying the houses.

3. Humanitarian Assistance and Protection Gaps

Food

- The shortage of food is critical among the IDPs as reported and observed by both partners and IDPs. The food distribution partners reported to have completed the 4th round of food distribution at 95% and the 5th round is underway. Lack of food distribution, delayed distribution, reduction

⁸ Gerba, Kellenso Mokonisa, Tore, Chalbessa, Kercha, Ela Farda

in quantity of food, exclusion of beneficiaries and inclusion of host community members are the major problems identified by IDPs and returnees.

- Allegedly, the food distribution partners are not willing to implement the new targeting and registration guidelines. According to the new targeting guidelines, individual registration should be carried out prior to the distribution, partners claimed it will be difficult under the current time constraint. As many issues related to targeting are mostly from the food sector, the non-compliance of the partners will continue to affect the IDPs. It is imperative that an effective food distribution system is established involving partners in the registration and verification of beneficiaries as well as post-distribution monitoring. IDPs share many complaints about the fact that the targeted and registered beneficiaries are not real IDPs. Hence, the food remains a crucial gap even though food distribution has been completed.⁹

Health and Nutrition

- While some IDPs/returnees have access to free health services via mobile clinics (basic and primary health care), access is limited for those in Bule Hora and Gelena woredas who are required to pay up to 200 ETB for a medical or consultation card, laboratory and treatment. This high cost is forcing IDPs to resort to traditional medication and to limit medical consultations to emergencies only. The directors of the health centres confirmed that service seekers are expected to pay, except for pregnant women who are provided free medical care. Some kebeles still have free health services for IDPs and returnees upon the issuance of IDP status letters but such practices are not uniform and reliable across the kebeles monitored in the four woredas.
- IDPs travel long distances to surrounding towns for serious medical cases. Inaccessible roads and the lack of transportation options coupled with the ongoing ban on motorbikes are impediments to accessing medical services.
- IDPs lack basic information about the services available at the health centres in Kercha. This has prevented IDPs from accessing free services they did not know existed such as treatments for malnutrition, typhoid, typhus, scabies and measles. The Director of the health centre in Kercha recommended humanitarian agencies to lobby with the government to resume the provision of free medical supplies in order to include IDPs to the extent possible. The Health Cluster has confirmed health centres are without medical supplies.
- Following advocacy in February by protection monitors regarding IDPs in Bule Hora woreda, the kebele officials agreed to resume the issuance of IDP status letters which will enable IDPs to get access to free health services in both Hera Kuto and Hera Lipitu kebeles.
- The closure of several health centres in Kercha woreda in March as well as the unaffordable cost and long distances (up to 50-60 kilometres in some cases) continue to limit IDPs/returnees access to health facilities/services. Additionally, the WHO reported 189 health centres have become non-operational in Kercha woreda due to insecurity. This has forced some pregnant women to deliver at home without proper medical treatment. Partners have been informed of this information.

⁹ Notwithstanding, in places where food was distributed, complaints about delays (5-7 months) and uneven rations were reported. IDPs were provided with rations for three persons regardless of family size. In Gelena, some IDPs received food in February while others were provided with only one commodity (lentils). The lists of beneficiaries allegedly included many members of the host community and leaving IDPs excluded. Unfortunately, there is no mechanism in place for appeal if IDPs did not receive food.

- During focus group discussions held with women and girls, they reported absence of medication in most of the health centres in the woredas monitored. Although reported by women and girls, it is a general problem experienced by men and boys as well.
- Suspected cases of malnutrition were reported in Chorso Gulja collective site in Hambela Wamena woreda. The Nutrition Cluster announced an assessment in West Guji following reports about high rate of acute malnutrition in the area.
- In March, health workers reported suspected cases of tuberculosis in Sakicha kebele in Bule Hora woreda.

Education

- School aged children continue to have limited access to formal education because they lack educational records/documents, they missed enrolment deadlines and lastly because of the lack of school materials and supplies. Besides, frequent back and forth displacement has hindered the enrolment of Gedeo children in schools in West Guji woredas.
- Gedeo returnee and Guji IDP children are fully enrolled in formal education. However, it is reported that some of the children lack education materials, uniforms and other school supplies.
- The security situation is hindering access to education as parents fear their children will be assaulted while walking long distances to attend school. It is worth mentioning the case of Chorso Sodu site in Hambela Wamena woreda where children are walking to Sike kebele in the same woreda (the very place they were displaced from) to attend school; the distance varies between 15 to 20 kilometres which is putting the children at-risk to walk such long distances.
- The Education working group was activated and is chaired by OCHA, after interruption for a while to address educational issues facing children.

NFI and Shelter

- Shelter assistance is most needed as the rainy season is fast approaching and many IDPs continue to live in inadequate shelters.
- Site improvement including shelters and sanitation facilities is underway, however, partners are faced with challenges regarding land as they mostly belong to private owners who are unwilling to allow any improvement works.
- IDPs are in need of clothes, NFIs, agricultural tools, school supplies and dignity kits. Families have lost many of their belongings due to multiple displacements.
- IDP sites are overcrowded due to the arrival of more IDPs from the host communities. Specifically, there is a shortage of shelter in Mekane Eyesus site (Kercha 01 kebele) where people continue to sleep outside.

Livelihoods

- Woreda and kebele leaders requested humanitarian agencies to support IDPs/returnees with farming tools in addition to ongoing lifesaving services. Some returnees echoed this point and requested farming tools in order to resume agricultural activities.
- Meanwhile there are reports about some partners distributing cash as well as seeds and tools in Kercha and Gelena.

WASH

- There is a shortage of latrines in the collective sites in Hambela Wamena and Bule Hora woredas. For instance, there are no latrines in Chorso Bule collective site.
- In Hambella Wamena, the foundation of six water tankers was constructed in three collective sites.
- Currently there is a serious lack of water in most kebeles. For example, in Ela Farda kebele (Kercha woreda) the existing water line is broken, water tankers planted by partners are not operational and water trucking was suspended. Consequently, women are forced to walk for more than 40 minutes to fetch water. This is creating a huge inconvenience and a protection risk for women particularly for girls, pregnant women, lactating mothers, persons with movement limitations such as older persons and persons with disabilities.

Challenges and Restrictions

- Due to persistent insecurity, some kebeles remain inaccessible, which include Sakicha in Bule Hora woreda and Shamole in Gelana woreda.
- Most of the SGBV interventions (medical, legal, psychosocial) are limited at the woreda level or semi urban centres. Thus, these activities have limited or no impact at the kebele level. It is urgent to build a SGBV response strategy at the kebele level which will involve kebele leaders, IDPs/returnee committees.
- There is an apparent lack of accountability on alleged human rights violations and abuses.
- Access restrictions as a result of the volatile and rapidly changing security situation in the different woredas of West Guji zone have hindered protection monitoring activities, particularly in the month of January.
- UN staff are able to work within specified security window hours, which do not allow departure from Bule Hora before 8am. Return to Bule Hora must be by 4pm. With long traveling distances of up to a few hours to many locations in the zone, particularly Gelana, Abaya, and Hambela Wamena, and even parts of Kercha and Birbirs Kojowa, these limited hours for security reasons restrict the possible time on the ground to conduct protection monitoring.

Recommendations

Humanitarian Actors

- Develop information-sharing mechanisms with the community to ensure procedures for assistance provision is clear. To the extent possible, increased transparency in regards to criteria for selection of persons with specific needs among communities.
- Establish community-level complaints and feedback mechanisms, in collaboration with the PSEA Network.
- Develop targeted programming for unaccompanied women. Initiate socio-economic empowerment activities and facilitate access to livelihood support for women and girls to mitigate risk of GBV and negative coping mechanisms such as transactional sex, as part of multi-sectoral response, with a special focus on Female Headed Households.

- Lobby with the government to resume the provision of free medical supplies in order to include IDPs to the extent possible.
- As many issues related to targeting are mostly from the food sector the non-compliance of the partners will continue to affect the IDPs. It is imperative that an effective food distribution system is established involving partners in the registration and verification of beneficiaries as well as post-distribution monitoring.
- Continue follow up with the kebele officials who agreed to resume the issuance of IDP status letters, which will enable IDPs to get access to free health services in both Hera Kuto and Hera Lipitu kebeles.
- Humanitarian agencies need to support IDPs/returnees with farming tools in addition to ongoing lifesaving services.
- Follow up on the new food distribution targeting guideline that is being implemented in Kercha currently with the collaborated effort of CRS, OCHA, OHCHR and UNHCR.

Protection Cluster

- Regular joint reporting to consolidate findings and recommendations from the interagency Protection Monitoring project by UNHCR, UNICEF, UNFPA, OHCHR and produce a report on a monthly basis and share through the Protection Cluster.
- Protection Cluster in Bule Hora to maintain an updated service directory and referral pathways to facilitate safe and ethical referrals. The child protection referral pathway is currently being developed.
- Protection and human right mainstreaming, capacity building on basic protection and human right issues shall continue for humanitarian partners and local authorities.

Lack of Documentation & Housing, Land, Property (HLP) issues

- A HLP Working Group (HLP TWG) has been initiated at the National level in Addis Ababa. Next steps is to initiate a regional HLP WG in Bule Hora and Dilla, to bring relevant actors together regarding HLP issues and potential solutions.
- Protection monitoring teams to identify main types of vital events documents that IDPs are missing, then organise with government authority Vital Events Registration Agency (VERA), other government authorities (i.e. woreda officials) or relevant NGOs to hold information sessions with the IDPs on how to recover these documents.
- To advocate for the preparation and sharing of segregated data about IDPs and returnees by kebele authorities.

Psychological First Aid (PFA) and Psychosocial support (PSS)

- Training on PFA to be provided to protection monitoring consultants and other front-line humanitarian workers.

Child Protection/SGBV Sub-Cluster

- PSS programming to be prioritised, including scale-up of the number of partners and the quality of PSS activities.

- UNICEF and partners to continue to support community-based structures for identification and referral of children with protection issues, including unaccompanied and separated children.
- UNFPA continue to support capacity building and provision of case management by GBV assistant officers and referrals through women, children and youth affairs woreda offices.
- BoWCYA to continue registration, documentation and case management follow up of child protection cases, including family tracing and the provision of alternative care as required.
- Sub-cluster to ensure service directory is updated and circulated among all partners and finalize draft SGBV SOP to facilitate implementation of at least the minimum standards for prevention and response to GBV.

Human Rights Violations, including SGBV

- All allegations of human rights violations be referred to OHCHR for further verification and documentation, after obtaining the informed consent of the survivor, with a view to ensuring targeted responsive (or at least referral) measures are in place.
- All cases of SGBV to be referred in accordance with referral pathway/service directory for further support and service provision
- The protection monitoring team will refer for medical assistance, psycho-social support, security and safety and provision of legal aid, where desired with relevant service providers.
- The Protection Cluster in Addis Ababa and Bole Hora to engage and advocate with zonal, regional and federal level respective government bodies (kebele authorities, police, prosecutors and court) to ensure the accountability on alleged human rights violation cases.
- Organize and enhanced human rights knowledge for government officials and other interlocutors in order reinforce government obligations to ensure accountability on human rights violations.

Persons with Specific Needs

- UNHCR to develop their vulnerability criteria to identify persons with disabilities and serious medical conditions that will be issued with small cash grants.

Communications with Communities:

- Due to lack of information on food distributions, provide food distribution schedule and rations to all partners.
- Develop information-sharing mechanisms with the community to ensure procedures for assistance provision are clear. To the extent that it is possible, reasonable and safe, increase transparency in regards to criteria for selection of persons with specific needs among communities.
- Community-level complaints and feedback mechanisms to be put-in place in IDP locations.

Response Plan

Action Item	Focal Point	Timeline
<p>Multi-Sector</p> <p>1. The findings on topics (food, shelter, wash, nutrition, education) are brought to the attention of the other clusters/EOC members in regular meetings</p>	National Protection Cluster to share report with ICCG and EHCT	April 2019
<p>Livelihoods / Cash</p> <p>2. Initiate socio-economic empowerment activities, and facilitate access to livelihood support for women and girls to mitigate risk of GBV and negative coping mechanisms such as transactional sex, as part of multi-sectoral response, with a special focus on Female Headed Households</p>	<p>National Protection Cluster to share report with Cash Working Group</p> <p>West Guji Protection Cluster to reach out to actors providing livelihood assistance and/or cash</p>	<p>May 2019</p> <p>May 2019</p>
<p>Health</p> <p>1. Cases of malnutrition identified in Hambella Wamana and Kercha</p> <p>2. Suspected tuberculosis cases in Bule Hora woreda</p>	<p>National Protection Cluster to share report with National Nutrition Cluster.</p> <p>National Protection Cluster to share report with National Health Cluster.</p>	<p>April 2019</p> <p>April 2019</p>

	West Guji Protection cluster to share with West Guji Health Cluster and Nutrition Cluster	
<p>Child Protection</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Carry about verification of the status of 200 children (without adult caregivers) in Ellarfa kebele and refer cases to BoWCYA/UNICEF as required 2. Provide technical support for PSS 3. Continued technical support for child protection case management by BoWCYA 	<p>Interagency Protection Monitoring teams</p> <p>UNICEF PSS Consultant with other organisations through the Protection Cluster in Bule Hora</p> <p>UNICEF in coordination with child protection partners in West Guji</p>	<p>April-June 2019</p> <p>Ongoing support</p> <p>Ongoing support</p>
<p>SGBV</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assessment be carried out to identify Female-Headed Households, including those abandoned by spouses in displacement 2. Assessment on prevalence of transactional sex work in Hambella Womena worda. 	<p>Interagency Protection Monitoring teams.</p> <p>All allegations SGBV cases referred to referred to respective WOWCY offices, as per the referral pathway for further verification and documentation with a view to ensuring targeted responsive (or at least referral) measures are in place</p>	<p>May-June 2019</p> <p>May –June 2019</p>
<p>Human Rights</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The joint protection monitoring team document and verify the 	<p>Allegations of human rights violations, to be referred to the appropriate protection team for</p>	<p>Ongoing support</p>

<p>alleged human rights violations cases and referred them to respective service providers and authorities</p> <p>2. Organize capacity building workshop on basic human rights for government officials</p> <p>3. Organize a workshop or dialogue on peace building, conflict mitigation and resolution</p>	<p>further verification and documentation, with the aim to ensure targeted responsive (or at least referral) measures are in place</p> <p>The Protection Cluster at the Addis Ababa level and Bole Hora level engage and advocate with zonal, regional and federal level respective government bodies (police, prosecutors and court) to ensure the accountability on alleged human rights violation cases</p> <p>OHCHR in collaboration with protection cluster will organize human rights training for responsible government officials</p> <p>On the role of human rights in peace building, conflict mitigation and resolution for the IDPs, returnees, host communities, traditional and religious elders, social structures, local authorities, youth etc.</p>	<p>Ongoing support</p> <p>June 2019</p>
<p>Persons with Specific Needs</p> <p>1. Persons with specific needs identified through protection monitoring to be registered by the monitoring team and then referred to relevant NGOs who can respond to their needs, or the government Bureau of Labour and Social Affairs (BoLSA) for follow up.</p>	<p>Joint protection monitoring teams in West Guji.</p>	<p>Ongoing support</p>

<p>HLP</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Initiate an HLP Working Group (HLP WG) in Bule Hora, to bring relevant actors together regarding HLP issues and potential solutions. 	<p>National Protection Cluster and Sub-National Protection Cluster in Bule Hora.</p>	<p>June 2019</p>
<p>Education</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide a list of functional schools per zone. 2. Provide a list of occupied/destroyed schools in both zones (due to the recent conflict). 	<p>Sub-National Education Cluster</p> <p>Sub-National Education Cluster</p>	<p>May 2019</p> <p>May 2019</p>
<p>Communication with Communities</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Due to lack of information on food distributions, provide food distribution schedule and rations to all partners. 2. Develop information-sharing mechanisms with the community to ensure procedures for assistance provision are clear. To the extent that it is possible, increase transparency in regards to criteria for selection of persons with specific needs among communities. 3. Community-level complaints and feedback mechanisms to be put-in place in IDP locations. 	<p>Joint protection monitoring teams in West Guji.</p> <p>Protection cluster and joint protection monitoring teams in West Guji.</p> <p>UNHCR and joint protection monitoring teams in West Guji.</p>	<p>April – June 2019</p> <p>May 2019</p> <p>May 2019</p>