



HUMANITARIAN CONCERNS

Increasing food insecurity and malnutrition in some areas continue to challenge humanitarian response activities. Despite improved water availability in most areas critical shortage of water continue to be reported in some areas including East and West Harerghe and Borena zones of Oromiya and most zones of Somali Region.

WORSENING FOOD INSECURITY IN SOMALI

The overall humanitarian situation in the region has worsened due to progressive shortages of water and food. Food and water shortages have reached critical levels in many areas of the region leading to increased rural-urban migration, the Regional DPPB reports. Affected areas include Korahe, Warder, Degehabur, Gode, Fik and parts of Liben and Afder zones. The region also remains of particular concern due to erratic dispatches of food assistance, notes WFP. The impact is also reflected in a general decline in daily food intake from 3-4 meals to 1-2 meals a day aggravating the level of malnutrition, RDPPB reports. Constant increase in food prices has also resulted in increased food insecurity. Moreover, livestock mortality is escalating due to extreme shortages of water and pasture and drought related diseases. Meanwhile, concerns are growing about potential exacerbation of existing drought conditions as the *Karan (July- September)* rains in Jijiga and Shinile zones are nearing a failure. Immediate interventions in food, income and livelihood protection support, feed and water supply, are among priority responses identified by the Regional DPPB.

GAPS IN RESPONSE

Timely provision of food assistance to drought affected communities is at risk, according to WFP. Increasing needs of food assistance in the country remain the leading factor challenging timely and adequate response activities. In addition, resource pipelines for relief and PSNP remain broken. The agency currently faces a resource shortfall totaling 145,690 MT valued at US\$ 118.9 million.

HEAVY RAINS AND FLOODING

Severe flooding in Fogera woreda of Amhara has affected 697 households, notes CARE. In Addisbetekrstian kebele of Farta woreda, flooding has also damaged crops on 86 hectares of land. Moreover, overflow of Awash river in Fentale woreda of Oromiya Region has caused crop damage and population displacement. CARE reports that immediate humanitarian intervention is required.

RESPONSE FOR GAMBELLA FLOOD VICTIMS

A joint Federal Ministry of Health (FMoH) and WHO assessment (5 to 12 September) found that requirements for immediate response in the region remain high. Immediate requirements include food distribution, drugs and medical supplies, shelters, water treatment chemicals, household utensils and Insecticide Treated Nets (ITNs), WHO reports. WHO has provided drugs and additional US\$ 33, 743 to support operational cost for flood response. For more information contact: who-wro@et.afro.who.int, info@dppc.gov.et, care.eth@ethionet.et & wfp.addisababa@wfp.org

HEALTH

New cases of Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD) are being reported from Amibara woreda in Afar and Minjar woreda in Amhara Regions. WHO continues supporting AWD response activities in Oromiya and Amhara regions. UNICEF supports Afar Regional Health Bureau with various AWD drugs and medical supplies benefiting approximately 3,500 patients. AWD case treatment training has also been provided to 40 health personnel and five Case Treatment Center (CTC) kits supplied to Shenkora woreda, notes UNICEF.

In Amhara WHO; UNICEF; zonal, woreda and Regional Health Bureaus are providing training in CTC case management, surveillance, and hygiene promotion. In addition, provision of water treatment chemicals, essential drugs and medical supplies has been undertaken. Preparations are underway for a joint assessment to identify additional gaps and develop plan of action for funding requirements. WHO has provided US\$ 11,764 to Amhara Region in support of community education and latrine construction.

Malaria outbreak has been reported from Dera, Libokemkem, Fogera and Ebinat woredas in South Gonder following water logging situations, reports CARE. For more information contact: who-wro@et.afro.who.int, care.eth@ethionet.et & kmcdonald@unicef.org.