



OVERALL HUMANITARIAN CONDITIONS

Improved rainfall conditions have resulted in better water and pasture availability in some areas of the country. Prospects of better crop harvest have also increased, depending on continuation of rainfall until end of September. Nevertheless, some areas particularly in the Somali Region continue to report extreme shortages of water and food resulting in increased food insecurity. Prices of food commodities in most local markets remain high and supplies to local markets are limited.

Some improvements in nutritional situation have been reported in parts of southern Oromiya and SNNPR due to a combination of food aid interventions and start of green harvest of maize, potato and haricot beans, notes WFP. Livestock conditions have also reportedly improved in most areas except South Omo and Gamo Gofa zones and parts of Konso, Amaro and Burji special woredas in SNNPR. Food security conditions, however, remain critical in some areas. Gode, Afder, Korahe, Warder and Liben zones in Somali Region continue to report critical water and food shortages, WFP reports. Increased levels of migration, diminished daily food intake, poor livestock conditions and subsequent mortalities are also reported. Reports indicate that the Somali Region Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Bureau has dispatched 20 water trucks supported by UNICEF to 11 most drought affected woredas. Meanwhile, WFP reports that the planned hubs and spokes logistical systems have gained Government approval. The system is expected to enhance food dispatches and delivery of supplies to drought affected people in the region.

Heavy rains/Hailstorms

Hailstorms and heavy rains continue to damage crops. Excessive rains in Gomo Gofa and Welayita zones of SNNPR have destroyed crops, according to WFP. CARE reports that intense hailstorms damaged planted crops in pocket areas of South Gonder in Amhara and Bedeno and Haromaya woredas in East Hararghe, Oromiya. In Haromaya woreda, maize crops have been significantly damaged. For more information contact: who-wro@et.afro.who.int, info@dppc.gov.et, care.eth@ethionet.et, kmcdonald@unicef.org & wfp.addisababa@wfp.org

HEALTH UPDATE

During the week five woredas have been newly affected by Acute Watery Diarrhoea: Yilma Densa and Shekora woredas in Amhara Region and Tselemty, Shere town and Tahitay Machew woredas in Tigray Region. Current hotspot woredas include Amibara in Afar; Menjar, Shekora and Yilma Densa woredas in Amhara; Ada'a and Gimbichu in Oromiya, WHO reports. A recent joint assessment by WHO, UNICEF and the Amhara Regional Health Bureau indicates that poor supply of clean water, poor sanitation and hygiene practices and weak health promotion activities contribute to continuity of AWD.

In response, WHO has provided materials and medical supplies to Amhara Region. In addition, WHO continues to provide technical support, treatment protocols and guidelines to strengthen Case Treatment Centers (CTCs). UNICEF reports that 33 CTC kits including beds and medical supplies have been delivered to Oromiya and Amhara regions. Further, UNICEF has provided medical supplies and materials valued at US\$ 369,483. Technical assistance has also been provided to establish CTCs and build capacity of health personnel. In Amhara, 40 health personnel have been trained on AWD case management. In Somali region, a training of trainers has been conducted to 40 sanitarians with UNICEF support in planning and coordination. Moreover, training for the UNICEF supported five additional mobile health and nutrition teams in Jijiga has commenced. Staff from Mercy Corps, Save the Children-UK and OWDA are also participating in the training. Training on water, sanitation and hygiene for AWD preparedness continues in Gambella Region; WHO and UNICEF jointly support the program. For more information contact: who-wro@et.afro.who.int & kmcdonald@unicef.org

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE FUND UPDATE

To enhance responses to the current humanitarian crisis, the Humanitarian Response Fund (HRF) continues to fund interventions. Currently, the HRF has recommended approval of applications from Catholic Relief Services (CRS) for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) interventions in Oromiya and Somali Regions. Additional proposals for Somali Region response (also recommended for approval) include WASH (Islamic Relief) and health and nutrition interventions (Save the Children US). Non-Food Interventions (NFIs) are among priority responses required for the current flooding in Gambella Region. IOM proposal for NFI intervention in the region is among those recommended for approval. For more information contact: ocha-eth@un.org