



More Food Aid Required

Given the seriousness of the food security situation and significant resource shortfalls, the Disaster Risk Management and Food Security Sector (DRMFSS) on 13 July provided a briefing to donors on the projected national relief food requirements for the second half of the year (June to December 2009). The most likely scenario, according to DRMFSS is that the current 4.9 million relief food beneficiaries will increase to at least 6.2 million, and the current shortfall of 176,000 MT, rising to 390,000 MT. Because of the existing shortfall, only three of the six planned rounds of food allocations have been distributed to date. For the fourth allocation, currently available joint resources can cover the needs of close to 4.4 million beneficiaries, largely in priority 1 areas. WFP and DRMFSS's available resources can cover 2.4 million people, while the Joint Emergency Operations Programme (JEOP) food now being offloaded in Djibouti is sufficient for two rounds at full rations for 2.3 million people. However, there is no relief food available in the pipeline to cover the balance (actual relief food beneficiaries total 5.3 million at present due to ad hoc increases approved by the Government). This means that more than three million people will not receive any assistance until new relief food supplies become available. Additional resources are urgently required as collateral to enable borrowing from the Ethiopian Food Security Reserve Administration (EFSRA), whose current stocks stand at 140,000 MT. The projection analysis is based on information from regional reports, preliminary *belg* assessment results, early warning monitoring data and the *kiremt* seasonal outlook.

Meanwhile, WFP reports that the joint logistics mission to Djibouti undertaken by WFP and DRMFSS reached agreement to prioritize the off-loading of vessels carrying relief food aid. There was also agreement to allocate a second of the three available berths for relief food. Previously, two berths had been allocated for fertilizer and one for grains. These agreements complement the previous commitment by Government to make up to 100 trucks available as required to transport arriving food aid. For more information contact: wfp.addisababa@wfp.org & ocha-eth@un.org

23 Woredas Report AWD Cases

According to official reports from the Federal Ministry of Health (FMOH), 567 new cases of Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD) and five deaths (average case fatality rate of 0.9 per cent) were reported in 23 woredas in Afar, Somali, Oromiya, Harari and SNNP Regions between 29 June and 5 July. A cumulative of 1,876 AWD cases and 34 deaths (CFR 1.9%) have been reported in the five regions from 8 June to 5 July 2009. The ongoing *kiremt* rains are expected to further exacerbate the spread of the disease; already a significant rise in the number of new cases has been recorded since the beginning of June. Critical gaps in the response include lack of CTC materials and drugs, lack of funds for operational budgets and trained health staff. Case management in CTCs and preventative measures in communities also need to be further strengthened.

In view of the enormous challenges posed by the disease, a joint multi-sectoral response plan integrating health and WASH components based on lessons learnt from Gambella in 2006 and experiences drawn from Kenya and South Africa has been introduced in Oromiya, Afar, Somali and SNNPR. Regional Health Bureaus (RHBs), NGOs, UNICEF and WHO continue supporting response activities in the AWD-affected regions. In Afar, UNICEF provided three emergency water kits for three CTC sites in Gewane and Amibara woredas and distributed water treatment chemicals to at-risk households in Amibara, Mile and Hadelela woredas. In Somali Region, an AWD preparedness and response plan targeting an at-risk population of approximately 2.6 million people from all zones has been finalized. For more information contact: who-wro@et.afro.who.int & kmcdonald@unicef.org

Nutrition Update

Admissions to Therapeutic Feeding Units (TFUs) continue to increase in SNNPR, Oromiya (Guji, West and East Hararghe zones), southern parts of Somali Region and some hotspot woredas in Amhara Region. In response, Oromiya, SNNPR and Amhara RHBs have started implementing the national Therapeutic Feeding Programme (TFP) roll-out plan, with support from NGOs. The aim is to achieve full coverage of hotspot woredas with Out-patient Therapeutic Programmes (OTPs) and TFUs. In priority 1 woredas, 28 TFUs and 457 OTPs will need to be opened in Oromiya, 15 TFUs and 502 OTPs in SNNPR, and 35 TFUs and 555 OTPs in Amhara to achieve full coverage. The Regional and Zonal monitoring group, together with the RHBs and NGOs, is working to start an evaluation plan as soon as possible. Meanwhile, the Somali Regional authorities postponed the multi-sectoral response planning activities in order to consider the findings of the ongoing needs assessments. In the meantime, partners are requested to initiate and/or strengthen nutrition interventions in the surveyed woredas of Filtu, Ayisha, Degehabur, Hamero, Bare, Kelafu and Bokh. All the woredas are covered by partners including ADRA, Save the Children UK, Save the Children US, MSF Holland and MSF Greece. For more information contact: kmcdonald@unicef.org & orlao@dppc.gov.et

Refugees in Dolo Ado, Somali Region

As of 15 July, the number of newly-arrived refugees from Somalia registered in Dolo Ado stands at 10,346, of which 6,903 have been moved to the newly opened Boqolomayo camp. However, additional relocations to the camp have been temporarily suspended due to the insufficient quantity of shelter. The Administration for Refugees and Returnees Affairs (ARRA) has asked UNHCR to look into opening a second camp, as the refugee caseload is expected to exceed the maximum capacity of 20,000, before the end of the year. Meanwhile, WFP completed the distribution of the July allocation to refugees at full ration. Oxfam is providing emergency water tankering services. In total, there are approximately 100,000 refugees throughout the country, with new influxes continuing to arrive in Afar and Somali regions from Eritrea and Somalia respectively. For more information contact: wfp.addisababa@wfp.org & GEGZIABK@unhcr.org