• 10.2 million people are in need of food assistance in 2016 across Ethiopia, a number likely to grow in the months ahead.

• WFP currently needs USD 520 million to support 7.6 million people living with HIV and AIDS; and support to the Ethiopian Government in disaster risk management; school meals programme; support to people living with HIV and AIDS; and support to smallholder farmers through P4P.

• An additional 300,000 children under five and pregnant and nursing women are being targeted under the Targeted Supplementary Feeding programme following the revision of the Priority Hotspot woreda-classification finalized on 07 April, bringing the revised 2016 total to 2.5 million.

WFP’s Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) 200712 addresses acute food insecurity, currently exacerbated by the ongoing drought. The PRRO allows WFP to support and complement the government’s social protection, disaster risk management and nutrition programmes by providing emergency food assistance, engaging productive safety net activities and addressing malnutrition. WFP and the Government’s National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC) are assisting 7.6 million people in six regions identified for emergency food assistance in 2016.

WFP’s PRRO 200700 provides food assistance to about 600,000 refugees in Ethiopia. Around 10 percent of the refugees receive a combination of cash and food in five camps. Refugee children attending primary school in 18 camps also benefit from the school meals program. WFP also provides blanket supplementary feeding for pregnant and nursing women, and children aged 6 – 23 months in camps with high malnutrition rates. In addition, WFP supports targeted supplementary feeding program for treatment of moderate acute malnutrition among children under five in all camps.

The Country Programme (200253) comprises: support to the Ethiopian Government in disaster risk management; school meals programme; support to people living with HIV and AIDS; and support to smallholder farmers through P4P.

In Numbers

7.6 million people targeted in the 2016 joint WFP-Government emergency relief response

600,000 refugees in need of food assistance in 2016

USD 520 million funding shortfall for relief operations in 2016 (May - October)

USD 27 million funding shortfall for refugee operations in 2016 (May - October)

WFP Assistance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Total Requirements (in USD)</th>
<th>Total Received (in USD)</th>
<th>6 Months Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PRRO 200712</td>
<td>1.17 billion</td>
<td>315 m (27%)</td>
<td>520 m (97%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEV 200253</td>
<td>331 m (39%)</td>
<td>127.6 m (39%)</td>
<td>11.7 m (80%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SO 200711</td>
<td>18 m (51%)</td>
<td>9.3 m (51%)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SO 200752</td>
<td>6.3 m (104%)</td>
<td>6.5 m (104%)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SO 200358</td>
<td>29.4 m (75%)</td>
<td>22 m (75%)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*May 2016 - October 2016

WFP supports government programmes to address hunger by providing food assistance where it adds value, running capacity development projects such as Purchase for Progress (P4P), food management improvement project (FMIP), conducting vulnerability assessment and mapping; and providing support in the area of disaster risk management.
**Operational Updates**

- The current 2016 Humanitarian Requirements Document (HRD) estimates the number of people in need of food assistance to increase to 10.2 million in the second half of the year. There are currently an estimated two million additional “ad hoc” people in need of food assistance and, from July onwards, a large number of people currently receiving food under the productive safety net programme (PSNP) are likely to also require relief assistance.

- The targeted supplementary feeding program (TSFP) targets 2.5 million children under five years of age, pregnant and nursing women suffering from moderate acute malnutrition. An additional 300,000 people are being targeted under the targeted supplementary feeding (TSF) programme following the revision of the priority hotspot woreda-classification.

- Cash assistance to refugees will be expanded to reach more refugees. The expansion will be first implemented in the Shire camp and the amount of cash transferred will be based on the amount of cereal substituted for cash and revised rates as recommended during consultations. The rates have been revised from USD 0.77 (ETB 16.6) per kg of cereal for 6 kg to USD 0.46 – 0.51 (ETB 10-11) per kg of cereal depending on the market price of the location.

- In April, the biometrics identification checks were launched at the Shimelba refugee camp in Shire. WFP and UNHCR plan to roll out biometrics in Dollo during the May distributions.

- Under the purchase for progress (P4P) program, for the 2015/2016 marketing season, WFP has signed Forward Delivery Contracts (FDCs) with 32 cooperative unions (CUs) in Amhara, Oromia and SNNPR to deliver 40,000 tons of maize.

**Challenges**

- WFP’s support to the PSNP in the Somali Region covering 1.5 million people faces significant funding gaps which have serious implications given the current drought conditions in the region. As a result, from May onwards, only 600,000 people will receive WFP assistance—less than half of the planned people.

- Heavy rains have caused significant delays in the dispatch and distribution of food under the relief operation. The majority of the food distribution points in Somali region have been rendered inaccessible for trucks carrying relief commodities.

- Countrywide, relief distributions are lagging significantly behind dispatches. A logistics cluster special operation will make provisions to augment government distribution capacity.

**Partnerships**

WFP implements all operations in Ethiopia through partnerships. WFP, FAO and UNICEF have partnered to align their programmes towards resilience strengthening. Under the relief and PSNP activities, WFP is partnering with the NDRMC. WFP partners with the Ministry of Health, UNICEF and International NGOs in the implementation of the targeted supplementary feeding programmes. For the refugee operation, WFP works with UNHCR, Government’s Administration for Refugees and Returnees Affairs (ARRA) and International NGOs to implement nutrition interventions. For the country programme, WFP partners with the NDRMCC and Ministry of Education to implement the school feeding programme; Ministry of Health for the HIV/AIDS programme; and the Federal Cooperatives Agency and the Agricultural Transformation Agency for P4P. WFP also partners with FAO in supporting the plot home grown school feeding programme in the Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples (SNNP) region.

**Country Background & Strategy**

With a population of almost 97 million people, growing at a rate of about 3 percent per annum, Ethiopia is the second most populous country in Africa. The country has made impressive strides over the last 20 years in reducing poverty and expanding investments in basic social services. According to the Ethiopia MDG Report for 2014, the number of people in absolute poverty fell from 48 percent in 1990 to an estimated 25 percent in 2013/2014. At the same time, the proportion of undernourished people fell from almost 75 percent in 1990/92 to a projected 32 percent in 2014/15 - thereby enabling Ethiopia to reach its MDG Hunger target.

Despite strong economic gains and a comprehensive policy framework for development, the distribution of developmental gains remains uneven. According to the UNDP 2015 Human Development Report, Ethiopia is ranked 174 out of 188 countries in terms of human development. Moreover, climate shocks are a major cause of humanitarian crises in Ethiopia. Since 2003, the country has faced five severe droughts affecting millions of people, the most recent of which unfolded over the course of 2015 and was compounded by the global El Niño event.

Ethiopia is also host to the largest refugee population on the African Continent. Over 730,000 officially registered refugees from South Sudan, Somalia, Sudan, Eritrea and Kenya now reside in 26 camps located in five regional states including Afar, Benishangul-Gumuz, Gambella, Somali and Tigray.

WFP Ethiopia’s Country Strategy focuses on disaster risk management and resource management; basic social services and agriculture markets and livelihoods. The overarching goal is to reduce hunger and contribution to Ethiopia’s transformation. WFP has been present in Ethiopia since 1968.

**Donors**

Australia, Canada, DFID, ECHO, Egypt, Germany, Japan, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, USAID

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