Somalia: El Niño preparedness & response

Highlights
- With rains intensifying, pre-positioning of food is in full swing.
- WFP has pre-positioned logistical assets, such as helicopter and boats in strategic locations to complement the existing logistical footprint.
- Access constraints are limiting preparedness and response in the Juba valley and will require close coordination with other food security actors.

Situation Update
- The food security and nutrition situation in Somalia continues to be extremely fragile: 855,000 people are acutely food insecure and require assistance and an estimated 214,700 children under the age of five are acutely malnourished. Overall, 3.2 million people are in need of life-saving and livelihood support.
- The 2015 El Niño event could be among the strongest on record. In the southern and central parts of the country, it is expected to result in heavy rains and flooding. In Somalia, a country which is still recovering from a catastrophic famine, large scale flooding will have a devastating impact and lead to a further deterioration of the fragile food security and nutrition situation.
- In the northern parts of the country, El Niño is resulting in significant drought. Somaliland is already seeing one of the driest years in memory: severe shortages of food and water, and the deaths of livestock of pastoral and agro-pastoral populations have plunged over 10,000 families into destitution.

In numbers
500,000-900,000 people likely to be affected
About 200,000 people expected to be assisted by WFP

Funding Update
- Total resource needs for immediate El Niño response (up to end of 2015): USD 16 million
- Funds received so far: USD 4 million

WFP is grateful for the donor support received so far. In addition, WFP has made use of internal funding mechanisms to support preparedness and response actions. Yet, funding levels remain low and WFP is concerned about preparedness and immediate response actions.

WFP Preparedness & Response
- Assessments: A rapid Emergency Food Security Assessment in Somaliland in July/August 2015 found that nearly 80 per cent of assessed households had poor food consumption (FCS) and very poor household dietary diversity.
• **Target populations/beneficiaries:** WFP is planning to assist 200,000 people affected by flooding and displacement in Beletweyne, Buloberte, Jalalaqsi, Jawhar, Balad, Awdegle, Kurtewenewe Jamama and Kismayo.

• In Somaliland, WFP’s emergency response will target up to 60,000 people affected by drought, primarily in Awdal region.

• All response activities—in-kind as well as e-transfers—will be implemented through an electronic management platform (SCOPE) for biometric registration and verification of transfers by beneficiaries. Registrations are currently underway in Afgoye, Bulo Burte and Somaliland.

### Food Assistance (response plan)

#### Floods (200,000 people targeted):
- Emergency food (High Energy Biscuits) to all displaced populations for five days
- Cooked meals at reception centres set up in accessible locations for the first 30 days
- Preventative and curative nutrition assistance (BSFP/TSFP) for children under five years of age
- ‘Return’ rations for two months following cessation of cooked meals at reception centres
- Asset creation programmes to rehabilitate infrastructure in areas most affected by flooding

#### Drought (60,000 people targeted):
- E-transfers to drought-affected people to purchase food from traders in the key markets of Hargeisa, Berbera, Burao and Borama

### Logistics

- WFP has prepositioned a cargo aircraft, helicopter and 7 motorised boats in strategic locations (Mogadishu, Jawhar, Kismayo) to be able to access flood affected areas.

- In addition to existing storage capacities, WFP has contracted a warehouse in Jawhar to support the response in Middle Shabelle.

- WFP has provided the local authority in Jawhar with 56,000 empty bags to strengthen river banks at risk of breaking.

- WFP is currently pre-positioning food, including High Energy Biscuits, and nutrition products in areas expected to see an influx of people, among them Beletweyne, Jawhar, Balcad and Afgoye.

### Resourcing Update

- WFP is facing shortfalls of over US$84 million through March 2016 and has been forced to significantly reduce its assistance by cutting rations and suspending activities. The new emergency caseloads are of a magnitude that the operation will not be able to accommodate with current resources.

### Contacts

- **WFP Somalia:** Elfi Klabunde, elfi.klabunde@wfp.org, +254 735 999 288;

- **Food Security Cluster:** Bernard Mrewa, bernard.mrewa@wfp.org; Mulugeta Shibru, mulugeta.shibru@fao.org;

- **Logistics Cluster:** Vladimir Jovcev, vladimir.jovcev@wfp.org, +254 735 704 848;

### WFP Operation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Duration</th>
<th>Planned number of people 2015</th>
<th>Total requirements 2015 (in US$)</th>
<th>Total received 2015 (in US$)</th>
<th>Funding requirements (Oct-Mar 2016)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PRRO 200443</td>
<td>2013-2015</td>
<td>1.93 million</td>
<td>276 million</td>
<td>118 million</td>
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