Food Security Update

The month of May began with alarming signs of drought as precipitation between March and April was significantly below average in most sections of the south and most areas of central Somalia including the food basket region of Middle Shabelle. Later in the month, most parts of the country received moderate to good rainfall with the exception of some pockets in Central region, Puntland and Somaliland. This helped replenish water sources for human and animal consumption. The improved pasture and water conditions are however unlikely to be sustained through the Hagaa dry season which begins at the end of June. Furthermore, the late start of the current rainy season has translated into a four to six week delay of the planting season. This is likely to affect this year’s Gu harvest in the key food production areas in central and southern regions.

In addition to the concerns over the delay of the main agricultural season and its impact on production, fodder and water availability during the dry season, large areas of central and southern regions remain inaccessible. Militants have taken control of the environs and the roads leading to towns made newly accessible by the ongoing AMISOM operation. This has restricted the flow of goods to and from the sieged towns, further disrupting already fragile markets. Consequently, prices of basic food commodities increased sharply, with commodities such as fuel (for transport and irrigation purposes) recording increases of between 60 and up to 300 percent in some areas in less than one month.

Market Price Update

Since the start of 2014, prices of staple foods have increased significantly especially in the Deyr 2013 flood affected areas as well as the towns with limited access to main markets. These include El Bur and El Der districts in Galgaduud region, Bulo Burte in Hiraan region, Burdhubo in Gedo region, and Wajid and Huddur districts in Bakool region. The prices of staple food are expected to further increase in the coming months considering the dwindled cereal stock of the Deyr 2013/14 season, the likelihood of continued insecurity in many districts in the south, and poor food stocks among the farmers of the crop producing areas in the south.

WFP Response

In May, WFP Somalia reached a total of 602,757 beneficiaries through a combination of livelihoods, nutrition, social safety net and relief programmes. Livelihoods activities accounted for 32 percent of WFP’s total beneficiaries during the month while the percentage of beneficiaries receiving relief assistance increased to 22 percent of the total beneficiaries reached. Nutrition activities reached 20 percent of the beneficiaries while

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area Office</th>
<th>Nutrition</th>
<th>Relief</th>
<th>Livelihoods</th>
<th>Social Safety Nets</th>
<th>TOTAL beneficiaries*</th>
<th>Actual MT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Puntland</td>
<td>14,729</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>59,322</td>
<td>55,257</td>
<td>129,308</td>
<td>1,073</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somaliland</td>
<td>72,246</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>17,628</td>
<td>79,802</td>
<td>187,679</td>
<td>717</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central</td>
<td>10,864</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>83,604</td>
<td>5,666</td>
<td>119,070</td>
<td>1,511</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mogadishu</td>
<td>2,989</td>
<td>81,276</td>
<td>11,028</td>
<td>6,612</td>
<td>118,359</td>
<td>1,220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Border areas</td>
<td>23,040</td>
<td>56,688</td>
<td>25,716</td>
<td>15,167</td>
<td>147,297</td>
<td>1,097</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>123,868</td>
<td>137,964</td>
<td>197,298</td>
<td>162,504</td>
<td>602,757</td>
<td>5,618</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* figures in this column exclude double counting of beneficiaries across activities
school feeding and other safety net programmes constituted the final 26 percent.

WFP conducted a Rapid Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA) of the Jowhar IDP community at the Jowhar Airstrip. The assessment found that the majority of the households were female headed (71 percent) and that 42 percent of households had a poor Food Consumption Score (FCS), while 14 percent were in the borderline group. The FCS is a proxy indicator that reflects the quantity and/or quality of people’s diets in emergency food security assessments. 80 percent of the households surveyed were found to be already employing stress and/or emergency type coping mechanisms or survival strategies. Insecurity also emerged as the main challenge for the community as IDPs cannot go back home to work their land or get labor opportunities to sustain their lives. WFP is working with the Nutrition and Food Security Clusters to appropriately scale up its lifesaving food and nutrition responses.

According to recent FEWS NET/ FSN AU reports, the food security situation in the country is likely to deteriorate as a result of average to below average Gu rainfall and the ongoing military offensive in key locations in south central Somalia. The military operation has triggered temporary population displacement and caused disruption of market activities resulting in a worrying food security situation. The food security outlook until October will largely depend on the rainfall amounts from May through June and the level of humanitarian access in the areas of the military offensive. Poor households in most agricultural livelihood zones of the country have already exhausted cereal stocks from the recent 2013/14 Deyr below average harvest and currently rely mostly on market purchases of cereals until the next Gu harvest expected from July to August 2014.

In response to the increased needs, WFP will be assisting an additional 250,000 people with emergency support in targeted areas throughout Somalia and mainly in South Central from June to August 2014. This new caseload adds to the 700,000 beneficiaries assisted on average each month. The monthly tonnage distributed from June to August is therefore expected to increase to around 10,000mt.

**Monitoring & Evaluation**

In April 2014, 29 percent (304) of the 1,048 active food distribution points (FDPs) in Somalia were monitored through site visits. M&E reports are released one month after collection of data in order for WFP to conduct proper analysis.

**Food Security Cluster**

In May, the Food Security Cluster (FSC) partners and members reached 848,972 beneficiaries throughout Somalia with responses aimed at improving household access to food, investing in livelihood assets, safety nets interventions, and livelihood investment capacity building. FSC member and partners have reached 995,982 beneficiaries with livelihood inputs since February 2014.

Based on FSN AU estimates, 857,000 people remain classified as being in food security *Crisis* (IPC Phase 3) or *Emergency* (IPC Phase 4) through June 2014. However, considerable gaps exist in addressing these needs; in April less than 10 percent of the needs for the FSC response objective of Improved Access to Food were met in most of central and southern Somalia (FSC April Dashboard).

**Logistics**

In the reporting period, UNHAS transported 3,379 passengers and 29.3mt of cargo to 17 locations, serving 105 humanitarian agencies. 11 of the routes were within Somalia.

**Resourcing Update**

**PRRO 200443** “Strengthening Food and Nutrition Security and Enhancing Resilience in Somalia” (Jan 2013 - Dec 2015) targets up to 2.9 million beneficiaries over three years and seeks to save lives, provide social safety nets and enhance the resilience of vulnerable individuals and households to cope more effectively during shocks. The project has an operational budget of US$864.3 million over three years and as at the end of May, had resourced US$ 260.3 million, with a shortfall of US$604 million (70 percent).

**Special Operation (SO) 200507** “Humanitarian Air Service in Support of Relief Operations in Somalia and Kenya” (Jan 2013 - Dec 2014) facilitates the delivery of life-saving humanitarian and movement of humanitarian workers in Somalia and Kenya. The project has an operational requirement of US$70.9 million and as of the end of May had received US$87.7 million, with a shortfall of US$32.2 million (45.5 percent).

**Special Operation (SO) 200440** “Food Security Cluster Augmentation in Response to the Continued Humanitarian Situation in Somalia” (Sept 2012 - Dec 2014) enables Cluster members to move beyond seasonal-based response plans to address acute needs, as well as invest in resilience to reduce vulnerability of poor Somali households. The project has an operational requirement of US$5.75 million and as of the end of May had resourced US$2.5 million with a shortfall of US$3.25 million (57 percent).

**Special Operation (SO) 200475** “Development of Logistical Infrastructure for Somalia and the Horn of Africa Corridor” (Apr 2013 - Mar 2015) was initiated in 2013 to continue to improve logistics efficiency to provide timely supply of relief cargo to populations in need of humanitarian assistance in Somalia. The project had an operational requirement of US$ 16.6 million but as of the end of May this SO had resourced only US$14,000 with a shortfall of US$16.59 million (99 percent).

**Pipeline Update**

Over the next six months (June-November), WFP Somalia will face a net shortfall of US$29.3million including 11,749mt of food valued at US$13.3million, Cash and Voucher (C&V) requirements of US$2.2million, Capacity Development and Augmentation (CD&A) requirements of US$0.5million and outstanding advances (IRA) of US$9.3 million. WFP Somalia is in the process of finalising the programming of US$2million confirmed recently.

**PRRO 200443** will face critical pipeline breaks commencing in September 2014 and faces an overall shortfall of $41.8M until December 2014. Without additional funding before September, the CO will have to focus resources on lifesaving and safety net programmes at the expense of preventative programmes that reduce chronic vulnerability to shocks and places at risk the food security gains made since the famine. The priority for new funds will be to purchase Cereals, Pulses, Oil and Plumpy Sup.

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