Country Profiles

Somalia:
- The food security situation has deteriorated significantly, with an increasing number of people now facing IPC levels 3 (Crisis) and 4 (Emergency). In addition, there are 3.3 million people who are in IPC level 2 (Stressed), who are at risk of slipping into IPC level 3 (Crisis).
- Two consecutive below-average rainy seasons have led to near total crop failure, widespread shortage of water and pasture, increased livestock deaths, and continued increase in local cereal prices resulting in limited household food access.
- Nutrition surveys conducted in November and December 2016 indicate that an estimated 363,000 children aged 6-59 months are acutely malnourished, including 71,000 who are severely malnourished.
- The geographical area affected by the current drought is significantly larger than in previous years, expanding from the northern areas of Somaliland and Puntland to the central and southern regions. An urgent operational scale-up is required to prevent a crisis becoming a catastrophe.
- General food distribution and cash-based transfers scale-up has already been launched in Somaliland and Puntland together with UNICEF scale-up in delivering water vouchers with SCOPE. The scale-up is also focusing on areas in south-central Somalia like Baidoa, Dinsor, Wajid and Hudur.
WFP’s emergency drought response includes immediate relief assistance through unconditional general food and cash-based transfers to the most vulnerable people in IPC 3 and 4 in drought-affected areas of northern and south central Somalia. In addition, WFP provides life-saving curative and preventive nutrition services to children under 5, and pregnant and nursing mothers in the drought-affected areas.

WFP is airlifting High Energy Biscuits (HEBs) into towns and locations where displacement is expected.

Insecurity in southern and central Somalia continues to impact humanitarian operations and may impact the delivery of critical assistance to drought-affected households.

WFP and other humanitarian partners have a critical window to respond to the growing needs in order to avert a possible famine, but we need to act fast.

Kenya:

- On the 10th February 2017 the Government of Kenya declared drought a "national disaster" and called international partners to come in and support the Government’s response efforts to address the situation.
- The below average short rains season (October – December) is affecting agricultural and livestock production, reducing food availability and increasing market prices in the marginal agricultural areas along the coast and south east, and the arid pastoral areas in the north.
- The number of food insecure people has more than doubled to 2.6 million people following the short rains assessment, up from 1.25 million in September 2016—January 2017.
- The prevalence of moderate acute malnutrition in northern Kenya is extremely critical (above 30%) in three counties (Turkana north, Mandera and Marsabit) and critical (15-29%) in five counties (Baringo East, Isiolo, Turkana South, West and Central) and the nutritional status of pregnant and breastfeeding women has deteriorated across counties. A total of 333,000 children are expected to require moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) treatment, and a further 73,000 will require severe acute malnutrition (SAM) treatment.
- The national and county governments are responding with food assistance and are urging partners to scale-up relief and livelihood support. The Government has allocated approximately USD 90 million for multi-sector drought response.
- WFP food assistance is reaching around 650,000 people through asset-creation activities for resilience building in 15 arid and semi-arid counties in the form of in-kind and cash-based transfers. In addition, WFP is supporting the Government with the current emergency response by complementing the provision of nutrition commodities in Baringo, Garissa, Turkana and West Pokot counties and by providing technical assistance to the emergency nutrition operation.
- It is estimated that over 2 million school children are adversely affected by the drought, and the Government has highlighted school meals as a priority to mitigate the impact. However, due to funding shortfalls WFP is currently unable to provide school meals in Term 1 (January - April) to 458,000 children from Kenya’s most arid counties. The funding shortfall could not come at a worse time, and WFP is appealing for urgent resources from donors.

Ethiopia:

- On the back of one of the worst droughts in 2015/2016, parts of Ethiopia have again been hit by poor rains, with much of Somali, parts of Afar and some lowland areas of Oromia and Southern Nations Nationalities and People’s Regions (SNNPR) most affected.
- Water shortages, reduced pastures and livestock deaths continue to be reported in these areas because of late onset, erratic and poor autumn Hagaya/Deyr rains. A decline in livestock prices is limiting household income, and combined with reduced access to milk, is likely to cause food insecurity to deteriorate further by May 2017.
- According to the 2017 Humanitarian Requirements Document (HRD), an estimated 5.6 million people require emergency food assistance.
- Malnutrition remains a key challenge in addition to health and water and sanitation in most parts of the country, including the refugee camps. According to the 2017 HRD, the Government expects to treat 303,000 severe acute malnutrition and 2.7 million moderate acute malnutrition cases in 2017.
- In the refugee camps receiving Somali refugees, GAM levels among children aged 6-59 months are above the emergency threshold.

**RESOURCING UPDATE**

| Country | Project | Type       | US$ 6 Months requirements | %
|---------|---------|------------|---------------------------|-----
| Somalia | 200844  | PRRO       | 435,635,422               | 86% |
| Somalia | 200924  | UNHAS      | 15,220,911                | 21% |
| Kenya   | 200736  | Relief     | 31,538,921                | 26% |
| Kenya   | 200737  | Refugees   | 51,525,278                | 42% |
| Kenya   | School Feeding | 11,642,934 | 11,642,934 | 43% |
| Ethiopia| 200712  | Relief     | 477,745,511               | 54% |
| Ethiopia| 200700  | Refugees   | 58,855,927                | 19% |
| Ethiopia| Food for Education | 2,012,240  | 2,012,240 | 76% |

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