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Key Issues

- Germany contributes US\$17.7 million to the Ethiopia Humanitarian Fund making it the largest contributor to the Fund in 2017
- Localized flooding due to heavy summer/*kiremt* rains projected to affect 1.5 million people, nearly 500,000 people likely to be displaced
- Fall Armyworm infestation is spreading to more *woredas* across six regions.

Following poor performing spring rains, the number of people receiving humanitarian assistance has increased from 5.6 million to 7.8 million in the first quarter of the year and is expected to heighten further in the second half of the year. The joint Government and humanitarian partners' seasonal *belg* assessment is completed and reports are being consolidated. The Mid-Year-Review of the 2017 Humanitarian Requirements Document that will inform the actual humanitarian needs is expected to be launched in late July. Increased funding is needed urgently, in particular to address immediate requirements for food and nutrition as well as clean drinking water, much of which is being delivered long distances by truck as regular wells have dried up.

Germany contributes \$17.7 million to the OCHA-managed Ethiopia Humanitarian Fund

The German government contributed US\$17.7 million to the OCHA-managed Ethiopia Humanitarian Fund (EHF), increasing the Fund's response capacity to the deepening humanitarian emergency in Ethiopia. With this contribution and an additional \$1.1 million pledged, Germany becomes the highest contributor to the Fund in 2017, followed by the United Kingdom (\$11.6 million). The United States government is currently the third largest contributor with \$6 million in funding and an additional pledged amount of \$7.5 million. The governments of Sweden, Ireland and Switzerland have also made contributions this year. The EHF is organizing a standard allocation for \$30 million once the inter-cluster prioritization exercise that identifies the most life-saving and time sensitive needs is endorsed by the Ethiopia Humanitarian Country Team and the National Disaster Risk Management Commission next week.

Between January and June 2017, the EHF allocated \$37.3 million supporting 59 multi-sector lifesaving projects in the prioritized sectors of Nutrition, WaSH, Agriculture, Education, Health and Protection.

Flooding projected to affect 1.5 million people, nearly 500,000 likely to be displaced

According to the National Flood Task Force, chaired by the National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC), more than 1.5 million people are projected to be affected by flooding during the summer/*kiremt* season of whom nearly 500,000 people are expected to be displaced. The projection was made based on the 2006 analogue year data, the number of people affected by flood in 2016, the National Meteorological Agency's (NMA) forecast of an increased likelihood of normal to above normal rainfall over northwestern, western, southwestern and central regions while near normal over northeastern, eastern and southern highlands anticipated in 2017 *kiremt* rains and regional projections for the year.

The Task Force issued a Flood Alert on 22 June to the different regions on the likelihood of flooding identifying flood-prone areas (those which have historically been affected by recurrent floods) and flood-risk areas (those which have been identified using NMA forecast). The Task Force is now preparing the joint Government-Humanitarian Partners National Flood Contingency Plan for 2017 *kiremt* season, which will be shared with regions and sectors in the coming days. Flood incidences have already been reported in parts of Amhara, Gambella and Oromia regions since May.

Meanwhile IOM's fifth round (May/June) Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) identified some 72,000 households or 400,000 people currently displaced mainly due to the ongoing drought conditions, requiring ES/NFI support at a cost of \$10 million. According to the ES/NFI Cluster, some 7,000 ES/NFI kits are currently available in stock, leaving a significant gap to address current needs as well as projected needs arising from flood-induced displacements in the coming months.

Fall Armyworm infestation fast spreading to more *woredas* across six regions

Since first reported in Yeki *woreda* of Sheka zone, SNNP region in February 2017, the Fall Armyworm infestation has affected 378,158 hectares of maize cropland (of 1.7 million hectares planted) and is quickly spreading. At present, 374 *woredas* are affected in six regions up from 233 *woredas* two weeks ago. The Government, with support from FAO and other partners, is taking several measures to curb the spread of the infestations (chemical spraying as well as the more effective and recommended method of handpicking), but the need exceeds the ongoing response (36 per cent of affected areas have still not received any control measures). Between \$3.1 and 4.5 million is required to address the crisis for the next six months alone and \$7.8 million for the entire year. While the Government has so far allocated ETB 45 million, FAO has committed \$600,000. Given the magnitude of the potential damage it could cause, more needs to be done and urgently. If not addressed on time, up to 2 million hectares of cropland risk damage. This is equivalent to the cost of food imported for the entire 2016 El Niño drought response.

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