



This report has been prepared under the auspices of the Federal Disaster Risk Management Technical Working Group, co-chaired by the National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC) and OCHA with participation of Sector Co-Chairs (Government Line Ministries and Cluster Coordinators). It covers the period from 01 to 31 March 2017.

Highlights

- Ethiopia's humanitarian context is rapidly evolving due to deepening drought, *meher* harvest loss from frost and the spread of disease outbreaks, including AWD. The gravity of the situation has surpassed the needs identified in the 2017 Humanitarian Requirements Document in January.
- The Government and humanitarian partners are working to further improve the ongoing integrated multi-sector response in affected areas, amidst funding gap.
- The Government has deployed some 1000 national health professionals drawn from the Federal Ministry of Health, Amhara, Harari and Tigray regions and Dire Dawa City Administration to Somali region to support the regional government's Emergency Health Response Plan.
- Further increase of needs is expected in the coming months according to weather forecast of poor spring rains this year.
- A revised relief food beneficiary figure will soon be released, according to the National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC).

Situation Overview

Ethiopia's humanitarian context has already surpassed needs identified in the 2017 HRD

Ethiopia's humanitarian context is quickly changing and the gravity of the situation today has already surpassed the needs identified in the 2017 Humanitarian Requirements Document (HRD) released on 17 January. Reports indicate that several regional governments are already providing assistance to an additional caseload beyond the HRD. According to Oromia regional officials for example, 1.1 million people are receiving food assistance, in addition to the 2 million HRD beneficiaries in the region. Similarly in SNNPR, at least 122,000 people are receiving food beyond the HRD caseload. The surges in need are partly attributed to *meher* harvest loss due to frost in Borena, East Hararge Guji, West Guji and lowlands of Bale zones of Oromia region and South Omo zones of SNNP region.

Poor *belg* rain indications in *belg*-receiving areas as per forecast – a further increase of needs expected

A further increase of needs is expected in the coming months given the weather forecast of poor spring rains this year. Although good rains were reported in many drought-hit *woredas* over the past week, they were late in onset - by three weeks on average – and are projected to be erratic and to cease early. The rains have not yet started in some areas, including in Afder, Shebelle and majority of Liben zones of Somali region. There is an 85 per cent probability of poor spring rains in the southern rainfall belt/the current drought belt and an 80 per cent probability of normal to below normal rains in the north eastern rainfall belt. This would necessitate a prolongation of the response until at least October, including water trucking and provision of animal feed in pastoralist and agro pastoralist areas. In addition, decreasing purchasing power related to rising food price is likely to contribute to a further deterioration of vulnerable households' food security. According to Ethiopia's Central Statistics Agency, Ethiopia's food price inflation rose to 9.6 per cent in March up from 7.8 per cent in February and 5.0 per cent in January.

A Humanitarian Response Monitoring/'call around' exercise – jointly led by the National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC) and UNOCHA – was conducted between 17 and 28 March to gauge the current response effectiveness and determine the likely scope of the deteriorating humanitarian context. Preliminary results confirm that the *belg* rains were late in onset in most *belg*-receiving areas, and their performance erratic. The final result of this exercise is currently being consolidated. A light pre-*belg* assessment is also under consideration. A revised relief food beneficiary figure will soon be released, according to NDRMC.

An integrated multi-sector humanitarian response

The Government and humanitarian partners are working to further improve the ongoing integrated multi-sector response in affected areas. The decentralization of the humanitarian coordination – to zonal and *woreda* levels – are amongst measures taken with the aim to enhance information sharing, facilitate informed-joint operational decision-making and accountability.

Amidst an increasing number of under-5 severely malnourished (SAM) children admitted to therapeutic feeding program sites in January and February, discussions are ongoing on ways to improve the timely identification and treatment of moderate malnutrition (MAM) in all drought-affected areas. SAM increased from 5,942 in January (74.9 per cent reporting rate) to 6,619 in February (62.7 per cent reporting rate) in Somali region alone.

To address human resource gap in Somali region, the Government has deployed some 1000 national health professionals drawn from the Federal Ministry of Health, Amhara, Harari and Tigray regions and Dire Dawa City Administration to Somali region to support the regional government's Emergency Health Response Plan. The government surge team will work together with the Regional Health Bureau and humanitarian partners to curb the ongoing drought-induced disease outbreaks in the region, including AWD. Meanwhile, select donors have agreed to increase flexibility to facilitate partners' ability to reprioritize responses within a *woreda*, and whenever possible within a zone.

The developing emergency far exceed resources available to date

On 10 March, NDRMC and humanitarian partners released a joint letter laying out concerns over the deteriorating humanitarian context in the country amidst significant funding gap. Funding available to date makes it impossible to cover current needs.

In addition to some US\$200 million carried over from 2016 (mostly in food and nutritional commodities), some \$385 million in new international funding were identified. However, most of the funds will not be realized until May. Moreover, it requires at least three months for the money to be translated into deliverables (food and nutritional supplies). According to a recent prioritization exercise by clusters and respective line ministries, most of the resources to address priority needs should ideally arrive in April.

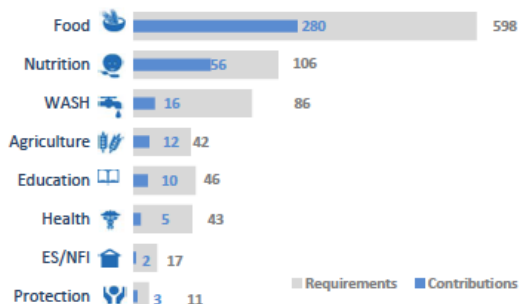
Pipeline break

The second round of WFP relief food distribution is currently ongoing, supporting 1.7 million people in Somali region. WFP will face a food pipeline break of around 3,400MT of cereals for the third round unless additional resources are made available. At present, WFP is working with the Somali Regional Government on scenarios for providing assistance at reduced rations until new contributions come forth.

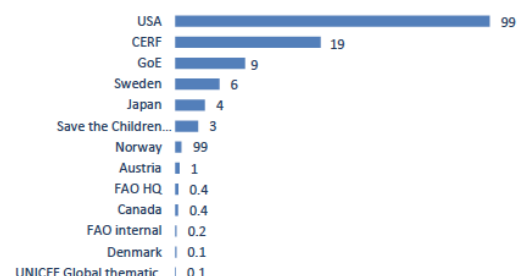
For the treatment of moderate malnutrition (MAM), WFP is supporting 1.3 million children under-5 and pregnant and breastfeeding mothers. Despite the support given by WFP and OFDA/Food For Peace to address MAM in some priority 2 *woredas*, there is still a significant funding gap to cover the additional 1.4 million moderately malnourished people.

Funding Update (as at 30 March)

Requirements and funding per sector - \$million



2017 donor contributions/commitments to the HRD - \$million



Government pledge to the HRD - \$million



All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform OCHA Ethiopia of cash and in-kind contributions by e-mailing: ocha-eth@un.org

Humanitarian Response



Food

Needs:

- 5.6 million people need relief food assistance across 364 *woredas* in the southern and eastern lowlands of Ethiopia – mainly Borena, Guji, West Guji and the lowlands of Bale, East and West Hararge (Oromia region), South Omo and lowlands of Segen and Gamo Gofa zones (SNNPR), nine zones of Somali region, northern and north eastern Afar region - and in pocket areas across the country.
- Findings of a joint rapid food security assessment by WFP, OCHA, IOM and UNICEF revealed an increase in the number of people requiring food assistance in Oromia and SNNPR. The number could further increase should the *belg* rains fail as projected.
- Deepening levels of malnutrition and critical water shortages in affected areas require TSF, TFP and WaSH package interventions along with relief food assistance.

\$598m

Food requirement

Response:

- In 2017, NDRMC will target 3.1 million people in 261 *woredas* nationwide for food assistance, JEOP will target 887,230 people in 69 *woredas* across the country, while WFP will target 1.7 million people in 64 *woredas* of Somali region.
- The Government is facilitating a gathering of the affected community and their livestock around temporary sites for ease of assistance (integrated emergency service delivery center) or is relocating them to areas where water and pasture is available.
- Of the 5.6 million people targeted for relief assistance under the 2017 HRD, the Food Cluster distributed 66,150MT of food to 4.4 million people between January and March, in Rounds 1 and 2.
- In areas with functional markets in Amhara (5 *woredas*) and Oromia (17 *woredas*), the Food Cluster has allocated \$3.2 million for relief cash transfer to 197,877 beneficiaries in Rounds 2 and 3. Dispatch and distribution is ongoing. Cash assistance beyond Round 3 is dependent on new resources made available.
- While agreements with NGOs on MAM treatment are being finalized, WFP committed to include CSB in the relief food basket from rounds 3 to 5. This arrangement will target 35 per cent of the relief food caseload in targeted *woredas* of Somali region.
- As part of the ongoing efforts to improve the delivery of humanitarian assistance, WFP submitted a list of food distribution points and associated p-codes to OCHA. The sites will be mapped by OCHA, and will be used as a tool to enhance coordination and integration of service delivery.
- As of 30 March, the first round dispatch by all operators stood at 98 per cent and the distribution at 76 per cent. Meanwhile, the second round relief food was 57 per cent dispatched and 4 per cent distributed.

NDRMC: (30 March 2017)

- 1st Round 2017 dispatch 64%, distribution 1%
- 2nd Round 2017 dispatch 79%, distribution 2%

WFP: (30 March 2017)

- 1st Round 2017 dispatch 78%, distribution 11%
- 2nd Round 2017 dispatch 92%, distribution 37%

JEOP: (30 March 2017):

- 1st Round 2017 dispatch 8%, distribution 1%
- 2nd Round 2017 dispatch 40%, distribution 1%

Gaps & Constraints:

- Operational/logistics challenge due to the high number of food distribution points in Somali region.
- Delays in food dispatch and distribution by all operators due to delay of a) *woreda* beneficiary targeting, b) Community watershed development campaign, and c) insecurity along the Somali-Oromia regional borders
- Considering available resources and confirmed contributions, WFP will only be able to support 1 million beneficiaries (of 1.7 million planned) in Somali region for round 3.



Agriculture

Needs:

\$41.9m

Agriculture requirement

- About 1.9 million households – pastoralists in southern and south eastern lowlands as well as vulnerable *belg/meher*- dependent smallholder farming and herding households in the northern rainfall belt - require emergency livestock assistance, including
 1. Ensuring animal feed for all core breeding animals in affected *woredas*
 2. Provision of animal health facilities in all affected *woredas*
 3. Destock (commercial and slaughter) animals which are not able to make it through the dry season (HRD)
- Based on the agriculture sector prioritization conducted in March, the number of households requiring livestock support was revised to 2.6 million, up from the 1.9 million households targeted in the 2017 HRD.
- With the forecast of weak *gu/genna* rains, pasture and water availability may slightly improve, but they are likely to be exhausted early, further constraining food and income access for livestock-dependent households. If response is not immediate and sufficient, the risks are massive and the costs high.

Response:

- Humanitarian partners are implementing livestock-based livelihood interventions in affected communities using funds available to date, including \$5million from the OCHA-managed Ethiopia Humanitarian Fund (EHF), \$4.5 million from other donors, \$2.5 million from crisis modifiers, as well as the recent CERF allocation of \$3 million (detailed below).
- The Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) has recently allocated US\$18.5 million through the Rapid Response Window to address the most urgent life-saving needs of communities affected by the new drought in Ethiopia. Of the \$18.5 million, \$3million was channeled to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) for the provision of survival livestock feed for core breeding animals, animal health support (including veterinary equipment), destocking, nutritional support to children and safe carcass disposal in 10 *woredas* of Doolo Ado, Koraha and Shaballe zones of Somali region. The interventions target 434,500 animals (100,000 shoats and 334,500 cattle), and some 350,000 drought-affected pastoralists (equivalent to 50,000 households) will benefit as a result.
- The \$5 million EHF fund is being utilized to treat 175,000 animals, provide feed to 4,562 animals and destock (slaughter) 930 cattle in South Omo zone, SNNPR. In Southern Somali region, 53,853 animals will get animal feed and treatment and 300 cattle will be slaughtered, while in Borena zone of Oromia region, 10,950 animals will get animal feed and treatment and 8,100 cattle will be slaughtered.
- The \$4.5 million received from other donors and the \$2.5 million from crisis modifiers will be used for animal health, animal feed and destocking (commercial and slaughter) activities.
- Government of Ethiopia is conducting commercial and slaughter destocking in targeted areas with an estimated value of \$5.4 million. The meat is being supplied to universities, institutions and mega projects catering for a larger number of employees and communities.
- Coordination at sub-regional level is strengthening and a 'bundle' (integrated) approach is being pursued as strongly promoted by EHCT.
- Following a slow-paced response operation in January and February, implementing partners scaled-up their interventions in March. Procurement and project implementation have significantly improved as a result.
- Of the 1.9 million households targeted for livestock response in the 2017 HRD, the Agriculture Cluster has distributed animal feed to more than 120,000 animals and about 100,000 weak animals were destocked during the first quarter of the year.

Gaps & Constraints:

- The sector needs an additional \$21 million to address all identified needs until the end of June (the funding gap may go as high as \$50 million if it factors the increase in need from 1.9 households to 2.6 households).
- The limited supply of animal feed has resulted in a significant increase in the price of fodder. The number of beneficiaries partners are able to reach with available resources has decreased as a result.



Education

Needs:

\$45.5m

Education requirement

- About 2 million school age boys and girls (4 to 18 years) in drought-affected priority 1 *woredas* need emergency school feeding, school WaSH and learning supplies support (HRD).
- 204 temporary learning centers are required to enable 163,000 internally displaced (IDP) school age children pursue their education.
- Recent assessment in Borena and West Guji zones of Oromia region and South Omo zone of SNNPR revealed that 10, 405 (6 per cent) children dropped out of school in South Omo, 5,989 children in West Guji zone and 4,120 children in Borena zone. The main reason for dropout is shortage of water.
- The erratic *belg* rain may exacerbate the humanitarian situation resulting in additional school dropouts.

Response:

- 1.1 million school children (57 per cent of target) benefitted from school feeding programs. While the Government is covering 90 per cent of beneficiaries, WFP and Save the Children International are covering the remaining 10 per cent.
- Oxfam and Save the Children International are providing school WaSH for 6,000 school children (0.5 per cent of target)
- UNICEF finalized the construction of 26 temporary learning centers in Somali region, while the construction of additional 7 centers is in progress. Some 8,000 IDP school age children (11 per cent of the target) are benefiting from these temporary learning centers.
- Partners are developing project proposals for the education of IDP school age children on the basis of the recently allocated EHF fund amounting to \$2 million.

Gaps & Constraints:

- There is a gap in school feeding for some 0.9 million school children (47 per cent of target), 1.99 million (99.5 per cent of target) for water, and 65,683 (89 per cent of target) for temporary learning centers.
- The major constrain that is hindering EiE responses is lack of funding.



Emergency Shelter and NFI

Needs:

\$17.2m

ES/NFI requirement

- 600,000 displaced people need ES/NFI support, including displaced caseload from 2016 and estimated displacements in 2017 (HRD).
- Since the beginning of the year, the cluster has received requests for assistance to more than 53,000 households in Afar, Gambela, Oromia and Somali regions. While 35 per cent of the displacements were reportedly due to conflict, 61 per cent were due to drought.
- The Somali Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Bureau (DPPB) reported more than 24,000 households displaced in eight zones, requiring urgent assistance.
- There have been reports of further clashes along the Somali-Oromia border around Guji zone (3,500 households affected) and East Hararge zone (over 14,000 households affected).
- IOM recorded nearly 34,000 newly displaced individuals in March in Afar, Gambella, Oromia and Somali regions. The displacements were due to conflict, drought and seasonal flooding.

Response:

- Data collection for IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) round 4 is in progress.
- Since the beginning of the year, the cluster supported 29,914 households (est. 164,527 people) with emergency shelter, 29, 039 households with kitchen sets, 29,942 with beddings and 30,845 with buckets and/or jerry cans.
- In addition, 2,800 emergency shelter kits are currently planned for distribution.
- Cash and voucher pilot for NFIs are on-going targeting 332 households in Lare zone (Gambela region) and 515 households in Siti zone (Somali region).
- The cluster currently has 6,130 kits in stock and an additional 10,000 kits in the pipeline.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Requests for assistance the Cluster received in January and February 2017 alone accounts for more than 2/3 of its projection of emergency assistance need in the 2017 HRD.
- Given procurement lead time, custom processing and the high volume of requests for assistance being received, the current ES/NFI stock will soon be depleted. The Cluster will likely face a pipeline break by April/May.
- Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is funded until June 2017.
- The reported clashes along the Somali-Oromia border are posing access constraints.



Health

Needs:

\$42.8m
Health requirement

- 4.37 million people will need health interventions to address anticipated health conditions and disease outbreaks, including 300,000 women and adolescent girls targeted for emergency reproductive health services and 370,000 IDPs (HRD)
- AWD: The outbreak is ongoing in Afar, Oromia, Somali, SNNP and Tigray regions. So far in 2017, 3,043 cases were reported from Afar (291), Oromia (594), SNNP (145) and Somali (1,985), and Tigray (28) regions. Eight (8) deaths were reported from Afar and Oromia regions. Without access to safe water and sanitation, especially among the 480,000 IDPs in Somali region, there is a high risk for a rapid spread of the outbreak (already in 40 out of 99 *woredas* in Somali region alone).
- Meningococcal meningitis: 5 cases were reported in Amhara and 29 cases in Oromia regions.
- Scabies: Scabies outbreaks continue to be reported in Amhara, SNNP and Oromia regions. There are 464,532 reported scabies cases in the country since 2016.
- Malnutrition: In week 4 of 2017, 1,305 new SAM cases were reported from Oromia region, the majority from East Hararge, West Hararge and West Arsi zones. Of these cases, 1,170 were OTP and 135 were admitted in stabilization centers in the region.
- Rota Virus: Since December 2016, 1,550 suspected cases of rotavirus were reported in Danno and Nonno *woredas* in West Shoa zone of Oromia region, 57 per cent male and 56 per cent of the cases were children aged between 1 and 5 years of age.

Response:

- **AWD response in the first quarter of 2017:** The Cluster is supporting the AWD outbreak response in Afar, Amhara, Oromia, SNNP and Somali regions. At least 413,000 people were reached by mobile teams, health facility-based service delivery support, laboratory supplies, Rapid Diagnostic Tests and CTC supplies.
- **Emergency medical teams:** Using the recently allocated CERF money (\$2.5 million), UNICEF will support 18 Mobile Health and Nutrition Teams (MHNTs) that will provide integrated management of neonatal and childhood illnesses, nutritional services, provision of water treatment chemicals, disease outbreak control and capacity building. At least 244,000 pastoralists in Somali region will benefit from the intervention.
- **Enhancing coordination:** The cluster is supporting the Government Command Post structure in Somali region to coordinate the AWD outbreak response, including monitoring and strengthening of adherence to infection prevention and control and case management practices, strengthening active surveillance, epidemiological analysis and laboratory support. At Addis Ababa level, the Health and WaSH clusters are holding regular bi-weekly AWD Response meeting in the WHO office.
- **Enhancing case management:** the Cluster provided capacity building on guidance and oversight of CTC establishments, on case management and IPC in Afar, Oromia and Somali regions.
- **Surveillance and laboratory:** ongoing surveillance to monitor meningococcal meningitis situation in affected regions, on-the job training of health workers on case detection, reporting and management; support provided to improve nutrition surveillance and build capacity for management of SAM in Afar, Amhara, Oromia, SNNP and Somali regions. Continued support for daily health facility reporting and community-based surveillance across the regions; support for outbreak investigation in areas reporting new cases at regional level; support for data analysis for public health action at national level; dedicated team of surveillance officers providing technical support in Bale and Gololcha zones, Oromia region.
- **Health and risk promotion:** the Cluster supported the establishment of AWD taskforces at *woreda* level to strengthen social mobilization and risk communication in Afar and Somali regions.
- **Capacity building:** 90 health workers from *woredas* with active transmission of AWD in Afar were trained on AWD case management; refresher training conducted to health workers in Somali region in *woredas* with active AWD transmission. At least 1,000 Government health professionals drawn from

the Federal Ministry of Health, Amhara, Harari and Tigray regions and Dire Dawa City Administration were deployed to Somali region.

- **Inter-sector coordination:** Continue nurturing the strong Health and WaSH sector collaboration while responding to AWD and skin infection outbreaks,

Gaps & Constraints:

- UN and NGO partners are seeking additional funds to start and/or scale up health activities in Somali region.



Logistics Cluster

The Logistics Cluster was deactivated on 31 March 2017. From now onwards, WFP will ensure logistics coordination and information management sharing and provision of common services on behalf of the humanitarian community.

Needs:

- The Logistics Cluster Special Operation was activated in March 2016 at the request of the GoE, under the leadership of WFP, in order to provide technical and operations support to the National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC) that was tasked with spearheading the response to the 2015-2016 El-Niño drought.

Response:

- Following an analysis of the logistics gaps in April 2016, a number of mitigating activities were implemented to enhance the supply chain and the Government response to the emergency. These included the augmentation of temporary storage at hub and field levels (mobile storage units (MSUs), long-term storage solutions and warehouse rental); support to NDRMC to augment staff capacity; and enhanced logistics pipeline planning and reporting at the upstream and downstream levels.

Achievements:

- **Advisors deployment:** The Logistics Cluster deployed nine supply chain advisors seconded to key government entities: EMAA, NDRMC and Ethiopia Railway Corporation (ERC).
- **Port Congestion:** In order to reduce the congestion at the Port of Djibouti, the Logistics Cluster worked in close collaboration with EMAA and succeeded in improving cargo planning and reducing anchorage times due to enhanced vessel arrival planning.
- **Humanitarian Cargo:** the Cluster is coordinating with the Ethiopia Railway Corporation (ERC) regarding the launch of the first humanitarian cargo transportation via the Djibouti-Ethiopia line in April 2017.
- **Speed of food dispatch:** The speed of food dispatch from Adama NDRMC hub improved as a result of staffing augmentation, warehousing equipment and supply chain management support. There was a 50 per cent improvement of the trucks turn round time (from the truck arrival to the warehouse, to the truck departure) was recorded: (from 5 days in June to less than 48 hours, to date). The maximum loading capacity per day also improved (from 1,300 mt in June, to 2,500 mt to date).
- **Commodity handling and stacking procedures:** Major improvements were made with commodity handling and stacking procedures in the two main NDRMC logistics hubs Dire Dawa and Adama, re-bagging of 17,500 bags of food, as well as shifting NFIs to dedicated storage space. As a result of these activities, the space utilization of the existing warehouses in both hubs improved by 50 per cent.
- **Storage:** Over 73,000MT of additional storage capacity were made available to the Government of Ethiopia and the Joint Emergency Program (JEOP) through Mobile Storage solutions, local constructions and rehabilitations.
- **Supply chain:** To support the NDRMC operations, the Cluster improved the supply chain management, rehabilitating the Logistics hubs in Adama, Dire Dawa and Kombolcha and refurbished NDRMC offices (3,590 m²) in these hubs, and providing more than 14,000 items of essential equipment.
- **Staffing support:** As of March 2017, 982 staff were recruited by NDRMC, the Somali region Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Bureau (DPPB) and the third party recruitment agency, in line with the Clusters' support to the Government of Ethiopia to augment staffing capacity. To build local staff capacity using knowledge sharing and skill transfer, 643 staff from NDRMC, EMAA and Ethiopia Road Transport Authority (RTA) and CRS/JEOP, were trained in 21 locations.
- **Information management:** The Logistics Cluster also produced and shared 120 information products, including shipping snapshot, situation updates, access constraints map, infographics with the humanitarian community. The dedicated Logistics Cluster Ethiopia Operation webpage is available and includes operational updates, contact details, maps and infographics:

<http://www.logcluster.org/ops/eth16a>. Reporting increased from 34% delivery and 9% distribution reported in round 4, to 60% delivery and 39 % distribution reported in round 8, in 2016.



Nutrition

Needs:

- Some 2.7 million moderately malnourished (MAM) people, including 1.37 million children and 1.37 million pregnant and lactating mothers will require supplementary feeding. An estimated 303,000 children under five years will become severely acutely malnourished (SAM) this year (HRD)
- The December hotspot classification identified 192 priority one (P1); 174 priority two and 88 priority three *woredas* across the country. The most affected regions are Somali (67 P1 *woredas*); Oromia (51 P1 *woredas*); Afar (23 P1 *woredas*); and SNNP (27 P1 *woredas*).
- SAM cases are reportedly rising in Afar, Somali, southern belt of Oromia (Bale, Borena, Guji and West Guji), and SNNP (Segen, South Omo, and also in non-IOD driven drought-affected areas of Gedeo, Sidama and Silte zones)

\$105.6m

Nutrition requirement

Response:

- With the blessing of NDRMC and Somali Regional Government (DPP/RHB), WFP is pushing forward with mix modalities to maximize coverage of MAM treatment and, where not feasible to have TSFP, to provide CSB+ to 35 per cent of relief population across all 99 *woredas* for a limited period. The ideal scenario is to have NGO TSFP across all *woredas*, while WFP supports MOU/FLAs to make this happen.
- OFDA has secured support for NGO partners, including Mercy Corps and ACF in 10 *woredas* of Somali region and Concern Worldwide in eight *woredas* of Amhara and Tigray regions. An additional SAM support for SCI is being discussed.
- The call for proposals by OCHA-EHF has spurred a surge in commitment by partners to scale-up and intervene, especially in Somali region.
- Using the recently allocated CERF money (\$5 million), WFP will provide 3,278MT of CSB++ (Super Cereal Plus) for three months, benefiting 142,038 people.
- WFP is stepping-up fund raising efforts and advocacy to cover increasing needs for MAM treatment in Somali region, and additional needs in *belg* high-risk *woredas* beyond the HRD projections.
- Between January and March 2017, at least 681,327 individuals with MAM were treated, including 324,809 children and 356,428 PLW with support from WFP; and 10,633 children and 13,944 PLW (24,607 individuals) by NGOs supported by USAID using Food For Peace commodities.
- The Somali Regional Government has developed a comprehensive multi-sector emergency response plan targeting *woredas* with high numbers of displacement (IDPs), including doolo, Korahe, and Jarar zones. Afder, Nogob/Erer, Liben and Shabele are also being closely monitored. The response plan includes plans to increase mobile and temporary health and nutrition services especially to improve IDP and remote communities' access to services. At present, there is significant intervention gap in at least 11 priority 1 *woreda* and 13 priority 2 *woredas* in Somali region alone.
- The cluster is discussing ways to address the lag time to get NGOs on the ground in the new drought-affected areas- especially in Somali region where NGO presence is scant. In the interim, the need for UNICEF to step-up CMAM monitors and repurpose staff to critical zones in being considered.
- The cluster is working on ways to boost coordination efforts at sub regional level. The recruitment of six zonal coordinators (4 in Somali and 2 in Oromia and SNNPR) is going on by the respective regional DPPFS offices.

Gaps & Constraints:

- The TSF programme for priority 1 *woredas* is fully funded until June 2017, but will face a \$16 million shortfall in the last six months of 2017. The TSF programme for priority 1 *woredas* is not funded and the need for 2017 is \$24 million.



Needs:

\$11.1m

Protection requirement

- The Cluster will support 590,000 people to prevent, mitigate and respond to protection risks of vulnerable groups, including through service provision and system strengthening (HRD).
- Based on findings of the November-December *meher* assessment, the Cluster has identified 68 priority *woredas*, the majority in Somali (45) and Oromia (14) regions. Criteria for selection included a) presence of drought conditions, b) high level of internal displacement and c) high prevalence of protection concerns.
- Protection mainstreaming: As part of its protection mainstreaming efforts, the Cluster has developed a draft Cheat Sheet to be used with the Nutrition Cluster. Once approved following discussions with the Nutrition Cluster, the Cheat Sheet will be used as a quick reference tool to enable the Nutrition Cluster mainstream protection issues within its activities. This will be replicated with other clusters.

Response:

- Using the small amount of fund carried over from 2016, child protection services and follow-up are ongoing in some 2016 HRD priority *woredas*. Of the 590,000 people targeted for various protection interventions in the 2017 HRD, the sector assisted 9,860 individuals, especially in drought - affected priority one *woredas*.
- 5,368 children (46 per cent girls) accessed Child Friendly Spaces; 452 children (48 per cent girls) accessed case management services; and 388 separated children (50 per cent girls) were identified, of which 77 children (48 per cent girls) were supported to return to their families.
- 5,017 children in emergency-affected areas in Oromia, SNNP and Somali regions received psychosocial support via child friendly spaces.
- With UNICEF support, two Child Friendly Spaces, manned with six (two female) para-social workers, were established in Garlegube (*Warder woreda*) and Yu'ub (*lehel-Yu'ub woreda*) sites in Somali region
- The Cluster pre-selected six (6) partners to implement protection activities in Oromia and Somali regions with EHF funding.
- A rapid "post cash transfer" assessment was conducted in Qolaji and Gursum IDP sites. The Cluster distributed 600 dignity kits in Qolaji. Separately, 1,500 dignity kits were also distributed in Amhara Regions– Gaz Gibla and Sekota, SNNP region-Shashogo and Soro and Tigray region – Kola Temben and Ahferon
- The Cluster provided Gender and Protection mainstreaming training to 20 service providers in order to strengthen their protection and gender mainstreaming capacities.
- The Cluster conducted a support mission to Somali region (Doolo and Jarar zones) to strengthen the humanitarian response in collaboration with the regional government and humanitarian partners on the ground particularly on access to services. The report of the mission has been finalized and widely circulated. The protection related findings were presented at the 15 March ICCG with recommendations on how to tackle the protection issues identified.
- The Protection Strategy is finalized. Broad consultations on the operationalization of the strategy is required with partners.
- The Cluster ensured that other clusters have assigned protection focal persons within their respective clusters.
- 936 vulnerable groups (895 women and girls and 41 men) in Somali, Afar, Tigray, Amhara, Oromia and SNNP regions received psychosocial support services through Women friendly spaces.
- Capacity building training on Gender Based Violence Information Management System (GBVIMS) provided for 41 people, of which. 28 were GBVIMS focal persons from 17 *woreda* women and children Affairs Offices in Somali, Tigray, Amhara, Afar, Oromia and SNNP regions.
- The Procap (Senior Protection Officer) conducted 7 days mission to Somali (15 to 22 March 2017). The mission objective was to assess the IDP situation as well as to support the Durable Solution Working Group.

Gaps & Constraints:

- The major funding received by the Protection Cluster (Japan and EHF's donation) was received in March, and hence, activities will commence in the second quarter of 2017.
- A mapping in Somali region revealed the availability of only 10 BoLSA Social Workers in *woreda* towns (with no outreach to IDP sites). The contract of more than 150 BoWCA and BoLSA social and para social workers deployed to emergency-affected *kebeles* in 2016 (supported by UNICEF) ended as of the end of March due to fund expiration.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Needs:

\$86m
WaSH requirement

- Some 9.2 million people will require WaSH support, including 2.6 million people to access safe drinking water, through
 1. Operations and maintenance of functional water points, rehabilitation of existing water points, water provision in schools and health facilities, and water quality
 2. Promoting latrine construction in close coordination with health administration at zonal level, new construction at institutional level (schools and health facilities)
 3. Household WaSH safety – Provision of water treatment chemicals, WaSH NFIs, hygiene promotions (HRD)
- Water scarcity, for human and livestock consumption, in the new drought belt is seriously impacting lives and livelihood. An estimated 4 million people need urgent support to access safe drinking water.
- Supplies of household water treatment chemicals and WaSH NFIs are generally a concern, and there is an urgent need to stock up supplies until June 2017.
- In all regions, rehabilitation of permanent water supply systems is given precedence, for sustainable and cheaper solution

Response:

- The Government, with support from UNICEF and NGOs, is trucking water to affected communities to address the immediate water need for humans, while permanent water systems are being put in place as a longer term solution for recurrent drought.
- At present, 420 trucks (of 779 trucks requested across 209 *woredas* – up from the 522 trucks requested at the launch of the HRD) are deployed, leaving a gap of 351 trucks. The current cost per week, if all needs were to be met, is \$2.7 million. However, if the upcoming rains fail as forecast, an additional \$24.7 million will be required to support increased water trucking needs until June 2017.
- UNICEF supports the Somali Regional Water Bureau with four mobile maintenance teams to rehabilitate non-functional wells for four months, benefiting 785,000 people.
- As demand for water treatment chemicals increased due to the drought and AWD especially in Somali region, UNICEF has provided more than 11 million sachet of Water Maker and Aquatab to Somali since January 2017.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Considerable financial gap for water trucking operation, and shortage of supplies, including water tankers and water treatment chemicals to meet requirements in Oromia, Somali and SNNP regions.

General Coordination

The overall humanitarian coordination in Ethiopia is led by the Government's National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC). The NDRMC leads federal and regional level Disaster Risk Management Technical Working Groups (DRMTWGs) and hosts a series of specialized task forces that work jointly with the cluster lead agencies. The DRMTWG is the umbrella forum that brings all actors together at the technical level, including government and donor representatives. With the development of the crisis, the Government and humanitarian partners are working to strengthen regional DRMTWGs. At a higher level, NDRMC Commissioner and the Humanitarian Coordinator co-chair a monthly Strategic Multi-Agency Coordination (S-MAC) forum to deliberate on humanitarian response operations and address challenges.

2017 drought response coordination:

An Incident Command Post (ICP) was established by the Government to strengthen humanitarian assistance in drought-hit pastoralist areas, including addressing gaps and occasional delays in aid delivery. The Ethiopia Humanitarian Country Team (EHCT) agreed that through the ICP, detailed zonal operation planning should inform the work of humanitarian partners in close collaboration with the regional Government. Meanwhile, humanitarian partners are strengthening a multi-sector integrated response plan, which aims to strengthen zonal coordination and improve information management (drilling down to the lowest level of coverage), with a focus on multi-sector efficiency, accountability, and identification of a decision-making platform according to three basic principles:

1. Cluster specific activities that define *woreda* coverage by partners and associated financial requirement;
2. Zonal response coordination led by zonal Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Bureau (DPPB), supported by OCHA and partners;
3. Information management system that enables informed decision-making

The principles are also based on the flexibility of donor agencies to shift/re-direct programmed funds to priority humanitarian interventions identified by the multi-sector integrated response plan.

For inquiries, please contact:

Choice Okoro, OCHA Ethiopia, okoroc@un.org, Cell: +251-911216465, Tel.:+251-11-5-444059
Malda Nadew, OCHA Ethiopia, nadew@un.org, Cell: +251-929-034346, Tel: +251-11-5-444059