

This report is produced by OCHA East Africa in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It is issued by OCHA in New York. It covers the period from 18 to 25 August. The next report will be issued on 1 September.

I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- Despite massive efforts by humanitarian agencies to continue to scale up the response to the Horn of Africa drought crisis, the situation continues to deteriorate.
- Preliminary results of the national Long Rains Assessment released on 25 August indicate that the beneficiary caseload for Kenya has increased from 2.4 million to 3.75 million people in the last seven months.
- More than \$350 million has been pledged at the AU Pledging Conference on the Horn of Africa.
- The Government of Kenya will host a Summit on Ending Drought Emergencies in the Horn of Africa region on 8-9 September in Nairobi.
- UN OCHA strongly encourages all donors and humanitarian actors to carry out their activities in coordination with existing structures on the ground. Cash rather than in-kind contributions is also advised.

II. Situation Overview

Despite massive efforts by humanitarian agencies to continue to scale up the response to the Horn of Africa drought crisis, the situation continues to deteriorate due to the sheer scope of the disaster (the size of the affected region and the affected population: over 12 million and growing); continuing access and logistical constraints; poor harvests; unfavourable weather conditions; globally increasing food prices; shortfalls in food supply pipelines; and shortfalls in funding (US\$1.4 billion out of the required \$2.4 billion received to date). The Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) reports that food insecurity in the eastern Horn of Africa region will most likely persist into the first quarter of 2012 due to below-normal rains forecasted for October to December 2011. An augmented multi-sectoral response is critical to prevent deaths and the total collapse of livelihood and social systems.

In light of the recent increase in Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD) and cholera in Somalia and the potential spread to Kenya with refugee movements, members of the WASH and Health Clusters/Sectors of Somalia and Kenya have begun to plan coordinated preparedness and response activities, including cholera training for WASH practitioners, community surveillance systems, and pre-positioning of essential supplies. At the same time, UNHCR and its partners in Ethiopia are urgently prepositioning supplies to ensure that cholera is not transmitted to camps in Ethiopia via the arrival of new refugees crossing the border. To date, no suspected cases have been reported in any camps or settlements. Refugees arriving at the reception centers will be closely monitored, the chlorine content of the water at camps will be increased and WHO and UNICEF will provide a case treatment centre per camp and one centre for the host community. UNICEF will provide an initial batch of 150,000 oral rehydration sachets for the treatment of cholera and undertake a major public awareness campaign on hygiene.

FEWS NET reports that food insecurity is at crisis levels along the borders of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan due to restricted cross-border trade, conflict, and pressure from returnees who are yet to be integrated in the production cycle. Affected areas include northern Bahr el Ghazal, Unity, parts of Jonglei, Warrap, Lakes and Upper Nile states. With rainfall deficits in parts of eastern and central Sudan expected, the prospect of the Horn of Africa crisis expanding westward must be considered.

III. Humanitarian Needs and Response by Country

DJIBOUTI

Recurrent droughts have pushed over 136,000 people into chronic food insecurity – more than one-eighth of the population. According to FEWS NET, Djibouti is now classified as Level 3 – 'Crisis' on the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification. High levels of rural to urban migration are exacerbating conditions in

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already overcrowded peri-urban areas around Djibouti City, where there are frequent outbreaks of AWD and evidence of cholera.

Food insecurity is affecting 136,000 people in the northwest, central and southeast regions of the country. USAID reports that staple food prices are 72 per cent higher than the five-year average. **Response:** WFP and ACF are currently supporting over 109,000 food-insecure people, including 17,000 refugees. **Gaps and Constraints:** Geographical isolation of affected populations and lack of operational implementing partners.

In the domain of **Nutrition**, the severe malnutrition caseload stands at 3,811 and the moderate malnutrition caseload at 15,998. **Response:** With the support of ACF, UNICEF is treating over 2,050 severely malnourished children and 15,930 moderately malnourished children at community level countrywide. **Gaps and Constraints:** Nutrition pipeline delays are being experienced.

Partners working in the **Health** sector have reported outbreaks of AWD in the capital and regional urban centres, as well as evidence of cholera. MSF reports rapidly deteriorating health conditions in the peri-urban areas of Djibouti City, where there is a high influx of refugees. **Gaps and Constraints:** Lack of information from rural areas and limited access to safe drinking water countrywide.

A detailed **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene** (WASH) assessment is currently being carried out in affected urban and rural areas. UNICEF and partners are currently reaching an estimated 49,700 people in the most affected areas (northwest, southeast, and urban areas) where there is a serious shortage of water. A recent assessment in the peri-urban area of Djibouti City found that an estimated 2,000 children are living in squalor in the slum area in Bouldougo and in urgent need of drinking water and sanitation amenities. UNICEF is starting a water trucking service to the area. **Gaps and Constraints:** The WASH Cluster will not be fully operational until September. WASH pipeline delays are being experienced.

ETHIOPIA

WFP's August Horn of Africa weather outlook shows a low-to-moderate probability of drier than average rainfall over Borana and southwestern Somali Region during the October 2011 to January 2012 period. This is worrying, as good rains will be needed to stabilize the situation in the area. October-November rains over the rest of Somalia are predicted to be average.

The **Camp Coordination and Management** Cluster reports that, as of 22 August, there were 119,897 Somali refugees in the Dolo Ado area. A further 18,500 new arrivals from Somalia have entered Ethiopia near Gode, 250 km northeast of Dolo Ado. **Response:** UNHCR sent a 13-person team composed of a Protection Officer, Health and Nutrition Coordinator, Field/Programme Officer as well as registration staff to Gode on 22 August. The team will register people receiving aid as well as coordinate and supervise the relief effort. Registration will help establish the status of these people and identify which of the refugees wish to move to either the Dolo Ado or Jijiga camps, as establishing a refugee camp in Gode is not practical. WFP, which had already provided a one-month food ration for some 300 families, has been requested to extend the same assistance to the entire group of refugees in Gode. **Gaps and Constraints:** Activities in the camps are limited and require strengthening.

In **Health**, outbreaks of measles were reported in four *woredas* in the Southern Nations, Nationalities, and People's Region (SNNPR), the ethnic division that borders Kenya and South Sudan. Suspected measles cases have also been reported in Amhara Region in Dembia and North Wollo Zones. In the Dolo Ado camps, UNHCR has indicated that 55 per cent of suspected measles cases are in the over 15 age group. **Response:** MSF-Spain is providing support to the *woreda* surveillance team and WHO is assisting with outbreak investigation. In Dolo Ado, efforts are underway to address the high mortality rates among new arrivals from Somalia. Children under age 5 remain the priority focus. UNHCR and partners are expanding existing nutritional programmes to older children and are rushing to open a dedicated stabilization centre for severely acute malnourished children in Kobe camp. A second mass measles and polio campaign for children up to 15 years of age has just been completed in Melkadida. **Gaps and Constraints:** A shortage of drugs to treat cases of malnutrition has been observed at some Outpatient Therapeutic Programme (OTP) sites in SNNPR. In Dolo Ado, the provision of vaccinations has been lower than expected. UNHCR and its health partners are now working to identify children who were not vaccinated.

Food insecurity is widely prevalent in the pastoral, agro-pastoral and *belg* producing parts of Oromia Region as a result of drought. Following the failure of two consecutive rainy seasons, affected communities have lost significant livestock assets and most of them are currently in desperate condition with malnutrition on the

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rise. Food security is also continuing to seriously deteriorate in East and West Hararghe zone due to the increase in grain prices, absence of gap filling crops, and reduced livestock prices. Increased admission rates to OTP sites and Stabilization Centres are being reported in many *woredas*. Oromia has reported a substantial increase in the planned number of food beneficiaries to the federal government. **Response:** Fifth-round relief dispatches are progressing with about 40 per cent completed countrywide as of 16 August. Based on available resources and funding forecasts, the Ethiopia Prioritization Committee for the National Relief Programme decided on 14 August that beneficiaries will receive reduced rations of CSB (Corn-Soy Blend), pulse and vegetable oil. **Gaps and Constraints:** Food interventions are inadequate because available resources are not commensurate with needs. The shortfall in food supplies has increased following the decision to add a 9th round of relief in 2011.

In **Agriculture**, the onset of the dry season in the drought-affected areas of the south and southeastern regions of the country will further exacerbate poor pasture conditions and water shortages, resulting in lower livestock production and deterioration in body conditions, with a subsequent negative impact on prices. The low availability of critical food staples during the lean season as well as the continuing high prices of basic food items have combined to contribute to the deterioration of food security conditions, with areas that are heavily dependent on *belg* harvest in SNNPR and eastern and central parts of Oromia of particular concern. **Response:** At the most recent Agricultural Task Force meeting, the DRMFS recognized the need to stabilise food prices. Stabilisation suggestions include the early distribution of Productive Safety Net Programmes. The Cluster has agreed on the need to promote the early recovery phase and to secure donor commitment for this purpose. **Gaps and Constraints:** The Sector continues to be under-funded. As a result of limited donor response, considerably more expensive emergency responses are now required.

In **Emergency Shelter and NFI**, UNHCR is airlifting an assortment of relief items sufficient for 20,000 people which is expected to arrive in Addis Ababa at the end this week for immediate dispatch to Gode. Arrangements have been made to borrow 3,000 tents for shelter from local sources which should be rushed to the area in the course of the week. The **Logistics Cluster** has authorized the UN Humanitarian Air Service, managed by WFP, to scale up its services from two to five flights a week to Dolo Ado.

KENYA

In the **Food** sector, results from the national long rains assessment indicate that 3.75 million Kenyans in rural areas affected by drought are extremely food insecure, up from 2.4 million in the past seven months. Fieldwork covered 80 per cent of the country. Food prices in local markets reached record levels in July, diminishing families' purchasing power. **Response:** WFP and partners have been targeting 1.6 million Kenyans, with plans to scale up to reach 2.8 million people through general food distributions, food-for-assets, cash-for-assets, as well as targeted and blanket supplementary feeding programmes. With regard to refugees, food assistance is being provided to 490,000 registered refugees in Kakuma and Dadaab (80,000 and 410,000 respectively) through general food distributions, while an additional 40,000 unregistered refugees in Dadaab are receiving high energy biscuits and dry food rations until they are registered. On 16 August, WFP began distributing CSB+ and oil to all children between 24-59 months of age, under the blanket supplementary feeding programme (BSFP). Children aged 6-23 months are meanwhile receiving Nutributter. With effect 24 August, WFP intends to change its targeted support to moderately malnourished children and pregnant and breastfeeding women from corn-soya blend plus (CSB+) and oil to ready-to-use supplementary foods (Plumpy'Sup). **Gaps and Constraints:** Lack of availability of large quantities of cereals and CSB+ in the region. For the August distribution, cereal shortfalls are about 5,000 tons (about 25 per cent of the monthly requirement). Supplies from local and regional markets are limited, given the competing needs in the Horn of Africa. Funding shortfalls persist.

The **Nutrition** sector estimates that close to half a million children under age 5 and pregnant/lactating women are currently affected by acute malnutrition nationwide. These levels are expected to rise further if current trends are not immediately addressed. The percentage of children at risk of acute malnutrition (based on Mid-Upper Arm Circumference measurements) is increasing in most areas. **Response:** The Sector reports that 17,686 children and 63,679 under age 5 are being treated for severe and moderate acute malnutrition, respectively, while 23,844 pregnant/breastfeeding women are also under treatment. The highest caseloads have been reported in Turkana, Mandera and Wajir. Meanwhile, Blanket Supplementary Feeding has begun, targeting a total of 81,805 people. **Gaps and Constraints:** The Sector faces resource and pipeline challenges, including lack of medical staff in the field and lack of coordination. Notably, there exists a funding shortfall of \$15 million for BSFP targeting children aged three to five years of age for six months in the six affected Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASAL) districts.

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In the **Health** sector, most drought-affected areas are reporting an upsurge in cholera, measles and malaria cases: 37.2 per cent of the 790 confirmed measles cases in 2011 are from North Eastern Province, while Nairobi, which has a sizeable Somali population, accounts for 44.7 per cent of all cases. **Response:** Drugs and supplies have been pre-positioned in strategic locations in Lodwar, Marsabit, Moyale, Isiolo, Wajir and Mandera, while technical officers are being deployed to Lodwar and Marsabit to strengthen surveillance and coordination. Vaccination campaigns (measles, polio, Vitamin A and deworming) have been conducted in all of the Dadaab camps with 120 per cent coverage (72,495 children aged 6-59 months reached). Host populations in Garissa, Ijara, Lagdera, Fafi and Wajir South districts were also vaccinated, with 99 per cent coverage (103,797 children aged 6-59 months reached). Mass campaigns for other drought-affected districts have been planned for September. **Gaps and Constraints:** The key gaps include coverage and capacity in the management of severe acute malnutrition in district and provincial hospitals. While measles vaccinations have proceeded well for young children, there is a need to focus on vaccination campaigns for older children as well (15 years+). Serious stock shortfalls of Artemisinin-based Combination Therapy (ACT) for malaria have been reported, as has weak preparedness in Dadaab for malaria case management, with no rapid diagnostic tests (RDTs) for diagnosis, inadequate drug supplies for epidemic detection and management. Funding gaps also persist.

The **WASH** sector reports that the water supply situation in all institutions and communities in Marsabit Central, including the town and the district hospital, remains extremely critical. None of the 36 schools and 11 health facilities in Marsabit Central has a reliable source of water nearby; they depend entirely on trucked water mostly from overstretched sources. An Oxfam assessment report from Isiolo indicates that the drought is most severe in Merti division, in the north. Merti is on alert as most of the livestock from Marsabit, Chalbi and Wajir South districts have converged at the strategic boreholes located in the dry season grazing zone of the area. **Gaps and Constraints:** Delays in delivery of food to supplementary feeding programmes in schools have been experienced, while a lack of water to prepare the food persists. Delayed disbursement of funds for operation and maintenance of boreholes through the Northern Services Board has also been a problem, and insecurity and poor road conditions hinders access to Turkana district.

The **Education Sector** reports that secondary schools appear to have been the hardest hit in terms of enrolment, as families are no longer able to pay school fees. Most of them were reportedly unable to benefit from the holiday school feeding programme due to lack of water to prepare the food. The Treasury has released KSH 400 million (\$4.3 million) to the Ministry of Education, half of which will be put toward expanding the school feeding programme in the new school year, the other half of which will be put toward offsetting some of the tuition fees for secondary schools in ASAL areas. Education partners are preparing for the beginning of the school year by providing teaching and learning supplies to schools in affected areas, supporting the expansion of mobile schools and construction of ECD centres. The Cluster is also working with colleagues at UNHCR to develop an overarching strategy for education in Dadaab in keeping with the Ministry of Education's mandate to support refugee education. **Gaps and Constraints:** A lack of focal points and sub-national level coordination groups has hindered the effective communication and oversight of education support in the field.

In terms of **Camp Coordination/Management**, as of 22 August, a total of 5,578 families comprising 23,481 persons have been relocated to Ifo 2 (3,800), Ifo 3 (18,534) and Kambioos (1,147) camp sites, respectively. **Gaps and Constraints:** The relocation to Kambioos camp has been temporarily suspended until delivery of basic services is adequately available on site.

The **Protection** sector reports that recent missions to Turkana indicate severe problems in SGBV response. For example, a recent UNICEF mission to Lodwar found severe shortfalls with SGBV service providers (health institutions); an increase of sex-for-food and transactional sex activities among women and girls, as well as increased involvement of police and military in such activities; increased school dropouts; family disputes and separation; and increased exposure of women and girls to SGBV risks at water points. The Protection Working Group on Internal Displacement will undertake an assessment mission in Kitale, Lodwar, Kakuma and Lokichokio on 1-2 September and 7-9 September. ProCap support has been requested to enhance the coordination of child protection partners and other stakeholders. **Gaps and Constraints:** Increased coordination and monitoring to enable appropriate protection response at Nairobi and field level is required. It is hoped that the ProCap deployment will strengthen the quality of reporting. Stronger linkages with other sectors in view of identifying protection concerns are required.

SOMALIA

Somalia's drought and famine crisis is expected to extend into 2012 due to predictions of low rainfall. It has been over two weeks since Al-Shabaab abandoned Mogadishu, but security incidents involving clan militias continue, and most of southern Somalia remains inaccessible to the majority of humanitarian organisations.

In the **Food** Cluster, humanitarian actors are currently assisting 1.77 million people of the 3.7 million in need (48 per cent). WFP and Cluster partners are scaling up interventions to reach an additional 900,000 people in southern Somalia through general food distribution and the provision of food vouchers. **Gaps and Constraints:** Due to ongoing access restrictions in the south, limited assistance is being provided where the greatest needs are – 2.2 million people are still in need. WFP is prepositioning food stocks along the border to be able to respond rapidly should humanitarian access improve.

With regard to **Nutrition**, latest figures show a 15 per cent increase in reported child malnutrition cases, from 390,000 to 450,000 (FSNAU). UNICEF and partners have 800 feeding centres across Somalia assisting 35,000 children daily. Plans are underway to increase this number to 100,000. Supplementary food has been airlifted into Mogadishu, Lower Juba, Gedo and Bakool to assist 42,000 malnourished children for one month. **Gaps and Constraints:** The Cluster continues to strongly discourage the donation and use of breast milk substitutes which places children at risk of waterborne diseases.

The **Health** Cluster reports that cases of cholera and AWD are on the rise in crowded urban areas and in the coastal town of Kismayo in the Lower Juba region. With the onset of rains, it is likely the number of cases will increase. An urgent multi-sector response is being mounted to prevent a major outbreak of cholera/AWD. WHO reports that the number of measles cases has increased by over 660 per cent in one year (1,019 suspected cases and 31 deaths in the south this July, compared to 133 cases in July 2010). WHO and UNICEF have started an emergency vaccination campaign in all accessible areas of south and central Somalia, targeting 2.3 million children. The Cluster aims to assist a total of 2.6 million people with access to health care services. **Gaps and Constraints:** Immunization against measles in Somalia currently only covers 29 per cent of children.

The **WASH** Cluster aims to reach 2.8 million people with emergency water and 1.3 million with emergency sanitation by the end of 2011. To date, the Cluster has provided emergency water to 1.4 million in southern Somalia. Supplies of chlorine, items for hygiene and storage for water are being distributed at existing feeding centres. Campaigns to educate families about the treatment of water and basic hygiene have been scaled up in communities.

The **Agriculture and Livelihoods** Cluster aims to provide agricultural assistance to 70 per cent of the people affected (2.6 million of the 3.7 million in crisis) by increasing access to food vouchers, providing cash-for-work opportunities and providing farmers with timely agricultural inputs of seeds, tools, tractor hours and fertilizers in time for October rains. **Response:** UNICEF and partners are rolling out emergency cash-based response and distributing food vouchers in the south. FAO is assisting over 150,000 people through cash-for-work initiatives and targeting over one million animals in Gedo, Lower and Middle Juba, Lower Shabelle, Galgaduud, Mudug, Bay, Bakool and Hiraan. **Gaps and Constraints:** An estimated 407,000 people still need to be reached with multiple interventions and another 960,000 with single interventions.

According to the **Education** Cluster, 1.8 million children of the estimated 2.3 million children between 5 and 17 years are not attending school. **Response:** The Protection and Education clusters are establishing 400 Child-Friendly Spaces in priority regions of south and central Somalia. **Gaps and Constraints:** Continued funding shortfalls are preventing the full roll out efforts. The sector is only 18 per cent funded.

Over half of the Somali population is drought displaced. The **Emergency Shelter and NFI** Cluster is targeting 1.8 million this year through the provision of emergency assistance packages and temporary/transitional shelter across Somalia. **Gaps and Constraints:** 1.35 million people still require EAPs and temporary/transitional shelter.

Protection risks are rife among the population on the move. Men are leaving their families in search of water and pasture, and women and children are left alone to make the long and dangerous trek in search of food and safety. The Protection Cluster aims to assist 15,000 survivors of human rights violations through livelihood support and community protection initiatives. Arrangements for training, supplies and protocols for rape management are being made in the within the host community of the Kenyan village of Liboi, where the cluster reported 461 victims of protection-related incidents last month.

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The **Logistics** cluster is looking into new corridors into southern Somalia to ensure timely delivery of life-saving relief items to previously inaccessible populations. This could lead to the establishment of corridors from Somaliland/Puntland or across Ethiopia to facilitate entry into border areas. A safe and regular shipping service has been secured for inter-agency cargo, and warehouse facilities are being augmented.

IV. Coordination

Preliminary findings from an information and communications needs assessment from August 7-14 in the Dadaab camps indicate that refugees are not receiving the information they need regarding assistance available to them. The assessment was conducted to help understand the information needs of refugees in Dadaab, and explore ways to improve the flow of communications between refugees, aid agencies, and host communities. An assessment report with the results of the survey and recommendations for action will be released next week.

According to media reports, the Arab League has confirmed that it will lead and coordinate Arab efforts for a quick response to the humanitarian crisis in Somalia. A number of Arab countries have responded to the League's call for sending relief assistance to Somalia, including Oman, Egypt, Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Sudan, and Kuwait. UNOCHA would like to remind partners that all efforts should, to the degree possible, be carried out in coordination with existing coordination structures on the ground.

On 19 August, UNHCR launched a shared web portal to provide detailed and regularly updated information from the agency and its operational partners on the refugee and displacement emergency across the Horn of Africa region. It can be found at <http://data.unhcr.org/horn-of-africa/>. The portal provides a single platform where operational partners can share information on any aspect of their work.

The Regional Interagency Child Protection Network (RICPN) has been reactivated after being dormant since December 2010. As assessment continues across the region, child protection risks thus far identified include psychosocial impacts; trafficking; abandonment; street children; GBV; and children separated from their families in IDP/refugee sites and outside of camp settings. Cross-border coordination with other sectors will be reinforced as it has proven to be able to greatly improve child protection response.

V. Funding

African Union (AU) leaders gathered at the first ever AU Pledging Conference and made pledges of more than \$350 million toward the relief effort. An additional \$28 million of 'in kind' donations, such as food, medicines, and other forms of assistance was also pledged. Pledging remains open, and the AU called on the private sector to join forces to help fill the funding gap. The international community was asked to renew commitments as well as to help support medium- and long-term strategies aimed at creating resilience.

2.4 billion
requested (US\$)

58 %
funded

All humanitarian partners including donors and recipient agencies are encouraged to inform FTS of cash and in-kind contributions by sending an e-mail to: fts@un.org.

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