



## HEAVY RAINS KILL NINE PEOPLE AND THREATEN FURTHER FLOODING

Ethiopia's flood crisis remains of concern despite the fact that the water level is receding in many areas. In Dire Dawa, heavy rains again killed nine people in Lege harrie area on 13 September. The rains damaged properties including the tents in the resettlement sites where flood victims are being hosted.

In the already flood affected areas of Amhara Region and SNNPR, there are fears of further flooding around Lake Tana and Lake Turkana. In Amhara, where 97,000 people are affected by severe flooding, approximately 68,000 people require immediate food assistance for the coming four months. The regional government developed an action plan that is in line with the National Flood Appeal. The action plan requests approximately US\$ 9 million to meet the emerging needs. A large area of cropped land has been destroyed by the floods and seeds are among the persisting needs for a successful *Meher* harvest. Meanwhile, the flood taskforce, under the auspices of the Early Warning Working Group proposes a joint rapid assessment of the flood affected areas in the country. The flood taskforce is comprised of DPPA, FEWS-NET, USAID, OCHA, UNICEF and WFP. Attempts are also being made by the DPPA to expand the membership to include Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Water Resources and the National Meteorological Agency. The assessment will attempt to evaluate the impact of the disaster on food security and livelihoods. For more information contact: [ocha-eth@un.org](mailto:ocha-eth@un.org)

## NEW AWD CASES CONTINUE TO BE REPORTED

This week new 1,608 AWD cases with 49 deaths were reported across the country, bringing the total case number to 19,176 with 182 deaths. To date, the outbreak is reported in five regions and one city administration – Addis Ababa. The outbreak has spread to six new woredas in Bale zone (Oromiya Region) and Gamogofa zone (SNNPR). Meanwhile, a National Coordination Committee chaired by the State Minister for Health is meeting weekly to discuss the situation, response and ways forward. Four sub committees are established including Advocacy Communication and Social Mobilization; Environmental Health and Sanitation; and Surveillance, Information Exchange, Clinical management and laboratory investigation. The Ministry of Water Resources will deploy two assessment teams to the northern and southern parts of the country to identify gaps and suggest possible interventions. Meanwhile, a WHO team from the Regional Office is providing support including, epidemiological surveillance and outbreak investigation; food safety; water and sanitation; logistics and resource mobilization activities in response to the outbreak. For more information contact: [ocha-eth@un.org](mailto:ocha-eth@un.org)

## UPDATES ON RELIEF FOOD DISPATCHES

As of September 14, DPPA had delivered 2,474 tonnes of food to 145,540 people in the seven flood affected regions. The break-down of dispatches per region is as follows: 116 tonnes to Oromiya, 65 tonnes to Dire Dawa town, 361 tonnes to SNNPR, 873 tonnes to Amhara, 240 tonnes to Afar, 28 tonnes to Gambella and 768 tonnes to Somali and 22 tonnes to Tigray regions. Additionally, WFP delivered 124 tonnes of maize to the flood affected population in Mustahil woreda in Gode zone, Somali Region. The Government is utilizing its relief transportation fleet that supported timely transportation of relief items to the flood affected areas. Moreover, 13,157 pieces of blankets, 398 tents, 661 rolls plastic sheets, more than 79,000 pieces of different types of household utensils, and 582,000 plastic bags (to be used to construct dykes) have also been delivered to the affected areas. UNICEF plans to start NFI distribution to the flood affected areas in Gambella Region. For more information contact: [wfp.addisababa@wfp.org](mailto:wfp.addisababa@wfp.org) &

## UPDATES ON RELIEF FOOD REQUIREMENT

WFP continues resource mobilization efforts for the flood response. To date, Irish Aid has confirmed assistance worth US\$ 256,410; however, more is required to meet the total requirement of approximately US\$ 5.2 million. In addition to the immediate requirements, severe deficit in the national relief food pipeline is foreseen in November. USAID has pledged a contribution of 30,000 tonnes of cereal for the relief appeal that has decreased the food requirement to 110,000 tonnes worth US\$ 55 million. More contributions are required to cover the remaining relief food needs for approximately 3 million people from September to December 2006. Contact: [wfp.addisababa@wfp.org](mailto:wfp.addisababa@wfp.org)

## REPATRIATION OF SUDANESE REFUGEES HAMPERED BY SHORTAGE OF FUNDS

UNHCR seeks additional fund to continue the repatriation of Sudanese refugees from Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and the Central African Republic (CAR). A tripartite agreement for the repatriation of the refugees was signed between UNHCR, Ethiopia and Sudanese Governments in February 2006. To date 500 refugees have been repatriated from Bonga camp in Gambella Region. There are 73,000 Sudanese refugees that are currently living in five camps in Ethiopia. Out of this, approximately 17,000 refugees have registered to be repatriated. Contact: [gegziabk@unhcr.org](mailto:gegziabk@unhcr.org)