



## FLOOD UPDATE

The floods in Somali Region have to date claimed the lives of 80 people and affected as many as 361,600 of whom 122,500 are displaced in Gode, Afder, Liben and Korahe zones. Heavy rains are forecast for the coming days, increasing fears of further flooding. Based on the recommendations of the high level assessment mission led by the Deputy Prime Minister, the DPPA is presently preparing a joint flash appeal to address the humanitarian situation. Meanwhile, Government and Humanitarian partners are continuing to provide emergency assistance to meet the urgent needs but accessibility continues to be a challenge. Alternative methods of relief delivery such as helicopters, pack animals, boats and other transport routes are currently being explored. Other challenges include the emerging health and nutrition problems aggravated by the flooding; in particular there is a concern about the further spread of Acute Watery Diarrhoea in the region and the possibility of a malaria outbreak. Increases in water-borne disease have already been observed by the DPPB in the flood affected regions.

Rapid Assessment teams have been deployed throughout the flood affected areas of the region. The findings of the joint assessment team that visited Kelafo, have illustrated the severity of the situation. While much of the flood water has now receded as many as 64,720 people in Kelafo have been displaced by the floods from 25 of its 32 kebeles. The priority needs are food, mosquito nets, drugs, shelter materials, seeds and agricultural tools. Despite difficult road conditions the first trucks carrying food aid have reached Kelafo over the weekend and distributions are expected to take place immediately. ICRC has made available two boats to DPPB for distributions of relief items in the areas that are currently inaccessible by road. The boats will be transported to Kelafo in the coming days. Furthermore, a loader has been sent by DPPB and WFP to pull out the food aid trucks currently stuck in the mud on the road to Kelafo. Additional rains in the flood affected areas can further deteriorate road conditions and hamper efforts to deliver relief aid. A UNICEF mobile health team is currently in Kelafo. A joint DPPB, SC-UK and health department rapid assessment team visited East and West Imi by boat this week and its findings are still pending. Food and non-food items have been dispatched by Concern Worldwide, IRC, WFP/DPPA, UNICEF, the Regional Agriculture Bureau, ARDA, CHF, PSI, MCDO, OWDA and UNICEF. Nevertheless, NGOs participation in response has thus far been limited due to inaccessibility, security problem and lack of agreed upon requirements. For more information contact: [ocha-eth@un.org](mailto:ocha-eth@un.org)

## AWD UPDATE

Despite collaborated efforts by Government and humanitarian partners, Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD) continues to spread to new areas. To date, a total of 38,007 cases with 404 deaths are reported in 105 woredas in Oromiya, SNNP, Tigray, Afar, Amhara and Somali regions. The situation in Afar Region is of major concern due to the alarming increase in number of cases within a short period of time. Concern and World Vision Ethiopia are presently assisting the regional government by establishing CTCs and training of health workers in the area. The situation in Somali Region is also of concern, as the floods are feared to exacerbate the outbreak. The situation in Amhara, Tigray and Oromiya is promising as the case numbers are decreasing. Nevertheless, nothing can be said about SNNPR due to poor surveillance reporting. Meanwhile, the five subcommittees established under the National Coordination Committee for Control and Prevention of AWD are actively working to address the emergency. The Ministry of Health (MoH) transferred half of the 10 million birr secured from the National Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Fund to the regions. The remaining money will be utilized at federal level. For more information contact: [ocha-eth@un.org](mailto:ocha-eth@un.org)

## MENINGITIS OUTBREAK, SNNPR

Meningitis outbreak is reported in Derashe Special Woreda and Selamago woreda (Mursi area) in South Omo zone, SNNPR. Another outbreak, earlier reported in Wolayita zone of the same region was contained due to quick response by Ministry of Health (MoH) and humanitarian partners. To date, a total of 612 cases with 10 deaths are reported in the region. The situation is of major concern as the outbreak started earlier than the normal epidemic time. To contain the outbreak, the MoH is undertaking different activities including pre-positioning of vaccines in Tigray, Amhara, Beneshangul and SNNP regions. The Ministry is also providing health education to the affected communities and is conducting different assessments in the area. There is a 4.4 million shortage of vaccines in the country, and the Ministry is appealing for donors to address the gap. Contact: [milliyonwend@yahoo.com](mailto:milliyonwend@yahoo.com)

## PRE-HARVEST FOOD SECURITY MISSION DEPARTS TO THE REGIONS

The DPPA-led annual pre-harvest food security mission for crop dependent areas departed to the regions on 18 November. The assessment for the pastoral areas covering Somali Region and Borena zone of Oromiya Region is scheduled to start on 25 November. The Household Economy Approach (HEA) that takes into account sources of food, income, expenditure and coping abilities of households to determine food gaps will be used in SNNPR. It is envisaged that this method will be expanded to Tigray, Amhara, and pastoral areas of Afar and Somali regions next year. Meanwhile, livelihood baselines are being compiled and updated in these regions. Contact: [ewd@dppc.gov.et](mailto:ewd@dppc.gov.et)