



FOOD SECURITY UPDATE

The food security situation in SNNP, Somali, Eastern Oromiya and certain areas of Amhara regions continues to be of great concern. In **SNNPR** such coping mechanisms as reduction of meals, migration, selling of farming tools and begging are widespread. Increased admission rates to Outpatient Therapeutic Programmes have been reported in Kembata Tembaro and Hadiya zones. The food security situation is rapidly deteriorating in Arsi, West Shoa, East and West Hararghe zones of **Oromiya Region**. IMC reported that admission to stabilization centers have increased in Moyale woreda of Borena zone. CARE also reported a similar trend in several woredas of East Hararghe zone. Furthermore, the Emergency Nutrition Coordination Unit reported that malnutrition caseloads remain high in Siraro and Shashemene woredas in West Arsi zone. The Regional Health Bureau is assessing the situation in Goro, Mena and Berbere woredas of Bale zone. The physical condition of livestock in **Somali Region** remains poor with the onset of the dry season, *haga*. In Degehabur zone pastoralists have started migrating in search of pasture. Prospect for recession agriculture in Mustahil and Ferfer woredas is poor as river water level is very low. Agro-pastoralist production is also poor in the region. In addition, locally produced food items including maize and sorghum are absent in local markets of Fik and Hamaro due to crop failure. Rainfall has improved in **Amhara Region** during the week and farmers have started planting pulses, barley and other *meher* crops. **Tigray** Region reported that rains received during the week assisted farmers to plant *meher* crops. Nevertheless, the physical condition of livestock remains poor as pasture is still scarce. **Afar Region** has not received significant rainfall during the week. In **Dire Dawa**, WFP reports that drought is setting in, and there are reports of livestock deaths.

Emergency response is ongoing. During the week, UNICEF dispatched 69 MT of Plumpy'Nut to SNNP and 53 MT to Oromiya Regional Health Bureaus. The Plumpy'Nut will be further distributed to Therapeutic Feeding Units (TFUs) and Outpatient Treatment Centers (OTPs) in the regions inline with distribution plan finalized by Emergency Nutrition Coordination Unit together with Regional Health Bureaus and NGOs. The supply is expected to treat more than 12,000 malnourished children for one month. UNICEF also recruited four nutrition consultants to SNNPR and Oromiya. The consultants will be deployed on 1st of July to support emergency nutrition response, including dispatch and distribution of therapeutic food. A third UNICEF-supported airlifted cargo of Plumpy'Nut has arrived in Addis Ababa on 26 June, bringing a total of 772 MT of Ready to Use Therapeutic Food. In addition, DPPA and WFP dispatched approximately 67,720 MT of emergency food to Somali, Oromiya, SNNP, Amhara, Gambella, Tigray, Afar and Beneshangul Gumuz regions from January to June 2008. Furthermore, a UN Country Team Mission led by the Humanitarian Coordinator traveled to visit malnutrition affected areas in SNNPR on 27 June. For more information contact: wfp.addisababa@wfp.org, ocha-eth@un.org & kmcdonald@unicef.org

ARMY WORM INFESTATION

Army worm infestations have been reported from Oromiya, SNNP and Amhara regions. The extended dry weather and shortage of chemicals contributed to increased infestations. A new army worm infestation has affected 14 woredas in Arsi zone. Borena, East and West Hararghe zones have also reported infestations. The army worm outbreak in Bale zone has been controlled. The infestation has damaged newly shooting grass and pasture. In Amhara Region, army worm has spread to South Wollo zone affecting approximately 5,100 hectares of farmland. For more information contact: wfp.addisababa@wfp.org

HEALTH UPDATE

During the week AWD was reported from Akaki woreda in East Shoa zone and Sebeta Hawas woreda in South West Shoa zone in Oromiya Region. Takusa woreda in North Gondar zone, Ankesha woreda in Awi zone and Bahir Dar City from Amhara Region also reported cases. Unconfirmed cases are also reported from Warder zone in Somali Region. Hotspot areas are Takusa woreda of North Gondar zone in Amhara and Akaki woreda of East Shoa zone of Oromiya. An AWD working group comprised of Federal Ministry of Health, Ministry of Water Resources, UNICEF, OCHA, WHO, Oxfam GB, IRC, PSI, CARE was established on 24 June. The working group will focus on developing guideline and tools for implementation of effective AWD response. The group will also identify priority interventions, response gaps and will assist in project appraisal for AWD response.

One measles case was reported from Kirkos sub city in Addis Ababa during the week after stabilizing for more than six weeks nationwide. Meningitis has subsided during the week. WHO continues to provide technical support for AWD, measles and meningitis response to Federal Ministry of Health and Regional Health Bureaus in response to communicable disease outbreaks. National consultants have been assigned to Dire Dawa, Bahir Dar and SNNPR to support emergency preparedness, response and health cluster coordination. In addition, funds allocated to Oromiya and Amhara regions have been reprogrammed to support AWD response in affected woredas. For more information contact: who-wro@et.afro.who.int

UNICEF REQUESTS FOR US\$ 43.6 MILLION

On 24 June UNICEF launched an Emergency Appeal for US\$ 49.2 million. UNICEF has secured US\$ 5.6 million against the Appeal, leaving US\$ 43.6 million net requirement. A total of US\$ 27.9 million is needed to scale up ongoing response to immediate emergency needs inline with the Revised Humanitarian Requirements Document launched on 12 June. Additionally, US\$ 21.2 million is required to enhance mitigation and preparedness measures in acute malnutrition levels, to strengthen assessment and monitoring to ensure timely and adequate action, to strengthen the Government capacity to address the increasing needs; and to preposition essential supplies, including therapeutic food, essential medicines, water purification and sanitation materials. For more information contact: kmcdonald@unicef.org