Government and partners responding to needs of conflict-induced IDPs, gap remains high

Government and humanitarian partners continue to respond to the rising needs of conflict-induced IDPs in Oromia and Somali regions, but needs surpass available resources. As of 02 November 2017, the National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC) distributed a total of 17,277 metric ton of food (cereal, pulses, corn soya blend, rice, oil, and wheat flour) to the displaced in both regions. The Commission also distributed some 12,300 cartons of biscuit and 1,222 cans of milk powder. The response covered different woredas (districts) of Oromia, Somali and Harari regions and Dire Dawa Council.

Similarly, humanitarian partners have continued to support the displaced with ES/NFIs, nutrition, WaSH and health assistance. As of 30 October 2017, partners distributed some 8,380 ES/NFI kits (6,650 in Oromia and 1,730 in Somali regions) and an additional US$1.100 cash grants in Oromia region. 86 mobile health and nutrition teams (11 in Oromia and 75 in Somali regions), equipped with SAM-MAM treatment commodities, were deployed to identify outbreaks and conduct screening at community level. In October, partners allocated $47 million ($24 million to Oromia and $23 million to Somali) to the Regional Health Bureaus for additional nutritional screenings in IDP-hosting zones in both regions. Some 25,800 displaced households received water treatment chemicals in Oromia and 1,700 received WaSH supplies (jerrycans, buckets, laundry soap, body soap and water treatment chemicals) in Somali region. Partners are dispatching water treatment chemicals to an additional 12,500 conflict-induced IDPs in Oromia region.
HIGHLIGHT

- The 2017 Government-led multi-agency needs assessment to determine the humanitarian requirements for Ethiopia in 2018 is planned for 18 November-13 December.

Partners start implementing a four-month Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme (BSFP) in 45 districts with the highest malnutrition rates in Somali region.

Government and humanitarian partners to conduct the 2017 Ethiopia meher assessment

The 2017 Government-led multi-agency needs assessment is planned from 18 November to 13 December. 24 teams will conduct the assessment in all regions including Afar, Amhara, Benishangul Gumuz, Gambella, Harari, Oromia, Somali, SNNP and Tigray regions and Dire Dawa Council. The team will assess the performance of kiremt (summer) rains on harvest in cropping areas and the performance of the short seasonal deyr/hagaya (autumn) rains in the lowland areas of south and southeastern Ethiopia. The result of the assessment will help determine the humanitarian requirements for Ethiopia in 2018.

Currently, Government and humanitarian partners are providing humanitarian assistance to 8.5 million people affected by the current drought. In addition, 4 million people ‘public works’ clients are receiving assistance through the Government’s Productive Safety Net Programme. The Government is also prioritizing recovery efforts to address the resilience needs of people who were affected by back-to-back drought and inter-communal conflicts.

Partners started BSFP in Somali region as an immediate life-saving measure

In the first week of November 2017, partners started implementing a four-month Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme (BSFP) in 45 districts with the highest malnutrition rates in 7 zones of Somali region. The programme is implemented in partnership with the Somali Regional State Disaster Prevention Preparedness Bureau, the Regional Health Bureau, and NGOs. The programme started in four woredas (districts) in Dollo zone in the first week of November. Through this intervention, approximately 400,000 children and mothers will receive support. The BSFP, coupled with general relief food distribution and targeted supplementary feeding, is expected to stabilize the deteriorating nutritional situation in the region. Meanwhile the Protection Cluster is working with the Food Security Cluster on mainstreaming protection approaches in the BSFP.

![BSFP Woredas](image_url)
**HIGHLIGHT**

- Government allocates some ETB 60 million ($2.2 million) for emergency seed response in seven regions.

- WFP will initiate a six-month cash pilot to reach 588,000 Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP) and HRD beneficiaries in 10 pilot woredas (districts) of Somali region in November.

- WFP’s caseload for Round 6 to include 300,000 conflict-induced IDPs.

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**ETB 60 million ($2.2 million) allocated for emergency seed response in seven regions**

In September 2017, the Regional Bureau of Agriculture and Disaster Prevention and Food Security Program Coordination Offices requested the federal Government for emergency seed support. In response, the federal Government has allocated ETB 60 million ($2.2 million) for emergency seed support to seven regions. The allocation enables farmers who were affected by below normal rainfall and some other hazards such as fall armyworm infestation to replant short cycle crops.

**WFP to launch a six-month cash pilot to reach 588,000 beneficiaries in Somali region**

WFP will initiate a six-month cash pilot to reach 588,000 Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP) and HRD beneficiaries in 10 pilot woredas (districts) of Somali region in November. These will be part of the 5.5 million people WFP is targeting with food, cash and nutrition assistance from November through December 2017.

Meanwhile, according to WFP’s relief update, relief food dispatch and distribution for 8.5 HRD beneficiaries and 4 million PSNP clients by all operators for Round 5 and Round 6 stand at:

**Round 5**

- As of 17 October, NDRMC dispatched 75,548 metric ton (MT) (98 per cent) while JEOP dispatched 26,358 MT (100 per cent) of allocated commodities. Together, NDRMC and JEOP distributed food to 6.1 million of the planned 6.3 million people.

- As of 04 November, WFP dispatched 60,481 MT (100 per cent) and distributed 56,247 MT (93 per cent) of the allocated food, reaching 3.1 million of the planned 3.3 million people targeted in Somali region in Round 5.

- During Round 5, 1.6 million transitory Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP) clients were included in WFP’s caseload of 3.3 million people. As of 17 October, WFP dispatched 88 per cent of the allocated commodities in PSNP woredas. However, so far distributions were at 18 per cent.

**Round 6**

- Dispatches under Round 6 started on 18 September. However, WFP’s dispatches to the Somali region were delayed by a month due to the late submission of the confirmed beneficiary list and the official request from the Government. As of 27 October, WFP dispatched 8,022 MT (43 per cent) of the allocated 18,473 MT. WFP’s caseload for Round 6 also includes 300,000 IDPs from the recent conflict along the Oromia-Somali regional border.

- As of 17 October, NDRMC dispatched 39,086 MT (79 per cent) of the allocated 49,264 MT and JEOP dispatched 21,264 MT (81 per cent) of allocated 26,290 MT.

- As of 04 November, WFP has dispatched 9,377 MT (53 per cent) of the allocated food.

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**High-level missions in November**

**Foreign Minister of Ireland visited Ethiopia, Somalia and Kenya**

The Foreign Minister of Ireland visited Ethiopia, Somalia and Kenya starting from 06 November 2017 to observe first-hand the impact of Irish financing in the region, including through the Central Emergency Relief Fund (CERF) grant allocations. On 06 November 2017, the Minister started his visit in Ethiopia where he met and discussed with senior Government, UN and NGO officials on the impact of Irish funding in the country.
HIGHLIGHT

- On 06 November 2017, the Foreign Minister of Ireland visited Ethiopia to observe first-hand the impact of Irish financing in the region including through the Central Emergency Relief Fund (CERF) grant allocations.

- On 9 November 2017, an HRDG high-level mission visited Somali region to look at ongoing response efforts to drought-induced IDPs and host communities.

In February 2017, CERF provided US$18.5 million in rapid response grants to Ethiopia following early warning signs of continuing drought and worsening malnutrition. The funds complemented an allocation from the country-based pooled fund (EHF) that supported similar activities. After another failed rainy season, in August 2017, CERF provided an additional $10 million to support the joint Government and WFP emergency initiative to provide blanket supplementary feeding in Somali region.

Ethiopia has over the years been a major recipient of CERF-funds and, have received US$279 million since the Fund’s inception in 2006. Ethiopia is CERF’s third largest recipient (after Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo).

High-level mission to Warder woreda (district) in Somali region

On 9 November, OCHA organized a Humanitarian Resilience Donor Group high-level mission to Warder district in Doolo zone of Somali region to look at ongoing response efforts to drought-induced IDPs and host communities. Participating in the mission were new ambassadors to Ethiopia, including the ambassadors of Germany, Ireland, Switzerland and the US, as well as USAID Head of Mission, EU Head of Delegation, ECHO Head of Office, the UN Humanitarian Coordinator and OCHA Head of Office. The mission included meetings with the Vice President of Somali region, and visits to IDP sites and service delivery points. The mission successfully highlighted the need for a two-track approach of sustaining the current level of humanitarian response amid discussions on systemic support and humanitarian-development nexus.

Location of Warder woreda. Source: CSA. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

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