

16 May 2016

Key Issues

- At least 236,890 people displaced from torrential rains and corresponding flash floods since late March.
- Major improvements in food dispatch and distribution performance have been achieved in the first months of 2016 with the transport of relief food increasing from 6,000MT per day at the start of the year up to 17,000MT per day currently.
- The requirements for Agriculture, Education and Shelter/NFI sectors increased following the prioritization exercise early May.
- USAID announces additional US\$128 Million funding for humanitarian response in Ethiopia

Ethiopia is responding to an El Niño-caused drought emergency: The El Niño global climatic event has wreaked havoc on Ethiopia's summer rains. This comes on the heels of failed spring rains, and has driven food insecurity, malnutrition and water shortages in affected areas of the country. A well-coordinated response is already underway and expanding rapidly, although the scale of the developing emergency exceeds resources available. Given the lead times necessary for the procurement of relief items, the Government and its international partners have called for early action on this slow onset natural disaster.

Continued Flooding Since Late March Leaves at Least 236,890 People Displaced

Torrential rains and corresponding flash floods since late March have left at least 236,890 people displaced. This year's *belg* rains, though late in onset, were heavier than usual both in terms of intensity and geographic coverage. Additionally, the floods are happening on the back of nearly 18 months of drought that left communities' coping capacity weakened. The long drought also reduced the ground's absorption capacity and increased the likelihood of floods and landslides.

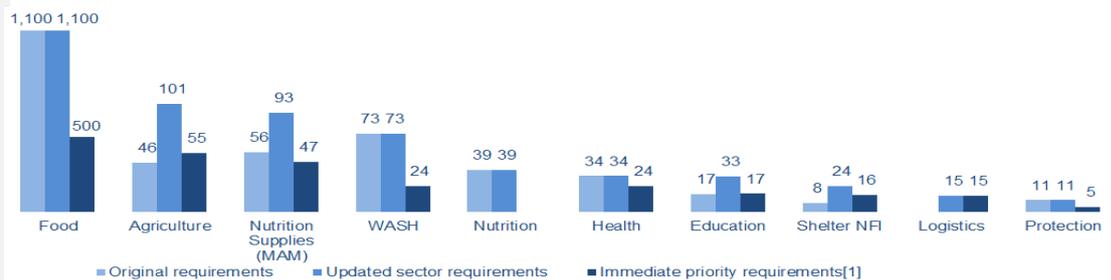
Improvement in Food Dispatch and Distribution Achieved First Months of the Year.

Major improvements in food dispatch and distribution performance have been achieved in the first months of 2016 with the transport of relief food increasing from 6,000MT per day at the start of the year up to 17,000MT per day. The Logistics cluster has been supporting the augmentation of logistics coordination and information management capacity of the Government and humanitarian partners. This has been done through the identification of logistics gaps bottlenecks and proposing mitigating activities. Urgent activities to support the humanitarian logistics response have begun. The augmentation of the National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC), Nazaret hub capacity is on-going (5 Mobile Storage Units - MSUs) as well as for the Government in Semera (3 Mobile Storage Units-MSUs). In addition, the NDRMC has been supported with identifying critical locations for augmenting storage and staff capacity existing FDP Priority 1 *Woredas*.

Increase in Education, Agriculture, Shelter/NFI Requirements Following Prioritization exercise

The requirements for Agriculture, Education and Shelter/NFI sectors increased following a prioritization exercise in early May. To support the recovery of livestock that survived the drought, \$30m is urgently required for humanitarian partners to assist government efforts with vaccination and veterinary services. Requirements to support the restocking of herds will be clarified after the *belg* assessment in the last week of May. Humanitarian requirements in the Education sector has also increased; doubling over the original requirement. Increases are due to planned efforts to extend the current semester to allow completion of the school year, and to ensure continued school feeding for the start of the next school year.

HRD original, updated and immediate requirements (in million US\$)



[1] The amounts included here as sector priority requirements are not necessarily inclusive of all unfunded requirements described in the original HRD.

The Shelter/NFI sector had projected 150,000 households becoming displaced and requiring shelter and NFI assistance over the course of 2016 in the Humanitarian Requirement Document (HRD), but the financial requirements have increased due to procurement costs and the inclusion of female dignity kits. Only one third of requirements have been met at a time of greatly increased flooding and fresh displacements due to conflict.

USAID Announces Additional US\$128 Million Funding for Humanitarian Response in Ethiopia

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has contributed additional funding of US\$128 Million for humanitarian response to the current drought. This brings the total contributed by USAID to the drought this year to US\$418 Million. The additional funding will support response in Water and Sanitation, mobile Health services, food assistance and provision of shelter and other non-food items. For further information please contact: ocha-eth@un.org