

13 April 2015

### Key Issues:

- Additional support in emergency food, shelter, WaSH and health is needed to bolster the Afar flood response.
- 13,000 people in Minjar Shenkora *woreda* of North Shewa zone and East Belessa *woreda* of North Gondar zone immediately need water trucking support.
- A multi-agency assessment is planned for 14 - 24 April to gauge the level of needs in drought-affected Arsi, West Arsi, Bale, East and West Hararge zones, Oromia region.
- US\$4.6 million is required to procure ready to use therapeutic food (RUTF) to address nutritional needs of some 264,500 severely malnourished children under-5. Resource mobilization activities are on-going.

### Afar region - flood response and gaps

Kebena river (a tributary of Awash river) flooded communities in Zone 3 of Afar region following excessive rains on 29 March in the highlands of Amhara region. A joint flood assessment from 3 to 7 April identified 600 affected people (120 households), half of them were displaced and housed in temporary shelters. The flood-affected population is also at higher risk of water-related disease outbreaks.

The Awash *woreda* administration distributed one-time food assistance, IOM dispatched 600 NFI kits and UNICEF dispatched WaSH items, including 5,000 strips of Aqua tabs-water treatment chemicals, body soap, buckets and Jerri cans for the affected population last week. Additional support is needed in emergency food, shelter, WaSH and health.

### Water shortages continue elsewhere in the region

As a result of the poor performance of the *sugum* (March-May) rain in most parts of Afar region, water sources were not replenished and pasture was not rejuvenated. The situation is likely to deteriorate if rainfall does not improve in the coming weeks. The regional Disaster Prevention and Food Security Programs Coordination Office (DPFSPCO) and WaSH partners deployed 11 water trucks (of 16 trucks requested) to support drought-affected communities in Berhale, Dubti, Elidar, Gewane and Kori *woredas*. For more information, contact [ocha-eth@un.org](mailto:ocha-eth@un.org)

### Drought conditions persist in parts of the country

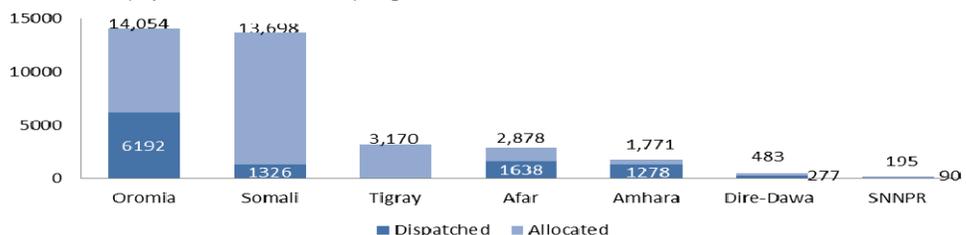
Following mid-March reports of water shortages and increasing levels of malnutrition in Borena zone, Oromia region, the Government and humanitarian partners mobilized resources, including from the Humanitarian Response Fund, to support affected communities through WaSH, nutrition and livestock feed and veterinary interventions. Recent rains started to slightly improve water and pasture availability in the drought-affected areas, positively impacting the humanitarian situation in the zone. A multi-agency assessment is planned for 14 - 24 April to gauge the level of needs in drought-affected Arsi, West Arsi, Bale, East and West Hararge zones.

In Amhara region, more than 13,000 people in Minjar Shenkora *woreda* of North Shewa zone and East Belessa *woreda* of North Gondar zone immediately need water trucking support. In most parts of Somali region the *gu* rains began. Water shortages continue in pocket areas, including in the drought-affected Legahida and Salahad *woredas* of Nogob zone. Communities in the area are being supported with three water trucks using water sources in neighbouring Oromia region.

Most parts of the country continued to receive the seasonal *belg/gu/ganna/sugum* rains, though varying in distribution and amount. Overall, the quantity of rain was adequate and was evenly distributed in south-western and south-eastern Ethiopia; and inadequate and unevenly distributed in northern, north-eastern, eastern and southern parts of the country. The impact of the rains on water and pasture availability is being closely monitored. For more information, contact [awesterbeek@unicef.org](mailto:awesterbeek@unicef.org)

### First round relief food status

36,238MT of the first round of relief food was allocated and 30 per cent dispatched as of 8 April. Distribution was prioritized for drought-affected areas in Amhara (87 per cent distributed) and Oromia (7 per cent distributed) regions.



For more information, contact [wfp.addisababa@wfp.org](mailto:wfp.addisababa@wfp.org)