HORN OF AFRICA
A CALL FOR ACTION
FEBRUARY 2017
HORN OF AFRICA: A CALL FOR ACTION

- $1.9 BILLION TOTAL REQUIREMENTS
- 2.3 MILLION REFUGEES
- 2.1 MILLION INTERNALLY DISPLACED PEOPLE

- ETHIOPIA: 5.6M
- SOMALIA: 2.9M
- KENYA: 2.7M
- UGANDA: 1.6M

Number of severely food insecure people (IPC 3 and above): 12.8 MILLION

NUMBER OF SEVERELY FOOD INSECURE PEOPLE
The 2016 Deyr or short rains season (October to December) brought severely low levels of rainfall to the region. The rainfall deficit was particularly acute across Somalia, southern and southeastern Ethiopia, northern and coastal Kenya and – to a lesser extent – southwestern Ethiopia and central and southwestern Uganda and southeastern South Sudan. Analysis of the cumulative regional rainfall from August to December shows severe deficits. Areas such as central and southern Somalia have registered only a third of their usual seasonal levels.

In several ways the situation is worse than in 2010-11 because (i) this is the third consecutive year of drought in the region and multiple years of diminished food production has exhausted people’s capacity to cope with another shock; (ii) the greater region suffers from chronic and intensifying conflicts, continued access constraints in some areas, rising refugee numbers and communicable disease outbreaks; and (iii) the drought is expected to worsen in the coming months, with low rainfall forecast for March to May – which is the main rainy season for pastoralist and agro-pastoralist communities in the current drought belt.

The drought has had a major impact on water resources, including on river flow levels and the availability of water for human and livestock consumption. In Somalia, the southern part of the Shabelle River has run dry, the Dawa River is drying faster than normal and the Juba River have reached very low levels. Most water points in worst-affected areas of the three countries are in near-dry status. Water supply for irrigated crop production has also been impacted as the drought extends over key river basins.

Widespread crop failures have affected farming and agro-pastoral communities in most of Somalia, southwestern Ethiopia and northeastern Kenya, where poor moisture conditions prevented planting and stifled early crop growth. Areas dependent on the Deyr / Hagaya / short rains are facing significant food shortages and are likely to remain dependent on markets until the next harvest in February 2018. Although global wheat and maize prices continued to fall during the last quarter of 2016, the FAO food price index for East Africa has more than doubled in 2016. This trend accelerated into 2017, including increases of 30 to 40 per cent for maize and sorghum in localized areas of Somalia and a 75 per cent spike in the price of maize in Uganda.

Livestock are becoming increasingly weak, contracting diseases and dying at alarming rates, with catastrophic consequences for pastoral communities. Significant livestock deaths are reported in drought-affected areas of Ethiopia, Somalia and Kenya, mostly affecting sheep and cattle. Livestock losses have serious impact on livelihoods; even if half of a herd survives, it will take a minimum of two to four years for pastoralist and agro pastoralist households to recover.

Terms of trade are declining sharply for pastoralists, contributing to rising food insecurity and malnutrition. Livestock prices are collapsing due to poor body conditions and extremely limited demand. Sheep and goats are selling for about
one-third the normal price, and cattle and camels are sold at half their usual value. In Marsabit, the price of a sheep has declined by 90 per cent. Herders are being forced to sell their remaining assets for very low prices to afford food for their families – the price of which is increasing.

**Household production of milk and meat is low and the price of milk and other dairy products has skyrocketed.** This means protein-rich food is increasingly out of reach for vulnerable pastoralists. Food consumption patterns are deteriorating, with many households in cross-border areas reporting that they are skipping meals and eating less when they do eat. In Turkana 42 per cent of households skipped the entire day without eating. Research shows the close link between forage condition and child malnutrition, and highlights the importance of early livelihood interventions, such as livestock offtake and animal feed provision, to reduce malnutrition.

12.8 million people in Ethiopia, Uganda, Kenya and Somalia face are severely food insecure and are in need of humanitarian assistance. Following the short-rain assessment in January 2017, the number of food insecure people in Kenya has doubled to 2.7 million compared to 1.3 million in August 2016. Some 5.6 million people in Ethiopia require food assistance this year. Nearly 3 million Somalis are expected to face Crisis and Emergency levels by June 2017, more than double compared to the previous six months. **Severe drought, rising prices, continued insecurity, humanitarian access limitations, and depressed rain forecasts suggest famine is possible in Somalia in 2017.**

Approximately 600,000 children aged 6 to 59 months in Somalia, Kenya and Ethiopia will be in need of treatment for severe acute malnutrition in 2017 and this number is expected to rise rapidly. In Somalia, 13 out of 27 rural and displaced groups have Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rates above emergency (15 per cent) levels. In Kenya three sub-counties (Turkana North, North Hor and Mandera) have GAM rates above 30 per cent – double the emergency threshold. Another six sub-counties (Turkana Central, Turkana South, Turkana West, Laisamis, East Pokot and Isiolo) have GAM rates between 15 and 29 per cent.

The drought and the associated reduced access to water and sanitation has the potential to further exacerbate
ongoing disease outbreaks and create new ones. About 15 million people will not have access to safe drinking water in Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia in 2017. In Somalia’s southern regions and Puntland 3,113 cases of cholera have been reported in January 2017, which is significantly higher than the number of cases recorded over the same period in 2016. Although the cholera outbreak affecting 30 out of 47 counties in Kenya since December 2014 has been contained - except in Tana River -, there is a risk of new cases appearing in border areas due to scarcity of water and the movement of people.

Drought, economic shocks and conflict in the region have disrupted the education of approximately 6 million children in Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia. An increase in school drop-outs and child labour has been observed across the region. In Somalia, more than 110,000 school-aged children enrolled in schools in drought-affected areas are at risk of being forced out of education. In Ethiopia, 578 schools have temporarily closed due to the effects of the drought, affecting nearly 228,000 students. In Kenya, 175,000 pre-primary and primary school children in ten counties are out of school due to drought.

The drought has triggered movements of families in search of grazing land, water and work, increasing the risk of family separation and tensions among communities over scarce resources. In the first three weeks of 2017 alone, more than 33,000 people were displaced due to drought in southern and central Somalia alone, including 3,000 who crossed the border into Ethiopia. In Borama, Somaliland, approximately 8,000 households (40,000 individuals) were newly displaced in January 2017. Children constitute the majority of the displaced population. The high number of people concentrating around water points increases the risk of sexual violence and exploitation. During the previous drought in 2010-11 the number of underage girls sold into child marriage in exchange for livestock increased as families struggled to survive.

Repeated cycles of climatic shocks, coupled with insufficient recovery periods, have limited household and community coping mechanisms. As a result, drought-impacted households have a higher propensity to deploy harmful coping strategies which may deplete their household assets, both material and human, further limiting their ability to mitigate future shocks and make productive investments which can break the cycle of poverty and humanitarian risk.
2017 FUNDING (As of Jan 2017)

- **ETHIOPIA**: 0.1% FUNDED, $948 million REQUIRED
- **KENYA**: 48% FUNDED, $208 million REQUIRED
- **SOMALIA**: 2.2% FUNDED, $825 million REQUIRED

1. The Government has committed to fund nearly 48 per cent (US$ 99 million), leaving a funding gap of US$ 109 million until July (subject to change).
2. January - June 2017

**FOOD INSECURITY TRENDS** in Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and Uganda (millions), Jul 2015 to Jan 2017

- Uganda
- Somalia
- Kenya
- Ethiopia

**MALNUTRITION**

- People in need

**WASH**

- People in need

**RAINFALL OUTLOOK** (March - May 2017)

- Zone I: Usually dry during Mar-May
- Zone II: Increased likelihood of near normal to above normal rainfall
- Zone III: Increased likelihood of below normal to near normal rainfall
- Zone IV: Increased likelihood of above normal to near normal rainfall

The numbers represent the probability of

- A: Above Normal
- N: Normal
- B: Below Normal
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Food security condition:
1: None or Minimal
2: Stressed
3: Crisis
4: Emergency
5: Catastrophe/Famine
No data

Current number of food insecure population:

Food security condition:
1: None or Minimal
2: Stressed
3: Crisis
4: Emergency
5: Catastrophe/Famine
No data

Current number of people in crisis and emergency levels of food insecurity or equivalent as of February 2017:

SOMALIA: 2.9M
UGANDA: 1.60M
KENYA: 2.70M

Kenya Nutrition Situation GAM (IPC-Acute Malnutrition) as of February 2017

Nutrition Situation (GAM) (IPC Acute Malnutrition)
1. Acceptable (<5%)
2. Alert (5-9.9%)
3. Serious (10-14.9%)
4. Critical (15-30%)
5. Very Critical (>30%)
No data / not analysed

Ethiopia Hotspot priority woredas as of December 2016

Hotspot priority Woredas as of December 2016
- Priority 1
- Priority 2
- Priority 3

Hotspot woreda classification is derived from expert judgment using six multi-sector indicators that are agreed upon at zonal, regional, federal levels. It is used as basis for OTP, TSF programming across the country.

Source: IPC TWG (KEN, Feb - Apr-17)
REGIONAL AND CROSS-BORDER IMPLICATIONS OF THE DROUGHT

- **Cross-border movement of drought-affected people is likely to increase along with the possibility of inter-communal conflict due to dwindling resources.** During the 2010-11 drought 184,000 people fled Somalia in the first six months. The current drought is already uprooting people, including 3,000 Somalis who crossed into Ethiopia in the first three weeks of 2017. Drought-induced migration of herders and livestock through settled farming areas and protected conservation zones is raising tensions, while movements within and across national borders in Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and Uganda is **triggering inter-communal conflict** over limited water and pasture resources.

- **Conflict in the region continues to displace vulnerable people, many of them seeking refuge in drought-affected countries such as Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda.** Over half a million people have become refugees or asylum seekers in eastern Africa since early 2016, making a total of 3.93 million in the region, most of whom are children. Most of the newly displaced come from South Sudan, with more people having fled South Sudan since July 2016 than Syria in the whole of 2016. Most refugees are fleeing to Uganda, where 24,277 people arrived during the last week of January 2017 alone. Uganda now hosts more than a million refugees – more than any country on the continent. **Most of the refugees end up in the most marginalized and drought-affected areas of the region, further increasing pressure on limited resources.**

- **Affected people and livestock are vulnerable to disease outbreaks that have the potential to travel across borders.** In 2016, the Somali cluster (the border area between Ethiopia, Somalia and Kenya) was affected by concurrent outbreaks of chikungunya, dengue, cholera/Acute Watery Diarrhea and measles. An increase in population movements into overcrowded settlements combined with poor sanitation and a shortage of safe drinking water could lead to the spread of communicable diseases. Outbreaks of livestock diseases are increasing,
especially as herds are crowding and intermingling around fewer water points.

- **The Horn of Africa drought is happening against a backdrop of multiple crises in the region, including in Sudan, South Sudan, and Uganda, putting pressure on the humanitarian community’s ability to respond.** The nutrition situation in South Sudan remains critical due to a combination of poor harvest, dry spells and the ongoing conflict. As a result, food insecurity is expected to worsen in the coming months. In a worst case scenario where fighting intensifies and humanitarian access remains constrained, the risk of famine (IPC Phase 5) is possible. The Government of Uganda has quadrupled its estimate of the number of people in need to 1.6 million. Some 3.6 million people in Sudan are in need of food assistance.

- **Food insecurity across the eastern and southern Africa region may lead to a reduction of available regional food stocks to respond to the drought.** In 2016, Tanzania and Zambia imposed export restrictions after a poor harvest, and Uganda may follow suit as the number of food insecure people has recently quadrupled. This has significant implications for regionally held stocks that could be used to respond to the drought. Large volumes of humanitarian and commercially purchased food will need to be imported and transported through limited port facilities in the Horn of Africa, which could become a key constraint.
HOW DOES THE DROUGHT COMPARE TO 2011?

Although climatically the current drought’s impact is more intense and widespread than in 2010-2011, there are significant differences, good practices and opportunities that have evolved since then that could improve the current drought response:

I. Better prepared: better analysis and early warning - early action

• Early response reduces cost per capita by 40 per cent on average. OCHA Somalia facilitated a process to establish a trigger mechanism to ensure early action once agreed thresholds of warning are exceeded. On the basis of this mechanism, DfID set up a contingency fund of US$15 million per year to fund early action. This has for example helped to significantly reduce needs from El Niño-related flooding.

• The Ethiopian Government led on early action during the El Niño response in 2015 - 2016: It procured US$ 97 million worth of food to prevent a pipeline break at the beginning of 2016. It also established an incident command post (coordination hub) and surged staff from Addis Ababa to bolster response capacity in Afar region. The Tigray regional Government pivoted development funds towards life-saving water trucking.

• International and Local NGOs reacted to the early warning information by adapting their long term resilience programming as well as mobilizing additional resources to respond immediate to the initial impact of the drought, especially in hard to reach areas.

• UNICEF, WFP and FAO developed a Joint Resilience Strategy for Somalia to help vulnerable communities better withstand shocks and avoid resorting to negative coping strategies.

• FAO has developed a Predictive Livestock Early Warning System (PLEWS) for Kenya to estimate and depict current pasture availability, predicting edible vegetation cover up to six months into the future using decades worth of data.

• The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development’s Resilience Systems Analysis approach - developed in 2014 - has been rolled out in Somalia to support inter-agency planning, to obtain agreement from government, development and humanitarian partners on priority areas and activities, to strengthen links between humanitarian and development efforts, and to support donor planning.

• Risk or forecast-based financing tools (e.g. African Risk Capacity, FoodSECuRE) are supporting early action before a crisis occurs and helping to build resilience. In its first year of operation, four African governments - Kenya, Mauritania, Niger and Senegal - purchased US$129 million in drought insurance cover from Africa Risk Capacity Ltd at a total of US$17 million in premium costs paid by those governments.

• There is more recognition for the multi-sectoral nature of a drought crisis. Food security and malnutrition are not linear crises and conditions can change very fast. Vulnerability hotspots for food security, WASH, nutrition or health may not coincide. For this reason humanitarian partners are making sure there is a nuanced analysis per sector, led by a stronger and field-based cluster system in the most affected areas.

• There is a great consensus among major actors (UN/donors/NGOs) on the need to act now and not wait for further analysis of the Gu rains.
II. Increased Government leadership and systems to respond;

- In Ethiopia, the bulk of humanitarian delivery is done with and through Government service providers, supported by international humanitarian actors where needed. The Government was by far the largest humanitarian contributor, providing US$735 million to the El Niño response in 2015 - 2016, and allocating over US$ 47 million as a first instalment to the 2017 Humanitarian Requirements Document.

- The Ethiopia Productive Safety Net Programme reduces the number of people needing humanitarian assistance by 8 million by providing cash or food transfers to 323 food-insecure districts. The programme has also helped to build roads, watersheds and 4,300 school rooms. Rural farmers affected by drought in 2005 and 2011 who were covered by the Productive Safety Net Programme reduced their consumption by 25 per cent less than those of other rural farmers.

- The Government of Kenya declared a national drought emergency for the current drought and has committed US$ 99 million for the current drought response (nearly 50 per cent of total requirements).

- The Kenya Hunger Safety Net Programme (HSNP), now in its second phase, oversees the bi-monthly transfer of cash to thousands of vulnerable residents in the country’s arid northern counties. The HSNP offers a good example of a flexible and scalable system; it enables cash to be transferred to bank accounts within approximately two weeks of a decision being made.

III. Better market systems:

- In Ethiopia, the R4 Rural Resilience Initiative (previously HARITA) programme is providing risk management support, including weather-indexed insurance, to small-scale and subsistence farmers. Farmers in Begasheka and Debregenet (Tigray region) have already received a drought related pay-out.

- In March 2016, the Government of Kenya launched the Kenya National Agricultural Insurance Program with the assistance of the World Bank. Drought represents the single greatest cause of livestock mortality in the Northern Arid and Semi-Arid Lands. Through the new Kenya Livestock Insurance Programme (KLIP), the government will purchase drought insurance from private insurance companies on behalf of vulnerable pastoralists. Satellite data is used to estimate the availability of pasture on the ground and triggers pay-outs to pastoralists when availability falls. KLIP was introduced in October 2015 for 5,000 pastoralists in Turkana and Wajir and is expected to be scaled across the region by 2017. Pay-outs to farmers totalling up to $2 million are expected in the next weeks.

- Remittances in 2015 were estimated to reach a total of US$1.4 billion in Somalia and support 23 per cent of the GDP. It is also becoming increasingly cheaper to send remittances. In Kenya, for example, the cost of sending remittances dropped by up to 90 per cent after the introduction of M-Pesa, a digital payment system.

IV. Engagement of development actors:

- The World Bank provided US$100 million to the Government of Ethiopia as additional financing for the Productive Safety Net 4 Project to provide extended safety net support to drought-affected households.

- The United Nations, together with the Governments of Ethiopia and Kenya, has initiated a US$200 million five-year cross-border Integrated Programme for Sustainable Peace and Socio-economic Transformation in Marsabit County of Kenya and Borana zone, Ethiopia.

- In Ethiopia during the El Niño response, development actors successfully “flexed” their funding to respond to sudden shocks. This was a fast and cost-efficient response mechanism that saved lives and protected livelihoods.
Unless a massive and urgent scale up of humanitarian assistance takes place, famine could soon be a reality in some of the worst drought-affected areas of Somalia. The latest food security and nutrition analysis from the FAO-managed Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU) and the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWSNET) issued on 2 February 2017 revealed that the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance has increased from 5 million in September 2016 to 6.2 million between February and June 2017. That is more than half the population. The current caseload of 185,000 of severely malnourished children will likely increase over the coming months to 270,000 children in need of urgent treatment. Some 30,000 children have already dropped out of school in drought-affected areas only in Puntland and Somaliland.

The FSNAU/FEWSNET results reveal a drastic increase in the number of people experiencing “crisis” and “emergency” levels of food insecurity from 1.1 million in the previous six months, to a projected 2.9 million between February and June 2017. Deyr 2016 harvests represented the second lowest cereal production since 1995, further reducing food availability and access following a poor Gu 2016 season. Cereal prices have increased since October, and are expected to continue to climb through mid-2017. The situation for children is especially grave. The GAM prevalence is above the critical (< 15 per cent) threshold in 13 out of 27 rural and displaced groups. There are more than 3.2 million people in urgent need of WASH assistance, but it is estimated that the number will rise to 4.5 million.

Humanitarian partners are planning to deliver life-saving assistance to 5.5 million people. The assistance will improve household access to food, including conditional and unconditional cash and food vouchers. In addition, partners will deliver integrated nutrition, health and water and sanitation (WASH) support to reduce morbidity and mortality among vulnerable girls, pregnant and lactating women, boys and men, as well as provide vital emergency education and protection services.

Protection will remain critical to preparedness actions and life-saving efforts. Protective services will be strengthened to enhance the protective environment, prevent and respond to risks, provide access to community-based protection services, improve protection structures in hard-to-reach areas; and provide support to internally displaced persons to achieve durable solutions. For individuals and households at risk, the provision of targeted and predictable safety nets will help.

An operational plan for famine prevention is currently being finalized and is expected to be published on www.reliefweb.int by Friday 17 February 2017.
While Ethiopia battles residual needs from the 2015/2016 El Niño-induced drought, below average 2016 autumn rains in the southern and southeastern parts of the country have led to a new drought in lowland pastoralist areas, as well as in pocket areas across the country. As a result, some 5.6 million people in Ethiopia require emergency food assistance in 2017. In addition, 2.7 million children and pregnant and lactating mothers require supplementary feeding, 9.2 million people need support to access safe drinking water, 1.9 million households need livestock support, and 300,000† children between 6-59 months old are targeted for the treatment for severe acute malnutrition in 2017.

During the first half of 2017, the Government of Ethiopia and humanitarian partners are prioritizing areas affected by the new drought in southern and southeastern Ethiopia. Food, nutrition, water, sanitation, livestock de-stocking/feeding, health, child protection and education are amongst the most urgent needs. Humanitarian partners are addressing the unique needs of mobile pastoralist communities and are providing complete nutritional care and health services, including reproductive health. Similarly, a flexible mobile service is used to enable people displaced by drought to access services, including health and nutrition, particularly where host community services are unable to meet the needs of additional people. Support is also being provided to enable children to continue their education.

The Government and partners will ensure access to safe drinking water alongside hygiene promotion activities to reduce the spread of disease outbreaks in affected communities. Meanwhile, scaled-up multi-disease case management in remote areas and linkages to surveillance systems will reduce the impact of disease outbreaks.

† Excludes refugee caseloads

The Government, with the support of a wide range of development partners, will continue providing cash and in-kind transfers to 7.9 million beneficiaries of the Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP) in 2017, including approximately 2.2 million beneficiaries in Somali and Afar regions. PSNP support is explicitly targeted towards poor and food-insecure households. Adjustments in the 4th iteration of PSNP specifically allow for the inclusion of non-PSNP households with children presenting with SAM and MAM as temporary programme beneficiaries.

To support pastoralists to minimize livestock losses the 2017 response also includes a full range of livestock relief interventions (fodder distribution, animal health and slaughter destocking to increase income for pastoralists and protein-rich meat for food insecure community members), as outlined in the Ministry of Agriculture’s National Guidelines for Livestock Relief Interventions in Pastoralist Areas of Ethiopia (2008).

Drought conditions are expected to peak during the dry December to March jilaal season, which is likely to lead to a sharper deterioration in livestock body conditions, and impacting milk production and nutrition status of the families that depend on livestock for their food and income. During the dry season, the response will be complemented by supplementary food based on regular screenings to ensure the most vulnerable are reached.

The drought has also impacted the right to education of children, and increases child protection risks. At least 442 schools have already been closed and 334 schools may be closed in the coming weeks due to the effects of the drought.

The Government and partners will prepare for a scaled-up response should the 2017 spring belg rains be delayed and erratic, as recently forecast by the National Meteorological Agency.
On 10 February the Government declared a national drought emergency, with 23 of 47 counties affected. The number of food insecure people more than doubled - from 1.3 million to 2.7 million. Some 357,285 children and pregnant and lactating mothers are acutely malnourished. The latest nutrition surveys show that three sub-counties (Turkana North, North Hor (Marsabit), Mandera) have GAM rates above 30 per cent. Six sub-counties (Turkana Central, Turkana South, Turkana West, Laisamis, East Pokot (Baringo), Isiolo) have GAM rates between 15 and 29 per cent. Maize production in the coastal areas decreased by 99 per cent compared to the long term average. People have to travel further to access water, for example in Baringo, household walk three times longer than normal. Pastoralist communities in the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASAL) counties are losing their livestock - with reports of large numbers of animal deaths in Turkana, Marsabit, Samburu and Mandera counties. Data collected by UNICEF from 10 affected counties indicates that close to 175,000 children are not attending early pre-primary and primary schools, primarily due to the drought’s impact.

The Government’s drought response plan runs from November 2016 to July 2017, requiring US$ 208 million to support 2.7 million drought-affected people. Of these requirements, the Government has committed to funding nearly 48 per cent (US$ 99 million), leaving a funding gap of US$ 109 million until July. The response focuses on food security, water and sanitation, health and nutrition, peace and security, agriculture and livestock, and education.

In January 2017 the Government established an intergovernmental and inter-agency technical committee to coordinate the drought response at both national and county levels. This aims to address challenges in coordination, information management and reporting.

In the meantime, IFRC is appealing for US$ 9 million to support the Kenya Red Cross Society to deliver assistance and support 340,000 people for 12 months. In addition WFP continues to support its regular caseload, meeting the acute food needs of 300,000 people. WFP is also looking to fill a short-fall (March - April) in food for 350,000 people in an asset-creation programme (food for work). UNICEF is targeting 83,438 children for treatment of severe acute malnutrition. Since July 2016, the NDMA has disbursed nearly US$ 2.5 million to 20 affected counties to support intervention gaps. DFID has extended the cash transfers through the HSPN to 9,836 additional households in Marsabit between December and January.

One of the most immediate challenges is a break in the supplementary feeding pipeline due to delays in the Ministry of Health purchasing of ready-to-use supplementary food / fortified food which has been pending since early December. WFP and UNICEF are supporting the Government to find faster procurement options. Secondly, it is estimated that a majority of the early childhood and primary schools have not received food for school feeding programmes, leading to a decrease in school enrolment and attendance, increasing protection concerns for these children.

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HORN OF AFRICA: A CALL FOR ACTION

UNOCHA/ Cedric Petit
What If... We Fail To Respond

If humanitarians are not able to raise funds and deliver aid for the drought response in the Horn of Africa.....

1. In Somalia, humanitarian assistance will not be scaled up to meet the needs of affected people and famine may not be averted in some of the worst drought-affected areas of the country. There are already worrying similarities to the conditions leading up to the famine in 2011 in which 260,000 people died, but this time a much larger percentage of the population is at risk.
2. Over 12.8 million severely food insecure people in Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and Uganda will not receive life-saving assistance and will risk plunging into deeper food insecurity.
3. Close to 600,000 severely malnourished children will be at risk of death or suffer irreversible damage to their mental health and physical wellbeing in Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia, undermining their capacity to learn and develop in their adult life.
4. About 14.2 million people in Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia will not have access to safe drinking water. This will lead to a considerable increase in malnutrition and the length of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) treatment, given the association between malnutrition, diarrhoea and malaria.
5. Education will be disrupted for approximately 6 million children in Somalia, Ethiopia and Kenya. Historically in Africa, enrolment rates have declined by 20 per cent in regions affected by drought and impact on attendance can be even higher. Children will be left vulnerable to harmful labour conditions, recruitment, trafficking and abuse. Stunted children achieve 1.1 years less in school education.
6. Livestock herds will be decimated, causing extreme destitution and severe food insecurity and drive pastoral households to migrate to cities. Even if just half of a herd survives, it will take a minimum of two to four years for pastoral and agropastoral households to recover. Experience from previous famines in Eastern Africa has shown that it took a decade for most asset-poor households to restore livestock holdings to pre-famine levels.
7. Over 2 million refugees and an estimated 2.1 million IDPs lack protection and assistance to meet their most basic needs. In addition, family separation will mean increased risk and vulnerability.
8. The estimated 75,000 people expected to return to Somalia from Kenya in 2017 risk joining IDP settlements in Somalia or refugees settlements in the region if sustainable solutions are not provided to integrate them into host communities.
9. The long-term impacts of the drought will be irreversible. In affected countries, the agriculture sector represents a major contribution to gross domestic product - poor harvests would impact economies across the region. In addition, children forced out of school, especially girls, may lose their education and enter into early marriage to address family income needs. The psychological impacts of gender-based violence and engagement in commercial sex work as a negative coping mechanism can be long-lasting. Experience from previous famines has shown that children younger than 36 months were less likely to complete primary school, leading to income losses of 3 per cent a year.
Guide to Giving
to the humanitarian response in the Horn of Africa

CONTRIBUTING TO INDIVIDUAL EMERGENCIES AND STRATEGIC RESPONSE PLANS
To consult and contribute to the 2017 response plans for the drought-affected countries in the Horn of Africa please visit:

Somalia: An operational plan for famine prevention is currently being finalized and is expected to be published on www.reliefweb.int by Friday 17 February 2017.

DONATING THROUGH COUNTRY-BASED POOLED FUNDS
Both Ethiopia and Somalia have country-based pooled funds: the Ethiopia Humanitarian Fund and the Somalia Humanitarian Fund. These are multi-donor funds that provide humanitarian organizations with rapid and flexible in-country funding to address critical funding gaps in the core humanitarian response, and to respond quickly to urgent emergency needs. Further information on country-based pooled funds can be found here:

Somalia: http://www.unocha.org/somalia/common-humanitarian-fund
To learn more about the EHF, please send an email to: ehf-eth@un.org
To learn more about the SHF, please send an email to: SHFSomalia@un.org

DONATING THROUGH THE CENTRAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND (CERF)
The CERF provides rapid initial funding for life-saving actions at the onset of emergencies and for poorly funded, essential humanitarian operations in protracted crises. The OCHA-managed CERF receives contributions from various donors – mainly governments, but also private companies, foundations, charities and individuals – which are combined into a single fund, to be used for crises anywhere in the world. Between 2006 and 2017, CERF has provided Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia with $661 million to address priority lifesaving needs. Find out more about the CERF and how to donate by visiting the CERF website:

www.unocha.org/cerf/our-donors/how-donate

IN-KIND ASSISTANCE
The United Nations urges donors to make cash rather than in-kind donations, for maximum speed and flexibility, and to ensure the aid materials that are most needed are the ones delivered. If you can make only in-kind contributions in response to disasters and emergencies, please contact:

logik@un.org

REGISTERING AND RECOGNIZING YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS
OCHA manages the Financial Tracking Service (FTS), which records all reported humanitarian contributions (cash, in-kind, multilateral and bilateral) to emergencies. Its aim is to give credit and visibility to donors for their generosity and to show the total amount of funding and resource gaps in humanitarian appeals. Please report your contributions to FTS, either by email to fts@un.org or through the on-line contribution report form at http://fts.unocha.org