

Humanitarian Bulletin

Eastern Africa

Issue 11 | 20 July - 5 August 2012

HIGHLIGHTS

- Regional food prices increase
- Improved food security in Mogadishu
- Ebola outbreak in Uganda
- Moyale conflict
- Border areas between South Sudan at Emergency levels of food insecurity

FIGURES

Affected pop. 9.1 m

FUNDING

2.49 billion
requested (US\$)

51% funded



UNHCR/S.Modola

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Flows of Mixed Migration Increase

Localized conflict continues to displace people within and across borders, creating protracted informal settlements and refugee situations in the region. Intercommunal violence in Moyale, southern Ethiopia on July 26 forced at least 2,300 people to flee into Kenya, with thousands more displaced. In neighbouring Sudan, fighting in parts of Blue Nile and South Kordofan states has now pushed over 240,000 people into South Sudan and Ethiopia. People continue to flee continued clashes in eastern DRC, which have pushed 54,000 people into neighbouring Rwanda and Uganda, and displaced an estimated 220,000 people within the country since April.

Although the internal and external displacement of Somali refugees has drastically reduced across the region since 2011, levels of displacement are still a cause for humanitarian concern. In the first four months of 2012 some 20,000 Somalis sought refuge in neighbouring Kenya, Ethiopia, Djibouti and Yemen. UNHCR has expressed concern about a reduction of asylum space for Somali refugees in neighbouring countries and further afield.

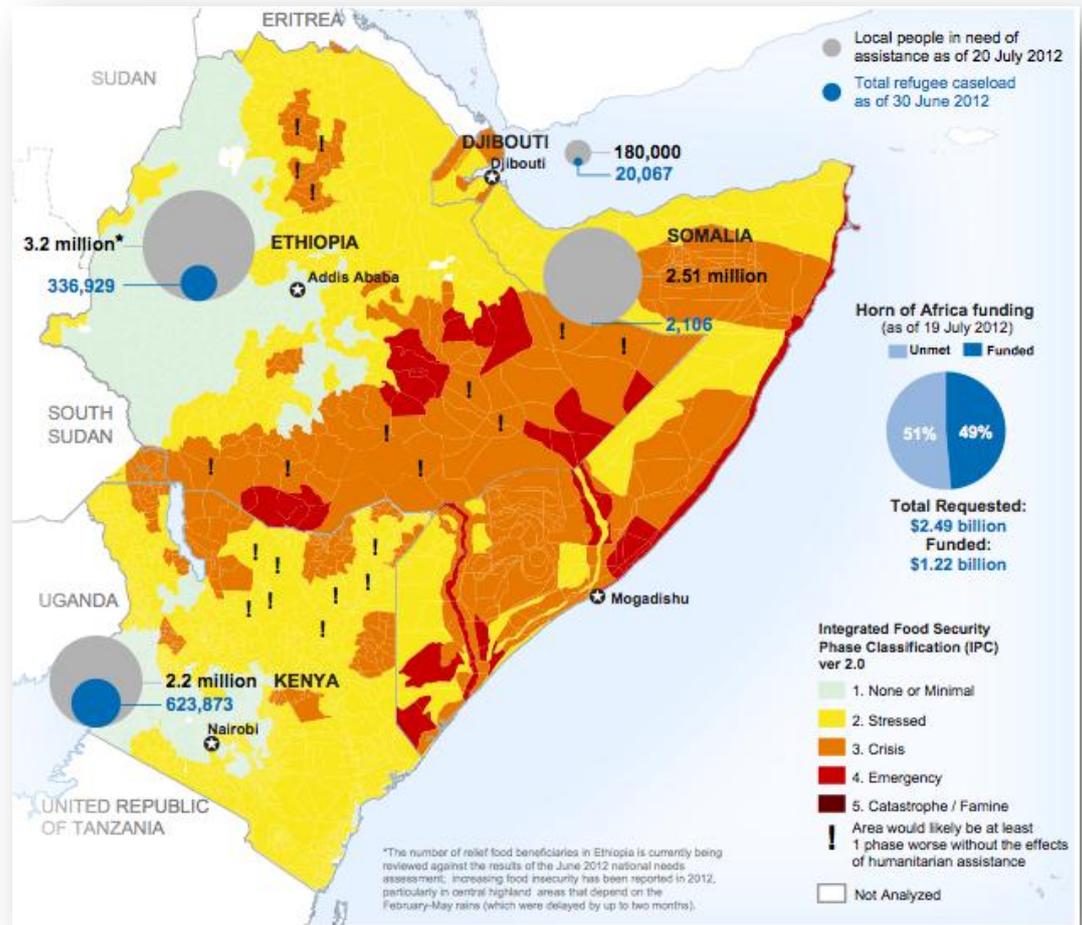
Governments in the Horn of Africa continue to provide asylum to those in need. On July 23, the Government of Uganda announced a [plan](#) to legalize and grant naturalization to thousands of older-caseload refugees, mainly from the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda. However, recent movements have severely strained reception capabilities. Overstretched humanitarian agencies are attempting to assist displaced populations in need of shelter, emergency health services, food and water. As mortality and malnutrition rates rise above emergency thresholds in refugee camps in South Sudan, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) is calling for a huge increase of capacity of humanitarian actors to avoid more children becoming life-threateningly ill. In Kenya, the security situation in Dadaab Refugee camp remains volatile and unpredictable. Assistance and services to refugees continued despite new incidents including an [explosion](#) and a [fire](#) in July.

Regional Food Security

In key areas of Ethiopia, Kenya, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda, crop conditions have remained near normal and relatively better than 2011. Food security conditions are however expected to deteriorate during the dry and hot period before the onset of the Short Rains in late October. According to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network ([FEWS NET](#)), there are currently an estimated 16 million people facing Stressed (IPC Phase 2) to Emergency (IPC Phase 4) levels of food insecurity in parts of Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, South Sudan, Sudan, and Uganda. The main drivers of food insecurity in these countries are poor rains, conflict, high food prices, and in some areas the inability

to access humanitarian assistance. The food security situation in the border areas between Sudan and South Sudan continues to worsen.

Food security conditions are expected to deteriorate during the dry and hot period before the onset of the Short Rains in late October



According to the FEWS NET [price watch](#), staple food prices have increased with the progression of the lean season and remain seasonally high in most markets, except in Uganda where harvests of beans and maize are ongoing and in rural Kenya where fresh maize supplies are anticipated.

The current OCHA Horn of Africa Humanitarian Snapshot (above) is available [here](#)

Somalia

New report shows improved food security situation in Mogadishu

A report issued by the [Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit-Somalia \(FSNAU\)](#), the World Food Programme (WFP) and FEWS NET on food security in Mogadishu between July 2011 and April 2012 found that food security had improved, local cereal prices decreased and the casual labour wage rate increased. Food Consumption Scores (FCS) continued to improve from December 2011 to April 2012.

In August 2011, displaced people in Mogadishu had a Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rate of 45.6 per cent. This went down to 16.1 per cent by April 2012. Nutrition also improved among urban residents from a GAM rate of 15.2 per cent in July 2011 to a GAM rate of 10.3 per cent by April 2012.

Conditions for displaced people were considerably worse than for urban residents. For example, households of displaced people headed by women were the group most likely

Despite improvement since July and August 2011, acute malnutrition in southern Somalia remains above emergency thresholds

to live in shelters primarily constructed of tarpaulin. Displaced people were also found to be more likely to make food purchases on credit. But from December 2011 to April 2012, the proportion of displaced people relying on humanitarian assistance as their primary source of food and income went down from 33 per cent to 23 per cent.

Despite the overall nutrition situation improvement since July and August 2011, acute malnutrition in southern Somalia remains above emergency thresholds according to data from FSNAU. In most agropastoral, rain-fed areas of the south, food security is expected to deteriorate from July to August due to the anticipated below-average *Gu* harvest.

Great Lakes Crisis

Reports of widespread human rights violations and abuse including indiscriminate killings, rape, torture, arbitrary arrests and forced military recruitment

Further outbreaks of violence in North Kivu Province of eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) have caused tens of thousands more people to flee their homes. Since April 2012, more than 220,000 people have been displaced in North Kivu and an estimated 54,000 people have fled to Rwanda and Uganda, many of whom report widespread human rights violations and abuse including indiscriminate killings, rape, torture, arbitrary arrests and forced military recruitment.

The situation is fluid with large numbers of people on the move, particularly in Walikale and Rutshuru territories. Tens of thousands of people are also moving back to their homes in parts of Walikale, where security has improved and the harvest season is approaching.

Multi-sectoral assessments are underway to establish where the displaced people and returnees are heading and what they need. The deteriorating security situation is having a serious effect on UNHCR's capacity to deliver aid outside established camps for displaced people north and west of Goma. In Uganda and Rwanda, UNHCR and its partners are providing shelter, protection and medical and psychosocial counseling for victims of violence.

The World Health Organization reports that there has been a sharp increase in cholera cases in North Kivu, with 368 new cases reported between 11 June and 1 July. The main cause is insufficient access to clean water. Humanitarian partners are carrying out hygiene and sanitation projects and increasing surveillance to combat the disease.

In the first seven months of 2012, UNICEF [reports](#) that the number of cholera cases has reached 92 per cent of the total number of cases of 2011 with 20,007 cases and 481 deaths to date with a lethality rate of 2.5 per cent. The outbreak has been especially challenging as it has spread across multiple health zones and districts in remote locations, particularly in certain western provinces which are hard to access because of a lack of infrastructure.

Meanwhile, more than 250 schools have been looted or damaged since April, which will seriously affect the education of some 60,000 children when the academic year begins in September.

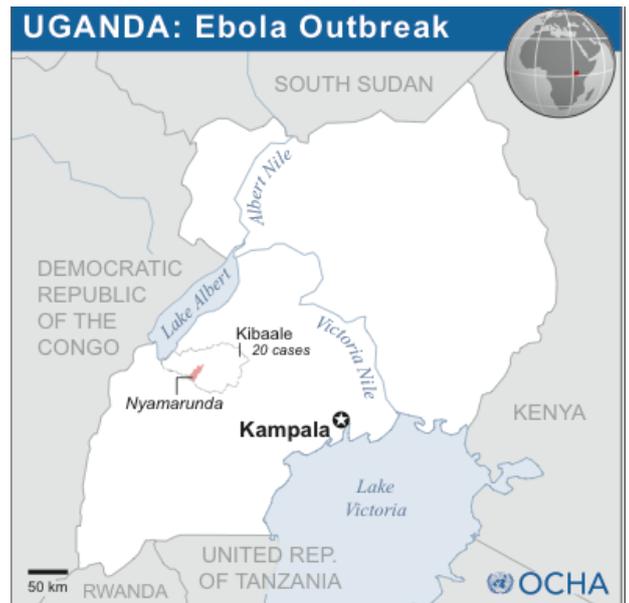
Please refer to OCHA's [DRC Situation Report #3](#) for more information.

Uganda

An outbreak of Ebola haemorrhagic fever in Kibaale district, western Uganda has killed 16 people. The Ministry of Health in has reported a cumulative number of **53** suspected cases.

The Ugandan Red Cross, MSF and the Ministry of Health are working to contain the virus. Over 210 schools in Ebola-hit areas of Kibaale have been closed. Operational funds are urgently needed to effectively implement further interventions such as: contact tracing and follow-up; community sensitization; facilitation of personnel involved in epidemic response; provision of food to patients and health workers in the isolation facility. Increased Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials and radio messages on Ebola are urgently required.

In neighbouring Kenya, the Government has set up a taskforce, and in South Sudan, the Ministry of Health is setting up quarantine centres at border check points in an effort to ensure that the outbreak does not spread into the country.



Kenya

Drought in the north leads to conflict and migration

Local aid organizations in north-east Kenya report that clashes have broken out as people grapple with scarcity of water and pasture after a poor Long Rains season (March-May). FEWS NET says the 2012 Long Rains were delayed by nearly a month, were low in volume and were distributed unevenly. This has led to a rapid decline in water resources and pasture land.

The shortages have reportedly led to clashes between pastoralists in Wajir, Garissa, Mandera and subsistence farmers in coastal regions of Meru, Kitui and Lamu. Several people were reported killed in Meru and Kitui when violence broke out after migrating livestock destroyed crops. Local officials said households in the north-east were struggling to survive without food or milk. Water was being trucked in but people were in need of mobile health services. Families were reported to be migrating from Wajir to Isiolo District.

In Moyale, along the Ethiopian border, NGO officials reported that large numbers of people remained displaced by conflict and were suffering from poverty and food insecurity because of recurrent clashes.

Food Security

The Kenya Food Security Steering Group is expected to release the findings of its 2012 Long Rains assessment in September. FEWS NET reports that the total of people affected by food insecurity is expected to increase from 2.2 million to 2.4 million in August as the lean season intensifies.

The [Kenya Agriculture Research Institute](#) has meanwhile instructed farmers to destroy maize crops infected with the Maize Lethal Necrosis (MLN) disease which continues to pose a threat to the country's food security. According to FAO, the maize disease outbreak in the south Rift Valley has impacted more than 31,000 hectares of crops.

Pasture and water shortages have led to clashes between pastoralists in Wajir, Garissa, Mandera and subsistence farmers in coastal regions of Meru, Kitui and Lamu

Challenges continue on several fronts in Dadaab

As of 29 July, the overall refugee population of Dadaab stood at 473,597 persons

According to UNHCR's latest [report](#), the security situation in the Dadaab refugee complex remained volatile and unpredictable. On 25 July, a police vehicle hit a suspected landmine in Dagahaley camp, injuring 17 people (14 refugees and 3 policemen). As a result, the police suspended escort duties to the camps for two consecutive days. Intelligence information indicated that improvised explosive devices had been planted in different locations.

On the night of 29 July, a [fire](#) swept through the market of Dagahaley camp (see image, right), destroying 80 per cent of the market. UNHCR, partner agencies and Kenyan authorities have established a working group to review fire emergency preparedness in the camps.



Credit: UNHCR

As of July 29, the overall refugee population of Dadaab stood at 473,597 persons. There has been a slight increase in the number of reports of threats to personal security of refugees received over the past few weeks. As a result, there is an increased need to relocate certain refugees to safe areas within the camps or to Kakuma (north-western Kenya) as a protection measure. Meanwhile, Kenya's Department for Refugee Affairs (DRA) has requested UNHCR to proceed with the decongestion of the Hagadera outskirts where around 20,000 refugees have settled. DRA, UNHCR and partners are now planning the relocation of refugees from the Hagadera outskirts to Kambioos with the aim of supporting the move of 6,000 individuals in 2012 and 30,000 individuals in 2013. However, UNHCR and partners have faced significant challenges in mobilizing political and financial support for building the infrastructure in Kambioos.

South Sudan/Sudan

WFP plans airdrops as food security continues to worsen along border areas between South Sudan and Sudan

As the food security situation continues to deteriorate along the border between Sudan and South Sudan, WFP is planning a series of airdrops to deliver up to 2,000 tons of food to Maban County beginning in mid-August. According to FEWS NET, the border areas between Sudan and South Sudan are now at Emergency levels of food insecurity (IPC Phase 4), with most of South Sudan classified at Crisis levels of food insecurity (IPC Phase 3).

In Sudan, continued fighting between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-N) in Blue Nile state continues to force people into neighbouring South Sudan and Ethiopia. Humanitarian organizations in South Sudan continued to respond to close to 167,000 Sudanese refugees in Upper Nile and Unity states, where acute diarrhea and malnutrition continue to cause concern.

A special US\$10 million allocation from the Common Humanitarian Fund (CHF) reserve will be disbursed to humanitarian organizations to support the emergency response operation to some 167,000 Sudanese refugees in Upper Nile and Unity states.

Between 18 and 26 July, WFP, the Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS) and the Government of Sudan's Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) conducted a joint verification of displaced people in the provincial capital of South Kordofan, Kadugli. According to the verification exercise results, the number of displaced people in Kadugli

town currently stands at 45,400 people – an increase of more than 10,000 people since mid-May.

Lack of humanitarian access in SPLM-N-controlled areas because of the security situation and Government restrictions continues to hamper access to communities displaced by conflict in Northern Bahr el Ghazal State. The African Union (AU) announced the signing of an [agreement](#) with Sudanese government and SPLM-N over humanitarian access to SPLM-N-held areas on 6 August. The two parties accepted a tripartite initiative to provide humanitarian aid to the affected civilians in the areas controlled by SPLM-N in South Kordofan and Blue Nile states.

For more information please refer to the OCHA Sudan [Humanitarian Bulletin](#) and the OCHA South Sudan [Humanitarian Bulletin](#).

Ethiopia

Moyale update

Conflict between the Borena and Gerri clans, which broke out on 26 July, has led to displacement in the Moyale area of southern Ethiopia. An unconfirmed number of people were displaced, with the many having reportedly crossed into Kenya. The situation in Moyale town has reportedly been calmed by the deployment of the Ethiopian Defence Force (EDF) to the area; however, humanitarian movements remain limited at present. OCHA and partners are monitoring the situation and stand ready to assist the Government in meeting any humanitarian needs that might arise.

Food security outlook through September

Below-normal *belg* (February to May) rains have led to increased food insecurity, particularly among poor households in the central and southern highlands of Ethiopia [eastern Amhara, central Oromia and Southern Nations Nationalities and Peoples (SNNP) Regions]. The number of people who require assistance in the second half of the year has increased. By May, the inclusion of additional beneficiaries in SNNPR increased the relief food caseload to 3.4 million. A further revision is expected with the imminent release of the revised Humanitarian Requirements Document (HRD). FEWS NET predicts that food security conditions will improve across the pastoralist and agro-pastoralist lowlands of southern and south-eastern Ethiopia with the advent of the *deyr/hagaya* rains in October. While the likely development of an *El Niño* effect is expected to result in normal to above-normal October to December rains in lowland areas, assistance will still be required to support poor households affected by repeated droughts since 2010. In the central highlands, *El Niño* is likely to produce unseasonable rains, which would have an adverse impact on mature crops, while helping late-planted crops in some areas. Meanwhile, the forecast early cessation of the current *kiremt* (June to September) rains could also have a negative impact on crop production. Thus, areas of eastern Amhara and SNNPR currently experiencing elevated food insecurity are likely to continue to do so through the end of the year. While the late arrival on the market of the *belg* harvest in August (normally harvested in June) and of *meher* crops from October will help to improve food security in parts of the central highlands, the inadequate *belg* rainfall in 2012 reduced the planting of long-cycle, high-yielding crops like maize, sorghum and millet, which provide for 40 per cent of annual cereal production. With many farmers having shifted to lower-yielding, short-maturing varieties – including in western surplus-producing areas – the impact of the potentially reduced production on national market supply and prices is of concern.

Food aid prioritized for areas with growing food insecurity

As of 31 July, dispatch of the fourth round of relief food assistance (targeting 3.4 million people nationwide) reached 94 per cent, while dispatch of food allocated under the fifth round (targeting 3.2 million) reached 22 per cent. The fifth round of relief food is being

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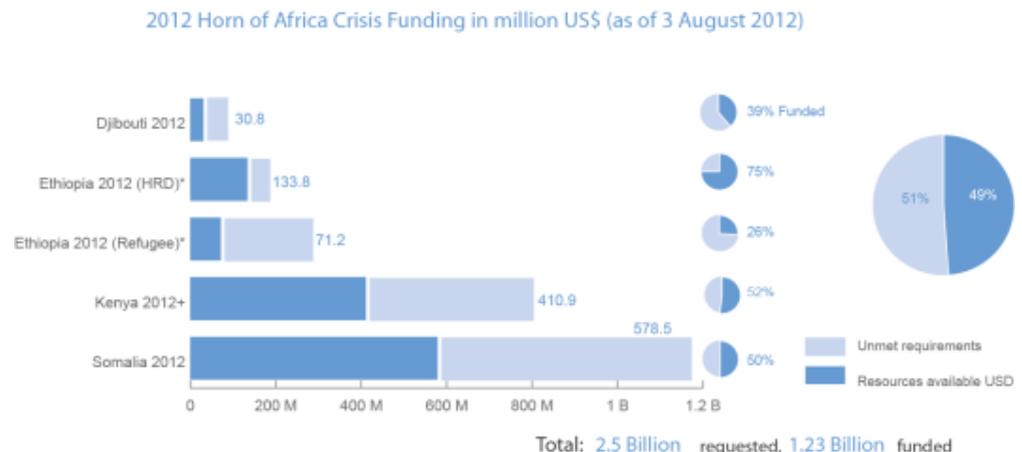
prioritized for areas with elevated levels of food insecurity linked to poor seasonal rain performance, including in SNNPR (83 per cent of fifth round food dispatched), Amhara (39 per cent), Somali Region (31 per cent, with Shinile zone in northern Somali prioritized within the region) and Oromia (11 per cent). According to WFP, the relief pipeline can cater for one additional round (sixth) at present. New contributions are required to prevent pipeline breaks, which will start to occur for cereals in the sixth round.

Aid boost helps reduce malnutrition in south

The June figures released by the Government Emergency Nutrition Coordination Unit (ENCU) for the month of June show a decline in admissions of severely malnourished children to therapeutic feeding programmes (TFPs) in SNNPR. Admissions decreased regionally by 24 per cent from May to June, dropping from 14,909 to 11,298 with 97 per cent of TFPs reporting. The decrease is attributed to the scaling up of humanitarian response, such as implementation of targeted supplementary feeding programmes in all 27 Priority 1 and 16 Priority 2 *woredas*. The decrease in severe acute malnutrition in SNNPR is attributed to scaling up of targeted supplementary feeding (TSF) programmes treating moderately malnourished children and women, expansion in the number of relief food beneficiaries, and release of the 15 per cent contingency fund available under the Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP). Additionally, green vegetables were able to be harvested for consumption in some areas. In the coming weeks, the July TFP admissions will indicate whether regional admissions continue to decline sharply or become more gradual, as in previous years. In Amhara and Tigray, however, TFP admissions increased by 24 per cent (85 per cent reporting) and over 30 per cent (89 per cent reporting) respectively over the same period. In both regions, the increase in admissions was associated with community mobilization as part of the Child Health Days screening and other nutritional screening carried out ahead of TSF implementation in some *woredas*. Nutrition responses including TFP and TSF are being implemented in all *woredas* involved in the screening. June TFP admission updates are still being compiled for the other regions.

Horn of Africa Funding Update

All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform FTS of cash and in-kind contributions by sending an e-mail to fts@un.org



NB: In addition to the resources presented above, which show funding against the net requirements initially appealed for in the 2012 Humanitarian Requirements Document, as well as the additional requirements for May-June identified at the 3 May Strategy-level MAC meeting, Ethiopia's total funding for 2012 includes some \$76.9 million in food aid contributed in 2011 for 2012 and counted as carry-over against the gross funding requirements originally identified in the 2012 HRD, as well as a further \$117.5 million in other food and non-food funding carried over from 2011 to 2012.

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