



## **Food Assistance Update**

Eighth round relief food dispatches are nearing completion nationwide, with 96 per cent of total relief food dispatched as of 24 January. Dispatch to areas covered by the Disaster Risk Management and Food Security Sector (DRMFSS) was completed at the end of December, while dispatch to areas covered by the NGO consortium Joint Emergency Operations (JEOP) stands at 89 per cent, and to areas covered by WFP's Hubs-and-Spokes programme in the Somali Region at 96 per cent. WFP relief food dispatches in Somali Region for the ninth round (2011), distribution of which began in January 2012, stood at 16 per cent as of the same date. For more information, contact: [wfp.addisababa@wfp.org](mailto:wfp.addisababa@wfp.org)

## **Health Update**

No new cases of Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) have been identified in Dollo Ado town over the past week. Final test results for the previously-reported suspected AFP cases are expected to be released shortly. Efforts are underway to search for additional cases and sensitize government and NGO health workers. In the Southern Nations Nationalities and People's region (SNNPR), 500 cases of malaria, including three deaths, were reported from Decha *woreda* of Keffa zone. A rapid response team composed of experts from the federal and regional levels was deployed to the area to undertake case management and environmental control measures. Drugs and other medical supplies were also sent to the area with the team. Also in SNNPR, 661 new cases of measles were reported from eight *woredas* of Keffa zone over the past week. As in previous weeks, the highest number of cases (almost 50 per cent) was reported from Gesha *woreda*. Experts from the Public Health Emergency Management centre at the Ethiopian Health and Nutrition Research Institute (EHNRI/PHEM), the Regional Health Bureau and health partners continue to support case management, enhance routine vaccination and strengthen surveillance in the affected areas. For more information, contact: [who-wro@et.efro.who.int](mailto:who-wro@et.efro.who.int)

## **Child Protection Update**

Community Care Coalitions (CCCs) have been established across the Somali Region by the Regional Bureau of Labor and Social Affairs with support from UNICEF and other partners, including in Adadle, Bare, Chereti, Dollo Ado, Filtu, Gode, Hargele, Kelafo, Moyale and Mustahil *woredas*. The CCC process has also been initiated in Oromia and SNNPR. The CCCs build on existing community structures to empower vulnerable households to overcome difficult circumstances. They seek to create a protective environment to mitigate social problems and formalize community-internal traditional support mechanisms and systems into a more institutionalized system. Jijiga University has completed training for 160 para-social workers to staff the Somali Region CCCs to ensure quality protection services for the communities. A training of trainers on Child Protection Rapid Assessments is being organized for the Child Protection/Gender Based Violence sub cluster from 7 to 17 February in Addis Ababa. The training will include preparation and planning for an interagency rapid assessment which will take place in 16 *woredas* in the Somali Region. For more information, contact: [awesterbeek@unicef.org](mailto:awesterbeek@unicef.org)

## **Refugee Update**

**Somali Refugees:** As of 27 January, 143,869 Somali refugees were hosted in the Dollo Ado refugee camps and transit center, including 1,948 new arrivals since the start of January 2012. The results of a health and nutrition survey conducted by the Government, UNHCR and partners including WFP, UNICEF and Goal in Kobe and Hilaweyn camps from mid-October to November 2011 have been released. The results show high malnutrition rates among children aged 6 months to 5 years, with global acute malnutrition (GAM) of 47.8 per cent and 50.6 per cent and severe acute malnutrition (SAM) of 18.5 and 18.9 per cent for Kobe and Hilaweyn respectively. The rates are substantially higher than the international emergency threshold for GAM (15 per cent) and SAM (3 per cent). The crude mortality rates (CMR) were 1.9 in Kobe and 1.35 in Hilaweyn, while the under-five mortality (UMR) rates were 5.95 and 4.57 respectively (international standard for CMR is 1 per cent and UMR 2 per cent). Poor infant and young child feeding practices and low health service-seeking behaviour are amongst the attributed causes for the high level of malnutrition identified by the survey. Among the recommendations made by the survey was for nutrition and health partners to strengthen outreach and community mobilization programmes; partners were also recommended to revisit the general food ration and further explore the reason for its low utilization (food sold for purchase of unmet needs by refugees), which was also identified as a reason for the high level of malnutrition.

**Sudanese Refugees:** As of 28 January, 26,493 Sudanese refugees (44 per cent female) were registered by UNHCR in Beneshangul Gumuz region, including 9,311 refugees in Sherkole camp, 12,136 in Tongo camp and 7,046 in Adimazin transit centre. In addition to the camp population, more than 10,000 Sudanese refugees are believed to be residing with the host community. WFP and partners completed general food distributions for December in Sherkole camp, while in Tongo camp and Adimazin transit centre distributions are ongoing, as new refugees continue to arrive and require assistance. For more information, contact: [gegziabk@unhcr.org](mailto:gegziabk@unhcr.org)