

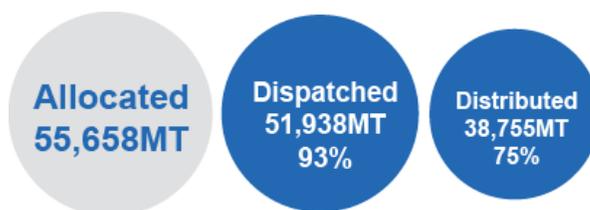
30 March 2015

Key Issues:

- Resource shortfalls are reported for the second and third rounds relief food ration for 2015.
- Seasonal rains started in most *woredas*. Assessment in the coming days will determine the impact of the rains on availability of water and pasture.
- The Japanese Government donated US\$11.8 million to assist South Sudanese refugees and host communities in Gambella region. UNHCR will receive \$5.8 million, WFP \$5 million and WHO \$1 million.
- UNHCR is expediting the development of the new Jewi camp in Gambella to relocate more than 48,000 flood-affected South Sudanese refugees from Leitchuor camp. Additional camp sites are needed to accommodate new arrivals.

2015 relief food pipeline status

The dispatch of the first round relief food ration for 2015 started last week. Available resources are used to meet first round requirements, including US\$17 million carry-over from 2014, un-dispatched 2014 sixth round resources (the sixth round ration for 2014 was 75 per cent distributed – see chart below) and new contributions. Reported commodity shortfalls for DRMFSS-covered areas were covered through internal borrowing.



Separately, resource shortfalls were reported for second round relief food requirements for WFP-covered areas, and for third round requirements for DRMFSS-covered areas. Food partners are exploring resource mobilization approaches to address resource shortfalls and systems to expedite dispatch and distribution.

The 2015 relief food operations will target 2.9 million people nationwide, including 1.2 million people supported by DRMFSS, 722,618 people by WFP and 669,038 people by the joint emergency operation (JEOP). Some 294,066 will be assisted through the relief cash and voucher program (DRMFSS and WFP). For more information, contact wfp.addiababa@wfp.org

Seasonal rains started in most *woredas*

Most of the *belg/gu/ganna/sugum* rain-receiving parts of the country reported the start of seasonal rains during the third *dekad* of March (20-30 March). The rains were one to three weeks late on average. The amount of rain received was adequate so far. Excessive rains in Zone 3 of Afar region reportedly led to the overflow of Kebena river, flooding surrounding communities. Reportedly, communities around Shebelle river in Somali region, which is quickly reaching its peak due to heavy rains, are also at high risk of flooding. Assessments in the coming days will verify the reported flooding and flood-risks. Assessments will also be carried-out to determine the impact of the rains on availability of water and pasture, and inform the revision of the national water trucking needs.

At present, water trucking is on-going in eight of the nine affected *kebeles* in Legahida and Salahad *woredas* of Nogob zone (Somali), with three water trucks sourcing water from neighbouring Oromia region. Of the 75 water trucks requested for drought-affected communities in Oromia region, 44 were operational as of 26 March. The lack of water is exacerbated by the large number of non-functional water supply systems in these areas. Repair works on these schemes is considered top priority, including the establishment of community-based operational and maintenance systems. For more information, contact awesterbeek@unicef.org