HIGHLIGHTS

- The food security situation has worsened as early warnings highlight drought conditions in parts of Somalia.
- Alarming malnutrition rates above threshold levels have been recorded among displaced communities in Mogadishu.
- UN Central Emergency Response Fund allocates over US$20 million in emergency funding to Somalia.

FIGURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of people in humanitarian emergency and crisis</td>
<td>857,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of people in stress</td>
<td>2m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of acutely malnourished children under age 5</td>
<td>203,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of internally displaced people</td>
<td>1.1m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Somalis refugees in the Horn of Africa and Yemen</td>
<td>1m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: www.fsnau.org (January-June 2014 projection)

Consolidated Appeal

FUNDING

933 million requested for 2014 (US$)

29% (268 million) (reported as of 22 July 2014)

Source: http://fts.unocha.org

Food crisis set to deteriorate warn analysts

Alert highlights looming drought in Somalia, worsening already acute crisis

The food security situation is expected to deteriorate in the months ahead due to reduced crop production resulting from poor seasonal Gu rains (April to June), a surge in prices of basic commodities and reduced livestock production, according to an alert released in early July by the Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU), managed by the UN Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO). This projection comes on the back of multiple early warnings over the past months by the humanitarian community. On 21 July, the Federal Government of Somalia described the humanitarian situation “as a precursor to the situation in 2011 in its intensity” and established a Ministerial Emergency Response Committee to lead the development of a drought and emergency response plan.

According to the Somalia Water and Land Information Management (SWALIM), the rains started a month late and ended early this year, by the last week in May. Rainfall was recorded at less than half of normal levels during the seasonal rains. As a result, drought conditions are being observed in southern, central and north-eastern parts of Somalia. The negative trend is not expected to reverse until the next rains, which are due in October. The worst affected areas where the food security situation is expected to deteriorate in the coming months include parts of Bakool, Gedo, Hiraan, Lower Shabelle and Middle Juba regions, according to FSNAU. Bari and Nugaal regions of north eastern Somalia are also facing drought due to poor Gu rains.

In addition to poor Gu rainfall, continued conflict, the restricted flow of commercial goods in areas affected by recent military operations and increasing malnutrition mainly among internally displaced people are all factors, which could tip the crisis in Somalia back into an emergency.

Climate outlook for the next three months until September

Although the period between July and September is regarded as a dry season, significant rainfall usually occurs during this period along the southern coast and parts of the northwestern regions. However, the forecast is that most parts of Somalia will not receive these normal rains, a factor which will compound the worsening food security situation, according to FAO. However, the southern coastal regions are expected to continue to receive light rains, which are normal in these areas during this period. This may improve availability of water and curb the current water shortages in these regions.

Alarming malnutrition rates observed in capital

Acute malnutrition and mortality levels surpass emergency thresholds

Alarming rates of malnutrition have been observed among displaced communities in Mogadishu, according to FSNAU data. Nutrition assessments in May and June show above emergency levels of malnutrition seven urban towns (Dbolhey, Doolow, Dhsuusamareeb, Garowe, Gaalkacyo, and Kismayo) with the highest deterioration reported in Somalia’s capital city, Mogadishu.

Global acute malnutrition (GAM) levels among the displaced communities in Mogadishu were reported at an alarming 18.9 per cent (the emergency threshold is 15 per cent). The severe acute malnutrition (SAM) rates increased to 5.5 per cent (the emergency threshold is 4.5 per cent). Of the 14 sampled districts in Mogadishu, the highest number of malnutrition cases was recorded in displacement settlements in Wadajir, Hodan district. The nutrition situation is equally alarming in Doolow, where GAM rates are 18.9 per cent and SAM is 4.4 per cent.

Disease, conflict and resource gaps contribute to malnutrition

A number of factors have reportedly caused the deteriorating malnutrition situation in Mogadishu: acute watery diarrhea and measles outbreaks in April and May; a high influx of displaced people due to recent conflicts in Lower Shebelle and other parts of southern and central Somalia; poor water, sanitation and hygiene conditions in displacement settlements; and limited food and nutrition interventions in Banadir Region.

Aid organizations have been unable to meet the needs of over 350,000 estimated displaced people in Mogadishu due to funding shortages, and a volatile security situation, which has at times restricted aid delivery into the settlements. A rise in food prices and limited livelihood opportunities have also contributed to the worsening food security situation. Host communities in the capital have also been affected, with an increase in GAM from 8.1 per cent in May/June 2013 to 10.1 per cent in May/June this year. The humanitarian community is mobilizing resources to address the serious situation, but the significant shortfall in funding for humanitarian activities has undermined the capacity to respond.
Aid reaches conflict and flood affected areas

Emergency relief continues where possible based on assessed needs

Humanitarian assistance continues to reach people in those newly recovered areas where access has improved and rapid assessments have taken place. On 10 June, an estimated 1,000 metric tons of food donated by the Turkish Red Crescent was transported from Baidoa in Bay to Xudur and Waajid in Bakool. The arrival of the food is expected to reduce food prices in these towns and improve the food security. On 13 June, cold box and vaccine carriers were delivered to Xudur Hospital, and 90 cartons of nutrition supplies were provided to 90 malnourished and lactating mothers for one month.

In Kismayo, where an inter-cluster mission conducted a visit to assess the needs of flood-affected displaced people and the host community, over 10,000 people have been provided with livelihood investments including seeds, cash-for-work, food-for-work to rehabilitate small scale agriculture infrastructure and rehabilitation of water points, and safety-net programmes of wet feeding and supplementary feeding programmes. Vulnerable people in Kismayo also received some 1,000 household kits, cash grants for 4,000 families and 200 hygiene kits. In Baidoa, 6,000 people received a one-month supply of vaccines and nutrition supplies.

Insecurity renders aid efforts costly and difficult

Access remains constricted due to volatile security and road blockages

The conflict in Somalia continues to be fluid, expansive and fragmented with each district displaying its particular dynamic. Over 1,500 conflict incidents with humanitarian impact were reported in the first six months of the year, a 7 per cent increase compared with the same period in 2013. These incidents included military operations, active hostilities and other forms of violence against civilians. The increase in incidents is attributable to the surge in attacks by non-state armed actors and the launch of the military offensive in southern and central regions, which started in March. Since the offensive began, some 73,000 people have been temporarily displaced from their homes. The conflict remains most prevalent in areas in Bay, Bakool, Hiraan, Lower Shabelle and parts of Middle Shabelle. Whilst the operating environment is permissive enough for some aid work to continue, limitations remain severe in the newly recovered towns of Maaxas and Bulo Burto in Bay, Warsheikh in Middle Shabelle, Waajid in Bay and Ceel Bur in Galgaduud. Humanitarians can potentially access all newly recovered areas by air, but humanitarian aviation services are hugely expensive, unpredictable and unsustainable.

Advocacy with authorities to facilitate humanitarian access continues

While steps have been taken by local authorities to regulate the humanitarian sector in a positive way, some measures have led to delays and interruptions in aid programming. Thirty-seven incidents of bureaucratic constraints were registered in Puntland and southern and central Somalia between January and June. Almost half of these were due to multiple requests for NGO registrations at national, regional and provincial levels. Other impediments were multiple registration requirements including registration fees, arbitrary taxation, and deduction of project funds for monitoring and evaluation purposes.

Following efforts by OCHA in line with the Somalia Humanitarian Country Team humanitarian access advocacy strategy, the demands were lifted by local authorities in Baidoa, Galmudug (parts of Galgaduud and Mudug), Gedo, Hiraan and Middle Shabelle. In Puntland the taxation demand was only lifted temporarily until a legal regulatory framework is put in place, which the Parliament of Puntland is expected to endorse by the end of July 2014.
Emergency funds boost life-saving relief work

Over US$21 million allocated to support vital humanitarian aid

The UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) has allocated over US$20 million to bolster humanitarian efforts in Somalia. On 23 July, the CERF allocated the largest single allocation to a country, $20 million, to Somalia for life-saving activities based on a global review of critical aid operations that are facing funding deficits.

Another $1.45 million was allocated to kick-start a campaign to combat the outbreak of measles, which has left thousands of children at risk of disability and death. This funding will be used to vaccinate 520,000 children under 5 years in the worst affected areas of Banadir, Lower Juba and Puntland. Around 4,000 suspected cases of measles were reported between January and June this year, more than double the same period last year. Three quarters of cases were reported in children under 5 years. Measles is one of the leading killers of young children in Somalia, a situation made worse by the lack of health services. The vaccination drive will help prevent the spread of the disease to other locations, particularly those inaccessible to vaccination teams. The allocation will be complemented by $300,000 from the Somalia Common Humanitarian Fund (CHF).

Common Humanitarian Fund allocates $2 million to emergency projects

As part of its support to the June to August humanitarian operational plan to raise $60 million for life-saving projects, the Somalia CHF allocated its balance of $2.03 million through its emergency reserve window to enabling programmes and the health and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) clusters. Within this amount, $480,000 has been put towards the UN’s Humanitarian Air Service to facilitate the leasing of aircraft to transport cargo and aid workers to newly accessible areas. The allocation of $750,000 to WASH will help provide crucial water trucking services to 28,000 people in drought affected areas in central and north-eastern Somalia, improve water storage facilities for 45,300 people in southern Somalia, and sustain access to safe water for 78,000 displaced people in Mogadishu. The Health Cluster will benefit from $800,000 support to Belet Weyne Hospital and for the measles outbreak.

Funding gaps threaten education for 40,000 children

Only 42 per cent of school-age children in Somalia are in school, one of the world’s lowest enrolment rates. Of those, one a third are girls. Despite these statistics, humanitarian funding for education is alarmingly low. Education programmes in the 2014 Strategic Response Plan – Somalia’s joint humanitarian aid appeal – are only 18 per cent funded of the $50 million requested for education. Of the 19 education projects in the aid appeal, funding has only been received for one – a school feeding programme.

No funding has been provided for learning-based projects. Due to the lack of resources, at least 200 schools have shut down or are on the brink of closure in Banadir, Gedo, Lower Shabelle, Middle Shabelle and in Bay. This number does not take in to account the schools that have closed due to conflict, displacements and structural damages. The closure of these schools affects an estimated 40,000 students due to a lack of teachers. In addition, 900 teachers have left the profession because of a lack of education funding.

Overall funding situation

$268m funding received $665m outstanding to meet humanitarian needs $933m aid appeal