

ALERT: Immediate 2018 Humanitarian Requirements - Ethiopia



This alert has been prepared as a complement to the indicative humanitarian needs and requirements for Ethiopia presented in the 2018 Global Humanitarian Overview.

In advance of the finalization of the meher assessment results, it is anticipated that between 5 and 7 million people will be targeted with relief assistance, requiring around \$895 million over the course of 2018.

Indicative target and requirements for 2018

This is an early estimation. The number of people targeted and final requirements will be determined primarily on the outcome of the meher assessment, which was just completed.

PEOPLE TARGETED



5-7M

REQUIREMENTS



895M

The priorities for immediate financing highlighted in this document are geared towards achieving two purposes:

1. To ensure that ongoing critical lifesaving response activities can be sustained and scaled-up over the first half of the year in areas of continuing drought and conflict related need – including to avoid projected pipeline breaks during the first six months of the year.
2. To enable early action and investments at the start of 2018 that will reduce anticipated humanitarian needs and costs for later in the year – including to ensure readiness for new outbreaks of Acute Watery Diarrhea, to mitigate possible deteriorations in food insecurity and acute malnutrition, and to ensure non-functional boreholes are repaired before needs for expensive long-distance water trucking increase.

A full humanitarian plan and appeal for the year will be presented in January / early February 2018, based on the outcome of the meher assessment.

Ethiopia has experienced two years of exceptional drought emergency. In 2017, severe drought conditions continued in lowland, mostly pastoral areas, rendering hundreds of thousands destitute and displaced. The current southern autumn rains are

again expected to under-perform, meaning that levels of food insecurity and acute malnutrition in the lowlands are likely to remain high. The well-managed, Government-led, life-saving response will need to be sustained across southern and eastern parts of the country through much of 2018. Across highland areas a strong meher harvest is anticipated, with some pockets of poor performance. Disease outbreaks are expected to continue in 2018. Additional humanitarian needs have arisen due to conflict, with several hundred thousand Ethiopians displaced. Many of those displaced over the course of 2017 are likely to require continuing relief assistance and recovery support in 2018.

As this document is released, a multi-agency, government-led assessment was just completed, results of which are being compiled to confirm the full scale of humanitarian needs for the first part of 2018. The humanitarian response in 2017 was well-supported with both donor and Government resources: over \$1 billion was mobilized to assist 8.5 million people. Similar levels of financial support will be required early in 2018, both to address immediate, priority humanitarian needs, and to protect development gains.

Additionally, efforts are underway between Government, humanitarian and development partners to develop a multiyear framework that will seek to: a) increase the quality and predictable delivery of required multi sectoral humanitarian response; b) mitigate future needs in areas that experience recurrent climate induced shock; c) support the strengthening of national service provision to address chronic and acute needs; and, d) support the recovery of affected communities. This will continue to help identify areas which require longer term solutions.

IMMEDIATE FUNDING PRIORITIES TO SUSTAIN CURRENT RESPONSE UNTIL JULY 2018 AND MITIGATE FURTHER CONSEQUENCES

SECTOR	IMMEDIATE FUNDING REQUIRED
Agriculture	55.7M
Education	1.7M
Emergency Shelter/NFI	19.0M
FOOD	127.3-220.6M
Health	27.2M
Nutrition	128.1M
Protection	2.3M
WASH	45.2M
Total	406.5 - 499.8M

Key Humanitarian issues

The three Strategic Objectives for the Humanitarian Requirements Document (HRD) will be retained:

- Save lives and reduce morbidity due to drought and acute food insecurity
- Protect livelihoods
- Prepare for and respond to other humanitarian shocks – conflict / flooding / displacement

Four ‘key humanitarian issues’ for 2018 are presented here to describe the overall strategy and approach to prioritization.

Continuing acute food insecurity, malnutrition and water shortages in lowland, mostly pastoral areas

Hundreds of thousands of people have been rendered destitute by two years of consecutive drought. In the absence of good rains and recovery opportunities, the huge multi-sectoral humanitarian response operation that has been established over the course of 2017 will need to be sustained well into the second half of 2018 (at least). Humanitarian partners are assisting government to deliver relief food and (a growing share of) cash; and, supporting Regional Line Bureaus to deliver emergency services in an integrated manner to affected communities. This support includes emergency livestock feed and health services to keep core breeding stock alive, emergency nutrition and health services, shelter and non-food items, and emergency education facilities for the displaced. Early investments to help keep remaining animals alive are particularly highlighted here, as data from past droughts in pastoral areas show that on average it can take affected households well over four years to recover lost livelihoods, during which time they will likely require sustained relief assistance.

Acute food insecurity and access to water in highland areas

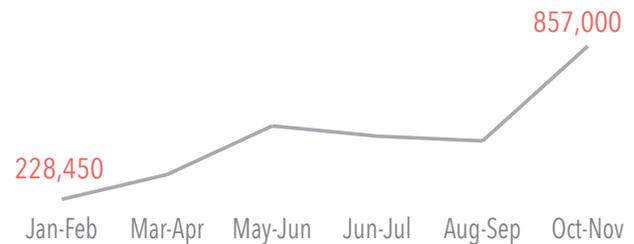
The meher harvest is anticipated to be generally good, though as in other ‘regular’ years, there are expectations of reduced harvests in areas experiencing erratic rainfall. This will necessitate the provision of relief food to those acutely affected, along with humanitarian support to integrated nutrition, health and WASH service provision in areas where Government capacity may be stretched – albeit stronger than in many lowland areas. A further group of Ethiopians living in the highlands and previously impacted by drought shock will require sustained relief assistance, due to the now chronic nature of their food insecurity. The nature of recurrent humanitarian needs during non-major drought emergency years in highland areas is highly predictable. Early investments by humanitarian or development partners to reduce needs - for example through ensuring non-functional boreholes are urgently repaired in areas where there are already indications that new and expensive water trucking operations will be required - are critical.

Ensuring that people targeted for relief food and cash receive timely assistance, and that pipelines don't break, will save both human suffering and money. It costs \$100 to provide emergency relief food for a person for a year. The typical costs for the treatment of Severe Acute Malnutrition are at least \$120 per child.

Conflict-driven displacement

An estimated 857,000 IDPs are currently displaced due to conflict in Oromia and Somali regions. The living conditions and needs of this group are varied on both sides of the Somali-Oromia regional border, often in areas experiencing ongoing drought-related humanitarian need.

INCREASING TREND OF CONFLICT INDUCED IDPS IN 2017



Source: NDRMC (Nov.), IOM DTM (other months)

Whilst efforts at community reconciliation are ongoing with a view to establishing conditions for return, partners will continue efforts to support Government in the scale-up of the much-needed material and basic services / protection response to these IDPs; seeking (where possible) to accommodate a response to this group as part of the broader emergency drought response operation. Given the potential for further displacement, partners will also work with Government to undertake response preparedness actions – to stockpile relief items and undertake market analysis to inform opportunities for the expansion of multi-purpose, unconditional cash. As opportunities for return are established for conflict-induced IDPs, the Federal Government with partners is anticipating the need for support in the delivery of a return, rehabilitation and recovery programme.

Mitigation and response to disease outbreaks continues to be a priority

The effect of prolonged drought, nutritional insecurity and scarcity of water are the main drivers of health risks within vulnerable communities. In addition, the lack of sustainable and dedicated health interventions, compounded by current *deyr*/autumn rains, increased the number of IDPs unable to access basic sanitation. Existing demand for emergency water trucking to health facilities further exacerbate the risk of opportunistic disease outbreaks. The multi-sector/cluster response currently underway in outbreak areas, will be sustained and expanded, if required, to new areas experiencing outbreaks. The 2017 outbreaks and response demonstrated the need to continue to strengthen FMOH capacity in the emergency response, surveillance and prevention at facility and community level, including through emergency immunization, as well as support to mitigation measures needed to prevent outbreaks at the scale seen in 2017 plus increase access to basic public health services to reduce the risk to vulnerable households and communities. Based on the ongoing response structure, the need to scale up sustainable access to safe water and sanitation services, as well as food and nutritional security are critical to reduce the impact of opportunistic disease outbreaks and can strengthen national systems.

Urgent requirements (January to June)

The priorities for immediate financing are highlighted by sector.



AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

The agriculture and livestock sector requires \$55.7 million to assist 420,000 HHs in the first half of 2018.

For agriculture interventions, \$8.3 million is required to assist 260,000 HHs in Eastern Amhara, East and West Harage zones of Oromia, SNNP and Eastern Tigray regions where crop failure has been reported. Provision of crop seeds (predominantly cereals, legumes, vegetable and root crops) and other agriculture interventions including rangeland restoration and moisture conservation, fruit seedling production and pest control, will help small holder farmers optimize the belg season planting window and reduce future aid requirements. The livestock sector requires \$47.4 million to assist 160,000 HHs with supplementary livestock feed to protect the core-breeding animals of vulnerable pastoral households who have managed to keep their livestock through two years of drought but are now on the brink of destitution. It is estimated that 1.6 million pastoral households in Somali, Oromia, SNNPR and Afar regions are affected. The intervention aims to provide supplementary feed (roughage and concentrate) to three animals (primarily cattle) per household for a period of two months during the dry season.



EDUCATION

\$1.73 million is required to assist 52,102 children between January and June with the provision of temporary learning services.

In the last two years on average between 1.4 to 1.7 million school children were assisted with Education in Emergency (EiE) response. At the beginning of September 2017 the intercommunal conflicts along the borders of Oromia and Somali region displaced 311,621 school-age children (particularly 52,102 have no access to formal and non-formal education) resulting in additional constraints to educational continuity. The education cluster has prioritized the provision of temporary learning services in Oromia and Somali regions for 52,102 children in at least 27 sites, for which partners urgently require \$1.73 million.



EMERGENCY SHELTER AND NFI

\$19 million is urgently needed to avoid a pipeline break and to meet the needs of 136,000 HHs in need of assistance.

It is critical that resources are mobilized to support the cluster response particularly to provide immediate relief to the IDPs who are exposed to cold weather conditions. Clashes erupted along the borders between the Oromia and Somali regions in early September, leading to the increased displacement of 857,000 people in Somali and Oromia regions.



FOOD

Requirements to cover gaps in the national food / cash response plan for four rounds (Jan-June 2018) stands at \$127.3-\$220.6 million (based on 5-7 million people in need)

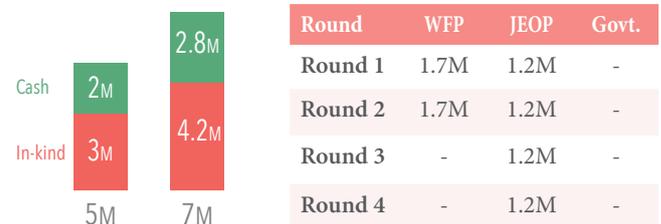
Based on multiple sources of analysis, Government and partners have provisionally estimated that between five and seven million people will be acutely food insecure and require relief assistance in the first half of 2018. Approximately 60 per cent of the people in need of food assistance are expected to be in pastoral areas, and the remaining 40 per cent in highland areas that have been affected by erratic rains and where household food insecurity levels remain high.

Eight rounds of relief assistance are planned, with the model of food-cash splits being continued from 2017, based on market functionality.

Regarding the pipeline situation, for Somali region, WFP has food commodities to reach 1.7 million people for two full rounds of assistance. In other regions, JEOP has secured resources to cover food needs of 1.2 million people for four full rounds of assistance. However, in other regions outside the WFP-covered Somali region and JEOP-covered *woredas*, NDRMC has a 100 per cent shortfall starting in January 2018.

ESTIMATED PEOPLE IN NEED OF FOOD AND CASH ASSISTANCE, BASED ON THE TWO SCENARIOS

NUMBER OF IN-KIND BENEFICIARIES ABLE TO REACH WITH ALREADY SECURED RESOURCES IN THE FIRST HALF OF 2018 (BY OPERATOR)



Round	WFP	JEOP	Govt.
Round 1	1.7M	1.2M	-
Round 2	1.7M	1.2M	-
Round 3	-	1.2M	-
Round 4	-	1.2M	-

There are no resources secured yet for cash assistance in 2018. WFP has resources that can cover one round of food top-up for 1.2 million cash beneficiaries in Somali region; no food top-ups have been secured for remaining cash beneficiaries in the first half of 2018. This means that in the first two rounds of 2018, 2.9 million people (out of 3.0-4.2 million in need) are able to receive in-kind assistance and none (out of 2.0-2.8 million in need) are able to receive cash.

For the 5 million people in need scenario, the gap for the first half of 2018 amounts to approximately \$127.3 million (\$48.5 million for in-kind assistance, \$68.8 million for cash assistance, and \$10.0 million for food top-ups to cash beneficiaries). For the 7 million people in need scenario, the gap for the first half of 2018 amounts to approximately \$220.6 million (\$109.6 million for in-kind assistance, \$96.4 million for cash assistance, and \$14.6 for food top-ups to cash beneficiaries) (NB: the total cost of food and cash assistance for eight rounds is estimated at \$632 million for 5 million beneficiaries and \$820 million for 7 million beneficiaries). To note: the average lead time for the procurement and delivery of relief food is three months.



For 6 million people (Jan to June 2018) \$27.2 million is required.

Currently health partners are projecting some 36,000 AWD cases in 2018 with 6 million people at risk. To maintain an effective and timely Rapid Response Mechanism (early warning and rapid investigation and confirmation of cases), and ensure functioning of CTCs, CTUs and community level interventions as well as availability of medicines and medical supplies, \$5.6 million is required for the first half of 2018. Health partners will also target some 2.2 million drought and conflict-induced IDPs, host and drought affected communities throughout Somali region and in Arsi, Bale, Borena, East Hararge, Guji, West Arsi, West Guji, and West Hararge zones of Oromia region as well as parts of Afar and SNNP regions. Including NGO operational costs, primary health care and referral services, some \$21.6 million is required from January to end of June 2018 of which \$6.8 million is immediately required to prevent a break in the pipeline for emergency primary health care and outbreak response.



\$128.1 million is needed at the beginning of 2018, to manage early procurement of essential nutrition commodities to mitigate pipeline breaks later in the year, and sustain the emergency nutrition operations for the treatment of SAM and MAM, response coordination and NGO operation response.

The immediate scale up of response for the rising nutrition support needs for IDPs has been included in this total projected need. To ensure continuation of a comprehensive and effective Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) response from January to June 2018, \$22.8 million is required for Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) intervention including procurement of commodities and technical support, IYCFE promotion and increased IDP SAM treatment needs. An additional \$89.5 million for Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) management is required (this includes an additional a scale up of the MAM response in Oromia for additional 140,000 IDPs).

Some \$9.9 million is required to allow NGOs operations to continue in support of national service providers in remote and acutely affected areas. These funds will be used to cover up to 135 priority 1 woredas prioritizing the needs of both conflict and drought related IDP as well as host communities. This figure will be revised when the hotspot classification is finalized in January. In addition, \$4.35 million for a 3-month provision of Blanket Supplementary Feeding Program (BSFP) in 45 priority 1 woredas in Somali region is urgently needed and \$2.6 million is required against the annual cost of nutrition assessments and coordination of the overall response. As the Cluster Lead Agency, UNICEF secured \$1.05 million and some \$500,000 of the remaining \$1.55 million will be required in the beginning of 2018. To note: the average procurement lead time for emergency nutrition supplies is four months.

REQUIREMENTS, CARRY-OVER AND URGENT GAP FOR NUTRITION INTERVENTIONS

Activities	Requirements (\$ million)	Carry-over (\$ million)	Jan-Jun 2018 urgent gap (\$ million)
SAM	43.6	20.8	22.8
MAM	107.2	17.7	89.5
BSFP	10.1	5.8	4.3
NGO support	16.8	6.9	9.9
Coordination & assessments	2.6	1.0	1.6



\$800,000 (Jan to June) needed to ensure mobile protection services in conflict affected areas and \$1.5 million to establish safe spaces for women and children and family reunification in 40 sites targeting 600,000 IDPs.

The cluster plans to provide protection services in the 40 most vulnerable IDP sites (20 in Oromia and 20 in Somali regions). This will include psychosocial support, identification of protection needs and response to child protection, and gender-based violence (GBV) cases as well as ensuring GBV referral pathways to other required services for some 215,000 people. Learning and recreational activities will be provided for children and women for the age groups not attending Temporary Learning Centers.



\$45.2 million (Jan - June 2018) is required to target 3.7 million people.

In terms of immediate programmatic priorities, WASH partners prioritize installation of latrine facilities accompanied by intensive hygiene promotion messages for the newly conflict induced IDPs in Oromia and Somali regions and agreed that, \$8 million is urgently required to support some 700,000 people. At the same time, it is evident that some two million people will continue to depend on water trucking support at least until end of June 2018, including the new IDPs currently in Oromia and Somali region sites following renewed border conflicts. The funds for the ongoing NGO water trucking operations for almost all partners have been depleted in November 2017 and WASH partners will now require an additional \$12 million for water trucking until the end of June 2018. To avoid increased water trucking requirements, the WASH cluster also recommends prioritizing \$8 million to secure water sources through drilling and rehabilitation in lowland and IDP hosting areas along the Oromia/Somali regional border. The WASH Cluster also envisages implementing medium-term water system distribution interventions with the ultimate aim of eliminating the need for water trucking in IDP sites and other critical targeted areas, and for this, some \$11.2 million will be required. For IDPs and drought affected areas \$6 million is required for WASH NFI provision to reduce the eminent risk of AWD, scabies and other water borne disease outbreaks.