

17 July 2017

Key Issues

- Partners have prioritized urgent financial requirements for acute, time-sensitive humanitarian needs.
- The new humanitarian hotspot classification revealed an increase in *woredas* requiring immediate life-saving intervention from 192 to 228.
- Inter-regional AWD response coordination crucial ahead of Kulubi Gabriel religious event on 26 July.
- Amhara allocates close to ETB 31 million for flood mitigation; flash floods reported in Oromia

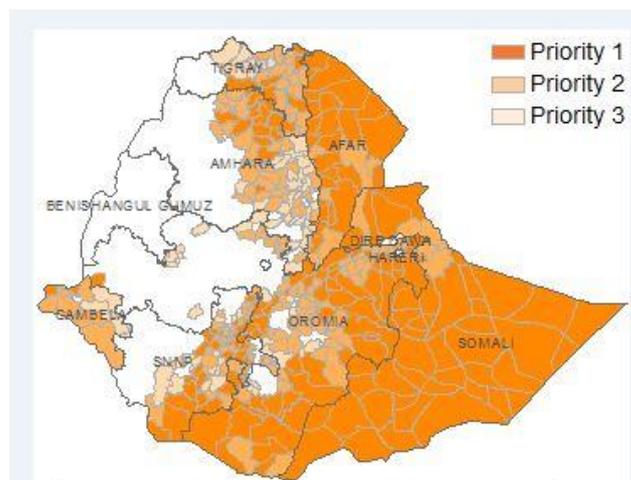
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Following poor performing spring rains, the number of people receiving humanitarian assistance has reached 7.8 million in the first quarter of the year and is expected to heighten further in the second half of the year. The joint Government and humanitarian partners' seasonal *belg* assessment is completed and reports are being consolidated. The Mid-Year-Review of the 2017 Humanitarian Requirements Document that will inform the actual humanitarian needs is expected to be launched in late July. Increased funding is needed urgently, in particular to address immediate requirements for food and nutrition as well as clean drinking water, much of which is being delivered long distances by truck as regular wells have dried up.

Partners prioritize humanitarian needs ahead of the launch of the HRD Mid-Year Review

Ahead of the launch of the Mid-Year Review of the Humanitarian Requirements Document (HRD), humanitarian partners have prioritized urgent financial requirements for acute and time-sensitive humanitarian needs for the remainder of the year. The total amount prioritized comes to US\$295.4 million of which \$118.3 million is in response to food needs in Somali region and \$177.1 million is for WaSH, Nutrition, Health, Agriculture, Emergency Shelter and Non-Food Items, Protection, Education and Common Services. Operational clusters have prepared a detailed breakdown of prioritization such as rolling-out of geographic areas of greatest need, response integration in terms of joint decision making, information sharing and operational coherence. The document was circulated to donors on 7 July 2017. Significant outstanding relief food and other sector requirements for other areas of the country are not included here and will be captured by the mid-year review of the HRD.

Meanwhile, the new humanitarian hotspot classification revealed an increase in Priority One (P1) *woredas* - requiring immediate life-saving intervention - from 192 in December 2016 to 228 in June 2017. This indicates a return to levels not seen since the height of the 2016 El Niño drought. Most of the areas classified as P1 are areas hit hardest by the current negative Indian Ocean Dipole-induced drought and the poor performance of spring rains this year. The overall increase of hotspot priority *woredas* (P1, P2 and P3) is from 454 to 461, which is partially explained by the creation of a number of new *woredas* in recent months. The hotspot classification was prepared through a rigorous assessment and analysis exercise involving Regional Governments, Clusters and the National Disaster Risk Management Commission.



Inter-regional AWD response coordination crucial ahead of Kulubi Gabriel religious event

According to the Oromia Regional Health Bureau (RHB), the Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD) outbreak is spreading in East and West Hararge zones. The RHB is conducting prevention and control activities with partners' support, but the effort is challenged by shortage of CTC kits, ORS and the lack of inter-regional coordination (Oromia, Somali, Harari regions and Dire Dawa City Administration). Of greater concern is the Kulubi Gabriel religious event in Meta *woreda* of East Hararge zone on 26 July, where Christians from around the country congregate to celebrate the day. This presents a significant risk for the spread of the outbreak throughout the country. The RHB has currently deployed a team of experts comprising staff from WHO to East and West Hararge to coordinate the AWD preparedness and response. However, a rapid scale-up of an inter-regional AWD preparedness and response coordination under the leadership of the Federal Ministry of Health is crucial to successfully avert the risk of further spread of the disease.

Amhara allocates close to ETB 31 million for flood mitigation; flash floods reported in Oromia

The Amhara Regional State Disaster Prevention and Food Security Program Coordination Office (DPFSPCO) has allocated close to ETB 31 million for flood mitigation activities in flood-risk areas of the region. The region is currently preparing a Regional Flood Contingency Plan which will be shared with humanitarian partners upon completion. Separately, four incidents of flash floods were reported in Adama, Arsi and East Shewa zones of Oromia region last week, destroying more than 50 houses and more than 800 hectares of fruit and vegetable crops, according to the National Flood Taskforce.