

Drought coupled with conflict in Somalia continues to affect the lives of more than 13 million people in the Horn of Africa region. Famine conditions continue to spread to more areas in southern Somalia. In addition to the Bakool agro-pastoral areas and the Lower Shabelle region that were declared famine areas in July, the agro-pastoral areas of Balcad and Cadale in Middle Shabelle, the Afgoye corridor IDP settlement, the Bay region, and the Mogadishu IDP community have also been declared as famine zones by the Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU) and Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWSNET).

WFP is targeting 9.6 million people affected by the crisis in the Horn of Africa region, with governments and other partners supporting the remainder. WFP is providing a critical life line to vulnerable Somalis in three countries. In Somalia, WFP has provided nearly 1 million people with life-saving food assistance and plans to reach a further 900,000 in the coming months. In addition, WFP assists an increasing number of Somali people who fled to escape the famine. Food assistance and life-saving nutritional support is currently provided to 546,000 refugees in Kenya and 240,000 refugees in Ethiopia. The influx of Somali refugees continues at an average daily rate of about 1,200 into Kenya and 150 into Ethiopia. Since the beginning of July, WFP has reached over 7.4 million people in the Horn of Africa with direct food assistance.

Country	Planned Beneficiaries	People Reached as of end August	Announced Contributions since 18 July (Million USD)	September to February Shortfall (Million USD)*
Somalia	1,900,000	990,000	174	0**
Ethiopia	3,500,000	3,500,000	99	127
Ethiopia (Refugee)	226,000	240,000	21	4
Kenya	2,700,000	1,325,000	44.5	63
Kenya (Refugee)	496,000	546,000	27	20
Uganda	703,000	703,000	8.5	7
Djibouti	109,000	109,000	2	2.5
HoA under discussion	----	---	9	(9)
Total	9,634,000	7,415,000	385	215

* Shortfalls reported are for the period of September to February. As a result, shortfalls for specific operations are higher than in the previous update which reported on the period from August to January.

** Based on the commitments and plans of Food Cluster members and other partners, WFP has revised its planned beneficiaries and will focus, in the coming 90 days, on meeting the urgent needs of 1.9 million people across Somalia.

I. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

- **1.9 million people targeted with life-saving food assistance in Somalia.** WFP has stepped up its dialogue with members of the Food Cluster and other partners operating in Somalia. Based on their commitments and plans to provide assistance in certain areas of the country, WFP will focus, in the coming 90 days, on meeting the urgent needs of 1.9 million people across Somalia. In August, WFP provided 990,000 people with life-saving food assistance and has concrete plans in place to scale up to 1.5 million in September with a view to moving towards its overall target.
- **General food distribution started in Mogadishu.** In Mogadishu, General Food Distribution has resumed as of 28 August 2011. Thus far, WFP has distributed food to 146,496 internally displaced persons in seven districts of Mogadishu, with plans to expand distribution to nine districts. The resumption of the General Food Distribution had been delayed due to security concerns.
- **Assistance to vulnerable children in refugee camps expanded.** Screening for acute malnutrition among children above the age of 5 in refugee camps has indicated a significant increase in malnutrition rates. As a result, in Dolo

Ado, WFP and partners expanded their supplementary feeding programme which previously only covered children under 5 to also include malnourished children 5–12 years of age. WFP provides them with fortified highly nutritious food to reduce their malnutrition levels. Targeted supplementary feeding for children above the age of 5 is also currently being considered for Dadaab.

II. WFP RESPONSE

SOMALIA

- WFP has been quick in augmenting its response in Somalia, scaling up to reach 990,000 people – a 28 percent increase on the monthly average before the famine declaration. The main challenge at present is to consolidate and expand operations in areas under WFP responsibility, rapidly increasing coverage to 1.9 million people in the coming weeks and stabilising an increasingly worrying nutritional situation.
- A shortage of available vessels willing to risk transport of commodities into ports in Mogadishu and northern Somalia, combined with congestion at the port of Mombasa, are creating considerable logistical challenges. WFP is exploring various options to overcome these constraints, including ad hoc chartering of vessels in the near term. A time charter vessel will be contracted from late September to alleviate the problem over the longer term.
- **North and Central Somalia:**
 - In the North, in Somaliland and Puntland, and Central regions of the country, WFP has thus far assisted 492,143 drought-affected beneficiaries through nutrition, relief, livelihoods, and social safety nets interventions.
- **Mogadishu:**
 - Supplementary feeding programmes as well as wet feeding are ongoing in established feeding centres across Mogadishu. As of 31 August, WFP had provided a total of 326,824 beneficiaries in Mogadishu with food assistance.
 - As demand for passenger transport to Mogadishu increases, regular UNHAS flights to Mogadishu now take place five times per week. The aircraft will also be able to accommodate the transport of light cargo. However, the shortage of fuel in Mogadishu Airport continues.
- **The Food Assistance Cluster:**
 - Conditions in Somalia are dynamic and varied and there are areas where cash and voucher interventions would be supported by an appropriate market response and other areas where they would likely cause significant inflation. Proper market and risk analyses should be undertaken in each area prior to deciding on which type of modality would be most appropriate.
 - With a significant number of actors planning to use food vouchers and others planning cash, the cluster will seek to coordinate implementation of these modalities in areas where markets are capable of responding to increased demand.
 - WFP has also deployed a team of experts from HQ to explore opportunities for cash and voucher programming in Mogadishu.
 - WFP is already working with a number of partners within the Food Cluster on a small-scale cash transfer programme which would support over 45,000 individuals.
- **Logistics Cluster** participants met this week to share information on shipping plans and pipelines in order to achieve closer coordination and avoid congestion at Mogadishu Port.

KENYA

- WFP is feeding over 546,000 refugees – including approximately 464,000 in Dadaab and 82,000 in Kakuma. In addition, WFP is currently feeding 1.3 million people in the arid lands region of Kenya.
- As of 29 August, more than 107,000 new refugees had arrived in Dadaab since the beginning of June. Of these, 63 percent have been fully registered. The rate of registration by the Kenyan Department of Refugee Affairs is improving, with an average of 1,027 persons per day registered during August compared to an average of 707 per day in July. WFP/UNHCR provide new arrivals with a one-day ration of BP5 biscuits and dry food rations until they are registered.
- While the initial plans, based on a rapid mid-season assessment in mid-May, were to scale up to 2.7 million people affected by drought in Kenya, the Long Rains assessment indicated that 3.75 million will need food assistance. WFP is currently in discussions with the Government of Kenya to determine responsibility for covering these additional needs.
- WFP intends to assist 80,000 vulnerable households with cash transfers in marginal agricultural areas. 23 percent have established bank accounts and will receive transfers within the next few weeks. Thus far, close to 3,000

households have received cash transfers. All beneficiaries who have not yet received cash continue to receive food rations.

- Distribution of highly nutritious Plumpy'Sup under targeted supplementary feeding for malnourished children under 5 has been rolled out in the three main Dadaab camps. Thus far 8,598 beneficiaries were assisted.
- Measles cases are increasing in Dadaab camps. Since January, 333 cases have been reported. Last week, 91 cases were reported compared to 71 the previous week. A vaccination campaign will begin soon.

ETHIOPIA

- WFP is currently supporting 240,000 refugees in Ethiopia. The total number of Somali refugees in Dolo Ado camps is now 120,900, out of which 80,400 arrived this year alone. WFP distributes HEBs to refugees upon arrival in the pre-registration area of refugee camps in Dolo Ado.
- A high mortality rate is reported in Kobe camp, attributed to a combination of factors such as malnutrition, measles outbreak, and hygiene-related problems. WFP has sent nutrition experts to the camp to provide technical advice on possible programme initiatives. Blanket supplementary feeding for all children under 5 and pregnant and lactating women is on-going in all Dolo Ado camps. In light of the critical nutrition situation, such assistance is planned to commence for older children as well. Measles and polio vaccination campaigns for children aged 6 months to 15 years are already taking place.
- WFP has requested the Ethiopian Government's Administration of Refugees and Returnees Affairs to facilitate the establishment of food distribution committees by refugee members with a view to increasing transparency.

DJIBOUTI

- WFP currently assists 17,000 refugees in Ali Addeh camp. Interventions include GFD and targeted supplementary feeding programmes.
- Following a re-assessment of the humanitarian situation and discussions with the Minister of Interior coordinating the national drought response, WFP decided to increase the GFD caseload in rural areas by 10,000, bringing the total to 70,000 people in September.
- Regarding nutrition, WFP coordinates its response with UNICEF, Action Contre la Faim and Médecins Sans Frontières within the Nutrition Cluster. WFP will increase the caseload of the current supplementary feeding programme to reach 7,000 children in the capital during the lean season, in addition to providing a protection ration for their families.

UGANDA

- August and September represents the peak of the lean season in Karamoja. To fill this immediate food gap, WFP continues food distributions for food-insecure households under the Karamoja Productive Assets Programme. The road conditions continue to be a challenge due to heavy rainfall over the past few weeks.

III. RESOURCING UPDATE

- One of WFP's highest priorities is to ensure that full support is given to organisations operating in areas of Southern Somalia which are not accessible to WFP. In this regard, we urge donors to provide additional funding support to those organisations that have both access and the capacity to deliver in these priority areas.
- Thanks to generous donations for Somalia, funding requirements have been met through the end of the year. However, WFP appeals for US\$7 million in additional resources to support our special operations for logistics and emergency telecommunications.
- WFP has received US\$385 million in announced contributions from more than 35 donors since famine was declared in Somalia the week of 18 July. In 2011, donors to WFP's operations in the Horn of Africa include Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Denmark, European Commission, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Republic of Korea, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mexico, Monaco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, OPEC, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, United Kingdom, United Nations (UN CERF and Common Funds), USA, Venezuela as well as Multilateral Donors and Private Sector Partners.
- Multilateral funds and contributions provided early in the year played a critical role by building resilience and ensuring pre-positioning and advance purchase of stocks needed for rapid scale up.
- WFP requires US\$215 million for the next six months (September to February) to ensure the critical supply of food as part of our life-saving programs.