



Targeted Supplementary Feeding: Extended Outreach Strategy - Child Survival Initiative (EOS/CSI)

Targeted supplementary feeding is a key component of the "2004 Humanitarian Appeal for Ethiopia". Micronutrient-fortified blended food for supplementary rations continues to be targeted to vulnerable groups to address their heightened nutritional needs. Where possible, these will be targeted by screening children under-5 through the United Nations Children's Fund - WFP EOS/CSI (in other areas that do not have nutrition screening facilities, supplementary food will be distributed in severely-affected districts to particularly vulnerable groups).

The overall objective of the EOS/CSI is to reduce the mortality and morbidity in children under 5 years of age. WFP and UNICEF are working in collaboration with government authorities to enhance health and nutrition. The EOS/CSI is implemented through the Regional Bureau of Health and the Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission, supported by UNICEF and WFP.

WFP provides supplementary food to vulnerable people screened by UNICEF: vulnerable children between 6-59 months, pregnant and lactating women. WFP transports food to storage locations accessible to the screened populations, who have ration cards.

WFP is following UNICEF in the execution of the EOS/CSI with respect to the timetable, area selection, administrative arrangements, formation of mobile teams and the provision of the UNICEF service package. The package includes: nutrition screening of the vulnerable groups for WFP supplementary food rations; vitamin-A supplement; de-worming; social mobilization to support routine immunization (including against measles for children under 1 year old); soap distribution; information, education and communication on infant/young child feeding; promotion of hand-washing and hygiene; family planning; and HIV/AIDS prevention. This will improve targeting of WFP supplementary rations and allow a synergy between health and nutrition interventions.

In Southern Nations Nationalities and Peoples' Region (SNNPR), 54 vulnerable Woredas have been selected as per the 2004 Humanitarian Partners Appeal (i.e., the Woredas listed for relief food assistance by the Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission). These 54 Woredas have a total population of 9.3 million, of whom 1.5 million are children under-5 and 280,000 are pregnant women and nursing mothers who are targeted for the UNICEF service package. The expected beneficiary population for WFP is 158,000 under-5 malnourished children (weight-for-height below 80%) and 140,000 malnourished pregnant women and nursing mothers (measured by mid under arm circumference less than 21 cm).

For the first phase (June), the total amount of food distributed to the first 10 affected Woredas in SNNPR was 935 tons (820 tons of fortified blended food and 114 tons of vegetable oil). In partnership with the UNICEF, the Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Bureau, community food distribution agents (community women volunteers) and Kebele officials, WFP provided supplementary rations to almost 25,000 malnourished children and over 8,000 pregnant women and nursing mothers in June. The second phase begins in July and will extend to the remaining 44 Woredas.