



Humanitarian Requirements for 2008

Government- Partners Joint Document

April 2008
Addis Ababa
Ethiopia

Humanitarian Requirements for 2008

Table of Contents

	Page
Acronyms/Glossary	2
<i>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</i>	3
1. REVIEW OF THE 2007 HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE	4
1.1 Humanitarian Situation Highlight in 2007	4
1.2 Review of Response to the 2007 Joint Humanitarian Appeal	4
1.2.1 Relief food	4
1.2.2 Health and Nutrition	7
1.2.3 Water and Environmental Sanitation (WES)	7
1.2.5 Coordination and Disaster Preparedness	7
1.3 Lessons Learned from the 2007 Relief Operation	8
2. HUMANITARIAN REQUIREMENTS FOR 2008	9
2.1 Ongoing Relief Activities	9
2.1.1 Relief food	10
2.1.2 Emergency water supply and sanitation	10
2.1.3 Emergency agriculture and livestock	11
2.2 Relief Food Needs	11
2.2.1 Needs assessment process	11
2.2.2 Objectives	12
2.2.3 Requirements	12
2.2.4 Sector coordination, implementation approach and monitoring	13
2.3 Non Food Needs	13
2.3.1 Health and Nutrition	13
2.3.1.1 Objectives	13
2.3.1.2 Requirements	14
2.3.1.3 Sector coordination, implementation approach and monitoring	15
2.3.2 Water and Environmental Sanitation	16
2.3.2.1 Objective	16
2.3.2.2 Requirements	16
2.3.2.3 Sector coordination, implementation approach and monitoring	16
2.3.3 Agriculture and Livestock	17
2.3.3.1 Objectives	17
2.3.3.2 Requirements	17
2.3.3.3 Sector coordination, implementation approach and monitoring	18
3. STRATEGIES FOR 2008 HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE	18
3.1 Strategy for Relief Food Response	18
3.1.1 Geographic Areas and Targeting	18
3.1.2 Relief Food Allocation and Distribution	18
3.1.3 Resource Accessibility	19
3.1.4 Linkage with Productive Safety Net Program	19
3.2 Strategy for Non-food Response	19
3.3 Cross-cutting Issues	20
3.3.1 HIV/AIDS	20
3.3.2 Gender and child protection	20
3.3.3 Education	21
3.3.4 Psycho-social support	21
3.4 Overall Implementation Approach (Coordination, Monitoring and Reporting)	21
Annexes	23-24

Acronyms /Glossary

AFD	Action for Development	IRC	International Red Cross
AHI	Avian Human Influenza (AHI)	ITNs	Insecticide-treated Nets
ARP	Annual Relief Plan	LPDA	Liben Pastoralist Development Association
AWD	Acute Watery Diarrhoea	M/BoARD	Ministry/Bureau of Agriculture and Rural Development
<i>Belg</i>	Short rain season from March to May (in highland and mid-land areas)	<i>Meher</i>	Long and heavy rain season usually from June to September (in highland and mid-land areas)
BSF	Blended Supplementary Food	NDPPC	National Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Committee
CARE	CARE/Ethiopia	NDPPF	National Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Fund
CBC	Case-by-Case Approach	NCA	Norwegian Church Aid
CERF	Central Emergency Response Fund	NGOs	Non- Governmental Organisations
COOPI	Cooperazione International	NMA	National Meteorology Agency
CTC	Community Therapeutic Centre	OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN)
<i>Deyr</i>	Short rain season from October to December (in Somali Region)	PRP	Preparedness and Response Plan
DPPA	Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Agency	PSNP	Productive Safety Net Programme
EFSR	Emergency Food Security Reserve	RUTF	Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food
EHNTF	Emergency Health and Nutrition Task Force	Region	The higher administrative structure, embracing zones and woredas
ENCU	Emergency Nutrition Coordination Unit	RVF	Rift Valley Fever
<i>Enset</i>	A root plant with wide leaves like banana, also called 'false banana', common in southern and western	SAM	Severe Acute Malnutrition
EOS/TSF	Extended Outreach Strategy/Targeted Supplementary Feeding	SDMT	Strategic Disaster Management Team
EWS	Early Warning System	SOS	Save Our Souls
FDPs	Food Distribution Points	SNNPR	Southern Nations, Nationalities & Peoples Region
F/MoH	Federal/Ministry of Health	SPHERE	Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization (UN)		
<i>Gu</i>	Main rain season from March to June (in Somali Region)		
<i>Hagaya</i>	Short rain season from September to November (Borena, Konso, and South Omo)	UN	United Nations
HIV/AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
		UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
HEA	Household Economy Approach	WFP	World Food Programme
HNEs	Health and Nutrition Emergencies	<i>Woreda</i>	Administrative/geographic unit, equivalent to district
HRF	Humanitarian Response Fund	WHO	World Health Organization (WHO)
IC	Information Centre	IOM	International Organization for Migration

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Results of the 2007 *meher* seasonal assessment anticipated an overall improved food security situation in 2008. Nevertheless, failure of *deyr/hageya* rains in most pastoral areas of Somali Region and Borena zone in Oromia Region, followed by poor-to-very poor *belg/ganna* rains resulted in extreme food insecurity in the south and south eastern pastoral and agro pastoral areas of the country. According to the National Meteorology Agency (NMA) forecast, the performance of rains is anticipated to be low (below average) in some parts of the country until May 2008. The low performance of the rains is forecasted to affect the *belg* crop producing areas of the country in the northeastern highlands, central and southern parts of Tigray, Amhara, SNNP regions. *Belg* planting has delayed in these areas, which is anticipated to result in poor or failed *belg* production in July/August.

Approximately 2.18 million people identified through the 2007 *meher* and through the recent rapid assessments and special situation reports from the drought affected areas of Somali, SNNP, Tigray and Oromia Regions are anticipated to require emergency food assistance. The majority of the beneficiaries are in Somali Region. This year's emergency situation is associated to unfavorable weather situation in the country, which is, by and large, related to the prevailing global climate change. The total food aid requirement for these beneficiaries is estimated at about 171,646 MT.

Additionally, an estimated 947,380 emergency beneficiaries in safety net areas are expected to be addressed through the existing safety net contingency resources. Nevertheless, emergency nutritional requirements in the safety net areas, amounting to 5,968 MT, will be covered through emergency relief resources as the existing safety net food resources contain only cereal, pulses and edible oil and not blended foods.

For the non-food sector- Health and Nutrition, Water and Sanitation, and Agriculture– emergency requirements in this Relief Requirement Plan are set with particular emphasis to address the adverse impacts of the prevailing drought conditions in different parts of the country for three months duration.

As the year progresses, any unanticipated emergencies will be captured through the regular National Early Warning System as well as in the forthcoming countrywide *belg/gu* impact assessments. Therefore, depending on the findings, necessary adjustments would be made and specific contingency plans or, if the need arises, specific flash appeals, would be prepared to ensure that effective and timely preparedness and response measures are taken.

A total of net **USD 67,737,459** is required to implement the humanitarian response plan in the year as per the following summary by sector. (Breakdowns are provided on the Tables, under section 2.)

Table 1: **Summary of the 2008 Humanitarian Assistance Requirement (in USD)**

Sector	Total Requirements	Available Resources	Net Requirements
General Ration: gross 177,614 MT*; available 137,106 MT; and net 41,684 MT (grain 30,950 and blended food 10,319 and oil 415)	86,283,290	67,987,955	19,214,615**
Supplementary Food for EOS/TSF: <i>gross 12,285 MT</i>	13,723,261		13,723,261
Food Sub-total	100,006,551	67,987,955	32,937,876
Health and Nutrition	26,557,478	1,012,755	25,544,723
Water and Sanitation	5,063,050	1,661,696	3,401,354
Agriculture	7,131,756	1,278,250	5,853,506
Non-food Sub-total	38,752,284	3,952,701	34,799,583
Grand Total	138,758,835	71,940,656	67,737,459

* Includes 5,968 MT of blended food needed for emergency beneficiaries in safety net woredas.

**Indicates the value of 41,684MT of grain, blended food and oil.

1. REVIEW OF THE 2007 HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

1.1 Humanitarian Situation Highlight in 2007

The 2006 joint Government-humanitarian partners' seasonal assessments in cropping and pastoral areas, which estimated emergency food requirements in 2007, indicated vast improvement in the food security prospects. Nevertheless, approximately 1.36 million people were identified to require emergency food assistance mostly from Somali Region and pocket areas of Oromia, SNNP, Amhara and Gambella regions due to cumulative effects of weather calamities.

The total food aid requirement for the identified 1.36 million emergency beneficiaries was estimated at 150,580 MT. The relief beneficiary figure was further revised based on the *belg* season assessment conducted in June 2007. With the improvement of the *belg* performance in most parts of the country, apart from pockets of pastoral and agro-pastoral areas in Eastern and Southeastern Ethiopia, there was a significant decrease in the number of relief beneficiaries during the second half of the year. Nevertheless, the relief food requirement was further revised during the fourth quarter of the year due to the deteriorating food security situation in Somali Region. Based on the findings of the UN mission led by the Humanitarian Coordinator, the number of relief food beneficiaries in the region was further increased to 950,000 from the initial 48,000 (*belg/gu* 2007 results), which raised the total relief food requirement to 208,760 MT.

Though incomparable with that of 2006, flooding incidences occurred in Gambella, Amhara, SNNPR, Tigray, Afar and Oromia regions in 2007. To avert the problem, enhanced flood prevention and preparedness measures were undertaken, including a Flood Alert and a Nationwide Flood Contingency Plan, aimed at mitigating the adverse impacts. Despite these measures, however, a number of people were affected in different ways.

Especially in the beginning of the year, there were reported cases of AWD in some localized areas of most regions. However, thanks to the unified efforts of the government and partners, the cases went on decreasing in the course of the year.

Moreover, desert locust infestation took place in southern and south eastern parts of the country during the fourth quarter of the year. The swarms were, however, brought under control before causing considerable damage. Unidentified camel disease was also reported to have occurred in some pastoral areas and the necessary measures were taken to subdue the incidence.

1.2 Review of Response to the 2007 Joint Humanitarian Appeal

1.2.1 Relief Food

At the beginning of 2007, the Government, in consultation with its humanitarian partners, introduced a new approach in the way emergency relief resources are allocated to 'affected' areas; it is called Case-by-Case and Area-by-Area (CBC) approach. In the previous years, food aid used to be allocated based solely on Government and humanitarian partners joint annual appeal, which estimates annual emergency relief resource needs based on seasonal assessments. An annual relief plan (ARP) was drawn based on the amount of relief resources shown on the Appeal, on the basis of which relief food was simply allocated and dispatched to the regions on a monthly basis.

The major shortcoming noted in the traditional process was that dispatch of food aid was undertaken based on the initial estimate, without confirming changing situations and actual needs on the ground. Also, the fact that certain areas (regions/woredas) were included in the APR gave an implication that these areas are entitled to receive the monthly relief ration.

Contrary to the traditional process, the new approach uses the results of the preceding year's *meher* and pastoral area seasonal assessments as a broad national estimate of emergency food aid requirements for planning and resource mobilization purposes. Specific acute needs are determined based on verification assessments. Upon the occurrence of adverse triggering conditions, woreda officials send relief assistance requests to their regional authorities. Regions, in turn, either forward the requests directly to the federal DPPA or deploy a technical team to the reportedly affected areas to verify the situation. Upon receiving alert report or emergency assistance request from the concerned region, DPPA initiates a joint rapid verification assessment in the reported hotspot areas. On the basis of the findings of the verification assessment decisions are made on appropriate intervention measures to be taken including relief resource allocation and close monitoring of the situation.

Thus, unlike the previous years, all relief food responses in 2007 (except in Somali Region) were effected using this new approach. Emergency beneficiaries in PSNP woredas were also identified and addressed using the new approach through the 20 percent contingency component of the existing safety net resources. To ensure appropriate implementation of the approach, a guideline was developed and disseminated to the regions.

In the process of implementation of the new approach, flexibility was applied in order to ensure quick response and avoid risks of loss of life. In the case of rapid-onset emergencies such as floods and conflicts, a one-month relief food ration was sent to the 'affected' areas upon request from regions while simultaneously deploying a rapid assessment team for verification. The CBC approach was not applied in allocating relief food aid to Somali Region during the major humanitarian operation in the fourth quarter of the year.

As can be realized, the new approach ensured verification of needs prior to resource allocation and enabled resources destined only to the needy areas, resulting in better utilization of scarce relief resources (see Table 2 below). However, as the approach is a new initiative, there were some challenges faced in ensuring rapid responses in limited cases. There were also some practical problems encountered in the implementation process such as shortage of vehicles for the recurrent case-by-case and area-by-area assessments.

Increased number of verification assessments, particularly with requests to undertake verification of needs for using the contingency safety net resources in PSNP woredas, in addition to verifying needs for emergency resources, was felt to overstretch the capacity of relief operators, reportedly resulting in assessment fatigue and reduced participation of the non-government partners. However, while it is understood that more has to be done in order to refine the implementation process and hence avoid potential delays in relief response, the overall assessment of the achievement of the new approach is quite encouraging and positive.

As indicated in Table 2 below, the total relief food distribution during the year accounts only for 31 percent (65,221 MT) of the total estimated requirement for the year – approximately 208,760 MT.

Table 2: 2007 Beneficiaries, Food Aid Requirements and Distributions by Quarter

Description	January-March	April-June	July-September	October-December	January-December
Beneficiary in million (quarterly average)	0.86	1.36	0.58	1.04	0.96
Requirement (MT)	46,785	72,516	31,503	57,960	208,764
Distributed (MT)	2,036	10,750	21,335	31,100	65,221*
Coverage (%)	4.4	14.8	67.7	54	31

**Distributed using the new case-by-case approach, with verification (except in the case of Somali Region).*

About 10 percent of the distribution in the second and third quarters of the year involved fast onset emergencies related to flooding and conflicts in some parts of the country; while, more than 93 percent of the fourth quarter distribution was destined to the relief operation in Somali Region, mainly in Fik, Gode, Korahe, Degehabur and Warder zones.

Related to relief delivery in Somali Region, a military escorting system was put in place during the fourth quarter with a view to facilitating the movement of relief trucks which indeed ensured safer delivery of food assistance to the affected people. However, despite the measures taken, there were still some cases of delays reported in the movement of relief food to the delivery points.

According to WFP, as part of the Enhanced Outreach Strategy, approximately 58,823 MT blended food was supplied to about 1,152,480 identified beneficiaries (368,794 pregnant/lactating women and 783,687 under five children¹) through the Targeted Supplementary Food program (TSF) in 264 chronically food insecure woredas. The TSF performance study carried out in three regions in July/August 2007 covering 903 children showed that 61.4 percent recovered, while 2.3 percent defaulted. The mortality rate was 1.7 percent with all child deaths occurring between the identification and the first food distribution, indicating that timely food supplementation has life saving potential for malnourished children.

¹ The reason for discrepancy in the EOS and TSF figures is linked to the data reporting between Federal Ministry of Health and the DPPBs due to different data sources as well as TSF beneficiary counting excluding double-counting of an individual receiving food twice in the same year. The actual exclusion rate (identified beneficiaries not receiving TSF) was assessed in the 2007 TSF Performance Study to be 2%. A joint registration book will be used by the EOS screening teams in 2008 in order to have one data source for provision of figures for EOS and TSF in the effort to address beneficiary number discrepancies in 2007.

1.2.2 Health and Nutrition

The 2007 Appeal sought US\$ 83.7 million in order to minimize human suffering and save lives by ensuring prompt and adequate response to the major health and nutrition emergencies (HNEs).

The FMoH in collaboration with partners undertook various emergency health and nutrition interventions during the year. According to figures from DPPA, US\$ 12,545,004 was secured from donors.

Measles outbreaks were reported in various parts of the country in 2007. Although, emergency response measures were undertaken, the outbreak extended to 2008.

Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD) epidemic that begun in 2006 continued in 2007. The FMoH in collaboration with partners closely worked with the regional health bureaus to respond to the epidemic. With the concerted efforts made, the number of reported cases declined over the course of the year and no cases were reported during the third week of December 2007. Continued effort is, however, required to sustain the level of control and prevent the recurrence of the disease during the current dry season as well as the upcoming rainy season.

In 2007, like in the previous years, the ENCU provided technical expertise related to nutrition issues and oversee quality control of nutritional assessments.

As part of emergency response in Somali Region, five mobile health teams were deployed in November and December 2007 to carry out and facilitate health and nutrition emergency interventions in the Region.

1.2.3 Water and Environmental Sanitation (WES)

A total of US\$ 19.1 million was called for in the 2007 Humanitarian Appeal for WES sector to address 3.5 million people that were estimated to be in need of water and sanitation services. The prevalence of AWD in some areas and flooding in Gambella, Afar, Amhara and Somali regions were major hazards related to the sector in the year. According to MoWR, donors have contributed US\$ 7.7 million (Annex I) addressing about 40.3 percent of the requirement for the sector. Response to the AWD hazard, however, was in excess of the requested amount.

More than 1.5 million people were addressed through emergency water supply schemes and more than two million people received sanitation and hygiene education messages in Oromyia, SNNR, Amhara, Afar, Tigray and Somali regions.

The 2007 response focused on rehabilitation and maintenance of non-functional water schemes in affected villages, health centers and schools. In addition, a considerable life saving emergency WASH interventions were undertaken through provision of water purification chemicals, on site water treatment with EmWAT Kits, provision of household water containers/jerry cans, distribution of plastic squatting slabs as well as body and laundry soaps and hygiene promotional materials in areas affected by AWD, flooding and in resettlement sites. Construction of new water schemes however, was not undertaken in 2007 apart from in critically affected parts of SNNP, Tigray, Amhara, Oromia and Somali regions.

1.2.5 Coordination and Disaster Preparedness

Disaster preparedness/capacity strengthening: The 2007 Humanitarian Appeal requested US\$5.6 million to address disaster preparedness/capacity strengthening needs, namely: improving stock-tracking

management and monitoring system and maintaining stock quality and pest control activities of the EFSRA; developing information technology and connectivity of the NDPPF; purchasing vehicles and communication equipment for sector capacity strengthening; supporting DPPA Information Center to implement the pilot regional connectivity project; and strengthen the coordination capacity of Emergency Sectoral Taskforces. However, apart from USAID's contribution of boats, plastic sheets, blankets, and life jackets worth US\$ 825,354 (14.7%), no other resource was secured in response to the above mentioned important needs related to disaster preparedness and response capacity enhancement.

Overall coordination: At the federal level, the DPPA and Sector Taskforces (STF) led by relevant line ministries have played major roles in coordinating both assessments and responses with support from UN agencies. These taskforces provide important fora at which donors, NGOs and UN organizations share information and plan/work with responsible government institutions.

In line with UN Humanitarian Reform, the establishment of the Cluster Approach under the direction of the Humanitarian Coordinator in May 2007 assisted in better organizing humanitarian partners to provide more systematic support in enhancing Government-led Sectoral Taskforces at the federal and regional levels. The UN cluster leadership approach aims to clarify sectoral roles and responsibilities of UN agencies in humanitarian undertakings. As part of the effort to enhance coordination, participation in the sectoral taskforces is a requirement for obtaining the Humanitarian Response Fund (HRF). The Cluster Leads also identify priorities to be funded by Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) in consultation with the concerned sectoral taskforce.

An enhanced cooperative arrangement between government, UN, donors and NGOs was crucial to ensure proper implementation of the new approach (CBC). Two technical committees were established by the Early Warning Working Group namely the Monitoring and Methodology Subgroups to support the implementation of the new CBC approach by closely monitoring the food security situation across the country and facilitating verification assessments including the development of verification assessment tools.

Based on lessons drawn from the 2006 nationwide flooding predicaments, efforts were placed in 2007 to enhance preparedness and mitigation measures. Regional and woreda level sectoral taskforces as well as regional emergency coordination forums were reactivated in some flood prone areas based on a flood alert issued by Early Warning Working Group (EWWG).

Moreover, in support of joint Government and UN relief operation, two temporary offices were established at Kebridehar and Degehabur towns of Somali Region to facilitate and effectively address emergency sectoral needs and activities underway in Fik, Gode, Korahe, Degehabur and Warder Zones of the Region.

1.3 Lessons Learned from the 2007 Relief Operation

The severe impacts of the 2006 floods underpinned the need for a comprehensive disaster risk management and better preparedness for all, particularly for fast on-set, emergencies. In this regard, prevention and preparedness measures were undertaken in 2007 including a nationwide flood alert and flood contingency plan, which largely mitigated the severe impacts of flooding in various areas.

The CBC approach for relief resource allocation, introduced at the beginning of the year, ensured better targeting and effective utilization of relief resources. Despite the above noted improvements with the new approach, some challenges were, however, encountered in its implementation including delay in undertaking verification assessments that led to delay in response in some cases. Limited capacity at

regional and woreda levels contributed to delay in the timely notification of early warning information. The frequency of verification assessment, particularly with the request to confirm relief needs for the utilization of contingency resources in PSNP woredas, in addition to verifying needs for the utilization of emergency resources, overstretched the capacity of humanitarian actors resulting in assessment fatigue and poor participation of the non-government partners.

Continued efforts should be put in place to further enhance/facilitate the verification assessment process as well as to strengthen early warning capacity at all levels. In this regard, in regions having better capacities, a workable arrangement needs to be designed whereby they are able to undertake their own assessments and take or propose appropriate response measures based on objective findings and needs. Regular monitoring information should also be used effectively to facilitate responses. Enhanced efforts should also be exerted to strengthen sectoral early warning mechanisms and contingency planning to facilitate timely and effective response against all forms of hazards.

During the year, the ENCU provided technical support to regional ENCUs of Amhara, Oromia, SNNP and Tigray to enhance coordination of nutrition information and develop the capacity to manage nutritional assessments in the regions.

Strengthening inter-sectoral coordination between ENCU and the EHNTF, WASH, Agriculture and Food sectors is important to further enhance emergency nutrition response through proper use of early warning, food security and nutrition information. With the introduction of emergency cluster approach that provides support to both federal and regional ENCUs, emergency nutrition response is expected to be better coordinated among all partners in 2008.

2. HUMANITERIAN REQUIREMENTS FOR 2008

2.1 Ongoing Relief Activities

Associated to the impact of the overall climate change hovering around the globe, the previous two consecutive rainy seasons in Somali Region (namely *gu*, longer season, which normally runs from April-June, and *deyr*, shorter season, which lasts from mid April to mid December) failed, severely affecting the availability of both pasture and water. This, in turn, has caused the decline of livestock as well as crop performance, and hence in dire food and water shortage for the people as well as animals.

Likewise, Borena and Guji Zones of Oromia Region have also been in a state of critical water, pasture and food shortages resulting from the prevalence of severe moisture stress associated to the failures of the last *gana* and *hagaya* rainy seasons* in the zones.

Moreover, many areas in SNNP Region received very poor sapien rains that are normally expected in November/December, followed by poor March-April *belg* rains, the combined effect of which has brought about prolonged dry spell and the failure of root, leguminous and horticultural crops (including sweet potato, Irish potato, Enset, haricot bean, sward bean, etc), that communities traditionally use to bridge their food needs between *belg* and *meher* rains. As a result, areas that are heavily dependent on

*What are called *gu* and *deyr* in Somali Region are respectively named as *gana* and *hagaya* in Borana and Guji zones, which share similar agro-ecologic and socio-economic conditions with the neighbouring Somali Region.

⁶ The relief operations have been underway in Somali Region since October 2007, in Borena since February 2008 and in SNNPR since March 2008.

these crops have, at the moment, faced serious food shortage problems. The areas most affected by the failure of the sapien and *belg* rains in SNNPR include Awassa Zuria, Boricha and Loke Abaya woredas in Sidama Zone; other woredas in Wolayita, Hadiya and South Omo Zones; and also Burji, Amaro and Alaba Special woredas.

Therefore, to avert the critical moisture deficiency situations prevailing in the above mentioned areas, the Government together with other humanitarian partners have launched coordinated response measures consisting of different forms of relief interventions. Some of the major undertakings underway are cited as follows.

2.1.1 Relief Food

A total of 25,577 MT food items have been delivered to Somali, Oromia and SNNP regions. Out of which a total of 10,097 MT was distributed to different woredas in Gode, Degehabur, Warder, Afder and Liben Zones of Somali Region in January and February. In Borena zone of Oromia Region, 3,269 MT has been distributed to 88,000 beneficiaries in February and March; and 1,531 MT dispatched for March distribution to different zones in the region. Additionally, a total of 10,680 MT has been allocated to affected woredas in SNNPR and dispatch is underway.

2.1.2 Emergency Water Supply and Sanitation

Government's current emergency water interventions in the drought affected areas of Somali, Oromia and SNNP regions include:

Table 3: Ongoing Water supply and sanitation responses

Region	Intervention	Cost (USD)	Implementing Organization
Somali	Maintenance/rehabilitation of water supply schemes	26,058	MoWR
	Supply of equipment/materials: 3 submersible pumps, 2 generators, 120,000 sachets of water purification chemicals	19,251	MoWR
	Supply of miscellaneous spare parts for maintenance and rehabilitation of malfunctioning water supply pumps/generators	12,978	MoWR
	Provision of water ration for Filtu and Hargele towns and surrounding kebeles.	NA	MoWR
	Technical support: Two crews dispatched to the Region for water well drilling in Afder and Liben zones.	NA	MoWR
	Disbursement of fund for water trucking	10,695	MoWR
		201,390	Regional Government
	Distributed two water trucks	NA	DPPA
	A total of 33 water trucks deployed	NA	UNICEF and NGOs
Oromiya	A total of 65 motorized deep	NA	RWB

(Borena, Guji, East Hararghe and Bale zones)	water wells, 68 shallow wells fitted with hand pumps, and 4 solar driven wells have been maintained		
	A total of 12 submersible pumps, 7 generators and 100 hand pumps for maintenance and rehabilitation of defunct water supply schemes.	127,200	MoWR
	Water rationing by deploying 11 trucks	76,898	RWB
	Water rationing in Borena and Guji zones using 3 trucks	NA	DPPA
	Two trucks for water rationing in East Hararghe	NA	Harai region and Aweday woreda administrations provided
	A total of 30 trucks for water rationing in Borena (21), East Hararghe (5), and Guji (4) zones.	NA	NGOs (including AFD, IRC, Goal, CARE, NCA, COOPI, SOS and LPDA)
	A total of 3 trucks for water rationing	NA	Communities in Borena
SNNP	Two submersible pumps	3,646	MoWR
	Maintenance and rehabilitation of malfunctioning water supply schemes	345,682	RWB
	Nine water trucks for rationing	NA	Various government agencies ²
	Five water trucks	NA	IRC (four) and GOAL (one)

2.1.3 Emergency Agriculture and Livestock³

In response to the drought emergency in Oromia Region, a total of 112,088 bales of fodder and 851.1 MT of concentrate have been supplied to 12,227 cattle in Borena and Guji Zones at 19 centers by different agencies including Pastoral Development Commission of the Region (36,855 bales), CARE (38,826 bales plus 361 MT), SC-USA (33,227 bales plus 274.1 MT), and FAO (3,180 bales and 220 MT). In Somali Region, SC-USA also delivered 4,087 bales of fodder and 43.7 MT of concentrate to Moyale woreda in Liben Zone.

2.2 Relief Food Needs for 2008

2.2.1 Needs assessment process

The seasonal countrywide food situation assessment in December 2007 that generally identified emergency food requirements for 2008 was conducted using both the household economy approach

² Including: regional water bureau (3); DPPA, Awassa town municipality; regional road authority; regional DPFS; Sidama zone health office; Sidama zone education office (one each)

³ It is worth noting here that the listed ongoing relief activities may not be exhaustive or complete as information/reports obtained from fields may not capture or encompass all activities carried out by all actors involved in the relief operations.

(HEA) and the traditional methodologies. The HEA was used in Somali, Afar, Tigray and SNNP while the traditional approach was used in the remaining regions, apart from Amhara where the combination of the two approaches was used.

Additionally, special situation reports from Somali, SNNP, Tigray and Oromia Regions, that have come after the issuance of the December annual assessment report, have been used to make the necessary adjustment on the number of needy population and the amount of relief requirements.

The *meher* and the subsequent *belg*/pastoral area seasonal assessments, which are the basis for the estimation of humanitarian needs, have indicated unfavorable weather conditions to occur in many parts of the country. The field assessments as well as meteorological forecasts, particularly for *belg* season, have indicated late and poor or below-normal rainfall in the *belg*-dependant areas. This adverse weather anomaly is, to a large extent, related to the prevailing global climate change that is threatening most regions of the world including Sub-Saharan Africa, to which Ethiopia is a part.

2.2.2 Objectives

The main objectives of emergency food interventions proposed for 2008 are to save lives by availing general ration, protect livelihoods and enhance resiliency to shocks, as well as address acute nutritional and health needs of especially at-risk groups including children, mothers and other vulnerable people.

2.2.3 Requirements

Approximately, 2, 181,467 people are estimated to require emergency food assistance in 2008. The total food aid requirement for these beneficiaries stands at about 171,646 MT (139,395 grain, 4,181 oil, 13,940 pulses, and 14,130 blended foods).

Table 4: **Beneficiaries and Relief Food Requirement Estimate by Region**

Region	Beneficiaries	Food Requirement (MT)
Somali	1,020,820	75,644
SNNPR	523,143	39,145
Oromia	543,624	47,845
Gambella	66,500	6,587
Benshangul	10,700	1,189
Tigray	16,680	1,236
Total	2,181,467	171,646

Moreover, additional 947,383 emergency beneficiaries in safety net areas are expected to be addressed through the existing safety net resources. Nevertheless, as mentioned in the above section, emergency nutritional (blended food) requirement in the safety net woredas has to be covered through emergency relief resources. The supplementary food requirement in the safety net areas is estimated at 5,968 MT. This brings the total relief food requirement to 177,614 MT.

The carry over emergency stock and confirmed pledges are estimated at 137,106 MT (grain 108,445, oil 3,766, pulses 15,116 and blended food 9,779) which gives a **net requirement of 41,684 MT** (grain 30,950 and blended food 10,319 and oil 415), approximately valued at US\$ 19,214,615.

Emergency food aid needs will be covered with the standard food basket, comprising of (in kg/person/month) 15 kg cereals, 1.5 kg pulses and 0.45 kg vegetable oil. The planned supplementary ration for distributions to particularly vulnerable groups identified by the community consists of 4.5 kg of Corn Soya Blend (CSB). The general ration provides approximately 2,100 kcal/person/day, whilst the supplementary ration 570 kcal/person/day.

Targeted Supplementary Food (TSF) is designed to address moderately malnourished under five children and pregnant/lactating women intended to contribute to enhance child survival (reduced mortality) rate. Approximately 13,285 MT of nutritious food is required for the two rounds of TSF response, which costs approximately US\$ 13.7 million.

Table 5: TSF requirements for two rounds

Region	Number of CU5 and PLW	Blended Food (MT)	Vegetable oil [MT]	Total MT	Net Requirement in USD
Somali	47,218	1180	135	2,630	
SNNP	162,630	4066	464	9,060	
Guji	12,494	312	36	696	
Borena	16,114	403	46	898	
Grand Total	238,456	5,961	681	13,285	13,723,261

2.2.4 Sector coordination, implementation approach and monitoring

Implementation of food aid relief programmes is for the majority of woredas undertaken by federal, regional and woreda level DPPA officials, and by NGOs concerned in their respective areas of operation. All partners have put in place systems for monitoring that the relief assistance is reaching the intended beneficiaries.

Monitoring of food dispatches from port to warehouse and distribution site will be carried out through the WFP/DPPA commodity tracking system, including comparison between allocations against requirements and allocations against dispatches for all partners (bilateral, NGOs and WFP). Relief agencies also monitor arrivals of food at woreda level, quantity of relief food distributed against planned and stock levels at distribution points.

Coordination: At the federal level, the Food Aid Taskforce serves as the main coordination body for relief food aid operations, and is also performing the task of cluster coordination for the food aid sector. The task force meets monthly or more frequently if the situation requires. At regional level, coordination is assured in similar fora established by the regional DPPBs.

2.3 Non-food Needs

2.3.1 Health and Nutrition

This emergency Health and Nutrition response plan is prepared to address population at risk of Health and Nutrition Emergencies (HNEs) due to the prevailing drought conditions in parts of Somali Regional State; Borena and Guji Zones of Oromia Regional State; and Sidama, Wolayita, Kembata-Tembaro and South Omo Zones of SNNPR. Poor performance of seasonal rains resulted in shortage of water and food supplies for both human and animal consumption in the above mentioned areas

2.3.1.1 Objectives

The overall objective is to minimize human suffering and avoid loss of lives by ensuring timely and adequate response to major HNEs in the drought affected areas.

2.3.1.2 Requirements

Approximately US\$ 25.5 million is required to address HNEs as outlined in the following paragraphs and summarized in Table 6 below for the coming three months period.

Acute malnutrition: The Enhanced Outreach Strategy nutrition programme has been ongoing in the drought affected woredas for the last four years. In 2007, 325 woredas were covered under the programme. Nutritional survey results in drought affected areas indicated SAM 1% and GAM 19% in Somali Region; SAM 2.20% and GAM 3.9% in Borena zone, Oromia Region; SAM 2.80% and GAM 7.20% in Guji zone, Oromia Region; and SAM 1.60% and GAM 5% in SNNPR. According to the EOS report of MoH a total of 36,318 children were severely malnourished in these areas. Based on this, 40,000 severe acute malnutrition cases require monthly assistance.

Due emphasis has been given in this emergency plan for addressing severe acute malnutrition in drought affected areas in the three regions mentioned above. Approximately 40,000 under malnourished children are expected to be addressed in the coming three months. In addition, as an EOS package training of health workers, procurement of anthropometric materials, therapeutic products, drugs and supplies (antibiotics, anthelmintics, and vitamin A supplementation) that requires US\$ 15.7 million.

Measles: Since November 2007, measles outbreaks have been reported in Somali Region and Borena and Guji zones of Oromia Region. The prevailing drought situation is anticipated to further exacerbate the outbreak. Approximately 6.5 million under-fifteen children are planned to be addressed with at least one dose of measles vaccination and 6.7 million under-five children with Vitamin A supplementation and deworming.

Low coverage of routine measles immunization, large birth cohort and expected measles vaccination failure contributed to increased number of measles cases. Furthermore, the routine measles vaccination coverage is not uniform across the country, the quality of outbreak investigation is unsatisfactory, and the response to the outbreak is not standardized. Such factors resulted in measles outbreaks, which are anticipated to affect more areas in 2008. In order to prevent further spread of the prevailing measles epidemic, and taking into account hazards that reduce the effectiveness of measles immunization such as drought, flood and displacement, supplementary immunization activities need to be undertaken for which approximately US\$ 6 million is required. The routine EPI does not have funding to cover the supplemental immunization activities. Furthermore, there is a need to shorten the interval between follow up campaigns to two years from three years. In this regard, the Ministry of Health has started implementing the second measles follow up campaign phase by phase since the fourth quarter of 2007. Vaccination campaigns were conducted in Afar region, East and West Harargeh zones of Oromia Region in 2007 and Somali region in February/March 2008.

Malaria: The FMOH runs a Malaria Prevention and Control Programme that has been operating successfully. Emerging epidemics are, therefore, planned to be addressed through the regular program.

Meningitis: Ethiopia is one of the countries lying in the 'meningitis belt', and has been susceptible to meningitis epidemic since 1935. WHO has issued an alert for possible meningitis outbreak in 2008, on the basis of which the country prepared a National Meningococcal Meningitis Preparedness and Response Plan to HPN Donors. The funding requirement is not, therefore, included in this emergency response plan.

Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD) and other communicable diseases: In 2006 and 2007 AWD epidemic had a protracted course, affecting the country. Although cases of AWD has not been reported from

regions since December 2007, adequate preparedness is vital as shortage of water supply and possible disruption of personal and communal hygiene might lead to the recurrence of the disease.

Other communicable diseases might occur in the current drought season, which requires adequate preparedness by strengthening health service including re-stocking health facilities in the three drought affected regions with Emergency Health kits and mobilizing mobile clinics /Mobile Health Team/ in parts of Somali Region. In 2008 for the control and prevention of Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD) and other Communicable Diseases, a total of US\$ 3.9 is required for provision of drugs/supplies, emergency health kits and operational cost for the mobile clinics to address more than 5.6 million beneficiaries.

Strengthening health services in emergency settings: Health services are crucial in addressing potential health problems in emergency situation. The deployment of mobile teams in parts of Somali Region to address health and nutritional problems, re-stocking health facilities with emergency drugs and supplies and providing training to health workers on emergency case management and coordination is part of this response plan. Approximately US\$ 498,000 is required to cover running cost of Mobile Health Teams in Somali Region.

Hygiene and sanitation: Most preventable diseases are linked to low hygiene and sanitation coverage. Enhancing hygiene and sanitary promotion and improving waste disposal system is, therefore, vital component of this emergency response plan.

Table 6: Requirements for Responses to Health and Nutrition Emergencies

Intervention Areas	Beneficiary Number	Requirement in USD	Available Fund from CERF in USD	Net Requirement
Acute Malnutrition Management	40,000	15,735,843	1,012,755	14,723,088
EOS	258,800			
Measles	6,660,656	6,000,000		6,000,000
Acute Watery Diarrhoea and Other Communicable Diseases		3,946,508		3,946,508
Support for strengthening Emergency Health Service:				
• Mobile Health Team Running Cost in Somali Region		498,000		498,000
•Emergency Health Kit		356,727		356,727
Hygiene and Sanitation		20,400		20,400
Total		26,557,478	1,012,755	25, 544, 723

Source: Proposal from MOH (HNE Taskforce)

2.3.1.3 Sector coordination, implementation approach and monitoring

The MoH and the Regional Health Bureaus will take the lead in the implementation of emergency health and nutrition activities outlined in this Relief Requirement Plan. The federal emergency Health and Nutrition Taskforce will provide technical assistance to the Ministry and will ensure linkages with the regional taskforces. Close coordination between the ENCU and EHNTF is essential. NGOs and UN partner agencies will work in close coordination with the MoH to avoid duplication of efforts and to promote the flow of information between agencies. In addition, the MoH and the Health and Nutrition Taskforce will monitor the response.

2.3.2 Water and Environmental Sanitation

2.3.2.1 Objective

The main objective of the Emergency Water, Sanitation and Hygiene interventions is to reduce human suffering due to water shortages caused by the present drought in Somali, SNNP, Oromia, Afar and Amhara regions.

2.3.2.2 Requirement

In 2008, the WES sector requires an estimated net **US\$ 3.4 million** (Table 7) to address emergency water and sanitation requirements of approximately 1.9 million people in drought affected areas of Somali; Borena, Guji, East Hararghe and lowlands of Bale in Oromia Region; Loka Abaya and Boricha woredas in Sidama zone; Duguna Fango in Wolayita zone; Alaba Special woreda and some pocket areas of in Gumer woreda in Gurage zone in SNNP; Waghamera woreda in Oromia zone, North and South wollo zones of Amhara; and Elidar and parts of Dubti woredas in Afar regions. The requirement is for a duration of three months.

To address the problem, water trucking, water purification and treatments with water purification chemicals and EmWat kit, rehabilitation of schemes are identified by the regions as major interventions.

Table 7: **Emergency Water and Environmental Sanitation Requirement** (in USD)

Intervention Activities	Somali	Oromia	SNNP	Amhara	Afar	Total
Rehabilitation and maintenance of existing schemes	249,305	548,983	449,872	154,011	53,476	1,455,647
Water trucking	1,236,043	493,983	479,733	0	53,476	2,263,235
Water purification and treatment	69,198	420,801	0	115,508	42,781	648,288
Support to community operation, maintenance, and management of water supplies	25,048	182,956	0	57,754	32,085	297,843
Assessment monitoring and evaluation	75,145	91,478	0	38,503	21,390	226,516
Technical assistance (Federal and Regional level)	50,097	91,478	0	19,251	10,695	171,521
TOTAL	1,704,836	1,829,679	929,605	385,027	213,903	5,063,050
Available at regional level	270,372	230,836	3,646	0	0	504,854
CERF						1,156,842
Net/Gap	1,434,464	1,598,843	925,959	385,027	213,903	3,401,354

Source: Proposal from MoWR (WES Taskforce)

2.3.2.3 Sector coordination, implementation approach and monitoring

At federal level, the Ministry of Water Resources, in cooperation with the Ministry of Health, is the core institution responsible for management of the planned emergency WASH response interventions. The existing Emergency Water and Environmental Sanitation Taskforce at federal level and the revitalized taskforces in some regions supported by the cluster leads are expected continue to play key coordination role in 2008. Moreover, reactivation of the WASH Taskforces in regions where they are non-existent and strengthening of the revitalized ones is also crucial. Regular exchange of information between the various WASH Taskforces will be strengthened. Efforts will continue to set up institutional structures by creating permanent emergency WASH management offices mainly at regional levels.

2.3.3 Agriculture and Livestock

2.3.3.1 Objective

The overall objectives of the 2008 emergency agriculture response plan is to protect the livelihoods of at risk households through coordinated and effective implementation of prioritised interventions in drought affected areas of Somali, Oromia, SNNP, Amhara and Afar regions.

2.3.3.2 Requirement

A total of US\$ 5.8 million is required to address prioritized emergency and recovery requirements in crop and livestock sub-sectors in Somali, SNNP, Afar, Amhara and Oromia regions.

Table 8: **Emergency Agriculture Requirement (USD)**

Program	Number of beneficiaries		Requirements USD
	Households	animals	
Animal feed		333,255	2,624,498
Animal health Service		2,717,749	1,040,185
Commercial de-stocking		79,027	54,358
Crop seed provision	200,611		2,690,946
Operational cost			721,769
Total			7,131,756
Available CERF			1,278,250
Net Requirement USD			5,853,506

Source: MoARD (Agriculture Taskforce)

Livestock sub-sector: In this sector animal feed, animal health and commercial destocking have been prioritized as immediate requirements.

Animal feed: Shortage of pasture is anticipated for *belg* benefiting eastern parts of the country due to late onset of *belg* rains. It is important to provide feed including hay and concentrates to protect at risk breeding animals. An estimated US\$ 3 million is required to address a total of 333,255 animals for one month (Annex II).

Animal health: The primary purpose of the livestock relief intervention is to improve the immunity and health of livestock through minimizing the effects of diseases induced by drought. Emergency animal health intervention will mainly focus on prophylaxis and curative treatment since vaccinated and treated animals are expected to better tolerate the impact of disaster and contribute more to household food-security. Vaccination will be administered before the animals are severely affected and lose their immunity. Therefore, this particular intervention needs to be implemented only before the situation gets deteriorated. A total of 2,717,749 livestock are targeted for vaccination and treatments against different types of diseases and the budget required for the intervention is estimated at US\$ 1.2 (Annex III).

Commercial de-stocking: Emergency de-stocking or intentional removal of at risk animals from severely affected areas before their body condition deteriorated is very vital to minimize loss and hence increase

income of pastoralists and agro pastoralists. The income generated through commercial de-stocking will also enable pastoralists to meet their food and other basic needs and consequently prevent them from depleting their assets and engaging in negative coping strategies. Additionally, the intervention will contribute to minimize pressure and competition over scarce pasture and water resources and therefore allow protecting the breeding stocks. A total of 79,027 animals are targeted for this intervention and the estimated cost to facilitate the commercial de-stocking is US\$ 54,358 (Annex IV).

Crop sub-sector: Previous seasons poor harvest due to late onset, erratic distribution and overall moisture stress conditions in some pocket areas and as forecasted by NMA below average *belg* rain in some areas of the region will have direct impact on the type of crop to be planted and area to be covered. As a result, critical shortage of seeds of short-cycle crops is anticipated and therefore supply of crop seeds such as maize, sorghum, teff, barley and pulses to be very important to enable farmers and agro-pastoralists to pursue crop production in the coming rainy seasons. The seed intervention targets a total of 200,611 farming households in 149 disaster-affected and seed-insecure woredas. The total fund required for the intervention is US\$ 2.9 (Annex V).

2.3.3.3 Sector coordination, implementation approach and monitoring

The emergency interventions will be implemented by Regional/Woreda Agriculture and Rural Development Bureau and/or Livestock, Crop and Natural Resource Development Bureau. Selection of beneficiaries will also be the responsibility of the regional/woreda burueax and other implementing agencies with active involvement of beneficiaries. MoARD will coordinate, monitor and provide the necessary support for the smooth implementation of the plan. The overall coordination responsibility rests on Emergency Agricultural Task Force. Humanitarian agencies are also expected to a greater role in mobilizing resources and take part in the implementation of the plan. This emergency and recovery plan is expected to be implemented during the coming three months.

3. STRATEGIES FOR 2008 HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

3.1 Strategy for Relief Food Response

3.1.1 Geographic areas and targeting

Targeting of emergency beneficiaries for general ration at household level will involve direct participation of communities. Whereas, supplementary food is targeted to individuals identified as malnourished through nutrition screening, or, where this is not feasible, to especially vulnerable or at-risk groups, including children under-five, pregnant/nursing women and sick/elderly people also selected by the communities.

3.1.2 Relief food allocation and distribution

Allocation and distribution of relief resources will be undertaken based on the CBC approach that allocates emergency relief based on verification assessment upon request by the regional authorities when communities experience shocks that needs humanitarian intervention. The new approach employs two safety measures: The first one is that, based on the feedback of the verification team on the field, emergency intervention supplies can immediately be dispatched without waiting for formal report from the team. The second one is, in cases of unforeseen sudden occurrences that require immediate response, a one-month relief resource will be dispatched to the affected regions to be followed by a verification assessment.

Relief food distribution to eligible beneficiaries will follow the established principles and modalities, where practicable. Accordingly, all able-bodied persons will receive general food in exchange for their labour on certain community based works, while gratuitous relief will be provided to labour-poor and

other very vulnerable beneficiary households, in addition to supplementary feeding supplies. Supplementary feeding is basically intended to support joint efforts to address global acute malnutrition (GAM) and mortality problems. The national nutrition strategy that has been recently launched is expected to reduce the prevalence of acute malnutrition in vulnerable areas of the country.

3.1.3 Resource accessibility

Over the past years the Emergency Food Security Reserve Agency (EFSRA) has played an important role as a source of relief food from where resources have been readily available against guarantee of repayment. This function has allowed for rapid response to food crises, while waiting for consignments to arrive into the country or local procurement to be undertaken. However, during the first quarter of 2008 it has become apparent that EFSRA stocks are at critically low level and unless significant payments of outstanding loans are effected shortly.

Moreover, although Ethiopia has had successive seasons of good harvest, commodity prices, particularly of cereals, has continued to rise when compared to prices two years ago. Many reasons have been attributed to the inflation, which occurred simultaneously with the general increase in commodity prices in the international markets and the inflation of prices for non-food items prevailing in the country. Since 2006, the government of Ethiopia has also restricted export of cereals and local purchases by aid agencies, in an attempt to control inflation of prices. Thus, the possibility for local purchase of cereals in large quantity appears limited in the foreseeable future.

Taking into consideration the factors above, it is of utmost importance that resources are mobilized timely in order to ensure availability of relief food stocks in-country to respond to the growing food shortage in Ethiopia.

3.1.4 Linkage with Productive Safety Net Program

The *meher* seasonal assessments identified approximately 947,383 beneficiaries under safety net programme require emergency food assistance in 2008. These emergency beneficiaries identified in PSNP woredas will be addressed by utilizing 20 percent contingency funds. Emergency blended supplementary foods (BSF) requirements will, however, be addressed through emergency relief resources as the existing safety net food resources contain only cereal, pulses and edible oils.

In order to meet basic nutritional needs in the safety woredas, it is necessary to ensure the supply of nutritionally adequate supplementary food to these areas.

3.2 Strategy for Non-food Response

3.2.1 Health and Nutrition

The implementation of health and nutrition emergency response in Ethiopia is conducted through various strategies including the management of severe acute malnutrition, Enhanced Outreach Strategy/Supplementary Feeding (EOS/SFC), comprehensive mobile teams, and strengthening of health systems, using the Health Extension Program, re-stocking of health facilities, and improving the capacities of human resources and overall emergency response planning management.

The MoH, in cooperation with the Regional Health Bureaus, will take the lead in the implementation of emergency health and nutrition interventions. The federal emergency Health and Nutrition Taskforce will provide technical assistance to the Ministry and will ensure linkages with the regional taskforces.

3.2.2 Water and Environmental Sanitation

At the federal level, the Ministry of Water Resources, in collaboration with the FMoH, will remain as the core institution responsible for the management of the planned WASH response, supported by Water and Environmental Sanitation taskforces both at Federal and regional levels. Efforts will be placed to establish/strengthen Zonal and Woreda level WASH taskforces to enhance on ground implementation and information flow. At regional level, water trucking interventions are coordinated by DPPBs.

3.2.3 Strategy for addressing unanticipated emergencies in 2008

The multi-sectoral Early Warning Working Group (EWWG) as well as sectoral emergency taskforces will continue to monitor hazards across the country and will alert Government and humanitarian partners to ensure that timely measures are taken in order to effectively address potential humanitarian situations that may appear in the course of the year. In such cases, to facilitate resource mobilization and enhance response, contingency plans as well as flash appeals will be prepared as and when the need arises.

Meanwhile, mid year assessments, including mid-*belg/gu*, will also be used to update or revise the 2008 sectoral relief requirement response plans, if situations so demand.

3.3 Cross-cutting Issues

3.3.1 HIV/AIDS

The aim of including HIV/AIDS component in emergency interventions is to ensure that the emergency response activities do not aggravate beneficiaries' vulnerability to HIV infection, and to minimize the impact of emergencies on the HIV/AIDS situation by providing minimum standards of prevention, awareness, protection, care and support within the humanitarian response. To be effective, it is necessary that such activities are appropriate for the specific needs, vulnerabilities and skills of different groups, such as adolescents, young people, and women. Humanitarian partners operating in emergency areas should link their activities with existing HIV/AIDS structures of the government at all levels.

3.3.2 Gender and child protection

Because gender is a key element in defining social attitudes, economic inequalities and division of labour at family and community level, it both affects and is effected by people's response to humanitarian situations. The same applies to issues relating to children and adolescents, whose position in their families and communities are seriously affected by humanitarian situations. Without bearing in mind the specific needs of women, men, children and adolescents in these situations, interventions may lead to inadequate or inappropriate responses.

Gender and child protection activities require that all actors are committed to conducting gender and age disaggregated vulnerability assessments and analyses and then implementing and following up on gender and age responsive programmes. This will require coordination and capacity development of organisations working in humanitarian situations, which includes training in codes of conduct relating to sexual exploitation and abuse. In addition and in line with the core legal instruments ratified by the country, the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality and impartiality should be central to the responses undertaken so as to ensure adequate assistance and protection of the most vulnerable community members to whom access should be facilitated. Five main areas should integrate gender and child protection issues: registration, tracing and reunification; nutrition and food security; health and reproductive health; protection and security; and participation of the affected people in decision-making and implementation.

3.3.3 Education

In emergency situations, education has often been a key intervention in ensuring a return to normalcy, minimizing psychosocial stresses, and helping children continue to their schools. Emergency situations often disrupt education, resulting in decreased school attendance, increased drop-out rates, teachers migrating from their assigned school, and school closures as currently reported in some of the most affected areas of Oromia and Somali Regions. Humanitarian interventions should, therefore, ensure that a functioning primary school system is available in each affected area, with particular attention to enrolled girls. Strategies to support education in this context include: setting-up of temporary learning spaces and/or providing different forms of supports needed to ensure the continuity of functioning schools under crisis situation or reopening of disrupted ones.

3.3.4 Psycho-social support for people affected by emergencies

Emergencies, both manmade and natural, have a wide range adverse impact at individual, household, community and societal levels including psychological and social impacts. Emergencies threaten to erode normally protective supports, increase the risks of diverse problems and tend to magnify pre-existing problems of social injustice and inequality. Such impacts may threaten peace, human rights and development. One of the priorities in addressing emergencies is thus to protect and improve people's mental health and psychosocial well-being. Achieving this priority requires coordinated action among all humanitarian actors. Cognizant of these facts, the associated mental health problems and the required pscho-social support needs to be integrated in emergency response identified in this response plan.

3.5 Overall Implementation Approach (Coordination, Monitoring and Reporting)

The National Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Committee (NDPPC), being the highest body in the humanitarian arena, will provide guidance and oversee coordination of agreed tasks. The overall leadership for humanitarian response will be that of the Government at all levels: federal, regional, zonal and woreda, with the participation of relevant partners: donors, UN agencies, NGOs and communities at large.

The overall coordinating body, the DPPA, through the Food Aid Taskforce, will review the relief food situation in particular and also the overall emergency nonfood situation in general. Eventually, it will advise the NDPPC as well as the concerned partners in undertaking coordinated, timely and comprehensive emergency response in the year. Similarly, the sectoral taskforces led by Ministry of Health, and Ministry of Water Resources, and Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development will, on their part, be responsible to coordinate, monitor and report on emergency response interventions in their respective sectors, in partnership with relevant UN, NGOs and Donors.

Effective coordination among Government, UN agencies, NGOs and Donors is crucial to ensure proper implementation of the new approach and strategies introduced by the Government in addressing humanitarian needs. The case-by-case approach introduced last year in the way relief resources are allocated needs continued support from Government and humanitarian partners in undertaking detailed verification assessments and make most efficient use of limited resources. The two technical committees

– Monitoring and Methodology - established under the Early Warning Working Group to support the implementation of the approach also need to be strengthened.⁴

The respective UN Cluster Leads will continue to provide more systematic supports in enhancing Government-led Sectoral Taskforces at the federal and regional levels. The UN Strategic Disaster Management Team (SDMT), comprising of WFP, UNICEF, WHO, FAO, UNDP, IOM and OCHA, serves as the key instrument for the coordination of the UN humanitarian response. These agencies will work together to support pertinent federal humanitarian operating/coordination institutions, i.e. DPPA, MoH, MoWR and MoARD.

In 2008, further enhanced coordination appears to be crucial in monitoring the humanitarian situations in the country to ensure the timely preparation of contingency plans to address unanticipated emergencies.

There is a felt need to closely monitor and record humanitarian response activities against sectoral relief requirement plans. The sectoral taskforces led by the DPPA, Water Resources, Health, and Agriculture and Rural Development Ministries will monitor and keep records of emergency response activities in their respective areas and the Ministries, through the chairpersons of the Taskforces, will submit progress reports to DPPA on a quarterly basis. Besides other related tasks, the Emergency Food Aid Taskforce will follow up the status of TSF distribution through progress reports from the EOS/TSF Technical Working Group; whereas the HNE Taskforce will follow up the implementation of EOS Program. All the taskforces will create the necessary linkage and collaboration with the relevant regional offices. Overall, DPPA will compile the sectoral monitoring reports and convene bi-annual progress review meetings involving sectoral emergency taskforces, regional representatives (where practical), donors, relevant UN agencies and NGO representatives.

⁴ The monitoring subgroup is responsible for monitoring emergency hazards across the country to alert EWWG. It also organizes verification assessments by reviewing regional request for assistance; while, the methodology subgroup is responsible for developing assessment tools and check lists for verification assessments.

Annexes

Annex I: Donors' Contribution for 2007 Health and Nutrition Appeal.

Donor	Amount(USD)	Imple. Agency	Region
CERF	1,950,000.00	UNICEF	All regions in response to AWD
CERF	600,000.00	UNICEF	Amhara, Oromia, SNNPR
Spain	394,745.00	UNICEF	Afar, Amhara, Somali
Ireland	216,717.84	UNICEF	all regions in response to AWD
Belgium	372,973.00	UNICEF	Somali and Oromia
EPF	712,745.00	UNICEF	Somali
HRF1	681,548.00	UNICEF	Afar
HRF2	701,174.21	UNICEF	Amhara, Oromia, SNNPR, Tigray
USAID/OFDA	465,494.00	CHF	Somali
HRF	18,733.00	CARE	Amhara
Gates &Belinda Foundation	197,066.00	CARE	Oromia/Borena zone
HRF	46,709.00	FHI	Amhara
HRF	72,871.00	World Vision	Amhara
USAID/OFDA	815,843.00	IRC	Oromia/SNNP
HRF	558,397.00	Oxfam GB	Afar
HRF	99,250.00	Oxfam GB	SNNPR
Total (original)	7,687,548.21		
Total (corrected)	7,904,266.05		

Source UNOCHA

Annex II: Emergency feed requirement by Region for 2008

Regions	Number of targeted		Total feed		Estimated cost USD
	woredas	cattle	Hay bales	concentrate qt	
Afar	9	9,027	54,180	1,358	265,758
Amhara	41	220,118	0	11,598	346,028
Oromia	16	104,110	497,273	0	2,012,712
Operational cost					393,675
Total	66	333,255	551,453	12,956	3,018,173

Annex III: Emergency livestock health requirements by Region

Regions	No. of Targets		Fund Requirement, USD			
	Woredas	Livestock	drugs	vaccines	equipments	Total
Afar	9	9,027	32,678	0	0	32,678
Amhara	41	297,210	314072	129,636	0	443,708
Oromia	16	104,110	78336	12,850	0	91,186
SNNP	41	1,058,530	30154	39,933	8,098	78,186
Tigray	5	302,000	96316	27,921	0	124,237
Somali	39	946,872	211158	29,474	29,558	270,190
Operational cost						156,028
Total	151	2,717,749	762,714	239,814	37,656	1,196,213

Annex IV: Emergency Destocking plan

Regions	Number of targeted		Requirement in USD
	woredas	cattle	
Afar		9,027	4,358
Oromia		70,000	50,000
Total		79,027	54,358

Annex V: Emergency seed requirements by Region for 2008

Regions	Number of woredas	House Holds	Area to be covered ha	Seed (Tones)	Requirement in USD
Afar	3	2,662	1,641	30	21,941
Amhara	48	19,940	21,243	2,536	425,915
Oromia	40	57,301	28,651	603	382,511
SNNPR	36	77,308	12,773	3,330*	1,302,304
Tigray	6	38,400	9,600	785	513,275
Somali	16	5,000	2,500	323	45,000
Operational cost					172,066
Total	149	200,611	76,408	7,607	2,863,012

*excluding 36 million sweet potato cutting