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Timely response to Somali Flood disaster saved lives

Timely response by the Federal Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission (FDPPC), the Regional Government and NGOs to mitigate the effects of the flood in Somali Region saved many lives.

Ato Abdulahi Mehadi Ali, Somali Region Food Security and DPPB Head, and Ato Remedan Haji Ahmed Aid programs Head, said, in an interview with DPPC Public Relations team, timely intervention made by the DPPC in collaboration with the Region and humanitarian partners saved thousands of lives from the sudden flood that occurred in April.



According to the Regional officials, 178 localities in 11 weredas of Gode, Jijiga, Fik, Degehabur and Kelafo zones had been swamped by the flood. More than one hundred residents of these localities had been killed, 116,000 people had become homeless and their properties washed away. Recent information from the Region stated that the flood had caused the deaths of 9,789 sheep and goats, 6,975 cattle and 3,957 camels and destroyed 1,808 hectares of farmland and damaged 6,478 quintals of stored food.

Ato Abdulahi Mehadi Ali said the FDPPC had played a major role in East and West Emi weredas and Kelafo to save the lives of people surrounded by the water by providing assistance through airlift. Moreover because of the intervention made by the FDPPC, the Regional DPPB and the Red Cross, damage caused by the flood was reduced significantly in Kebribeyah, Fafen and in Jijiga town.

The Bureau officials stated that flood is a recurring phenomenon in the region, even though the amount varied from time to time. Therefore they noted that pre-positioning of assistance in areas they could possibly become inaccessible during flooding should be made for an even faster and timely response. They added that due attention should be given for the rehabilitation of the recent flood victims.





Teshome Kebede said due to the erratic and low level of rains last year in Alemaya and the resulting low yields of Meher crops and due to the recent phenomenon of frost in most localities peasant income, particularly from "chat" had completely disappeared forcing 25,000 people to depend on emergency food aid.

Food Intended for East Hararghe Shortages Being Delivered

Food Security and Disaster Prevention and Preparedness office said that emergency food aid intended for 36,507 needy people in Alemaya and Fedis weredas of East Hararghe zone was delivered.

Ato Teshome Kebede, Alemaya wereda's Food Security and Disaster Prevention and Preparedness office Head, disclosed, to the FDPPC's Public Relations team sent to the area in May, that the erratic and low level of rains of last year had resulted in low yields of Meher crops and due to the recent phenomenon of frost, peasant income particularly from "chat" had completely disappeared. Therefore 25,000 people are now depending on emergency food aid.

An assessment team sent to the areas, composed of the FDPPC, the Regional DPPB, line departments and NGOs confirmed that considerable numbers of people were facing food shortages especially in the last three months, until the end of May. In response FDPPC sent and distributed supplementary food to the needy especially to children, lactating mothers and the elderly. In addition, 2,325 children in the wererda are making weekly check ups in various health centers and clinics in the area.

Moreover Ato Teshome said 7,548 quintals of food, 754 quintals of haricot beans, 252 quintals of oil and 792 quintals of supplementary food for the months of March and April was being distributed to 25,160 people who needed emergency food aid in Alemaya Wereda. He also noted that timely distribution of food aid in the area had contained the otherwise worrisome food shortages. Furthermore, the food aid had enabled farmers to single-mindedly concentrate on the preparation of land for the coming Meher season. He expressed his hope that if the good weather continued the problem would be ameliorated.



Similarly, in Fedis weareda according to Ato Nigussie Adugna, the wereda's Food Security and Disaster Prevention and Preparedness office Head more than 11,000 people were receiving emergency food aid. Ato Nigussie said Fedis wereda was the most affected in East Hararghe Zone due to the low in amount and distribution of last year's rain that resulted in low yield. He said following an assessment made by DPPC, regional government and NGOs that confirmed the situation, food aid was delivered.

Accordingly, 11,347 people were now receiving from March's emergency distribution 1,702 quintals of food, 170 quintals of haricot beans and 56.65 quintals of oil and the same was being done for the month of April supply of food, Ato Nigussie said. In addition to this, more than 1,000 children were being provided with supplementary food and weekly medical check ups at Boku town clinic and at other 9 health posts.

Moreover, since Fedis Wereda usually faces serious food shortages, 62,456 farmers were organized in a safety net and were receiving the money and food aid for program implementation and beginning March they were receiving food aid according to Ato Nigussie.

The supply of food to the needy would help farmers settle down and concentrate on land preparation for the coming Meher, Ato Nigussie said.



Ato Tigabu Mammo in an interview with FDPPC's public Relations Team members said the food shortages two months earlier were worrisome and required emergency disaster studies.

Sidama Food Shortages Showed Marked Improvement

DPPB of SNNPR stated that food shortages that affected Boricha wereda of Sidama zone in the months of April and May has shown a marked improvement due to the timely intervention by the government and NGOs and also due to improvement in the Belg weather condition.

tance of SC-USA and at the Therapeutic Feeding Center (by SC-USA) where more than 200 children had been taken care of until they became better and then sent home where they were provided with supplementary food.



According to Ato Tigabu Mammo, Boricha wereda DPPB Head in an interview with FDPPC's Public Relations Team members, the food shortages required emergency disaster assessment and the subsequent intervention by the Government and its partners. He said the FDPPC increased the beneficiary number from 13,107 to 50,000 beginning from the month of April. Hence, the distribution of food aid for the month of April had been 7,502 quintals of food, 1,036 quintals of supplementary food, 750.1 quintals of pulses and 1,137.6 cartons of oil which made a total of 9,288.1 quintals of food plus 1,137.6 cartons of oil apportioned among 50,000 needy people.

Apart from this, people who suffered from malnutrition and accompanying diseases had been receiving treatment in the wereda's Yirba and Derara health centers with the assis-

There was an ongoing program of supplying supplementary food by SC-USA to more than 1,100 children, pregnant & lactating mothers including those that had been discharged from health centers. This was being carried out in 49 localities and 7 distribution stations.

According to Ato Tigabu, the WFP and UN children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) had especially undertaken to feed children and mothers in a joint effort in a program called "Enhanced outreach strategy" (EOS). This program made use of 12 stations throughout the wereda to distribute supplementary food and oil to feed 3,501 children and 3,228 mothers. In addition to this, the WFP had begun a school feeding program whereby children are provided with meals and which has greatly helped children not to discontinue classes because of empty bellies.

Major Disasters and Responses

(As at May 23 to 27, 2005)

OROMIA

In Arsi zone, supplementary food is needed for children under the age of 5 in weredas where food is presently being distributed. The names of the specific weredas is not mentioned. However, areas that have been under

close monitoring require emergency food aid but since the required food has not yet been delivered they are facing hardship.

In Jido chitu locality peasant associa-

tion of East Shoa zone 28 hectares of land covered with maize belonging to 20 heads of households had been washed away by floods caused by heavy rains that fell on May 20,2005 in Adamitulu, Kombocha and Jido in the same zone.

Sumilarly, in localities called Nidolo Hora, chora Gololcha and Mertu Rcuma in Bule Hora wereda of Borena Zone because of heavy rains farm houses and farm lands have been inundated.

Heavy rains have also caused damage to crops sown by 6 local peasant

associations. Hailstorms in Deder wereda have killed a girl of 20 and a heifer. In the same wereda mildew caused by rain has devastated potato crop on 308 hectares of land. The same disease has damaged in Meta wereda in a local peasant association 2 hectares of maize, a hectare of sugar cane and a hectare of banana plantation. In addition to this, food shortages are being witnessed in the lowlying localities of Gola Oda, Fedis and Girawa.

Food aid has not reached the needy 2196 in Felmitu peasant association of Meta Wereda.

AMHARA

Reports have reached us that hailstorms have damaged crops in Legambo Wereda of South Wello Zone, but the extent of the damage

has not been known.

Source: Telephone reports from the Regions to Information & Documentation Team.

Allocation of Food by DPPC and NGOs in 2005

No	Region	February			March			April					
		DPPC	NGOs	Sub	DPPC	NGOs	Sub	DPPC	NGOs	Sub			
				Total			Total			Total			Total
1	Afar	7,805.3		7,805.3	7,805.3	0	7,805.3	9,767		9,767	9,572		9,572
2	Amhara			0			0			0			0
3	Benshangul			0			0			0			0
4	DireDawa			0			0	653		653			0
5	Gambela			0	845.2	0	845.2			0	842		842
6	Harari			0			0			0			0
7	Oromia	3,635.20		3,635.20	2,018.90	0	2,018.90	8,609	449	9,058	9,223	449	9,672
8	SNNP			0			0	2,519		2,519	6,717		6,717
9	Somali			0	18,355.90	0	18,355.90		447	447	175	446	621
10	Tigray			0	6,549.40	0	6,549.40	7,125		7,125	7,213		7,213
	Total	11,440.50	0	11,440.50	35,574.70	0	35,574.70	28,673	896	29,569	33,742	895	34,637

No	Region	May		
		DPPC	NGOs	Sub
				Total
1	Afar	10092		10092
2	Amhara	15		15
3	Benshangul	7		7
4	DireDawa	53		53
5	Gambela	842		842
6	Harari	113		113
7	Oromia	11,278	762	12,040
8	SNNP	7,968		7,968
9	Somali	16,973	6,570	23,543
10	Tigray	12,607		12,607
	Total	59,948	7,332	67,280

STATUS OF FOOD AID PLEDGES FOR 2005 REQUIREMENTS (MT)

(As at May 13, 2005)

Ser.No	Donor	Consignee	Type of Food	Confirmed Pledges	Already Utilized	Available for May Distribution	Unallocated /Time of Utilization Unknown	Remarks
A	Carry over stocks from 2004							
1	Various donors	DPPC	Cereals	20,461	20,512	5	-56	
		DPPC	Blended Food	7,397	4,767	3,658	-1,028	
		DPPC	Oil	5,607	3,150	2,457	-	
		DPPC	Pulses	559	-	559	-	
	Carry over stocks Total			34,024	28,429	6,679	-1,084	
B	Carry over pledges from 2004							
1	OPEC Fund	DPPC	Cereals	4,000	-	-	4,000	USD946,000
2	Belgium	DPPC	Cereals	800	972	-	-172	
3	USA	WFP/DPPC	Blended food	3,000	1,539	1,461	-	
		WFP/DPPC	Oil	3,000	176	2,703	121	
4	EU	WFP/DPPC	pulses	19,604	4,360	4,936	10,308	
		DPPC	Cereals	13,019	11,908	1,092	19	Trough Loan
5	Australia	WFP/DPPC	Blended food	1,328	1,325	3	-	USD757,576
6	Ireland	WFP/DPPC	Cereals	430	430	-	-	USD79,249
7	Sweden	DPPC	Cereals	24,700	20,000	4,700	-	45 million SEK
		DPPC	Blended food	1,750	-	-	1,750	
8	Norway	WFP/DPPC	Blended food	184	184	-	-	
	Carry over pledges Total			71,815	40,894	14,895	16,370	
C	New pledges for 2005							
1	EU	DPPC	Cereals	45,000	801	44,199	-	15million Euro
2	TBI/WFP	WFP/DPPC	Cereals	28,721	26,320	2,401	-	Through Loan
3	USA	WFP/DPPC	Cereals	73,599	10,391	888	62,320	USD44586960
		WFP/DPPC	Blended food	18,000	13,000	-	5,000	
		WFP/DPPC	Oil	2,999	1,861	569	569	
		JEOP	Cereals	15,381	-	2,576	12,805	
		JEOP	Blended food	1,615	-	269	1,346	
		JEOP	Oil	513	-	86	428	
		JEOP	pulses	1,538	-	258	1,280	
4	MfM	MfM	Cereals	4,620	1,680	839	2,101	
		MfM	Blended food	308	112	56	140	
5	Japan*	DPPC	Cereals	6,000	-	-	6,000	200 million Yen
6	Italy*	DPPC	Cereals	9,000	-	-	9,000	2 million Euro
7	Canada	WFP/DPPC	Pulses	5,678	-	-	5,678	USD 2880000
8	Norway	WFP/DPPC	Blended food	2,616	-	-	2,616	USD 1428571
9	Spain	WFP/DPPC	Oil	845	-	-	845	USD778,221
10	Ireland	WFP/DPPC	Oil	815	-	-	815	USD660502
11	Egypt	DPPC	Cereals	60	-	-	60	
		DPPC	Oil	4	-	-	4	
12	Islamic Relief	Islamic Relief	Blended food	34	-	34	-	
	New pledges for 2005			217,346	54,165	52,175	111,007	
	Total			323,185	123,488	73,749	128,461	

Ser.No	Type of Food	Confirmed Pledges	Already Utilized	Available for May Distribution	Unallocated/Time of Utilization Unknown	Remarks
	Summary					
1	Cereals	245,791	93,014	56,700	96,077	
2	Blended	36,232	20,927	5,482	9,824	
3	Oil	13,783	5,187	5,815	2,782	
4	pulses	27,379	4,360	5,753	17,266	
	Grand Total	323,185	123,488	73,750	125,948	

*Estimate

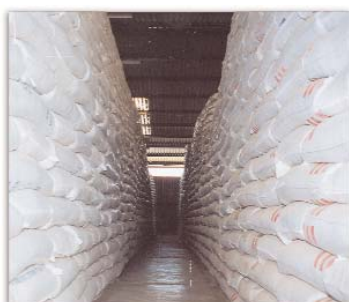
Total Requirement=464,385MT (376,501 Cereals, 39,182 Blended food, 11,342 Oil and 37,360 Pulses)

Total pledge against requirement	70
Cereals against requirement	65
Blended food against requirement	92
Oil against requirement	122
Pulses against requirement	73

May

Requirement: 71,552MT (Cereals; 57877, Blended food; 6,070, Oil; 1,901 and Pulses; 5,704)
Available: 73,750MT (Cereals; 56,700, Blended food; 5,482, Oil; 5,815 and Pulses; 5,753)
Unmet Needs: 1,765MT (cereals=1,177 Blended food; 588, Oil =0 and Pulses; 0)

Note: The pledge includes 13,184 MT of blended food and 1,983MT of Oil earmarked for EOS/CSI beneficiaries.



STOCK STATUS OF EFSRA AND LOAN REPAYMENT SCHEDULE (MT)

(As at June 06, 2005)

I. Stock Status of EFSRA	MT
1. Stock at hand	165,677.41
2. Outstanding loans.....	170,833.42
3. Total owned stock	405,004.83
4. Under withdrawal	68,494.00

II. Loan Repayment Schedule

No	Guarantor	Quantity borrowed (MT)	Repayment date	Mode of repayment	Borrower
1	WFP	104,916.48	May-05	Import/Local Purchase	WFP & DPPC
2	WFP	11,411.22	May-05	Import/Local Purchase	FFW
3	EU	28,877.66	Aug-04	Import/Local Purchase	ORDA, SC-UK, CONCERN, OXFAM, PLAN, SOS, LWF, COOPI, GAA, REST, OSHO, DPPC, CISP, CARE, WVE
4	EU	71,944.05	Feb.2003-June 2005	Local Purchase	DPPC
5	USAID	2,360.60	Apr-05	Import	CRS, REST & WVE
6	CFGB	3,360.00	May-05	Import	SSD
7	MoFED	16,457.41	Jun-05	Local Purchase	DPPC
	Total	239,327.42			