

# BULLETIN

FORTNIGHT



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## Government and Humanitarian Partners Agreed to Implement Cluster Approach to Respond to Emergencies

High-level Government officials and Humanitarian Partners met and agreed to implement the cluster approach in order to support the Government of Ethiopia's-led coordination and response structures to respond to floods, droughts and other humanitarian emergencies.

The cluster approach is a new method of organizing international and national humanitarian actors to ensure better preparedness, greater accountability, stronger partnership, predictable leadership and greater capacity during an emergency.



"The Cluster Approach not only increases accountability but also transparency and efficiency among the humanitarian community and the government," said Ato Simon, Director General of the Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Agency (DPPA), in his closing statement to participants at the workshop.

"Clear terms of reference for Cluster Leads, Taskforces and Working Groups will facilitate the efficient discharge of roles and responsibilities in this regard," Simon added.

The approach is due to be implemented in Ethiopia this year and will complement existing government coordination structures and sectoral taskforces. It aims to further support DPPA-led planning and response to humanitarian emergencies.

Workshop participants that included heads of UN agencies, key humanitarian NGOs and government officials held several discussions and broke into seven sectoral groups-Early recovery, Water and Sanitation, Health, Nutrition, Shelter, Logistics and Protection to explore how best to apply the sectoral approach to Ethiopia. The groups were then given a simulated emergency and instructed to find better ways to support the government's response.

"We quickly realized the need to further strengthen the overall coordination framework and response capacity," said Paul Hebert Head of Office of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. "We have a responsibility to the people of Ethiopia to support the government in having the best possible emergency response."

This Fortnight Bulletin updates readers on what DPPA and its partners are doing regarding disaster prevention, preparedness and related issues.



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While the participants took critical first steps in establishing cluster approach in Ethiopia, they realized that much hard work is yet to come. "Since the cluster approach is part of ongoing UN reform, this process will need fur-

ther discussion and refinement in due time," said Ato Simon.

(Joint DPPA and OCHA Press Release, 9 March 2006)

## Over Birr 2.6 Million Assistance Obtained for Flood Victims

In support of flood victims Birr 2,675,146 was obtained from different religious institutions and two private companies.

The donations were handed over to the DPPA through the representatives of the respective donor institutions and companies in ceremonies held at the Agency's Hall.

money out of the keen concern that he had for his fellow compatriots, Dr. Arega explained. In this connection he also said that in the effort to discharge one's responsibility as a citizen, the response made by the company and the stakeholders was crucial, and this, he said made him feel proud as an Ethiopian.



Accordingly , Midroc Gold Mining Private Limited Company, one of the Midroc Ethiopia's Technology Group Companies, handed over two million birr to DPPA through Midroc Ethiopia Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Arega Yirdaw, on March 15, 2007. The donation was handed over as per the pledge previously made on December 3, 2006 during the Telethon program held at the Sharaton Addis.

Dr. Arega Yirdaw, after handing over the donation, mentioned that Midroc Ethiopia Technology Group Companies had always been feeling that they were a part of the needy compatriots. Wherever the companies existed they reached out to them helping hands. Therefore, Shiek Mohammed Alamudin donated the

Receiving the donation on behalf of the National Fund Raising Committee and the flood victims, DPPA Director General and Chairman of the NFRC, Simon Mechale, lauded Midroc Ethiopia as a company which had affirmed its belongingness to the citizens by responding promptly to the flash flood appeal made by the Government of Ethiopia and Humanitarian Partners . The Director General further elaborated that as the task was entrusted to the DPPA, the Agency would allocate to the regions all the assistance obtained from within and from outside as properly as the ethics demanded. The Director General also disclosed that even though the assistance secured so far was not as much as it had been pledged during both the Telethon and other occasions, the relief and reha-

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The Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekaneyesus on its part also donated birr 104,520. Similarly, K.K private Limited company and K.K.Textile Industry together donated 10 thousand blankets worth birr 800,000, and birr 300,000 in cash. Bisirate Gabriel "sanbatie" and Frehiwot "Idir" (local self help community associations) were also the others who donated birr 10,000 and birr 2,220 respectively.

DPPA

bilitation assistance so far carried out had shown encouraging results. Finally, the Director General expressed his heart felt thanks on behalf of the needy and the NFRC to Sheik Mohammed Alamudin, owner and chairman of the Midroc Ethiopia for the generous support he had made.

Out of the 2,675,146 birr handed over, it was known that birr 675,146 was donated by different religious institutions and a private company in another ceremony held earlier at the Agency's Hall on March 6,2007.

Accordingly, the Ethiopian Catholic Church, in addition to the 14 million estimated amount of assistance it had already provided directly to the needy, donated birr 196,500.



The Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahido Church, also donated birr 61,906 in addition to the aid it had given before, and this raises the amount donated through the Church so far to over birr one million. The Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekaneyesus on its part also donated birr 104,520. Similarly, K.K private Limited company and K.K.Textile Industry together donated 10 thousand blankets worth birr 800,000, and birr 300,000 in cash. Bisirate Gabriel "sanbatie" and Frehiwot "Idir" (local self help community associations) were also the others who donated birr 10,000 and birr 2,220 respectively. In a brief statement the representatives of the churches made after handing over of the assistance, they all mentioned that such donations would not be the last and that the churches would con-

tinue discharging their religious obligations and humanitarian responsibility until the lives and livelihoods of those affected by the calamity were restored.

Briefing on the status of the relief and rehabilitation assistance provision so far carried out to mitigate the disaster, public Relations Team Leader of DPPA, Sisay Tadesse disclosed that though it had been possible to save the lives of many people with the intervention of the Government and humanitarian partners, a big challenge was still remaining because, he said, the displaced were still living with adverse effects of the flood. According to Sisay, the amount of pledges so far secured was 43% out of the required amount to rehabilitate the flood victims.

Therefore, Sisay stressed that in order to make a difference in the lives of people affected by the disaster, additional support and timely delivery of pledges were crucial.

Finally, Ato Kasahun Folo, President of the Ethiopian Workers Associations Confederation and member of the National Fund Raising Committee, receiving the donation on behalf of the flood victims and the National Committee thanked the donors for their humanitarian concern and cooperation in their commitment to fully rehabilitate the compatriots. Kasahun, further noted that though appreciable response had been made in the effort to meet the needs of the victims, since the effects of the flood were so catastrophic, it was really imperative that additional donations should be

made. To this end, thus, he urged, all concerned agencies and the public at large to join hands in the effort to extri-

cate the victims from the firm-grip of the adverse effects of the disaster.

## A Total of 12 Nutritional Surveys Conducted in 4 Months

A total of 12 nutrition surveys have been conducted between late December 2006 and early March 2007 according to the Emergency Nutrition Quarterly Bulletin. Eleven surveys were carried out in cropping areas of Amhara, Harari, Oromia and SNNP Regions during the meher post-harvest season while the remaining one was conducted in the pastoral

after the main harvesting season when the malnutrition rates are expected to be at the lowest due to improved access to food. The poor nutrition and food security in Dessie Zuria was a matter of concern, as the next significant harvest was not due before June/July in the areas benefiting from belg and not before November/December in the predomi-



area of Somali Region. The ENCU Bulletin issued by the Early Warning Department of DPPA indicated that the prevalence of global acute malnutrition was found to be below 10% in all cropping woredas but one, i.e. Dessie Zuria with 16% GAM, and above 20% in the surveyed pastoral area. The overall good nutrition status in the cropping areas confirmed the food security findings whereby the 2006 meher harvest was reported to be generally good. In contrast, the nutrition status in the pastoral population seemed to be little influenced by the food security situation and remained very poor (when defined by the weight-for-height indicator) in spite of the good performance of the 2006 deyr rains, the report said.

The findings of the nutritional survey conducted in Kalu and Dessie Zuria weredas of Amhara Region disclosed that the nutrition situation was typical for this time of the year in Kalu with 7.7% GAM while it was rated as serious in Dessie Zuria with 16.2% GAM. The surveys had been conducted

notably Meher dependant area. It was recommended, in line with the survey findings, to ensure that the EOS/TSFP distribution was timely i.e. a maximum of 3 weeks after the screening as per the TSFP guideline, and to consider monthly distribution instead of every 3 months in order to prevent further deterioration of the children nutrition status.

The nutritional survey conducted in Sofi and Erer weredas of Harari Region, highlighted that with 4.9% GAM was found to be typical for the post-harvest period, when acute malnutrition is expected to be at its lowest. Prospect for food security in the coming months was expected to be normal and usual coping mechanisms are employed to fill the food gap during the traditional hunger period.

The nutritional survey result in the agro-pastoral communities of Dolo Ado and Dolo Bay of Somali Region emphasized that the nutritional situation remained serious with 22.5% GAM and did not show statistically

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The nutritional surveys conducted in SNNPR 3 zones and 5 weredas disclosed that in some weredas the prevalence of acute malnutrition was low and in others deterioration is expected around April and May during the peak season.

significant improvement as compared to January 2006. The findings said that the survey was conducted during the long dry season, jilaal, after good 2006 deyr rains while the previous one was conducted during the same season but after the complete failure of the 2005 deyr rains. However, the data collected during the survey, shows cause for concern that the improved food security situation did not translate into improved nutritional status. Future food security prospect will now depend on the performance of the coming gu rains due in April.

The nutritional surveys conducted in SNNPR 3 zones and 5 weredas disclosed that in some weredas the prevalence of acute malnutrition was low and in others deterioration is expected around April and May during the peak season. Concerning the nutritional survey undertaken for Hulla wereda of Sidama Zone in the SNNPR, though the geographic coverage was wider in the current survey, comparison with the previous survey results showed a significant difference in the nutrition situation: the prevalence of global acute malnutrition decreased from 18.1% in April 2006 to 9.2% in December 2006. The previous survey was conducted during the hunger gap while the current one was conducted during the main harvesting season. It was recommended for SC-US to maintain adequate support to the Wereda Health Bureau for smooth continuation of the CTC program and to monitor the situation closely, as the nutrition status was expected to deteriorate around April during the hunger season.

For Humbo of Welayita Zone the prevalence of acute malnutrition

(2.4%) was low and typical for this time of the year, i.e. post-harvest season, when household food security is improved. Future food security will depend on the harvest of sweet potatoes and of inset to a lesser extent, to fill the hunger gap of February to May.

For Sodo Zuria Wereda of the same zone the prevalence of acute malnutrition (3.9%) was low and typical for this time of the year, i.e. post-harvest season with a normal meher harvest. Future food security will depend on the performance of the belg rains and the harvest of the root crops to fill the hunger gaps.

The level of acute malnutrition in Mirab Abaya Wereda of Gamo Gofa Zone was low at 2.5% in absence of aggravating factors with adequate household food security, low mortality and morbidity rates, high measles and vitamin A coverage. The survey was conducted during the post harvest season while the household food stocks had been replenished by the meher crop production. The ongoing safety net program and EOS/TSFP was expected to address anticipated food shortages during the hunger gap, which normally occur around April to May.

The level of acute malnutrition in Boreda Abaya Wereda of the same zone was very low with 1.2% GAM and indicative of a satisfactory food security situation at the household level. The survey was conducted after the main harvesting season, which was rated as good. It was anticipated that the ongoing safety Net program and EOS/TSFP would cover the existing needs during the coming hungry season due in April.

## Over 17,000 MT of Food Allocated

Aid Programme Coordination and Monitoring Department (APCMD) reported that 17,100 MT of relief food has been allocated to beneficiaries in SNNP, Oromia and Somali regions for the month of March. The food aid

consists of cereals, oil, pulses and supplementary food. Out the allocated amount SNNPR's share is 395.65 MT, 1007.9 MT is allocated to Oromia and 12697.2 MT to Somali.

# Stock Status of EFSRA and Loan Repayment Schedule (MT)

(March 12, 2007)



## Stock Status of EFSRA

MT

1.	Stock at hand .....	259,767.84
2.	Outstanding loans.....	122,311.99
3.	Under withdrawal .....	22,925.00
4.	Total owned stock .....	405,004.83

Guarantor	Borrower	Qty. Provided on Loan (MT)	Qty. Repaid (MT)	Remark
USAID	REST	0	*27,290.00	*Repayment received from previous outstanding loans
USAID	FHE	0	*174.99	*Repayment received from previous outstanding loans
TOTAL		0	27,464.99	>> >>
EU	DPPA	0	*19,771.392	>> >>
EU	SOS	0	*1,402.05	>> >>
TOTAL		0	21,173.442	
WFP	DPPA	0	*15,842.597	>> >>
WFP	MORAD	0	*6,954.84	>> >>
WFP	WFP	0	*4,529.86	>> >>
TOTAL		0	*27,327.297	
CFGB	EKHCD	0	*372.35	>> >>
CIDA	TWRMER	3000.00	0	
TOTAL		3000.00	76,338.079	

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