

FORTNIGHT Bulletin



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Nutritional Surveys Conducted

A total of 16 nutrition surveys were conducted by SCUUK, GOAL, ACF, WV-Ethiopia, SCUSA, RENCU/DPPB in SNNP, Afar, Somali and Tigray regions between late March and early June 2007. Twelve were carried out in the predominantly cropping areas of Oromia, SNNP, and Tigray regions during the late post-harvest meher season while the remaining four were conducted in the pastoral areas of Somali and Afar regions. According to the Emergency Nutrition Quarterly Bulletin issued by the Emergency Nutrition Coordination Unit (ENCU), in Silti Wereda of Silte Zone in SNNPR, the prevalence of Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) (8.9 percent) was relatively lower than in 2006 at the same season indicating an improvement. Mortality was within acceptable limits.



This was an indication of the normal food security situation in the woreda at the time of the survey. However, there was no improvement in vaccination coverage. Access to clean water remained a concern to be addressed in the woreda. It was recommended to improve vaccination coverage and assure proper close monitoring during the upcoming hunger season.

The Bulletin disclosed that the nutritional status in Bona Woreda of Sidama Zone was critical. SC/OTP programme was recommended and immediately initiated by Save the Children US in Ethiopia funded by UN OCHA. It was also recommended to strengthen the EOS/TSFP intervention in Bona including distributing TSFP food on monthly basis rather than once in three months to take care of children that were not captured by the EOS screening programme and prevent further worsening of the children's nutritional status.

The prevalence of global acute malnutrition in the three surveyed woredas of Meta Robi, Ada Berga and Abuna Gindberet in West Shewa Zone in Oromia Region was found to be low at the time of the survey while the food security situation in the lowland areas remained poor. The quarterly Bulletin underscored that geographic bias might partly explain the low prevalence of acute malnutrition as the nutritional status of the lowland might have been masked by the effects of less affected agro ecological zones. In such a situation where the distribution of malnutrition was heterogeneous and highly localized, it would have been more appropriate to do the survey on agro ecological basis as this would help to reflect the situation in the lowland areas.

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



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The overall nutritional status in Melka Bello of East Hararghe Zone in Oromia Region was normal as explained by low prevalence of global acute malnutrition as well as acceptable levels of crude and under-five mortality rates. Food security was satisfactory. The performance of the Belg harvest would determine whether the nutrition situation in the Belg-dependent areas was likely to deteriorate or not in the coming months. In the mean time, it was recommended to continue the existing PSNP and strengthen the routine EPI program with close monitoring of the Belg-dependent communities.

The nutritional status in Chifra Woreda of Zone 1 in Afar was classified as serious based on the national categorization and Sphere Standard. The big difference in SAM (Severe Acute Malnutrition) estimated by WHZ (Weight for Height Z Score) and MUAC (Mid Upper Arm Circumference) was of concern.

Food security prospect was expected to worsen further if no interventions

were to be made. Reduction of number of meals per day as a coping strategy was an indication that household food security had started being stretched. Normalization depended much on the Sugum (rains in June).

The survey in Elkare and Hargele weredas of Afder and Liben Zone in Somali Region indicated that the levels of malnutrition of 15.7 percent was classified as critical and found to have been on the higher side compared to the previous survey. Mortality among under-five children had also passed the emergency threshold level.

According to ENCU quarterly Bulletin, in Tigray Region the nutrition situation with 5.1 to 9.9 percent GAM was found to be typical in the post harvest period and in an area where most of the livelihood zones are described as chronically food insecure. Continuation of the existing PSNP and EOS/TSFP with close monitoring was recommended as the nutritional status was expected to deteriorate around August to September during the hunger season.

This Season's Rain Predicted Can be Cause for Flooding

The merging in to the Kiremt (the main rainy season) of the belg rains, i.e. in some parts of the country, there being rain until the Kiremt rains began, and that there was much rain with wide distribution in June is cause for concern that this will be cause for flash floods and general flooding as a result of rivers bursting their banks, it was disclosed.

According to Alert, DPPA's early warning report quoting the National Meteorological Agency (NMA), the Kiremt rains in most parts of the country that receive this rainfall will have 70 to 80% chance of becoming normal to above normal, especially in western Tigray, western and central Amhara, Benshangul Gumuz, Gambella, western and central Oromia and northern parts of SNNPR. This occurrence is thought to increase the risk of flooding in flood prone areas and the scale of disaster

is expected to be worse than Kiremt 2006. NMA predicts the Ethiopian weather will be wetter than normal during the months of July, August and September 2007. This pattern is anticipated to dominate in most of the Kiremt-rain-benefiting parts of the country.

The mainly belg benefiting areas of eastern Tigray and Amhara, most of Afar as well as most of southern Somali Region and the western end of Gambella received less than normal rainfall, the report indicated, though the remaining parts of the country received normal rainfall, especially in April and May 2007 the distribution and amount of rain was wide and great and in some places consecutive heavy rains fell and occasional flash floods occurred. And the saturation of the soil earlier than usual is cause for concern that early flooding may occur.

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In addition to what has been cited in the report, those perennial and seasonal rivers which have their origins in various highland parts of our country and cause flash floods in the low-lying basins and where the disaster they bring is prominent are very many.

that the water levels in dams are expected to be higher than at the same time last year. It goes on to say that traditionally flooding in the lower catchments of the dam occurs during the peak water levels of the dams in August and September. However, this year, flooding is anticipated to occur



Last year, the first flood occurrence was reported on July 31, 2006 from West Shoa Zone, from Ejerie, Sebeta, Illu and Awasso weredas, Alert said, while due to the highly wet weather this year, several floods have already occurred at the very outset of the rainy season including June in Jinka of South Omo Zone, in Humbo of Wolayta Zone and others. And this has made the coming three months of July, August and September worrisome.

earlier than usual with maximum water levels of the dams expected to be reached earlier than normal, necessitating close monitoring and early management of the water levels in the dams. This is essential to prevent a repeat of the worst effects of last year.

Moreover, the report says that hydrological forecasts from NMA indicate

Hence, those areas that are prone to flooding should take heed and the administration at all levels along with concerned partners should make the necessary preparations and lend ear to what the MMA and DPPA say about the weather.

Risk Financing Workshop Held

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agement as the modus operandi for response to emergencies. Hence, it aims at a substantial reduction of disaster losses, in lives as well as in the social, economic and environmental assets of communities and countries, it was learnt.

The consultative workshop, the first of its kind, aimed at a proposal for reform to the system of emergency relief in Ethiopia by building on recent innovations in resource mobilization as well as delivery mechanisms to better address the needs of the program beneficiaries. The new approach proposes to shift, to the extent possible, away from ex-post - disaster relief to ex-ante - risk man-

As learnt from the workshop, though the existing emergency system has saved lives, it has done little to reduce poor people's exposure to risk, as it follows ex-post emergency response approach, it is often not sufficient to save livelihoods. But the new mechanism, it is expected, will help protect

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people's assets in emergency, as it gives increased focus to risk management, this will allow quicker and stronger recovery, leading to more sustainable economic and social growth. With the new mechanisms, risk will be managed by building appropriate triggers, establishing



An integrated risk financing aims to provide timely resources for transient food insecure households. The approach is seen as central to the sustainability of the overall PSNP- an early response that can more effectively, as compared with the current emergency appeal system, prevent

early emergency financing mechanisms, developing budgeted contingency plans and building implementation capacity.

household asset depletion and increased levels of destitution, and will also help avoid additional people joining the ranks of the chronically food.- insecure.

The new mechanism is stated to imply consolidating and strengthening existing systems of contingency planning and early warning systems, increasing focus on capacity building and introducing new financing mechanisms that allow predictable and early access to resources.

The workshop which was organized by the WFP and DFID Ethiopia was attended by eight participants drawn from Early Warning, Policy Planning and Programme and Fund Raising and Public Relations departments.

Major Disasters and Responses (July 1 to July 15, 2007)

Rain

In Jidda Wereda of North Shewa Zone in Oromia Region, because of heavy rain that fell for a whole day, 150 head of cattle that belong to 60 heads of households have been washed away.

And in Sululta Wereda of this Zone, rain that fell for a day flooded 73.5 hectares of farmland causing above 50% damage to different crops.

In Shala Wereda of West Arsi Zone, rains that fell in 15 localities have caused 80-90% damage to maize crop on 1262 hectares of land and to property worth birr 12,000. 45 houses

have also been destroyed including a school and a mosque while 7 kilometers of road was rendered useless by the rain water.

In Gatimo locality of Sheka Zone in the SNNPR, a hailstorm that occurred on 14 June 2007 destroyed maize planted on 22.75 hectares of land, inset on 2,375 hectares of land and 31 beehives including a sheep and a goat that were killed by the storm. The storm also fell 8,100 old trees while property worth birr 103,029 belonging to 44 heads of families was destroyed. In Gamo Gofa Zone. The Elgo River burst its banks on July 4, 2007 and inundated areas through which it passes.



In two peasant associations in Tahitay Maychew Wereda of Central Zone in Tigray Region, heavy rain and wind that occurred for one hour on the 23rd of June 2007 destroyed houses and property. In Tseada Hamed of Kobanit peasant association, 18 houses had their roofs of corrugated iron removed by the wind.

In Dinbeza of Maikel peasant association, 7 roomed house belonging to 6 family heads had their roofs removed, Dinbeza and Tisha schools had 8 class rooms damaged, blackboards and chairs were broken irreparably. About 270 tress locally known as Shebaha were also uprooted. 180 sheets of corrugated iron was sent from the wereda for Dinbeza School while Kobanit School is being repaired by using rocks and the old iron sheets.

Similarly, in Abebu Berkelie, Sofi and Kilie localities, of Harari Region maize, kat and sorghum crops have been damages by harlstorms. The extent of harm is being investigated.

Oromia

In bedeno, Deder and Melka Belo weredas of East Hararghe Zone, rust is causing widespread attack of potatoes.

In Jarso and Kombolcha weredas of this zone, locusts are doing harm to crops, however, the situation is being studied.

Gambella

In Terkudi locality in Abebo Wereda, aphid infestation is being observed on young maize crops as well as sesame webworm infestation in villages 13 and 8 of the same wereda.

SNNPR

In Gebera locality in Diecha Wereda of Kefa Zone, an avalanche that occurred on 2 July 2007 has displaced 215 heads of households and killed 102 domestic animals.

In Konso special Wereda, quella-quella birds are observed in 10 localities and reports of their presence reached concerned officials and preparation are being made to take measures.

Source: Telephone reports from regions to information and documentation team.

Stock Status of EFSRA and Loan Repayment Schedule (MT)

(July 15, 2007)

Stock Status of EFSRA		MT
1.	Stock at hand	134,665.62
2.	Outstanding loans.....	186,034.21
3.	Under withdrawal	84,305.00
4.	Total	405,004.83

Guarantor	Borrower	Qty. Provided on Loan (MT)	Qty. Repaid (MT)	Remark
WFP	WFP	17,696.00	*14,600.24	*Repayment receive from previous outstanding loans
WFP	DPPA	-	*16,204.117	>> >>
WFP	MRAD	-	*10,469.760	>> >>
Sub-total		17,696.00	41,274.117	
EU	DPPA	-	*22,146.116	*Repayment receive from previous outstanding loans
EU	SOS	-	*1,402.45	>> >>
EU	WVE	1,866.825	1,884.26	>> >>
Sub-total		1,866.825	25,432.426	
USAID	REST	-	*27,290.00	*Repayment receive from previous outstanding loans
USAID	FHE	5,000.00	4,998.25	>> >>
USAID	WVE	3,586.00	2,176.74	>> >>
Sub-total		8,586.00	34,464.99	>> >>
MOFED	EGTE	20,000.00	5,348.25	*Repayment receive from previous outstanding loans
MOFED	FSCB	73,000.00	-	>> >>
Sub-total		93,000.00	5,348.25	
SIDA/MoFED	DPPA		*196.76	*Repayment receive from previous outstanding loans
CFGB	EKHCD		*372.35	>> >>
CIDA	TWRMER	3,000.00	*2105.04	>> >>
DPPA	DPPA		2,481.96	>> >>
Sub-total		3,000.00	5156.11	
Total		124,148.825	111,676.17	