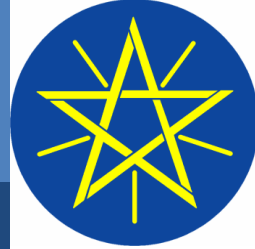


Early Warning Bulletin

Covers the period 16-31 July 2011

EWR Directorate, DRMFSS, MoA

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SHORTFALL OF FOOD COMMODITY

The Disaster Risk Management Technical Working Group (DRMTWG) which convened on Thursday 21st of July noted the current problem of **Corn Soy Blend (CSB) shortage in the food assistance pipeline**. In previous rounds, distribution of CSB full rations distributed has already been reduced. Allocation of the 5th round of emergency food assistance has also reduced ration sizes of CSB and pulses for 50 percent of beneficiaries across the Country.

While the Government and partners are taking prompt steps to address the shortage, donor partners' pledges and contributions towards the July-December 2011 net requirements identified in the July 2011 Humanitarian Requirement Document (HRD) will be critical to ensure a prompt solution to this challenge.

DELAY IN FOOD AID DISTRIBUTION IN SOMALI REGION

The DRMTWG also noted **severe delays in dispatch and distribution of food assistance in Somali region, as a result of security problems which have constrained logistic operations**. About 58 percent of allocated 3rd round food allocation and 15 percent of 4th round allocation have been dispatched so far.

The Government and United Nations' partners are currently working to address the situation.

NUTRITION UPDATE AND OUTLOOK

The revised hotspot woredas has been issued by DRMFSS/ENCU. As per updated hotspot list at national level, the number of priority 1 woredas has increased significantly from 128 to 172, associated with the on going La Nina episode and poor performance of Belg rains particularly in SNNP and Oromia regions. The total number of priority 1 to 3 hotspot woredas increased slightly from 330 to 347.

Partners are asked to be willing to extend coverage of interventions to the new priority 1 woredas lacking adequate nutrition response.

Nutrition response efforts in recent months have been vast. With over 8,800 Therapeutic Feeding Programmes (TFP) sites across the country, severe acute malnutrition is effectively being managed. Nevertheless, some **gaps in the coverage of nutrition interventions persist**. Gaps for the initial 90 La Nina affected woredas include:

- 33 affected woredas are still lacking Therapeutic Supplementary Feeding (TSF). WFP plans to expand TSF services to 24 of these. 9 hotspot woredas are hence still not covered;
- 26 La Nina affected woredas do not have Therapeutic Feeding Units (TFU) and 7 woredas (6 from Somali and 1 from SNNPR) do not have TFP;
- 6 out of 40 woredas in Oromia, 6 out of 42 in Somali and 6 woredas in SNNPR do not have partners to strengthen nutrition response;
- Some of the emerging hotspot woredas in SNNPR and Oromia have gaps in TSF response;
- 12 Mobile Health and Nutrition Teams are still needed to strengthen response and increase coverage in Somali region;

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- Low coverage of TFP services in some of partners operational areas, particularly in Somali region.

Considering the TFP admission trends from January to April 2011, anticipated risks and seasonal patterns, and the expansion of OTP services, **the total number of TFP beneficiaries from July to December 2011 is projected to be 159,220.** According to such projections, **the increment in TFP admissions will range between 15-25 percent in Oromia and SNNPR, and between 5-15 percent in the remaining regions.** TFP admissions are expected to show a slight decrease in August and considerable decreased in September assuming that general food distribution and TFP interventions will be implemented in all *belg* dependent areas.

A total of US\$ 15,922,000 is required for TFP response from July to December. HRF has recommended US\$ 6.56 millions, but the funds are yet to be received by UNICEF.

WEATHER OUTLOOK: JULY 16-31 2011

The normal seasonal pattern during the second half of July is characterized by better rainfall amount and distribution over most parts of *meher* producing areas. It can therefore be forecasted that the fortnight will be characterized by:

- widespread rainfall (normal or above normal) over most parts of Tigray, Amhara, Benishangul Gumuz, Gambela, western and central Oromia, and northern parts of SNNPR;
- better rainfall amount and distribution over northeastern and eastern parts of the country as compared to the situation observed during the first half of the month of July 2011. In particular, near normal rainfall with a chance of above normal rainfall in some isolated areas is anticipated over eastern Tigray and Amhara, Southern Afar, eastern Oromia, Harar, Dire Dawa and northern Somali;
- torrential rainfall together with hail in some areas of western half and central parts of the country;
- slight showers over southern Oromia, while partly cloudy condition will prevail over southern Somali.

This situation would favor season's agricultural activities in the areas which will benefit from normal or above normal rainfall. Nevertheless, attention should be given particularly in low-lying areas and near riverbanks including in areas where their soils with low percolation capacity in order to minimize the effect of flash flood hazard.

ESFRA STOCK STATUS

According to the latest EFSRA report, the stock at hand as of July 18 2011 is 31,056.74 Mt of wheat. Total stock size is 410,584.60, which is the sum total of the stock at hand (uncommitted stock) 31,056.74Mt, the under-withdrawal stock (committed stock) 103,637.00Mt and the outstanding stock (on loan) 275,890.86Mt. The stock is warehoused in seven strategically located warehouses across the Country. These are: Nazareth, Shashemene, Wolita Sodo, Kombolcha, Mekele, Woreta, and Shinille.