



Key Events

- Since the outbreak in early September, 450 suspected measles cases and eight deaths were reported from Wolayita zone of SNNPR, the majority from Kindodidaye *woreda*. Vaccination is on-going to curb the spread of the disease.
- Nearly 10,000 conflict and flood-affected households in East Hararge and Borena zones (Oromia) and Fafan and Nogob zones (Somali) require NFI assistance. Humanitarian partners are discussing ways to cover the response gap.

Food Security Update

The generally good seasonal rains, coupled with the on-going humanitarian assistance, have supported improved food security in most parts of the country. In *belg*-receiving areas, the rains enabled a good *belg* and good maize production in maize-growing areas. In the southern and south eastern lowlands, the rains largely replenished water sources and supported the regeneration of pasture, resulting in improved livestock body condition and production. Pocket areas that received below-normal rainfall remain food insecure, including *woredas* in eastern Amhara region, eastern Tigray region, some *woredas* in Somali region and the lowlands of East and West Hararge and Arsi zones of Oromia region.

Meanwhile, the generally good performance of the *kiremt* season has allowed a timely land preparation and planting of *meher* crops, pointing to a good *meher* harvest outlook. Reduced yields are likely in north western Amhara and Tigray regions, lowlands of East Hararge zone of Oromia region and Segen Peoples zone and the northern parts of South Omo zone of SNNP region as a result of the below average rainfall received in these areas. Localized floods, hailstorms and other weather-related hazards will also negatively impact the expected *meher* harvest. The *meher* harvest accounts for 90 per cent of the country's annual cereal production. In the pastoralist and agro-pastoralist areas, the replenished water sources will likely sustain livestock until the next rainy season. For more information, contact wfp.addisababa@wfp.org

Refugee Update

The month of September saw the arrival of 2,596 refugees from neighbouring countries, the majority (1,153 people, including unaccompanied minors) from Eritrea. UNHCR and the government refugee agency, ARRA, are transferring the Eritrean refugees to the new Hitsats camp, which is still under development. Shelter, domestic energy, sanitation and hygiene and CRIs are the identified gaps in the camp that require immediate attention. UNHCR and partners are also looking into durable solutions for the unaccompanied minors.

In Benishangul Gumuz region, an average of nearly 200 new Sudanese refugees cross the border to Ethiopia every week. With the three existing camps, Tongo, Bambassi and Sherkole, at full capacity, the new arrivals are accommodated in the new temporary site, Ashura. With the Government's decision to relocate the estimated 3,000 Sudanese refugees currently living with the host community along the border to Ashura, the site, able to accommodate 8,000 people, will soon reach its capacity. UNHCR and ARRA are discussing with relevant authorities to secure land for the proposed extension of Ashura site.

As of the end of September, 423,851 refugees were hosted in Ethiopia, including 242,588 (57.23 per cent) Somalis, 77,083 (18.19 per cent) Eritreans, 67,958 (16.03 per cent) South Sudanese, 31,951 (7.54 per cent) Sudanese and 4,271 (1.01 per cent) refugees from several other countries. For more information, contact: gegziabk@unhcr.org

WASH Update

Critical water shortages continue to be reported from chronically water insecure parts of Afar (three trucks requested), Oromia (five trucks), Somali (nine trucks) and Tigray (five trucks) regions, affecting an estimated 151,805 people. As in the previous week, the reported trucking gaps this week are in Raya Azebo *woreda* of Southern Tigray zone (two trucks), in Dawe Sarar *woreda* of Bale zone (one truck) and Moyale *woreda* of Borena zone (three trucks) in Oromia region. Nearly 30,000 Kenyans displaced in Moyale *woreda* and some 14,000 people suffering from water shortages in Dawe Sarar *woreda* require emergency WASH assistance. For more information, contact awesterbeek@unicef.org

Relief food update

As of 17 October, the dispatch of the fifth round of relief food assistance – at full basket and ration – reached 91 per cent. Meanwhile, distribution was on-going and the third round distribution stood at 91 per cent, the fourth round at 82 per cent and the fifth round at 18 per cent. Given the resource shortfalls, the sixth round allocation will likely be at reduced ration. For more information, contact wfp.addisababa@wfp.org

No information received from agriculture, education, health and nutrition sectors this week