Regional Overview

Since May, the impact of the El Niño climatic event has manifested itself primarily in persistent drought conditions, most acutely in parts of Ethiopia and Sudan, and drier than average conditions in parts of Eritrea (coast), Greater Upper Nile region of South Sudan, parts of northern Uganda and parts of Somaliland and Puntland, in Somalia. The food security situation is of great concern, with an increase of 64 per cent increase (7.2 million people) in the number of food insecure people between August and December 2015³. An estimated 18.5 million people are food insecure as at December 2015.

Enhanced El Niño-related rains have increased the risk of flooding along the main river systems in Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and Uganda. Nearly 100 people have died as a result of flood related incidents in Kenya and more than 300,000 people displaced in the four countries. The displacement is however significantly lower than expected and the enhanced rainfall has favoured arid and semi-arid areas with good pasture, crop development and replenished some water sources.

While respective national Governments and humanitarian partners are responding to the El Niño related needs, significant resource gaps have been reported in all critical sectors.

Map1: Rainfall performance for September – November 2015⁴

Map 2: Rainfall forecast for December 2015 - February 2016⁴



Key figures



1. Governments and humanitarian partners have scaled-up response activities, working with local authorities and community leadership to strengthen local response capacity. The regional Food Security and Nutrition Working Group (FSNWG) has called for further scaling-up of life-saving and livelihood support activities (especially for pastoralist) until mid-2016 when the next season's crop harvests and animal products are expected.

2. Humanitarian requirements in the Horn and Great Lakes Region totalled USD 5.7 billion in 2015, and are only **49 per cent funded at year-end.** Increased funding is required to address both increasing displacement and to respond to the drought and flood impact of El Niño.

3. Disaster risk reduction and preparedness activities should continue beyond the El Niño period. The region is prone to floods and drought even outside El Niño years. Development funding should be programmed for early recovery as a strong El Niño is historically often followed by a La Niña.

Climatic Outlook: December 2015 - January 2016

The regional impact of El Nino is likely to persist into 2016. The IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Centre (ICPAC) predicts continued dry conditions in Sudan, South Sudan, most of Ethiopia, Eritrea, northern Somalia and Djibouti, and increased chances of enhanced rains with high risk of flooding in parts of Uganda, Kenya, southern Ethiopia, southern parts of South Sudan, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania and southern half of Somalia.

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. **Creation date:** 18 Dec 2015 **Sources:** FSNWG¹, KRCS², OCHA³, IGAD/ICPAC⁴ **Feedback:** ochaea@un.org

Eastern Africa: El Niño impact and humanitarian needs (as of December 2015)

The adverse climatic conditions, coupled with recurring economic shocks and protracted conflict in countries in the region have resulted in significant increases in food insecurity. Overall, the number of people in need of urgent humanitarian assitance has since August, increased by 64 per cent (7.2 million people); from 11.3 million to 18.5 million people¹. Ethiopia has recorded the sharpest increase of over 126 per cent (5.7 million people) in the number of food insecure people; from 4.5 million people in August to 10.2 million people in early December. This figure excludes the 7.9 million people under the Protective Safety Net Programme in Ethiopia. Young children below 5 years are particularly vulnerable and their nutrition situation is of great concern. Persistent deterioration in nutrition conditions is notable in Ethiopia; the Arid and Semi-Arid lands (ASAL) in Kenya; amongst IDPs in Somalia; South Sudan and in Somaliland and Puntland. Rates of malnutrition in Unity State in South Sudan are reportedly twice the emergency threshold (more than 30 per cent Global Acute Malnutrition rates).

Trends in food insecure population (August - December 2015)¹

Flood affected population (as of November 2015)



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Creation date: 18 Nov 2015 Sources: FSNWG¹, Sudan National floods task force, Government of Ethiopia, Government of Uganda, Government of Kenya / KRCS, Somalia HCT Contingency Plan, FEWSNET (October-December 2015), Ethiopia HCT document (http://reliefweb.int/report/ ethiopia/ethiopia-slow-onset-natural-disaster-sep-2015) for early 2016 Feedback: ochaea@un.org www.unocha.org www.reliefweb.int/

Eastern Africa: El Niño: Impact, response and gaps (as of December 2015)

Country	EL Nino Effect	Affected areas	People at risk/Contingency plan	Affected people/livestock	Impact on Infrastructure	Response/Funding Update	Needs and Gaps
			,				
Ethiopia	FLOODS : Overflow from Wabe Shebelle River, Somali region	Shebelle zone, Somali region (East-Imay, Kelafo, Mustahil and Fer-fer districts)	 Government Flood Contingency Plan guiding flood mitigation and response efforts, especially along the Wabishabelle, Genale/Dawa, and Omo River basins. At least 210,600 people to be affected by flooding; At least 105,300 people risk displacement 	 Disease outbreaks (malaria /AWD/Skin disease/Bilharzia); Impact on internal displacement and number of people affected is yet to be verified. 	 9 formal schools and 10 Alternative Basic Education (ABE) facilities closed in Mustahil and Kelafo; Some 7,479 children (3,073 females; 4,406 males) out of school; 2 health posts and 1 health clinic destroyed in Mustahil; 3 health posts affected in Kalafo district; Traditional water points filled with mud and 21 hand-dug wells destroyed in Kalafo Irrigation motors and water pumps washed away. 	 Government and partners pre-positioned emergency shelter and NFIs in strategic warehouses in Addis Ababa, Adama, Dire Dawa, Gambella, Harar, Hawassa, Jijiga, Kombolcha and Nekemt; NFIs distributed in the six woredas of Shebelle zone. 	 Water purification chemicals; Access to clean portable water; rehabilitation of 105 water points; Food shortage due to poor harvest and destruction of cropland and harvests by floods; Food aid assistance and possibly air intervention in the event of more flooding; Immediate support and recovery program needed; Provision of essential drugs, mosquito nets, nutrition and medical supplies; Activation of Mobile to reach isloated areas in Mustahil and Kalafo;
	DROUGHT: • Failed spring belg (mid- February-May) rains; Weakened summer kiremt (June-Sept) rains (feed 80-85 % of the country)	Southern Tigray, eastern Amhara, Afar, and Siti zone of Somali region, eastern SNNP, East and West Hararge, Arsi and West Arsi, and lower Bale zones of Oromia.	At least 10.2 million people in need of emergency food assistance. This excludes the 7.9 million people under the PSNP	 53,400 people displaced by drought between July and October (IOM) Nearly 2 million children (47 per cent girls) out of school due to a combination of drought, floods and migration in search of food and water or withdrawal from school to supplement household income. More than 14,500 measles cases, affecting more than 200 locations since January 2015. Apprx. 1.8 million people likely to have no access to safe water by early 2016. 		 GoE leading the drought response, ncluding through the National Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Committee. GoE launched the Ethiopia's Humanitarian Requirement Document for 2016 asking for \$1.4 billion, of which \$1.1 billion is required for emergency food assistance. GoE allocation of more than USD 200 million to procure relief items and other humanitarian needs. GoE provided 6,800 metric tonnes of maize of a total of 50,000 MT planned for distribution. GoE distribution of 50,000 MT of wheat and 300 MT of oil started in early Novembers. National and sub-national committees established to oversee the distribution of relief supplies. \$ 25.5 million CERF funds provided (\$17 million is to support WFP to target nearly 1.4 million people with emergency food assistance and 164,000 women and children with nutritional supplements). Donor commitments of over \$120 million between September 30 and November 	

OCHA

Eastern Africa: El Niño: Impact, response and gaps (as of December 2015)

OCHA

Country	EL Nino Effect	Affected areas	People at risk/Contingency plan	Affected people/livestock	Impact on Infrastructure	Response/Funding Update	Needs and Gaps
Kenya	FLOODS	 Heavy rainfall in low lying areas of Nyando river basin, Western Kenya, Wajir, Meru, Isiolo, Marsabit, Samburu,Nyeri Garissa and Mandera, and the lower parts of Tana, Kilifi, Kwale and the Coastal region. El niño likely to extend to early 2016 though reduced rainfall intensity. Heavy rainfall expected in Habaswein in Wajir County, some parts of Turkana County including Kaeris, Kataboi and the surrounding areas of Sibiloi National Park. 	Government Task Force El Nino response Plan activated. • 1.5 million People are at risk during the short rains season (October to December 2015); Of these 800,000 to 1	 90 people dead due to flash floods, lightening and land/mudslides 70,000 persons displaced mostly in Tana Delta, Nyanza, Garissa and Turkana More than 150,000 people affected. Disease outbreak (malaria, cholera, diarrheal diseases) especially in IDPs camps in Kisumu, Tana River, Migori, Isiolo, Homa Bay and West Pokot. As of 23rd November 2015, a total of 8,121 cholera cases and 147 deaths (CFR=1.8%) had been reported nationally. Only 1,060 (13%) of the cases are laboratory confirmed. Currently, 6 Counties have active Cholera outbreaks About 3500 livestock were washed away in Mandera, Marsabit, Wajir, Narok, Tana River. 20 cows died related to diseases Contamination of water sources 	 Damage to health infrastructure, including power interruption and outages in health facilities. Classrooms roofs blown, collapsed walls and latrine damages reported in schools in Elgeyo Marakwet, Isiolo, Makueni, Tana River, Kiambu, Murang'a, West Pokot, Homa Bay, Vihiga, Kakamega, Kilifi and Nandi counties. About 1000 acres of food crops have been inundated in Kisumu, Mwea, Garissa, Migori, West Pokot, Isiolo, Tana river and Mandera: food shortage anticipated from January Irrigation canals, dykes and culverts damaged in irrigation schemes across the country. Destruction of water treatment works and sewerage treatment works in Isiolo. Roads, bridges damaged; impeding movement in more than 12 counties. Land/Mudslides reported in West Pokot, Muranga, Meru, Elgeyo Marakwet, Transnzoia, Narok, Mombasa. 	 The national and county government in collaboration with the Kenya Red Cross leading preparedness efforts through El nino Task Force and the County Disaster Operations Centers at county level. County Government distributing food items to affected communities and repairing infrastructural damages. The National Government has also allocated more than Ksh. 1.4 billion shillings for El Nino preparedness and response. National Disaster Operations Centre providing 24-hour coordination and monitoring of impact of El nino. UN agencies have seconded technical staff to NDOC to support coordination and emergency information management. Prepositioning of essential drugs (MOH, UNICEF) Rift Valley Fever vaccination in hotspots (county government, KRDP, DVS) Search& Rescue and provision of security (KPS, NYS, KFS, KWS) Capacity building: KIRA training, County capacity assessment (KRCS/UNDP/ directorate of special program) 	 County disaster management teams to conduct rapid assessment of schools and emergency repairs to be undertaken before schools open in January. MoH and Veterinary department to sustain enhanced disease surveillance and control. Emergency repairs to mitigate further damage to infrastructure in irrigation schemes. NCPB to support farmers in north rift and western grain basket areas to dry harvested grains to avert post-harvest loses. Use of media including local FM radios to be continued for public awareness.

Eastern Africa: El Niño: Impact, response and gaps (as of December 2015)



Country	EL Nino Effect	Affected areas	People at risk/Contingency plan	Affected people/livestock	Impact on Infrastructure	Response/Funding Update	Needs and Gaps
Somalia	FLOODS : Starting 7 October	 Parts of northern Somalia, Hiraan and areas along the Juba and Shabelle river basins and Ethiopian highlands. Rainfall reportedly reducing inside Somalia and in the Ethiopia highlands (SWALIM 27 Nov) Flood risk from river Juba moderate, though risk of flooding along the lower and middle reaches of River Shabelle due to open river banks and weak river embankments 	 Fragile humanitarian situation: Overall, 4.9 million people are in need of lifesaving and livelihood support (FSNU, 4 Nov). Over 1 million people are acutely food insecure and require assistance and an estimated 308,000 children under the age of five are acutely malnourished; 1.1 million IDPs Multi agency El Nino contingency plan finalised for affected regions. More than 132,000 people at risk. 	 An estimated 144,000 people affected. Increased cases of Acute Watery Diarhoea (AWD) reported in Banadir region. (3 kids under age 5 died of AWD) Increased cases of malarial disease as well as AWD were also reported in Gedo region. (3 dead aNd 9 affected by AWD in Middle Shabelle) Increase in admission of malnutrition cases in Galgaduud region, due to partly, to an increase in diarhoea cases. 	 Destruction of main supply roads hindering delivery of produce to the markets. This has resulted in escalation of commodity prices. The Afgooye-Awdhegle road, as well as the road between Mashane and Waagle in Marka district, affected. 	 WFP has provided over 28,000 people affected by the flooding in Middle Shabelle, Hiran and Lower Juba with emergency relief. WFP is using prepositioned logistical assets, including boats and helicopter, to assist people in areas where road access is compromised. Prepositioning of life-saving supplies in priority areas, and boats placed in flood-prone areas. Integrated nutrition programming targeting 3,400 pregnant and lactating mothers and children ongoing. Some 620 people in Degelema and Tulo Barwaqo in Afmadow district (Lower Juba) received micronutrient supplements. Rapid nutrition assessment to ascertain the needs of an estimated 3,400 pregnant and lactating women and children in Gaalkacyo Outpatient therapeutic services are also being provided at Gaalkacyo hospital. Food cluster improving access to food for affected people, rehabilitation and strengthening of existing small-scale productive infrastructure and river embankments. Establishment of community-based early warning systems for vector and Rift Valley fever. Training on livestock warcination and supportive treatment provided. Monitoring of weather and river levels ongoing. In Doolow, Gedo region, construction of gabions and the rehabilitation of diversion and earth canal through cashfor-work was completed. Food and plastic sheets provided to 1,200 people in six villages in Burdhuubo. Sanitation and hygiene awareness and response activities in flood-affected areas. Chlorinated 21 wells in Hamarweyne and Hawladaag districts of Banadir. 4,800 hygiene kits targeting about 28,800 people were distributed by WASH partners throughout southern and central Somalia. NFIs also distributed to people affected by Cyclone Chapal in Bair region. Middle Shabbele: 7 river breakages in Balcad district closed. 40,500 sandbags distributed. 	 Rapid assessment of IDPs in Kamsuma village. Emergency shelter, food and non-food items are among the identified needs.
	DROUGHT: Somaliland Reportedly "driest years in memory "(WFP).	Somaliland	•	 Severe shortages of water and increased livestock deaths. About 60,000 people are in need of assistance 		 WFP has airlifted nutrition products to Somaliland to respond to rising levels of malnutrition. 	