

# **Global Overview**

**Operational Brief** 

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## WFP GLOBAL

- Responding to emergencies is WFP's core business. Short- and medium-term response to emergencies and protracted crises have accounted for at least 78 percent of WFP's overall direct expenses over the last four years.
- WFP is responding to an <u>increasing number of emergencies</u>, from a portfolio of three emergency responses in 2010, to 12 in 2015.
- <u>Increasing number of complex emergencies</u>: in recent years, there has been a significant increase in the frequency, scale and complexity of humanitarian crises. The need for humanitarian assistance in complex emergency situations has never been as high as now, as WFP is currently responding to 10 concurrent "man-made" crises out of the 12 Level 3 and Level 2 emergency responses.

- <u>Longer duration of emergency responses</u>: most of the emergencies are becoming protracted. WFP had only one new Emergency Response activation (Nepal) this year, but we are responding to 11 carry-overs, including the newly declared L3 in Yemen).
- Access remains a key challenge:
  - Limited humanitarian access is a driving factor behind WFP's challenges in reaching affected populations (in Syria, Iraq, Yemen, Ukraine, Libya, South Sudan, Central African Republic, DRC, Somalia, etc.).
  - Radicalized extremist elements operating in many of these countries make access and deconfliction efforts extremely difficult, and virtually impossible in some cases.
  - With ISIL operating in parts of Syria, Iraq, Yemen and Libya, and Boko Haram and other jihadists increasing presence in western Africa as well as Al-Shabaab in east Africa, WFP and its partners struggle to reach affected families in these war zones that become at times completely cut off from WFP assistance.
  - Seasonal rains are another hindrance for WFP operations and access. Though these rains are often predictable, having sufficient funding in place before the onset of the rainy season is vital for prepositioning efforts.
  - WFP is using innovative ways to operate in some of these difficultto-reach areas, deploying the use of remote management, remote monitoring (mVAM) and using third-party monitors.

## **Overall Global trends:**

- The numbers of IDPs and refugees are at their highest levels in recent history. According to UNHCR, there are 59.5 million refugees in 2015.
- **Natural disasters** alone killed over 1 million people and affected almost 3 billion people since 2003.

## **Key Facts about WFP**

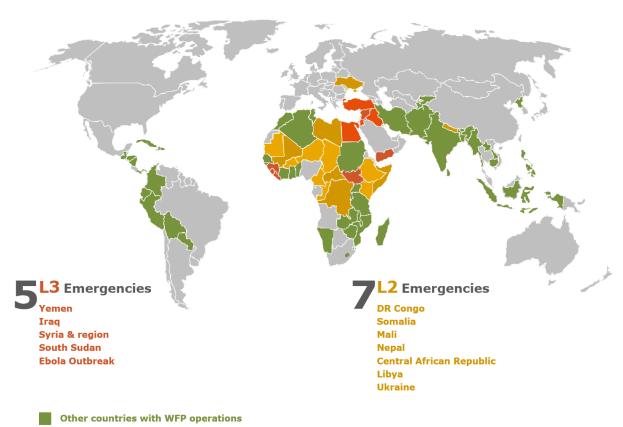
- In 2015, WFP plans to provide 17 billion rations to 78 million people in 76 countries.
- WFP fed 80 million people in 2014 across 82 countries, 42 million of whom were living in emergency conditions.
- Number of L3s: five Level-3 emergencies (Iraq, Syria & region, South Sudan, Ebola, Yemen)
- Number of L2s: seven Level-2 emergencies (C.A.R., DRC, Libya, Mali, Nepal, Somalia/Horn of Africa, Ukraine)
- About 15,000 people work for WFP, most of them in remote areas, directly serving the hungry poor. 87 percent are hired locally.

- Some 4,000 WFP staff-members are based in L3 and L2 countries, making up almost 30 percent of the entire workforce.
- Where possible, WFP is using cash-based interventions to reduce costs and provide beneficiaries with more options in terms of food assistance.

# **WFP Major Emergency Responses**

**July 2015** 





# IRAQ (L3)

## **KEY POINTS**

- Humanitarian needs in Iraq continue to increase while funding shortfalls grow. At present, WFP is providing half rations and reduced voucher values due to limited funding.
- Iraq boosts one of the highest numbers of internally displaced persons 3.1 million people.
- WFP faces severe access constraints in many parts of the country.
- WFP continues to provide food assistance to on average 1.5 million people per month. However, due to funding constraints, WFP made adjustments to the distribution strategy.

## **SITUATION**

WFP remote monitoring (mVAM) in April showed that the food security situation in Iraq has deteriorated, particularly in conflict-affected areas of Anbar, Duhok, Ninewa and Diyala, with food prices rising by almost 30 percent in Anbar compared to the previous month.

Iraq has witnessed massive new internal displacement as a result of the Islamic State (or 'ISIL') offensive across multiple parts of the country; at least 3.1 million persons are currently displaced. Most recently, 200,000 people were forced to flee in May when Ramadi fell to ISIL and 20,400 individuals were displaced within Salah al-Din governorate in June.

### **PROGRAMMING**

**EMOP 200677: Emergency Assistance to Populations Affected by the Iraq Crisis** (April 2014 – Dec 2015). WFP originally aimed to provide monthly assistance to 1.8 million displaced people and conflict-affected people across Iraq's 18 governorates in 2015. Last year, WFP reached this number. Due to funding constraints, WFP has not been able to reach its target for the past few months.

WFP Iraq has had to reduce the size of the monthly family food rations for displaced families living with host communities because of funding shortfalls. Those families living in camps - who have fewer job opportunities - will continue to receive full rations. The reduced ration now meets about 40 percent of nutritional needs, instead of 80 percent. Voucher value was reduced from USD26 to USD16, in line with the retail prices of WFP food basket. Unless funds are received urgently, WFP will be forced to make further reductions to voucher value and ration sizes.

WFP continues to seek close collaboration with the Ministry of Trade in order to complete the re-registration of displaced people onto the Public Distribution System (PDS), a social safety net in Iraq.

## **ACCESS**

Lack of access in conflict zones, including parts of Anbar, Diyala, Ninewa, Kirkuk and Salah al-Din governorates, continues to hamper WFP operations. Lack of humanitarian access and the fluidity on the ground continue to hamper the humanitarian response. Conducting assessment missions is difficult and gathering reliable and stable information regarding the displaced population remains a challenge. In light of anticipated military action by the Iraqi army to regain areas from ISIL control, contingency planning is under preparation for all eventualities, at both interagency and Country Office level.

## RESOURCING

Funding for WFP's operations in Iraq has reached critical levels; WFP a sixmonth shortfall of USD90 million for the EMOP through November 2015; if no additional resources are received, pipeline breaks are expected in August. The pipeline strain is exacerbated by a 120 day maximum lead time for international purchases, as contributions must be received three months in advance of commodities being received in-country.

## **CAPACITY**

WFP has 163 staff (43 international, 120 national) working out of five offices (one Country Office, one Area Office and three Sub-Offices) in Iraq.

### **INTER-AGENCY**

In collaboration with UNICEF and a consortium of NGO partners, WFP uses a Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) to reach newly displaced or recently returned people in a timely way. Stocks of Immediate Response Rations (IRRs) and UNICEF hygiene kits and bottled water are pre-positioned with partners, which most recently ensured complete packages of assistance to people displaced from Ramadi. Vulnerable families who have recently arrived in camps, urban areas or living with host communities, receive portable ready-to-eat food. One IRR provides a family of five with food for three days.

WFP is working with partners to implement the 2015 Humanitarian Response Plan which appeals for nearly USD500 million to cover basic life-saving support over the next six critical months. The response will target the most vulnerable with essential, life-saving support.

#### 1,827,900 1,827,900 <sub>1,827,900</sub> 1,827,900 ■ Planned **WFP** EMOP 200677 148.9 Source: PGG 01 July 2015 Requirements & Funding Family (June-November 2015) Food 120 5 DONORS Parcels Six month shortfall FUNDING ashboard Figures in USD urce: RMBP 19 June 201 08 July 201 CIA Food Vouchers ENEFIC 18.2 14.4 13.7 12.5 Immediate TOP ! MAR JUNE Response JAPAN AUSTRALIA CANADA \*Due to a strain on the food pipeline, the targeted caseload ■ 89.8 million Rations was reached over the two months of April and May Six months requirement of \*\*Received figures for June are up-to-date as of 27 June 134.9 million Distributions are ongoing. Orumiyeh TURKEY Ira Gaziantep as of 29 June 2015 Zanjan Manbij Al Hasakah Tall 'Afan CARGO DISPATCHED \$ VALUE OF GOODS DISPATCHED Aleppo **707**MT Ar Raqqah USD 6.2 million PARTNERS SERVED Deir ez-Zor Sanandaj IRAN (ISLAMIC SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC OF) million REPUBLIC 8 TOTAL Bayji Hamadan **IDPs** CONSIGNMENTS Tikrite Kermanshah Samarra as of 12 June 2015 madi Abu Ghuraya Baghdad Khorramabad • 2290 m<sup>3</sup> 938<sub>MT</sub> JORDAN STORAGE SPACE Karbala Al Hillah CARGO AVAILABLE IN 2 STORED FOR 28 ORGANIZATIONS LOCATIONS Al Havy An Najara Ash Shamiyah (US\$) Received Ash Shatrah ■ Requirements SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC Ahvaz An Nasiriyah Source: OCHA ETS 03 July 2015 Al Basraro SAUDI ARABIA KUWAIT Number of IDPs by Location as of 67 May 2015 (IOM) Kuwait City ■ 95.4 million ■ 4.3 million ■ 0.2 million WFP ■ 249.3 million ■ 3.8 million ■ 0.5 million WFP LEVEL 3 EMERGENCY National Capital Road Supply Route ▲ Refugee Camp - International boundary line Field Office Country office SINCE 11 AUGUST 2014 Road Supply Route Closed - Governorate Boundary A IDP Camp O Major Town Area Office Warehouse Road Supply Route --- Main Road Contact: WFP.OPSCEN@wfp.org Intermediate Town A IDP Camp (limited access) Iraq Crisis Page on: http://opweb.wfp.org Sub Office Border Crossing Point Small Town

## WEST AFRICA EBOLA OUTBREAK (L3)

## **KEY POINTS**

- WFP continues to support health efforts to ensure that Ebola-affected countries reach zero Ebola cases, by providing food to patients and survivors, and logistics support to health partners.
- UNMEER is phasing out of the region and is no longer providing aviation support. UNHAS is picking up certain routes and responsibilities. Terminal H in Dakar will remain operational until September 2015.
- UNHAS is downsizing its fleet to eight aircraft and reorganizing its operation in line with the June-September rainy season; this will be reflected in BR3 to SO 200773.
- Since April 2014, WFP has distributed food to three million people affected by Ebola. Results from recent accessments have shown that WFP's food interventions have played a vital role in helping reduce the risk of further spread of the outbreak as affected communities were able to reduce their need to move.

### **SITUATION**

The past six weeks has seen case numbers in Guinea and Sierra Leone more or less stable, with 20 confirmed cases in the week to 28 June, the same as the previous week. Weekly case incidence has been between 20 and 27 cases for five consecutive weeks. In Guinea, 12 cases were reported from three prefectures: Boke, Conakry, and Forecariah. In Sierra Leone, eight cases were reported from the same three districts as the previous week: Kambia, Port Loko, and the district that includes the capital, Freetown.

Meanwhile, Liberia recorded its first case some seven weeks after the country was declared Ebola-free. The case was located in Margiribi County, close to Liberia's capital Monrovia. In total in Liberia there are currently two confirmed and one suspected case, with 200 contacts being traced.

According to Emergency Food Security Assessments (EFSA) carried out in June, in Sierra Leone 43 percent of the population is food insecure (seven percent severely). In Guinea, 18 percent of the population is food insecure (one percent severely). Meanwhile in Liberia, 16 percent of the population is food insecure (two percent severely).

## **PROGRAMMING**

Regional EMOP 200761: Support to Populations in Areas Affected by the Ebola Outbreak in Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone (Aug 2014 - Sep 2015). Budget Revision 4 to the EMOP extended the operation in time through September 2015, in line with the WFP Level 3 declaration. As

per BR4, 1.33 million people are targeted starting in June, increasing the total beneficiaries under the EMOP to 3.36 million and the overall requirements by USD19 million (to USD208 million). In April, WFP reached over 210,000 beneficiaries in Ebola-affected countries. Meanwhile, in response to the resurgent cases in Liberia, WFP is distributing a total of 5 metric tons of food to all people who were in contact with the latest cases.

SO 200773: Logistics Common Services for the Humanitarian Community's Response to the Ebola Virus Disease Outbreak in West Africa (Oct 2014 - Dec 2015). The Logistics Common Services SO provides logistics common services to the wider humanitarian community via aviation support, inter-agency Coordination through the Logistics Cluster, telecoms infrastructure through the ET Cluster, engineering support to health facilities as well as emergency preparedness and response measures.

### **ACCESS**

Access to some areas and persistent community resistance represent the main challenges for WFP's response as well as for staff safety and wellbeing, together with the rainy season that will impact transportation to field locations until August-September.

## RESOURCING

The EMOP faces a four month funding shortfall of USD12.3 million through September 2015, representing 28 percent of total four month requirements that stand at USD42.9 million. Meanwhile, the Regional SO is 68 percent funded of USD272.1 million total needs through 2015.

## **CAPACITY**

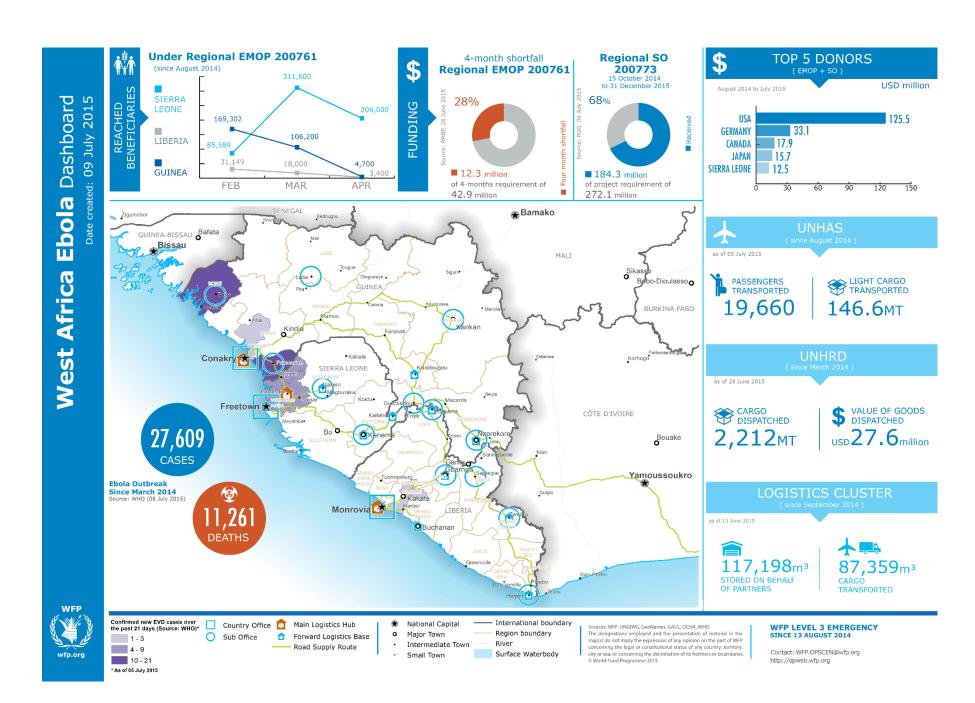
WFP has an average of 900 national and international staff working on the Ebola response in the three countries. In addition, WFP has a Regional Bureau in Dakar, three Country Offices, seven Sub-offices in Guinea, six Sub-offices in Liberia, and five Sub-offices in Sierra Leone. A wide logistics network is in place across Ebola-affected countries which includes staging areas in Accra, Dakar, Las Palmas, Cologne, Conakry, Freetown and Monrovia, as well as three main logistics hubs and 11 forward logistics bases.

### **INTER-AGENCY**

WFP works in close collaboration with UNMEER at national and regional levels. UNMEER staff have been seconded to WFP UNHAS regional team to collaborate on management of UNMEER assets. WFP and WHO are also engaged in a Joint Collaboration in which WFP is bolstering WHO's operational capacity in Ebola-affected countries. This partnership will

ensure that WHO's epidemiological expertise is able to reach further faster, while maintaining operational readiness.

Sector coordination mechanisms are in place and WFP is an active player. The cluster system is active in Liberia. In Guinea and Sierra Leone pre-existing working group structures are active.



## CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (L2)

## **KEY POINTS**

- Positive commitments reached at Bangui Forum bring renewed hope for an improvement in security and access; however, the long term impacts of the agreements remain to be seen.
- WFP has not renewed the L3 emergency response activation for C.A.R. but instead activated a Level 2 emergency response. This step is due to the fact that there is now enough response capacity at Regional Bureau and Country Office level, but does not at all indicate that needs have diminished.

## **SITUATION**

The humanitarian and security situation in the Central African Republic and surrounding areas remain affected by a continuing presence of armed militia groups and repeated incidents, despite the positive commitments reached at the recent Bangui Forum. A total of 460,000 refugees are registered in Cameroon, Chad, DRC and Republic of Congo and 399,000 people continue to be internally displaced in Central African Republic.

According to IPC assessments carried out in April, more than 1.2 million people (almost 30 percent of the population) are suffering from crisis (IPC phase 3) or emergency (IPC phase 4) levels of food insecurity and are in urgent need of assistance.

### **PROGRAMMING**

Regional EMOP 200799: Critical support to populations affected by the ongoing crisis in the Central African Republic and its regional impact (Jan 2015 – Dec 2015). The regional operation targets 1.5 million people in the Central African Republic and neighbouring countries in 2015. In May, WFP reached over 842,800 people across the Central African Republic, Cameroon, Chad, DRC and Republic of Congo, fulfilling 64 percent of its monthly target of 1.3 million people across those countries. Response gaps in the Central African Republic and Cameroon we due in part to access issues, pipeline breaks and congestion at Douala port.

**SO 200804: Provision of Humanitarian Air Services in the Central African Republic** (Jan 2015 – Dec 2015). A USD15.5 million
Special Operation running from January to December 2015 provides
UNHAS services in the country, serving 28 regular destinations with three aircraft.

### **CONSTRAINTS**

Urgent resources are needed due to logistical/supply chain challenges and the long lead time to position food to meet beneficiaries' needs in the coming months.

## RESOURCING

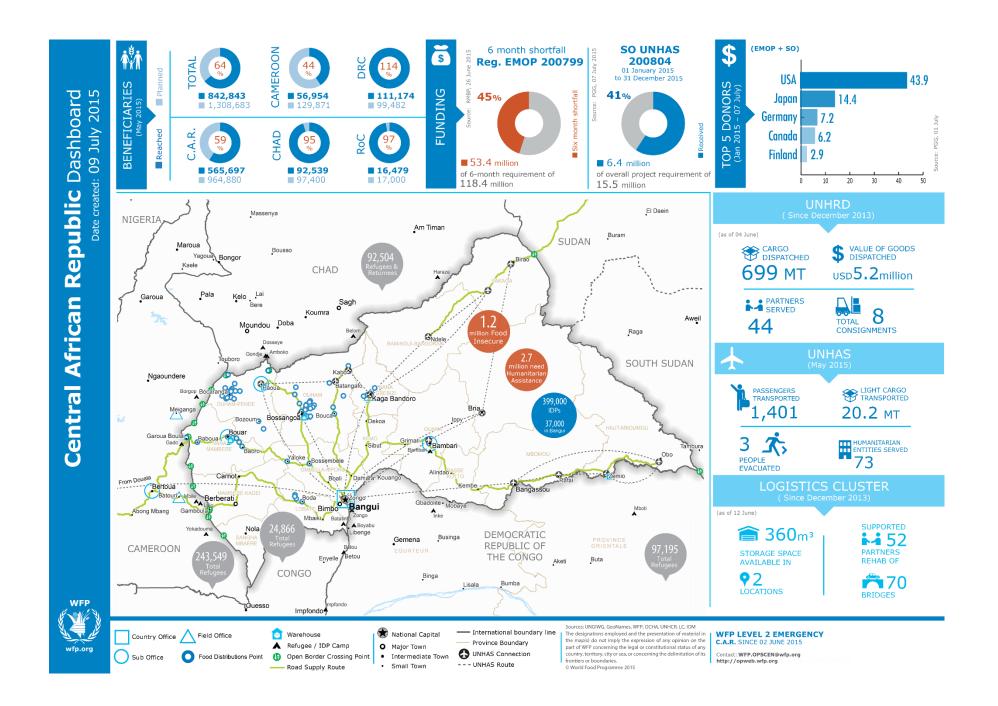
The Regional EMOP faces a six month shortfall of USD53.4 million, representing 45 percent of six month needs of USD118.4 million. UNHAS SO received contributions to cover 40 percent of the USD 15.5 million 2015 project needs.

### **CAPACITY**

WFP has 175 staff in-country, of whom 41 are international. In addition to the Country Office in Bangui, WFP makes use of four sub-offices and six warehouses throughout the country. Despite persistent insecurity and communal violence, WFP continues efforts to reach the most vulnerable communities.

### **INTER-AGENCY**

WFP works in close collaboration with humanitarian actors via the cluster system (Food Security, Logistics and ETC) as well as other key humanitarian architecture present in the country. WFP continues preparations for the 2015 agricultural season and is coordinating the provision of seed protection rations with FAO and the food security cluster. FAO seeks to reach a total of 150,000 households and has so far received funding for 90,000. Thus far, WFP has confirmed 50,000 households to be targeted under the seed protection programme.



## DR CONGO (L2)

## **KEY POINTS**

• WFP will face critical shortfalls in the last quarter of 2015 and additional contributions are urgently required. WFP had already taken steps to prioritize operational response efforts in 2014 given the critical funding shortfalls.

## **SITUATION**

DRC continues to see fighting between the DRC armed forces, supported by MONUSCO, and some 30 armed groups, which is displacing large portions of the population. Armed groups continue to be particularly active in the east and have caused the internal displacement of 2.7 million people since the beginning of the conflict in 1998. In 2014 alone, 753,000 people have been internally displaced. In addition, close to 443,000 people have sought refuge in neighbouring countries. DRC hosts 90,000 refugees from Central African Republic and 10,000 refugees from Burundi. Significant population movements are reported in Katanga due to increasing insecurity.

70 percent of DRC's population lives below the poverty line and lacks access to adequate food. The national global acute malnutrition (GAM) rate is 8 percent, with ten territories having GAM rates above the emergency threshold of 15 percent. Chronic malnutrition (stunting) is very high and stands at 43 percent.

## **PROGRAMMING**

PRRO 200540: Targeted Food Assistance to Victims of Armed Conflicts and other Vulnerable Groups (July 2013 – Dec 2015) aims to assist 3.6 million people in crisis-affected areas through life- saving food assistance.

EMOP 200799: Critical Support to Populations Affected by the Ongoing Crisis in C.A.R. and Its Regional Impact (Jan – Dec 2015) aims to assist 96,300 refugees from Central African Republic in DRC.

SO 200747: Logistics Cluster Coordination and Information Management in DRC provides logistics support to the humanitarian community.

**SO 200789: Provision of Humanitarian Air Services in DRC** (Jan 2015 – Dec 2015) provides humanitarian air services and support to the wider humanitarian response in DRC.

**SO 200661: Strengthening Food Security Cluster Coordination in DR Congo** (Mar 2014 – Feb 2016) aims to provide leadership and coordination in the Food Security Cluster and strengthen existing national and local humanitarian management and coordination systems.

## **ACCESS**

Impassable roads, broken bridges as well as non-maintained airports and landing strips have hampered WFP from providing food assistance to beneficiaries. As a result of the tense security situation in North Kivu, security measures for field missions have been reinforced. The Security Management Team on 30 April requested that any mission to Rutshuru in North Kivu be accompanied by an armed MONUSCO escort. WFP will continue to carry out activities through local partners and organize escorts as needed.

## RESOURCING

The PRRO 200540 faces a six months shortfall (June-November) of USD19.8 million. The DRC portion of Regional EMOP 200799 faces a sixmonths shortfall of USD4.8million. Pipeline breaks are expected for October 2015.

## **CAPACITY**

WFP has 407 staff in DRC (of whom 51 are international), working in 12 offices: 1 Country Office, 3 Area Offices, 4 Sub-Offices and 4 Field Offices).

## **INTER-AGENCY**

WFP works closely with other UN agencies, including UNICEF (for nutrition activities), FAO (for P4P activities and the IPC exercise), UNDP and UNHabitat (to build resilience of IDPs returning to their areas of origin), and UNHCR (through an MoU to assist and repatriate refugees). Nutrition activities are closely coordinated with other UN agencies and, as much as possible, targeted in coordination with UNICEF. WFP works with about 90 different partners in DRC to implement, complement, and provide technical support to WFP's operations.

#### TOP DONORS \$ 6-month shortfall 6.6 million ■ Planned ■ Actual PRRO 200540 (PRRO 200540) Food Insecure 800000 (IPC December 2014 BENEFICIARIES - June 2015 figures) Source: PGG, 01 July 2015 700000 623,017 FUNDING Dashboard 556,815 34% 600000 09 July 201 2.8 million 500000 573,728 557.815 **IDPs Countrywide** 105.8 480,171 400000 (April 2015) Multilateral 23.3 300000 S S 225,019 Canada 16.2 200000 Refugees in DRC (UNHCR, 30 April 14.0 100000 Germany ■ 19.8 million of 6-month requirement of EC 6.8 2015) MAR APR MAY 58.2 million 5.2 Japan Congo Juba CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SOUTH SUDAN ILEMI TRIANG 100 40 60 80 CAMEROON Bangui **⊕**Yaounde Siro . of EQUATORIAL GUINEA **PASSENGERS** LIGHT CARGO TRANSPORTED **Democratic Republic** TRANSPORTED Libreville Kampala OKisangani Mbandaka KENYA 2,377 91.8<sub>MT</sub> CONGO GABON DEMOCRATIC-REPUBLIC-<sup>oma</sup>Kigali Bukayu JRWANDA OF THE CONGO Kindu HUMANITARIAN ENTITIES SERVED Bandundu -KIVUT Bujumbura O---160 PEOPLE Brazzaville 0000 BURUNDI **EVACUATED** Kikwit ma Matadi Kimpese UNITED REPUBLIC Kananga Mbuji-Mayi Kabalo O \_ Kalemie Received OF TANZANIA ■ Requirements Mwene-Ditu • Gandajika Source: FTS, 07 July 2015 Kamina A Logistics Luanda Food Security 0 Kolwezi ANGOLA Lubumbashi ZAMBIA ■ 90.4 million ■ 19.8 million Kitwe**O** ■ 183 million ■ 51 million MOZAMBIQUE Data Sources: WFP, UNGWG. GAUL, UNHCR, RGC, Geonames WFP LEVEL 2 EMERGENCY - International boundary line National Capital Warehouse Country Office Field Office SINCE 12 DECEMBER 2013 Port Road Supply Route O Major Town The boundaries and names and the Contact: WFP.OPSCEN@wfp.org designations used on this map do Waterway Supply Route Intermediate Town ♣ UNHAS Connection http://opweb.wfp.org Area Office not imply official endorsment or acceptance by the United Nations --- Undeterminated boundary --- UNHAS Route Province boundary

## LIBYA (L2)

## **KEY POINTS**

- No food distributions took place in March and April due to a pipeline break. In May, WFP resumed food distributions.
- WFP has received around USD6.8m out of the USD20.7m required. The lack of funding will result in the reduction of the number of beneficiaries receiving WFP assistance. With no foreseeable financial resources, the operation is hampered by frequent pipeline breaks.
- The entire UN Country Team (UNCT) is operating out of neighbouring countries due to widespread insecurity.
- Humanitarian assistance is hampered by the volatile situation, which impedes access to many areas of the country and reduces communication and monitoring. Difficult to assess the population's needs and degree of vulnerability due to limited access.

### **SITUATION**

The conflict between nationalists and Islamist-backed militias has led to a re-escalation of hostilities across Libya in recent months, causing massive displacement, destruction of public infrastructure and the disruption of basic social services. More than 434,000 people have been internally displaced and 150,000 have sought refuge in neighbouring countries. The ongoing fighting and general lawlessness throughout Libya has generated a significant exodus of migrants to Europe. Tens of thousands migrants have tried to cross the Mediterranean this year, with many starting their perilous journey from Libyan ports.

Libya's rival Governments have announced that they will not return to peace talks after rebel forces on 01 July rejected the latest proposal, despite warnings that the UN Security Council would impose sanctions on anyone who stands in the way of a deal.

Amnesty International reports that neighbouring countries, including Algeria, Tunisia, and Egypt, have imposed more stringent entry requirements at their borders. Egypt has closed its border crossings to refugees and migrants from third countries, allowing entry to Libyan nationals only. The Tunisian border is also open to Libyans, but other nationals must have valid documents to be able to enter, and must depart from Tunisia after a short transit stay.

Libya's agricultural production is very limited. As a result, 80 percent of food requirements are imported, a figure that reaches up to 90 percent in the case of cereals. Food is heavily subsidised, in particular for cereal grains and flour, the staple of the Libyan diet. Insecurity has disrupted markets, trade

routes and access to the public distribution system and the national safety net programme, affecting both food supplies and access to food.

The Libyan Red Crescent and several national NGOs are still operating on the ground, but are overloaded with addressing the humanitarian needs of all affected populations.

## **PROGRAMMING**

EMOP 200776: Assistance to people affected by the crisis in Libya (Nov 2014 – Sept 2015) builds on the previous EMOP (200257) and aims to provide food assistance to the most vulnerable displaced populations affected by the crisis, and targets 115,000 people a month.

## **ACCESS**

Due to the ongoing violence and highly volatile security situation, humanitarian access has been extremely limited as UN agencies, donors and INGOs have evacuated staff to neighbouring countries, e.g. Tunisia and Malta. WFP has not had a presence in Libya since 2012. The Libya United Nations Country Team (UNCT) is operating remotely from Tunisia until the situation allows for the deployment of staff. A WFP emergency coordinator for EMOP 200776 is based in Tunis.

New transport contracts have been awarded on the two overland access corridors via Tunisia and Egypt, for supply to western and eastern Libya respectively. The ability to operate out of Libyan ports changes frequently depending on fighting.

It has been difficult to assess the population's needs and degree of vulnerability due to limited access, in particular in areas controlled by militias or where fighting is ongoing. Obtaining information from cooperating partners on the ground continues to be difficult due to frequent electricity and telephone outages.

## RESOURCING

Only USD6.8 million out of USD20.7 million required have been received to date. The lack of funding will result in the reduction of the number of beneficiaries receiving WFP assistance.

## **CAPACITY**

WFP relies on cooperating partners for food distribution to affected populations. A New Field Level Agreement (FLA) has been signed with the Shaik Taher Azzawi Charity Organisation (STACO) for the distribution of 3,000mt for 234,000 displaced people until the end of October 2015.

Another FLA for three months has been signed with LibAid to cover eastern Libya, including Benghazi, with the distribution of 614mt of food for 9,600 families.

The monthly rations are packaged for a household of five people in two parcels. This enables WFP and partners to distribute food quickly and safely and for people to carry their rations easily.

## **INTER-AGENCY**

Clusters have not been activated. In some sectors, response activities have been initiated. Food Security, as well as Logistics and Emergency Telecommunications, are led by WFP; Protection Sector response is led by UNHCR; Health Sector by WHO; UNICEF leads the WASH sector.

On behalf of the Libya UNCT, WFP signed an agreement with ACTED Impact Initiatives to carry out a new multi-sectoral, in-depth assessment with the participation of IOM, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNDP and WFP with support from the Resident Coordinator's Office. Preliminary findings of the assessment are expected in the coming weeks and will allow the UNCT to update the current humanitarian appeal, which was extended until the end of June 2015.

## MALI (L2)

## **KEY POINTS**

• On 20 May, the Tuareg CMA coalition signed a peace agreement with the Government, however implementation of the agreement remains a critical challenge.

## **SITUATION**

In Mali, amid a context of continued insecurity, displacement and constrained humanitarian space, there is uncertainty regarding the ongoing peace process. On 20 May, northern Mali's main Tuareg coalition, the Coordination of Azawad Movements (CMA), signed a peace agreement with the Government following months-long negotiations. However, implementation of the agreement faces considerable risks due to divisions within the armed groups.

The latest outburst of hostilities between armed groups resulted in an additional 59,000 people fleeing their homes in Timbuktu, Gao and Mopti regions. The security situation remains of concern, with over 400,000 people, mainly in northern regions, estimated to be in urgent need of assistance.

According to the June-August Cadre Harmonisé, food security assessments, 2.7 million people face moderate levels of food insecurity in Mali (IPC phases 2 and 3), while 410,000 people face severe food insecurity (IPC phases 3 and above).

## **PROGRAMMING**

In May, WFP reached almost 511,300 people across Mali (383,800), Burkina Faso (31,300), Mauritania (51,300) and Niger (44,900) with food assistance under the PRRO and regional EMOP operations that target conflict-affected households inside Mali as well as Malian refugees in neighbouring countries. This achievement represents 97 percent of overall target beneficiaries. In June, WFP aims to reach over 849,500 people.

PRRO 200719: Saving lives, reducing malnutrition and building livelihoods (Jan 2015 – Dec 2017). The three-year PRRO for Mali aims to assist 1.1 million people a year.

Regional EMOP 200438: Assistance to refugees and internally displaced persons affected by insecurity in Mali (Jun 2012 – Dec 2015). The regional EMOP assists Malian refugees in Burkina Faso, Mauritania and Niger.

**SO 200802: Provision of Humaniarian Air Services (UNHAS) in Mali** (Jan – Dec 2015) provides UNHAS services to the wider humanitarian community in Mali.

## **CONSTRAINTS**

A primary concern remains the lack of access to some of the most affected populations due to continuing insecurity in northern Mali, alongside important resourcing shortfalls that limit WFP's response capacity.

## RESOURCING

Mali PRRO faces a six month shortfall of USD37.3 million, representing 44 percent of six month needs. Meanwhile Mali SO is 57 percent funded of 2015 needs amounting to USD5.9 million. Mali Regional EMOP that targets refugees in Burkina Faso, Mauritania and Niger faces a six month shortfall of USD3.7 million, representing 21 percent of six months requirements.

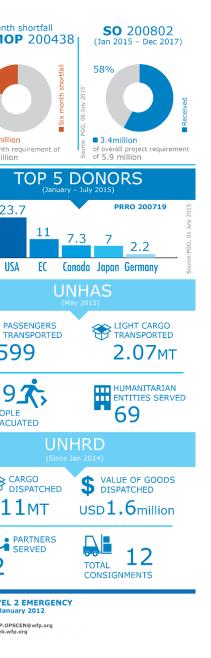
### **CAPACITY**

WFP has 216 staff (of whom 32 are international) and a network of six suboffices in addition to a Country Office in Bamako.

## **INTER-AGENCY**

In Mali, WFP works closely with the relevant Government Ministries and the Commission for Food Security (CSA). Together with FAO, WFP co-leads the Food Security Cluster in Mali which plays a critical role in supporting food security surveys and in coordinating relief and recovery activities.

Under the Country Programme, WFP continues to work with Médecins Sans Frontières on a pilot study to assess the impact of the integrated health and nutrition prevention strategy using Nutributter in the Sikasso region.



## NEPAL (L2)

## **KEY POINTS**

- WFP is currently in Phase II of the EMOP response, targeting 1.2 million beneficiaries in June and July and relying on local porters to reach beneficiaries in remote locations.
- Phase III of the EMOP remains severely underfunded 78 percent shortfall is forecast until December 2015.
- The monsoon season has begun. Heavy rains and landslides are expected to exacerbate access constraints and increase humanitarian needs.
- The humanitarian community, guided by the government's Post Disaster Needs Assessment, is scaling back on the emergency relief response and is focusing on reconstruction, rehabilitation and recovery.

## **SITUATION**

A 7.9 magnitude earthquake struck Nepal on 25 April with an epicenter in Gandaki District. Several aftershocks followed, including one measuring 7.3 magnitude on 12 May. Over 8,790 people died, and 22,300 people were injured; vulnerable demographic groups have been disproportionately affected. The Government estimates that the total value of damages and losses caused by the earthquakes is USD7 billion. As of 25 June, donors have pledged USD4.4 billion to the Government for reconstruction.

The World Bank predicts that the earthquakes will push at least 700,000 additional Nepalis into poverty between 2015 and 2016. Roughly 50 to 70 percent of the increase in poverty will occur in rural central hills and mountains, where overall vulnerability prior to the earthquake was already high. These rural areas are heavily dependent on agriculture for their livelihoods and were particularly damaged by the earthquake and landslides.

## **PROGRAMMING**

EMOP 200668: Emergency Food Assistance to Populations Affected by Earthquake in Nepal (Apr-Dec 2015). WFP has divided its operations into three phases over eight months. In Phase I, which ended in June, WFP enacted a rapid emergency response and reached over 2 million beneficiaries. In Phase II (June to July), WFP is distributing relief packages and nutrition assistance to the most affected Village District Committees. As of 07 July, WFP has reached 500,000 people with food and nutrition support and 40,000 through cash distributions under Phase II. In the final phase, starting August, WFP will focus on early recovery and conditional transfers of food or cash for reconstruction.

**SO 200849: Provision of Humanitarian Air Services in Nepal** (Apr-Oct 2015) provides humanitarian air services and support to the wider humanitarian response in Nepal.

SO 200848: Logistics and Emergency Telecommunications (Apr-Jul 2015) provides Logistics and Emergency Telecommunications Services to the humanitarian response.

#### **ACCESS**

Access to rural and high-altitude areas remains a challenge. In Phase II of its operations, WFP employed up to 20,000 porters managed by the Trekking Association of Nepal and the Nepal Mountaineering Association to deliver supplies to mountainous, isolated locations.

Heavy rains and landslides have increased during the monsoon season and have caused delays in some distributions to remote locations. WFP is looking to maximize its helicopter usage to reach rural areas. To report landslides and blocked roads during monsoon rains, WFP and the Logistics Cluster are considering a system to inform partner organizations about road conditions in the region.

## RESOURCING

WFP is running out of funds to sustain its recovery efforts, as well as its common services, including its UNHAS, logistics and emergency telecommunications operations. Phase II of the EMOP is fully funded, but Phase III of the operations remains severely underfunded. The EMOP faces a six-month shortfall (June-November) of USD57.5 million.

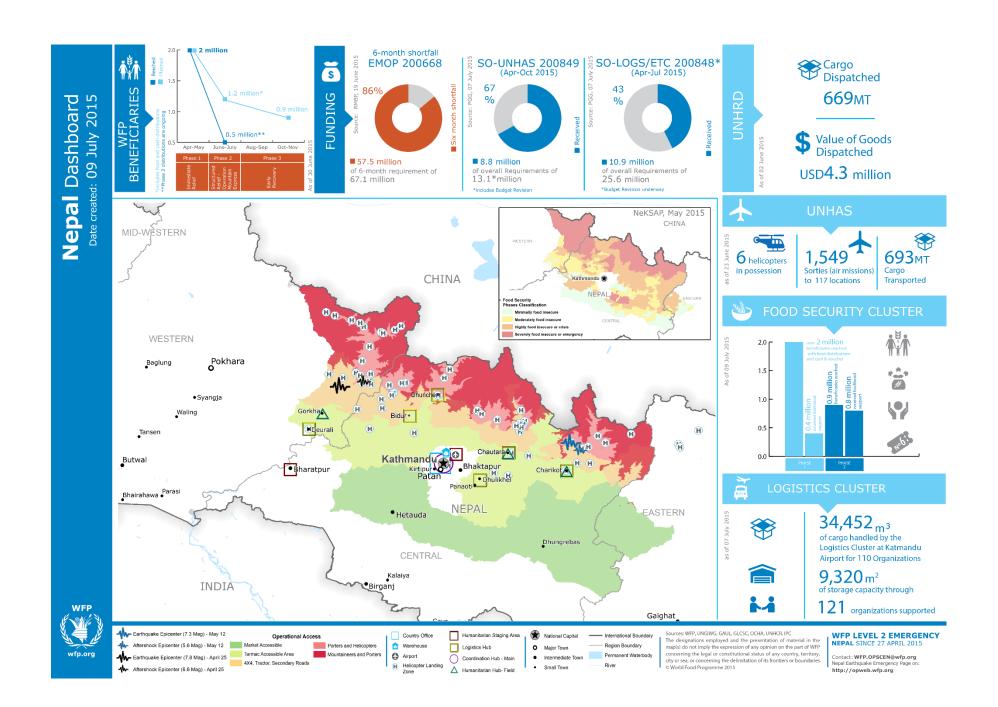
## **CAPACITY**

Bureaucratic restrictions and import taxes at the Kathmandu International Airport remain a recurring challenge for WFP, which provides UNHAS services and a humanitarian staging area for partners to import relief goods. Crucial supplies from other agencies including materials for temporary shelters have been slowed at customs houses and are awaiting clearance.

WFP has a Country Office and three Sub-Offices in Nepal.

## **INTER-AGENCY**

The Food Security, Logistics and ETC clusters were activated, and a UN flash appeal valued at USD421.9 million was launched within a week of the first earthquake. September is the end of the current revised UN Flash Appeal. WFP has focused on common humanitarian services as part of its response, including an SO for Logistics and UNHAS Services.



## SOMALIA AND REGIONAL RESPONSE (L2)

## **KEY POINTS**

- Insecurity and inaccessible roads pose limitations for the WFP's response in the country;
- USD77 million are needed to respond to needs in Somalia over the next six months.
- WFP continues to assist hundreds of thousands of Somali refugees in Ethiopia, Kenya, Yemen and Djibouti. However, food pipelines are stretched and WFP requires immediate contributions to meet the needs of new arrivals and existing refugees in Kenya.

## **SITUATION**

Al Shabaab retains the ability to launch attacks even though it has lost territory and urban strongholds since a major military offensive against the group began last year. Al Shabaab has increased its attacks on key targets throughout the country during Ramadan. Attacks on high profile targets (including the UN) are likely to occur in the coming weeks.

**Food security** in Somalia has deteriorated since January 2015 due to variety of shocks bringing the number of people in "crisis" and "emergency" to nearly 1 million (FEWSNET, April 2015). The shocks include intensified fighting incidents, increasing prices (at the highest levels since 2011) and frequent floods and dry spells. These reports have been confirmed by ongoing monitoring activities and a preliminary Gu season (Somalia's main rainy season) field assessment (FSNAU June 2015) projecting a short-term deterioration of food security conditions in parts of agricultural livelihoods through December. The deterioration is likely due to a below average harvest outlook.

**Nutrition -** According to the latest FSNAU update, the nutritional situation in several regions of Somalia remains critical, including in Gedo, Shabelle, Hiraan, Togdheer and Banadir regions, which have shown a deteriorating trend in the first quarter of 2015, with GAM rates of at least 15 percent. Somalia has chronically high malnutrition rates; one in eight children under five is acutely malnourished.

Disruption of humanitarian food assistance at this point would have very negative impact on the most vulnerable households in critical need of food and nutrition assistance.

## **PROGRAMMING**

PRRO 200443: Strengthening Food and Nutrition Security and Enhancing Resilience in Somalia (Jan 2013 – Dec 2015) targets 1.93 million people in 2015 (up to 2.9 million beneficiaries over the entire project period). In May 2015, 606,372 beneficiaries were reached.

**SO 200507:** Humanitarian Air Service in Support of Relief **Operations in Somalia and Kenya** (Jan 2013 - Dec 2015) facilitates the delivery of life-saving humanitarian and movement of humanitarian workers in Somalia and Kenya.

**SO 200440:** Food Security Cluster Augmentation in Response to the Continued Humanitarian Situation in Somalia (Sept 2012 - Dec 2015) enables Cluster members to move beyond seasonal-based response plans to address acute needs.

## **ACCESS**

Insecurity (Al-Shabaab threats) and inaccessible roads continue to pose limitations for WFP's emergency response in Somalia. Many towns remain cut-off from humanitarian assistance due to insecurity on main supply routes.

Emergency airlifts and cargo flights are deployed to reach isolated towns in the south where food scarcity and critical levels of malnutrition require an urgent humanitarian response. WFP is airlifting desperately needed food and nutrition items to Bulu Burte, where recent assessments indicate a critical level of malnutrition; one in three children under the age of 5 is acutely malnourished. WFP is providing food and nutrition assistance to 12,000 people in Bulu Burte, to prevent and treat moderate malnutrition. The emergency airlifts to Bulu Burte are a crucial last resort in the face of a severe humanitarian crisis in a town besieged for almost a year and where food is scarce and often unaffordable.

## RESOURCING

PRRO 200443 is facing a six-month shortfall of USD77.5 million (June-November). If no further contributions are received, the CO is facing significant pipeline breaks and the CO may have to implement ration cuts, reduce beneficiary numbers and suspend seasonal resilience-building programmes for vulnerable communities as early as July.

UNHAS SO 200507 has received USD 71.0 million out of an overall requirement of USD100.5 million (70.6 percent funded). The Food Security Cluster SO has received USD3.7 million out of an overall requirement of USD7.1 million (52.1 percent).

### **CAPACITY**

WFP has 401 staff in Somalia (of whom 69 are international), working in 11 offices: 1 Country Office, 5 Area Offices, 2 Sub Offices, 2 Field Offices and 1 Liaison Office in Nairobi). For the first time in 20 years, with the notable exception of a brief period in 2014, WFP re-opened the Somalia Office in Mogadishu in February 2015.

WFP is using new technology (SCOPE) to manage assistance electronically and collect information in near real-time. This enables WFP to respond more quickly to the needs of the most vulnerable based on the latest data.

## **INTER-AGENCY**

WFP continues to work closely with FAO and UNICEF on the implementation of the Joint Resilience Strategy for Somalia, which establishes a strategic alignment of programming between the three agencies with the aim of significantly increasing resilience in vulnerable communities throughout Somalia. To further strengthen their collaboration, WFP, UNICEF, and FAO are currently working towards the establishment of a joint resilience programme where the three agencies will jointly implement resilience building activities. WFP, UNICEF, UNHCR and FAO have recently strengthened further their collaboration in the field of food security and nutrition through the development of a joint action plan. WFP continues to cultivate its relationship with the Somali Federal Government and actively supports the New Deal and associated COMPACT.

## REGIONAL REFUGEE SITUATION

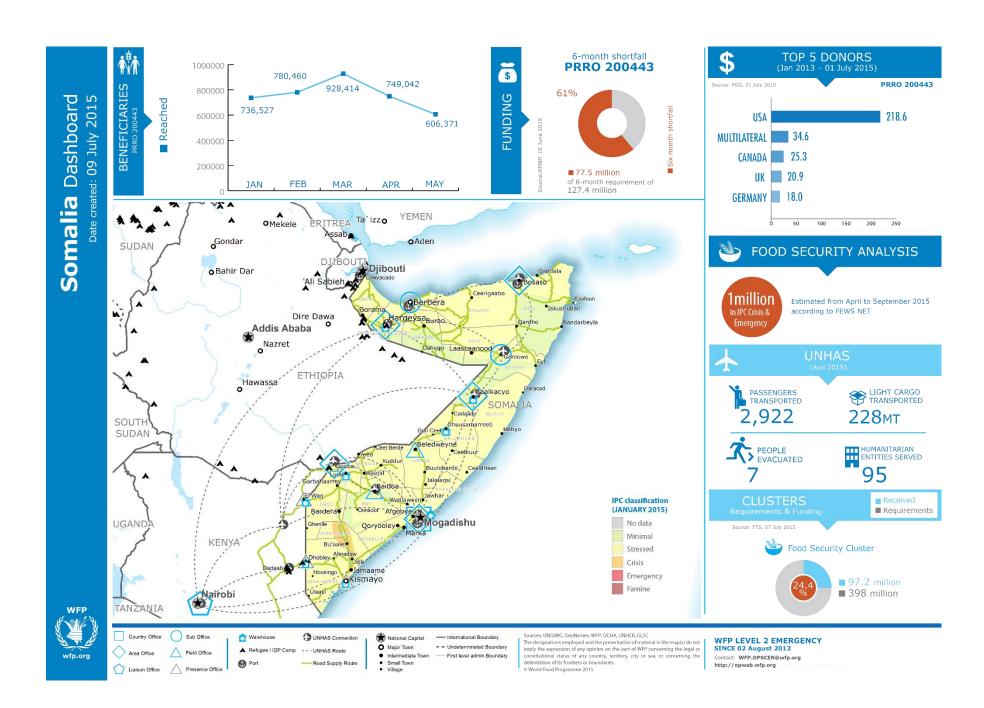
WFP continues to assist hundreds of thousands of Somali refugees in Ethiopia, Kenya, Yemen and Djibouti. However, food pipelines are stretched and WFP requires immediate contributions to meet the needs of new arrivals and existing refugees in Kenya. In Kenya, WFP started 30 percent rations cuts in the second round of June distributions. These cuts come during the Ramadan period. Without new contributions for Kenya, rations may be reduced further in the coming months to stretch available resources. The operating environment in north-eastern Kenya remains challenging due to recurrent Al-Shabaab attacks.

UNHCR has resumed voluntary repatriation of Somali refugees from Kenya after a month-long suspension due to rains that made roads impassable in Somalia.

In addition, Somalia has seen the arrival of more than 20,000 refugees, returnees and third-country nationals due to the crisis in Yemen. WFP and

partners are also developing a contingency plan to assist up to 100,000 people over the next six months at the four ports of entry: Berbera, Bosasso, Mogadishu and Kismayo.

WFP is responding with a three-pronged approach for these displaced populations in Somalia. Upon arrival, WFP registers people staying at transit centres into the SCOPE platform to facilitate further assistance. During the first days after arrival, vulnerable returnees and refugees are offered cooked meals complemented with an e-transfer. Preventative nutrition assistance is available for all arriving pregnant and nursing women and children under five. Upon arrival at the location of return, vulnerable returnees are offered monthly e-transfers as a 'return package' as well as nutrition, vocational training, asset creation and school meals.



## UKRAINE (L2)

## **KEY POINTS**

- Access constraints are severely affecting the ability of humanitarian organisations to deliver aid across the contact line.
- For the first time ever, a joint humanitarian convoy on 19 June crossed into non-Government controlled areas, carrying food and hygiene items. The convoy was escorted by UN representatives from OCHA and the Logistics Cluster and crossed through Volnovakha check-point.

## **SITUATION**

The only crossing point for humanitarian cargo between government-controlled areas to areas beyond Government control (Kurakhove, Donetska oblast) remains closed since 03 June. By 12 June, access through the main checkpoints to and from non-Government controlled areas is granted to private vehicles and public transport on an on-and-off basis. The movement on the Volnovakha route between Mariupol and Donetsk was restored on 11 June and the route from Artemivsk to Horlivka was open on 12 June, with long queues of vehicles observed waiting to cross. In Luhanska oblast, all access points to and from non-government controlled areas remain non-operational.

## **PRORAMMING**

EMOP 200765: Emergency assistance to civilians affected by the conflict in Eastern Ukraine (Nov 2014 – December 2015) aims to provide in-kind food and food vouchers to the most vulnerable IDPs, returnees, host families and individuals trapped in conflict hotspots. A recent Budget Revision increased the number of beneficiaries to 575,000 and extend the project until 31 December 2015.-Of the total assisted, 140,000 individuals will receive three rounds of C&V transfers, and the remaining 435,000 will receive in-kind food assistance. 20,000 children aged 6-23 months, identified by the nutrition cluster as most at risk, will be assisted through nutrition interventions.

### **ACCESS**

WFP's implementation capacity has been increased with the new Area Office in Kramatorsk and the two sub-offices in Donetsk and Severodonetsk.

## RESOURCING

EMOP 200765 is facing a six-month shortfall of USD27.3 million (June-November). Generally, funding for humanitarian operations remains

critically low: only 35 percent of the USD316 million required for the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) 2015 is funded or pledged.

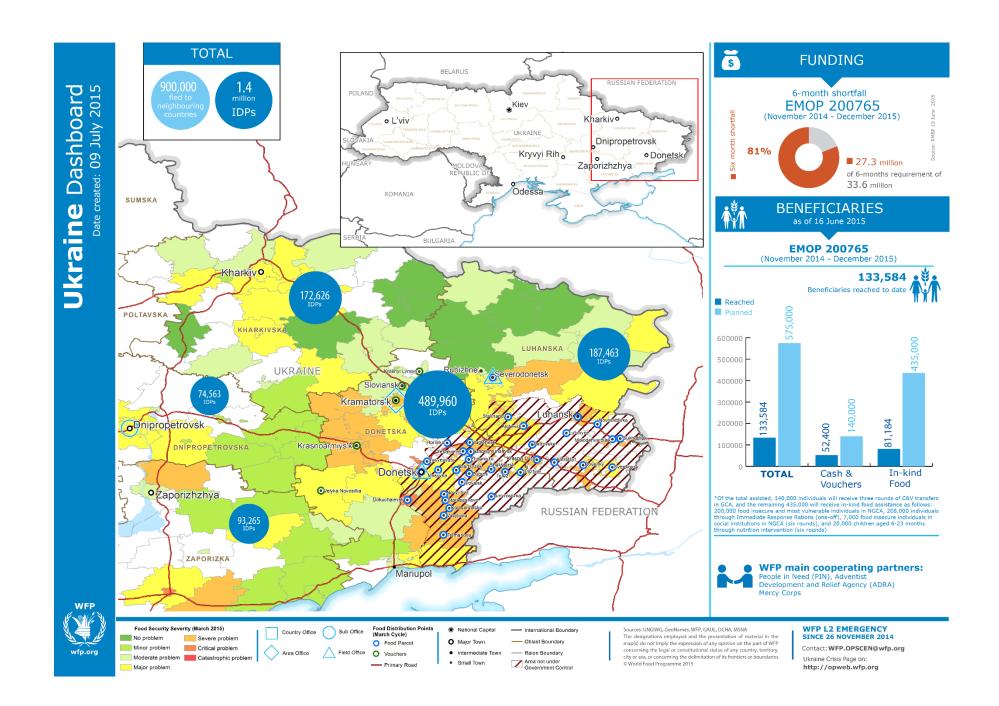
## **CAPACITY**

WFP is currently implementing through the international NGOs People in Need (PIN), ADRA and Mercy Corps. WFP is working to significantly expand the network of cooperating partners for both modalities of assistance. Negotiations with CARITAS, Save the Children and other NGOs (international and national) are ongoing to complete the long term Field Level Agreements to cover the entire cycle of the new Budget Revision, until end of year 2015.

WFP has 29 staff in country and is currently carrying out its operations through four offices: the Country Office in Kiev, an Area Office in Kramatorsk and two Sub Offices in Donestsk and Severodonetsk.

## **INTER-AGENCY**

Administrative constraints to access the Non-Government Controlled Areas remain a major challenge identified by the Multi-Sector Needs Assessment which was conducted by Ukraine NGO Forum together with the Assessment Capacities Project (ACAPS).



## **BURUNDI**

## **KEY POINTS**

- WFP is concerned that the political crisis in Burundi could lead to a humanitarian crisis. It has already caused over 159,300 people to flee to neighbouring countries and also affects food security and nutrition in Burundi.
- WFP provides assistance to refugees in neighbouring countries and plans to carry out food distributions for 20,000 households in Burundi who have been identified as being in need of emergency food assistance.
- WFP has been able to mobilize some emergency funding to respond to the initial needs, but this is not enough to sustain assistance. WFP urgently requires US\$73 million for the next six months to meet the needs of operations responding to the Burundi crisis.

## **SITUATION**

Parliamentary and communal elections were held on 29 June despite opposition calls for a boycott and the withdrawal of African Union observers from Burundi. Small-scale clashes and grenade attacks have been reported in the north of Bujumbura around Election Day, but no large-scale fighting has thus far taken place. Presidential elections in which President Nkurunziza runs for a controversial third mandate are set to take place on 15 July.

The political turmoil and tense situation have caused tens of thousands of Burundians to flee their country. As of 07 July, over 159,300 Burundians have registered as refugees in neighboring countries since early April. Many more are believed to have fled the country, but not registered. Latest figures show 73,418 people in **Tanzania**, 64,086 in **Rwanda**, 11,500 in **Democratic Republic of the Congo**, 10,313 in **Uganda**, and even 400 in **Zambia**.

An interagency needs assessments conducted in Burundi indicated that although there is no massive internal displacement crisis, there are significant existing needs and needs which will increase in the coming months even if the political impasse is resolved. Disruptions of markets and livelihood activities will further worsen the pre-existing food and nutrition insecurity. About 15,000 households in Kirundo and 5,000 households in Makamba have been identified by WFP as being in need of emergency food assistance. Interagency nutritional screening was conducted in northern Burundi and the results have shown 6 percent global acute malnutrition (GAM) and 1.5 percent severe acute malnutrition (SAM), which is expected to worsen until September.

## **PROGRAMMING**

PRRO 200655: Assistance to Refugees and Vulnerable Food-Insecure Populations in Burundi (June 2014 – June 2016) targets 848,000 refugees and vulnerable food-insecure populations in Burundi through GFDs, targeted supplementary feeding programme, livelihood asset and creation programme.

WFP assists Burundian refugees in neighbouring countries under **IR-EMOPs** and existing **PRROs**.

## **ACCESS**

WFP continues to closely monitor the security situation to adapt its approach as required and safeguard access.

## RESOURCING

WFP needs USD73 million for six months to meet the needs of existing operations responding to the situation in Burundi and its regional impact:

- 1. Burundi PRRO has a six months shortfall of USD6 million;
- 2. DRC PRRO has a six month shortfall of USD20 million:
- 3. Rwanda PRRO has a six month shortfall of USD11 million;
- 4. Tanzania PRRO has a six month shortfall of USD17 million;
- 5. Uganda PRRO has a six months shortfall of USD19 million.

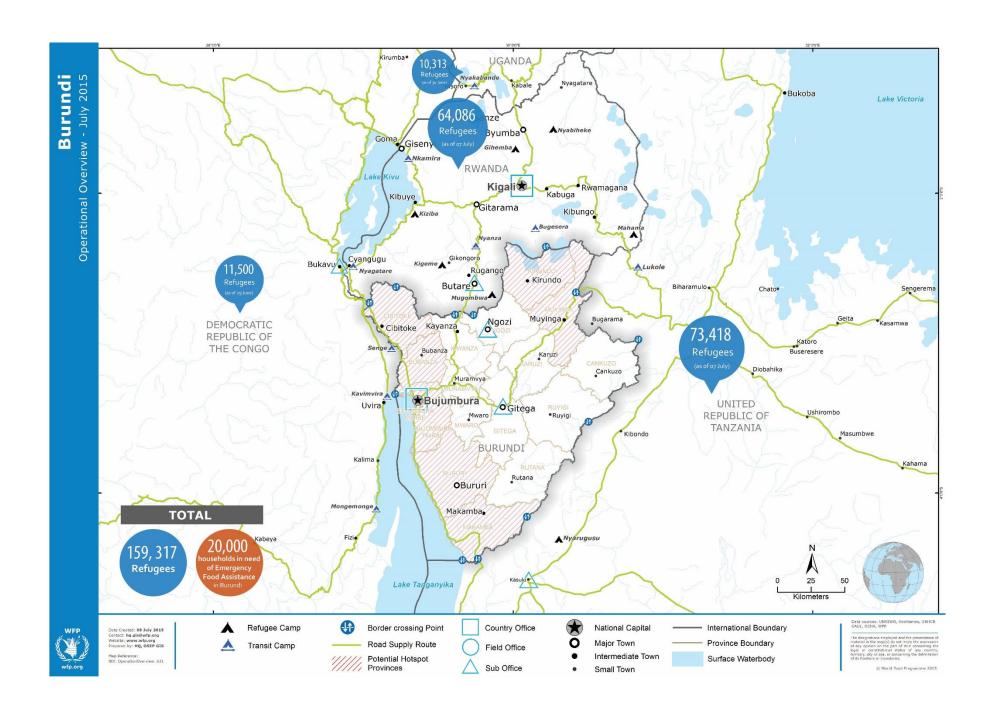
#### **CAPACITY**

Commercial transporters from neighbouring countries are reluctant to release their trucks to Burundi, citing insecurity and fear of looting. WFP-contracted transporters are using alternative routes through Rwanda to reach Burundi. Monitoring visits by WFP staff have been reduced due to security concerns.

WFP has four offices in Burundi: 1 Country Office, 2 Area Offices and 1 Antena Office. There are 102 staff in Burundi, out of whom seven are international.

## **INTER-AGENCY**

WFP actively participates in interagency coordination for a such as the Humanitarian Country Team meetings held twice a week. The interagency contingency plan was activated.



#### **VENEZUELA**

#### **KEY POINTS**

- Significant oil revenue losses leading to unsustainable fiscal budgets and significant devaluation
- Supply disruptions and price increases for basic goods leading to commodity deprivation
- Economic pressure leading to communal and electoral violence or anticipatory migration to neighbouring countries

### **SITUATION**

# Political / Economic Situation

On 22 June, Venezuela's National Electoral Council announced that legislative elections would be held on 06 December 2015. Despite this commitment, political uncertainty will grow in the coming months as the country's long-running economic and political crises progress.

Significant price decreases of oil (which makes up 95 percent of Venezuela's export revenues) have reduced government incomes and exacerbated dollar scarcity and devaluation of the Bolívar. This means that imports become more expensive while the government has less resources to purchase them, which could press the government to rationalize spending and cut social programmes. However, this is very unlikely due to public discontent and economic hardship of the population. Tight currency controls heavily restrict access to US dollars for businesses. This has disrupted trade, discouraged foreign investments and resulted in shortages of basic consumer goods such as food and medicine and has fuelled black markets and smuggling. Higher oil prices would mitigate but not significantly change the structural disintegration of the economy.

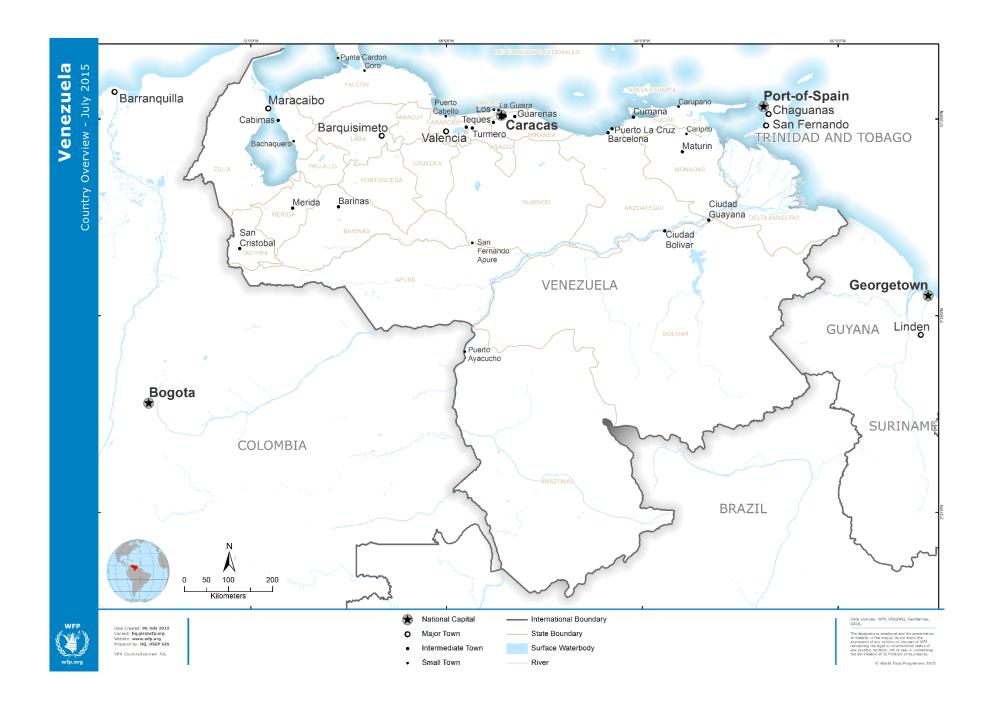
Notwithstanding government efforts at developing a system for planning domestic food production and procurement, the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) in June urged the government to address shortages of food, medicines, and other products. Lack of basic goods triggered massive inflation of 68 percent in 2014 (last figures published by the government) creating dissatisfaction among the population and long queues outside supermarkets. As inflation erodes household incomes, the government raised the minimum wage seven times since 2013 to enable purchases and secure public support. Consequently, economic pressure will result in political fallout and increase communal and electoral violence or anticipatory migration to neighbouring countries.

Following the protests of 2014 that left more than 43 dead and lasted for several months, Venezuela's social cohesion remains extremely divided and the political scene very unstable. Divisions within the governing United Socialist Party of Venezuela (PSUV) are fed at the grassroots level where paramilitary units ("Collectivos") protecting the ideals of the Bolivarian Revolution are acting increasingly independent. They are aligned with farleft politicians within the regime, many of whom are wary of the government armed forces. The military establishment, in turn, is suspicious of armed groups outside its control.

The main opposition party, the Democratic Unity alliance (MUD) faces internal disaccord on fundamental matters of policy. As prominent opposition leaders – such as Leopoldo Lopez – remain jailed, it will be difficult for the MUD to come up with a clear political agenda and call for and control protests. In the absence of a real political dialogue between the government and the opposition party, there is a high risk that protests be met with police violence, further exacerbating tensions in the run-up to the parliamentary elections. However, civil unrest is likely to favour the MUD instead of the PSUV in the parliamentary elections.

### **PREPAREDNESS**

There is no WFP presence in Venezuela. The Regional Bureau is drafting a Concept of Operations (CONOPs) to assist Venezuelan population in surrounding countries.



## **ZIMBABWE**

## **KEY POINTS**

- Domestic maize production 49 percent below last year's
- Southern regions especially affected by below average rains and crop loss
- Earlier than usual staple price increases, stock depletion and onset of lean season expected
- Results of Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZimVAC) expected end of July

### **SITUATION**

### Economic Situation

Below average and poorly dispersed rains across much of Zimbabwe during key parts of the 2015 growing season are estimated to have reduced this year's maize production to about 742,000 mt – about 49 percent below last year's production. Heavily affected regions include Matebeleland North and South, Masvingo, southern parts of Midlands, and Manicaland Provinces. Following the severe food insecurity in 2013 due to low domestic production, conditions partly recovered in 2014.

Governmental cereal stocks managed through the Grain Marketing Board are likely to be insufficient to fully cover demand in the coming months. In July, it announced that due to funding constraints, its Strategic Grain Reserve (SGR) held 118,000 tonnes of maize, compared to monthly requirements of 150,000 tonnes. Imports from mainly Zambia and South Africa have previously mitigated drought impacts and the Government has lifted the import ban earlier in the year as it is planning to import some 700,000 metric tonnes of white maize valued at USD168,000. However, this is expected to still lead to a cereal deficit of 649,000 mt. Additionally, this year the potential for regional imports to supplement grain reserve stocks is limited as crop production in neighbouring countries has been similarly affected by poor and erratic rain. The Government's social cash transfer program aims at providing means to vulnerable households and is expected to somewhat mitigate the drought impact.

Maize grain availability in the southern districts is low in most markets and prices are atypically high, starting to rise in June compared to around October before the lean season period from November to March in a normal year. Lower regional maize supplies will increase import prices and push up local prices even further between July and September when winter harvests

become available. Considering that rural Zimbabweans normally purchase up to 65 percent of their maize on markets, and food purchases make up 56 percent of their overall expenses, price increases quickly lead to deteriorating levels of food security, especially in poor southern regions.

Farmers are also facing income losses for cash crops, in light of reduced hectars planted and yields across all crops. Tobacco volumes are generally lower than those obtained last year and average prices declined by 18 percent. Declining international prices of cotton against the backdrop of high input costs are additionally threatening the survival of farmers.

Currently, the very poor and poor households are coping through earlier than normal small livestock sales in order to raise incomes for cereal purchases. The decrease in crop and livestock production will likely increase the number of food insecure people in the 2015/16 consumption period and increase long-term vulnerability due to unsustainable coping mechanisms. According to FEWSNet, acute food insecurity is currently Minimal (IPC Phase 1) in most northern areas and expected to continue through September. However, in the south, where drought-affected households are currently Stressed (IPC Phase 2), the situation is expected to deteriorate to Crisis (IPC Phase 3) between July and September.

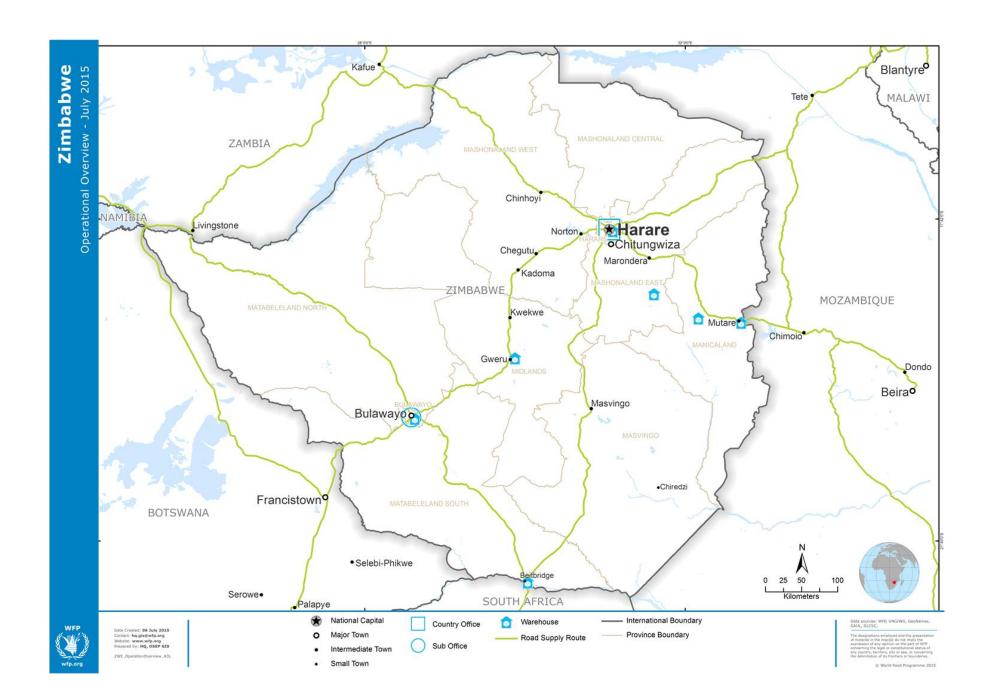
According to the Africa Development Bank, Zimbabwe's economy remains in a fragile state, with an unsustainably high external debt and massive deindustrialisation and informalisation. This resulted in poor economic activity and a deflationary trend since February 2014 (currently pegged at -2.70 percent for May 2015). Consistently falling prices of goods and services have led to declining profits, reduced incomes, factory closures and greater unemployment, reducing the populations ability to meet its food needs. Restricted consumer spending is likely to continue to hamper overall economic activity in the country.

### **PREPAREDNESS**

The Zimbabwe Country Office has received an IR-PREP allocation in the amount of USD223,527 to be used to conduct systematic market assessments and associated price monitoring, as well as financial capital assessments to determine payment instruments and capacities. Additionally, an information technology infrastructure assessment, as well as a Logistics Capacity Assessment will be conducted in order to determine the most appropriate means to provide assistance.

The Zimbabwe Country Office plans to complement these activities by undertaking a multi-functional cash transfer programming training of Country Office and Sub Office staff (funded through the Rome MAP unit), a

Security Risk Assessment to determine and define mitigation measures to any risks to the cash transfers activities, and an assessment of the programmatic/ technical and financial management capacities of potential cooperating partners covered under the PRRO.



# NATURAL HAZARD SECTION

## El NIÑO

#### **KEY POINTS**

- Sahel region:
  - Decreased rainfall in 2014 reduced crop production assessed to between 30 percent and 70 percent of normal in Senegal and Mauritania
  - o Rainfall has been extremely poor in Senegal so far in 2015 and is forecast to be well below average
  - Other regions in the Sahel are forecast to have average to below average rainfall.
- Central America/Caribbean:
  - Decreased rainfall and poor crop performance is expected, although storms associated with an above average Pacific hurricane seas mitigated the drought impact. However, rainfall in Haiti has been extremely poor and is not forecast to improve.
- South Asia:
  - Reduced rainfall will have the greatest impacts in southern
     Pakistan where an extended drought has plagued the Tharparkar district for the last two years.
- Mainland South East Asia:
  - Below average rainfall has delayed sowing and planting of 2015 rice and maize crops. There is some potential for improvement in rainfall over the next 6 weeks before forecasts indicate rainfall amounts trending to below average for the remainder of the growing season.

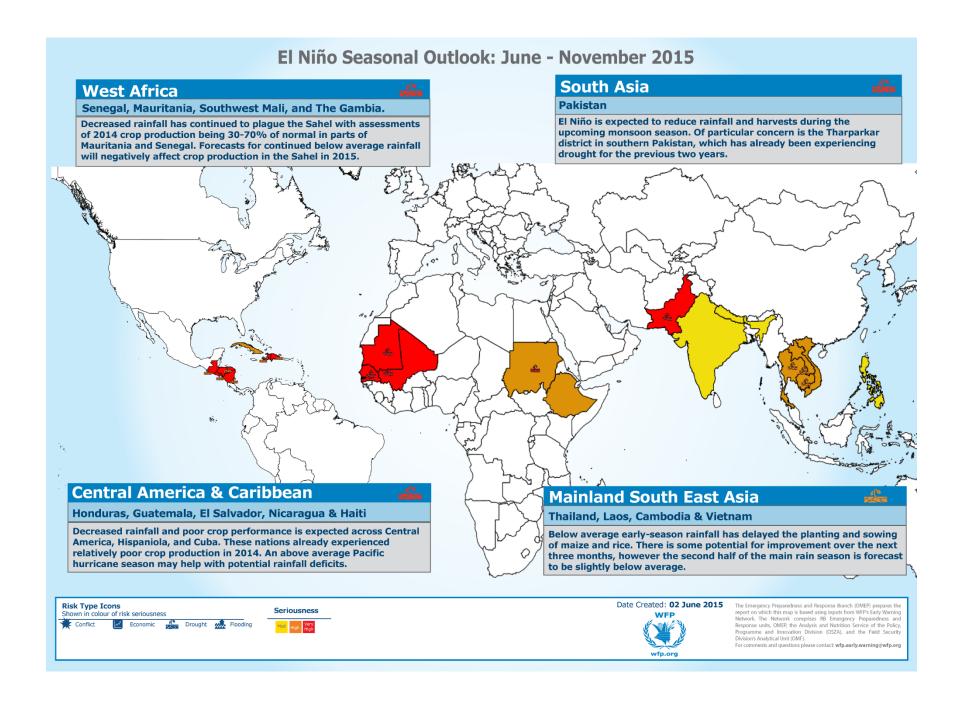
## **SITUATION**

- Official weak El Niño conditions are occurring.
- Currently there is a 90 percent chance of El Niño conditions continuing through the northern hemisphere summer, with at least an 85 percent chance of El Niño continuing into early 2016.
- Intensity: Climate models are indicating that this year's El Niño will intensify through the northern hemisphere fall season, becoming a strong El Niño before weakening in early 2016.

## **OUTLOOK**

In general, El Niño's main affect will be on global rainfall patterns. Some regions will see significant below average rainfall leading to drought, and in some cases worsening multi-year droughts such as in Pakistan. Other regions may see increased rainfall, potentially alleviating current rainfall deficits such as in Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam, while other areas may

receive too much rainfall leading to flooding. Regions of concern are outlined in the map below.



# **DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA (DPRK)**

### **KEY POINTS**

- Recent concern has been the below average rainfall in "food basket" provinces of South and North Hwanghae. Current vegetation anomalies indicate that these provinces have average to below average vegetation cover.
- The most recently available climate models indicate that the Hwanghae provinces are forecast to have above average rainfall during the next three months, which is the main growing season of the major food crops in the DPRK.

### **SITUATION**

Above average rainfall in April 2015 likely allowed for maize, soybean and sorghum sowing. However below average rainfall in May may have delayed rice sowing with risk of damage to recently sown crops. Rainfall in June was average to above average in central and northern regions, with only 50-70 percent of normal rainfall received in the south. Of recent concern has been the below average rainfall in "food basket" provinces of South and North Hwanghae. Current vegetation anomalies indicate that these provinces have average to below average vegetation cover.

### **OUTLOOK**

- The most recently available climate models indicate that the Hwanghae provinces are forecast to have above average rainfall during the next three months, which is the main growing season of the major food crops in the DPRK.
- Longer term forecasts indicate the entire Korean peninsula is likely to receive average to above average rainfall over the next six months

