
Global Overview

Presentation to the

WFP Executive Board

2013 Second Quarter Operational Briefing

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Mali

Political/Security Situation

- While attacks from Islamist groups are now infrequent, the threat of guerrilla-style attacks remains high. The proliferation of arms and actors with different aims is increasing volatility in northern Mali and limiting access.
- UN stabilization mission 'MINUSMA' was unanimously approved by the UN Security Council on 25 April to take over from regional force AFISMA on 01 July, conditions permitting.

Natural Hazard - Western Africa

- The rainy season in western Africa is expected to be average to slightly below average across the region (May to September).

Humanitarian Situation

- **Food security:** As the lean season gets underway, food security in particular in northern Mali is significantly deteriorating. The disruption of market systems has caused food availability problems. In Mali as well as in other parts of the region, food prices are rising as stocks run low.
 - **Displacement:** Hundreds of thousands of Malians remain displaced internally (over 300,000 IDPs in Mali) and as refugees in Burkina Faso, Mauritania and Niger (around 175,000 people).
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Mali (cont'd)

WFP Operations

- In March, WFP and its partners (CARE, World Vision-Mali) provided assistance to over 278,000 people, including 125,700 in conflict-affected areas of Timbuktu and Gao, and over 152,300 IDPs and host communities in southern Mali. Distributions of two-month rations are ongoing for 34,500 beneficiaries in Kidal region.
 - WFP activities in the North are carried out in close coordination with ICRC.
 - Security permitting, WFP continues to scale up food and nutrition assistance as the lean season starts. WFP also remains committed to continue its longer-term development/resilience building activities in Mali.
 - While the pipeline is relatively healthy, the current level of donor response needs to be maintained to enable timely procurement and delivery of food and nutrition commodities ahead of the lean season.
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Mali (cont'd)

WFP Operational constraints

- While humanitarian access has improved in central Mali, insecurity and banditry continue to hamper humanitarian operations in northern Mali. WFP is gradually re-establishing its presence in northern Mali, but WFP sub-offices cannot be fully reopened at this stage.
 - The planned deployment of UN integrated mission MINUSMA (scheduled for July 2013 with a Chapter VII mandate) raises challenging issues for humanitarian space. A distinct, principled humanitarian approach must be upheld and communicated to affected communities.
 - Some cooperating partners are still facing access constraints in the North. Alternative delivery options continue to be sought for distributions in the north to remedy security challenges and communication difficulties.
 - Access to basic social services (water, education, health) remains limited in northern Mali.
 - Due to the proliferation of actors, constant civil-military coordination is necessary for the de-confliction in humanitarian intervention zones.
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DRC

Socio-political situation

- The UN Security Council on 28 March unanimously adopted a resolution that authorised the deployment of an intervention brigade within MONUSCO
- The M23 rejected the deployment of an intervention brigade and affirmed its response to any attack. Clashes between UN troops and M23, as well as other militant groups are highly expected as the UN takes on its new offensive mandate. Meanwhile, the talks between the Government and the M23 have resumed on 08 April in Kampala
- The security situation in North Kivu and other eastern provinces remains volatile. Clashes between various rebel groups and the DRC army have led to massive displacement in many areas in eastern DRC, aggregating the current “hot spots” of food insecurity (North and South Kivu, Maniema & Katanga provinces).

Humanitarian Situation

- **Food Security:** In Maniema province at least 42 percent of households are food-insecure. The causes for this include lack of infrastructure, low agriculture productivity and insecurity in the neighbouring provinces of North and South Kivu.
 - **Displacement:** According to OCHA, an estimated 321,000 people remain displaced in Orientale Province. There are about 13,500 displaced from the Pweto in Katanga and they are likely to increase. The flux of refugees from fighting in CAR reached 37,755 since December 2012, the situation is particularly precarious in Zongo, Equator, where the number of refugees increased from 6,000 to 13,860 last month.
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DRC (cont'd)

WFP Operations

- WFP is currently supporting more than three million beneficiaries in DRC and is seeking a total of US\$ 28.9 million for both the PRRO 200167 (US\$ 26.8 million, including US\$ 17.1 million for C&V) and EMOP 200480 (US\$ 2.1 million) to secure the food pipeline over the next six months until June 2013. PRRO 200167 BR3 was on 14 November 2012.
 - A new PRRO will combine the current EMOP and PRRO, becoming a single project to be submitted to the June Executive Brief. The project will also include resilience activities (30 percent) and expand cash and vouchers programs, while maintain a strong relief component.
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DRC (cont'd)

WFP Operational Challenges

- WFP is facing logistical problems in reaching out several thousand refugees from CAR spread along a 600-kilometre stretch of the Oubangui river, a remote and inaccessible region.
 - The joint registration and verification exercise of IDPs in Walungu, South Kivu, has temporarily been suspended following clashes between the regular army (FARDC) and the Raia Mutomboki militia group in Kishadu/Culwe villages.
 - In Katanga province, humanitarian agencies working in the area face major problems due to insecurity and the poor conditions of local roads.
 - The planned deployment of a UN intervention brigade within MONUSCO raises challenging issues for humanitarian space. A distinct, principled humanitarian approach must be upheld and communicated to affected communities.
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Yemen

Socio-political situation

- Discussions are continuing at the National Dialogue Conference positively, though potential for unrest remains elevated in the run up to the 2014 Presidential election.
- Increasing security challenges, notably kidnappings.
- Yemen continues to face three significant security challenges threatening the stability of its central government: al-Qaeda affiliated militants throughout large portions of the country, particularly in the south; al-Houthi militants in the north, and Southern secessionists.

WFP Operational Constraints

- Yemen faces chronic structural issues which includes a deteriorating humanitarian crisis with high food and fuel prices, rising poverty, a breakdown of social services, diminishing resources, internal conflict, low donor interest, and political instability and is likely to worsen in the coming months.
 - WFP is facing a pipeline break in Plumpy Doz for April and May. As a consequence, only 12 percent of the planned beneficiaries have been reached in April and May. Situation will be back to normal in June and July thanks to a special EU contribution and call-forward of HRD stocks, but a new pipeline break is forecast again in August.
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Yemen (cont'd)

Food Security situation

- First season rains have been below average to date in western cropping areas. Further increases in staple prices are anticipated as the lean season advances (March to June) particularly in May and July before the first season harvest begins in July.

WFP Operations

- WFP has started scaling up activities in Yemen in line with the Level 2 Emergency. WFP has been able to reach 71 percent of targeted beneficiaries from January through March 2013. In March, WFP reached 99 percent of operationally planned beneficiaries (719,560). Starting in May, WFP will target 4.6 million beneficiaries.
 - WFP's overall operation is 49 percent funded with a shortfall of US\$128 million. It is hoped however that ongoing discussions with various key donors will result in increased resources. Funds are urgently needed before the end of June to allow for the timely procurement of commodities.
 - EMOP 200451, valued at USD 242 million, focuses on three main areas: 1) Food assistance under emergency safety nets activities to 3.5 million food insecure people and cash transfers for 400,000; 2) Food assistance to around 600,000 IDPs; 3) Nutrition support for approximately 400,000 children under five and 157,000 pregnant women and nursing mothers. A first budget revision of the EMOP is currently under review.
 - WFP is also working with IOM to provide food aid to a new caseload of 3,000 food-insecure stranded migrants, mainly from Ethiopia, near the Saudi border in the Yemeni district of Haradh.
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South Sudan and Sudan

Socio-political situation

- Tensions between the two countries have been decreasing over the previous weeks as both sides have removed some troops from the border regions and oil flow between the states has resumed. Security issues and the status of Abyei remain the most contentious issues.
- **Sudan:** Clashes between the Sudanese army and SPLM/A-North rebels have continued in Blue Nile, Northern and Southern Kordofan and Darfur (Sudan).
- **Abyei area:** Tribal tensions are elevated after a local tribal leader was killed.

WFP Operational Constraints

- **Sudan:** access to South Kordofan and Blue Nile remains limited; in March an interagency group, including WFP, conducted the first rapid needs assessment in some parts of Blue Nile state since September 2011, finding 110,000 people in need of humanitarian aid. WFP is planning to distribute food aid to affected populations over the next 6-9 months. The pipeline situation remains critical.
 - **South Sudan:** Significant security challenges and the start of the rainy season are threatening the ability of humanitarian agencies to provide assistance to some communities in need (including in the border region and Jonglei state, and Eastern Equatoria). The current security situation in Jonglei is severely hampering WFP access –all UN staff relocated from Boma; reported looting in Pibor.
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South Sudan and Sudan (cont'd)

Humanitarian situation

- **Sudan:** About 3.5-3.7 million people in Sudan face stressed and crisis levels of food insecurity. Current food insecurity is mainly caused by insecurity in Darfur, Blue Nile, South Kordofan and disputed Abyei.
- **South Sudan:** 4.1 million people still face food insecurity (1 million severely food insecure) despite increased food production. South Sudan hosts over 217,900 refugees (of which 191,992 are from Sudan). WFP is preparing to scale-up assistance for up to 150,000 additional refugees from Sudan.

WFP Operations

- **Sudan:** WFP, in March, reached over 1.9 million beneficiaries, mainly in Darfur, central and eastern Sudan, out of 2.4 million targeted (84 percent). WFP faces a US\$16 million pipeline break for operations in Darfur and Blue Nile and is currently looking at possible advanced financing but will eventually need donor support. Timing for this support is critical with the impending lean and rainy seasons.
 - **South Sudan:** WFP plans to reach 2.85 million beneficiaries in 2013 through emergency and recovery orientated activities. EMOP 200338 is currently under BR2. Prepositioning and funding remain challenging. Thus far, WFP has prepositioned 94 percent of targeted food aid to ensure food insecure people with uninterrupted food assistance if rainy season limits access.
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Horn of Africa - Somalia

Socio-political Situation

- Al-Shabaab continue to engage in asymmetric attacks and remains a threat
- The UN Security Council approved a new peace-building mission UNSOM based in Mogadishu to begin in June 2013.

WFP Operations

- WFP in Somalia is gradually shifting from emergency response to recovery in line with the joint FAO/WFP/UNICEF resilience strategy
 - Challenges remain despite the recent increase in humanitarian access. WFP is closely coordinating with Food Security Cluster partners to address both access and food assistance programming issues.
 - WFP is targeting 1.56 million vulnerable Somalis under the new PRRO 200443 through nutrition, livelihood, relief and social safety net programmes.
 - Special Operation 200507 facilitates the delivery of life-saving humanitarian assistance and movement of humanitarian workers in Somalia and Kenya, including medical and security evacuations, through air services to and within Somalia and Kenya.
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Horn of Africa - Kenya

Socio-political Situation

- The Presidential election process ended peacefully.
- Localised protests and clashes occurred after the Supreme Court's ruling upholding the victory of Uhuru Kenyatta in presidential elections, but the overall situation remained calm.

WFP Operations

- PRRO 200294 has a shortfall of US\$11.4 million
- PRRO 200174 has a shortfall of US\$29 million

Food Security

- The short rains assessment indicates that there is substantial improvement in the food security across Kenya, with the number of food insecure people reducing to 1.1 million from the 2.1 million assessed in August 2012.

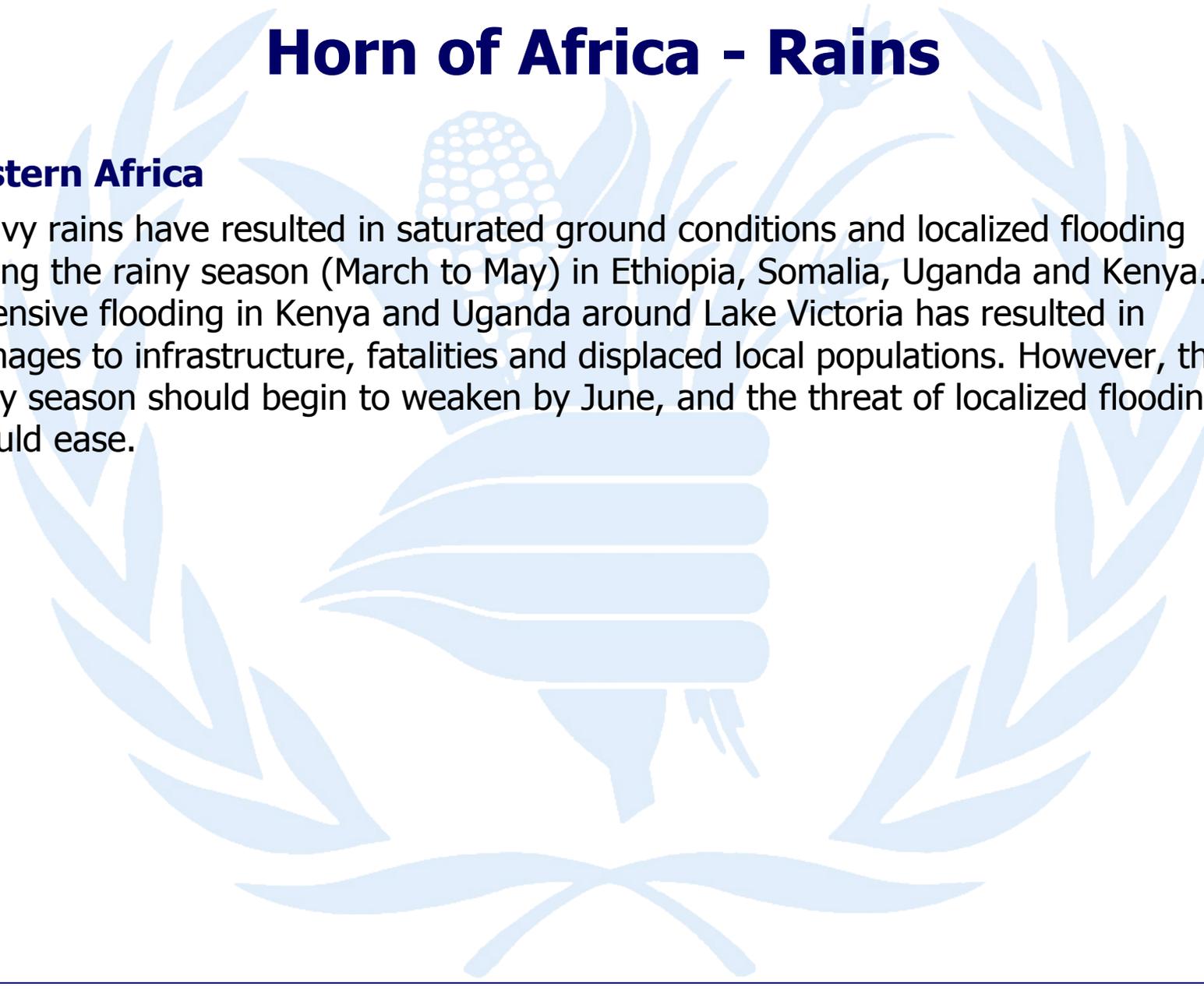
Floods

- The rainy season is ending, WFP distributed food in Tana River and Tana North. Several areas were inaccessible due to bad road condition attributed to the ongoing rains.
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Horn of Africa - Rains

Eastern Africa

Heavy rains have resulted in saturated ground conditions and localized flooding during the rainy season (March to May) in Ethiopia, Somalia, Uganda and Kenya. Extensive flooding in Kenya and Uganda around Lake Victoria has resulted in damages to infrastructure, fatalities and displaced local populations. However, the rainy season should begin to weaken by June, and the threat of localized flooding should ease.



Upcoming Elections

- WFP continues to closely monitor elections that could result in a disruption of WFP activities or create new caseloads for WFP in the coming months, including in:
 - Iran
 - Lebanon
 - Zimbabwe
 - Madagascar
 - Guinea
 - Mali

Natural Hazards

Southern Africa localised dryness

The rainy season (October to March) has been below average across much of Southern Africa. Many local areas have experienced less than half of their normal rainfall accumulation since January. As the rainy season does not begin again until October, dryness and localized drought is expected to become worse. Countries most affected are Namibia, Angola, Botswana and southern Zimbabwe. Apart from Zimbabwe, WFP is not active in these countries but monitors the situation.

South-West Indian Ocean Monsoon Season

The June-September South-West Monsoon seasonal rainfall is expected to be average this year. Countries mainly affected by the monsoon include Pakistan, India, Bangladesh and Myanmar. Localized flooding is still possible across the region, even during an average monsoon season.

- As of 15 May, Tropical Storm Mahasen is expected to remain below typhoon strength as it makes landfall just south of Chittagong in the evening of 16 May. The greatest threat from this storm will be flooding, with over 150 mm of rain possible in eastern Bangladesh and western Myanmar. A coastal surge of 1 to 2 meters is possible, which could result in additional flooding in an area of significant vulnerability (e.g. refugee and IDP camps).
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Natural Hazards (cont'd)

North-West Pacific Typhoon Season

The 2013 Northwest Pacific typhoon season is expected to see activity close to the 1965-2012 climate norm; tropical storms in this region often affect China, Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong, the Philippines, and Taiwan, as well as countries in Southeast Asia such as Vietnam and parts of Indonesia, plus numerous Oceanian islands. The Philippines archipelago receives an average of 6-7 tropical storm landfalls per year. The entire Northwest Pacific Basin receives 26 tropical storms each year, and 17 typhoons. WFP is engaging in its annual preparedness planning for Indonesia and the Philippines.

Atlantic Hurricane Season

Models are indicating that precipitation will be near to above average during the rainy season across the Caribbean and Central America (May to September). The hurricane season (June to November) is expected to be above average in the Atlantic and Caribbean. The entire Atlantic Basin receives 12 tropical storms each year, and 6 hurricanes. Annual WFP preparedness activities in Central America and the Caribbean are on schedule.



Thank You

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<http://executiveboard.wfp.org/situation-reports>
