

Eastern Africa, Regional Overview

Michael Dunford, Regional Director for Eastern Africa (RBN) Annual Session of the WFP Executive Board

2023 June

Food insecurity across Eastern Africa: Petrol on the Fire



75.6M people food insecure across
Eastern Africa- 23.4M due to drought in
Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia



Conflict, climate-induced hazards, epidemics and macro-economic shocks are key drivers



19.5M people forcibly displaced

Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan- hotspots of highest concern





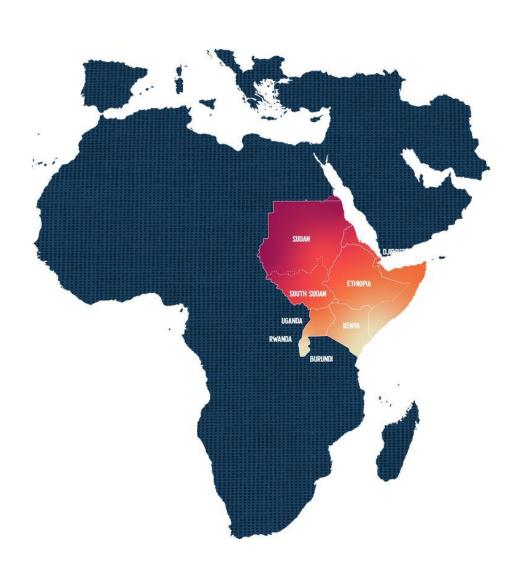
- Corporate Scale Up activated for six months- highest classification of an emergency for WFP
- 16.8M people were food insecure pre-crisis 19M people to be food insecure if conflict persists
- Plan to support 5.9M of the most vulnerable over 1M people reached with food relief in 14 of 18 states
- Insecurity issues and access constraints + USD 93M worth of food, commodities and assets losses.



Regional implications of the Sudan Crisis

- 600,000 people have fled to neighbouring countriesexpected to reach 1.1M people by October 2023
- **Skyrocketing food prices** in neighbouring countries-South Sudan, Chad, Central African Republic
- Macro-economic challenges- South Sudan oil exports account for more than 90% of countries' revenues
- Risk of regional destabilization and fall-out







- 7.8 million people (2/3 of population) to be food insecure between April-July 2023
- 108,000 refugee arrivals from Sudan
- Cost of a food basket has risen by 20-25 percent
- WFP forced to reduce rations to:
 - 70 percent for IPC5
 - 50 percent for IPC4
 - IPC3 not assisted at all
- Over 70 percent of the populations facing worsened acute food insecurity (IPC 3+), in areas bordering Sudan





- Famine averted in 2022 due in part to massive WFP scale up
- In 2022, WFP distributed **more cash in Somalia** than any other country worldwide.
- 6.6 million highly food-insecure people (IPC 3+) through June 2023 – one third of population
- Reduced funding to result in prioritized caseload 4.5 million in Q1 to 1.8 million people by Q3
- Reduction in funding risks the achievements of averting famine





- Aid Diversion: WFP is deeply concerned and taking drastic measures. OIG investigation ongoing.
- WFP has temporarily paused humanitarian operations across the country.
- Working with stakeholders to implement widespread assurance project.
- School Feeding, nutrition and resilience activities are still ongoing.
- **20.1M** people (1 of 6 Ethiopians) are in need of humanitarian assistance





GOOD NEWS FROM THE REGION



















Consultative Symposium on Water Security for Food Security





WATER SECURITY FOR FOOD SECURITY

Dyke Rehabilitation Project in South Sudan

- 76 km of Bor Dyke rehabilitated since 2021
- Over 2,000 local youth mobilized
- 1,644 km of flooded land reclaimed and 16,000 IDPs returned/livelihoods restored
- By reclaiming flood lands, WFP restored livelihoods to IDPs and saved USD 2M/year





FUNDING

- Unprecedented needs outpacing funding,
 Sudan crisis to exacerbate needs
- Operations only 35 percent funded, additional USD 2.46 billion required for the next 6 months.
- Refugee operations in dire need- Uganda and South Sudan critical contexts
- Strengthened funding diversification increased funding from private sector and IFIs





