Eastern Africa, Regional Overview

Michael Dunford, Regional Director for Eastern Africa (RBN)

Annual Session of the WFP Executive Board
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

WFP targeting a record number of 47 million people
• **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.

USD 300 million needed to support those most food insecure in the next 6 months.
Regional implications of the Sudan Crisis

- **600,000 people** have fled to neighbouring countries—expected 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

WFP needs **USD 469 million** to support operations for the next six months (June-Nov 2023)
• **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

WFP needs **USD 398 million** to support operations for the next six months (June-Nov 2023)
• **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

WFP AND UNEP
BOLSTER GLOBAL FOOD AND WATER SECURITY

UNEP- WFP Partnership
UN environment programme

New Ag-Tech Innovations

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**
• **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
THANK YOU