



HIGHLIGHTS

- On 5 September 2011, Bay region in Somalia was classified as being in a state of famine by the Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU) and the Famine Early Warning System Network (FEWS NET).
- **4 million people** are now in crisis in Somalia and 750 000 are at risk of death in the coming four months.
- Funding is still significantly below that requested, with FAO’s funding gap for the region at **USD 95.8 million**.
- The climate outlook for the September to December 2011 rainy season indicates increased likelihood of abundant rainfall over most of the Horn of Africa:
 - **Above- to near-normal rainfall** expected in southern and central Somalia; western, coastal, central and northeastern Kenya; western, central and northern Ethiopia; Djibouti; South Sudan; and southern and central Uganda.
 - **Near-normal to below-normal rainfall** expected over northern Somalia; eastern and southern Ethiopia; northwestern Kenya and northern Uganda.
 - **Generally dry conditions** are forecast over the Sudan; much of Eritrea and extreme northern Ethiopia.
 - Rainfall received during September to December is relatively small in many parts of the region relative to the annual totals. Thus, above-normal rainfall predicted in some areas may not be able to wipe out the drought impacts that have persisted in some of these areas for several months.



DROUGHT-AFFECTED COUNTRIES

SOMALIA

Situation Update

- The prevalence of acute malnutrition and rate of crude mortality have surpassed famine thresholds in **Bay region** of southern Somalia.
- The July/August post-Gu seasonal assessment analysis suggests that poor households in Bay region face massive food deficits owing to a combination of poor crop production and deteriorating purchasing power.
- Areas of southern Somalia affected by famine are now: Bay region, the Bakool agropastoral livelihood zone, Lower Shabelle region, the agropastoral areas of Balcad and Cadale districts of Middle Shabelle, the Afgoye corridor internally displaced person (IDP) settlement, and the Mogadishu IDP community.
- An additional 50 000 people in cropping areas of Gedo and Juba and pastoral areas of Bakool face famine-level food deficits.
- A total of 4 million people are in crisis in Somalia, with 750 000 at risk of death in the coming four months in the absence of an adequate response.

FAO Current Activities in Response to the Drought

Restoring crop production capacity of farmers (fully funded):

FAO has procured 1 500 tonnes of maize seeds, 800 tonnes of sorghum seeds, 120 tonnes of sesame seeds, 1 300 tonnes of TSP fertilizer and 3 750 tonnes of urea. The distribution of these inputs to 150 833 farming households (over 900 000 people) is expected to begin in September 2011 in time for the Deyr season (October to December).

Disease surveillance, vaccination and treatment (71 percent funded):

With current funding, FAO will treat a total of 1 053 333 animals belonging to 25 625 households across Somalia. This activity will begin in September 2011.

Provision of collapsible water tanks and water trucking (83 percent funded):

FAO will support 10 000 households through the distribution of 96 collapsible water tanks, which will improve access to water for livestock. The collapsible water tanks will be distributed in North Afmadow and South Gedo districts of Bardere and Elwak for the bulk storage of water in livestock grazing blocks.

Cash-for-work activities (71 percent funded):

- To-date, 27 841 households (167 046 people) have received assistance under FAO's cash-for-work interventions.
- A total of 63 090 households are benefiting from both ongoing and hard pipeline cash-for-work projects.
- Some 260 priority canals, 45 water catchments, 24 feeder roads and 6 bush clearings have been identified and selected for rehabilitation in Bay, Bakool, Lower Shabelle, Lower Juba, Middle Juba and Hiraan regions.
- Technical surveys and work designs of the selected infrastructure for rehabilitation have been completed.

FSNAU

FEWS NET and the FAO-managed FSNAU issued a joint press release on 5 September highlighting the latest declaration of famine in Bay region of southern Somalia. Further updates can be found at <http://www.fsnau.org>.

Somalia Water and Land Information Management (SWALIM)

SWALIM issued its weekly hydro-meteorological update on 29 August 2011, which provides information on current rainfall and river levels. The update can be accessed at <http://www.swalim.org>.

GAPS and CONSTRAINTS: Over USD 24 million is still urgently needed to: (i) safeguard the livelihoods and remaining assets of herders through improved fodder production and distribution and pasture/rangeland management; (ii) reach more households through livestock disease surveillance, treatment and vaccination; (iii) start slaughter de-stocking activities; (iv) assist additional households with water tanks and water trucking; and (v) scale up the cash-for-work interventions.

DJIBOUTI

Unpredictable rainfall patterns are an intrinsic feature of the arid and semi-arid lands that characterize much of the Horn of Africa. However, the current drought has accentuated normal fluctuations throughout the region, with life-threatening impacts on the most vulnerable, particularly pastoralists and rural households in Djibouti.

An estimated 146 000 people (mainly agropastoralists in rural areas of Djibouti and 26 000 new arrivals in suburban areas) are experiencing a food security crisis, with few alternative livelihood options.

FAO Current Activities in Response to the Drought

FAO has established priority interventions for emergency response and recovery interventions in the country, including: (i) preserving livestock through the provision of fodder, drugs and vaccines, strengthening laboratory and diagnostic services, and promoting the community animal health worker (CAHW) network; (ii) facilitating access to drinking water for human and animal consumption by improving the water supply in most affected localities and rehabilitating groundwater catchment facilities; (iii) improving rural small-scale irrigation for fodder and vegetable production; and (iv) reinforcing the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock's capacity to respond to the crisis.

Recently completed activities:

- distribution of almost 2 000 goats to restock dwindling herds in Ali-Sabieh and Tadjourah regions;
- establishment of a community-based animal health network;
- training of 50 CAHWs (ten per region);
- distribution of vaccines, medicines, salt licks and micronutrients for pneumonia, diarrhoea, malnutrition and ticks for 80 000 livestock;
- construction of five cisterns of 100 m³ in Arta (karta) and Tadjourah; and
- field mission to the northern and eastern regions of Djibouti to re-evaluate the water points to be rehabilitated and identify local implementing partners.

Planned and ongoing activities:

- herd restocking with 3 250 pregnant goats in Dikhil, Arta and Obock;
- distribution of 150 tonnes of hay for goats;
- distribution of vaccines, medicines, salt licks and micronutrients for pneumonia, diarrhoea, malnutrition and ticks for 100 000 livestock;
- rehabilitation of 15 key wells and troughs in rural areas for human and livestock water consumption;
- construction and rehabilitation of an additional 12 cisterns of 100 m³ in Dikhil and Obock;
- distribution of 500 water barrels (200 litres each) to drought-affected agropastoralist communities;
- rehabilitation of 10 percent of small vegetable/fodder gardens;
- rehabilitation of 125 micro-irrigation systems;
- strengthening of the disaster risk management (DRM) platform for Djibouti; and
- collaborating with WFP to establish the Food Security Cluster.

GAPS: Almost USD 3 million is still needed to implement immediate and short-term recovery activities so that crisis-affected communities are able to continue farming and protect their livelihoods.

ETHIOPIA

FAO Current Activities in Response to the Drought

In **response** to the drought, FAO Ethiopia is providing livelihood support to affected households according to their primary livelihood interests. For example, in drought-affected smallholder farming areas, support is focused on preparing for the next planting season in early 2012. In contrast, in the southern lowlands, the main form of activity is support to pastoralists, who rely on livestock keeping.

In addition to supporting **response** activities, FAO Ethiopia is also turning its attention to the identification and planning of appropriate early recovery and rehabilitation actions.

Support to pastoralists

Repairing water sources (9 000 beneficiary households)

- Procurement and distribution of materials to 12 sites identified for water point rehabilitation in Borena Zone and Liben *woreda* of Guji Zone.
- Work has started on the rehabilitation of six wells and one livestock pond.

Supplementing livestock feed (3 000 beneficiary households)

- Some 3 00 households have been identified to benefit from this activity.
- 23 Government extension agents and 10 beneficiaries have been trained in feed management
- 23 300 multinutrient blocks, 1.5 tonnes of molasses and 0.5 tonnes of urea have been transported to drought-affected parts of Borena Zone to help protect core breeding animals from drought.
- In addition, 10 000 Napier grass root stems and 700 kg of forage seeds have been purchased and transported to drought-affected areas, along with various farm tools, where they will support the expansion of irrigated fodder and therefore provide livestock keepers with new sources of fodder to overcome drought.
- Livestock feeding has already started.

Animal health (benefiting at least 60 000 households)

- The procurement of veterinary drugs has been completed and the drugs have been distributed to the regions.
- FAO partners have been contracted to establish four private veterinary pharmacies and manage a network of 60 CAHWs in Afder Zone, Somali Region. An additional three pharmacies, managing 45 CAHWs, have been established in Liben Zone, Somali Region.
- Three private pharmacies are in the process of being established in South Omo Zone, Southern Nation, Nationalities and Peoples (SNNP) Region, supporting 35 CAHWs.

Slaughter de-stocking

- As a last resort to support drought-affected livestock keepers, slaughter de-stocking is a means of both injecting cash into drought-affected communities and, if the meat is consumed, supporting household nutrition. Only when the animals are so emaciated that they cannot be eaten are they disposed of. Where this happens, prices are reduced by 50 percent.
- In Borena Zone, Oromia Region, 1 084 cattle and 1 305 sheep/goats have been slaughtered. Meat from animals in better condition was shared with families facing nutrition challenges (7 percent of cattle, and 90 percent of sheep and goats). Cash injections total USD 80 000 and some 2 800 households received meat to boost their nutritional status.
- In Afder and Liben Zones, Somali Region, 831 sheep and goats have been slaughtered, and 100 percent of the carcasses passed as fit for human consumption. Some 2 940 households received meat and 550 households received cash injections of USD 20 000.

Support to crop production

Response to yellow wheat rust infestation

FAO Ethiopia Disaster Risk Management/Emergency Team is supporting the Government-led response to a yellow wheat rust infestation and is developing project agreements and following up on technical clearance of fungicides and personal protective equipment procurement issues. In addition, the team have visited the Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research to develop a work plan for improved cooperation to multiply yellow rust-resistant wheat cultivars.

Providing seeds and planting materials to smallholder farmers

- 3.9 million sweet potato cuttings were distributed to vulnerable households in SNNP Region, of which 3 million were planted in June/July 2011. The remaining cuttings were distributed and planted last week. Some 3 880 smallholder farmers have benefited from this action.
- 1.3 million sweet potato cuttings were also distributed to 1 500 drought-affected smallholder farmers in Tigray Region.
- 900 000 sweet potato cuttings were provided to 900 farmers in two *woredas* of East and West Hararghe zones, Oromia Region, and an additional 900 000 are ready for distribution from stock produced by the Werer Agricultural Research Centre.

Coordination

The federal Disaster Risk Management – Agricultural Task Force is chaired by a representative from the Ministry of Agriculture and co-chaired by FAO. Regional and zonal Agricultural/Pastoral Task Forces in Afar, Oromia and Somali Regions are also supported by FAO to improve Government-led initiatives to coordinate and harmonize drought actions.

GAPS: Over USD 9 million is required to implement immediate and short-term recovery activities so that crisis-affected communities are able to continue farming and protect their livelihoods.

KENYA

An estimated 3.75 million people in rural areas are in need of assistance as a direct result of the drought (1 847 000 in pastoral areas and 1 903 200 in marginal agriculture areas). In addition to poor rainfall, conflict, high food prices and livestock migrations are also putting pressure on food security.

FAO Current Activities in Response to the Drought

Support to pastoral livelihoods:

FAO is intervening to save livestock in north and eastern Kenya, funded by the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund. More than 300 000 people and 2 million animals will benefit from FAO activities. Interventions include the purchase and supply of vaccines, fodder, vitamins and water. In addition, FAO is operating de-stocking schemes and re-stocking poultry. Interventions are currently taking place in Garissa, Kitui, Makueni and East Pokot. FAO is also scaling up activities in Moyale, Isiolo, Tana River, Mandera, Wajir and Turkana.

Capacity development:

FAO coordinates the Agriculture and Livestock Cluster. The Organization is also working to build capacity in drought risk reduction and management, and in natural resource management by training local authorities and NGOs in Turkana, one of Kenya's worst-hit areas. This is being done through Pastoral Field Schools.

Voucher-for-work activities:

FAO is carrying out voucher-for-work activities in marginal agricultural areas in Eastern Kenya (Mwingi, Kitui, Tharaka and Mbeere), which are benefiting over 5 000 households. Targeted households are paid with vouchers that they can swap for drought-tolerant seeds to plant during the upcoming short rains, fertilizers and tools. Working in groups, the beneficiaries terrace their farms to prevent future, drought-related soil erosion and build structures to harvest water.

Support to irrigation:

The promotion of irrigated agriculture is one of the priorities of the Government of Kenya. FAO is supporting 12 community-based irrigation schemes, covering 1 850 households and 5 590 ha of land in vulnerable, drought-affected communities in Nyanza, Rift Valley and North Eastern Provinces with the aim of boosting food and fodder production. Rice, sorghum, millet, maize and legume crops planted in April 2011 are currently being harvested.

FAO has introduced drip irrigation kits to 130 family farms in Kitui and plans to distribute 200 more in coming weeks.

FAO working to build farmers' resilience to drought in eastern Kenya (article published in the UN in Kenya Newsletter, September 2011)



With the onset of the short rains less than two months away, FAO has been assisting vulnerable farmers in eastern Kenya to prepare their fields and to build water harvesting structures through a voucher-for-work project.

Most people in this drought-prone area are smallholder farmers and agro-pastoralists, dependent on rainfall for their crops. However, the failed 2010 short rains and the erratic 2011 long rains have resulted in major crop loss and depleted seed stocks.

In most cases, farmers have not had a decent harvest in two – even three – seasons, leaving them more food insecure and cash strapped. High food, fuel and seed prices have added an additional strain, forcing families to eat fewer meals a day or sell off their assets

Through this project, however, FAO is working closely with the Government of Kenya and local partners to provide over 5 000 vulnerable households in Mbeere, Mwingi and Kitui districts with the means to buy essential food items while at the same time building and rehabilitating vital infrastructure.

Farmers, working through Farmer Field and Life School groups, are terracing at least one acre of their land so that fertile topsoil is not swept away with the rains. Likewise, they are constructing sand dams in dry riverbeds to capture and retain water – water that would otherwise be lost to runoff.

Farmers are given a voucher in exchange for each day of work. Half of the voucher can be redeemed for food at select local traders, while the other half is used to buy building materials for the community sand dams.

It is through improved soil and water conservation methods – as well as the promotion of drought-tolerant crops – that FAO hopes to strengthen the resilience of these communities now so they are not completely blindsided by drought in the future.

GAPS and CONSTRAINTS: An estimated USD 19 million is required to address unmet needs, including distributing drought-tolerant seeds and fertilizers, promoting drought-tolerant crops, supporting seed production, rehabilitating smallholder irrigation schemes, livestock off-take, and animal disease surveillance and treatment.

CURRENT FUNDING RECEIVED FOR FAO'S DROUGHT RESPONSE PROGRAMME

Country	FAO funding requirement	Funds received to-date*	Funds in the pipeline [^]	Total funds received + pipeline	Funding gap
Somalia	70 000 000	20 027 334	25 600 693	45 628 027	24 371 973
Ethiopia	12 500 000	2 145 901	1 227 710	3 373 611	9 126 389
Kenya	27 260 000	6 118 964	1 892 284	8 011 248	19 248 752
Djibouti	6 540 918	2 461 326	1 113 608	3 574 934	2 965 984
Regional	1 900 000	0	873 142	873 142	1 026 858
South Sudan	15 878 300	3 742 591	0	3 742 591	12 135 709
Sudan	21 000 000	0	0	0	21 000 000
Uganda	6 000 000	0	0	0	6 000 000
Total	161 079 218	34 496 116	30 707 437	65 203 553	95 875 665

*This is reflected in the UNOCHA Financial Tracking System and FAO's Field Programme Management Information System (FPMIS)

[^]This reflects funding pledged but not yet received.

Note: The regional projects have been split by country in the above table, while in FPMIS, for technical reasons, regional projects are not split by country, but show the total of the project including all the countries.

FAO ONGOING INTERVENTIONS IN NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES

SOUTH SUDAN

The drought in parts of the Horn of Africa is raising concerns about how it may impact the already fragile food security and livelihoods of South Sudan's population.

There are presently over 1 million people in South Sudan who risk food insecurity, particularly in the border states of Northern Bahr el-Ghazal, Warrap and Upper Nile, where food security is deteriorating at an alarming rate. The situation is compounded by rapid population growth, pest and disease outbreaks, drought, conflicts, low agricultural productivity, limited access to services, weak markets, displacement and returns, poor food production, and rising food prices.

The progress of the rains in 2011 is also of concern. Rainfall has been erratic, with prolonged dry spells reported mainly in Lakes, Northern and Western Bahr el-Ghazal, Upper Nile, Eastern Equatoria and parts of Central Equatoria, Warrap and Jonglei states. This is likely to affect food production, particularly cereal production, placing populations at high risk of food insecurity. A current estimate of cereal production is about 30–40 percent below 2010 production figures. Severe crop wilting has been reported in areas that experienced long dry spells.

The prices of commodities have been pushed up due to limited availability exacerbated by rising fuel prices, shortages, reduced flow of commodities from the Sudan to South Sudan, insecurity, poor road access, and rising demand owing to the large number of returnees and IDPs. This is severely straining households' coping mechanisms.

Livestock diseases are reported to be prevalent in Eastern Equatoria, Unity, Lakes, Jonglei, Northern and Western Bahr el-Ghazal and Upper Nile states, including foot-and-mouth disease, contagious bovine pleuropneumonia, haemorrhagic septicaemia, blackquarter, anthrax, PPR and brucella.

The current socio-political crisis in Abyei area is further exacerbating the fragile food security situation and has serious implications for household vulnerability in Agok area and Twic county of Warrap state.

While the newly independent country is facing these challenges, the underused vast agricultural lands and natural resources, if sustainably harnessed, could contribute to economic growth and poverty alleviation.

FAO is implementing a broad portfolio of agricultural relief and rehabilitation projects in Southern Sudan and is providing livelihood recovery support to IDPs, returnees and vulnerable resident households to increase agricultural production and productivity, mitigate famine, improve nutrition and accelerate the recovery of food security.

FAO's humanitarian interventions in South Sudan are implemented within the following main areas:

- support to vulnerable communities by providing appropriate, improved and diversified agricultural, livestock production and animal health, animal traction and fisheries inputs, combining better production with environmental sustainability;
- rehabilitation/construction of vital infrastructure (seed laboratories, markets, storage facilities, etc.);
- capacity development, training and technical assistance to promote local production and marketing systems;
- sustaining peace by preventing/resolving disputes over the use of natural resources in connection with the flow of returnees and supporting the economic and social reintegration of demobilized ex-combatants;
- carrying out needs/food security/seed assessments;
- coordination of the Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster; and
- prevention; preparedness, early warning and disaster risk reduction.

THE SUDAN

The Transitional Areas and Darfur region have been experiencing a complex humanitarian emergency, resulting in the loss of agricultural assets, such as seeds, farming tools and livestock, severely impacting on the productive capacity of affected civilian populations. Humanitarian needs remain generally high, as the population continues to suffer widespread poverty and inequitable development.

The security situation in South Kordofan state remains tense, with an estimated 200 000 people displaced or severely affected by the fighting that broke out on 6 June 2011. The security situation and access restrictions led to a reduction in the number of humanitarian staff in the region. The rainy season and resulting poor road conditions exacerbated the difficulty in accessing some of the conflict-hit areas. The fighting took place during the peak agricultural season, which is expected to lead to lower than usual crop harvests in October 2011 as farmers were displaced from their field and seed availability was severely reduced. In order to compensate for these low harvests, FAO is focusing on intensifying vegetable production and other livelihood interventions, with activities including irrigation for vegetable gardens; support to processing, storing and marketing produce; and re-stocking with small ruminants. However, funding is urgently needed to support these interventions and improve the food insecurity of conflict-hit populations in South Kordofan state.

FAO's ongoing interventions in the Sudan (mainly the Transitional Areas and Darfur) cover five main areas:

- crop production (provision of agricultural productive inputs and services and training on crop husbandry);
- livestock asset protection (vaccination and treatment of livestock, training and equipping CAHWs, livestock disease surveillance, and rehabilitation of water points, veterinary centres and clinics);
- environmental protection and restoration (producing and planting multipurpose tree seedlings, training on the production and use of fuel-efficient stoves, supporting farm protection and natural resource-based conflict transformation);
- livelihoods diversification and technology transfer (agroprocessing, oil extraction, water harvesting, small-scale irrigation, livestock restocking, providing animal traction, supporting blacksmithing for the production of agricultural tools); and
- coordination of the Food Security and Livelihoods Sector (information gathering, gap analysis, capacity development, etc.).

UGANDA

An estimated 600 000 people, mainly in northern Uganda, are facing moderate food insecurity. Some northern parts of the country are experiencing localized impacts of the drought that is affecting much of the Horn of Africa.

In response, FAO Uganda has:

- organized a four-day training workshop on the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) with 45 participants from 31 districts from 15 to 20 August 2011 to introduce the IPC tool;
- initiated, together with the International Institute of Rural Reconstruction, a review of the Agropastoral Field School curriculum in order to integrate a module on community-managed disaster risk reduction, so as to enhance ongoing efforts to build the resilience of agropastoral communities; and
- supported district local governments to carry out animal disease surveillance, particularly in Karamoja, where various outbreaks have been reported.

FAO REGIONAL COORDINATION ACTIVITIES

The current situation in the Horn of Africa region is evolving rapidly. Decision-makers therefore require frequent updates on the situation to inform coherent and coordinated actions in response to the crisis. At the regional level, FAO is working to provide an effective, multistakeholder food security and nutrition coordination mechanism for the emergency, response and recovery over the drought cycle in the affected countries.

Thus, activities carried out by FAO's Subregional Emergency Office for Eastern and Central Africa seek to:

- strengthen the regional food security and nutrition coordination mechanism for information-sharing and response identification and prioritization;

Activities: providing technical and coordination support to the regional Food Security and Nutrition Working Group (FSNWG); further establishing national coordination mechanisms to ensure a regional harmonized approach to country-level interventions; timely production and dissemination of relevant food security and nutrition information; developing disaster risk management/reduction guidelines and guidance specific to drought in the Horn of Africa; supporting policy development/revision and planning at regional level; emergency gender response training to inform concrete actions to capitalize on and address the different needs of men, women, boys and girls in pastoralist and agropastoralist communities affected by drought.

- provide stakeholders with regular and timely regional, consensus-based food security and nutrition situation and outlook updates and analysis; and

Activities: facilitating and supporting the production of regional consensus-based food security and nutrition updates; providing technical and coordination support for IPC analysis in the affected countries; providing technical surge capacity for ad hoc emergency rapid analysis for specific crisis areas facing rapid changes in the food security and nutrition situation.

- identify and prioritize food security and nutrition situation and outlook analysis-based regional responses.

Activities: facilitating and supporting the identification, prioritization, advocacy for and dissemination of regional cross-sectoral response guidelines and guidance (e.g. for agriculture, livestock, gender and drought; and globally-recognized standards for humanitarian interventions and responses); and providing technical advice and support for coordinated sectoral interventions.

MEETINGS

FAO/G20 MINISTERIAL-LEVEL MEETING – 25 JULY 2011

OBJECTIVE: To examine possible measures to address the crisis in the Horn of Africa.

MAIN OUTCOMES: The meeting demonstrated the united national and international resolve to urgently address the famine in Somalia and the hunger crisis in the Horn of Africa. The participants highlighted: (i) the importance of immediate response to save lives, protect people from malnutrition, and reduce human suffering; (ii) the need to rebuild livelihoods and improve resilience and agricultural production; (iii) the importance of sustainably improving the production and productivity of small farmers and herders; (iv) the need to enable farmers, fishers, and herders to help themselves out of this crisis; (v) the importance of pastoralism and agropastoralism as dynamic and sustainable livelihood systems in the Horn of Africa; and (vi) the need to support and strengthen initiatives led by the African Union, Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the governments of the affected countries and the High Level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis.

FAO FOLLOW UP HIGH-LEVEL MEETING – 18 AUGUST 2011

OBJECTIVE: To take stock of the evolving situation in the Horn of Africa, and discuss the actions taken to-date to save lives and build resilience in the region.

MAIN OUTCOMES: The meeting built on the G20 Action Plan on Food Price Volatility and Agriculture and on the Emergency Ministerial-Level Meeting on the crisis situation in the Horn of Africa on 25 July 2011, organized by FAO at the request of the G20 Presidency. It also contributed to the preparation of response actions and investment decisions. Overall, the participants: (i) confirmed their commitment to a twin-track approach to meet the immediate needs of vulnerable populations while building their longer-term resilience; (ii) emphasized the need for stronger links between humanitarian and development initiatives; (iii) stressed the immediate need to increase support to livelihoods through humanitarian interventions that must be sustained until conditions are stable; (iv) agreed with the need to advocate for, seek and plan for assured multi-year funding for livelihood restoration programmes; and (v) endorsed the Africa- and country-led Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme as the most appropriate vision and strategic framework for sustainable livelihood development in Africa.

AFRICAN UNION PLEDGING CONFERENCE – 25 AUGUST 2011

OBJECTIVE: To raise resources and awareness among African Union Member States and the wider international community towards alleviating the plight of affected populations in the Horn of Africa.

MAIN OUTCOMES: To-date, over USD 371 million has been pledged by African countries in response to the ongoing crisis.

GOVERNMENT OF KENYA SUMMIT ON THE HORN OF AFRICA CRISIS, NAIROBI – 8 TO 9 SEPTEMBER 2011

OBJECTIVE: To focus on country-led programmes as the basis for comprehensively addressing and dealing with the humanitarian, security development and climate change challenges of the current crisis in the Horn of Africa; determine effective approaches to tackle longstanding, recurrent and debilitating events; reach agreement on support for country-led programmes, with enhanced assistance from the international community; adopt the Nairobi Action Plan, outlining the main elements of these country-led programmes; and address other relevant issues.

IGAD/AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK WORKSHOP ON LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT AND DROUGHT PREPAREDNESS IN THE HORN OF AFRICA, DJIBOUTI – 14 TO 15 SEPTEMBER 2011

OBJECTIVE: To contribute to the development of a combined IGAD/African Development Bank/World Bank investment plan for pastoralist development of USD 375 million. FAO's Investment Centre, Subregional office for Eastern Africa and Emergency Operations and Rehabilitation Division have established a technical working group to prepare a technical paper for this meeting.

MINISTERIAL MINI-SUMMIT ON THE HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE IN THE HORN OF AFRICA, NEW YORK – 24 SEPTEMBER 2011

OBJECTIVE: To focus attention on the growing needs of affected people in Somalia, Kenya, Ethiopia and Djibouti; increase awareness of the humanitarian response in the region and identify ways of overcoming operational challenges; encourage and raise awareness about the benefits of multilateral humanitarian action in 2011 and looking ahead to funding requirements for the Horn of Africa in 2010; forge links between emergency relief and longer-term country-led interventions to reduce vulnerability to future food crises; and promote initiatives to encourage private citizens and businesses to contribute to the response, with an emphasis on donating through multilateral channels.

LINKS

Disaster risk reduction: www.disasterriskreduction.net
FAO: <http://www.fao.org/crisis/horn-africa/home/en>
FSNAU: www.fsnau.org
FAO and emergencies: http://www.fao.org/emergencies/country_information/list/regional/crisishoa/en
SWALIM: www.faoswalim.org

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