

El Niño in Ethiopia

Testing the lessons of El Niño past

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Introduction

The past year has been tough for Ethiopia. The country faced it's worst drought in 50 years. First the spring (belg) rains in 2015 failed, drastically diminishing planting and livestock production across the country. By the time El Niño arrived in June 2015, the summer (kiremt) rains, which supply much of the country's harvest and potable water, were also severely reduced. Poor rainfall increased food insecurity and malnutrition and devastated livelihoods across the country. El Niño exacerbated the existing drought and the situation was compounded further with extensive flooding which fueled disease outbreaks leaving a trail of devastation that affected million of Ethiopians. Floods affected more than 480,000 people, displaced close to 190,000 people, damaged several water points and presented an urgent need for water treatment chemicals and rehabilitation of water points.

In August 2015 4.5 million people were in need of humanitarian assistance - Over 3 million people experienced malnutrition. By October of last year, this number had almost doubled to 8.2 million and in March 2016 it increased further to over 10.2 million. Accordingly, the Government of Ethiopia together with humanitarian partners continuously revised the Humanitarian Requirements Document (HRD). The objective of the HRD was firstly to save lives and reduce morbidity. 420,000 children under five and 2.4 million children, pregnant and lactating women required specialized nutritional support in revised HRD in the mid-term of 2016.

The second objective was to protect and restore livelihoods and the third, to prepare for and respond to other humanitarian shocks, including natural disaster, conflicting and displacement.

During the past few decades, the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia has significantly strengthened its National Disaster Risk Management approach. Many lessons have been learned and put into practice to ensure risks are reduced and crisis response is effective. The Disaster Risk Management Strategic Program Investment Framework (DRM-SPIF) is a tool to translate the DRM Policy into action. It presents clear investment options for partners who want to manage disasters better and efficiently coordinates the allocation and utilization of resources.

The Government has taken further steps to strengthen national disaster risk management, including transforming the Disaster Risk Management and Food Security Sector (DRMFSS) to a full blown Commission, the National Disaster Risk Management Coordination Commission (NDRMCC) which leads the overall coordination of the response. leads federal and regional level Disaster Risk Management Technical Working Groups (DRMTWGs) across Ethiopia and hosts a series of specialized task forces that work in tandem with the clusters/sectors, including food and agriculture. The Government has provided over US\$200 million of emergency support in 2015. The Government committed an additional \$381 in 2015 and 2016 to meet urgent needs of vulnerable groups.

As the crisis evolves, the Government is strengthening the Technical Working Groups, with the support of the United Nations (UN).

420.000 children under five and 2.4 million children, pregnant and lactating women requiring specialized nutritional support.



INCREASE IN POPULATION AFFECTED BY THE DROUGHT



4.5 8.2 10.2

MILLION MILLION

JUNE 2015 OCTOBER 2015 MARCH 2016



10.2 Million

people/children affected by the drought in Ethiopia

World Vision Ethiopia response

\$43 MILLION

to respond to El Niño induced drought in 2015/2016 from the targeted \$48 Million 20%
18
MILLION
people benefited in FY 2015/2016

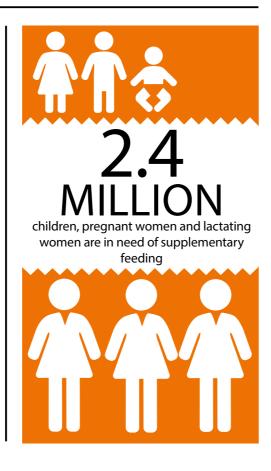
REGIONS
(Amhara, Oromia, SNNPR and

Tigray)

Implemented in

420,000

are in need of treatment for severe acute malnutrition (SAM)



World Vision's Response

In October 2015 World Vision launched an appeal for \$22m to fund emergency, WASH, Health and Nutrition, Education and Child Protection, General Food Distribution and Food Security/livelihood protection programmes. As the number of people affected grew over subsequent months, the appeal was revised to \$38m and \$48m in February and April 2016 respectively. By September, \$43 million has been secured from various donors, benefitting over 1.8 million people.

WV Ethiopia response benefitted over 1.8 million people, particularly children, lactating mothers, and pregnant women who were affected by the drought through WASH, Integrated Health and Nutrition, Food Distribution, and Livelihoods and Food

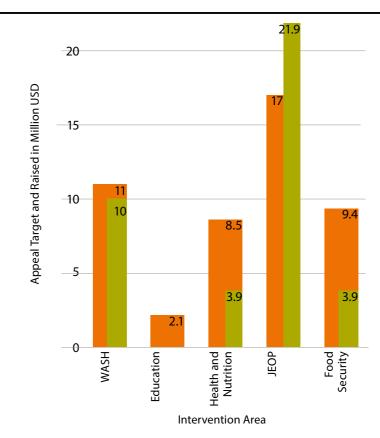
Target Appeal
Total Raised

Security in Oromia, SNNPR, Amhara, and Tigray Regions.

World Vision Ethiopia targeted 35 Area Programs and some adjacent districts that are seriously affected by the failed belg and meher harvest and the potential impact of poor harvest due to El Niño weather in Oromia, Amhara, SNNPR, and Tigray Regions.

World Vision Ethiopia's Category III Emergency Response Objectives are well aligned with Ethiopia 2016 Humanitarian Requirements Strategic Objectives. World Vision targeted more than 1.3 million drought affected people within their operational areas from October 2015- September 2016 with the same objectives as the HRD.

RESPONSE STRATEGY INTERVENTION AREAS



Health and Nutrition

An estimated 420,000 children were in need of treatment for severe acute malnutrition (SAM). and more than 2.4 million children, pregnant women and lactating women were in need of supplementary feeding. More than 72,421 people benefit from World Vision's emergency nutrition projects in 23 districts across four regions (Amhara, Oromia, Tigrai and the Southern Nations, Nationalities and People regions). World Vision supplied supplementary food in 20 districts (9 districts in partnership with WFP and II districts with UNOCHA). In four regions (Amhara, Oromia, Tigray and SNNP), World Vision has been implementing phase two Target Supplementary feeding programmes (TSF). Most of the nutrition projects are integrated with WASH.

World Vision purchased various nutritious food items for children, plumpy nut and medical supplies 24 WV Ethiopia's operation areas, mainly in as well as established OTP/SC centers at different hospitals and health center worth over US\$4.9 million. Following the massive efforts in integrated health and nutrition 125,812 under five children, lactating mothers, and pregnant women benefited. In general,

- 56,520 children under five treated for SAM, MAM, and supported through TSFP
- 96 SC. 517 OTP. and 313 TSFP sites established/strenghtened
- 94,137 pregnant and lactating women provided with nutritional and TSFP support
- 6.334 health workers. HEWs, and HDAs trained on CMAM-IYFC and SAM/MAM management
- 16,848 people trained on community sensitization and case identification

Malnourished children have very weak immune systems, so their bodies are less able to fight diseases such as malaria, diarrhea and respiratory infections. The ultimate objective of World Vision's health and nutrition intervention is to save lives and reduce morbidity related to drought as well

as prevent morbidities the local communities from outbreak of disease.

Since March 2016, scabies outbreaks have occurred in parts of the country of Ethiopia where water shortage were prevalent. According to the report by WHO in January 2016, more than 300 000 scabies cases were reported in Amhara and Tigray

According to the WASH Cluster draft appeal report, Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD) outbreak had been reported in 16 zones and in all 10 subcities of Addis Ababa as of 31 July 2016. The report shows that a total of 9.155 AWD cases and 49 deaths had been reported from these regions, with 58% of the cases in Addis Ababa.

Oromia region are at risk of AWD. Shashemene is among AWD affected districts in Oromia Region. In Shahemene 69 cases have been reported (two out of these were confirmed dead) since the outbreak in mid-June 2016, said Dres Gelaye, Emergency Public Health Focal Person of Shashemene District. The disease has been spreading to adjoining districts such as Abaya where 212 AWD cases and three deaths have been reported.

Despite continued effort exerted by the nation to control outbreaks of Acute Watery Diarrea, the symptom continued to spread at alarming rates. Since the first case was identified in November 2015 the disease could not be contained and had reached 16 zones and 57 Woredas by the end of July 2016. Currently, over 150 districts affected in Ethiopia. (Source: WASH Cluster minute of September 2016). Over half of the cases were reported in Addis Ababa and almost 50 people died from the symptom.

WV Ethiopia reponding to Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD) in collaboration with district level health institutions through the provision of medical supplies allocating over US\$400,000 in three districts.

RESPONDING TO ACUTE WATERY DIARRHEA

"Patients come with vomiting and diarrhea. We are here to help. So far II AWD cases have been admitted. All got well and discharged after receiving advice," said Rediet Shiferaw, case manager for Qersa Acute Watery Diarrhea Treatment Center in Shashemene district.

Budheshe Shundhe, 32 and a mother of two is among the AWD survivors in Shashemene district. She was admitted to Oersa AWD treatment center in mid-July 2016. "I had diarrhea and vomiting because we drink and use unprotected river water or rain water," she said. "I stayed four day at the center and now I am very happy because I am reunited with my family and children and working."

Tadesse Dassa, 50 and a father of 12 and a grandfather of 21 is another AWD survivor in Abaya District of the Oromia Region. "It was around mid-July that I was thirsty and drank river water on my way to home. When I arrived home I immediately began vomiting and diarrhea. I survived but the very sad story is my grandson (an 8-year-old boy) died," Tadess explained with sorrow.



joining her family.



Malnutrition screening at a health centre in Enderta, Tigray

I stayed four day at the center and now I am very happy because I am reunited with my family and children and working

> **Budheshe Shundhe** Shashemenie, Ethiopia



Food Assistance

World Vision is a member of the NGOs consortium that implements a joint Emergency Operation Plan (JEOP) programme funded by USAID in 15 districts (13 in SNNPR and 2 in Oromia

regions, respectively). As a result of food distribution intervention, food insecure populations have met their emergency food needs a timely manner and targeted households protected their assets.

THE GENERAL FOOD DISTRIBUTION IN JULY 2016









Livelihood and Food Security

World Vision has provided fast growing and productive varieties of cereals and pulses in the Belg and Meher seasons so that people in the drought affected areas can feed themselves in the year to come. Seed distribution to Meher (long season) crop planting continued in 15 districts across drought affected areas in addition to existing livelihood programmes. As of August 2016, 85,670 households benefited.

15,851 kg of various cereals seeds, 4.1 million sweet potato cuttings and 360kg of vegetable seeds provided in the Belg and Meher seasons.

In some districts. World Vision linked the seed programmes with Vision Fund so that they would be able to acquire the full package of the planting materials and other relevant inputs. The failure of the belg rain severely damaged the livestock and so World Vision supplied veterinary drugs and animal feed which helped people stay in their homes and mitigated the risks they faced due to the drought.

15,851 kg of various cereals seeds, 4.1 million sweet potato cuttings and 360kg of vegetable seeds provided in the Belg and Meher seasons.

WE HAVE NOTHING TO EAT

Kedir Mohammed, 30, father of 6 lives in Biftu Negiya locality of Melka Belo district. "I sow sorghum in the 'Kiremt' season expecting good harvest hoping to feed and educate my children as before but got nothing. We have nothing to eat," Kedir explained the situation. "Last year, we produced sufficient to feed our children and our selves, sale it and buy other food items, educational materials for our children, cloths, and other necessary things. This year our expectation was much more but unfortunately the crop failed due to the erratic rain fall," he

"Now I produce rope from wood cover and sale it to buy food for my children and cover other expenses. We hope God and the government to do something so that we can cope up the situation," said Zeyineba Mume-Kedir's wife.



Kedir Mohammed and his wife Zeyineba along with their



We hope God and the government to do something so that we can cope up the situation,

> Zeyineba Mume Melka Belo, Ethiopia





WV Ethiopia water trucking service to Sahrt Samre community in igray region

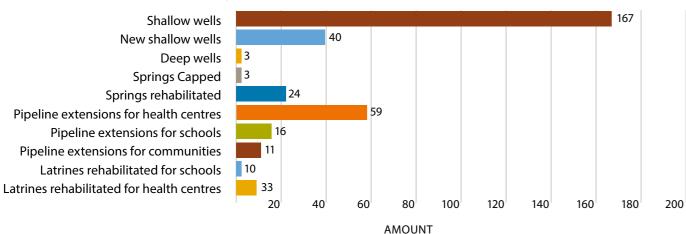
WASH

El Nino has left over 5.8 million Ethiopians without potable water. World Vision accomplished remarkable water supply system construction and rehabilitation activities in drought affected areas. Rehabilitation of 167 shallow wells, 29 deep wells, and 24 springs; drilling of 40 new shallow wells, 3 deep wells and capping of 3 springs as of September 2016.

WV Ethiopia has been responding to 44 drought stricken districts across the country benefitting over 1.8 million people of which WASH taking the lion's share (more than 717,945 people). Average and above average rainfall since June has improved water availability in most drought affected areas. However, 134 districts remain in urgent needs of water assistance.



WORLD VISION BENEFITED 742,855 PEOPLE WITH WASH ACTIVITIES AS OF SEPTEMBER 2016



CHILDREN REMAINED IN SCHOOL

Children are either be absent or late from school due to the additional burden to fetch water, or their parents have to pay 15 birr for a jerry can of water. For most parents, paying 15 birr for a jerry can of water was unaffordable on daily basis. Thus, children were sent to fetch water at the expense of their education.

Zinash Bizwuha is a 10 year old girl and a grade 4 student at Bekektu Primary School in Boset district of the Oromia Region. This year she stood 4th from her section. She is good at Math and aspires to be a pilot. She says "Until recent time there was no water in our school. When we were thirst, we should go to nearby houses around our school and beg people to give us drinking water. It was very risky and I was once chased by thirsty fierce dog."

Every day Zinash has to go to Tebo (a sandy place where the community digs the sand to get water) before school to fetch water for household consumption. The water she fetches in such a way is unclean as they share it with animals according to Zinash. "The water we fetch from Tebo was not clean. Because of this we often contract water borne diseases. I also had vomit and diarrhea several times and frequently visit health centers for medication," she said.



Zinash Bizwuha is privileged to fetch clean water from WVE emergency WASH response water point at Bekektu Kebele in Boset district

WATER IS LIFE

Beshadu Melka is 55 and a mother of seven lives in Bekektu locality in Boset district of the Oromia Region. Beshadu and her children are among the beneficiaries of the new water scheme. She says "Most of my children's and my working time were taken up by water fetching as it was a number one duty for all of us every day."

65-year-old woman, Leke waqjira, is a mother of two. She has partial visual impairment. She says clean water shortage is the worst challenge in Bekektu locality. "As you can see I am weak and can't see properly. I used to face a number of challenges every day in the course of fetching water. But the worst memory I had in relation to fetching water is that I had flour but no water to prepare food. I should have water just to make it food. I wandered for eight hours that day, but didn't get water. I fainted because of hunger and tiredness, sustained severe injury on my leg and fell into bed for longer time. The scar is still alive and with me," Leke told her woe of the past situation.

The coming of the new water scheme through emergency WASH program accessed clean water to schools, health posts, and to the community of both the Arada Lelisa and Bekektu.

"Now I just realized God is in his throne. He has seen us. Thanks to God for He extended my life to show me his mercy and see this miracle in my life. I thank WV for taking away water problem that has been with us for years," Leke expressed her gratitude on behalf the Bekektu people.

El Nino Progress in Ethiopia

THE OUTLOOK

Overall, good rains were received in most belgbenefiting areas and the contribution of the gu/ ganna/sugum season (April - June) in pastoralist areas was significant. Livestock have started to recover, but it will take time before conception, calving and improved milk production for all animals. Income from livestock sales and products is increasing countrywide.

Further, income source opportunities for labour have not yet rebounded to previous levels. Nutritional needs remain high in both belg and kiremt dependent areas. Despite some improvements in relief household food consumption between February and June, recent household food security surveys in drought-affected areas show that a large proportion of households still cannot meet their minimum food requirements. Food assistance in the first half of the year has improved food consumption, while the rains have also improved milk and vegetable consumption levels, and the market prices of cereals remained stable from January to April.

However, reported high increases of cereal and prices in some regions are unfavorable for poor households who depend on these cereals as staples. On the other hand, livestock prices have increased, which is favorable for rural households who sell livestock to buy cereal.

ANNEX I

In order to ensure ongoing coordination, operational management and collective prioritization, appropriate management to ensure regular collective analysis of key indicators to enable well-informed coordination of the response over the coming year.

The Response Monitoring Framework (RMF) will track achievements against the HRD strategic objectives.

Two PMRs will be produced, one in July and the other in December at the end of the implementation cycle. The PMR will present progress made on Strategic Objectives, challenges faced in reaching the set targets, changes in the context, if any, an analysis of funding, and recommendations for the way forward.

IMPLEMENTATION AND COORDINATION ARRANGEMENTS

The humanitarian response in 2016 will be led by the Government's National Disaster Risk Management Coordination Commission (NDRMCC), who, together with WFP, will assist a projected 7.6 million people in close to 200 woredas. The Joint Emergency Operations (JEOP) will provide support to 2.6 million people in 76 priority woredas.

CRS, representing the JEOP consortium, and WFP participate in a monthly NDRMCC-led Prioritization Committee Meeting, which is the forum for reviewing the national pipeline and recommending allocations to address the emergency food needs of the country.

ANNEX II7.1 million people will continue to be assisted through NDRMC/ WFP, while 2.6 million will be assisted through the JEOP. The Government of Ethiopia has procured 50,000 metric tons of corn soya blend (CSB). In order to extend assistance until the end of the year, an additional US\$482 million is required, bringing the entire 2016 food sector requirement to \$1.1 billion

WV EMERGENCY RESPONSE BENEFITS THOUSANDS OF DROUGHT AFFECTED PEOPLE IN JEJU

World Vision Ethiopia targeted 34 Area Programs including some adjacent districts that are seriously affected by the failed belg and meher harvest and the potential impact of poor harvest due to El Niño weather in Oromia, Amhara, SNNPR, and Tigray Regions.

Jeju AP is found in Jeju District of the Oromia Region some 200 km south east of the capital Addis Ababa. In Jeju over 32% of the total population was in need of humanitarian assistance at the onset the crisis. Hundreds of children were at risk of dropping school due to lack of food, clean water, and malnutrition. Many more lactating mothers, pregnant women, and children aged under 5 years were threatened by severe malnutrition.

World Vision Ethiopia provided various supports for drought affected communities in Jeju. WV Ethiopia extended clean water pipelines to 11 health centers/health posts and 9 schools benefitting over 10,000 school children and communities. Provided 87,000 kg seed for plantation and 4 ponds were dug to access water for community.

As a result certain portion of the community abled to send their children to school, feed their household, and accessed to free medication. There has been some improvements in the livelihoods of the people due to improvements in the Meher season rain. Also a better agricultural products harvesting is expected and some of those who were dependent on food aid will be self-sufficient.

However, many are still to rely on aid due to the prolonged effect of the drought. For instance, 4 low land kebeles out of the 9 drought affected kebeles are still facing water shortage problem due to insufficient Meher season rain fall.

Samre, one of the drought affected APs, is found in Tigray Region some 860 km north of the capital Addis Ababa. WV Ethiopia's emergency response constructed 3 new deep wells and 5 new shallow wells. Also 2I shallow wells rehabilitated and 2 springs were developed benefitting 27,000 households.

77 MT corn soyabean blend (CSB) distributed for 2,000 lactating mothers and pregnant women and children under 5.

High agricultural yield is expected in the upcoming harvest season and some of the beneficiaries will be self-sufficient in the coming few months.

But there is still a need for recovery support of agricultural tools, oxen, seed, etc. as many of the people sold out their oxen, properties, etc. to cope up the prolonged drought.



WV Ethiopia Jeju AP Supervisor (L) handing over medical supplies, CSB, edible oil, mattress, etc. to Jeju district Health Office

AGRICULTURE

Despite the overall good performance of the spring rains, results from the belg assessment confirm that the food and livelihood security of households dependent on agriculture and livestock production remain at risk and require emergency interventions until the end of the year. These activities will prevent further losses, help recovery and reduce the need for emergency humanitarian food aid in 2017.

EDUCATION

About four million school children require school feeding in the first semester of the new academic year. To compliment school feeding provided by the Government, humanitarian partners plan to provide I.I million school children with school feeding to minimize dropout due to lack of food.

Construction of 345 temporary learning centres (TLCs) for 309,976 internally displaced school children, provision of water for 2,325 schools, training of teachers (ToT) for 6,758 teachers on Psychosocial First Aid (PFA) and on management of school feeding is required to provide education for children affected by drought and flooding. Education supplies for approximately four million children are also needed for the next academic year (in September) due to the inability of the households to pay for educational materials. Subsequently, about \$36.3 million is needed until the end of the year to ensure that education provision is not disturbed in the coming year.

HEALTH

The current rainy season and subsequent months will continue to pose the risk of the occurrence or expansion of disease outbreaks

like malaria, and other vector-borne diseases, as well as waterborne diseases such as AWD. The occurrence of these outbreaks will overstretch health service delivery at health facilities and overburden surveillance, outbreak investigation and response efforts, requiring the support of humanitarian actors and investment including assets, trained staff and medical supplies.

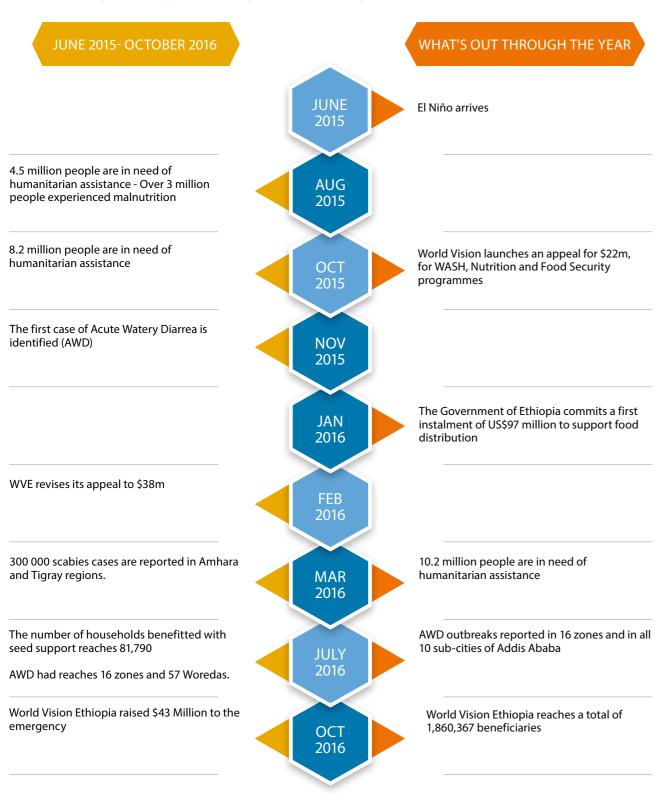
WASH

The onset of the spring belg rains contributed to the replenishment of surface water storage bodies and recharging of shallow and handdug wells greatly reducing the demands for water trucking. However, the rains also resulted in massive flooding, coupled with widespread open defecation, which increased WASH-related disease outbreaks such as AWD. The floods also destroyed a significant amount of water points, thus increasing the non-functionality rate of water points, further reducing the available amount of safe water.

As a result of the massive contamination of open waters and shallow wells, the demand for household water treatment chemicals increased in areas where families collect potentially unsafe surface water, which causes waterborne diseases and subsequently increases nutritional insecurity. Supplies are required for 3.89 million people until the end of October.



EMERGENCY INCIDENTS



World Vision is a Christian relief, development and advocacy organisation dedicated to working with children, families and communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. World Vision is dedicated to working with the world's most vulnerable people. World Vision serves all people regardless of religion, race, ethnicity or gender.

WORLD VISION ETHIOPIA

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