## ALERT DROUGHTS 去



## actalliance

## Ethiopia

Nairobi, 7 March 2018

SITUATION Ethiopia is currently facing a complex humanitarian crisis as result of an ongoing drought combined with an ethno-political conflict. The current drought is an extension of last year's (2017) drought which severely affected pastoral lowlands of Afar, Somali and Oromia. Over the past four decades, recurrent droughts have been affecting Ethiopia each time with increasing intensity and frequency. The climatic phenomena known as El Niño and La Niña have left more than 10 million people in need of emergency assistance over the past two years. The current dire drought-related situation is further compounded by the ethno-political conflict in various parts of the country, namely along areas bordering two of the largest regional states of Oromia and Somali. The government of Ethiopia has declared a state of emergency on March 2, 2018 for the next six months. The ethno-political conflict has caused large-scale displacement and has further exacerbating the already critical situation resulting from the drought. Affected communities have been forced to flee their homes with nothing more than few personal belongings and living in precarious conditions inside makeshift camps. While in camps, the displaced communities are depending on support from the Government and international humanitarian agency, along with the generosity from host communities whom are also facing hardship at this time.

NEEDS

UNOCHA recently released its emergency alert for Ethiopia which indicates that in 2018 at least 5 to7 million people will require emergency assistance as a result of continued drought. People and livestock will be heavily affected by the drying up of water sources and poor harvest. At least 260,000 households whose livelihood depends on agriculture are currently reported to be facing serious crop failure, whereas 160,000 pastoral households have lost a significant number of their livestock (Source: Alert: 2018 Humanitarian Requirements - Ethiopia). In addition, 135 out of 770 districts were found to have very high levels of severe and moderate acute malnutrition with 328,000 children under 5 years old suffering from severe malnutrition < 15 % GAM (Source: ETHIOPIA Humanitarian Situation Report by UNICEF sitrep 1). The report further indicates that 7 million people are in need of safe water and proper sanitation with 700,000 individuals depending on emergency water trucking for their basic water needs. According to Ethiopia National Meteorological Agency, in 2018 there is an 80% chance that the effects of La Nina will linger in East Africa and the Horn of Africa, with Ethiopia ranked as one country which will most likely be affected.

## **STAKEHOLDERS**

The following national and international entities are present and doing their best to respond to the crisis:

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$\mathbf{X}$	National government	Federal and Regional Governments; particularly their National
		Disaster Risk Management Commissions
$\boxtimes$	UN Agencies	UNWFP, UNOCHA, UNICEF , WHO & IOM
$\boxtimes$	INGOs	ACT Alliance Members (NCA, DCA, LWF, CA, BfTW, IOCC,
		ICCO, COS, HEKS) & Non ACT Alliance members such as
		SCI, IRC, IMC, DRC, MSF, GOAL, WV.
$\boxtimes$	Red Cross Red Crescent	ICRC
	Movement	
$\boxtimes$	National NGOs	EECMY-DASSC, EOC DICAC, ECC-SDCO (Ethiopian
		Catholic Church Development Office)
$\boxtimes$	Host communities	Host communities in regions receiving IDPs and refugees

The emergency response is currently being coordinated by the National Disaster Risk Management Commission and UNOCHA. To ensure that the humanitarian response is well coordinated and complementary, the ACT forum will take part in meetings with all relevant sector stakeholders (food security cluster, health cluster, education cluster, NFI cluster and the WASH cluster) and establish an open line of communication with crisis affected persons and communities to ensure a humanitarian response based on participation and feedback.

ACT Alliance			
$\boxtimes$	ACT Alliance has been working in Ethiopia since 1970s, now helping/planning to help people		
	affected by the drought		
$\boxtimes$	ACT Alliance works in areas affected by the drought, and is assessing the impact of the		
	disaster to better understand the needs and vulnerabilities		
$\boxtimes$	ACT Alliance is ready to respond, providing life-saving responses in Nutrition, WASH and		
	emergency Non-Food Items to reach 250,000 affected persons in the coming months.		

Any funding indication or pledge should be communicated to the Head of Finance and Administration, Line Hempel (<u>Line.Hempel@actalliance.org</u>)

For further information please contact:

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