

UPDATE

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NGOs, Government Work Together in Emergency Relief, Rehabilitation of Flood Victims

According to the information from CRDA Regional Liaison Office in Dire Dawa, the Provisional City Cabinet of Dire Dawa released a flash appeal on August 18, 2006. The appeal was prepared by DPPA representative, sectoral task forces (health, nutrition and sanitation, food, non-food and logistics, protection and education, infrastructure and information and coordination) and the Regional coordination team in close collaboration with NGOs, the UN agencies, and Red Cross Movement.

The appeal seeks a total amount of Birr 50.6 million for approximately 9,027 people for three months (mid August to mid November). Funding for the appeal will enable the aid groups to carry out projects on health, nutrition, sanitation, shelter, food, non-food, logistics, water, road, etc.

According to the appeal, currently, over 6,000 people have been temporarily sheltered in six sites: schools and other compounds. As the time for the new academic year is approaching, moving these people for a short period of time (for three months) will be a priority task for humanitarian agencies.

Currently, one site (about 10 hectar) has been identified and erecting of tents has been going on in parallel with constructing/supplying other basic facilities such as water, sanitary materials, etc. Nonetheless, about 1,000 tents will still be urgently needed in order to move all the displaced people from schools.

After a period of three months, the assumption is to relocate and rehabilitate the displaced people by constructing low-cost houses in three selected sites: Gede Gerada, Sabian Nursery and Borean.

In a similar development, according to the CRDA Regional Liaison Office in Awassa, the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' Regional State (SNNPRS) also released an appeal on August 21, 2006. The appeal seeks Birr 161,200,421.00 to meet the relief and emergency rehabilitation needs of approximately 6000 - 10,000 displaced people.

56.25 % of the total amount of the appeal is expected to be contributed by bilateral donors, UN agencies, NGOs and Civic Organizations. The appeal focuses on immediate life saving activities implemented in the first one month and the rehabilitation activities to be implemented in one year time.

SNNPRS has currently established a supreme committee (composed of Regional cabinet members; two technical committees (life saving and rehabilitation committee, and fund raising and public relations committee); and six sectoral task forces (food, water and sanitation, health and nutrition, shelter, livestock and livelihood, and rehabilitation). The CRDA Regional Liaison Office is Secretary of the rehabilitation sectoral task force. NGOs and UN agencies are closely working with the government committees and there is a joint coordination meeting conducted twice a week.

A mobile health team and a water, sanitation and hygiene team were also formed and dispatched to the affected areas. The mobile health team will supply vaccinations, treatment and malaria nets in collaboration with the Regional Health Bureau, UNICEF and WHO. The water, sanitation and hygiene team has provided potable water supply using water purification tablets.

Currently, items urgently needed by the flood victims in South Omo are: non-food items (tent, plastic sheet, collapsible Jeri can, cooking pot, plastic cup, plastic plate, plastic jog, bucket, tea pot, ladle, water tanker, water bladder), and food items (dry biscuits with sugar, biscuits without sugar, cereals and pulses).

Considering the extent and urgency of the emergency situation, CRDA conducted an extra-ordinary Membership Assembly meeting on August 22, 2006. At the meeting, officials from the Federal Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Agency (DPPA) briefed CRDA Member NGOs on the current flood disaster and emergency situation all over the country.

NGOs, Government Continued...

According to the briefing made by the DPPA officials, in addition to Dire Dawa City Administration and South Omo of SNNP, other parts of the country like Amhara, Oromia, Tigray, Somali, and Afar Regions have been affected and a significant number of people have been displaced and are in dire need of assistance.

It was also noted that in order to rehabilitate the displaced people, the Government has setup a National Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Committee consisting of Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, Road and Transport Authority, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Privatization Agency, Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Agency, Ministry of Urban Development and Ministry of Information. This Committee is preparing a contingency plan, which will be made official soon.

Considering the overall grave situation created by flooding, on August 25, 2006, staff of CRDA contributed Birr 15,525 from their monthly salary to the flood victims.

CRDA will continue releasing information on the emergency situation in Dire Dawa, SNNPRS and Amhara, Afar, Somali and Tigray Regions. If you wish to share your information, please contact the Information Management Department on telephone 011-4392395, or e-mail us at imd@crdaethiopia.org.

For further collaboration or need for information on the situations, please contact the CRDA Regional Liaison Officers in:

- Dire Dawa, Ato Birhane Gobena, telephone 0915-737212
- Awassa, Ato Birhanu Gezu, telephone 0911-942303
- Bahir Dar, Ato Mulugeta Worku, telephone 0911-858293

Corrigendum

1. In the CRDA **Update** dated August 11, 2006, first column, third paragraph, it has been stated that Handicap International provided Birr 68,800. This should be corrected by the actual donation of 2000 Kerosene stove.
2. In the **Update** dated August 17, 2006, the first paragraph which says "since August 2, 2006" should be corrected as "since August 7, 2006".

We apologize for the mistake.