



THE
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actalliance

Ethiopia



Update 25th August 2015

Jewii Refugee Camp

South Sudanese have been relocated to Jewii following the heavy flooding that made Leitchour camp inhabitable. Currently, there are 272,633 South Sudanese refugees in Gambela region where 46,078 of them are in Jewii camp (UNHCR, July 31st).

LWF has continued being the prime actor in supplying water for the refugees by managing two water treatment plants at Baro River. A total of 220 m³ water is produced in one treatment



LWF water treatment plant at Baro River © Moges Tamene

process using 9 onions with a capacity of 10 m³ each, 2 onions with 30m³ capacity each and 1 T-70 tank with 70 m³ capacity.

The volume of daily clean water production, which is produced in three rounds, has increased from 418 m³ to 590 m³. On average, 420 cubic meter water is distributed daily to the camp in collaboration with other IPs.

Updates on Leitchour Refugee Camp clean up and handover

Following the closing of Leitchour and all activities focused on Jewii, LWF is also working on environmental cleaning. LWF hopes to ensure support for host community and local government through creating access to water and sanitation services as well as cleaner and safer environment.

Accordingly, backfilling of solid waste disposal pit, later in decommissioning and latrine construction in Jikaw woreda wow kebele is undergoing. So far, back filling of 8 solid waste disposal pit and decommissioning of 554 communal latrines is completed while construction of 54 non targeted communal latrines is undergoing.



Leitchour clean up on process: before and after pictures of Solid Waste Disposal Pit © Moges Tamene



Furthermore, maintenance of 11 shallow wells and 2 shallow wells are completed for the host community at Mackuay woreda and at Mattar entry point for the refugees respectively. In addition to these, installation of hand pumps on LWF drilled bore holes is also finalized.

Upon finalizing all planned environmental cleanup and maintenance activities, resources are expected to be handover to the local government and community within three weeks time.

Climate Concerns in Ethiopia

Ethiopia's economy is predominantly dependent on agriculture where agriculture accounts for more than 46% percent of the nation's Gross domestic Product (GDP), 80% percent of exports, and 73% of the labor force (Agricultural Transformation Agency). However, agricultural production is overwhelmingly of a subsistence nature, highly dependent on traditional farming methods and reliant on seasonal rainfall.

The main rainfall season for most parts of the country is the period between June-September. It is during this time essential agricultural produce are cultivated. The timeliness as well as quantity of rainfall directly affects the output of agricultural produce. In addition to agricultural products, pasture and water for cattle is also dependent on rain for the most part.

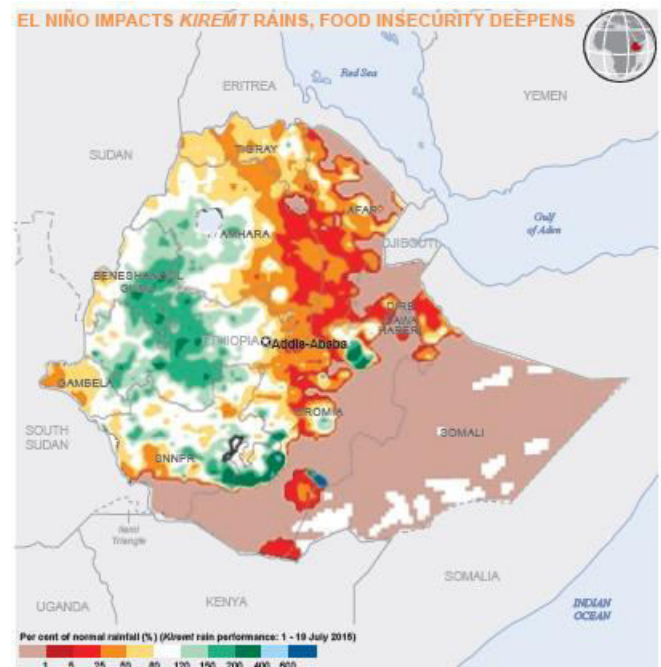
This year, in most parts of the country, particularly northern, eastern and northeastern part, the main rainfall season had started late. Afar, Somali, Northeastern Amhara and Tigray as well as some parts of Oromia have started to fill the environmental pressure. The rainfall season not only started late but areas affected have been experiencing erratic rainfall as well as low volume of rain. There have been reports from various news outlets, the effect of this inconsistency is already being observed. In some areas of Afar region, scores of cattle have allegedly died due to drought.

Moreover, insufficient rain during this season as well as from the period March – May (Belg season), is feared to greatly have an adverse effect on agricultural produce.

This is also a concern in areas LWF-Ethiopia is operational. An assessment by our staffs in Meket woreda in Amhara region shows late rainfall this season has posed serious and imminent danger to the crop and livestock production as well as to biological resources. We have also received a request for assistance from local government office in Gursum woreda in Eastern Harerge citing low yield in crops due to shortage of midyear rain as well as the main rainfall season.

Earlier this month, the government has issued a statement that due to the influence of El-Nino effect, shortage of rainfall has occurred in some arid areas of the country. In addition to this, on August 18th the Ethiopian government has released the Humanitarian Requirements Documents (HDR) mid-year review confirming due to the failed rains additional 1.6 million

people will require food relief making the total population that will need support by the end of 2015 to 4.5 million people¹.



Areas affected by shortage of rainfall

Source: <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/operations/ethiopia>

In a joint statement on August 24th, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), the World Food Program (WFP) and the UNICEF have said, 230 million dollars is needed from donors to secure aid for the of 4.5 million people this year including those affected by late on set of rainfall.

We would like to alarm all our partners the seriousness of the issue and imminent need for intervention to assist communities in drought prone areas. We are hopeful the collaboration we have with our partners will continue to build the resilience of communities facing such calamities.

Contact:

Sophie Gebreyes
Resident Representative
Mail: rep.eth@lwfdws.org
Phone: +251 0933702851

Moges Tamene
Program Coordinator
Mail: pro.eth@lwfdws.org
Phone: +251 911 204 308

¹<https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/operations/ethiopia>