



SEMINAR ON SOLUTIONS TO HUNGER: INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO MEET THE HUNGER MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOAL

A high-level Seminar on Solutions to Hunger: Innovative Approaches to Meet the Hunger Millennium Development Goal for Africa will be held on 5 July in the UN Compound, Addis Ababa. In this seminar, it is envisaged that policies and technologies that could resolve the problem of widespread hunger and malnutrition will be identified. The actions will focus on improving the nutrition of vulnerable groups, raising agricultural productivity of small farms, and improving market functions. Presidents of 11 African nations, representatives of civil society, the private sector, and a number of donor agencies will be participating in the seminar. Halving hunger by 2015 is one of the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) adopted by UN member states in 2000 to reduce global poverty.

EVALUATION OF RESPONSE TO THE 2003 EMERGENCY

The Joint 2003 Emergency Evaluation team is completing its report after close consultation with regional government authorities, NGOs, federal line ministries, donors and the various UN agencies involved in the major emergency operations over the past year. Discussions with major actors in Addis Ababa and field visits have been completed, and workshops were held with major stakeholders focusing on early warning and needs assessment, food and logistics, health and nutrition, and water and sanitation. For further information contact ocha-eth@un.org

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNICEF/WFP EOS/CSI

In Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Region (SNNPR), WFP, in coordination with the regional Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Bureau (DPPB), has continued implementing the food component of the UNICEF/WFP Enhanced Outreach Strategy/Child Survival Initiative (EOS/CSI), in ten targeted districts. Under this joint project, WFP distributes supplementary food to vulnerable people screened by UNICEF, who also cover health service related activities. On 15 June a delivery of WFP food completed the first phase of the EOS/CSI project. The total amount of food distributed to the ten targeted districts was 935 tons (820 tons of blended food and 114 tons of vegetable oil). In partnership with the regional DPPB, community food distribution agents (community women volunteers) and local officials during the month of June provided supplementary rations to almost 25,000 malnourished children and over 8,000 pregnant women and nursing mothers. According to UNICEF and regional Bureau of Health screening data, the coverage for the malnourished children aged from 6-59 months was 74 percent, with 5.5 percent of them suffering from moderate acute malnutrition and 1.8 percent suffering from severe acute malnutrition. Planning for the second phase for an additional forty districts in SNNPR has started, incorporating lessons learned from the first phase. For further information contact WFP: paul.turnbull@wfp.org

SEED FAIR CONDUCTED IN KEDIDA GAMELA WOREDA BY FAO

FAO has distributed around 370 quintal (37 tons) of seeds through a seed fair in Kedida Gamela Woreda (district) of SNNP Region on June 21 and 22 of 2004. A total of 650 households were covered by this program which gave them the chance to choose different varieties of good quality seeds. The seed fair was organized jointly with the Woreda Agriculture Office. Each beneficiary received a coupon which has an equivalent value of 82.00 Birr (~us \$10) per household, sufficient for cultivating about one half a hectare. A Woreda seed revolving fund has also been created with the aim of making interventions sustainable and avoiding dependency syndrome among beneficiaries. For further information contact: fao-ethiopia@fao.org

A TELEFOOD PROJECT TO SUPPORT PRODUCTION OF VEGETABLES

FAO is assisting a TELEFOOD Project to support production of vegetables in two farmers' associations near Akaki village (23 km southeast of Addis Ababa). Recently a team of experts together with counterparts from Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MOARD) have visited the sites to assess the needs for the coming intervention. According to the assessment, assistance would focus on rehabilitation of the irrigation systems, distribution of quality vegetable seeds, and training on vegetable crop management. 80% of the participants in the project are women. For further information contact: fao-ethiopia@fao.org

Contributions are welcomed. Please submit to UN OCHA-Eth by COB Thursday, berhanem@un.org

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