

Situation Overview

Since the onset of the March – May rain season, at least 170 people have died and 225,000 people have been displaced from their homes as a result of localised flash flooding and landslides across eastern Africa, most notably in parts of Kenya, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Uganda, and to a lesser extent in Tanzania.

Rains have been over 200 per cent above average over southern and central Somalia, eastern and southern Ethiopia, northern and western Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, and Kenya, according to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET).

For the next week, a reduction in rain is forecast for most of the region, including saturated areas in Kenya, Uganda, northern Tanzania, Somalia, southern Ethiopia and much of South Sudan and southern Sudan.

Although the overall impact of these rains has been beneficial for crops and pastoral conditions, the extent of infrastructure destruction, death toll and high numbers of displaced people calls for improved cross-border disaster risk reduction and flood mitigation measures.

Humanitarian Response

National governments and their humanitarian partners have led their respective in-country humanitarian responses. The most pressing needs are provision of temporary shelter and access to food and clean water to prevent outbreaks of waterborne diseases.

