GIEWS Country Brief The Kingdom of Cambodia

Reference Date: 16-August-2023

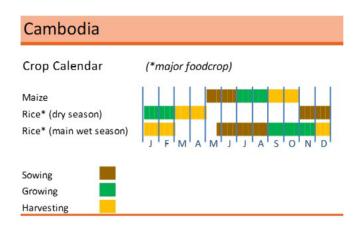
FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Despite mixed start of 2023 rainy season, paddy plantings progressing well
- Prices of rice close to or below year-earlier levels in June

Despite mixed start of 2023 rainy season, plantings progressing well

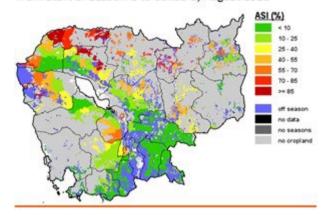
Planting operations of the 2023 main (wet) paddy crop, which accounts for about 80 percent of the national annual production, started at the end of May with some delay due to the late onset of seasonal rains. Since then, rainfall amounts have been near average in the key rice producing southern and some central provinces, benefitting planting operations and improving moisture conditions for growing crops. By contrast, in the northwestern rice production areas, below-average rainfall amounts persisted until mid-July, constraining planting activities and affecting early crop development. In particular, in parts of the provinces of Battambang, Banteay Meanchey and Siem Reap, which together account for about 25 percent of the main season's paddy output, the FAO's Agricultural Stress Index (ASI), as of early August, indicate water deficits (yellow, orange and red areas in ASI map). According to official estimates, as of early August, about 2.5 million hectares were planted with paddy, which is 10 percent above the reduced level in the corresponding period of 2022. Weather forecasts indicate average to above-average rainfall amounts in the August to October period, potentially allowing plantings to progress further and crops to develop favourably. However, forecasts indicate high temperatures for the same period, which, in combination with abundant rains, raise the risk of pest infestations. The 2023 mostly irrigated secondary (dry) crop will be planted at the end of the year.

Planting of the 2023 main maize crop, to be harvested between September and October, is nearing completion. According to official estimates, as of mid-July, the area planted surpassed the record level of last year, supported by high domestic prices and the strong demand from the feed industry. However, moisture deficits in the main maize producing areas, including Battambang Province that account for almost 65 percent of the main season maize production, will likely have negative effects on yields, particularly of early planted crops.



Cambodia - Agricultural Stress Index (ASI)

from start of season 1 to dekad 1, August 2023



Prices of rice near or below year-earlier levels in June

Wholesale prices of rice have been generally stable since the beginning of 2023, and in June, they were near or below their year-earlier levels, reflecting an adequate market supply. However, prices increased in the capital city, Phnom Penh, and in June, they were about 10 percent above the level of a year earlier, mainly due to high transport costs. Similarly, in Battambang market, an important producing area, prices in June were 20 percent higher year-on-year.

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FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheet (CCBS) https://www.fao.org/giews/data-tools/en/ FAO/GIEWS Food Price Monitoring and Analysis (FPMA) Tool https://fpma.fao.org/.

FAO/GIEWS Earth Observation for Crop Monitoring https://www.fao.org/giews/earthobservation/

Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) https://www.ipcinfo.org/.

Cambodia

Cereal Production

	2017-2021 average	2021	2022 estimate	change 2022/2021
		000 tonnes		percent
Rice (paddy)	11 088	12 207	11 624	-4.8
Maize	1 002	699	1 163	66.4
Total	12 089	12 906	12 787	-0.9

Note: Percentage change calculated from unrounded data.

GIEWS Country Brief Cambodia

Reference Date: 17-November-2021

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Cereal production forecast at bumper level in 2021
- Exports of rice in 2021 forecast at record levels
- Prices of rice generally stable since beginning of 2021

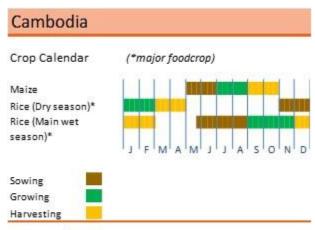
Cereal production forecast at bumper level in 2021

Harvesting of the 2021 main rice crop, accounting for more than 80 percent of the national production, started in September, with the bulk to be gathered between December and February. The May-October monsoon (rainy) season started in late May, after a two-week delay and precipitation amounts were close to average levels until July over most parts of the country. However, some central and northern areas, including the important rice producing provinces of Battambang, Kampong Chhnang and Banteay Meanchey, experienced below-average rains between May and July, which hampered planting operations and caused some localized damages to early planted crops, with September floods also causing some additional damages. According to official estimates, the area planted with rice for the 2021 main crop surpassed the record level of 2020 by almost 4 percent. Overall, yields are expected at a near-average level. Planting operations of the 2021 mostly irrigated secondary season rice crop, supported by adequate irrigation water availability and favourable weather conditions, have just started. The 2021 aggregate rice production is forecast at a bumper level of 11.4 million tonnes.

Harvesting of the 2021 main maize crop just concluded, while the secondary crop, for harvest next March, is currently being planted. The aggregate 2021 maize production is forecast at a below-average level of about 900 000 tonnes, reflecting the decline in area planted of the main season crop as some farmers switched maize land to more profitable cassava.

Exports of rice in 2021 forecast at record levels

In calendar year 2021, rice exports (milled basis) are forecast at 1.6 million tonnes, up 7 percent from 2020 and a record high.



Source: FAO/GIEWS.

Cambodia

Cereal Production

	2016-2020 average	2020	2021 forecast	change 2021/2020
		000 tonnes		percent
Rice (paddy)	10 665	11 075	11 410	3.0
Maize	984	900	920	2.2
Total	11 649	11 975	12 330	3.0

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data. Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheet.

Prices of rice generally stable since beginning of 2021

Wholesale prices of rice have been generally stable since the beginning of 2021 and, in September, they were below or close to their year-earlier levels, reflecting adequate market availabilities from the 2020 harvest.

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GIEWS Country Brief Cambodia

Reference Date: 23-December-2020

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Main season 2020 cereal production forecast at above-average level
- Exports of rice in 2020 forecast to expand
- Prices of rice generally stable since July 2020
- Overall food security situation good, but floods and COVID-19 pandemic heighten food insecurity of vulnerable households

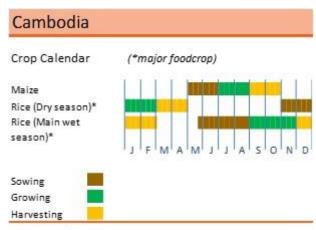
Main season 2020 cereal production forecast at above-average level

Harvesting of the 2020 main paddy crop, accounting for more than 80 percent of the national annual production, is currently underway and production is expected at an above-average level. The May-November monsoon (rainy) season started in early June, after a two-to-three-week delay. Rains improved from early June and remained near average throughout the month benefitting planting operations. Precipitations during July and August were erratic and below average in some important producing areas, causing some localized crop damages. However, rains were generally adequate supporting an expansion of the area planted to record levels, officially estimated at 2.8 million hectares. Overall, the area planted is officially estimated at a record 2.8 million hectares. In October, a succession of tropical storms brought heavy rains and triggered severe flooding across 19 provinces located in the central and western parts of the country. Official estimates indicate that the floods affected 314 000 hectares of paddy crop, of which 133 000 hectares were damaged. Planting of the 2020 secondary crop is ongoing. Overall, the 2020 aggregate rice production is forecast at 11 million tonnes, similar to the 2019 record level.

Harvesting of the 2020 main maize crop concluded in October and production is estimated at an above-average level, mostly reflecting large plantings due to strong demand by the local feed industry. Assuming an average 2020 secondary crop, currently being planted, the 2020 aggregate maize output is forecast at 950 000 tonnes.

Exports of rice in 2020 forecast to expand

Rice exports in the 2020 calendar year are forecast at 1.5 million tonnes, 5.4 percent above the 2019 level.



Source: FAO/GIEWS.

Cambodia

Cereal Production

	2015-2019 average	2019	2020 forecast	change 2020/2019
		000 tonnes		percent
Rice (paddy)	10 317	10 886	10 960	0.7
Maize	884	895	950	6.1
Total	11 201	11 781	11 910	1.1

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data. Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheet.

Prices of rice generally stable since July 2020

Wholesale prices of rice have been generally stable since July 2020 and below or close to their year-earlier levels, reflecting adequate market availabilities from the 2019 harvest.

Overall food security situation good, but floods and COVID-19 pandemic heighten food insecurity of vulnerable households

The overall food security situation is good, following four consecutive years of bumper harvests, but the impact of the recent floods and the COVID-19 pandemic heighten food insecurity of the vulnerable households.

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has been severe on the local economy. According to the latest data from the Asian Development Bank, the economic growth is estimated to contract by 4 percent in 2020, after it grew on average at 7 percent per year in the last five years. The reduction in economic activities have caused a widespread loss of income and livelihoods. The most affected sectors are tourism, trade, garment, construction and the manufacturing sectors, which combined employ about 70 percent of the total population. Income losses have sharply reduced the purchasing power of vulnerable households, limiting their ability to buy food.

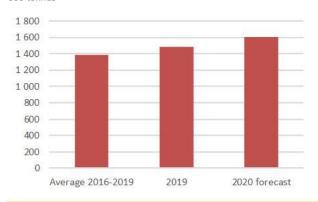
According to official information, the October floods affected the livelihoods of about 800 000 people. In addition, the floods caused severe damage to housing and infrastructure. The most affected provinces are Battambang, Banteay Meanchey, Pursat, Kompong Speu and Kampong Thom located in the central and western parts of the country.

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Cambodia

Rice Exports

000 tonnes



Note: Rice in milled terms.

Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets.

Cambodia

Wholesale rice prices in selected markets



Source: FAO/GIEWS Food Price Monitoring and Analysis Tool.

GIEWS Country Brief Cambodia

Reference Date: 18-May-2020

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Above-average plantings of 2020 paddy crop expected, driven by strong demand and Government support measures
- Cereal production in 2019 estimated at above-average level
- Exports of rice in 2020 forecast at above-average level
- Prices of rice generally stable in April

Above-average plantings of 2020 paddy crop expected, driven by strong demand and Government support measures

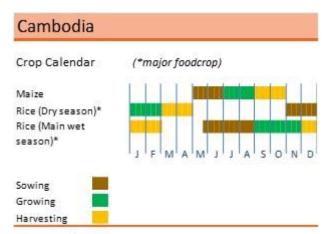
The bulk of the 2020 main season paddy crop, accounting for more than 80 percent of the national annual production, is expected to be planted between late May and August, with the onset of the monsoon rains. Overall, sustained domestic and international demand and official programmes promoting paddy production are expected to keep the area planted at an above-average level. The 2020 secondary season paddy crop will be planted towards the end of the year.

Planting operations for the 2020 main season maize crop, for harvest in September-October, just started. The area planted is expected at an above-average level, supported by the strong demand of the feed industry.

Cereal production in 2019 estimated at above-average level

The 2019 season was completed at the end of April. The aggregate cereal output, mainly rice and maize, is estimated at 11.8 million tonnes, about 9 percent above the five-year average.

The monsoon rains (May-October) started with a delay of almost two months, which had a negative impact on the early-planted summer crops. The maize crop was particularly affected as the months between May and July are critical for planting and crop development, as moisture deficits during this period have a more acute impact on maize crop growth. Rains improved from late July and remained close to the average levels until October bringing some relief to the dry weather affected areas. These rains allowed planting progress of the paddy crop to reach the high level of 2018 and supported the generally near-average growing conditions for the country's main paddy crop.



Source: FAO/GIEWS.

Cambodia

Cereal Production

	2014-2018 average	2018	2019 estimate	change 2019/2018
		000 tonnes	3	percent
Rice (paddy)	10 004	10 892	10 886	-0.1
Maize	815	1 232	895	-27.3
Total	10 820	12 124	11 781	-2.8

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data. Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheet,

The aggregate production of paddy is officially estimated at 10.8 million tonnes, close to previous year's high level. The 2019 maize crop is officially estimated at an above-average level of 895 000 tonnes, and well below last year's record level when favourable weather supported the high level of plantings and yields. The output of cash crops, including mug bean, soybeans, sesame and groundnuts, also decreased year on year due to dry weather conditions, but remained above the five-year average.

Exports of rice in 2020 forecast at above-average levels

Rice exports in the 2020 calendar year are forecast above the five-year average, reflecting ample exportable availabilities following the above-average 2019 output and sustained international demand.

Prices of rice generally stable in April

Wholesale prices of rice were generally stable in April 2020 and were generally below or close to their year-earlier levels, reflecting adequate market availabilities from the 2019 harvest.

COVID-19 and measures adopted by the Government

Starting from mid-March 2020, the Government adopted several measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19, including restrictions on international travel, tightened controls of movement of people, the nationwide closure of educational institutions and the postponement of major holidays. Agricultural activities are authorized to continue operating.

In mid-April 2020, the Government announced a USD 2 billion stimulus package, to cope with the impacts of COVID 19. The package includes, tax concessions, credit support for affected businesses and social protection measures, especially for poor and vulnerable households. On 3 April 2020, the Ministry of Economy and Finance decided to establish a task force to control the supply and prices of strategic goods, including rice, salt, vegetables, fish and meat as well as pharmaceutical and medical equipment.

In addition, the Government suspended exports of white and paddy rice and fish from 5 April 2020 until further notice to ensure adequate supplies in domestic markets during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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GIEWS Country Brief Cambodia

Reference Date: 05-August-2019

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

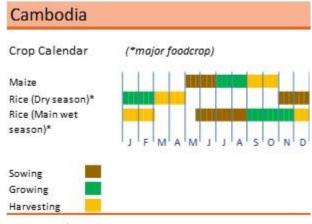
- Poor rains affect planting and establishment of main season paddy crop in main producing areas
- Rice exports in 2019 forecast at average level
- Prices of rice have been generally stable since the beginning of the year

Poor rains affect planting and establishment of main season paddy in main producing areas

The bulk of the main (wet) season paddy crop, which accounts for about 80 percent of the national annual production, is normally planted between May and August. So far, the May to November monsoon season has been characterized by erratic temporal and spatial distribution and below-average amounts of rains over the main rice-producing areas located in the northwestern and southern parts of the country. The dry weather conditions hampered planting operations and resulted in below-average vegetation conditions (see VHI map). According to official estimates, as of early July, about 2.1 million hectares were planted with paddy, 6 percent below the record area planted at the same time in 2018. However, the area planted so far is still above the average of the previous five years, following steady area expansions since 2014 due to sustained demand. If rains improve in the next few weeks, planting progress is expected to pick up and the area sown could reach last year's high level. The 2019 secondary season paddy crop is expected to be planted towards the end of the year.

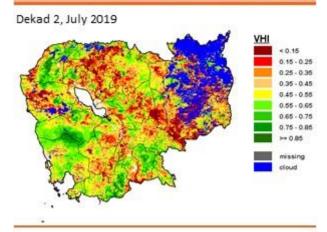
Planting of the 2019 maize crop, to be harvested between September and October, is nearing completion. According to official estimates, as of early July, the area planted with maize is estimated to be close to last year's high level. However, moisture deficits in the main maize producing areas are expected to have a negative impact on yields, particularly of the early planted crops.

Although a detailed assessment of the crop damage is not yet available, early official estimates from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, as of early July, indicate that more than 205 300 hectares of the 2019 main season crops have been affected by dry conditions, of which an estimated 10 690 hectares of crops were lost entirely.



Source: FAO/GIEWS.

Cambodia - Vegetation Health Index (VHI)



Source: FAO/GIEWS Earth Observation System.

Rice exports in 2019 forecast at above-average levels

Rice exports in the 2019 calendar year are forecast at 1.6 million tonnes, about 20 percent above the five-year average, reflecting ample exportable availabilities following a record 2018 output and sustained international demand.

Prices of rice generally stable since the beginning of the year

Wholesale prices of rice were generally stable since the beginning of the year and, in June, they were around their year-earlier levels, reflecting adequate supplies.

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Cambodia

Cereal Production

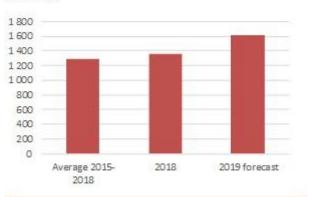
	2013-2017		2018	change
	average	2017	estimate	2018/2017
		000 tonnes		percent
Rice (paddy)	9 704	10518	10 892	3.6
Maize	754	1231	1 200	-2.6
Total	10 458	11 750	12 092	2.9

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data. Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheet.

Cambodia

Rice Exports

000 tonnes



Note: Rice in milled terms.

Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets.

GIEWS Country Brief Cambodia

Reference Date: 15-November-2018

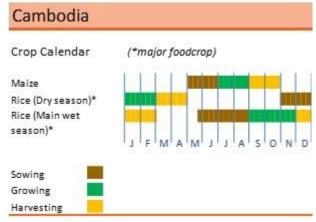
FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Production prospects for 2018 main paddy crops generally favourable
- Rice exports in 2018 forecast at average level
- Prices of rice on decline

Production prospects for 2018 main paddy crops generally favourable

Harvesting of the 2018 main paddy crop started in September, with the bulk to be gathered between December and February. The rainy season started on time in April over the main riceproducing areas, supporting an expansion of the area planted to record levels, officially estimated at 2.7 million hectares. From the second dekad of June until mid-October, precipitations were generally below average in the main producing areas of the southeastern, central and northwestern parts of the country. Above average rains in the third dekad of July and first dekad of August offset moisture deficits in the areas affected by dry weather but also triggered localized flooding in parts of Mekong River Delta. Official estimates, as of 15 October, indicate that the floods and moisture stress combined affected almost 300 000 hectares of paddy crop, of which 80 000 hectares were entirely lost, mostly in Prey Veng, Battambang, Siem Reap, Pursat and Svay Rieng provinces. However, production prospects are favourable, as the lost planted area represents only 3 percent of the total plantings of the 2018 main season and vegetation conditions are generally above average (see green areas in the ASI map). As a result, and assuming average weather conditions for the remainder of the season, the 2018 aggregate rice output (including the secondary crop to be harvested next March) is forecast at 10.7 million tonnes, slightly higher than the previous year's record level.

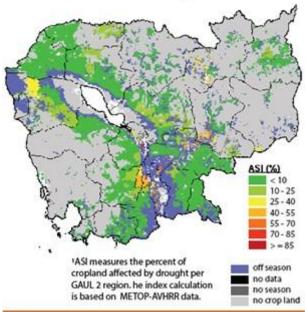
Harvesting of the 2018 main maize crop is nearing completion, with the bulk already harvested between September and October. Including an average 2018 secondary crop, for harvest early next year, the aggregate 2018 output is forecast at 1.2 million tonnes, close to last year's record level and 60 percent above the previous five-year average. The bumper production is mostly the result of estimated near-record plantings, sustained by strong demand from the local feed industry and China.



Source: FAO/GIEWS.

Cambodia - Agricultural Stress Index (ASI)1

from start of season 1 to dekad 2, October 2018



Source: FAO/GIEWS Earth Observation System.

Rice exports in 2018 forecast at average level

Rice exports in the 2018 calendar year are forecast at 1.32 million tonnes, close to the five-year average, reflecting firm international demand.

Prices of rice on decline

Wholesale prices of rice have decreased by 5-10 percent between July and September in the main growing areas of Battambang and Banteay Meanchey provinces, following the harvest of early-planted crops that improved market availabilities. Overall, however, strong demand from the international markets kept prices above the level of a year earlier.

Cambodia

Cereal Production

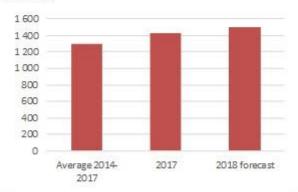
	2013-2017		2018	change
	average	2017	estimate	2018/2017
		000 tonnes		percent
Rice (paddy)	9 704	10518	10 700	1.7
Maize	754	1231	1 200	-2.6
Total	10 458	11 750	11 900	1.3

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data. Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheet.

Cambodia

Rice Exports

000 tonnes



Note: Rice in milled terms.

Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets.

Cambodia

Wholesale rice prices in selected markets



Source: FAO/GIEWS Food Price Monitoring and Analysis Tool.

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GIEWS Country Brief Cambodia

Reference Date: 16-March-2018

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Record paddy output in 2017 forecast
- Rice exports in 2018 forecast to surpass last year's above-average level
- · Prices of rice mostly stable in recent months

Record paddy output in 2017 forecast

Harvesting of the 2017 secondary rice crop is currently ongoing and will continue in some areas up to April. Overall, favourable weather conditions, coupled with adequate irrigation water supplies, sustained an expansion in plantings and benefitted crop development (see green areas on the Agricultural Stress Index Map). Similarly, the 2017 main rice crop, harvested by February 2018, benefitted from favourable rains, which supported an increase in the area planted and benefitted yields. As a result, FAO forecasts the aggregate 2017 paddy production at a record 10.4 million tonnes, 4 percent above last year's bumper output.

Harvesting of the 2017 maize crop was completed by October 2017 and FAO estimates the output at 750 000 tonnes, 13 percent above the previous year's low level and 7 percent above the five-year average. The year-on-year increase was the result of a recovery in plantings from the 2016 reduced level and above-average yields, supported by favourable weather conditions and an adequate supply of basic inputs, such as fertilizers and pesticides.

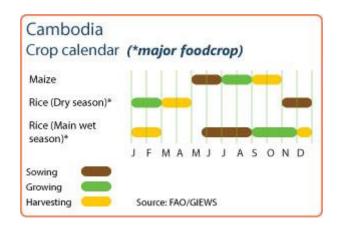
Rice exports in 2018 forecast to surpass last year's above-average level

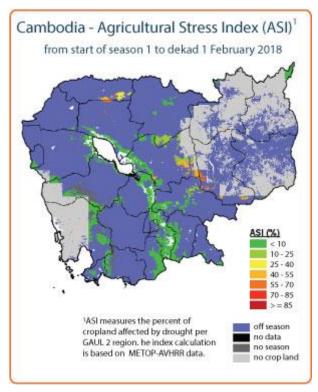
Rice exports in the 2018 calendar year are forecast at 1.35 million tonnes, up 5 percent from 2017, largely owing to expectations of firm demand from some key buyers of Cambodian rice, namely China (Mainland).

Prices of rice mostly stable in recent months

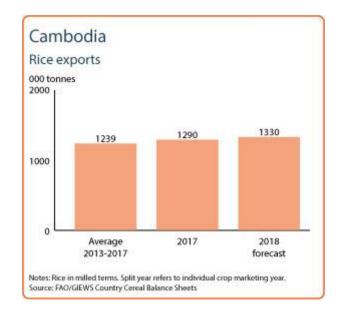
Wholesale prices of rice were mostly stable in recent months, amid adequate domestic availabilities from the record 2017 output.

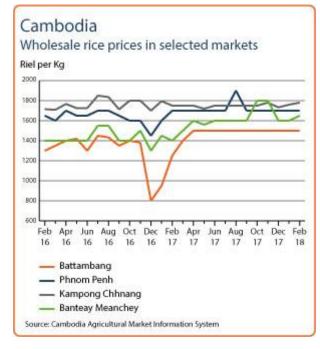
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Cereal produ	iction			
	2012-2016 average	2016	2017 estimate	change 2017/2016
	000	000 tonnes		
Rice (paddy)	9 459	9 952	10 350	4
Maize	698	663	750	13
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	10 157	10 615	11 100	5





GIEWS Country Brief Cambodia

Reference Date: 04-August-2017

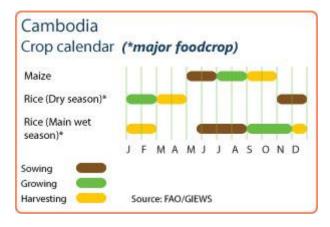
FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

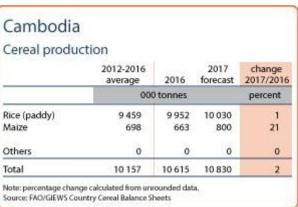
- Favourable rains boost prospects for 2017 main season crops
- Rice exports in 2017 forecast to remain close to 2016 levels
- Rice prices mostly stable in recent months

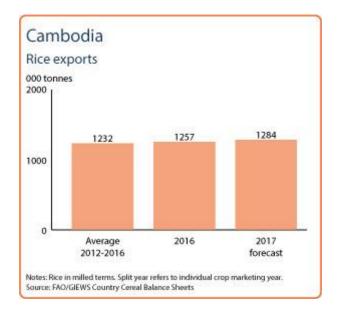
Favourable prospects for 2017 main season crops

Planting of the 2017 main (wet) season paddy crop, which accounts for about 80 percent of the total national production, started in May with the timely onset of the rainy season and is expected to continue until the end of August. So far, rainfall has been normal over the main rice-producing areas, sustaining a fast advance of planting activities and benefitting early crop development. Heavy rains in July resulted in a series of localized flooding in the northwestern parts of the country. Although a detailed assessment of the crop damage is not yet available, early official estimates from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries indicate that some 12 000 hectares of paddy land was affected by the floods, accounting for a small share of the area planted to the 2017 main season. Official estimates, as of early July, indicate that 1.45 million hectares had been planted to paddy, 12 percent above the area planted at the same time last year. Assuming that normal growing conditions prevail for the remainder of the season, FAO forecasts the aggregate paddy production in 2017 at 10 million tonnes, slightly above last year's record output. The performance of the rainy season, which normally lasts until October, will be critical in determining the main (wet) season output and will influence water availability for the secondary (dry) season crops planted during the last quarter of the year.

Planting of the 2017 main season maize crop is also underway, with the bulk already planted between May and June under favourable weather conditions. By early July, official reports indicate that over 126 000 hectares have been already planted to maize, almost 40 percent above last year's low level of the corresponding period. Assuming that the recovery in plantings is coupled with average yields, FAO's preliminary forecast for the 2017 aggregate maize output is 800 000 tonnes, 21 percent above last year's low level and almost 50 percent higher than the average over the last three years of reduced outputs.







Rice exports in 2017 forecast to remain close to 2016 levels

Rice exports in the 2017 calendar year are forecast at 1.3 million tonnes, marginally above last year's level, mirroring expectations of continued growth in demand.

Rice prices mostly stable in recent months

Wholesale prices of rice were mostly stable in recent months, amid adequate domestic availabilities.

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GIEWS Country Brief Cambodia

Reference Date: 12-December-2016

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Increased rains boost prospects for 2016 main season rice output
- Rice exports in 2016 forecast above last year's level
- Rice prices increased seasonally in October
- Large numbers of people affected by the lingering effects of prolonged drought in 2015 and 2016

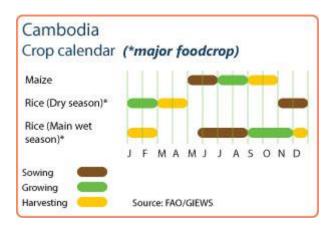
Increased rains boost prospects for 2016 main season rice production

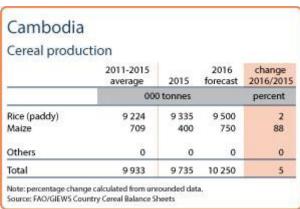
Harvesting of the 2016 main ("wet") paddy crop, which normally accounts for about 80 percent of the national annual production, just started and is expected to continue until the end of February. Although dry weather conditions at the start of the season between May and July caused some delay of planting activities, rains resumed from August, allowing planting pace to pick up and boosting yield prospects. According to latest official estimates, as of early November, some 2.6 million hectares were sown to main paddy crop, 2 percent above last year's level. Improved rains also benefited water availabilities for the 2016 mostly irrigated secondary ("dry") paddy crop, currently being planted and to be harvested from March 2017. Assuming average growing conditions prevail, FAO forecasts the 2016 aggregate rice production at 9.5 million tonnes, slightly above last year's level and a new record.

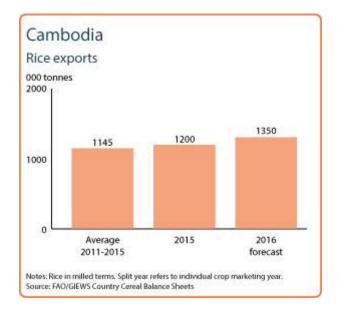
The bulk of the 2016 maize crop was harvested by October. FAO's latest estimate put the aggregate 2016 maize production at 750 000 tonnes, implying a strong recovery after two years of sharply-reduced outputs. This is the result of a larger area sown, as well as, improved yields, reflecting favourable weather conditions and Government input support, including the distributions of subsidized water pumps and fertilizers.

Rice exports in 2016 forecast above last year's level

Rice exports in the 2016 calendar year are forecast by FAO at 1.25 million tonnes, 4 percent above last year's level, mainly reflecting increased border trade with Viet Nam. By contrast, maize shipments in 2016 are anticipated to be three times lower than their level last year, due to the sharply reduced production in 2015. Maize exports are expected to return to normal levels at 140 000 tonnes in 2017, in line with a recovery in 2016 output.





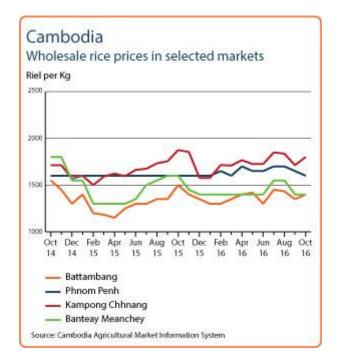


Rice prices increased seasonally in October

Wholesale prices of rice increased in most markets in October, supported by seasonal tightness, but remained below their year-earlier levels. In an attempt to boost prices paid to farmers during the 2016 main harvest, the Government approved in late September a special loan package of USD 27 million to rice millers to buy rice paddy from farmers. The total includes USD 20 million from the Government's budget and USD 7 million from the state-run Rural Development Bank. On the loans provided to rice millers, the Government will charge an annual interest rate of 8 percent.

Large numbers of people affected by lingering effects of drought in 2015 and 2016

The impact of the prolonged drought from early 2015 to mid-2016 has resulted in an increased level of food insecurity in the affected areas. According to official estimates, approximately 2.5 million Cambodians and 18 out of 25 provinces, were affected by the drought. Although rains improved from late July over most of the country, bringing relief to the drought affected areas, farming households with little resilience and low agricultural productivity have not recovered fully and may require some humanitarian assistance.



GIEWS Country Brief Cambodia

Reference Date: 17-June-2016

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Increased rainfall relieve drought-affected areas
- Rice production in 2015 unchanged from 2014 level
- Exports of rice forecast to increase in 2016
- Prolonged drought affected about 2.5 million people

Increased rainfall relieve drought-affected areas

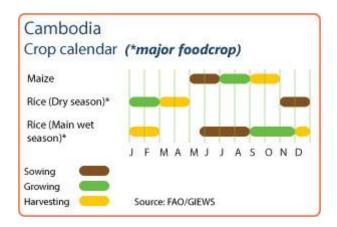
Plantings of the main (wet) season paddy crop, which represents about 80 percent of the national annual production, normally starts in May with the onset of the rainy season and continues into August. Prolonged dry weather reportedly resulted in sowing delays, although improved rainfall since mid-May over the main rice-producing areas located in the southeastern and central parts, provided some relief. By contrast, Battambang and Banteay Mean Chey, important rice-growing provinces in the northwest, continued to experience poor rains that are expected to further delay planting operations. At this early stage, the outlook for the 2016 rice crop remains uncertain, as much will depend on the performance of the monsoon rains from July onwards, a critical period for paddy development.

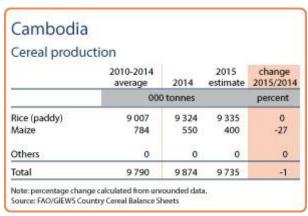
Planting of the 2016 maize crop is underway and the improved rains since mid-May are also expected to benefit sowing operations and early crop development.

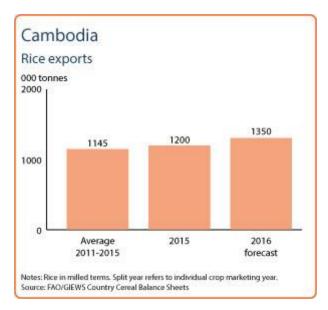
Although the 2015/16 El Niño episode has dissipated, atmospheric conditions now point to a likely occurrence of a La Niña episode towards the end of 2016 (75 percent likelihood during the Northern Hemisphere's autumn and winter), which would correspond with the planting period of the secondary season crop. Forecasts, however, also indicate a 64 percent chance that La Niña may occur earlier in the July-September 2016 period. If an early onset transpires, which is historically associated with heavier rainfall, this could benefit late planting and crop development of the main cereal season crops, although excessive rains could also raise the potential for flooding.

Rice production in 2015 unchanged from 2014

Latest official estimates put the 2015 aggregate rice production at 9.3 million tonnes, unchanged from 2014. Improved rainfall during the main cropping season, following some delays in the onset of the rains boosted yields and resulted in an increased







output, compensating for the small decrease in the 2016 secondary crop.

Latest official estimates put the 2015 maize output at 400 000 tonnes, almost 30 percent below the 2014 sharply-reduced level. The prolonged dry weather resulted in severe reductions in the area planted and yields.

Livestock conditions have also been negatively affected with the lack of adequate pasture and reduced water availabilities worsening body conditions and increasing mortality rates.

Exports of rice forecast to increase in 2016

FAO anticipates Cambodia to count on sufficient exportable availabilities to raise exports to 1.35 million tonnes in calendar year 2016, up 150 000 tonnes from last year's level. The increase reflects expectations of sustained growth of formal milled rice deliveries, but also of a revival of cross-border demand for paddy.

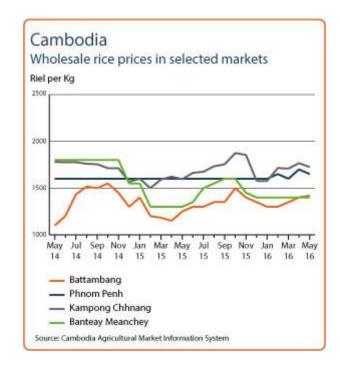
By contrast, maize shipments in 2016 are set to decrease by 33 percent to 150 000 tonnes, due to the sharply reduced 2015 production.

Rice prices followed mixed trends

Wholesale prices of rice followed mixed trends in May and were above their year earlier levels. Uncertain early prospects for the 2016 main season crop, due to the early seasonal dryness, supported prices in the key rice-growing areas. However, in the capital, Phnom Penh, rice prices declined slightly.

Large numbers of people negatively affected by prolonged drought

According to official estimates, as of early May, approximately 2.5 million Cambodians were negatively affected by the drought. Reportedly 18 out of 25 provinces were declared as drought-affected areas. Although rains improved from mid-May over much of the country, localized areas particularly concentrated in the northwest of the country, continued to suffer from poor rains and require relief assistance.



Cambodia





Reference Date: 23-September-2015

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Main season 2015 rice output to decline slightly due to dry conditions
- Rice exports forecast to increase in 2015
- Rice prices stable in May in most urban markets

Main season 2015 rice output to decline slightly due to dry conditions

Planting of the main (wet) season paddy crop, which accounts for about 80 percent of the annual production, started in early June and will continue until October. Belowaverage rains between May and July over most of the country delayed planting operations and undermined yields of earlierplanted crops. A more normal pattern of rains resumed from August, particularly over the eastern and east-central parts of the country, allowing paddy planting pace to pick up and improving moisture conditions for growing crops. According to latest official estimates, as of 3 September, main (wet) rice had been sown on some 2.23 million hectares, close to last year's good level. Reportedly, some 189 122 hectares or 8 percent of this area has been affected by the earlier dry weather, with 9 176 hectares completely lost. As a result, FAO currently anticipates the 2015 main season rice production to fall by 3 percent to 7 million tonnes. Assuming more normal growing conditions for the latter half of the ongoing main season and larger sowings for the forthcoming 2015/16 dry season which may partially compensate for the losses incurred by the earlier dry weather, the 2015 aggregate rice production is forecast at 9.18 million tonnes. This is 2 percent down from last year's bumper crop and slightly above the five-year average.

Harvesting of the 2015 maize crop has just started and will continue until October. The impact of the early-season dry weather on the maize crop was more severe than for rice. Latest official estimates, as of 3 September, indicate that some 81 722 hectares have been planted to maize, 12 percent below last year's level, which was already reduced due to dry weather. As a result, FAO has lowered its forecast for 2015 maize production to 500 000 tonnes, which would be 9 percent down from the 2014 reduced harvest and 36 percent below the five-year average.

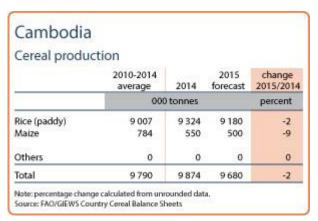
The current dry weather may be attributed to the El Niño event this year, as the phenomenon is often associated with below-average precipitation in South-East Asia.

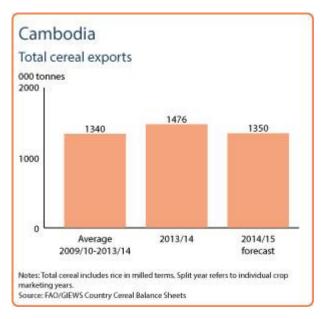
FAO's Global Information and Early Warning System will continue to closely monitor the weather situation and assess possible effects on rice production.

Rice exports forecast to increase in 2015

Reflecting the high pace of shipments so far this year and the



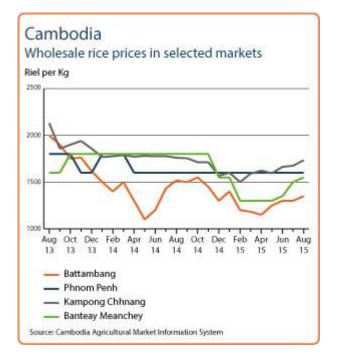




Government's strategy to boost official exports through targeting new markets, FAO forecasts total rice exports in 2015 at 1.2 million tonnes, 6 percent above last year's level. Direct milled rice exports between January and August 2015 have reached about 342 136 tonnes, nearly 50 percent up compared to the same period in the previous year. By contrast, maize shipments in 2015 are set to decrease by 33 percent to 150 000 tonnes, due to the sharply reduced 2014 production.

Rice prices increased in August

Wholesale prices of rice increased in most markets in August, supported by sustained export demand. Concerns about damage to the 2015 main season crops due to prolonged dry weather added to the upward pressure. Overall, however, rice prices in August were still well below their levels a year earlier.



Cambodia





Reference Date: 05-June-2015

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Prospects for planting of 2015 main season rice uncertain due to dry weather
- Rice exports forecast to increase in 2015
- Rice prices stable in May in most urban markets

Uncertain prospects for 2015 main season rice planting due to dry weather

The bulk of the main (wet) season paddy crop, which accounts for about 80 percent of the annual production, is normally planted between May and August. Remote sensing data, as of the third dekad of May, indicates below-average rains in April and May over most of the country and low vegetation activity (NDVI anomaly). This is likely to have delayed planting operations and could reduce the area planted, as on average around 15 percent of the main season rice is normally sown between mid-April and May. The current dry weather may be attributed to the onset of a weak El Niño event this year, as the phenomenon is often associated with below-average precipitation in South-East Asia. If rainfall levels do not improve in the following weeks, plantings and yield potential of the 2015 main season rice crop could be severely compromised. The FAO's Global Information and Early Warning System will closely monitor the weather situation and assess possible effects on rice production.

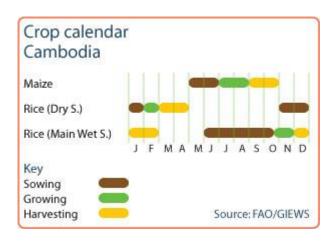
Planting of the 2015 maize crop normally starts in May and continues into June, therefore, the current dry weather is likely to have also delayed sowing operations of the maize crop.

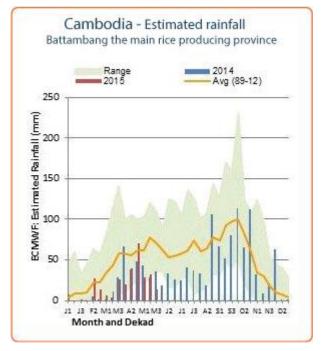
Rice production in 2014 estimated to have declined marginally

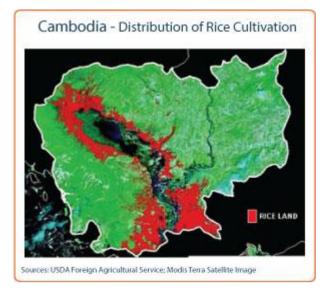
The 2014 aggregate rice production (including the 2014 main and the 2014/15 secondary seasons), was officially estimate at 9.3 million tonnes, marginally below the 2013 record level. The small decrease mainly reflects a combination of floods and droughts, which affected the 2014 main (wet) season crop. The adverse weather also affected the 2014 maize production which was estimated at 550 000 tonnes, a drop of 41 percent compared to the 2013 bumper output.

Rice exports forecast to increase in 2015

Rice exports in 2015 are forecast at 1.2 million tonnes, up 5 percent from last year's level, as the country is targeting new markets as part of the Government's strategy to boost official exports in 2015. By contrast, maize shipments in 2015 are set to decrease by 50 percent to 175 000 tonnes, due to the sharply reduced 2014 production.

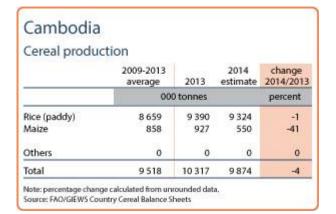


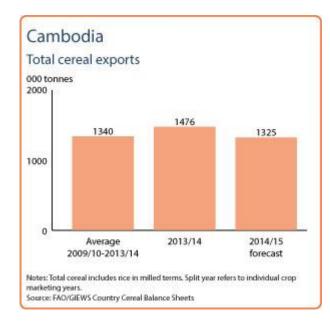


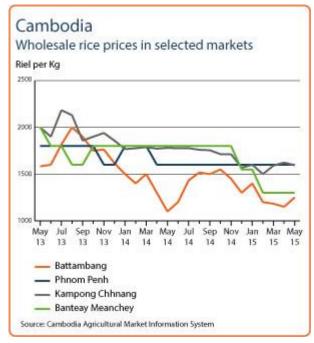


Rice prices stable in May

Wholesale prices of rice were relatively stable in most markets in May, reflecting adequate supplies from the 2014 good harvests. However, prices increased significantly in Battambang market, the main rice producing province, and were above their year-earlier levels, due to increased exports in recent months compared to the same period last year.







Cambodia





Reference Date: 12-May-2015

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Main season 2015 rice production forecast at near-record level
- Rice exports forecast to increase in 2015 from last year's slightly reduced
- Rice prices generally stable or declining in April
- Overall food security situation satisfactory

Main season 2015 rice production forecast at near-record level

Planting of the 2015 main (wet) season paddy crop, which accounts for about 80 percent of annual production, is expected to start in early June and continue until October. Assuming favourable weather conditions, FAO forecasts this season's rice output at 7.2 million tonnes, up 1 percent from last year's good level. The 2015 aggregate rice production, including the 2015/16 secondary (dry) season, is set at 9.3 million tonnes.

Planting of the 2015 maize crop is currently underway. FAO's early forecast points to a 5 percent recovery from last year's reduced level to 1.1 million tonnes, mainly reflecting an expected expansion in plantings.

Rice exports forecast to increase in 2015

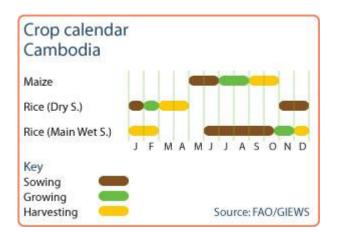
Cereal exports in 2015 are forecast at 1.5 million tonnes, 9 percent higher than last year's above-average level, mainly reflecting an increase in rice exports.

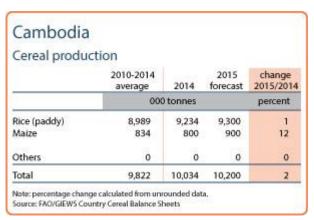
Rice prices well below year-earlier levels

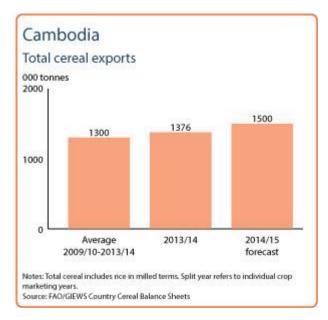
Wholesale prices of rice in April were generally stable or declined in Battambang market, the main producing province, and were well below their year-earlier levels, reflecting improved supplies from the 2014/15 good harvests.

Overall food security situation is satisfactory

Food availability is overall satisfactory as a result of good supplies from the 2014/15 bumper cereal harvests. Access to food has also increased due to lower rice prices and the increase in daily wage rates for unskilled workers engaged mainly in farming and construction.









Cambodia





Reference Date: 15-January-2015

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- 2014 main season rice production forecast at near-record level
- Rice exports forecast to increase in 2015
- Rice prices generally declined in December
- Overall food security situation satisfactory

2014 main season rice production forecast at near-record level

Harvesting of the 2014 main (wet) season paddy crop, which normally accounts for about 80 percent of annual production, is currently ongoing and will continue until the end of February. FAO's latest forecast puts the 2014 main season rice output at 7.2 million tonnes, 2 percent below last year's record level of the same season. The slight decrease is the result of a dry spell in northwestern parts between June and August, coupled with localized floods in August in some areas of the Mekong River Basin, which affected close to 166 000 hectares of agricultural crops, of which some 36 000 hectares were damaged. Assuming an average 2014/15 secondary (dry) season harvest, to be harvested between March and April 2015, FAO's preliminary forecast for the aggregate 2014/15 rice production stands at 9.3 million tonnes, marginally below last year's record level.

Harvesting of the 2014 maize was completed in October. FAO's latest estimate points to a 1 percent decrease to 920 000 tonnes, reflecting a marginal contraction in planted area, after the record production in 2013.

Rice exports forecast to increase in 2015

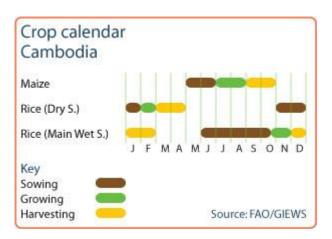
Cereal exports in the 2015 marketing year (January/ December) are forecast at 1.5 million tonnes, 9 percent higher than last year's above-average level. Most of this volume is rice, which is anticipated to increase by 15 percent compared to last year's slightly reduced level.

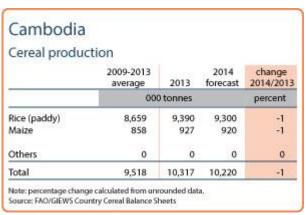
Rice prices generally declined in December

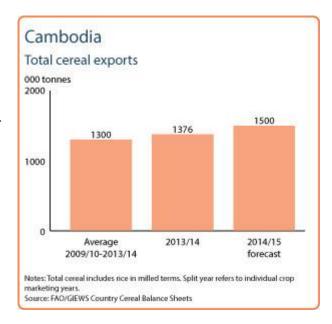
Wholesale prices of rice declined in most markets in December, reflecting new supplies from the ongoing 2014/15 main season harvest, anticipated at a near-record level. Overall, prices were below their year-earlier levels.

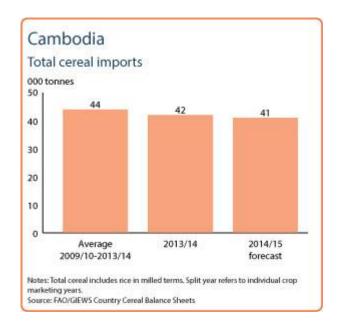
Overall food security situation is satisfactory

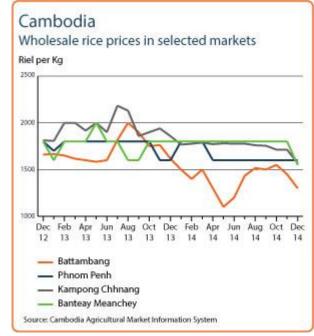
Following good supplies from the previous year's bumper cereal harvests, overall food availability is satisfactory. Access to food has also increased due to lower rice prices and the increase in daily wage rates for unskilled workers engaged mainly in farming and construction.











Cambodia





Reference Date: 16-October-2014

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- 2014 main season rice production forecast to decrease slightly
- Rice exports forecast to decline in 2014
- Rice prices stable in recent months
- Overall food security situation satisfactory

2014 main season rice production forecast to decrease slightly

Planting of the 2014 main (wet) season paddy crop, which normally accounts for about 80 percent of annual production, is almost complete. Overall, rainfall between June and mid-October has been near-average over much of the country benefiting sowing activities and crop development. However, a dry spell over northwestern parts of the country between June and August, coupled with localized floods in August in the Mekong River Basin, affected close to 166 000 hectares of agricultural crops, of which some 36 000 hectares were damaged. As a result, FAO's latest forecast puts the 2014 main season rice output at 7.2 million tonnes, 2 percent below last year's record level of the same season. Assuming an average 2014/15 secondary (dry) season harvest, FAO's preliminary forecast for the aggregate 2014 rice production stands at 9.3 million tonnes, marginally below last year's record level.

Harvesting of the 2014 maize crop began in September and will continue until the end of October. FAO's latest forecast points to a 3 percent decrease to 900 000 tonnes, reflecting a contraction in planted area, after the record level in 2013.

Rice exports forecast to decline in 2014

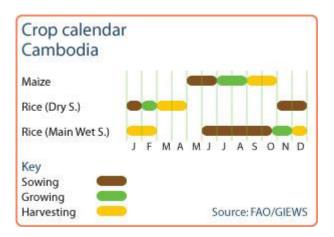
Cereal exports in the 2013/14 marketing year (January/December) are forecast at 1.4 million tonnes, 6 percent below last year's record level. Most of this volume is rice, which is anticipated to decline by 9 percent compared to last year's high level to 1 million tonnes, on expectations of reduced trade with Thailand and Viet Nam.

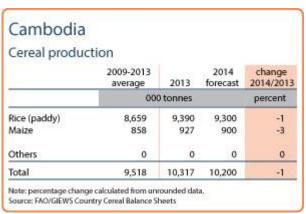
Rice prices stable in past months

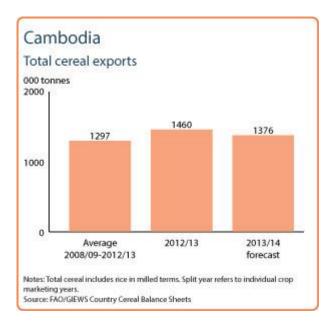
Wholesale prices of rice remained stable in most markets in September and were generally below their year-earlier levels reflecting weaker export demand and lower subregional export prices.

Overall food security situation is satisfactory

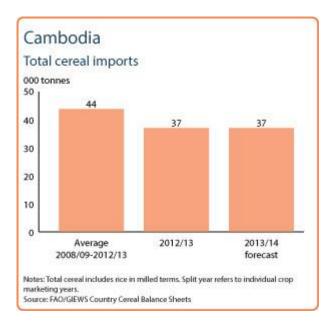
Following good supplies from the 2013 bumper cereal harvests, overall food availability is satisfactory. Access to food has also increased due to lower rice prices and the increase in daily wage rates for unskilled workers engaged

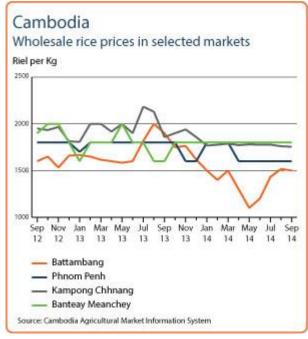






mainly in farming and construction. However, recent floods affected at least 100 000 families, damaged houses and agricultural infrastructure.





Cambodia





Reference Date: 30-May-2014

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- The 2014 main season rice production forecast similar to last year's good level
- Slightly higher rice exports expected in 2014
- Rice prices declined significantly in the past months
- The overall food security situation satisfactory

The 2014 main season rice production forecast similar to last year's good level

Early planting of the 2014 main season paddy crop. accounting for almost 80 percent of the annual production, is currently underway. Below average rains in the main rice-producing areas are delaying field operations. Preliminary official estimates, as of end-April, indicate that 62 117 hectares have been planted under the rice crop, 23 percent less than the area planted at the same time in 2013. However, assuming an increase in precipitation in the coming weeks, FAO tentatively projects this season's rice production at 7.4 million tonnes similar to last year's same season good output. FAO tentatively forecasts the 2014/15 secondary (dry) season 2014 aggregate rice production at 9.5 million tonnes.

The 2013 aggregate rice production estimated at a record level

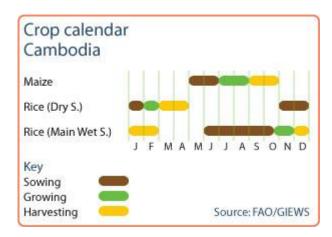
The 2013 aggregate rice production (main and secondary seasons) is officially estimated at a record level of 9.4 million tonnes, slightly above the bumper output in 2012. The good outcome reflects a 3 percent expansion in plantings and higher yields, following overall favourable weather conditions, coupled with adequate supplies of fertilizers and seeds. This more than offset the damage of 128 500 hectares of the main season paddy crop (or 5 percent of the cropped area to the main season) following localized floods during September and November 2013 across northern parts of the Mekong River

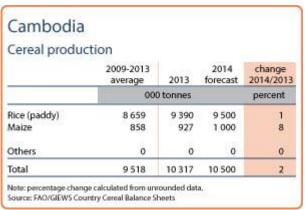
Slightly higher rice exports forecast in 2014

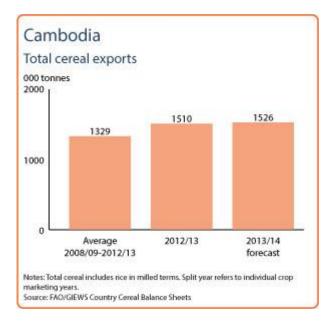
Cereal exports in the 2013/14 marketing year (January/December) are forecast at 1.5 million tonnes, close to last year's above-average level. Most of this volume is rice, exports of which are forecast to increase slightly to 1.2 million tonnes. Some rice is exported formally but much of the milled rice and/or paddy pass through cross-border trade to Viet Nam and Thailand.

Rice prices decline significantly

Wholesale prices of rice decreased significantly in several markets in April, including the capital city, reflecting adequate availabilities from the 2013/14 secondary season harvest. Prices are generally lower in Battambang, the main rice-



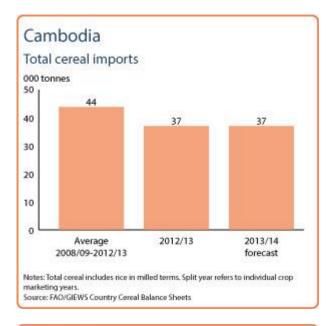


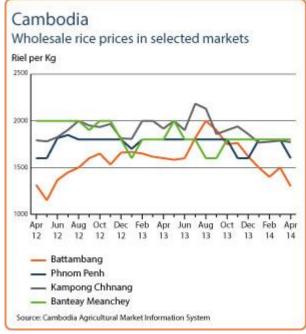


producing area of the country, located in the west bordering Thailand. Overall, rice prices were generally well below their levels a year earlier.

The overall food security situation is satisfactory

Following good supplies from the 2013 bumper cereal harvests, overall food availability is satisfactory. Access to food has also increased due to lower rice prices and the increase in daily wage rates for unskilled workers engaged mainly in farming and construction. Despite the improved national food supply situation, the floods during 2013 affected 21 provinces along the Mekong River, Tonle Sap Lake and north western parts of the country, directly affecting at least 60 000 families, with serious damage to housing and infrastructure reported.





Cambodia





Reference Date: 28-January-2014

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Despite localised floods in September-October, record harvest of the 2013/14 main season paddy crop is anticipated
- Rice prices generally stable or decline
- The overall food security situation satisfactory

Record harvest of the 2013/14 main season paddy crop anticipated

Harvesting of the 2013/14 main wet season paddy crop began in early December and will continue in some areas up to February. The preliminary official estimates put the 2013 main season paddy crop at a record level of 7.3 million tonnes, up 1.7 percent on last year's bumper output of the same season. The increase is mainly attributed to an estimated 3.3 percent expansion in plantings. However, heavy monsoon rains during September and October 2013 resulted in localised flooding across northern parts of the Mekong River Basin. According to the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) the floods are estimated to have damaged close to 128 000 hectares of paddy crop (or 5 percent of the total cropped area for the main season), particularly in Battambang, Banteay Meanchay and Siem Reap, important rice growing provinces.

Planting of the 2013/14 secondary dry season (irrigated) paddy crop is nearing completion. A preliminary official estimates, as of end-December, indicate that 472 483 have been planted under rice crop, some 4.6 percent below the area planted at the same period in 2013. The decrease in planted area is mainly a result of below average rains in December 2013. Official reports indicate adequate provision of seeds and yield promoting inputs which are expected to assist crop productivity.

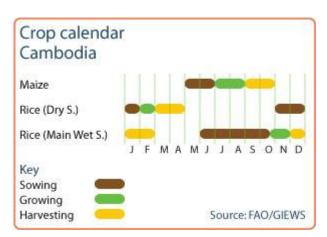
The aggregate 2013/14 rice output, including the ongoing main and secondary seasons, is officially forecast at a record level of 9.3 million tonnes, slightly above last year's bumper level.

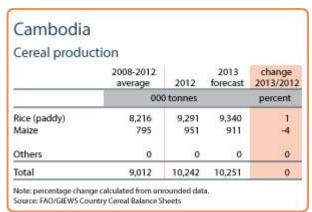
Harvesting of the 2013 maize crop was completed by October 2013. Latest official estimates point to a harvest of 911 127 tonnes, some 4 percent below last year's level. The decrease in production is mainly attributed to a 6 percent decline in the planted area, as a result of farmers switching to rice crop. There is a decrease in area planted to maize for the third consecutive year in row.

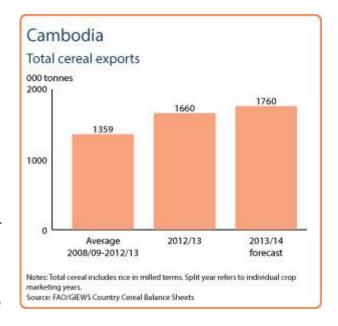
Overall, the cereal output for 2013 is estimated at 10.3 million tonnes.

Rice exports forecast to increase in 2014

Forecast of cereal exports in 2014 is put at a record level of 1.8 million tonnes (comprising rice about 1.4 million and







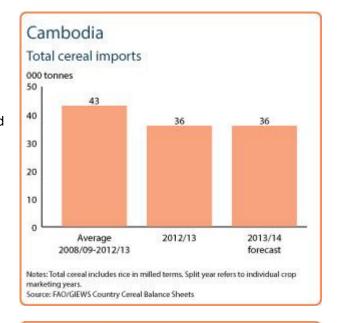
maize about 360 000 tonnes), some 8 percent above the previous year. Some rice is exported formally but much of the milled rice and/or paddy pass through cross-border trade to Viet Nam and Thailand.

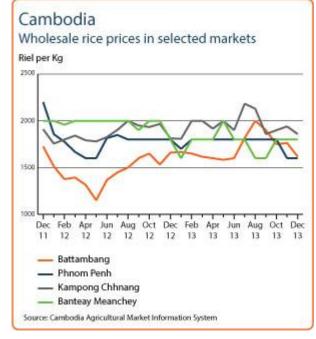
Rice prices generally stable or decline

Wholesale prices of rice remained generally stable or declined in the recent months, with the beginning of the 2013 main wet season paddy harvest. Rice prices in Battambang market, which increased to near record levels in August 2013, have been decreasing since then. Prices are generally lower in Battambang, the main rice producing area of the country, located in the west bordering Thailand. Overall, prices were generally below their levels a year earlier.

The overall food security situation is satisfactory

Following bumper supplies from the 2013 cereal harvests, overall food availability is satisfactory. Reportedly, the daily wage rates for unskilled workers engaged mainly in farming and construction, increased in September 2013 and coupled with lower average retail rice prices, further improved household's food security conditions.





Cambodia





Reference Date: 21-June-2013

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Below average rains at the start of the 2013 main wet
- Rice prices show mixed trends
- The overall food security situation is generally satisfactory

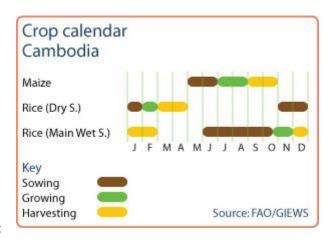
Below average rains at the start of the 2013 main wet season

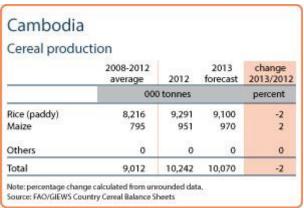
Planting of the 2013 main wet season paddy crop began in early June and will continue in some areas up to mid-October, while that of maize crop started in April and will be concluded by the end of June. Seasonal rains began in late April, benefiting early start of planting activities for maize. However, rainfall has been below average between first dekad of May and first dekad of June over the main rice growing areas in the northwest, particularly delaying planting operations in Battambang, Banteay Meanchey and Siem Reap provinces. Normal to above normal rains have been recorded over the rest of the country. A preliminary official estimate, as of end-May, indicates that 291 216 hectares have been planted under rice crop, some 33 percent below the area planted at the same period in 2012. Official reports also indicate adequate provision of seeds and yield promoting inputs, which are expected to assist crop productivity. Assuming normal performance of monsoon rains, FAO's current production forecast of the ongoing 2013/14 main wet season, is set at 6.9 million tonnes, some 3.3 percent below the previous year's record harvest of the corresponding season. Including the forecast output of the next secondary dry season, the 2013 aggregate paddy production is tentatively estimated at 9.1 million tonnes, some 2 percent below the record crop in 2012.

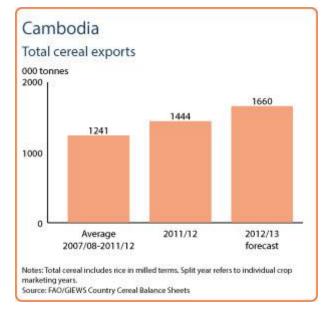
Record harvest of 2012 paddy crop, despite dry spell and floods

Harvesting of the 2012 main wet as well as the secondary dry season paddy were completed earlier in the year. The official estimates show another record harvest of 9.3 million tonnes, some 6.5 percent above 2011 bumper output. In spite of early season dryness, from July to early September, and subsequent floods in mid September, significant gains in production of paddy rice was due to an increase in yields, following government support, increased use of fertilizers, improved seeds and adequate irrigation supplies. Harvesting of the 2012 maize crop was completed in October and the official estimates put the 2012 maize production at a record level of 950 909 tonnes, 33 percent up on previous year's level. The increase is mainly attributed to a 24 percent increase in plantings and favourable weather throughout the growing season.

Overall, the cereal output for 2012 is estimated at 10.2 million tonnes.







Forecast of cereal exports in 2013 is put at a record level of 1.7 million tonnes (comprising rice about 1.3 million and maize about 360 000 tonnes), some 15 percent above the previous year. Some rice is exported formally but much of the milled rice and/or paddy pass through cross-border trade to Viet Nam and Thailand.

Rice prices follow mixed trends

Wholesale prices of rice followed mixed trends in recent months, despite the record 2012 main and dry season harvests. High levels of exports, which more than doubled between January and May 2013 compared with the same period in 2012 supported prices, partially offsetting the downward pressure from the recent harvests. The wholesale prices of mixed-rice in Phnom Penh have remained generally stable since August 2012.

Rice prices in Battambang market, which remained generally unchanged between December and February 2013, have been decreasing since February. Prices are generally lower in Battambang, the main rice producing area of the country, located in the west bordering Thailand. Overall, prices were generally above their levels a year earlier.

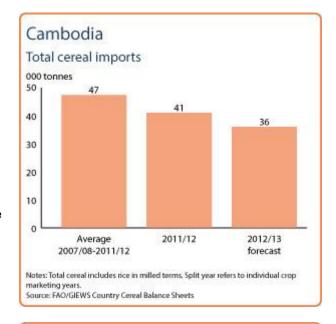
The overall food security situation is generally satisfactory

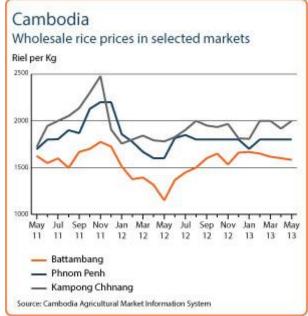
Following record supplies from the 2012 cereal harvests, overall food availability is satisfactory. Reportedly, the daily wage rates for unskilled workers engaged mainly in farming and construction, increased in three months of 2013 consecutively, further improving household's food security conditions.

However, as indicated by the FAO/WFP Joint Report published in April 2012, at the household level, access to a stable, sufficient and diverse diet remains a challenge and is manifested in the high levels of chronic and acute child malnutrition.

Furthermore, according to the report, the ongoing efforts to strengthen and expand multi-sectoral, community-based nutrition programmes, focusing on the critical window of opportunity from conception until two years of age, are essential to address the multiple causes and high levels of malnutrition. Nationwide scale up of priority health sector nutrition interventions, including micronutrient supplementation, management of acute malnutrition and communication on infant and young child feeding practices and expansion of food fortification initiatives to improve the nutritional status of the entire population are also critical actions. Improving hygiene and sanitation practices, given most households' poor access to adequate sanitation facilities, is a kev to improving nutrition outcomes of Cambodian children.

The Mission also recommended that the rice development strategy, emphasizing increased production and exports of the commodity, should be examined with consideration of the full environmental costs as well as the long term sustainability of the rice production system. In this regard, adoption of conservation agriculture, crop rotation, diversification and other sustainable production practices should be examined.





Cambodia





Reference Date: 20-December-2012

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Slight decrease in 2012/13 main wet-season paddy crop estimated due to dry spell followed by floods
- Rice prices remain relatively firm mainly in response to the adequate supplies
- The overall food security situation is generally satisfactory but concerns remain for the flood-affected population

Slight decrease in 2012/13 main wet-season paddy crop estimated due to dry spell followed by floods

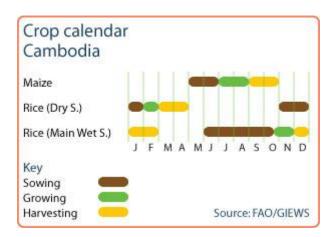
Harvesting of the 2012/13 main rainy season began in December and will continue until end of February. The season started in June-July with normal rains, which was followed by a period of below average rains until early September. According to the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) the dry spell affected some 140 647 hectares of rice fields (or about 5.8 percent of the total cropped area for the main wet season), mainly in Oddar Meanchey and Battambang in the north-west, Svay Rieng and Prey Veng in the south-east and Takeo in the south-west. Furthermore, a period of heavy rains in mid September caused localised flooding across western parts of the country. Although, the rains provided much relief to soil moisture and enabled farmers to continue rice planting, they are also estimated to have damaged some 45 587 hectares of paddy crop, particularly in Banteay Meanchey. However, support provided by the government through its, policy emphasis on rice cultivation, including increased use of fertilizers and improved seeds, as well as adequate irrigation supplies are expected to help mitigate the negative impact of the erratic weather.

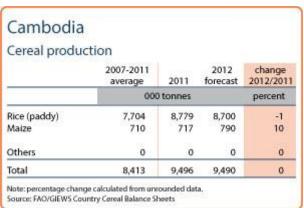
FAO's current production forecast of the ongoing 2012 main wet season paddy crop is set at 6.6 million tonnes, some 1.5 percent below the previous year's record harvest of the corresponding season. Including the forecast output of the next secondary dry season, the 2012/13 aggregate paddy production is forecast at 8.7 million tonnes, slightly below the record crop the year before, but the second best on record.

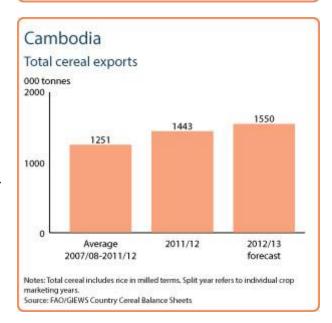
Harvesting of the 2012 maize crop was completed in October. According to the official estimates, the area to maize increased by almost 10 percent, reflecting farmer's positive reaction to higher maize prices.

Overall, the cereal output for 2012 is estimated at 9.5 million tonnes, similar to last year.

Forecast of cereal exports in 2013 marketing year (January/December) is put at a record level of 1.6 million tonnes (comprising rice about 1.3 million and maize about 250 000 tonnes), some 7 percent above the previous year. Some rice is exported formally but much of the milled rice and/or paddy pass







through cross-border trade to Viet Nam and Thailand.

Rice prices remain relatively firm mainly in response to the adequate supplies

Wholesale prices of rice have remained relatively stable or declined in recent months reflecting adequate supplies from the ongoing main wet season harvest. In November 2012, wholesale prices of mixed-rice in Phnom Penh showed a decrease of 18.2 percent from its high level a year earlier. Rice prices in Battambang market, which have been increasing since May 2012, decreased in November and were 13.7 percent lower from the corresponding month last year. Prices are generally lower in Battambang, the main rice producing area of the country, located in the west bordering Thailand.

The wholesale prices of soybean in most markets have remained stable since July 2012.

Latest figures from the National Institute of Statistics (NIS) indicate that a year-on-year increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) in July 2012 was 1.3 percent, mainly due to increases in the cost of food and non-alcoholic beverages.

The overall food security situation is generally satisfactory but concerns remain for those affected by floods

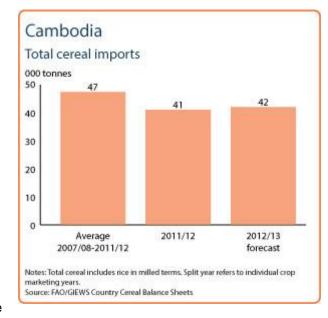
As indicated by the FAO/WFP Joint Report published in April 2012, at the national level, overall availability of rice in the country is satisfactory. However, at the household level, access to a stable, sufficient and diverse diet remains a challenge and is manifested in the high levels of chronic and acute child malnutrition.

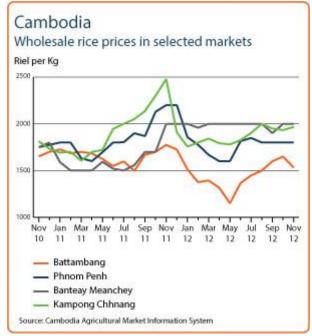
Furthermore, the country has been hit by floods for the second year in row. Reportedly, this year's floods affected over 14 322 households, damaged or destroyed houses, schools, infrastructure and roads.

According to the Report rehabilitation of the damaged farm infrastructure is considered as an urgent priority. In the short- and medium-term, the mission recommended scaling up of targeted social safety net programmes to enhance coping capacities, protect assets and increase income and access to food among the poorest and most vulnerable households, including those most affected by the floods.

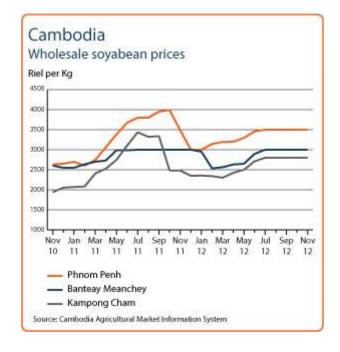
Furthermore, the ongoing efforts to strengthen and expand multi-sectoral, community-based nutrition programmes, focusing on the critical window of opportunity from conception until two years of age, are essential to address the multiple causes and high levels of malnutrition. Nationwide scale up of priority health sector nutrition interventions, including micronutrient supplementation, management of acute malnutrition and communication on infant and young child feeding practices and expansion of food fortification initiatives to improve the nutritional status of the entire population are also critical actions. Improving hygiene and sanitation practices, given most households' poor access to adequate sanitation facilities, is a key to improving nutrition outcomes of Cambodian children.

The Mission also recommended that the rice development





strategy, emphasizing increased production and exports of the commodity, should be examined with consideration of the full environmental costs as well as the long term sustainability of the rice production system. In this regard, adoption of conservation agriculture, crop rotation, diversification and other sustainable production practices should be examined.



Cambodia





Reference Date: 27-June-2012

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Below average rainfall at the start of the 2012/13 wet crop season
- Record harvest of 2012 paddy crop
- Rice prices have come down sharply following bumper harvests
- The overall food security situation is generally satisfactory but concerns remain for the flood-affected population

Below average rainfall at the start of the 2012/13 wet season

Land preparation or planting of the main season 2012 paddy crop is currently underway and will continue in some areas up to October. The seasonal rains so far have been below normal and consequently the area planted to paddy, maize and sweet potatoes as of 7 June 2012 has been below average for this time of the year. However, given the official policy emphasis on rice cultivation, processing and marketing in Cambodia, the total area under paddy is expected to remain high.

Record harvest of 20112 paddy crop, despite severe flooding in September-October

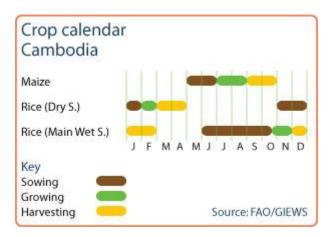
Harvesting of the 2012main wet season as well as that of secondary dry season paddy were completed earlier in the year. The official estimates show another record harvest of 8.78 million tonnes (equivalent to 5.62 million tonnes of milled rice), some 6 percent over the previous year's annual output. In spite of severe flooding in September-October due to heavy rains and overflowing of Mekong and Tonle Sap Rivers, significant gains in production of paddy rice was due to an increase in yields as a response to favourable prices of rice at planting time. Favourable rainfall throughout the country (barring the flood prone areas), increased use of fertilizer and use of improved seeds contributed to the rise in yield levels.

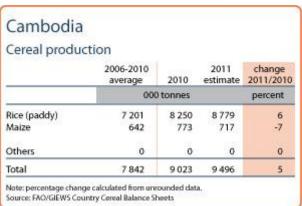
In view of the extensive flood damage, an FAO/WFP crop and food security update mission was fielded in the country between 30 January and 5 February 2012 to review the overall food supply situation and to evaluate possible food assistance requirements during the 2012 marketing year (January/December).

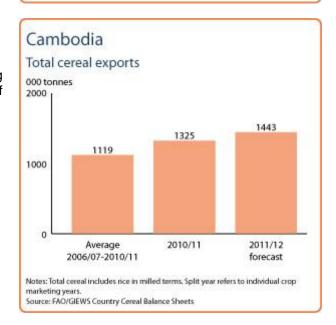
The FAO/WFP Mission Report published in April 2012, estimated the total utilization requirement at 3.56 million tonnes of milled rice, leaving a potential exportable surplus of 2.06 million tonnes or equivalent to 3.21 million tonnes of paddy. Some rice is exported formally but much of the milled rice and/or paddy pass through cross-border trade to Viet Nam and Thailand.

Rice prices have come down sharply following 2012 bumper harvests

Prices of rice in the main markets of the country have decreased







in recent months reflecting the good 2012 rice production. For example, in the capital city market the wholesale price of mixedrice showed a decrease of 11 percent in April from its peak level in earlier in the year in February. Similarly, the price drop was 33 percent from January to May this year in Battambang. Prices are generally lower in Battambang, the main rice producing area of the country, located in the west bordering Thailand.

The wholesale prices of sovbean in most markets have returned to more normal levels and are currently either stabilized or rising smoothly falling from an unusual peak in October 2011.

The latest available official data indicate that the annual inflation in the economy measured by the year-on-year increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) in April 2012 stood at 4.8 percent, down from 5.7 percent earlier in November 2011.

The overall food security situation is generally satisfactory but concerns remain for groups of population especially those affected by floods

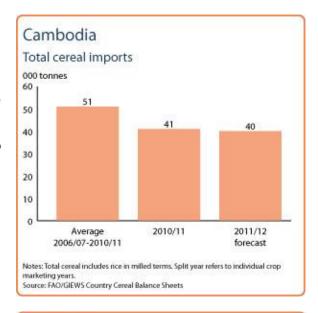
As indicated by the FAO/WFP Joint Report, at the national level, overall availability of rice in the country is satisfactory. However, at the household level, access to a stable, sufficient and diverse diet remains a challenge and is manifested in the high levels of chronic and acute child malnutrition.

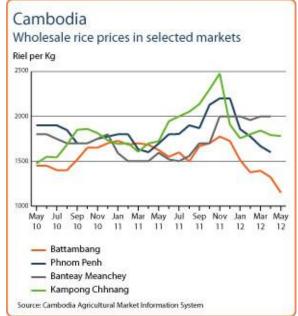
The severe floods in September and October 2011 affected caused by heavy monsoon rains and the consequent overflowing of the Mekong and Tonle Sap rivers affected over 1.5 million people, displacing 214 000, as well as causing the loss of 247 lives.

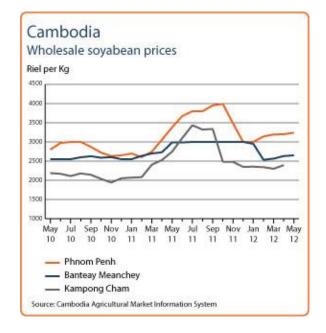
Rehabilitation of the damaged farm infrastructure is considered as an urgent priority. In the short- and medium-term, the mission recommended scaling up of targeted social safety net programmes to enhance coping capacities, protect assets and increase income and access to food among the poorest and most vulnerable households, including those most affected by the floods.

Furthermore, according to the Report, the ongoing efforts to strengthen and expand multi-sectoral, community-based nutrition programmes, focusing on the critical window of opportunity from conception until two years of age, are essential to address the multiple causes and high levels of malnutrition. Nationwide scale up of priority health sector nutrition interventions, including micronutrient supplementation, management of acute malnutrition and communication on infant and young child feeding practices and expansion of food fortification initiatives to improve the nutritional status of the entire population are also critical actions. Improving hygiene and sanitation practices, given most households' poor access to adequate sanitation facilities, is a key to improving nutrition outcomes of Cambodian children.

The Mission also recommended that the rice development strategy, emphasizing increased production and exports of the commodity, should be examined with consideration of the full environmental costs as well as the long term sustainability of the rice production system. In this regard, adoption of conservation agriculture, crop rotation, diversification and other sustainable production practices should be examined.







Cambodia





Reference Date: 13-February-2012

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Record harvest of 2011/12 main wet season paddy crop
- Rice prices have been rising in last several months but decreased sharply in January in most markets of the country
- The overall food security situation is generally satisfactory but concerns remain for the flood-affected population

Record harvest of 2011/12 main wet season paddy crop, despite severe flooding in September-October

Harvesting of the 2011 main wet season paddy has been nearly completed and the harvesting of the dry season paddy is about to begin. The preliminary official estimates point to a record harvest of about 6.7 million tonnes, some 2 percent over the previous year's wet season harvest which also was estimated to be a record crop. In spite of severe flooding in September-October due to heavy rains and overflowing of Mekong and Tonle Sap Rivers. significant gains in production of paddy rice was due to both the increase in yields and area planted as a response to favourable prices of rice at planting time.

Much of the increase in rice plantings came at the cost of maize which resulted in a drop in production for two years in a row/for the second year in row.

Including the forecast output of the next minor season (dry season), the 2011/12 aggregate paddy production is forecast at 8.4 million tonnes, slightly above the bumper crop the year before.

The country is estimated to have some net exportable surplus of cereals, mostly, rice, which mostly passes through cross-border trade. A recent FAO/WFP crop and food security update mission is due to revise the estimates.

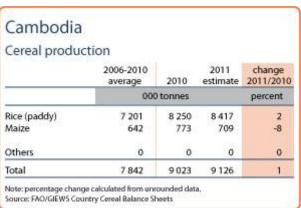
Rice prices have been rising in last several months but decreased sharply in January in most markets of the country

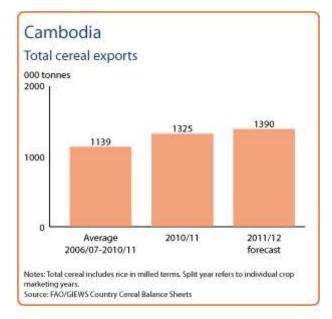
Prices of rice in the main markets of the country have increased in recent months but came down in January. In the capital city market they showed a sharp decrease by 16 percent in January from its level in December 2011 and were on approximately the same level as a year ago.

The increase reflects the rise of prices in Thailand and Viet Nam and strong export demand for Cambodian rice. Prices are generally lower in Battambang, the main rice producing area of the country, located in the west bordering Thailand. The wholesale prices of soybean in Phnom Penh have decreased significantly since October 2011.

The latest available official data indicate that a year-on-year



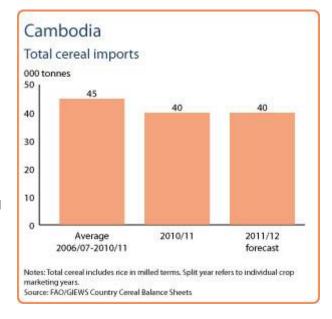


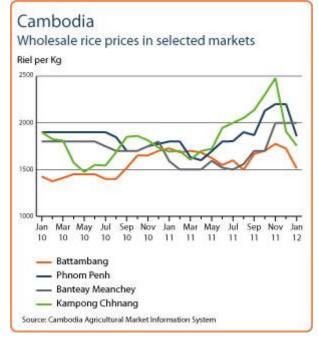


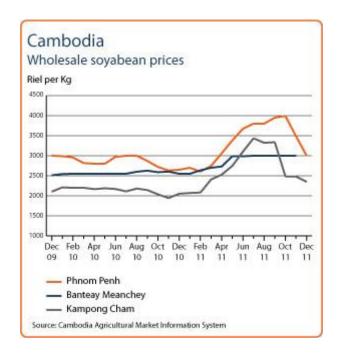
increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) in November 2011 was 5.7 percent.

The overall food security situation is generally satisfactory but concerns remain for the floodaffected population

The food security in Cambodia is generally satisfactory. However, according to NCDM the onslaught of monsoon rains and floods affected over 1.5 million people, 214 000 of them displaced and 247 killed. Also, damages to thousands of houses, many bridges, roads, schools and irrigation infrastructure were reported. Furthermore, a decline in real wages for unskilled workers coupled with rising food prices and high general inflation are likely to further exacerbate food insecurity conditions for the low income section of the population. As a result, the World Food Programme has started an Emergency Operation (EMOP), which aims to provide emergency assistance to flood-affected households. The European Union's Food Security Support Program provides USD 32 million to improve food security in Cambodia.







Cambodia





Reference Date: 1-December-2011

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Severe flooding in September-October caused population displacement and damages to crops
- Rice prices increased in the recent months
- The overall food security situation is generally satisfactory but concerns remain for the flood-affected population

Severe flooding in September-October 2011 caused population displacement and damages to crops

Heavy rains and overflowing of Mekong and Tonle Sap Rivers caused severe floods across the country. Preliminary estimates from the Government's National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM) indicates that 406 000 hectares of rice fields have been affected including at least 232 000 hectares of the crop damaged. FAO's current production forecast of the 2011 main wet season paddy crop is set at 6.4 million tonnes, 2.8 percent below the previous year's record harvest of the corresponding season. Including the forecast output of the next minor season, the 2011/12 aggregate paddy production is forecast at 8.2 million tonnes, slightly below the bumper crop the year before.

Harvesting of the 2011 maize crop is complete. Although no estimates of maize damage due to floods are yet available, the maize was affected by the heavy rains at the crop emergence stage and by recent floods.

The flood damage to the livestock is moderate; however losses of small animals, poultry and goats, were extensive.

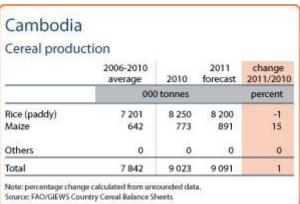
According to the Government, the country has a potential exportable surplus of milled rice, of about 2.5 million tonnes for 2011. Besides rice, the country is also estimated to keep exports of maize steady at 200 000 to 250 000 tonnes.

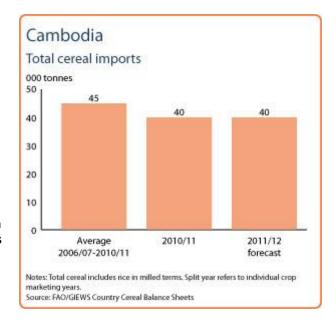
Rice prices increased in the recent months

Prices of rice in the main markets of the country have increased in recent months and in the capital city market the October price was 14 percent above its level in September and 25 percent from the same month a year earlier. The increase reflects the rise of prices in Thailand and Viet Nam and strong export demand for Cambodian rice. Prices are generally lower in Battambang, the main rice producing area of the country, located in the west bordering Thailand. The wholesale prices of soybean in Phnom Penh have risen significantly since early this year mainly due to the reduced plantings and production of this crop.

The latest available official data indicate that a year-on-year increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) in September 2011 was 6.7 percent, while the food price inflation was measured at



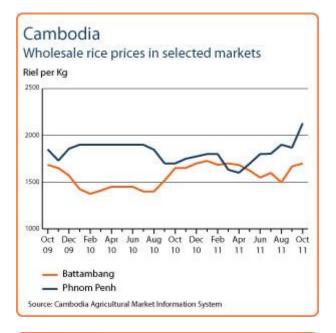


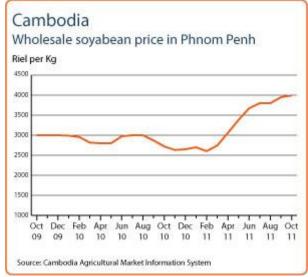


6.4 percent.

The overall food security situation is generally satisfactory but concerns remain for the floodaffected population

The food security in Cambodia is generally satisfactory. However, according to NCDM the onslaught of monsoon rains and floods affected over 1.5 million people, 214 000 of them displaced and 247 killed. Also, damages to thousands of houses, many bridges, roads, schools and irrigation infrastructure were reported. Furthermore, a decline in real wages for unskilled workers coupled with rising food prices and high general inflation are likely to further exacerbate food insecurity conditions for the low income section of the population. As a result, the World Food Programme has started an Emergency Operation (EMOP), which aims to provide emergency assistance to flood-affected households. The European Union's Food Security Support Program provides USD 32 million to improve food security in Cambodia.





Cambodia





Reference Date: 27-October-2011

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Severe flooding since mid-August has caused population displacement and damages to crops
- Rice prices increased in the recent months
- The overall food security situation is generally satisfactory but concerns remain for the flood-affected population

Severe flooding since mid-August has caused population displacement and damages to crops

Since mid-August, the heavy rains and overflowing of Mekong and Tonle Sap rivers have caused severe floods across the country. Preliminary estimates from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries indicate that 332 634 hectares, or 12 percent of the total area sown, of paddy have been affected. FAO has revised production forecast of the 2011 main wet season paddy crop to 6.4 million tonnes, 2.8 percent below the previous year's record harvest of the corresponding season. Including the forecast output of the next minor season, the 2011/12 aggregate paddy production is forecast at 8.2 million tonnes, slightly below the bumper crop the year before.

Harvesting of the 2011 maize crop is underway. Although no estimates of maize damage due to floods are yet available, the maize was affected by the heavy rains at the crop emergence stage and by recent floods.

The flood damage to the livestock is moderate; however losses of small animals, poultry and goats, were extensive.

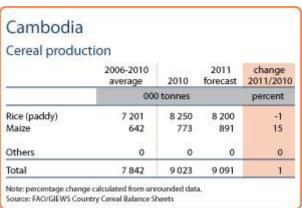
According to the Government, the country has a potential exportable surplus of milled rice, of about 2.5 million tonnes for 2011. Besides rice, the country is also estimated to keep exports of maize steady at 200 000 to 250 000 tonnes.

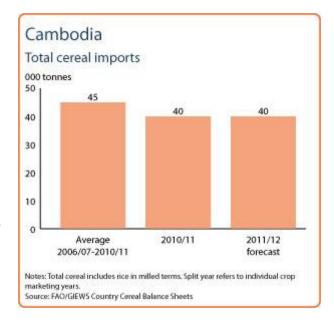
Rice prices increased in the recent months

Prices of rice in the main markets of the country have increased in recent months and in the capital city market the October price was 19 percent above its level the same month a year earlier. The increase reflects the rise of prices in Thailand and Viet Nam and strong export demand for Cambodian rice. Prices are generally lower in Battambang, the main rice producing area of the country, located in the west bordering Thailand. The wholesale prices of soybean in Phnom Penh have risen significantly since early this year mainly due to the reduced plantings and production of this crop.

The latest available official data indicate that a year-on-year increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) in August 2011 was 6.4 percent, while the food price inflation was measured at 7.7 percent.

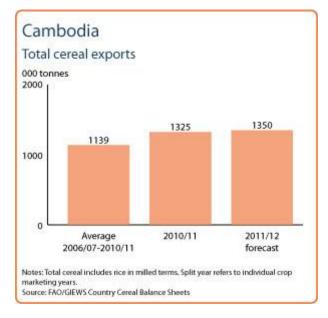


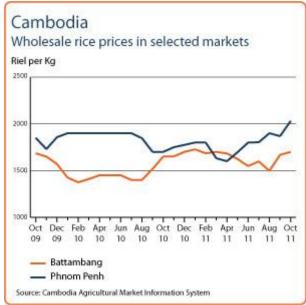


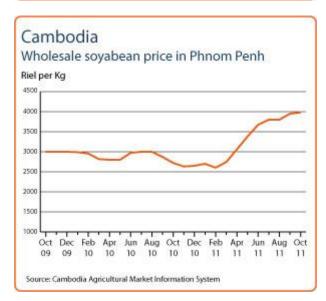


The overall food security situation is generally satisfactory but concerns remain for the floodaffected population

The food security in Cambodia is generally satisfactory. However, the onslaught of monsoon rains and floods affected over 1.2 million people and damaged thousands of houses and other infrastructure. Reportedly, damages occurred to bridges, roads, schools and irrigation infrastructure. The affected population has also suffered severe crop, livestock and grain losses. Furthermore, a decline in real wages for unskilled workers coupled with rising food prices and high general inflation are likely to further exacerbate food insecurity conditions for the low income section of the population. The European Union is providing USD 32 million to Cambodia as a part of the Food Security Support Program, including a recent donation of over USD 15 million under the FAO's productivity and safety net programme to improve food security of farm families that were affected by the soaring food prices.







Cambodia





Reference Date: 26-May-2011

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Another record paddy crop is preliminarily estimated in 2011 after a bumper production in 2010
- Price of rice have come down
- Overall food security is satisfactory

Record harvests two years in a row of the wet season paddy crop

Harvesting of the 2011 main wet season paddy was completed by February. The official estimates point to a record harvest of about 6.6 million tonnes, some 3 percent over the previous year's wet season harvest which also was estimated to be a record crop. In spite of the erratic rains at the beginning of the wet season. significant gains in production of paddy rice was due to both the increase in yields and area planted as a response to favourable prices of rice at planting time. Much of the increase in rice plantings came at the cost of maize which resulted in a huge drop in 2010 production compared to a bumper crop year before. The total paddy production for 2011 is forecast at yet another record level at 8.5 million tonnes, some 3 percent above the bumper crop the year before. Maize production returned to more normal levels in 2010 and is forecast to increase in 2011. The wet season accounts for about 80 percent of the annual national production.

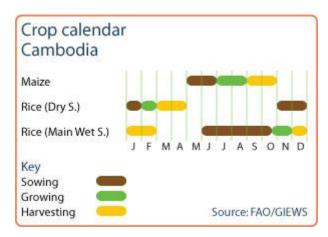
The country is estimated to have a net exportable surplus of cereals, mostly, rice, of about 1.5 million tonnes for 2011. Besides rice, the country is also estimated to keep exports of maize steady at 200 000 to 250 000 tonnes.

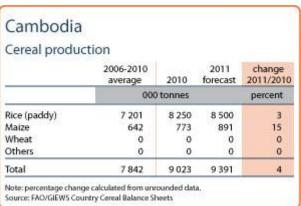
Price of rice has come down in recent months

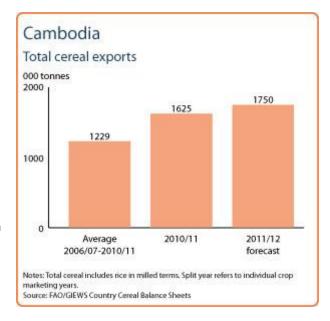
Rice prices in the capital city, Phnom Penn declined following the improved prospects of the wet season harvest. Rice price has been stable but high for quite some time previously. Soybean prices are fairly stable. Prices are generally lower in Battambang, the main rice producing area of the country, in the west bordering Thailand.

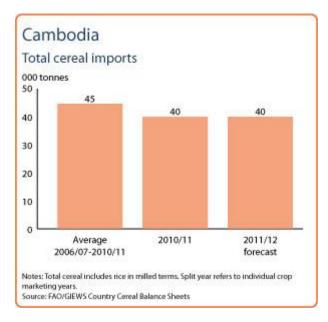
Overall food security satisfactory

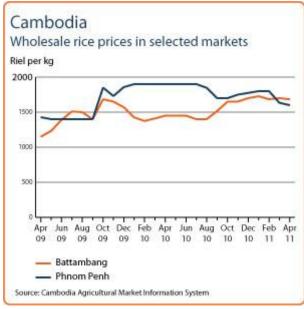
Food security in Cambodia is generally satisfactory. The European Union is providing USD 32 million to Cambodia as a part of the Food Security Support Program including a recent donation of over USD 15 million under the FAO's productivity and safety net programme to improve food security of farm families that were affected by the soaring food prices.

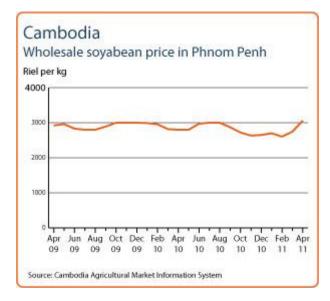












Cambodia





Reference Date: 23-March-2011

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Another record paddy crop is preliminarily estimated in 2010 after a bumper production in 2009
- Price of rice have come down
- Overall food security is satisfactory

Record harvests two years in a row of the wet season paddy crop

Harvesting of the 2010 main wet season paddy has been nearly completed and the preliminary official estimates point to a record harvest of about 6.4 million tonnes, some 7.5 percent over the previous year's wet season harvest which also was estimated to be a record crop. In spite of the erratic rains at the beginning of the wet season, significant gains in production of paddy rice was due to both the increase in yields and area planted as a response to favourable prices of rice at planting time. Much of the increase in rice plantings came at the cost of maize which resulted in a huge drop in 2010 production compared to a bumper crop year before. Maize production returned to more normal levels The wet season accounts for about 80 percent of the annual national production. Land preparation for the 2011 dry season paddy crop is underway.

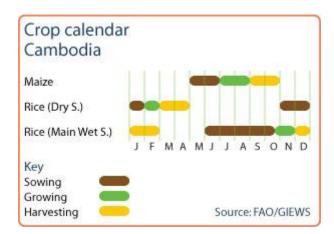
The country is estimated to have a net exportable surplus of cereals, mostly, rice, of about 1.7 million tonnes for 2011. Besides rice, the country is also estimated to keep exports of maize steady at about 200 000 tonnes.

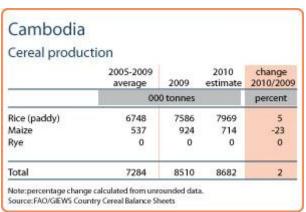
Price of rice had began to fall late last year

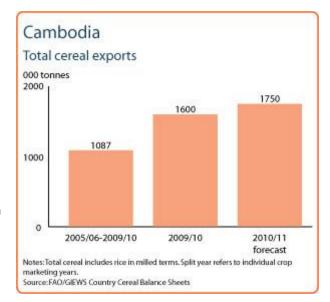
The last available data (September 2010) on the rice prices in the capital city, Phnom Penn shows a declining trend following the improved prospects of the wet season harvest. Soybean prices are o fairly stable. Prices are generally lower in Battambang, the main rice producing area of the country, in the west bordering Thailand.

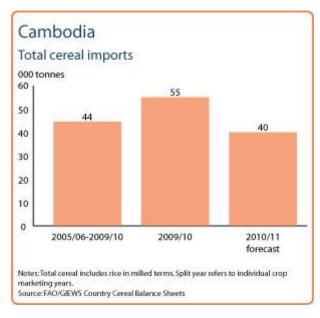
Overall food security satisfactory

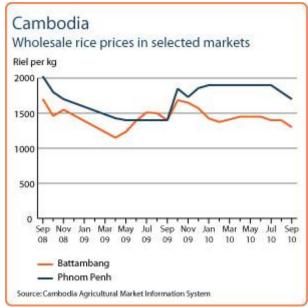
Food security in Cambodia is generally satisfactory. The European Union is providing USD 32 million to Cambodia as a part of the Food Security Support Program including a recent donation of over USD 15 million under the FAO's productivity and safety net programme to improve food security of farm families that were affected by the soaring food prices.

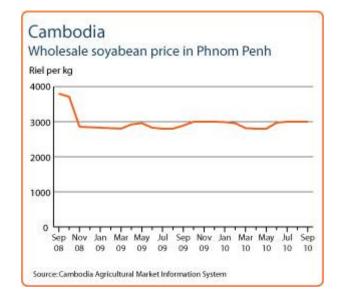












Cambodia





Reference Date: 2-September-2010

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Erratic rains are expected to affect the main season crops, mainly paddy.
- Price of rice higher than in 2007 but lately generally stable.
- Food security is satisfactory.

Erratic rains are expected to affect the main wet season crops

Insufficient precipitation throughout the country since the beginning of the wet season in May-June has severely undermined the transplanting and growth of paddy crop in Cambodia this year. Rains picked up in last two months but are not likely to reverse the situation in many areas. FAO's preliminary forecast is 6.6 million tonnes of paddy for 2010 aggregate production, indicating a drop of some 13 percent from last year's record harvest. The country is expected to have exportable surplus of about 1 million tonnes after the main harvest at the end of the year.

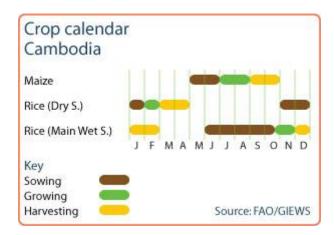
Cambodia was the first country in Asia to lift a rice export ban in May 2009. Besides rice, the country is estimated to have an exportable surplus of about 200 000 tonnes of maize.

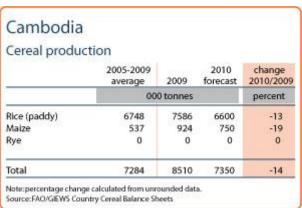
Price of rice higher than the pre-high food crises period but generally stable

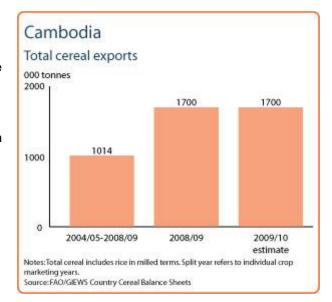
Rice prices in the capital city, Phnom Penn are generally stable since beginning of 2010 after rising since September. Prices are generally lower in Battambang, the main rice producing area of the country, in the west bordering Thailand.

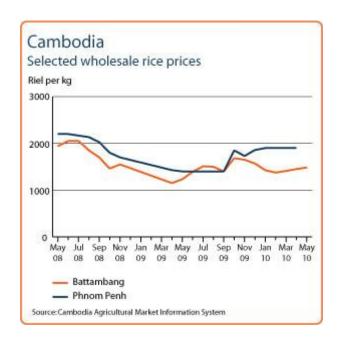
Food security satisfactory

Food security in Cambodia is generally satisfactory. The European Union is providing USD 32 million to Cambodia as a part of the Food Security Support Program including a recent donation of over 15 million USD under the FAO's productivity and safety net programme to improve food security of farm families affected by the soaring food prices. WFP is implementing its three-year protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) for 2008-2010 targeting some 1.8 million beneficiaries.









Cambodia





Reference Date: 10-February-2010

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Record rice harvest of 2009/10 rice crop estimated.
- Significant exportable surplus is expected for 2010.
- Prices of rice and soybeans fairly stable in the country.

Record rice harvest from the 2009/10 main wetseason crop

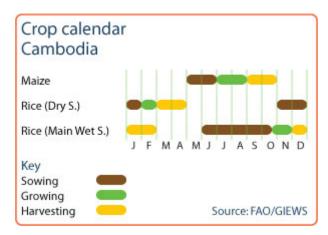
Harvest of the main wet season rice is virtually complete and harvest of the dry season rice is about to begin, this year earlier than usual. The official first estimate puts the aggregate 2009/10 production at 7.15 million tonnes of paddy (4.58 million tonnes milled rice), about 1 percent above record harvest year before. Rice is the predominant cereal crop in Cambodia accounting for about 90 percent of the total cereal production. Good paddy production mainly reflects a larger area planted in response to the prevailing high international prices of rice at sowing time. The overall average yield is lowered due to damage to some 22 000 hectares of paddy crop from Typhoon Ketsana at the end of September 2009.

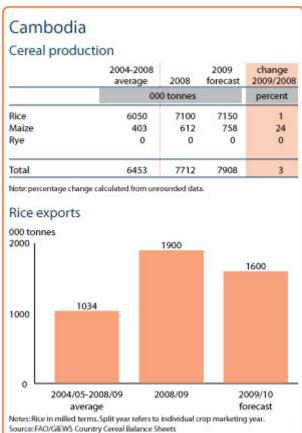
Significant level of rice exports likely in 2010

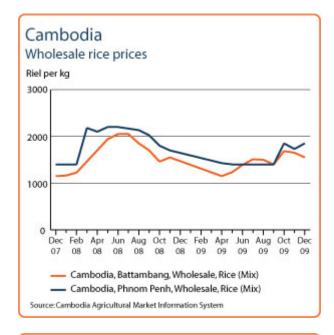
As a result of this good harvest the country's exports are forecast in 2010 at 1.6 million tonnes, some 16 percent below last year's record level. Cambodia was the first country in Asia to lift a rice export ban in May last year. Besides rice, the country is estimated to have an exportable surplus of about 200 000 tonnes of maize. Some 28 000 tonnes of wheat is likely to be imported during this year. Rice prices in the capital city, Phnom Penn were generally stable during much of 2009 but have risen since September. The latest monthly price (Dec. 2009) was 12 percent above the level 12 months before and 32 percent above the level 24 months before, facing strong international demand for the commodity. Prices are generally lower in Battambang, the main rice producing area of the country, in the west bordering Thailand.

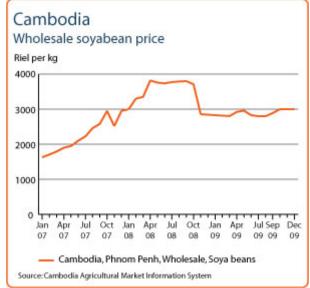
Food security issues

The European Union is providing USD 32 million to Cambodia as a part of the Food Security Support Program including a recent donation of over 15 million USD under the FAO's productivity and safety net programme to improve food security of farm families affected by the soaring food prices. WFP is implementing its threeyear protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) for 2008-2010 targeting some 1.8 million beneficiaries.









Cambodia





Reference Date: 23-October-2009

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Record rice harvest of the current main season crop is forecast.
- Significant exportable surplus is expected for 2010.
- EU invests in support of improved food security in Cambodia.

Record rice harvest is anticipated from the current 2009 wet-season crop

Rice is the predominant cereal crop in Cambodia accounting for about 90 percent of the total production. The main season crop will be harvested from December to February. Area cultivated under paddy this season was estimated at 2.28 million hectares, some 126 500 hectares higher than last year. This increase seems to be a direct response to the prevailing high international prices of rice at the time of planting in 2008. Reportedly some 22 000 hectares of paddy crop was damaged due to Typhoon Ketsana at the end of September 2009. The official forecast puts this year's harvest, including a forecast for the small secondary crop about to be planted, at a record level of 7.6 million tonnes of paddy (4.86 million tonnes rice). Rainfall this year was normal, thus much of the increase in production is due to the rise in the area planted.

Record level of rice exports is likely in 2010

As a result of this bumper harvest the country's exportable surplus in 2010 is estimated at 1.6 million tonnes, about 6.6 percent higher than the current year. Cambodia was the first country in Asia to lift a rice export ban in May last year. Besides rice, the country also exports small amount, about 100 000 tonnes, of maize but imports all its requirements of wheat, some 28 000 tonnes, as this crop is not produced locally.

Food security issues

The European Union is providing USD 32 million to Cambodia as a part of the Food Security Support Program including a recent donation of over 15 million USD under the FAO's productivity and safety net programme to improve food security of farm families affected by the soaring food prices. WFP is implementing its three-year protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) for 2008-2010 targetting some 1.8 million beneficiaries.

