



GIEWS Country Brief Somalia

Reference Date: 13-September-2022

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- **Famine expected in absence of urgent humanitarian assistance due to unprecedented multi-season drought**
- **Severe pasture and water shortages resulting in widespread livestock deaths**
- **Poor 2022 “Gu” main season harvest**
- **Prices of domestically produced and imported cereals at exceptionally high levels**

Famine expected in absence of urgent humanitarian assistance due to unprecedented multi-season drought

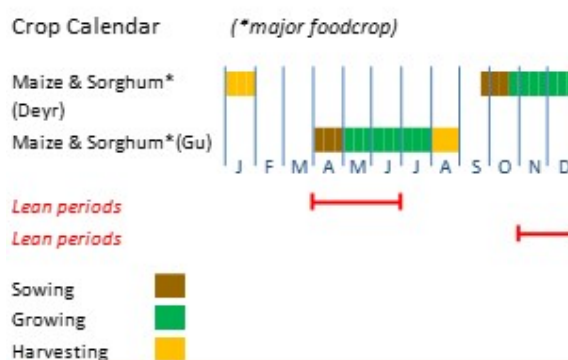
In August 2022, an Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis was conducted focusing on the Bay Region and the results indicate that famine is expected to occur between October and December, if humanitarian assistance is not urgently scaled up. Famine is expected for rural communities in Baidoa and Burhakaba districts and newly arrived internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Baidoa town.

At national level, about 6.7 million people (41 percent of the total population) are projected to face severe food insecurity over the same period. This figure includes about 4.2 million people in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis), 2.2 million in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) and 300 560 in IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe) in the context of an anticipated scaling down of planned humanitarian food assistance deliveries in late 2022.

The famine projected in Bay Region and the overall deterioration of the food security situation that occurred in 2022 mainly reflect the failure of the April-July “Gu” rainy season, which exacerbated the drought which began in late 2020. Assessed as the most extensive and persistent in 40 years, the drought caused severe and widespread crop and livestock losses and its impact on households’ food security has been compounded by the prolonged conflict and the hikes in international prices of wheat and fuel caused by the Ukraine war.

As meteorological forecasts point to a poor October–December “Deyr” season rainfall, food security conditions are expected to deteriorate. Food and livelihood assistance needs to be urgently scaled up in addition to critical assistance in nutrition, WASH and health in order to avert a famine in Bay Region, the collapse of

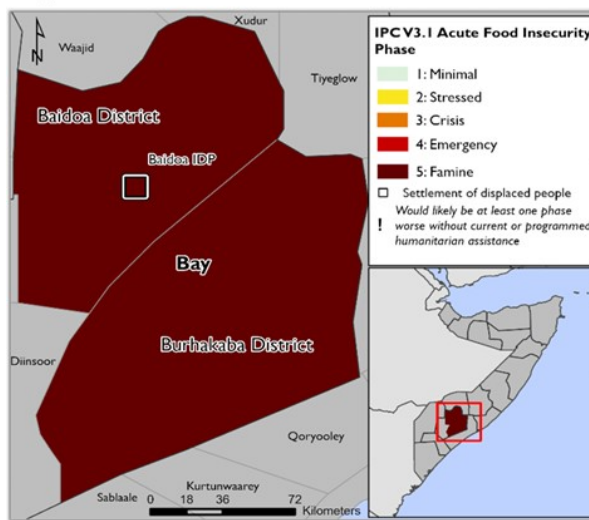
Somalia



Source: FAO/GIEWS.

Baidoa and Burhakaba districts in Bay Region – Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC)

Projection October – December



rural livelihoods, increased destitution and widespread hunger leading to mass population displacements from rural areas across the country.

Severe pasture and water shortages resulting in widespread livestock deaths

Prolonged drought conditions are significantly affecting rangeland resources in southern agropastoral areas and centralnorthern pastoral areas, where the failure of the April-July “Gu” rainy season hampered the regeneration of rangeland resources and the recharge of water sources.

The severe shortage of pasture and water led to widespread animal emaciation, low birth rates adversely affecting milk production and the death from starvation of about 3 million animals since mid-2021. As a result, herd sizes have significantly declined, a source of particular concern as livestock numbers were already on a declining trajectory since the beginning of the drought.

As rangeland conditions were at extremely low levels at the start of the July-September “Hagaa” dry season (Vegetation Condition Index Map) and the forthcoming October–December rainy season is forecast to be poor, additional livestock losses are expected in the coming months, especially during the January-March “Jilaal” dry season.

Poor 2022 “Gu” main season harvest

The 2022 main “Gu” (April-June) season crops, harvested last July and normally accounting for about 60 percent of the country's total annual cereal output, have been severely affected by poor seasonal rains. Cereal production is estimated at 59 900 tonnes, including 10 200 tonnes of off-season crops to be harvested in late September/early October. This output is 50 percent below average, making the 2022 “Gu” the fifth consecutive season with a reduced cereal production. Crop failures are reported in several areas, including the two districts of Bay Region where famine is expected.

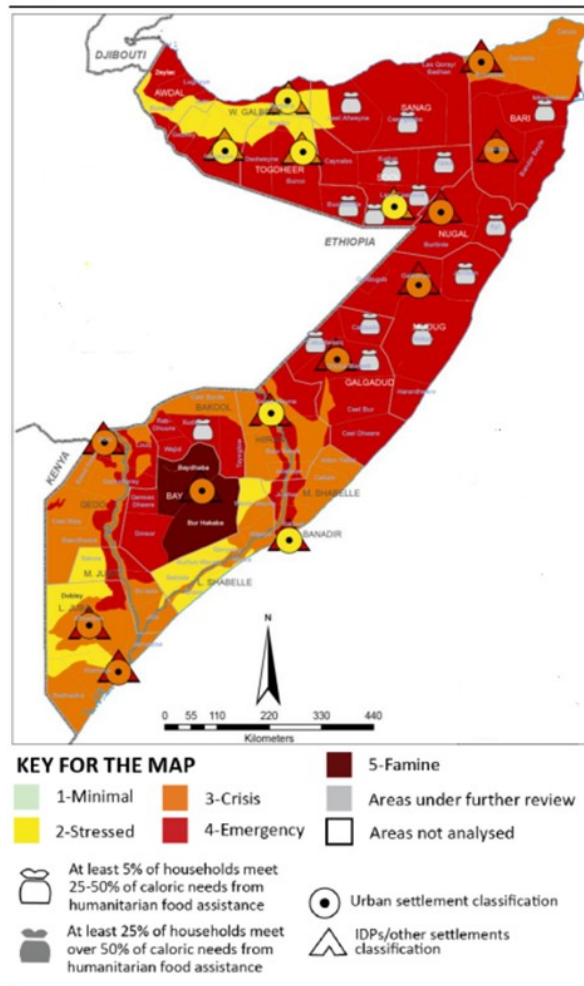
In southern key-cropping areas, cumulative precipitation amounts in April were about half the long-term average, hampering planting operations and resulting in germination failures. Farmers also faced difficulties accessing agricultural inputs and labour as high food prices drained households' finances. Although above-average rains in early May reduced moisture deficits and allowed planting and replanting of failed crops, crop prospects did not significantly improve as the rains were late and lasted only a couple of weeks. As of mid-June, in both Lower Shabelle Region, the main maize producing area, and in the “sorghum belt” of Bay Region, up to 85 percent of cropland were affected by severe drought (ASI map).

Prices of domestically produced and imported cereals at exceptionally high levels

Prices of locally produced maize and sorghum increased since mid-2020 due to an unprecedented succession of five poor or failed harvests. Prices of sorghum and maize in July were at record high levels in most markets, including the capital, Mogadishu, up to three and two times their year-earlier values, respectively. In Mogadishu, prices of imported wheat in July were more than 50 percent higher than 12 months earlier, due to high international prices.

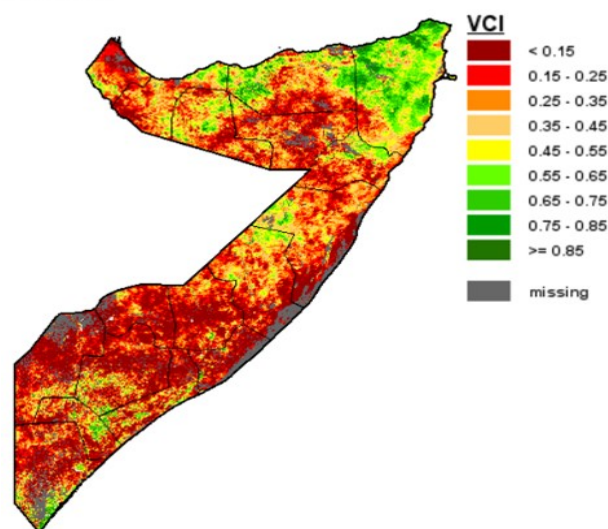
Somalia – Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC)

Projection October-December 2022



Somalia - Vegetation Condition Index (VCI)

June 2022



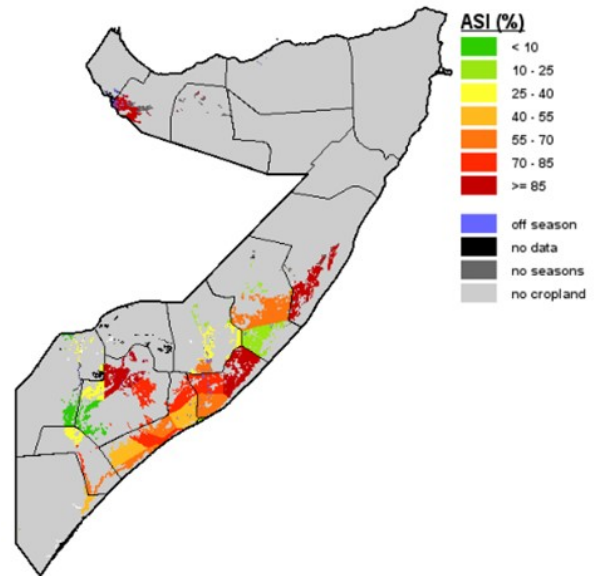
Source: FAO/GIEWS Earth Observation System.

In Baidoa, one of the two districts where famine is expected, prices of sorghum soared by more than 30 percent between May and July as seasonal patterns were compounded by expectations of a particularly poor performance of the cropping season. In July, prices were at record high levels and more than twice their year-earlier values.

Livestock prices declined significantly over the past several months as the prolonged drought had a negative impact on livestock body conditions. In Burao market, one of the main livestock markets in the Horn of Africa, prices of goats in July were 20 percent lower than one year earlier. By contrast, prices of sorghum in July were about 25 percent higher than 12 months earlier due to insufficient supplies. As a result, the livestock to cereal terms of trade for pastoralists have deteriorated over the last year, with the equivalent in sorghum of one goat in Burao declining from almost 100 kg in July 2021 to about 60 kg in July 2022.

Somalia - Agricultural Stress Index (ASI)

from start of season 1 to dekad 2, June 2022

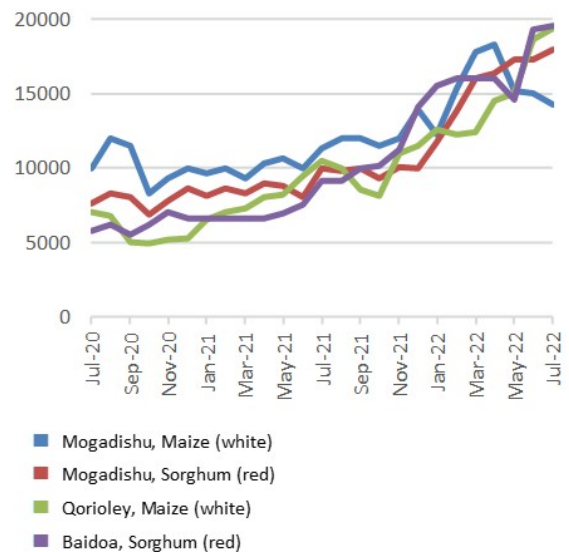


Source: FAO/GIEWS Earth Observation System.

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Selected retail cereal prices

Somali shilling per kg



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

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GIEWS Country Brief Somalia

Reference Date: 09-July-2021

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

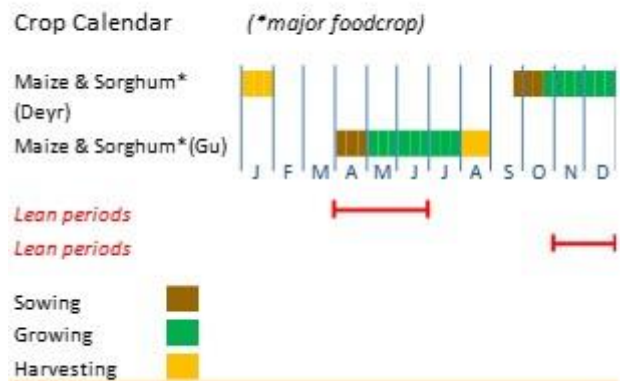
- Production of 2021 “Gu” main season cereals forecast at 20-40 percent below average due to unfavourable seasonal rains
- Below-average cereal output gathered in 2020
- Severe pasture and water shortages in pastoral areas affecting livestock conditions
- Prices of domestically produced cereals increased in recent months
- Sharply deteriorating food security situation due to two consecutive poor rainy seasons, with 2.7 to 2.8 million people estimated to be severely food insecure between April and September 2021

Unfavourable prospects for upcoming 2021 “Gu” season harvest

In central and southern agro-pastoral areas, seasonal rains established in late April, with about one month of delay, affecting planting and germination of the “Gu” season crops, to be harvested in July and accounting for about 60 percent of the country’s total annual cereal output. Above-average precipitation amounts in early May benefited crops, but also triggered floods that resulted in localized crop losses and displaced more than 400 000 people. Subsequently, only scattered, below-average showers were received and seasonal rains had an early cessation in late May. Dry weather conditions affected the rainfed cropping areas as well as irrigated crops in riverine areas along the Juba and Shabelle rivers, as low river water levels negatively impacted irrigation activities. Poor and erratic seasonal rains severely affected the area planted and yields in the main producing areas, including the key maize producing Lower Shabelle Region, the “sorghum belt” of Bay Region and the “cowpea belt” in Middle Shabelle, Galgadud and Mudug regions. According to the preliminary forecast by the FAO Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU) and the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET), the 2021 “Gu” output is expected to be 20-40 percent below the average.

Since mid-2019, the country has been facing a severe desert locust upsurge. During 2019 and most of 2020, swarms were present mainly in northern and central agro-pastoral areas. Widespread damages to pastures have been averted and losses, although significant, occurred only in some localized areas due to large-scale control operations carried out by the government with the support of FAO. In late 2020, some swarms moved to

Somalia



Source: FAO/GIEWS.

Somalia

Cereal Production

	2015-2019	2019	2020	change
	average			2020/2019
000 tonnes				
Sorghum	105	126	94	-25.4
Maize	74	57	74	29.8
Rice (paddy)	2	2	2	0.0
Total	181	185	170	-8.1

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.

Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheet.

southern key cropping areas, where they caused localized losses of “Deyr” crops. Infestation levels have been declining in 2021 as a result of sustained control operations and poor rains between October 2020 and April 2021, which created an adverse environment for insect reproduction. However, above-average rains in early May allowed the remaining swarms to mature rapidly and lay eggs in northern areas. Despite the formation of a new generation of locusts in June, control operations, coupled with the early migration of some immature swarms to summer breeding areas in northern Ethiopia, resulted in a substantial decline of swarms. Although current infestation levels are significantly lower compared to one year ago, monitoring and control operations must be maintained to further reduce migration and breeding during the summer.

Below-average cereal output gathered in 2020

Harvesting of the secondary 2020/21 “Deyr” season crops was concluded last January, while the off-season harvest was gathered in March. The October–December 2020 rains were characterized by early season dryness, which affected crop establishment and development. Heavy rains in late October and early November lifted crop prospects, but triggered floods and caused localized production shortfalls. As a result of the erratic seasonal rains and of localized losses due to locusts, cereal production is estimated at about 78 000 tonnes, 8 percent below the average of the previous five years. The minor “Karan” crops, gathered in November in northwestern areas, were affected by poor rains, desert locust infestations and insecurity, and production was estimated at about 17 000 tonnes, about 20 percent below the five-year average.

The major “Gu” crops, gathered in July 2020 in central and southern areas, were affected by widespread floods by the early cessation of seasonal rains and by insecurity. As a result, cereal production is estimated at 73 000 tonnes, about 30 percent below the average of the previous five years.

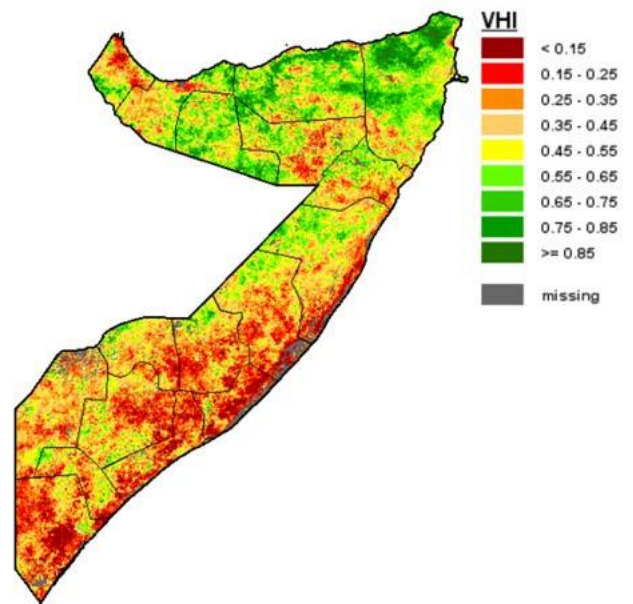
The 2020 aggregate cereal production is estimated at about 170 000 tonnes, 13 percent lower than the five-year average.

Severe pasture and water shortages in pastoral areas affecting livestock conditions

Southern agro-pastoral areas and central-northern pastoral areas have been affected by two consecutive poor rainy seasons since October 2020. Most of these regions remained almost completely dry until late April. Severe rainfall deficits and localized pasture losses due to locusts resulted in the deterioration of rangeland conditions to poor levels (Vegetation Health Index map). Severe shortages of pasture and water led to widespread animal emaciation, adversely affecting also livestock births and milk production. In addition, drought-induced livestock diseases, abortions and deaths were reported in Woqooyi Galbeed and Sanaag regions in the north, Mudug and Galgaduud regions in the centre, Hiran and Gedo in the south. In these areas, herders that were unable to provide adequate feed and water to their animals opted to cull the new-born calves in order to save the milk-producing females. Livestock deaths and low birth rates have resulted in the reduction of herd sizes, which is of particular concern as livestock numbers were already at well below-average levels in northern and central regions due to the massive losses induced by the 2016/17 drought. Abundant rains in early May had a positive impact on rangeland and livestock conditions, but triggered floods which caused some livestock

Somalia - Vegetation Health Index (VHI)

June 2021

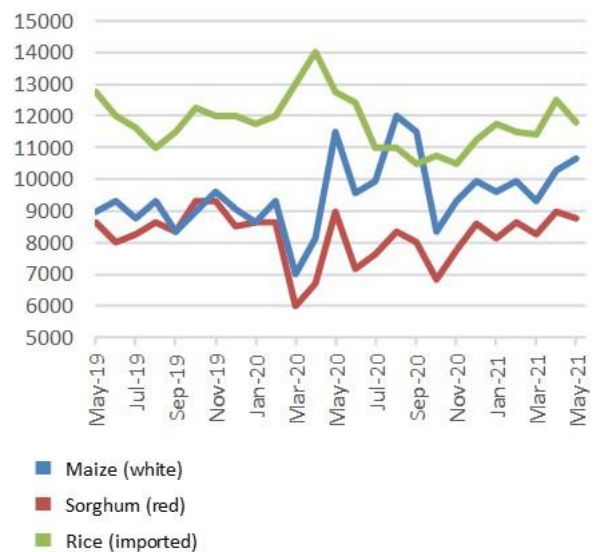


Source: FAO/GIEWS Earth Observation System.

Somalia

Selected retail cereal prices in Mogadishu

Somali Shilling per kg



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

deaths, especially in the northwestern Togdheer Region. However, these limited improvements have been short-lived as only few scattered, below-average showers were received for the remainder of the month and seasonal rains had an early cessation in late May. As a result, rangeland resources entered the current “Hagaa” dry season at well below-average levels.

Prices of domestically produced cereals increased in recent months

Prices of locally produced maize and sorghum increased in most markets, including the capital, Mogadishu, by 10-25 percent between January and May, following seasonal patterns. Prices in May were around the high levels of one year earlier, due to a below-average cereal production in 2020. By contrast, prices of imported rice were mostly stable in recent months around their year-earlier levels.

Between January and May 2021, prices of livestock increased in most markets, mainly due to increased demand for Ramadan/Eid festivities and the reduced supply of saleable animals with good body conditions following dry weather conditions since late 2020. For example, prices of goats increased by about 10 percent over this period in Burao market, one of the main livestock markets in the Horn of Africa.

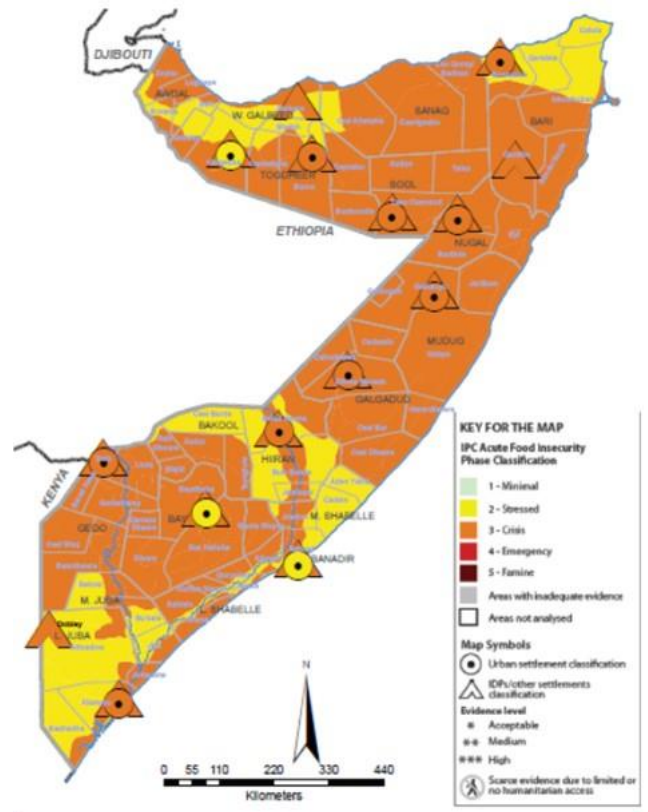
As prices of imported rice, the main staple in pastoral areas, have been stable, the terms of trade for pastoralists have slightly improved, with the equivalent in rice of a goat increasing from 90 kg in January 2021 to 100 kg in May 2021. However, as pastoralists have to repopulate their herds and market activity is low, it is unlikely that the more favourable terms of trade will determine a concrete improvement in terms of access to food among the poor pastoral households who own few livestock.

Food insecurity sharply deteriorating in 2021

Two consecutive poor rainy seasons resulted in significant crop and livestock production shortfalls, while food access has been severely affected in recent months by declining employment opportunities in rural areas and by the escalation of conflict. According to the latest FSNAU/FEWS NET analysis, 2.7 to 2.8 million people (more than 20 percent of the total population) are estimated to be severely food insecure (IPC Phase 3: “Crisis” and IPC Phase 4: “Emergency”) between April and September 2021. Phase 3: “Crisis” levels of food insecurity are estimated to prevail in most of the country through September 2021.

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Projection July-September 2021





GIEWS Country Brief Somalia

Reference Date: 22-May-2020

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

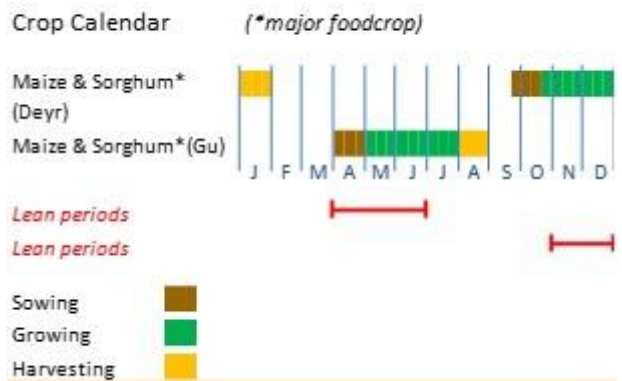
- Production of 2020 “Gu” main season cereals forecast at 15-25 percent below average due to floods, locusts and insecurity
- Unfavourable weather conditions affecting cereal production in 2019
- Despite localized pasture losses due to locusts, above-average rangeland conditions benefit livestock body conditions
- Cereal prices increased in April amidst flood-related trade disruptions and panic-buying caused by COVID-19 pandemic
- Sharply deteriorating food security situation due to widespread floods, desert locust and COVID-19 outbreaks, with about 3.5 million people projected to be severely food insecure between July and September 2020

Unfavourable prospects for upcoming 2020 “Gu” season harvest

In central and southern agropastoral areas, planting of “Gu” (April-June) season crops, to be harvested in July and accounting for about 60 percent of the country’s total annual cereal output, was recently concluded. Seasonal rains had an early onset in the third dekad of March and have been characterized so far by exceptionally abundant amounts. In the key maize producing Lower Shabelle Region and in the “sorghum belt” of Bay Region, cumulative rainfall between March and early May was up to more than twice the long-term average. In the “cowpea belt” in Middle Shabelle, Galgadud and Mudug regions, where cowpeas are inter-cropped with sorghum, cumulative rains were up to three times the long-term average.

The heavy rains received across all growing areas benefited crop planting and germination, but also triggered widespread floods. Flash floods are reported across the country, while Gedo, Hiraan, Middle and Lower Juba and Middle and Lower Shabelle regions have been affected by the overflow of the Juba and Shabelle rivers (see Map of flood affected areas), also as a consequence of the severe damages to embankments caused in late 2019 by high water flows and levels. The floods resulted in the loss of lives, the displacement of about 412 000 individuals and damage to crops. In addition, insecurity has disrupted planting operations in some areas of Lower Shabelle and Lower Juba regions.

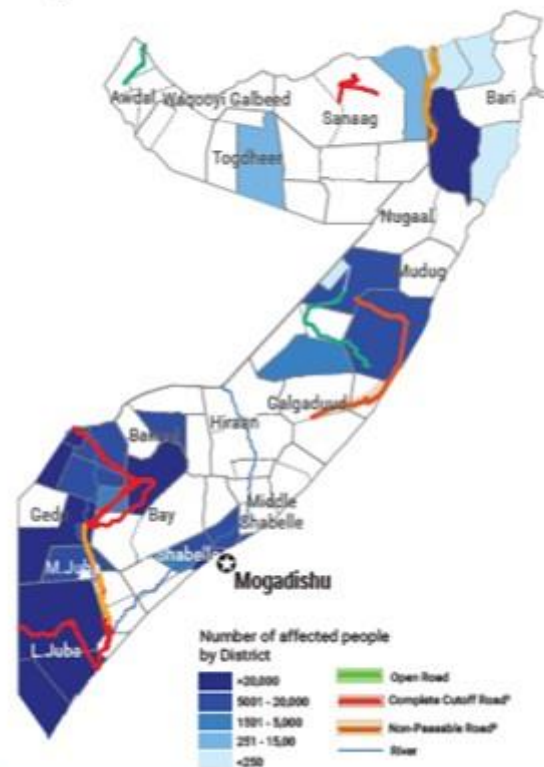
Somalia



Source: FAO/GIEWS.

Somalia - Flood affected areas

21 May 2020



Source: UN - OCHA

Since late 2019, the country is affected by a severe desert locust outbreak. Swarms are currently present mainly in northern and central agro-pastoral and pastoral areas, while infestation levels in southern key cropping areas are low. According to the latest forecast by FAO, the heavy “Gu” rains created a conducive environment for the breeding of another locust generation. These insects will become mature and form new swarms in July 2020, when most parts of the country will face the highest (“Danger”) locust risk level. However, large-scale control operations carried out by the Government, with the support of FAO, are currently being scaled-up and are mitigating the impact of the locusts on pastures and crops, and only localized production shortfalls are expected, mainly in Woqooyi Galbeed, Togdheer, Gedo, Bakool and northern parts of Bay regions.

According to the FAO Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU) and FEWS NET, the 2020 “Gu” output is forecast to be 15-25 percent below average as a result of the combined impact of the floods, locusts and insecurity.

Reduced 2019 cereal output due to drought conditions affecting main “Gu” harvest

Harvesting of the secondary 2019/20 “Deyr” season crops concluded last January, while the off-season harvest was gathered in March. The October-December 2019 rainy season was characterized by well above-average rainfall amounts, which boosted cereal yields, and the cereal output is estimated at 110 000 tonnes, nearly 30 percent above the average of the previous five years. However, flash floods and river overflowing resulted in localized but substantial damage to crops, especially maize in riverine areas. Losses due to locusts were minimal as most crops had already been harvested when the insects reached these areas. Earlier in the year, the “Karan” harvest gathered in November in northwestern areas was also above average due to favourable weather conditions.

By contrast, the major “Gu” harvest, gathered in July in central and southern areas, was severely affected by drought conditions during the first half of the April-June rainy season, which resulted in widespread germination failures. Cereal production is estimated at less than 40 000 tonnes, the lowest output since 1995 and about 60 percent below average.

As a result, aggregate cereal production in 2019 is estimated at about 185 000 tonnes, 22 percent down from the bumper 2018 output and 12 percent lower than the average of the previous five years. While sorghum production was 7 percent above average, driven by ample “Karan” and “Deyr” harvests, the output of maize was nearly 40 percent below the average of the previous five years due to drought conditions affecting the “Gu” harvests.

Despite localized pasture losses due to locusts, above-average rangeland conditions benefit livestock body conditions

In central and northern pastoral areas, above-average October-December 2019 “Deyr” rains, followed by abundant precipitation so far during the April-June 2020 “Gu” season, resulted in well above-average vegetation conditions (see Vegetation Health Index map). The heavy “Gu” rains replenished open water sources, *berkad* reservoirs, wells and boreholes, and prices of water declined in April to well below-average levels. Livestock body conditions, at average levels at the beginning of the rainy season, have subsequently improved due to the

Somalia

Cereal Production

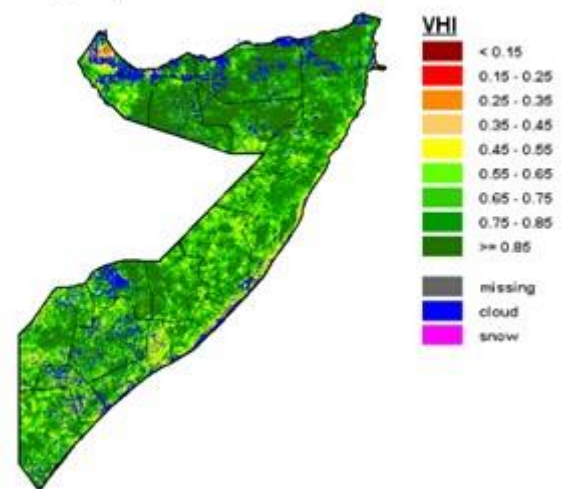
	2014-2018 average	2018	2019 estimate	change 2019/2018
	000 tonnes			percent
Sorghum	117	133	126	-5.4
Maize	91	101	57	-43.9
Rice (paddy)	2	2	2	0.0
Total	210	236	185	-21.9

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.

Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheet.

Somalia - Vegetation Health Index (VHI)

Dekad 1, May 2020



Source: FAO/GIEWS Earth Observation System.

above-average availability of pasture and water. Herd sizes are gradually increasing, but they are still below average due to the massive livestock losses incurred during the 2017 drought. Milk availability is also increasing, but it is still below average due to the low number of lactating animals following the low conception rates during the previous seasons.

The pastoral areas most affected by the current desert locust outbreak are northern Awdal, Bari and Sanaag regions and central Galgadud Region. So far, losses of pasture due to locusts have been localized as control measures and the regeneration of rangeland resources, due to abundant rains, prevented widespread damages. However, the risk of substantial losses remains high as locust reproduction continues and additional swarms can reach the country from neighbouring areas of Ethiopia and Kenya.

Cereal prices increasing in April amidst flood-related trade disruptions and panic-buying due to COVID-19 pandemic

Prices of locally produced maize and sorghum declined in early 2020 as the newly harvested “Deyr” crops increased supplies. Subsequently, maize and sorghum prices increased by 15-35 percent in several southern markets in April, as seasonal patterns were compounded by trade disruptions due to floods and by panic-buying in response to the COVID-19 emergency. Despite the recent increases, sorghum prices in April 2020 were still around their April 2019 levels in several markets due to adequate domestic availabilities, while prices of maize were generally higher than one year earlier due to a below-average 2019 production. Similarly, prices of imported rice, which were stable around their year-earlier levels in recent months, increased by 10-30 percent in April due to the higher prices on the international market, panic-buying and flood-related trade disruptions.

Prices of livestock have been increasing since late 2019, as body conditions improved with increasing pasture and water availability due to abundant seasonal rains. In April 2020, prices of goats were above their year-earlier levels as a result of improved animal conditions and of reduced market supplies. In northern and central areas, animal supply is still low due to below-average herd sizes, while in southern areas insecurity has disrupted marketing operations. The trends of terms of trade for pastoralists are mixed as in some markets the growth of livestock prices was outpaced by the recent increases in cereal prices.

Food insecurity sharply deteriorating in 2020

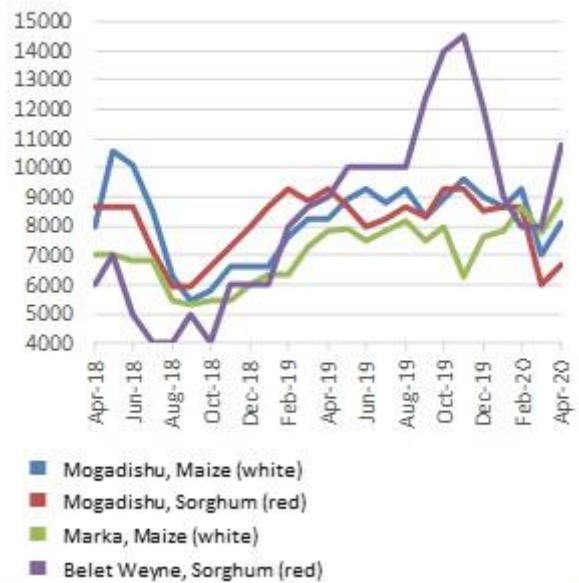
Since late 2019, the food security situation has been affected by several negative factors, including the desert locust outbreak, widespread floods and the COVID-19 pandemic. The negative impact of these shocks has been amplified by reduced household resilience due to insecurity and the lingering impact of previous droughts and floods. In particular, the COVID-19 pandemic is affecting the food security situation mainly through:

- Movement restrictions within the country resulting in reduced market availability, increasing prices of food and reduced labour opportunities, especially in urban areas.
- Reduced economic activity and containment measures in countries with large Somali diaspora populations causing a sharp decline in remittances.

Somalia

Selected retail cereal prices

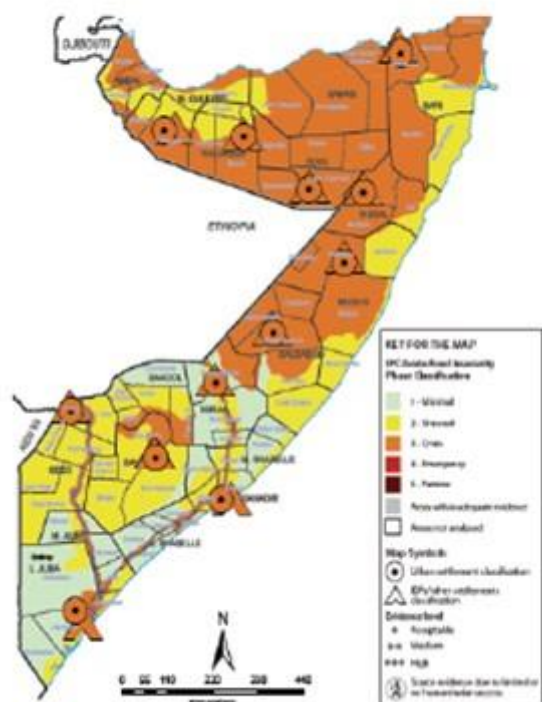
Somali Shilling per kg



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

Somalia – Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC)

Projection July-September 2020



- Reduced exports of livestock to Saudi Arabia caused by the suspension of the Hajj pilgrimage.

According to the latest FSNAU/FEWS NET analysis, about 2.7 million people are estimated to be severely food insecure (IPC Phase 3: “Crisis” and IPC Phase 4: “Emergency”) between April and June 2020. The number of people facing severe food insecurity is projected to increase to 3.5 million between July and September. This figure represents almost 30 percent of the total population and is more than three times the estimate of the food insecure people at the beginning of 2020. IPC Phase 3: “Crisis” levels of food insecurity are expected to prevail in most central and northern regions, in southern riverine areas along the Juba and Shabelle rivers and in IDP settlements. In southern riverine areas, in urban IDP settlements and in northwestern Awdal and Woqoyi Galbeed regions, some vulnerable households are expected to face IPC Phase 4: “Emergency” levels of food insecurity.

COVID-19 and measures adopted by the Government

Since early March 2020, the Federal Government of Somalia and Federal Member states have introduced a number of precautionary measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including:

- The ban of large gatherings to ensure social distancing.
- Closure of academic institutions and religious schools.
- Establishment of a curfew in Mogadishu.
- Suspension of international and national passenger flights.
- Closure of borders with Kenya and Ethiopia.

To mitigate the economic impact of these measures, especially on vulnerable households, the Government has introduced:

- A tax exemption on imported rice and dates.
- A 50 percent tax reduction on imported wheat flour and vegetable oil.

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GIEWS Country Brief Somalia

Reference Date: 23-May-2019

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

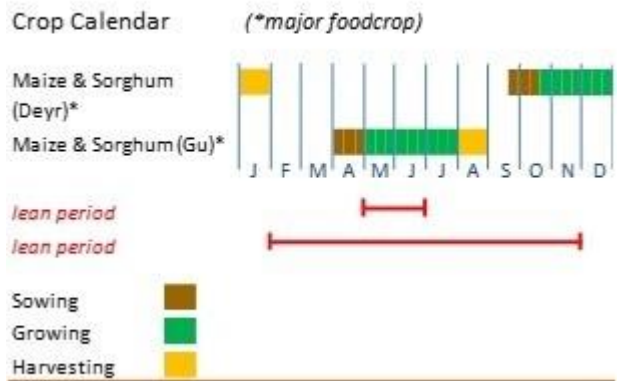
- Sharply deteriorating food security situation due to prolonged drought conditions
- About 2.2 million people estimated to be severely food insecure between July and September 2019, 40 percent up from early 2019
- “Gu” cereal production forecast at 40-50 percent below average due to drought conditions in main cropping areas
- Severe pasture and water shortages in agro-pastoral and pastoral areas affecting livestock conditions
- Access to food increasingly constrained for vulnerable households

Food insecurity sharply deteriorating due to prolonged drought conditions

Poor 2018 October-December “Deyr” rains, followed by a harsh January-March 2019 “Jilaal” dry season and by drought conditions during April and early May, resulted in significant crop and livestock production shortfalls. The insufficient domestic availabilities were compounded by a reduction in humanitarian assistance since early 2019, while food access has been severely affected in recent months by declining employment opportunities and low wage rates and by the escalation of conflict. In addition, the drought has induced widespread displacements, with nearly 45 000 individuals fleeing in 2019 from rural areas to urban centres. As a result, the food security situation is sharply deteriorating and, according to the results of the latest multi-agency assessment, about 2.2 million people are estimated to be severely food insecure (IPC Phase 3: “Crisis” and IPC Phase 4: “Emergency”) between July and September 2019. This figure represents almost 18 percent of the total population and is more than 40 percent higher than the estimate of food insecure people at the beginning of 2019. The areas with the highest levels of food insecurity are central Galgadud and Mudug regions and northern Nugal, Bari, Sool, Sanag, Awdal and Woqooyi Galbeed regions, where IPC Phase 4: “Emergency” levels are expected to prevail.

The international community is scaling up its response to prevent that the already alarming humanitarian situation could further deteriorate. In the framework of the 2019 Drought Response Plan, launched on 20 May, the Food Security Cluster aims to assist 4.5 million beneficiaries, between June and

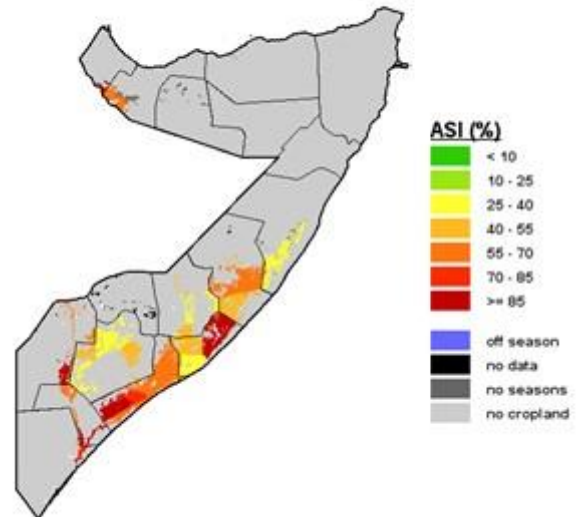
Somalia



Source: FAO/GIEWS.

Somalia - Agricultural Stress Index (ASI)

From start of season 1 to Dekad 2, May 2019



Source: FAO/GIEWS Earth Observation System.

December 2019, with a total requirement of USD 350 million, by providing:

- Immediate life-saving food assistance through unconditional in-kind and cash-based transfers in drought-affected areas.
- Emergency livestock asset protection through supplementary feeding, basic veterinary care and water trucking for animals.
- Emergency agricultural support to farmers through quality drought-tolerant seed varieties, tools, irrigation and cultivation services.
- Activities aimed to enhance household resilience to new shocks including infrastructure rehabilitation and training to increase household income.

Unfavourable prospects for upcoming 2019 “Gu” season harvest

In southern key cropping areas, the establishment and development of “Gu” (April-June) season crops, to be harvested in July 2019 and accounting for about 60 percent of the country's total annual cereal output, have been severely impacted by drought conditions prevailing in April and early May. The key maize producing Lower Shabelle Region has received only some scattered, well below-average rains in late April and early May. Heavy downpours in mid-May marginally improved vegetation conditions that remain very poor and, according to FAO’s Agricultural Stress Index (ASI), severe drought is currently affecting between 55 and 85 percent of the cropland. In the “sorghum belt” of Bay Region and eastern areas of neighbouring Gedo and Middle Juba regions, rains started in the third dekad of April with a delay of more than two weeks and cumulative seasonal precipitations have been so far 40-60 percent below average. Here, drought is now affecting 25-85 percent of the cropland in most areas. Severe dryness prevailed also in other cropping areas, including the “cowpea belt” in Middle Shabelle, Galgadud and Mudug regions. Very low water levels in the Shabelle and Juba rivers affected the irrigation of the maize crops in riverine areas. As of late April, proper germination was reported to have occurred only in less than one-third of the area planted to cereals. Precipitations in April and early May are crucial for the performance of the “Gu” crops as, in southern Somalia, they account for more than 50 percent of the cumulative seasonal rains. The heavy rains received in mid-May and rainfall forecasts, point to near-average to average precipitations for the remainder of the season are, therefore, not expected to significantly improve crop prospects. According to the FAO Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU) - Somalia and FEWS NET, the aggregate “Gu” output is forecast to be 40-50 percent below average. It would be the second consecutive poor harvest as the 2018/19 “Deyr” harvest, gathered last January, was more than 20 percent below average due to inadequate precipitations.

Severe pasture and water shortages in pastoral areas affecting livestock conditions

The impact of the poor 2018 October-December “Deyr” rains, followed by a harsh January-March 2019 “Jilaal” dry season and by severe dryness during April and early May, affected southern agro-pastoral areas and central-northern pastoral areas. Most of these regions remained almost completely dry until mid-May. As a result, rangeland conditions were very poor, with widespread pasture and water shortages, leading to a sharp decline in livestock body conditions. In central and northern regions, severe

Somalia

Cereal Production

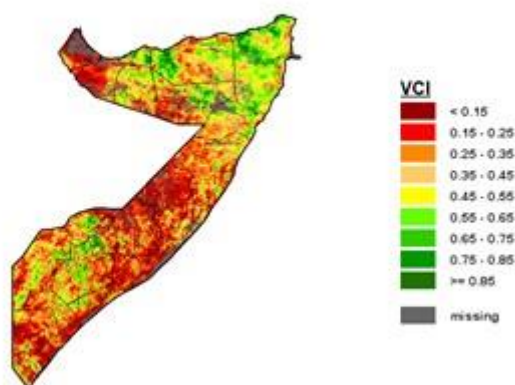
	2013-2017 average	2017	2018 estimate	change 2018/2017
	000 tonnes			percent
Sorghum	116	95	132	38.6
Maize	96	77	102	32.1
Rice (paddy)	2	2	2	0.0
Total	214	174	236	35.3

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.

Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheet.

Somalia - Vegetation Condition Index (VCI)

April 2019

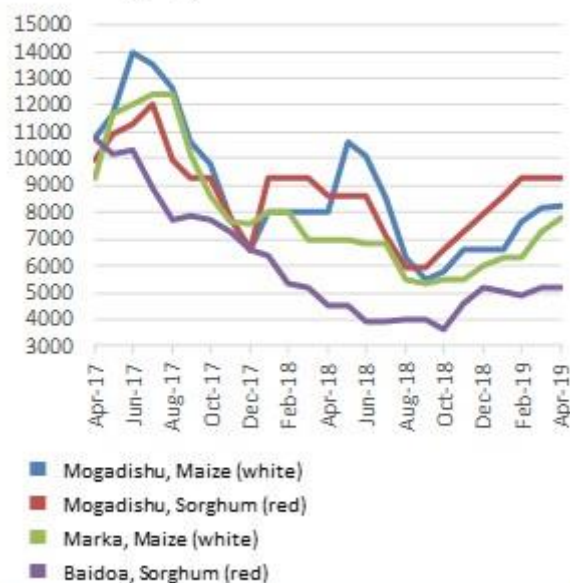


Source: FAO/GIEWS Earth Observation System.

Somalia

Selected retail cereal prices

Somali Shilling per kg



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

animal emaciation prevails and drought-induced livestock diseases, abortions and deaths were reported in central Galgaduud and in northern Bari and Sanaag regions. In these areas, herders that were unable to provide feed and water for their animals opted to cull offspring in order to save milk-producing females. The recent livestock deaths are of particular concern as herd sizes are already at well below-average levels due to the massive losses induced by the 2016/17 drought. Heavy late season precipitations received in the second dekad of May had some positive impacts on rangeland conditions, but these limited improvements will be short-lived as seasonal rains usually subside in late May.

Significant food access constraints despite generally low cereal prices

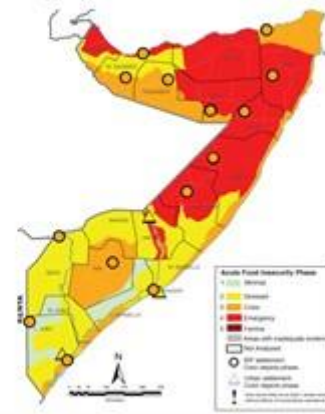
Prices of locally produced sorghum and maize increased in southern key markets, including the capital, Mogadishu, by 15-25 percent between January and April. The increase was driven mainly by the early depletion of stocks from the reduced “Deyr” output and by concerns over the performance of the upcoming “Gu” harvest. Despite the recent increases, cereal prices remained around their year-earlier levels in several markets, as stable supplies from neighbouring Ethiopia limited the upward pressure. However, poor households are facing significant food access constraints as declining employment opportunities and low wage rates in crop-producing areas are affecting purchasing power. In addition, extremely high prices of water are limiting other expenses, including purchases of food.

In the first months of 2019, prices of livestock increased in most markets, mainly due to reduced market supplies, as the numbers of saleable animals with good body conditions are very low. In Galkayo, one of the main livestock markets in the Horn of Africa, prices of goats increased by about 15 percent between January and April. Terms of trade for pastoralists remained mostly stable in recent months as the rates of increase of livestock prices were similar to those of cereal prices. However, this livelihood activity is not viable, as pastoralists have to repopulate their herds.

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Somalia - Integrated Food Security Phase Classification

Projection July-September 2019



Source: FSNAU – FEWS NET



GIEWS Country Brief Somalia

Reference Date: 26-November-2018

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

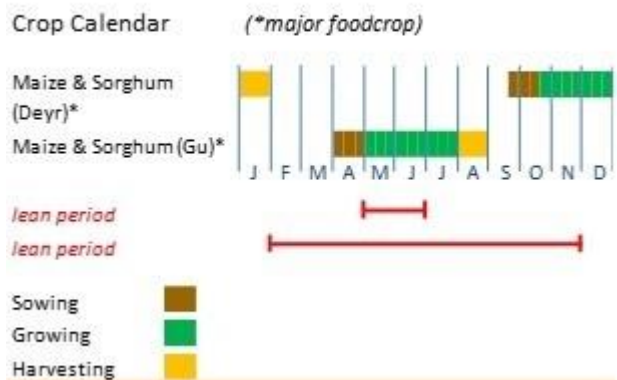
- Unfavourable prospects for 2018 “deyr” crops in key southern cropping areas due to poor seasonal rains
- “Gu” 2018 main season cereal production estimated at 147 000 tonnes, about 60 percent above average, due to abundant seasonal rains
- Above average “gu” rains supported substantial recovery of rangeland and livestock body conditions
- Prices of coarse grains declined to low levels in recent months following local harvests and sustained food assistance operations
- Livestock prices sharply increased in 2018 due to improving animal body conditions and low market supplies
- Food security situation markedly improved in 2018 due to increased food production and large scale humanitarian assistance, but 1.56 million people still severely food insecure

Poor rains affect prospects for 2018 “deyr” season crops

In several southern and central cropping areas, the establishment and development of “deyr” (October-December) season crops, to be harvested in January 2019 and typically accounting for about 40 percent of the total annual cereal output have been heavily impacted by severe rainfall deficits. October and the first half of November were almost completely dry, with some scattered rains received only during the third dekad of October and the second dekad of November. In the main maize-producing areas of Lower and Middle Shabelle regions, according to FAO’s Agricultural Stress Index (ASI), vegetation conditions in mid-November were very poor, with up to 85 percent of cropland affected by drought. Comparatively better growing conditions prevailed in the “sorghum belt” in Bay and Bakool regions and in the “cowpea belt” in Galgaduud and Mudug regions, where cowpeas are usually intercropped with sorghum, as the intermittent showers received were more intense. However, failure of cowpea crops is reported in central and southern parts of Mudug State (Hobyo and El-bur districts). With seasonal rains normally subsiding by early December, recovery of “deyr” crops in drought-affected areas is unlikely and overall crop prospects are unfavourable.

Earlier in the year, the April-June “gu” season rains were the heaviest in nearly two decades in southern and central regions.

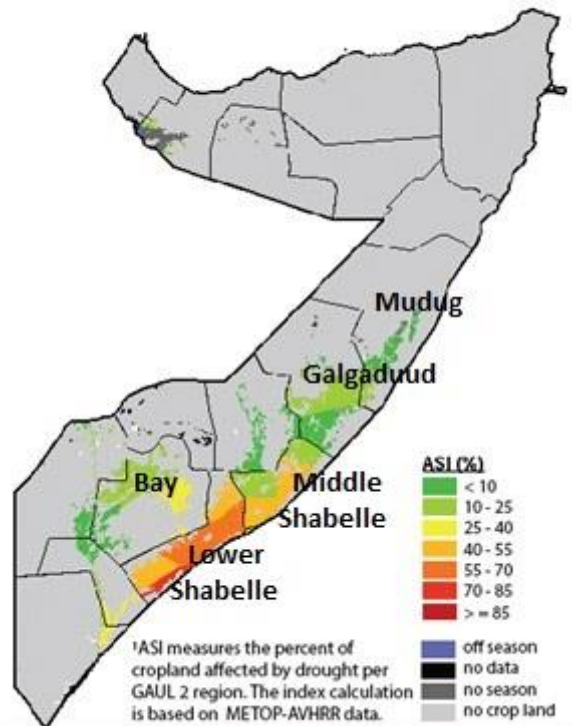
Somalia



Source: FAO/GIEWS.

Somalia - Agricultural Stress Index (ASI)¹

from start of Season 2 to dekad 2, November 2018



Source: FAO/GIEWS Earth Observation System.

The abundant precipitations resulted in significant flood-induced crop losses, but had an overall favourable impact on the cereal output, boosting yields in rainfed areas and inducing farmers to expand plantings of off-season crops harvested in September in riverine areas. As a result, the 2018 aggregate “gu” cereal production is estimated at 147 000 tonnes, almost 60 percent above the average of the previous five years. By contrast, in the northwestern Woqooyi Galbeed Region, the 2018 “gu/karan” harvest, currently underway, has been affected by erratic rains and stalk borer infestations, and cereal production is forecast at a low 19 000 tonnes, 56 percent below average.

Abundant “gu” rains supported drought recovery in pastoral areas

In most agro-pastoral and pastoral areas, where rangeland and livestock conditions were heavily impacted by prolonged and severe drought between mid-2016 and late 2017, the favourable April-June “gu” rainy season offset the accumulated moisture deficits and prompted a substantial regeneration of rangeland resources. Improvements were more significant in southern and central regions, while in northern regions, where the drought has been more severe, the recovery was less substantial and vegetation conditions remained below average in some areas. The increase in water and pasture availability resulted in a substantial improvement in livestock body conditions and allowed animal conception and reproduction. However, with livestock numbers estimated to have decreased by 25-75 percent in 2017 due to drought-induced losses, herds remain below average. The abundant April-June rains had lasting effects on vegetation conditions across the country, as of mid-November, despite the poor rains at start of the 2018 “deyr” season, rangeland conditions were good in most agro-pastoral, and pastoral areas (see ASI map for grassland).

Access to food improving in recent months

Prices of locally produced sorghum and maize declined in southern key markets, including the capital, Mogadishu, by 10-50 percent between May and September, as newly harvested crops increased supplies. Subsequently, prices began to seasonally increase in October in Mogadishu, while they levelled off or continued to decline in other markets. Prices in October were up to 50 percent below the levels of one year earlier, due to the above-average 2018 “gu” production and sustained food assistance operations. This, coupled with increasing wage rates due to improved agricultural labour opportunities following the abundant “gu” rains, resulted in an improvement in food access. However, food access constraints persist in the northwestern Woqooyi Galbeed Region, where prices of maize are at high levels due to a reduced “gu/karan” 2018 production. In the southern Middle Juba Region, heavy fighting between Government forces and insurgents in July and August disrupted agricultural operations and resulted in a sharp decline in labour opportunities and wage rates.

In 2018, prices of livestock increased across the country due to generally improved animal body conditions and lower supplies resulting from severe losses during the 2016/17 drought, and currently they are at very high levels. In Galkayo, one of the main livestock markets in the Horn of Africa, prices of goats in October were 70 percent above their year-earlier levels. Prices of camel milk are also generally high due to reduced supplies and prices in October in Galkayo were about 50 percent higher than 12 months earlier.

Somalia

Cereal Production

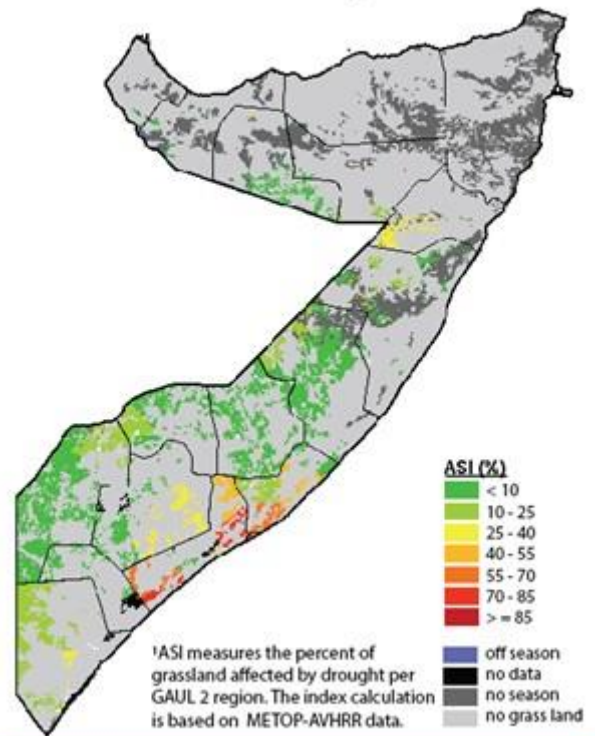
	2013-2017 average	2017	2018 forecast	change 2018/2017
	000 tonnes			percent
Sorghum	116	95	136	42.8
Maize	96	77	110	42.5
Rice (paddy)	2	2	2	0.0
Total	214	174	248	42.2

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.

Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheet.

Somalia - Agricultural Stress Index (ASI)¹

from start of Season 2 to dekad 2, November 2018



Source: FAO/GIEWS Earth Observation System.

As a result of increasing livestock prices and declining cereal prices, terms of trade for pastoralists significantly improved over the last 12 months. In Galkayo, the equivalent in maize of one medium-size goat was about 120 kg in October, more than twice compared to one year earlier. However, these food access gains are largely potential, as herders are engaged in repopulating their herds and have few animals to sell.

Food security markedly improved in 2018, but still 1.56 million people remain severely food insecure

The food security situation has steadily improved in 2018 and, according to the results of the latest multi-agency assessment, about 1.56 million people are estimated to be severely food insecure (IPC Phases 3, 4, 5). This caseload is about half the estimate of 12 months earlier due to above-average “gu” production, increased labour and income opportunities, and sustained, large-scale humanitarian assistance. However, humanitarian needs still remain substantial, with approximately 13 percent of the total population still requiring humanitarian assistance, mainly reflecting the lingering effects of the 2016/17 drought. Current food insecurity is also driven by livelihood losses caused by floods in April-May 2018 and by the large-scale displacements resulting from conflicts and natural hazards. In particular, IDPs represent nearly 60 percent of the food insecure caseload, with about 217 000 displaced people facing IPC Phase 5: “Catastrophe” levels of food insecurity in Hargeisa (Woqooyi Galbeed Region), Burao (Togdheer Region) Bossaso (Bari Region), Beletweine (Hiraan Region) and in the capital, Mogadishu. Serious concerns exist also for the food security situation in agro-pastoral areas in southern Lower Juba Region and in northern Awdal, Sanag, Sool and Bari regions, where up to 40 percent of the total population is estimated to be severely food insecure.

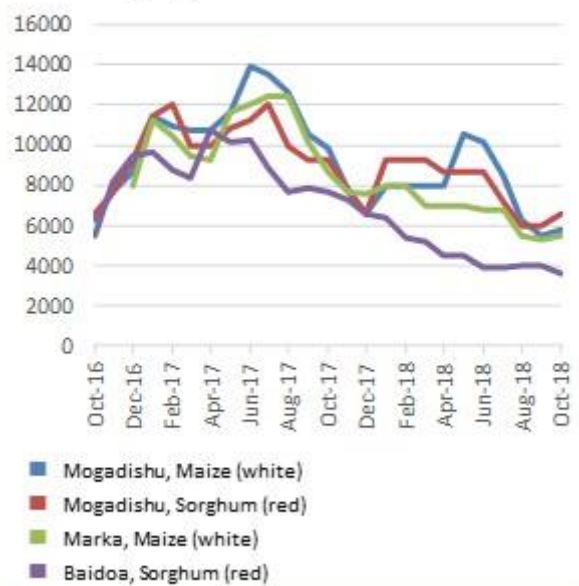
Despite access constraints due to insecurity, large-scale humanitarian assistance has been instrumental in preventing more severe food insecurity levels, particularly in areas where households’ assets have been critically depleted by the 2016/2017 drought. On average, about 2 million beneficiaries per month were assisted between July and September, mitigating the overall food insecurity.

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Somalia

Selected retail cereal prices

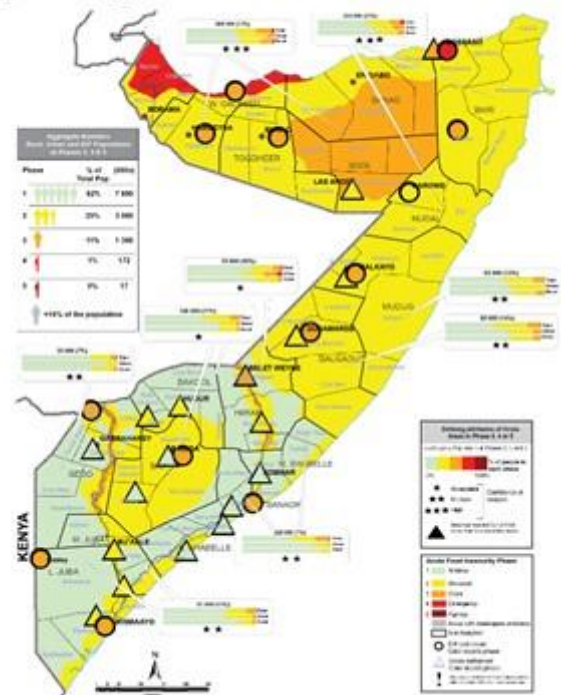
Somali Shilling per kg



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

Somalia - Integrated Food Security Phase Classification

Projection August – December 2018



Source: FAO/GIEWS Earth Observation System.



GIEWS Country Brief Somalia

Reference Date: 15-March-2018

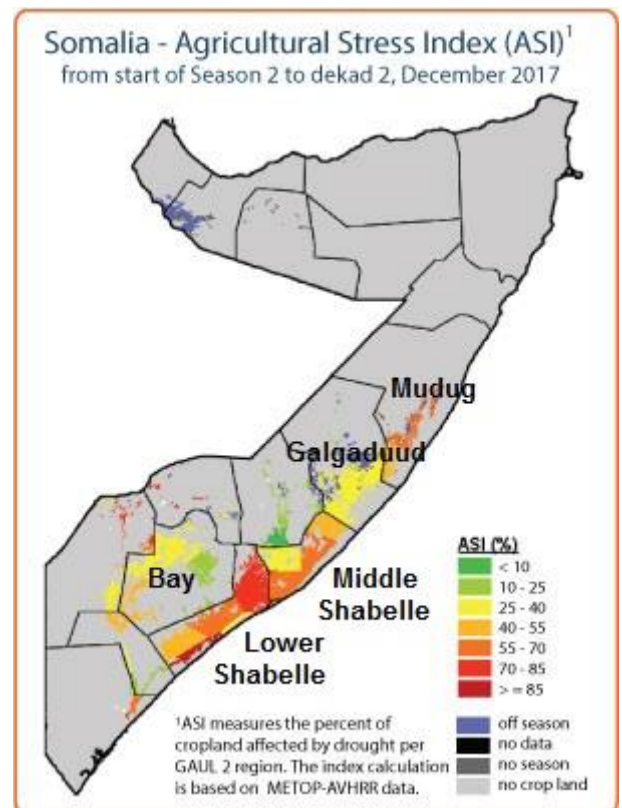
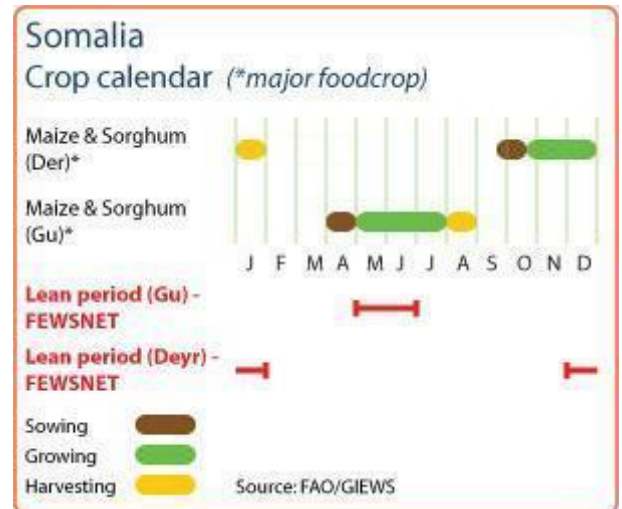
FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Reduced 2017 “deyr” harvest due to erratic rainfall
- Aggregate 2017 cereal production estimated at 174 000 tonnes, 23 percent up from record low 2016 output but still 26 percent below-average
- After consecutive poor rainy seasons since mid-2016, heavy rains in November 2017 supported partial recovery of rangeland and livestock body conditions
- Prices of coarse grains declined in second half of 2017 following local harvests and sustained food assistance operations
- Prices of livestock sharply increased in recent months mostly due to low supply following severe drought-induced animal losses
- Food security situation improving and risk of famine declining since early 2018 due to sustained humanitarian assistance, but 2.7 million individuals remain severely food insecure

Reduced 2017 “deyr” season harvest due to erratic rainfall

Harvesting of 2017 secondary “deyr” crops was completed in February in central and southern regions, where it typically accounts for about 40 percent of the total annual cereal output. The October-December 2017 rains had a below-average performance over most cropping areas, with the most severe rainfall deficits recorded over the main maize-producing areas in Lower Shabelle Region. Here the rainy season was characterized by severe dryness in October 2017, heavy precipitations in November (with about 60 percent of the cumulative seasonal rainfall being received only during the first dekad) and by an early cessation in late November, critically constraining yields. Comparatively better growing conditions prevailed in the “sorghum belt” in Bay Region, in the agro-pastoral areas of Bakool and Middle Shabelle regions and in the “cowpea belt” in Galgaduud and Mudug regions, where cowpeas are usually intercropped with sorghum. Overall, the 2017 “deyr” cereal production is estimated at 78 100 tonnes, over 20 percent below the average of the previous five years.

Earlier in the year, the “karan” harvest, gathered in November 2017 in northern regions and the major “gu” harvest, harvested in July in central and southern regions, also had a below-average performance as inadequate amounts and erratic



distribution of seasonal rains negatively impacted yields.

Aggregate 2017 cereal production is estimated at 174 000 tonnes, about 26 percent below the average of the previous five years.

Land preparation for the planting of 2018 “gu” season crops is underway in central and southern regions and seasonal rains are expected to start soon in March. Below-average precipitations are forecast in most central and inland regions, while average to above-average rainfall amounts are expected over southern and northern coastal areas.

Heavy rains in November 2017 supported a partial recovery of rangeland and livestock conditions

In pastoral areas, where rangeland and livestock conditions were severely affected by consecutive poor rainy seasons since mid-2016, heavy rains in November 2017 supported some pasture regeneration, improving livestock body conditions in most pastoral areas, except in some northern parts, including Awdal and Woqooyi Galbeed regions, where drought conditions persisted.

Despite the general improvement in livestock body conditions, animal reproduction and availability of livestock products remain generally low, as more than one year of drought resulted in a sharp reduction of herd sizes. Due to distress sales and high animal mortality rates, pastoralists have lost between 25 and 75 percent of their herds in 2017. In addition, improvements in rangeland conditions have been limited, as the rains did not continue into December and the “jilaal” January-March dry season had an early start.

Access to food improving in recent months but still constrained for most households

Prices of locally produced maize and sorghum declined by 20-40 percent in the second semester of 2017 in most monitored markets as “gu” crops and sustained food assistance operations increased supplies. Prices increased in January 2018 in some markets, including the capital, Mogadishu, subsequently levelling off or beginning to decline in February as newly harvested “deyr” crops increased supplies. Prices of coarse grains in February were 15-40 percent below the high levels a year earlier, when drought conditions seriously affected crop production, but still up to 55 percent above the normal levels of 24 months earlier.

Prices of livestock increased in recent months due to lower supplies resulting from severe livestock losses and currently, they are at high levels in most monitored markets. In Galkayo, one of the main livestock markets in the Horn of Africa, located in the Mudug Region, prices of goats and camels doubled between July 2017 and February 2018. Prices of milk are also generally high due to reduced supplies. In Galkayo, February prices of camel milk were about 35 percent above their year-earlier levels.

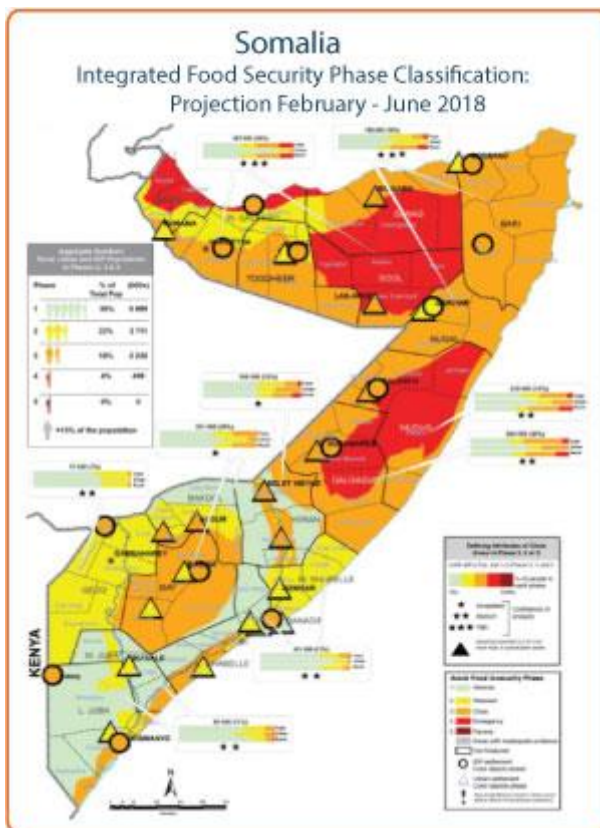
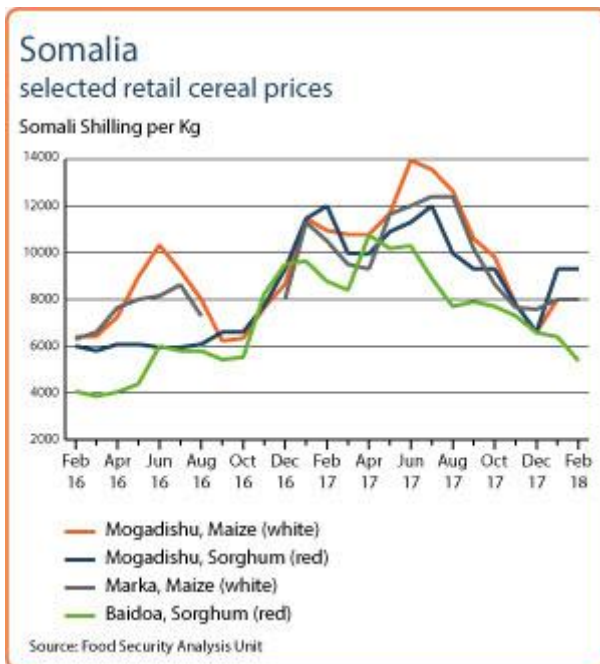
As a result of increasing livestock prices and declining cereal prices, terms of trade for pastoralists significantly improved over the last 12 months. In Mogadishu, the equivalent in maize of one medium-size goat was 213 kg in February, more than double compared to one year earlier. However, these potential food access gains are unlikely to be translated in to solid food security improvements, as herders are engaged in repopulating their

Somalia

Cereal production

	2012-2016	2016	2017 estimate	change
	average			2017/2016
	000 tonnes			percent
Sorghum	134	80	95	19
Maize	100	60	77	28
Rice (paddy)	2	2	2	0
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	236	142	174	23

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



herds, have very few animals to sell and incomes from this livelihood activity is reported to be very limited.

Food security improved since early 2018, but 2.7 million people still require assistance

Since early 2018, the food security situation improved and the risk of famine declined due to the delivery of large-scale humanitarian assistance and the availability of newly harvested “deyr” crops. According to the latest multi-agency assessment, about 2.7 million people, more than one-fifth of the total population, are currently estimated to be severely food insecure (IPC Phases 3: “Crisis” and 4: “Emergency”), about 15 percent less than the estimated caseload in late 2017. However, the current caseload is still almost three times the estimate of mid-2016, reflecting the dramatic impact on the local livelihoods of consecutive poor rainy seasons. The areas of major concern are central regions of Bay, Hiraan, Mudug and Galgadud and northern regions of Sanag and Sool, where 30-45 percent of the population is severely food insecure.

Drought-related displacements declined significantly in the second semester of 2017, when 190 000 people were displaced compared to 649 000 during the first semester. However, it is reported that only 44 000 individuals have returned to their places of origin between July and December 2017 and the displaced caseload is currently estimated at high 2.7 million.

Despite access constraints due to insecurity, humanitarian assistance has been substantially scaled up in the second semester of 2017, with the monthly number of assisted beneficiaries increasing from half a million individuals in January to 2.2 million in October-December 2017, mitigating the overall food insecurity and averting IPC Phase 5: “Famine” in the worst affected areas.

In addition to emergency life-saving assistance, a timely and effective support to the agricultural sector is required to mitigate the extent of the impact of the prolonged drought on pastoralist and agro-pastoralist livelihoods. To respond to the needs of the crisis-hit herders and farmers, FAO aims to assist 2.7 million individuals in 2018, appealing for USD 236 million.

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GIEWS Country Brief Somalia

Reference Date: 27-June-2017

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

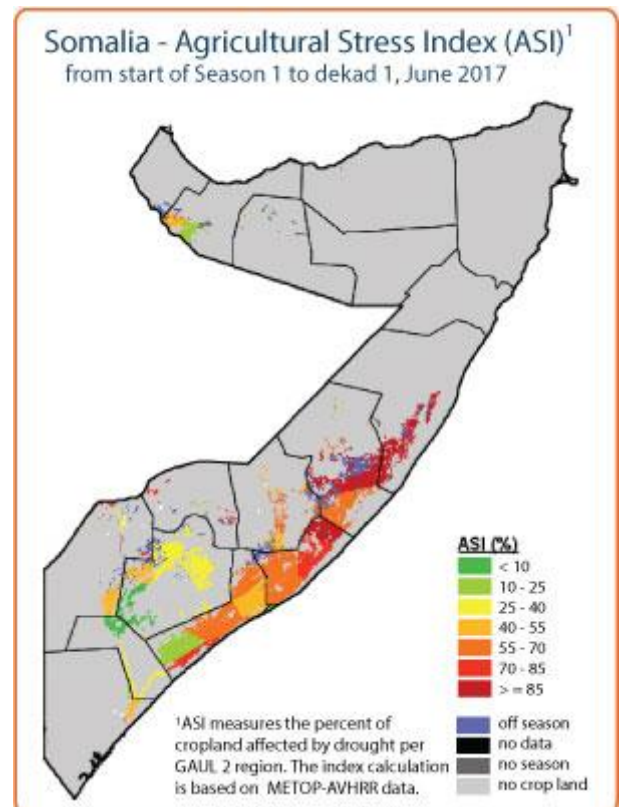
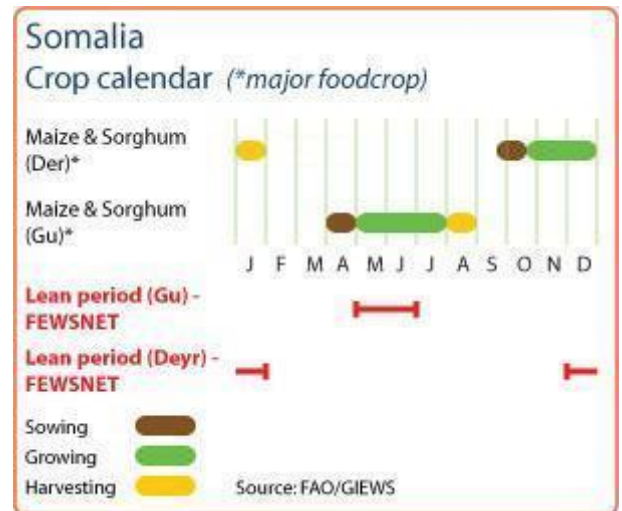
- Unfavourable prospects for upcoming 2017 “gu” season harvest due to below-average and erratic rainfall
- Severe pasture and water shortages in most pastoral areas affecting livestock conditions
- Access to food increasingly constrained for most households
- About 3.2 million individuals estimated to be severely food insecure

Unfavourable prospects for upcoming 2017 “gu” season harvest due to below-average and erratic rainfall

The April-June “gu” rainy season has been characterized by a delayed onset, poor rainfall amounts and erratic distribution over most cropping areas. In the Lower Shabelle Region, the main maize-producing area, cumulative seasonal rainfall was about 50 percent below-average and, according to FAO’s Agricultural Stress Index (ASI), drought conditions are currently affecting up to 85 percent of the crop land (see ASI map). In the “sorghum belt” in Bay Region, rainfall amounts were near-average, but precipitations were unevenly distributed in time, with delayed onset and early cessation. Here, ASI indicates that up to 55 percent of the crop land is affected by drought. As “hagaa” coastal rains in July-August are not expected to support the development of late-planted crops which have been affected by dry conditions in June, a yield recovery of the “gu” crops, to be harvested by August 2017, is highly unlikely.

Agricultural activities have been affected by the depletion of productive assets, lack of seeds and other agricultural inputs, protracted and widespread insecurity as well as large-scale population displacements. Between November 2016 and May 2017, about 740 000 persons were displaced due to the drought or drought-related factors.

Production prospects are generally unfavourable and may lead to a third consecutive reduced cereal production, after the poor “deyr” harvest gathered last January and the reduced 2016 “gu” output.



Severe pasture and water shortages in most pastoral areas affecting livestock conditions

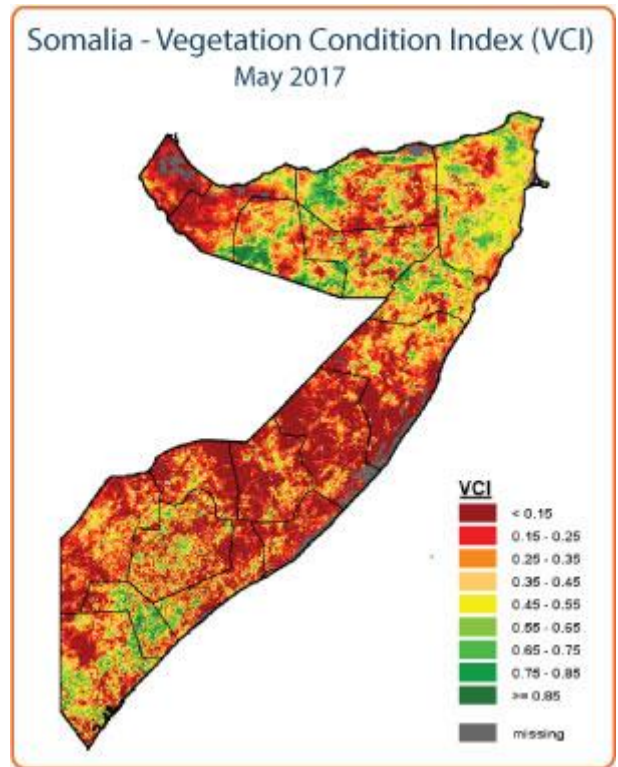
In pastoral areas, where pasture and water availability were affected by the poor October-December “deyr” rains, a harsh “jilaal” dry season, with 10-25 percent higher than normal land surface temperatures, had a further negative impact on rangeland resources. Subsequently, the “gu” rainy season performed poorly, with the most severe rainfall deficits recorded in central Galgaduud, Mudug and Middle Shabelle regions, where the cumulative rainfall between April and mid-June was 60-80 percent lower than the long-term average. In these areas, current pasture conditions are significantly below average (see Vegetation Condition Index map). Although recent rains in May supported some pasture re-generation, these improvements are limited and will be short-lived as the rains did not continue into June and the “xagaa” July-September dry season is about to start. As a result of the persisting pasture and water shortages, livestock body conditions are poor, with low milk productivity and birth rates. In the areas most affected by drought, herds are estimated to have shrunk by 40 to 60 percent since December 2016 due to mortality and distress sales.

Access to food increasingly constrained for most households

Prices of locally-produced maize and sorghum surged by about 80 percent in the last quarter of 2016 in the main markets of the south. In the capital, Mogadishu, prices remained firm in recent months due to ongoing food assistance operations. In Marka and Baidoa markets, located in the key-producing Lower Shabelle and Bay regions, prices of maize and sorghum declined by about 15 percent in January-February following the “deyr” harvest, but the trend was reversed in the following months, as they surged by 25-30 percent in April-May. In May, overall prices of coarse grains in central and southern Somalia were up to twice their levels of 12 months earlier.

Prices of livestock in May were significantly lower than 12 months earlier in most markets of the country as a result of deteriorated body conditions. By contrast, prices of milk are at high levels due to reduced local supply. In Galkayo, one of the main livestock markets in the Horn of Africa, located in the Mudug Region, prices of goats and camels in May were 25 and 45 percent, respectively, lower than 12 months earlier. Similarly, in Middle Juba Region, prices of goats in May 2017 were less than half compared to the level of May 2016. In Hiraan, Lower Juba and Mudug regions, May prices of milk were 20-50 percent above their year-earlier levels.

As a result of declining livestock prices and increasing cereal prices, terms of trade for pastoralists sharply deteriorated over the last 12 months. For example, the equivalent in maize of one medium-size goat declined in Middle Juba from 97 kg in May 2016 to 30 kg in May 2017. In Mogadishu, unskilled labour wages rates sharply decreased over the last 12 months as the sustained immigration from drought-affected rural areas resulted in increased competition for available labour opportunities. Here, the maize/labour terms of trade declined by about 65 percent over the same period, indicating severe food access constraints also for urban consumers.

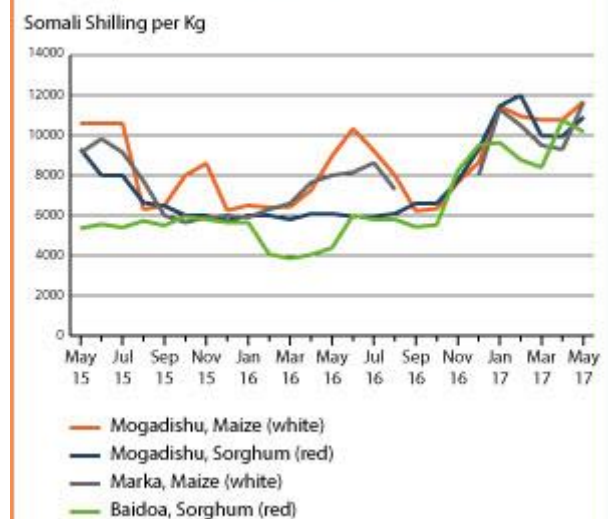


Somalia Cereal production

	2011-2015 average	2015	2016 estimate	change 2016/2015
	000 tonnes			percent
Sorghum	147	146	80	-45
Maize	110	116	60	-48
Rice (paddy)	2	2	2	0
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	259	264	142	-46

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

Somalia selected retail cereal prices



Source: Food Security Analysis Unit

Food security situation further deteriorated in recent months

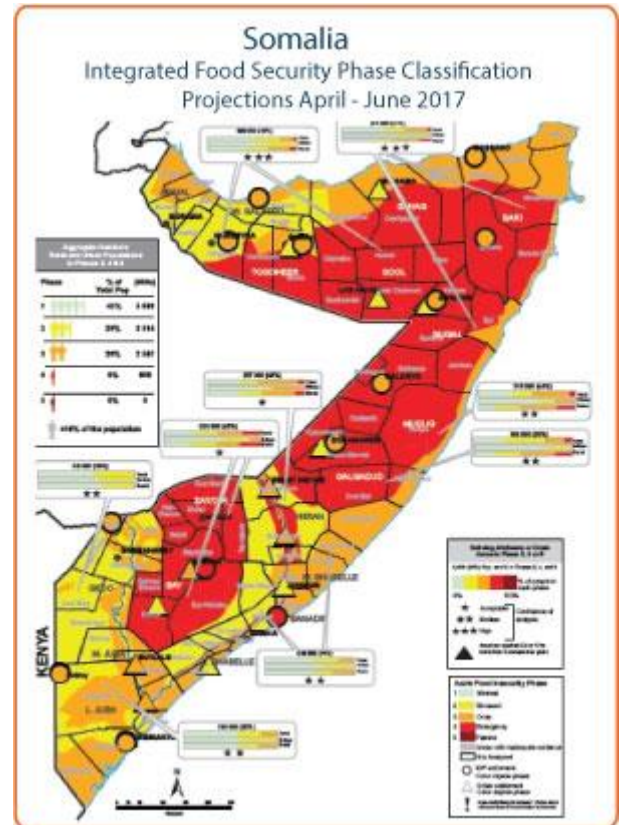
The already dire food situation further deteriorated in recent months due to the impact of the harsh dry season and to the poor performance of the “gu” rainy season on food availability and access in pastoral and agro-pastoral livelihoods.

Currently, 3.2 million individuals are estimated to be facing crisis and emergency food insecurity conditions, 10 percent more than in February, when the caseload escalated to 2.9 million due to the failed “deyr” rainy season. The food security situation has significantly deteriorated in central Nugal, Galkayo, Mudug, Galgadud, Hiran and Bakool regions, where “gu” rains were particularly poor. These regions, classified in February 2017 as IPC Phase 3: “Crisis”, are currently classified as IPC Phase 4: “Emergency”.

Despite access constraints due to insecurity, humanitarian assistance has been substantially scaled up during the first quarter of 2017, reaching approximately half million people in January, 1.1 million in February and nearly 1.8 million in March, mitigating overall food insecurity and averting IPC Phase 5: “Famine” in the worst affected areas.

To respond to the needs of the crisis-hit herders and farmers, FAO aims to assist 840 000 individuals in 2017, appealing for USD 160 million. As of May 2017, USD 99 million (62 percent of the requirement) were funded.

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GIEWS Country Brief Somalia

Reference Date: 22-November-2016

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Unfavourable prospects for “deyr” crops in most central and southern cropping areas
- Below-average grazing resources with worsening livestock body conditions and decreasing milk production, increased livestock deaths and low livestock prices
- Cereal prices firm at high levels in several markets and likely to increase in coming months
- Over 1.1 million people estimated to be severely food insecure

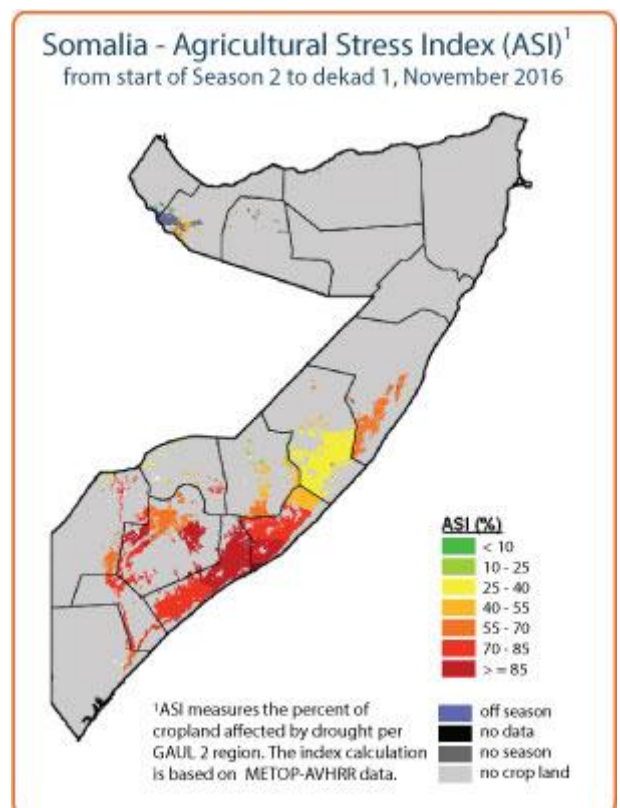
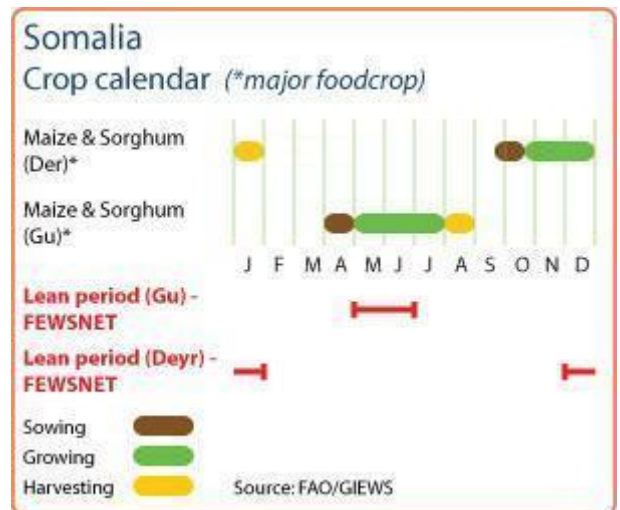
Late and erratic rains affect prospects for 2016 “deyr” season crops

Planting operations of the 2016/17 secondary “deyr” season crops have just been concluded in southern and central producing areas and the planted area is estimated at well below-average levels. The onset of the October-to-December rainfall season has been late by almost three dekads and precipitations have been characterized by poor amounts and erratic distribution. Early-planted crops in Bay, Bakool and Hiraan regions are reported to be severely affected by the ongoing extreme moisture stress levels. The FAO Agricultural Stress Index (ASI) for the first dekad of November 2016 indicates a significant risk of drought conditions developing in most southern and central cropping areas (see ASI map). With rainfall usually expected to taper off towards the end of November/early December, the recovery of the “deyr” crops is very unlikely and overall production prospects are highly unfavourable.

Aggregate 2016/17 cereal production (including the 2016 below-average “gu” and “karan” season crops harvested in July/August in addition to a forecast for the 2016/17 “deyr” season crops, to be harvested early next year), is put at about 160 000 tonnes, about 38 percent below the average of the last five years. Cereal import requirements for the 2016/17 marketing year (June/July) are forecast at a high level of 750 000 tonnes. The country has been able to import, commercially, between 350 000 and 550 000 tonnes (mainly wheat and rice) during the last five years.

Grazing resources deteriorate in most southern and central areas

General conditions of grazing resources are significantly below average in most southern and central regions (see NDVI anomaly map). Pasture and water availability failed to be adequately



restored during the April-to-June “gu” season due to poor rains and were further depleted during the hot, dry and windy July-to-September “xagaa” season. In these regions, livestock body conditions have gradually worsened with declining milk productivity and birth rates. The high influx of livestock in flood plains of riverine areas of Shabelle and Juba valleys is quickly exhausting local pasture availability.

Increasing food access constrains for most households

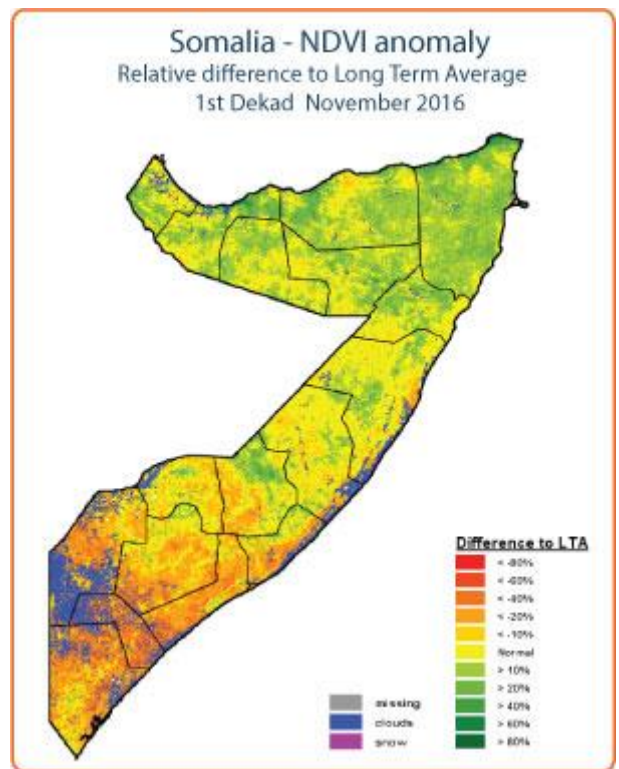
In the capital, Mogadishu, prices of locally-produced maize decreased by about 40 percent since June at the peak of the lean season. By contrast, in most markets of southern key-producing areas, prices of coarse grains remained firm in recent months as the “gu” production was significantly reduced by erratic rainfall. October prices of coarse grains were higher than their year-earlier levels in several markets. The highest year-on-year increases are recorded in Beletweyne and Hudur markets, where the tight supply situation is compounded by trade disruptions caused by insecurity and sorghum prices in October were 77 and 45 percent higher than 12 months earlier, respectively. Prices are expected to increase in the coming months as normal seasonal patterns are likely to be compounded by earlier-than-usual depletion of stocks from the reduced “gu” harvest and concerns over the performance of the “deyr” harvest. Prices of imported rice were stable in recent months at around or below the levels of one year earlier in several monitored markets, while they increased in the markets affected by trade disruptions, including Galkayo, Beletweyne and Hudur, where in October they were up to 25 percent higher than 12 months earlier.

Prices of livestock in October were significantly lower than 12 month earlier in most markets of the country, as a result of deteriorated body conditions, while prices of milk are at high levels due to reduced supply. For instance, in Middle Juba, Lower Juba and Middle Shabelle regions, average prices of goats in October were about 25 percent lower than one year earlier, while in Bay and Gedo prices of milk were about 30 percent above their year-earlier levels. As a result of declining livestock prices and firm cereal prices, terms of trade for pastoralists deteriorated by up to 50 percent over the last 12 months. In particular, the equivalent in maize of one medium size goat declined in Lower Juba from 145 kg in October 2015 to 73 kg in October 2016. In Mogadishu, where cereal prices declined in recent months, unskilled labour wages rates decreased more significantly, due to reduced employment opportunities: as a result, maize/labour terms of trade declined by about 10 percent over the last 12 months, indicating increasing food access constrains also for urban consumers.

Worsening food security in northern regions

Over 1.1 million people are estimated to face acute food insecurity conditions as a consequence of the below average 2016 “gu” season crop, harvested in July/August, coupled with trade disruptions and recurrent population displacements.

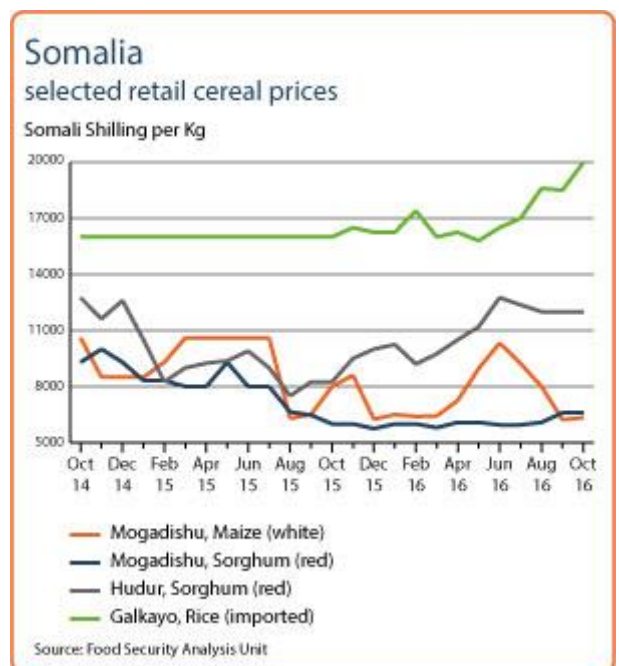
The late and erratic start of the “deyr” rains has also worsened food security conditions of pastoral households through reduced livestock prices and milk availability. The situation is expected to start improving as rains restore pasture resources, while more significant improvements will take place by the end of the year with the commercialization of the newly-harvested “deyr” crops. However, as the “deyr” harvest is forecast at well below-average levels, food security conditions are expected to quickly worsen



Somalia
Cereal production

	2011-2015 average	2015	2016 forecast	change 2016/2015
	000 tonnes			percent
Sorghum	147	146	90	-38
Maize	110	116	70	-40
Rice (paddy)	2	2	2	0
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	259	264	162	-39

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



during the first quarter of 2017 with households running out of their own stocks and relying mainly on the markets to satisfy their food requirements.

IDPs account for nearly 60 percent of the severely food insecure caseolad, while the remaining 40 percent are mostly poor urban and rural residents, including those in pastoral and agro-pastoral areas of northern Somalia (Awdal, Woqyi Galbeed and Bari regions), that suffer the continuing effects of severe dry weather conditions during the last two to three rainy seasons.



GIEWS Country Brief Somalia

Reference Date: 03-May-2016

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

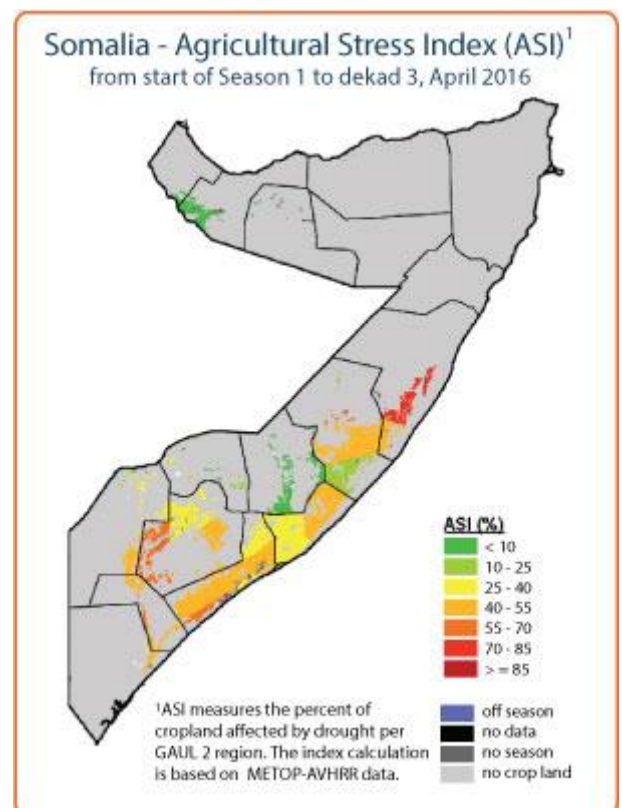
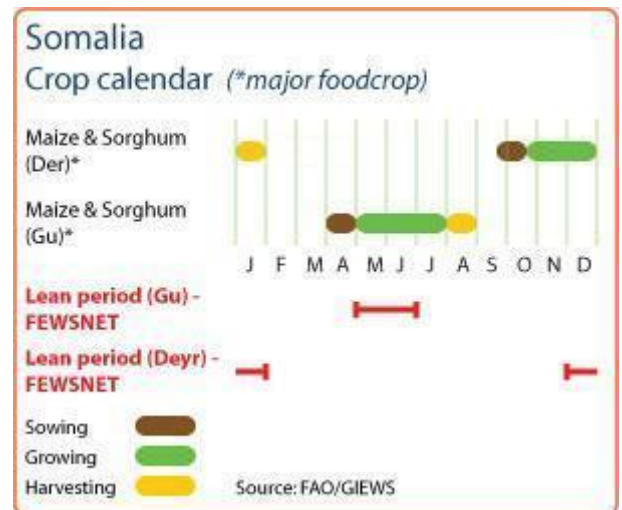
- Delayed planting activities in central and southern cropping areas due to late onset of “gu” rains
- Drought conditions continue to affect grazing resources and livestock in northeastern regions
- Cereal prices stable or declining in recent months and generally at low levels
- Worsening food security conditions in northern pastoral and agro-pastoral areas

Late onset of seasonal rains delays planting of 2016 primary “gu” season crops

Planting of the 2016 primary “gu” season crops, normally completed in April, is still ongoing in southern and central cropping areas due to a late onset of the 2016 “gu” rainy season. Crops germinated well in most northwestern agro-pastoral areas that received some beneficial rains since early April, while in several southern and central areas early planted crops wilted following dry weather conditions in April, and widespread re-planting is needed. The FAO Agricultural Stress Index (ASI) highlights a moderate risk of drought conditions developing particularly in central cropping areas of Middle Shabelle, Galgaduud and Mudug regions (see ASI map). By contrast, recent abundant rains in Ethiopian highlands have increased the water flow along the Shabelle River. The River’s water was at its lowest level in decades due to below-average rains in the upper catchment basin, severely limiting the use of water for irrigating food and cash crops in riverine areas. Rains are forecast in May at average to below average levels across the country (with only southern districts of Lower Shabelle and Lower Juba regions expected to receive enhanced rainfall amounts), and crop development needs to be closely monitored.

Severe drought conditions persist in most northeastern areas

Most northeastern areas (in particular, Sanaag, Sool and Bari regions), continue to experience severe drought conditions as “gu” rains have not yet started, thus extending the harsh “jilaal” (January-March) dry season that followed a poor “deyr” (October-December) rainy season. Here, pasture and water availability is extremely low, with a severe impact on livestock body conditions and animal health status. Large-scale abnormal out-migrations of livestock are reported from main inland pastoral areas toward coastal areas in search of better pasture conditions. By contrast, moderate to heavy rains in April have improved



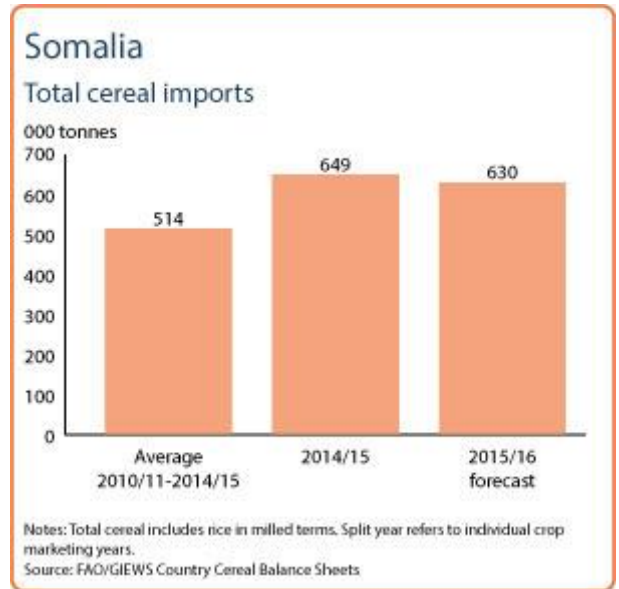
pasture conditions in northwestern agro-pastoral areas, especially in the drought-affected areas along the border with Ethiopia. Flash floods have been reported in Awdal and Woqooyi regions, with damage to shelters and deaths of people and livestock.

Cereal prices stable or declining in recent months and at low levels in several markets

Prices of locally-produced sorghum declined in February by 28 percent in Baidoa, the main market of the sorghum belt, as the above-average “deyr” crop production increased local supplies and subsequently levelled off in March. Prices of coarse grains remained mostly stable in recent months in the other monitored markets of southern key-producing areas, including the capital, Mogadishu, and in March they were 30-40 percent below their levels of 12 months earlier. By contrast, in some markets located in central regions, prices of maize and sorghum increased in recent months due to trade disruptions caused by insecurity and reduced humanitarian interventions, reaching high levels. For instance, in Hudur and Galkayo markets, prices of maize and sorghum in March were 20 and 50 percent higher than 12 months earlier, respectively. Prices of imported rice were stable in recent months at around or below the levels of one year earlier in most monitored markets.

Worsening food security in northern regions

Despite the above-average 2015/16 “deyr” harvest and mostly declining or stable food prices, the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance (IPC Phase: 3 “Crisis” and Phase: 4 “Emergency” levels) until June 2016 is estimated at 953 000, including over 300 000 acutely malnourished children. About two-thirds of the severely food insecure people are represented by IDPs, while the remaining one-third is concentrated in pastoral and agro-pastoral areas of the northern regions of Bari, Awdal, Woqyi Galbeed and Sanaag that have been affected by severe dry weather conditions during the last two rainy seasons. In these areas, stocks of the 2015 “karan” season crops, harvested last year between October and November, have already been depleted in February as production has been very poor.

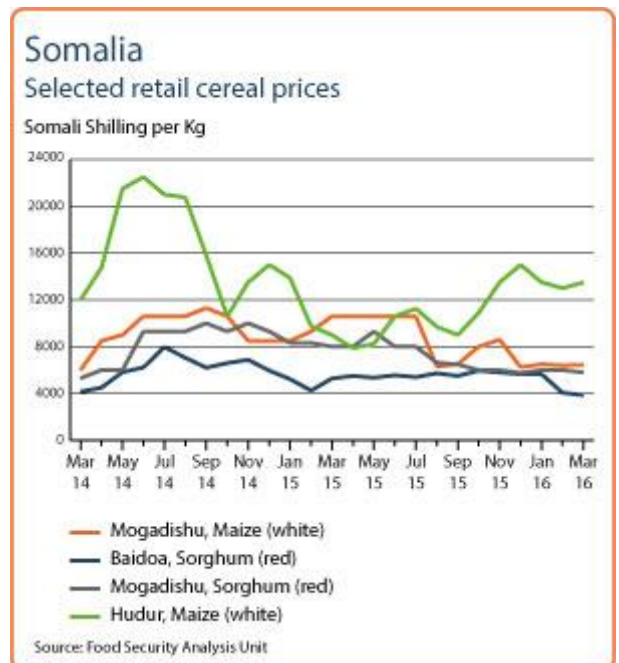


Somalia

Cereal production

	2010-2014 average	2014	2015 estimate	change 2015/2014
	000 tonnes			percent
Sorghum	149	148	131	-11
Maize	114	107	104	-3
Rice (paddy)	2	2	2	0
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	265	257	237	-8

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



Reference Date: 17-March-2016

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Above average 2015 “deyr” season cereal production gathered in central and southern cropping areas
- Very poor conditions of grazing resources in northern regions due to two unfavourable rainy seasons
- Cereal prices stable or declining in recent months and generally at low levels
- Worsening food security conditions in northern pastoral and agro-pastoral areas

Good 2015 “deyr” output harvested in most central and southern cropping areas

Harvesting of 2015 secondary “deyr” crops has been completed in February and cereal production is estimated at well above-average levels in most southern and central areas following abundant and well-distributed (October-December) rains. Pockets of crops with lower yields are reported in parts of Lower Juba, Middle Juba and Lower Shabelle regions, especially along the coast, that received below-average rainfall amounts. In most riverine areas of Middle Shabelle, Juba and Gedo regions, flooding has been moderate, with localized damage to standing crops, but it has limited planting opportunities for recession cultivation of off-season crops, mainly sesame, maize and cowpeas, being currently harvested.

Aggregate 2015 cereal production is estimated at 263 000 tonnes, similar to the 2014 output and the last five-year average. Cereal import requirements for the 2015/16 marketing year (June/July) are forecast at 600 000 tonnes, 5 percent down from the previous year, but 18 percent higher than the average of the previous five years.

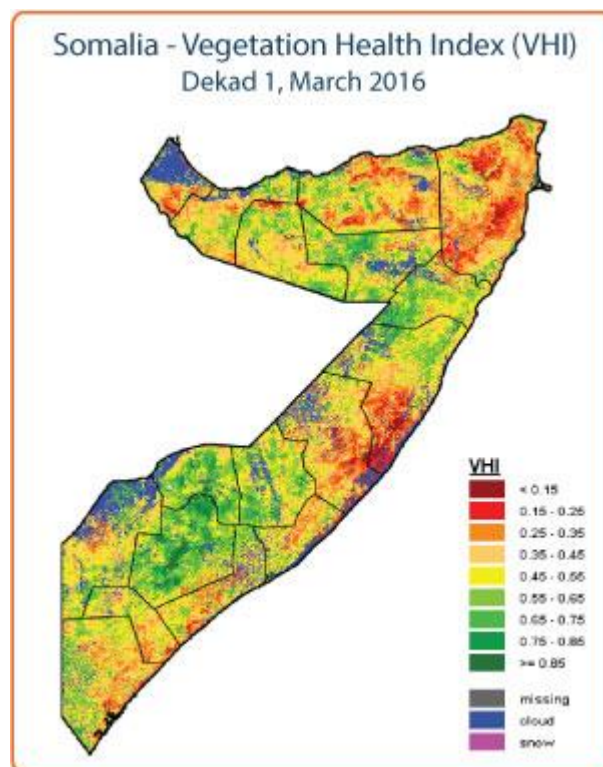
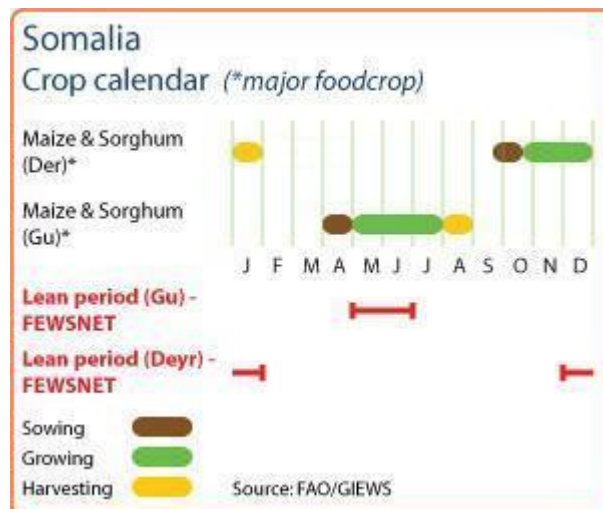
Land preparation for the planting of 2016 primary “gu” season crops is underway and seasonal rains are expected to start soon in March. Enhanced rains are forecast in most central regions, while average to below-average rainfall amounts are expected in southern regions of Gedo, Lower Shabelle and Middle and Lower Juba.

Very poor pasture conditions in northern regions

In northern regions, pasture and water conditions have been severely affected by two consecutive below-average rainy seasons (“karan” and “deyr”) and the situation is deteriorating further during the ongoing dry “jilal” (January-March) season. In particular, pasture conditions are very poor in some western parts of Somaliland (southern Awdal and Woqooyi Galbeed regions) as well as in some central and coastal parts of Puntland (Sanaag, Sool and Bari regions). Some relief is expected with the onset of the 2016 “gu” rainy season in April.

Cereal prices stable or declining in recent months and generally at low levels

Prices of locally-produced sorghum declined in February by 28 percent in Baidoa, the main market of the sorghum belt, as newly-harvested crops increased supplies. Prices of sorghum and maize remained mostly stable in recent months in the other monitored markets of



Somalia Cereal production

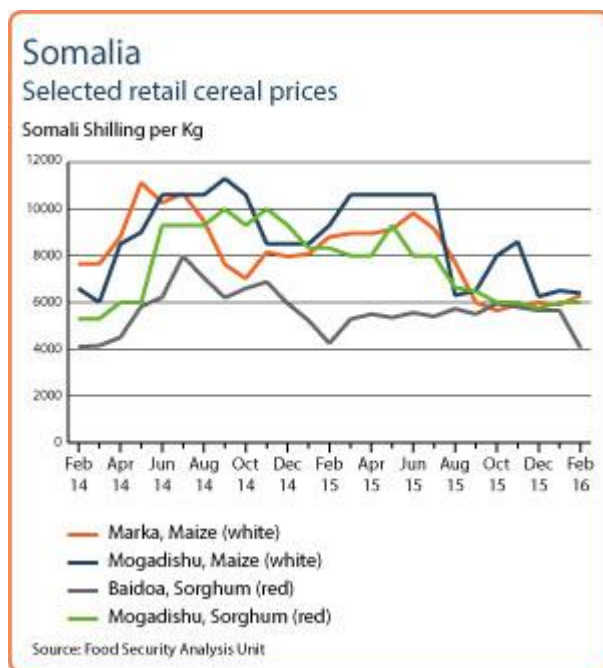
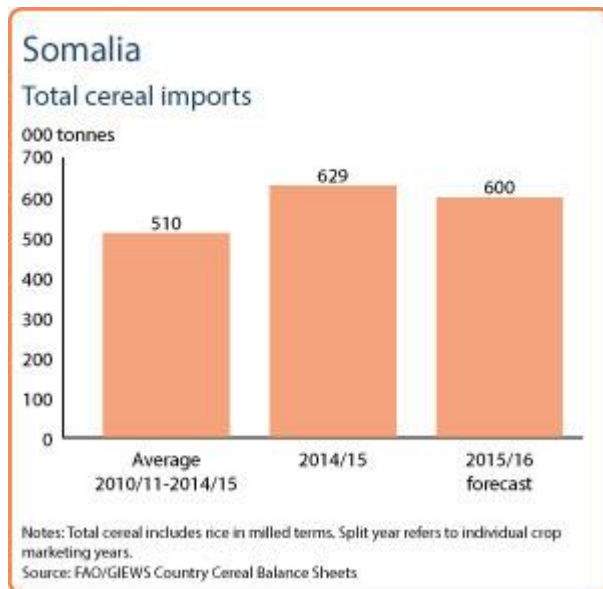
	2010-2014 average	2014	2015 estimate	change 2015/2014
	000 tonnes		percent	
Sorghum	149	148	146	-1
Maize	114	107	115	7
Rice (paddy)	2	2	2	0
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	265	257	263	2

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

southern key-producing areas, including the capital, Mogadishu, and in February coarse grains prices were 23-33 percent below their levels of 12 months earlier. Prices of imported rice were stable in recent months at around or below the levels of one year earlier in most monitored markets.

Worsening food security in northern regions

According to the results of the latest multi-agency assessment, the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance (IPC Phase: 3 “Crisis” and Phase: 4 “Emergency” levels) until June 2016 is estimated at nearly 950 000, including over 300 000 acutely malnourished children. Severe food insecurity conditions persist for most IDPs and in conflict-affected urban areas in southern regions. In addition, serious concerns are for pastoral and agro-pastoral households in northern regions that have been affected by severe dry weather conditions during the last two rainy seasons. In the Northwest, stocks of the 2015 “gu/karan” season crops, harvested last year between October and November, have already been depleted as production has been very poor, with less than 8 000 tonnes of cereals, compared to more than 40 000 tonnes gathered during the previous two years.



Reference Date: 27-July-2015

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- **Below-average 2015 “gu” cereal harvest expected due to unfavourable weather conditions**
- **Uncertain prospects for off-season crops to be gathered in September-October**
- **Short-lived and limited improvements in pasture availability and livestock body conditions in several pastoral areas due to erratic rainfall**
- **Prices of cereals generally at high levels in most markets**
- **Food security deteriorated despite the ongoing harvest due to reduced output and high food prices**

Unfavourable prospects for 2015 main “gu” season crops

In central and southern agro-pastoral areas, harvesting of the 2015 “gu” season crops has just started and output is forecast at below-average levels due to erratic April to June “gu” rains. Heavy rains, which fell earlier than normal during the third dekad of March, resulted in floods in the Shabelle Valley, with damages to infrastructures and loss of planted area. Subsequently, the early cessation of rains in late May, when normally it should be the peak of the rainfall season and is essential for crop development, affected crops at critical flowering or grain-filling stages in most central and southern regions, including Bay, Bakool, Hiraan, Middle Juba, and Middle Shabelle.

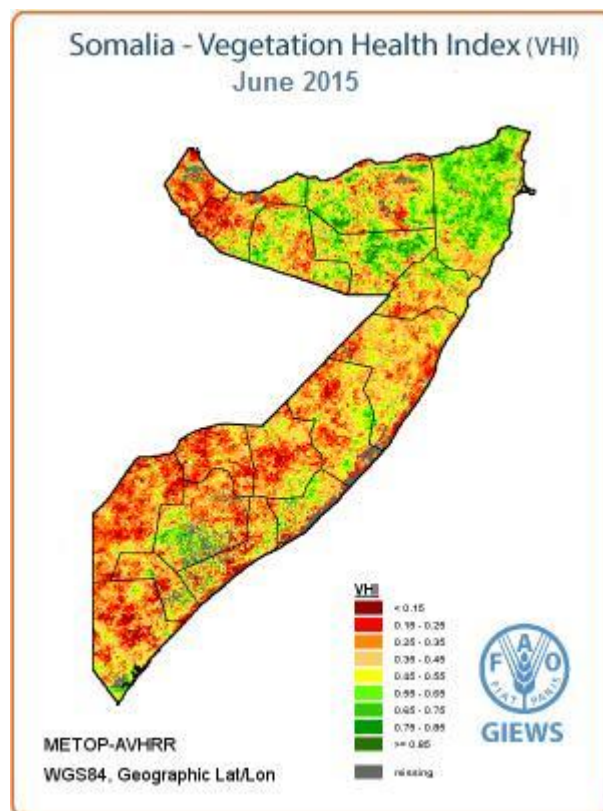
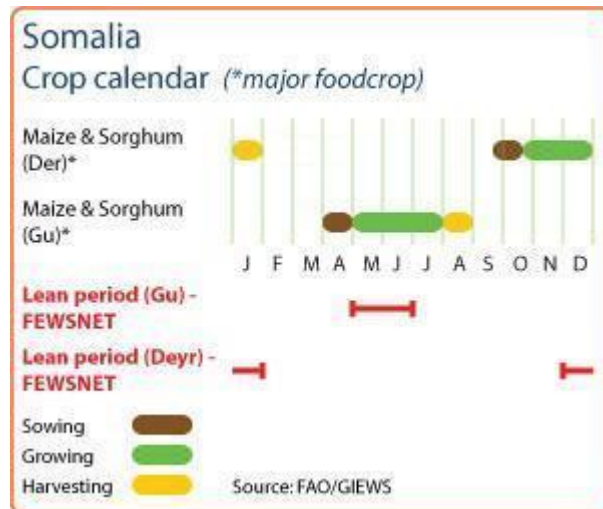
In northwestern cropping areas in Togdheer, Wooqoi Galbeed and Awdal regions, the 2015 “gu” cereal production is also expected to be below average due to insufficient rains. In this area, the main “karan” harvest is to be gathered in October-November and its output will depend on July to September “karan” rains that are forecast at below-average to near-average levels.

Uncertain prospects for off-season crops

In riverine areas of the Shabelle Valley (Lower Juba, Middle Juba, Middle Shabelle and Gedo regions), planting of off-season crops, mainly maize to be gathered between September and October, has been favoured by the early cessation of the “gu” rains. However, the typical showers of the July-September “hagaa” season were so far below average, with a negative impact on crop development and yield.

Limited and short-lived improvements in pasture availability in parts due to erratic rainfall

In several pastoral areas, the improvement in pasture, browse and water conditions has been limited during the 2015 “gu” rainy season, due to the erratic rainfall distribution. Pasture conditions are currently below average in several areas, including parts of Bari, Sanaag, Awdal and Wooqoi Galbeed regions in the north, and parts of Galguduud, Middle and Upper Juba and Lower and Upper Shabelle in the centre-south. As a result, in most of the affected areas, the improvement in livestock body conditions and milk availability will be short-lived and earlier-than-normal pasture depletion and livestock body condition deterioration are expected during the July-September “hagaa” dry



season. By contrast, in the northwestern Guban coastal plain, the July to September “karan” rains may alleviate the anticipated pasture shortages.

Cereal prices remain at high levels

In the first semester of 2015, prices of sorghum remained firm while prices of maize increased by about 20 percent in main markets of the south, including the capital, Mogadishu, despite the commercialization of the “deyr” crops, harvested in January, and the recent start of the “gu” harvest. In June, they were at high levels in most markets, mainly due to the lingering effects of consecutive seasons of below-average production and trade disruptions caused by civil conflict. For instance, sorghum was traded in June in Mogadishu and Baidoa, located in the sorghum belt, at SOS 8 000 and SOS 5 500 per kg, respectively, 14 and 11 percent below the high levels of the same month of the previous year but 51 and 66 percent more than 24 months earlier. Similarly, prices of maize in Mogadishu and in Marka, located in the important maize producing region of Lower Shabelle district, in June 2015 were at about the same levels of 12 months earlier but 33 and 45 percent higher than 24 months earlier. By contrast, prices of imported rice were stable in recent months at around the same levels of 12 and 24 months earlier in most monitored markets.

Food security deteriorated despite the ongoing harvest due to reduced output and high food prices

The “gu” harvest crops, albeit reduced, will improve cereal availability. However, the erratic rainfall negatively impacted agricultural activities and reduced labour opportunities and wage rates; this, coupled with high food prices, is constraining food access, especially for poor, market dependant households, with a negative impact on food security.

By contrast, the food security situation is likely to improve for pastoralist households as a result of improving livestock body conditions and higher prices as well as increased milk availability.

Overall, the already serious food security situation deteriorated further. According to the results of the “deyr” 2014/15 assessment, the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance (IPC Phases 3 and 4, Crisis and Emergency levels) until June 2015 was estimated in early February at 731 000 people. Although the results of the “gu” 2015 assessment are not yet available, the estimated number of people in need of relief food assistance is estimated to have increased since May.

Somalia
Cereal production

	2009-2013 average	2013	2014 estimate	change 2014/2013
	000 tonnes		percent	
Sorghum	152	113	148	31
Maize	118	119	107	-10
Rice (paddy)	2	2	2	0
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	272	234	257	10

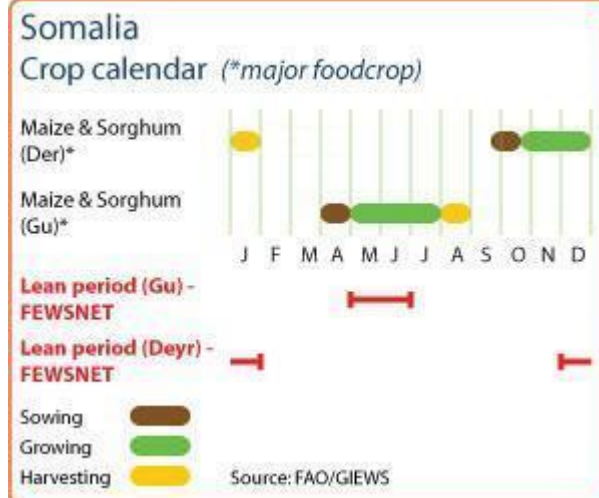
Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets



Reference Date: 21-May-2015

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Favourable outlook for 2015 “gu” season crops to be harvested by end-July
- Seasonal rains started early in most cropping areas and have been beneficial so far
- Localized floods along Shabelle and Juba rivers in May caused some losses of standing crops
- Prices of cereals are generally at high levels in most markets
- Worsening food security conditions as the lean season deepens, especially among IDPs and in areas affected by trade disruptions and a below-average “deyr” harvest due to floods or dry weather

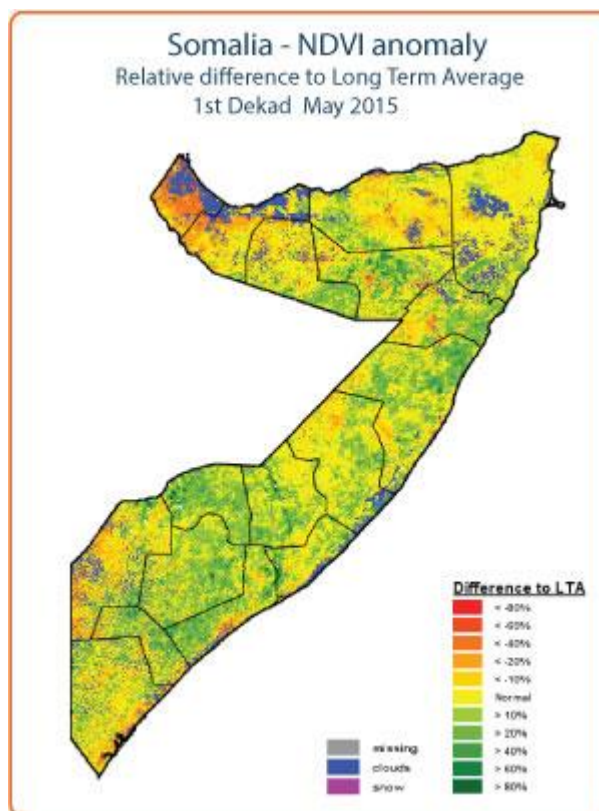


Favourable start of 2015 “gu” rainy season in most central and southern cropping areas

Planting of 2015 “gu” season crops has been completed in April and crops are generally in good condition. In most southern and central regions, the 2015 “gu” rains (April-June) started early during the last dekad of March and continued so far with moderate to heavy rainfall amounts, supporting crop germination, pasture regeneration and replenishment of water catchments. Abundant rains in agro-pastoral areas of Bay and southern Bakool regions induced farmers to increase sorghum planting. Increased precipitations upstream in Ethiopian highlands resulted in overflow of Shabelle and Juba rivers which caused localized floods that damaged some standing crops. In these areas, as soon as flood waters recede, recession cultivation of off-season “gu” crops is likely to occur in July.

In northern regions, seasonal rains started at the end of April and are forecast at above-average levels for the remainder of the season. By early May, however, pockets of significant soil moisture deficits still persist in northwestern regions of Awdal and Woqooyi Galbeed, as well as in parts of Sanag (see NDVI anomaly map on the right).

The 2015 “gu” harvest is expected to be normally carried out from the end of July through August. The current crop outlook is favourable, but the final seasonal performance depends on rainfall amounts and distribution until the end of June as well as security conditions that may hamper farming activities, particularly harvesting operations, in some areas.



Aggregate 2014 cereal production is estimated at 257 000 tonnes, about 10 percent above the 2013 poor output, but over 5 percent below the last five-year average. Cereal import requirements for the 2014/15 marketing year (June/July) are forecast at a high level of 580 000 tonnes. During the last five years, the country has been able to import commercially between 320 000 and 430 000 tonnes.

Cereal prices remain at high levels

Despite the commercialization of the recently-harvested “deyr” crops, prices of coarse grains remained firm or increased during the first quarter of 2015 in most markets located in the key-producing areas of

the south, and in April they were generally at high levels. This is mainly due to the lingering effects of consecutive seasons of below-average production, trade disruptions caused by civil conflict and to the scaling back of humanitarian assistance operations. In April, sorghum was traded in the capital, Mogadishu, and in Baidoa, located in the sorghum belt, at SOS 8 000 and SOS 5 000 per kg, respectively, about 33 and 22 percent more than 12 months earlier. Exceptionally high prices were recorded in Hiraan and Bakool districts, where the intensification of conflict during the last six months severely disrupted agricultural and trade activities. In March, sorghum was traded in El Barde market in Bakool district at SOS 15 000 per kg, 50 percent more than 12 months earlier. In Mogadishu, prices of maize in April 2015 were 25 percent higher than in April 2014, while in Marka, located in the important maize producing region of Lower Shabelle district, they were at about the same levels of 12 months earlier; in both markets, however, maize prices were about 60 percent higher than 24 months earlier. By contrast, prices of imported rice were stable in recent months at around the same levels of 12 and 24 months earlier in most monitored markets.

Food insecurity expected to worsen until mid-July

As the agricultural lean season is progressing, food security conditions are expected to gradually deteriorate until mid-July, when consumption of green “gu” crops is likely to start. Although some food stocks from the “deyr” off-season harvest in March are currently still available in Lower Juba, Middle Juba and Gedo regions, most poor households in other regions of the country have already exhausted their food stocks and rely on market purchases to access food.

According to the results of the latest multi-agency assessment, the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance (IPC Phases 3 and 4, Crisis and Emergency levels) until June 2015 is estimated at 731 000 people, including over 200 000 acutely malnourished children. Severe food insecurity conditions persist for most IDPs and in conflict-affected urban areas in southern regions. Pockets of acute food insecurity also remain among poor rural households in riverine areas along the Juba river that gathered below average “deyr” off-season crops, as flood waters did not recede on time in December, significantly limiting planting.

Somalia

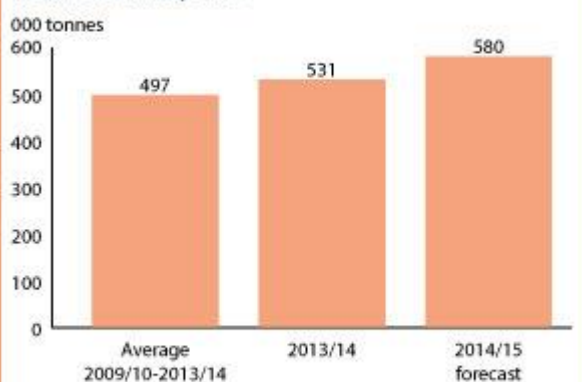
Cereal production

	2009-2013 average	2013	2014 estimate	change 2014/2013
	000 tonnes			percent
Sorghum	152	113	148	31
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Rice (paddy)	2	2	2	0
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	272	234	257	10

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

Somalia

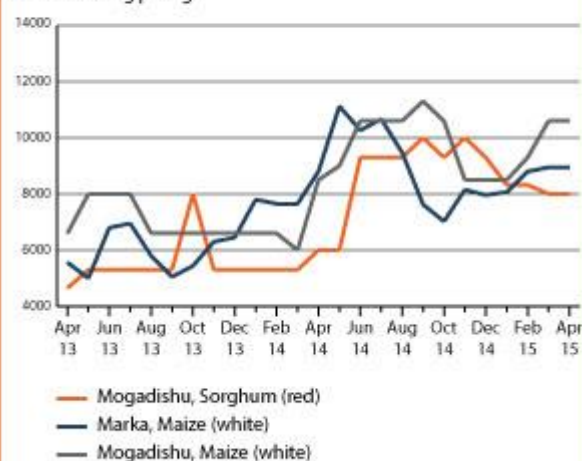
Total cereal imports



Notes: Total cereal includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Retail prices of cereals in Somalia

Somali Shilling per Kg



Source: Food Security Analysis Unit

Reference Date: 09-January-2015

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Aggregate 2014/15 “deyr” season cereal harvest is forecast at slightly below-average levels
- Prices of cereals are generally declining, but are still at high levels in most markets
- Acute food insecurity persists across the country, especially among IDPs as well as areas affected by trade disruptions and with below-average “deyr” crops due to floods or dry weather

Slightly below-average 2014/15 “deyr” crops production in central and southern cropping areas

Harvesting of 2014/15 “deyr” crops is underway in southern and central regions and is expected to be concluded in February. Aggregate cereal production is forecast at slightly below-average levels. Seasonal “deyr” short rains (September-November) started at the end of September in central regions, but most southern regions remained mostly dry until the third dekad of October. Beneficial rains during the first two dekad of November improved crop development and pasture availability, especially in Bakool, Hiran, Bay and part of Gedo regions. As reported by the latest FAO Agricultural Stress Index (ASI) (see map on the right), moderate dry weather conditions have affected crops in most cropping areas of Lower and Middle Shabelle regions, with lower yields expected on coastal areas. Seasonal rains ended normally at the beginning of December.

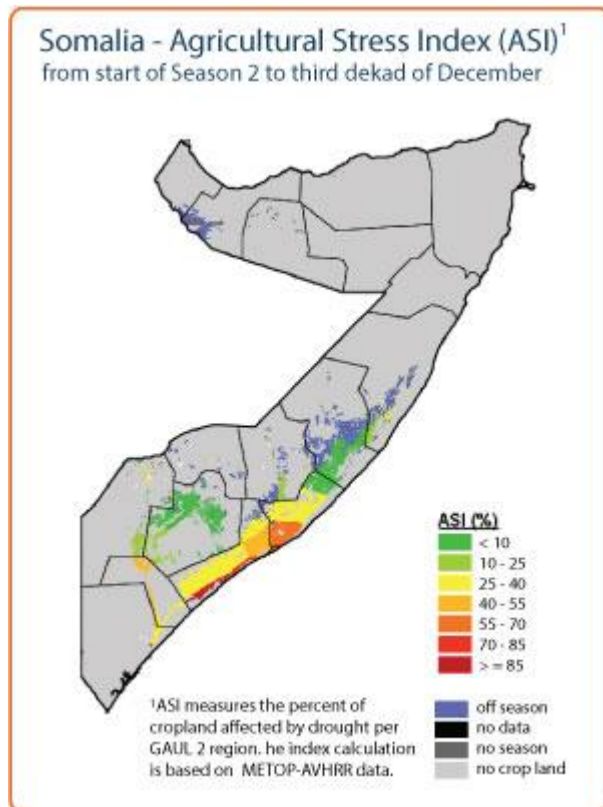
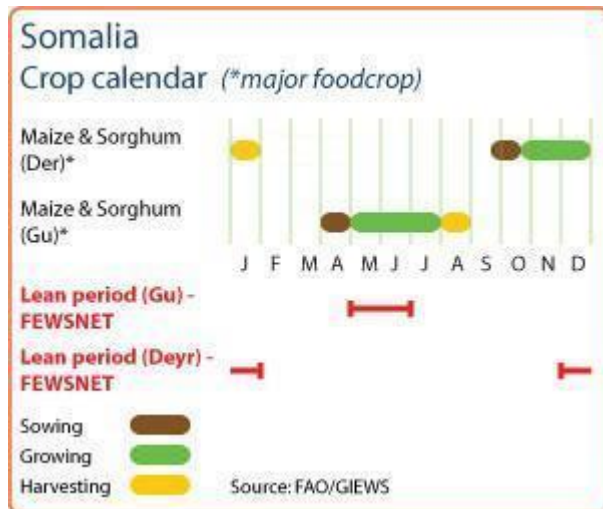
Heavy rains in eastern Ethiopian highlands in late October/early November caused flooding along Juba and Shabelle perennial rivers, affecting standing crops in Jowhar and Balad districts of Middle Shabelle region and in Sakow, Buale, Jilib and Jamame districts of Middle and Lower Juba regions. However, as result of recession cultivation in these areas, a good off-season crop production is expected to be harvested by March-April 2015.

In northern regions, harvesting of “gu/karan” crops is almost complete and cereal production prospects are favourable, with early estimates of about 45 000 tonnes. “Karan” rains (July to September) were generally good and evenly distributed, smoothly continuing into “deyr” rains which started at the end of September and ceased at the beginning of November.

Aggregate 2014/15 cereal production (including the 2014 “gu” crops harvested last August plus currently harvested 2014/15 “deyr” and “karan” crops), is estimated at about 237 000 tonnes, similar to the previous year’s output, but about 13 percent below the last five-year average. Cereal import requirements for the 2014/15 marketing year (June/July) are forecast at a high level of 580 000 tonnes. The country has been able to import commercially between 320 000 and 430 000 tonnes during the last five years.

Cereal prices decline, but remain at high levels

Prices of locally-produced cereals, after having peaked in July, have started to decline in most markets as the 2014 “gu” season crops



become available for consumption. Between July and December, retail prices of red sorghum and maize declined by 10-30 percent, while those of maize by 20-40 percent. However, sorghum and maize prices in December, just before the start of the 2014/15 “deyr” harvest, were generally well above their levels of one year ago. This is essentially due to consecutive seasons of below-average production, trade disruption caused by civil conflict and reduced humanitarian assistance. In particular, red sorghum was traded in Mogadishu’s retail markets at an average price of SOS 9 300 per kg, about 75 percent higher than the price of December 2013. Some exceptions are represented by sorghum prices in Galkayo and Hargeisa retail markets where current prices are 14-22 percent lower than one year ago following the recent commercialization of the good “karan” sorghum crop production.

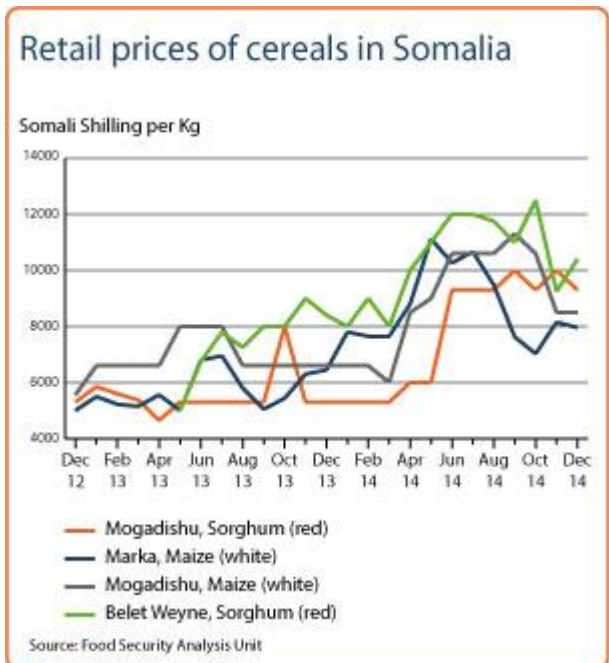
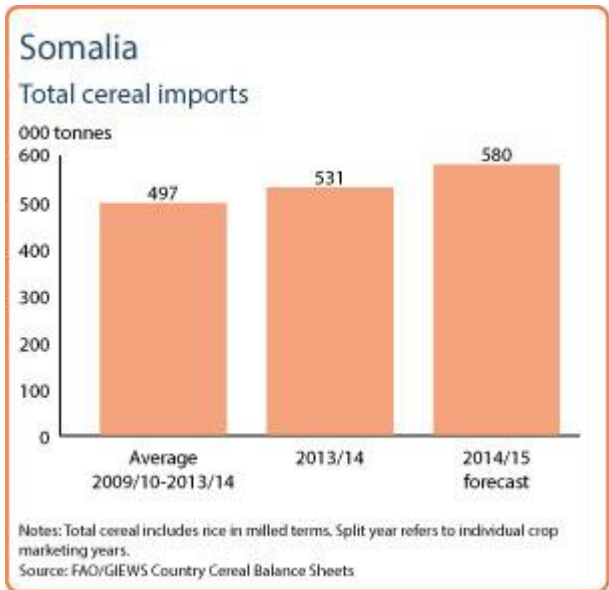
Acute food security persists, with slight improvements in some areas

Although acute food insecurity is expected to slightly improve during the first months of 2015 in pastoral and agro-pastoral areas that received favourable “deyr” rains, severe food insecurity conditions are expected to persist for most IDPs and urban areas in southern regions that are affected by trade disruptions due to the conflict. Pockets of acute food insecurity will remain among poor rural households in flood-affected districts of Middle Juba and Middle Shabelle regions until next March when off-season crops will be harvested and better labour opportunities linked with the start of the 2015 “gu” season will provide some additional income. Food security is also expected to deteriorate in parts of Hiran region that received well below “deyr” rains. According to the results of the latest multi-agency assessment carried out in August 2014, the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance (IPC Phases 3 and 4, Crisis and Emergency levels) is estimated at over 1 million, including about 620 000 IDPs.

Somalia Cereal production

	2009-2013 average	2013	2014 forecast	change 2014/2013
	000 tonnes		percent	
Sorghum	152	113	140	24
Maize	118	119	95	-20
Rice (paddy)	2	2	2	0
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	272	234	237	1

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



Reference Date: 02-September-2014

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Well below-average 2014 main “gu” season cereal harvest forecast
- Prices of cereals stabilize at very high/record levels in most markets
- Worsening food security conditions across the country, with over one million people classified at IPC Phase 3 and 4 (Crisis and Emergency levels)
- Adequate response until the end of the year and a close monitoring of the food security situation is warranted

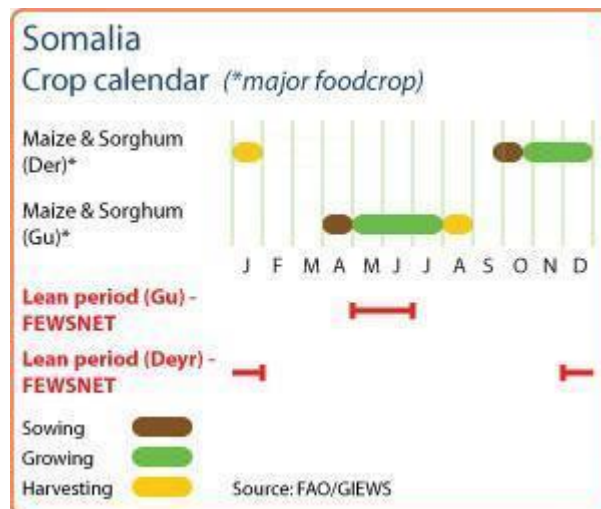
The 2014 main “gu” season cereal harvest is forecast at below-average levels due to poor seasonal rainfall

Harvesting of the 2014 main “gu” season coarse grain is almost complete and cereal production is forecast at well below-average levels. In most central and northeastern (Puntland) regions, the “gu” rainy season (April-June) started in late April, with a delay of about three weeks. In southern regions, rains began earlier than usual in late March in parts (including Bay, southern Gedo and Lower and Middle Juba), allowing for early planting of sorghum and cowpea crops. However, during the whole month of April, rains were well below average and erratic in southern regions, affecting crops in the crucial establishment phase. Rains resumed in most parts of the country at the beginning of May, but had an early cessation in the last dekad of the month. As a result, between the last dekad of May and early June, a crucial period for crop development and pasture regeneration, most of the southern regions (Shabelle, Hiran, Bakool and large parts of Gedo), parts of central regions (most of coastal *Deeh* pastoral and Cowpea Belt agro-pastoral livelihood zones), and northwestern regions (Awdal and most parts of Woqooyi Galbeed) largely remained dry.

In addition, the escalation of conflict last March in parts of Lower and Middle Shabelle, Hiran, Bakool and Gedo, did cause temporary displacement of many farmers and hampered land preparation. Accordingly, the 2014 “gu” season coarse grains production is forecast at about 28 percent below the average of the last five years.

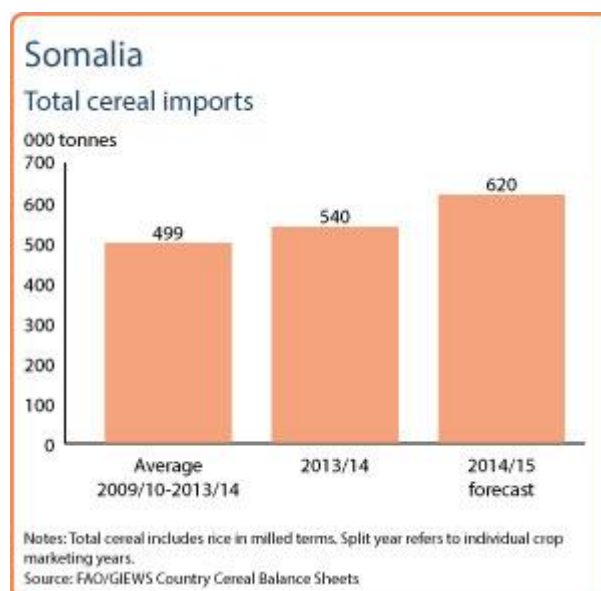
Rainfall forecasts indicate positive “deyr” rains in southern and central regions

The seasonal climate outlook for the Greater Horn of Africa recently issued by the IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC) indicates that the 2014 “deyr” rains (end-September to November) are expected to be average to above average in most southern and central regions, including part of the Ethiopian highlands which contribute significantly to both Juba and Shabelle river flow inside Somalia. There are concerns for riverine flooding, especially in the middle and lower sections of the Shabelle river, which are characterized by weak river embankments. Below-average rains are forecast in northern pastoral areas of Puntland and Somaliland. The favourable rains in southern and central regions, if realized, would benefit “deyr” cereal crops, to be planted from mid-September, as well as grazing resources.



	2009-2013 average	2013	2014 forecast	change 2014/2013
	000 tonnes			percent
Sorghum	154	123	109	-11
Maize	119	124	116	-6
Rice (paddy)	2	2	2	0
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	275	249	227	-9

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



Aggregate cereal production for 2014 (including an average level forecast for the 2014/15 “deyr” season crops to be harvested early next year) is put at 227 000 tonnes, about 18 percent below last five-years average. Import requirements for 2014/15 marketing year (June-July) are forecast at a high level of 620 000 tonnes. The country has been able to import commercially between 320 000 and 400 000 tonnes during the last five years.

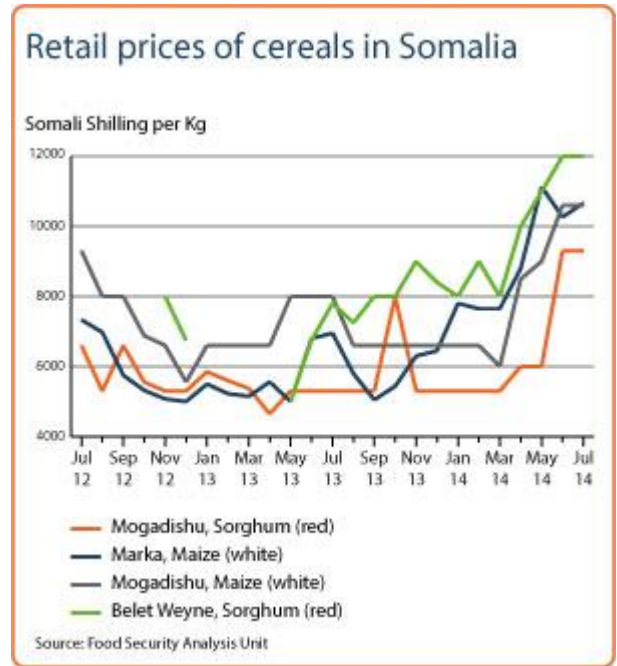
Cereal prices remain at very high levels in most markets

Between June and July, prices of locally produced coarse grains were at very high/record levels in most markets, but began to ease the rate of increase since last March following the start of the 2014 “gu” harvest. Prices of maize and sorghum rose by 40-75 percent from March to July in the most retail markets. Exceptional increases, with doubling the price of early 2014, have been registered in Hudur town and in some markets in Middle Shabelle and Hiraan due also to the scaling back of humanitarian assistance operations, partly caused by access constraints due to insecurity. Prices of imported rice were stable in recent months at around the same levels of a year earlier, due to low prices on the international market and improved functioning of main entry ports.

Worsening food security situation

According to the results of the latest multi-agency assessment, the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance (IPC Phases 3 and 4, Crisis and Emergency levels) is estimated at over one million, including about 220 000 children under the age of five years. This figure represents an increase of about 20 percent since last January, mainly due to high food prices and the renewed conflict which caused disruption of trade flows and hampered delivery of humanitarian assistance. The majority of severely food insecure people (62 percent) is represented by IDPs, followed by rural (27 percent) and urban (11 percent) populations. About 2.1 million people are classified at IPC Phase 2 (Stressed level) and their food security conditions risk to deteriorate further in case of shocks.

Cereal stocks from the 2014 below-average “gu” harvest are expected to be quickly depleted and the food supply security conditions are likely to deteriorate until the end of the year when next “deyr” harvest begins. In pastoral areas, the establishment of “deyr” rains in October is expected to bring some relief to drought-affected grazing resources, with positive effects on animal body conditions, milk production and kidding/lambing rates.



Reference Date: 15-July-2014

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Unfavourable prospects for the upcoming 2014 “gu” season harvest due to below-average and erratic rainfall
- Recent escalation of conflict in parts resulted in large population displacements and heavily constrained the movement of goods and services
- Prices of cereals surging in most markets
- Food security conditions are anticipated to worsen in the post-“gu” period
- Adequate response and a close monitoring of the food security situation is warranted

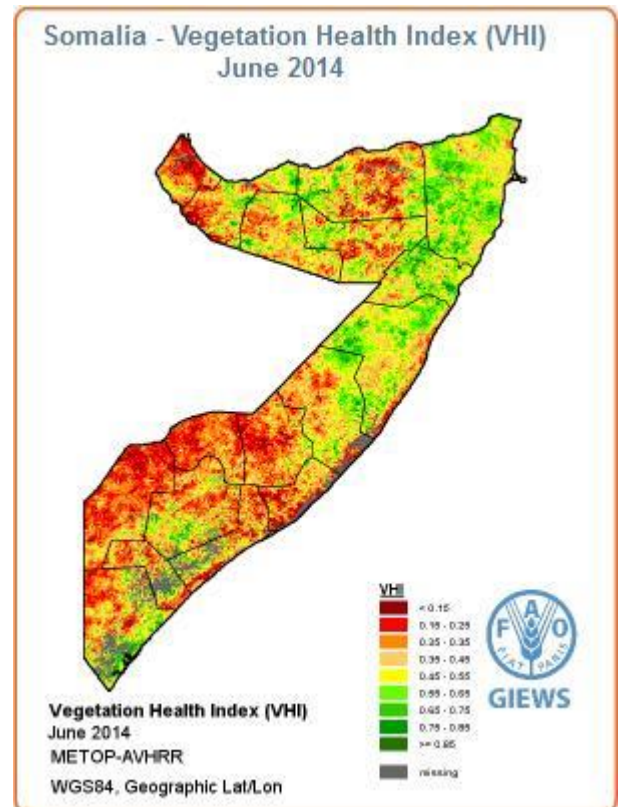
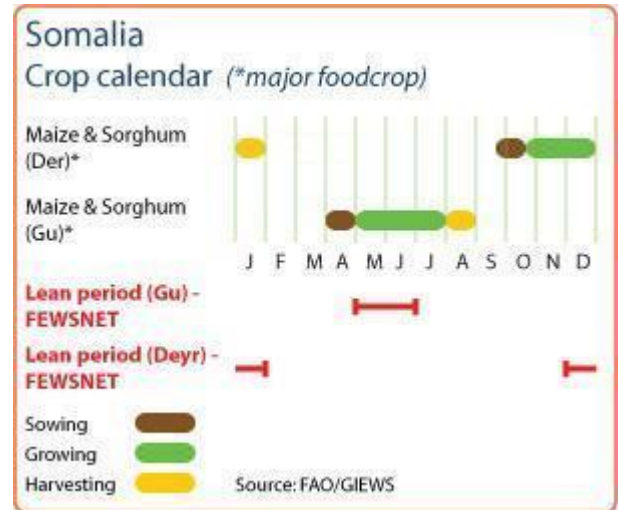
Unfavourable prospects for the upcoming 2014 “gu” season harvest due to below-average and erratic rainfall

The 2014 “gu” (April-June) rainy season started in late April in most central and northeastern (Puntland) regions, with a delay of about three weeks. In southern regions, rains began earlier than usual in late March in parts (including Bay, southern Gedo and Lower and Middle Juba), allowing for early planting of sorghum and cowpea crops. However, during the whole month of April, precipitation was well below average and erratic in southern regions, affecting crops in the crucial establishment phase. During the first two dekads of May, rains resumed in most parts of the country but had an early cessation in the last dekad of the month. As a result, between the last dekad of May and early June, the peak of the rainfall season and crucial for crop development and pasture regeneration, most of the southern regions (Shabelle, Hiran, Bakool and large parts of Gedo), parts of central regions (most of coastal *Deeh* pastoral and Cowpea Belt agro-pastoral livelihood zones), and northwestern regions (Awdal and most parts of Woqooyi Galbeed) largely remained dry.

Overall, most of the rains fell in the first two dekads of May with poor spatial and temporal distribution. The rains were characterized by heavy storms lasting a few hours and were highly concentrated in time. The stormy rains led to high runoff and low moisture recharge which could not sustain optimal crop growth nor replenish the groundwater resources adequately.

Due to poor rainfall performance during the cropping season, in June the FAO Vegetation Health Index highlighted poor vegetation conditions in most of the croplands of the “sorghum belt” (Gedo, Bay, Bakool and Hiran regions), in key maize growing areas of Lower and Middle Shabelle and in several pastoral and agro-pastoral areas both in the north (parts of Sanaag, Togdheer, Sool and Woqoi Galbeed regions) and in the centre/south (parts of Hiran, Lower Shabelle, Bakool, Gedo, and Middle Juba regions).

As a result, the 2014 “gu” harvest, normally carried out end-July through August, is expected to be below average, also due to the escalation of conflict in parts of Lower and Middle Shabelle, Hiran, Bakool and Gedo, where land preparation was hampered by the temporary displacement of many farmers.



Due to the anticipated reduced main “gu” harvest the 2014 aggregate cereal production is forecast to remain around the poor level of the previous year.

Food prices surging following reduced availabilities, poor crop prospects and insecurity

Prices of locally produced coarse grains sharply increased in recent months following the early depletion of stocks from the below-average 2013/14 secondary “deyr” cereal output, serious disruptions in markets and trade activities caused by intensified conflict in southern and central regions and unfavourable prospects for the upcoming 2014 “gu” harvest. For instance, in Marka, located in the important maize producing region of Lower Shabelle, wholesale prices of maize increased by 34 percent from March to June; similarly, sorghum prices in Baidoa and Beletweine markets, located in the sorghum belt, rose by 50 percent over the same period. In the capital Mogadishu, prices of maize and sorghum increased between March and June by about 75 percent. June prices of maize and sorghum were up to 55 and 86 percent higher than one year earlier, respectively, also due to the scaling back of humanitarian assistance operations, partly caused by access constraints due to insecurity. Prices of imported rice were stable in recent months at around the same levels of a year earlier, due to low prices on the international market and improved functioning of main entry ports.

Worsening food security due to high prices, conflict and poor production prospects

The number of people in need of humanitarian assistance in June is estimated at about 860 000, including over 200 000 children under the age of five years.

Based on ongoing field monitoring activities, the food security situation is projected to deteriorate in the post-“gu” period (July-December 2014) as a result of poor crop prospects, armed conflict and associated displacements and trade disruptions, as well as high cereal prices.

The worst-affected areas where acute food insecurity is most likely to deteriorate from Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) Phase 2 (Stressed) to IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) include parts of Bakool (agro-pastoral and urban), Gedo (agropastoral), Hiran (agro-pastoral, riverine and urban), Lower Shabelle and the “Cowpea Belt” in central Somalia. Phase 3 (Crisis) acute food insecurity is also likely to persist in parts of the Middle Shabelle (riverine) and Middle Juba (agro-pastoral) regions, in the coastal areas of central Somalia and in the parts of Northeast affected by the 2013 cyclone. In addition, of particular concern are urban populations in some of the main towns of the Bakool (Hudur), Hiran (Bulburte) and Lower Shabelle (Qorioley) regions.

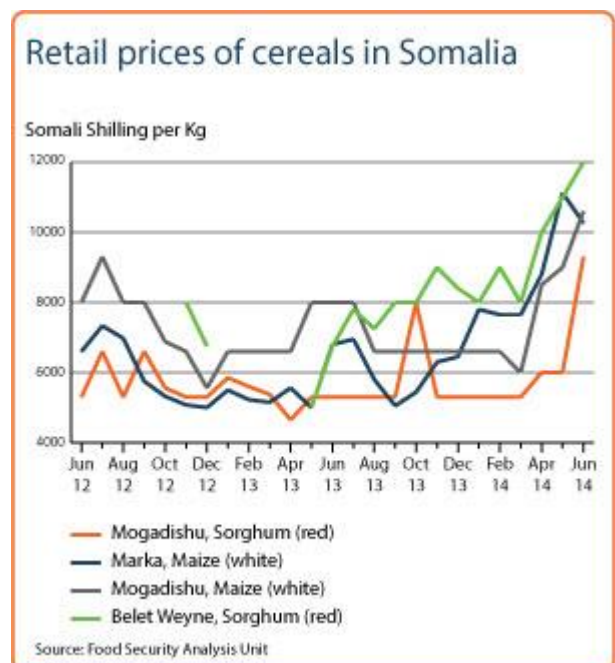
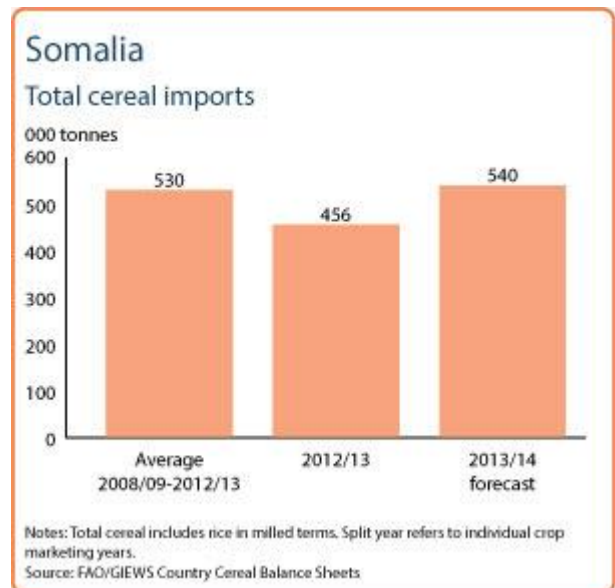
FAO agricultural/livelihood support

In the framework of the agricultural/livelihood support, FAO in Somalia i) supports the diversification of communities’ livelihood strategies through the distribution of productive inputs and post-harvest equipment; the implementation of Cash-for-Work activities; the establishment of Farmer/Pastoral Field Schools and the support to the targeted households in enterprise creation with the organization of the establishment of business associations. In addition, FAO ii) aims to increase the communities’ food production in a sustainable manner and in case of chronic pressure or shocks it supports their ability to restore/maintain their productive capacity. This is achieved through the support of local seeds and farm tools’ productions, livestock re-stocking; fishing fleet renewal and seeding/reseeding of degraded

Somalia
Cereal production

	2008-2012 average	2012	2013 estimate	change 2013/2012
	000 tonnes		percent	
Sorghum	147	184	123	-33
Maize	110	96	124	29
Rice (paddy)	2	2	2	0
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	259	282	249	-12

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



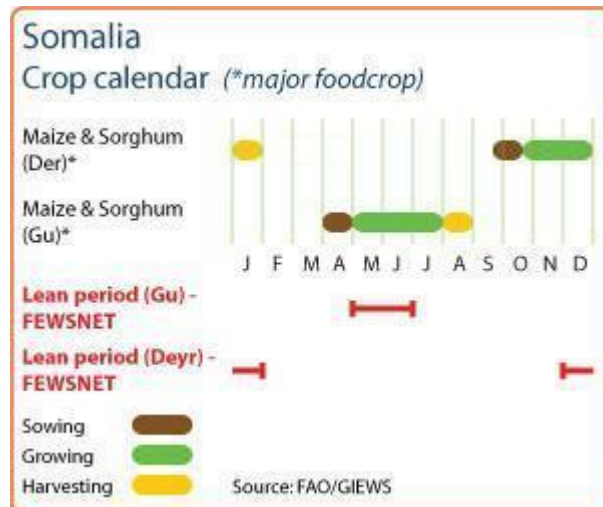
rangelands pastures with the establishment of tree nurseries. In the same framework, FAO iii) enhances the producer organizations' capacity to sell their produce and obtain better prices in the local markets by facilitating the access of producer groups to credit facilities and iv) facilitates the communities' access to knowledge and support services for productive activities mainly through the establishment of pests and diseases surveillance and response systems including vaccination, treatment and vector control activities.

As of early July, the 2014 UN Appeal "Strategic Response Plan for Somalia", launched in December 2013, has received only 28 percent of the USD 933 million requested, with a shortfall of USD 676 million.

Reference Date: 02-June-2014

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Poor start to the main 2014 “gu” season rains raise serious concern in exacerbating the already dire food security situation
- The output of the secondary 2013/14 “deyr” cereal crops harvested in January, are well below average levels in central/southern areas following late and erratic rains as well as floods in some riverine areas
- Recent escalation of conflict in parts resulted in large population displacements and heavily constrained the movement of goods and services
- Prices of cereals are rising in most markets due to a combination of declining stocks from last poor “deyr” harvest, uncertainties about harvest prospects for the current “gu” season and trade disruptions due to insecurity in some areas
- Food security conditions worsen as the lean season progresses and the escalation of conflict in some areas disrupts markets
- Adequate response and a close monitoring of the food security situation is warranted

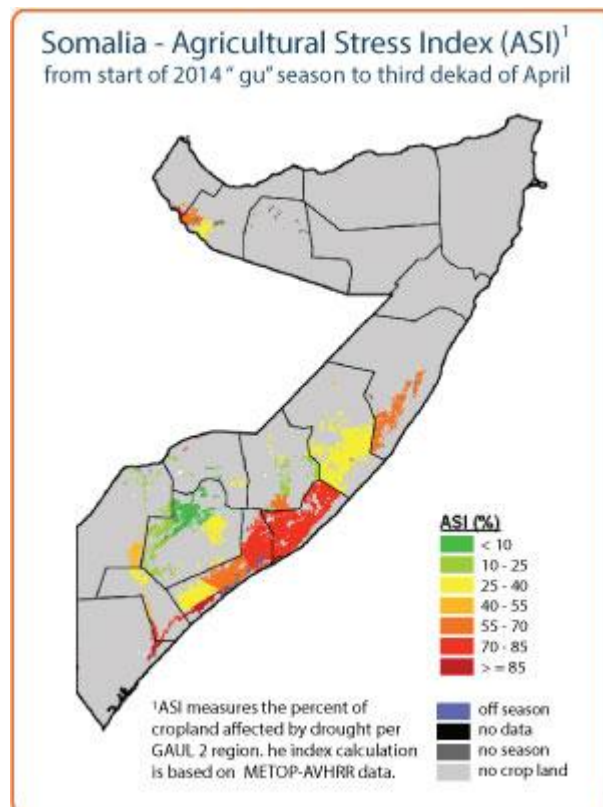


Late and erratic rains affect prospects for the 2014 “gu” season

The 2014 “gu” (April-June) rainy season started in late April in most central and northeastern (Puntland) regions, with a delay of about three weeks. In southern regions, rains began as early as late March in parts (including Bay, southern Gedo and Lower and Middle Juba), allowing for early planting of sorghum and cowpea crops. However, during the whole month of April, precipitations have been well below average and erratic in southern and central regions, affecting crops in the crucial establishment phase. During the first two dekads of May, rains did resume in most parts of the country, reducing soil moisture deficits and allowing for the possibility of replenishment of water and pasture in the North East and for re-planting of wilted crops in the South.

In mid-April, the FAO Agricultural Stress Index (ASI) (see map on the right) highlighted potential drought conditions in the regions of Lower and Middle Shabelle, parts of southern Mudug and western Galbeed in Somaliland. However, during the first two dekads of May, ASI indicated a slight improvement in southern Middle Shabelle, northern Lower Shabelle and Galgadud regions, following the moderate rains received.

The 2014 “gu” harvest, normally carried out from end of July through August, is expected to be delayed. Performance of rainfall in the next few weeks will be crucial but, in general, the 2014 “gu” production would likely be below average especially following the escalation of conflict in parts of Lower and Middle Shabelle, Hiran, Bakool and Gedo, where land preparation has been hampered by the temporary displacement of many farmers.



Food prices rise following reduced harvest, poor crop prospects and insecurity

Prices of locally produced coarse grains remained firm in March in most markets located in key producing areas of the south. The 2013/14 “deyr” cereal output was well below average and stocks were not fully

replenished and, as a consequence, prices increased in April at faster than normal rates. Serious disruptions in markets and trade activities caused by recently intensified conflict in southern and central regions exerted further upward pressure on prices. For instance, wholesale prices of maize increased in April in the capital Mogadishu and in Marka, located in the important maize producing region of Lower Shabelle, by 42 and 15 percent, respectively. Similarly, sorghum prices rose in Baidoa and Beletweine markets, located in the sorghum belt, by 8 and 25 percent, respectively. April prices of maize and sorghum were up to 60 and 80 percent higher than one year earlier, respectively, also due to the scaling back of humanitarian assistance operations. Prices of imported rice were stable in recent months at around the same levels of 12 months earlier, due to low prices on the international market and improved functioning of main entry ports.

Worsening food security due to high prices, conflict and poor production prospects

Currently the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance is estimated at about 860 000, including over 200 000 children under the age of five years. As the lean season deepens until next “gu” harvest, food security conditions are expected to further deteriorate due to depleting stocks and increasing prices of main staple crops. In addition, the recent conflict which caused displacement, disrupted trade flows and limited access to humanitarian assistance; the below average 2013/14 “deyr” season harvest last February and the ensuing food price increases, together with the unfavourable prospects for the current “gu” season are all adding up resulting in serious deterioration of the food security situation.

Food security conditions are then expected to improve slightly in August/September when the 2014 “gu” harvest will be available for consumption. However, as the “gu” output is forecast at below average levels, its positive effects on food availability and access are likely to be moderate.

Ongoing/planned FAO activities on agricultural/livelihood support

In the framework of the agricultural/livelihood support, FAO in Somalia i) supports the diversification of communities’ livelihood strategies through the distribution of productive inputs and post-harvest equipment; the implementation of Cash-for-Work activities; the establishment of Farmer/Pastoral Field Schools and the support to the targeted households in enterprise creation with the organization of the establishment of business associations. In addition, FAO ii) aims to increase the communities’ food production in a sustainable manner and in case of chronic pressure or shocks it supports their ability to restore/maintain their productive capacity. This is achieved through the support of local seeds and farm tools’ productions, livestock re-stocking; fishing fleet renewal and seeding/reseeding of degraded rangelands pastures with the establishment of tree nurseries. Finally, in the same framework, FAO in Somalia iii) enhances the producer organizations’ capacity to sell their produce and obtain better prices in the local markets by facilitating the access of producer groups to credit facilities and iv) facilitates the communities’ access to knowledge and support services for productive activities mainly through the establishment of pests and diseases surveillance and response systems including vaccination, treatment and vector control activities.

So far, the 2014 UN Appeal “Strategic Response Plan for Somalia”, launched in December 2013, has received only 17 percent of the USD 933 million requested, with a shortfall of USD 790 million.

Somalia

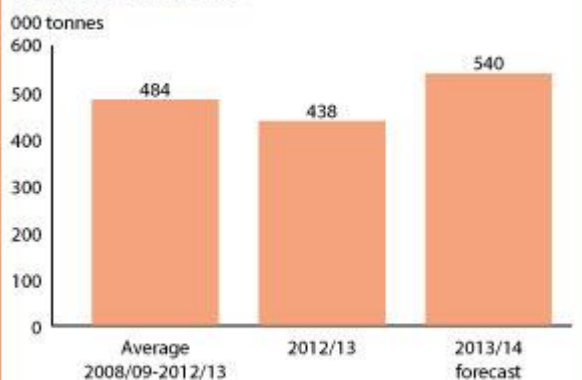
Cereal production

	2008-2012 average	2012	2013 estimate	change 2013/2012
	000 tonnes		percent	
Sorghum	147	184	123	-33
Maize	110	96	124	29
Rice (paddy)	2	2	2	0
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	259	282	249	-12

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

Somalia

Total cereal imports

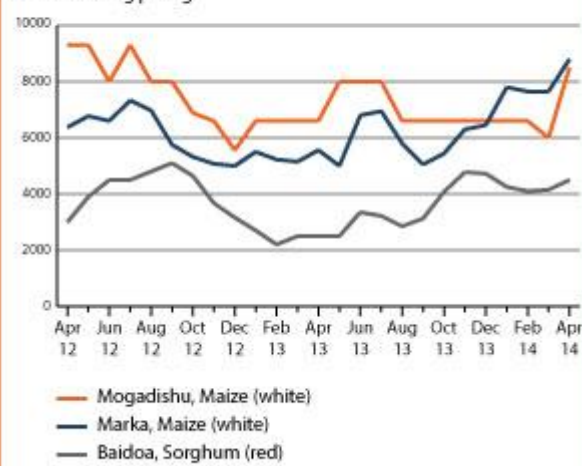


Notes: Total cereal includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Somalia

Selected retail cereal prices

Somali Shilling per Kg



Source: Food Security Analysis Unit

Reference Date: 28-January-2014

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Below average 2013/14 “deyr” cereal crops expected in central/southern areas following late and erratic rains as well as floods in some riverine areas
- Off-season crop production in Shabelle and Juba regions forecast at above average levels
- Prices of cereals on the rise between August and December 2013 in most markets
- Food security expected to worsen in southern areas with poor production prospects

Unfavourable prospects for 2013/14 “deyr” crops in central and southern cropping areas

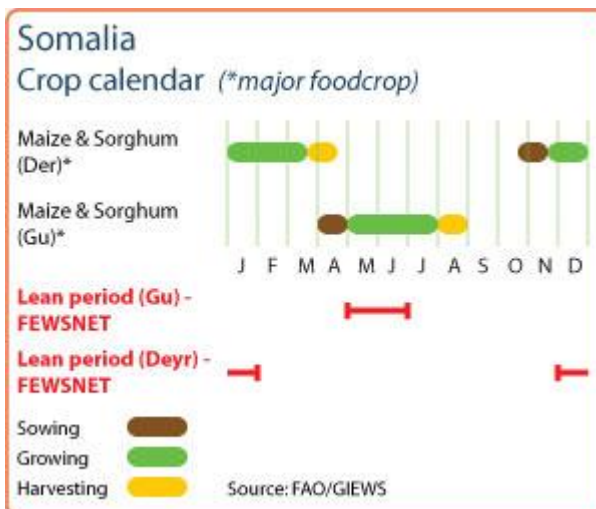
In most central and southern cropping areas, the 2013/14 “deyr” season coarse grains were planted in November, with 4-6 weeks of delay due to late establishment of seasonal rains. Overall “deyr” production, to be harvested between March and April, is expected to be below average, with particularly low levels of production in areas of Gedo as well as Middle and Lower Juba regions bordering Kenya. In these areas, rains were firmly established only around mid-November, leading to a reduction in planted area (especially maize) of about 10-30 percent, and had erratic distribution and low amounts until their cessation in January. In some surplus-producing areas of Middle and Lower Shabelle, extensive floods in November damaged germinating crops. However, floods have allowed significant planting of off-season crops in parts of Juba and Shabelle regions and their production, to be harvested in March-May 2014, is expected to be good.

Grazing conditions quickly worsening in the south

Pasture, browse and water conditions are in average to above average conditions in most northern regions. At the beginning of November a tropical cyclone hit north-eastern Puntland region and torrential rains caused flash floods in Bari and Nugal regions that led to losses of human lives and livestock, and damage to housing and fishery infrastructures, with severe disruption of local livelihood systems. In central (coastal) and southern areas that received well below average “deyr” rains, pasture conditions and water availability are quickly worsening as the long “jilaal” dry season progresses.

Prices of locally produced cereals increasing in recent months

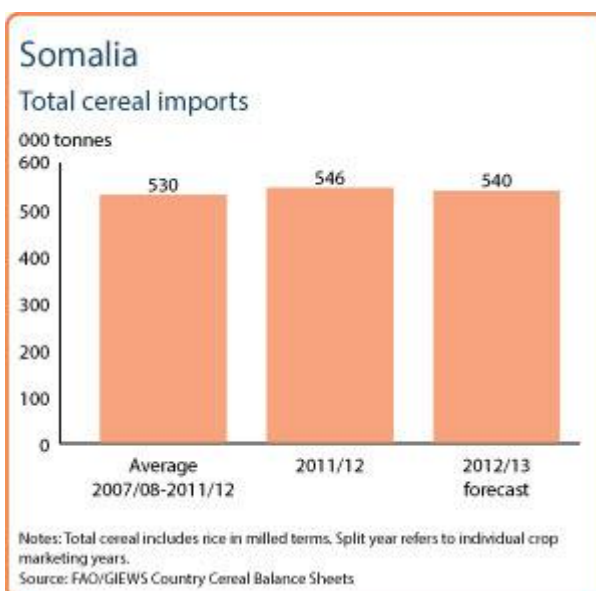
In several markets, prices of locally grown maize and sorghum increased in recent months as seasonal patterns have been compounded by the low supplies from the below average 2013 “gu” harvest. In Marka and Baidoa, two key markets located in major crop producing areas in the south, prices of maize increased from August to December by 11 and 13 percent, respectively, while prices of sorghum increased by 44 and 66 percent over the same period. By contrast, prices in the capital Mogadishu were mostly stable. Compared to their levels of 12 months earlier, prices of maize in December were up to 29 percent higher and prices of sorghum were up to 66 percent higher. Sorghum prices increased more sharply and reached higher absolute



Somalia Cereal production

	2008-2012 average	2012	2013 estimate	change 2013/2012
	000 tonnes			percent
Sorghum	147	184	150	-18
Maize	110	96	110	15
Rice (paddy)	2	2	2	0
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	259	282	262	-7

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

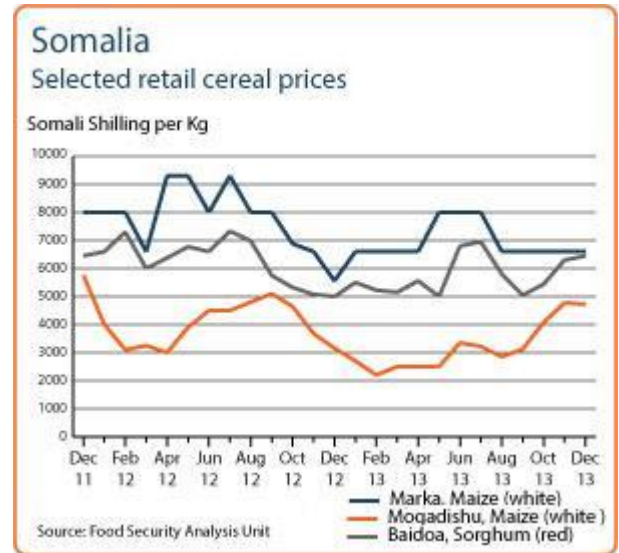


levels than maize prices due to a comparatively larger sorghum production shortfall.

Prices of imported rice increased moderately in most markets in the second semester of 2013 mainly reflecting the slight depreciation of the Somali shilling vis-à-vis the US dollar. However, rice prices in December were still below their levels of 12 months earlier, mainly due to the improved functioning and increased capacity of main ports which allowed a substantial increase in imports.

Worsening food security conditions in southern areas with poor production prospects

Food security conditions are expected to worsen in southern areas that experienced well below average “deyr” precipitations with negative effects on crop production and grazing resources. In riverine areas of Juba and Shabelle regions, the start of harvesting of off-season cereals in March is expected to bring some relief to local households in terms of food availability and access. In the north-east, population living in some districts of Bari and Nugal regions that were hit by a tropical cyclone in November are still recovering and are in crisis/emergency IPC phase 3-4.



Reference Date: 04-September-2013

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Below average 2013 “gu” cereal crops expected in central/southern areas following unfavourable rains, pest outbreaks and reduced planted area
- Off-season crop production forecast at above average levels
- Early start of the dry “hagaa” season (July to September) has negatively impacted on pasture and water availability in the north-east
- Prices of cereals declined in August in most markets
- Just over one million people are in need of humanitarian assistance (about two thirds are IDPs in settlements)
- Food security improved from end July with the start of harvest of 2013 “gu” crops

Unfavourable prospects for 2013 main “gu” season crops

Harvesting of the 2013 main “gu” season coarse grain started in August and will be completed in the coming weeks. Cereal production is expected to be below average, with particularly low yields in areas of Gedo, Huduur and Hiran regions bordering Kenya and Ethiopia that received below average rainfall amounts. In Lower Shabelle region, although rains were generally favourable, maize production is expected to be below average as farmers preferred often to plant more profitable sesame crop. In the north-west, a stock borer infestation together with moisture stress has caused damage to maturing maize crops, while the output of the long-cycle sorghum crop, for harvest in October, is expected at near average levels.

Off-season crop production set to improve

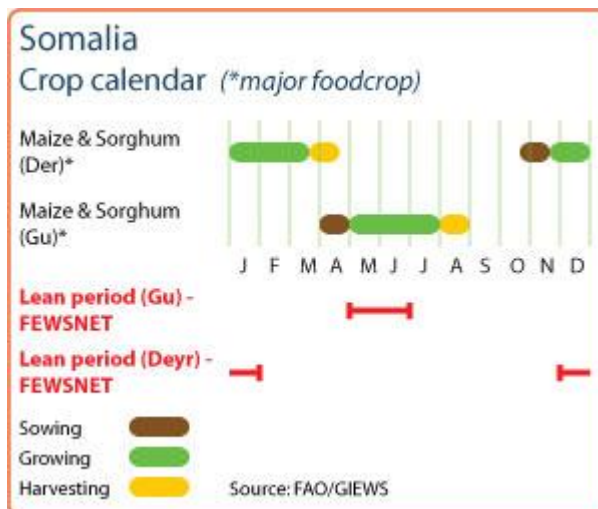
Harvesting of the off-season crop production, mainly maize, has begun and would continue through September. Above average outturn is expected following the torrential rains at the beginning of April, coupled with heavy runoff from catchments in the Ethiopian highlands that resulted in seasonal floods in the Shabelle Valley. The floods resulted in damages to infrastructure and loss of planted area. However, the recession of the flood waters prompted the planting of off-season crops in May and was favoured by the early start of the dry season in June.

Worsening grazing conditions in the north-east following early start of the dry “hagaa” season

In most pastoral and agro-pastoral areas, favourable “gu” rains between late March and April have replenished water catchments and significantly improved pasture and browse conditions with positive effects on livestock body conditions and milk production. However, significant pasture deterioration is reported since May in areas where the July to September “hagaa” dry season started earlier than usual, in particular in Sool Plateau, Nugal Valley and Bari region in the north and in some coastal pastoral areas of central regions.

Cereal prices decreased in August

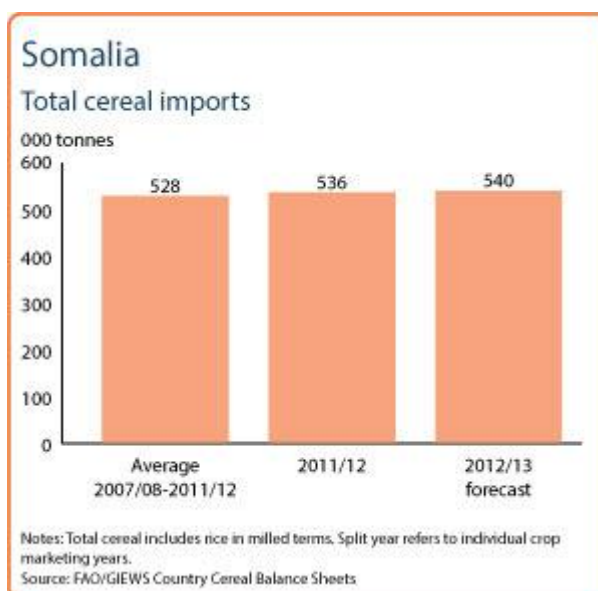
Prices of locally grown maize and sorghum increased in May in the



Somalia Cereal production

	2008-2012 average	2012	2013 forecast	change 2013/2012
	000 tonnes			percent
Sorghum	147	184	160	-13
Maize	110	96	110	15
Rice (paddy)	2	2	2	0
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	259	282	272	-4

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



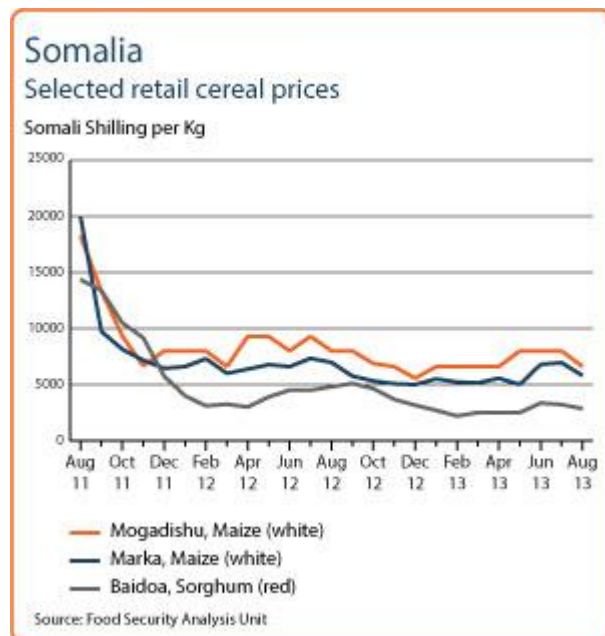
capital Mogadishu by 21 and 14 percent, respectively and by about 25-35 percent in June in Marka and Baidoa, two key markets located in major crop producing areas in the south of the country. The price surges reflected the depletion of stocks from the “deyr” crops, harvested last February, and concerns over the performance of the 2013 “gu” harvest. Subsequently, prices levelled off in July and decreased in August by between 8 and 24 percent as the crops from the 2013 “gu” harvest increased supplies.

Overall, maize and sorghum prices in August 2013 were well below their levels of 12 months earlier (up to 50 percent less) and about 75 percent below their peak high in June 2011, when famine was declared.

Prices of imported rice were stable in most markets in recent months. In Mogadishu, however, they increased by 17 percent from April to July due to the introduction of new port charges and the depreciation of the local currency, and subsequently declined in August, reflecting the increased availability of domestic cereals. Current rice prices are down by 20 percent compared to August 2012), mainly due to the improved functioning of main ports which allowed a substantial increase in imports.

Food security improves as the 2013 “gu” season harvest continues

The overall food security situation has slightly improved from end-July and the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance, estimated at 1.05 million in January 2013, decreased to 870 000 people. This follows the availability of first green crops, declining food prices and labour opportunities linked to harvesting operations of “gu” crops. Pocket areas of food security “crisis” level (IPC phase 3) remain in some livestock dependant coastal areas of central and north-western Somalia as a result of limited livestock assets and poor rains during the last six months. These improvements are expected to be short-lived especially where a below average “gu” harvest is expected, such as agro-pastoral areas of central Hiran region.



Reference Date: 12-July-2013

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Below average 2013 “gu” cereal crops expected in central/southern areas following unfavourable rains, pest outbreaks and reduced planted area
- Off-season crop production forecast at above average levels
- Early start of the dry “hagaa” season (July to September) has negatively impacted on pasture and water availability in the north-east
- Prices of coarse grains increase seasonally as the lean season peaks
- Just over one million people are in need of humanitarian assistance (about two thirds are IDPs in settlements)
- Food security expected to improve from end July with green consumption of 2013 “gu” crops

Unfavourable prospects for 2013 main “gu” season crops

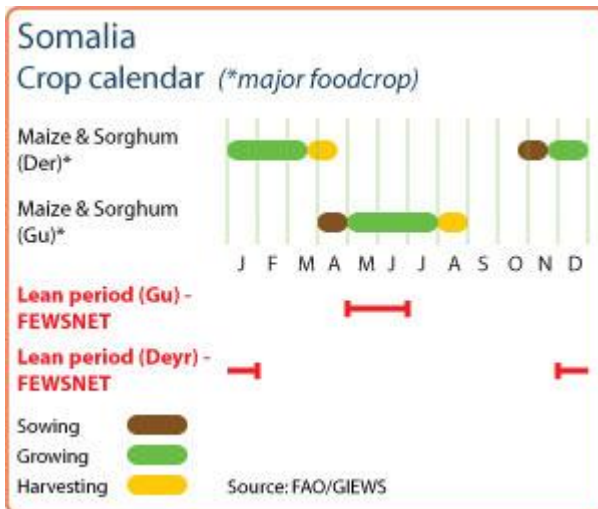
After a favourable start of the 2013 “gu” rainy season (April to June), rains subsided by mid- May in some southern/central areas of the country, such as Hiraan and Middle Shabelle. The 2013 “gu” season coarse grain production, to be harvested in August, is expected to be below average, with particularly low yields in areas of Gedo, Huduur and Hiran regions bordering Kenya and Ethiopia that received below average rainfall amounts. In Lower Shabelle region, although rains were generally favourable, maize production is expected to be below average as farmers preferred often to plant more profitable sesame crop. In the north-west, a stock borer infestation together with moisture stress has caused damage to maturing maize crops, while the final output of the long-cycle sorghum crop, for harvest in October, still depends on the performance of the July-August “karan” rains.

Off-season crop production set to improve

Torrential rains at the beginning of April, coupled with heavy runoff from catchments in the Ethiopian highlands, resulted in seasonal floods in the Shabelle Valley with damages to infrastructure and loss of planted area. With the recession of flood waters, however, planting of off-season crops started in May and, favoured by the early start of the dry season, continued through June. Off-season crop production, mainly maize to be gathered between August and September, is therefore expected to be above average.

Worsening grazing conditions in the north-east following early start of the dry “hagaa” season

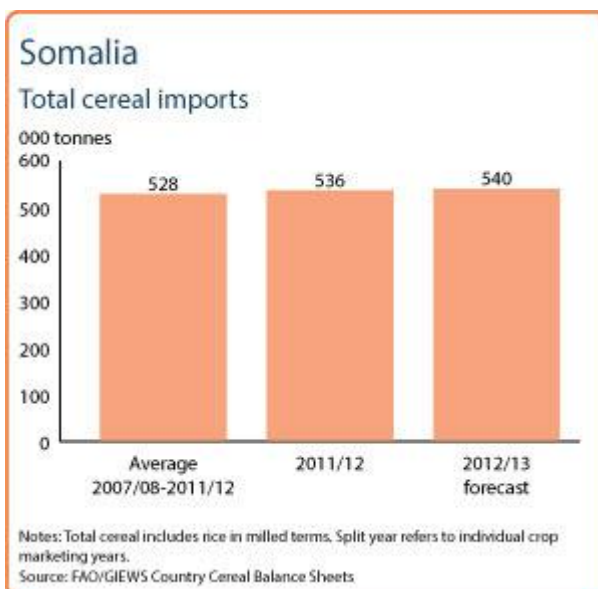
In most pastoral and agro-pastoral areas, favourable “gu” rains between late March and April have replenished water catchments and significantly improved pasture and browse conditions, with positive effects on livestock body conditions and milk production. However, significant pasture deterioration is reported since May in areas where the July to September “hagaa” dry season started earlier than usual, in particular in Sool Plateau, Nugal Valley and Bari region in the north and in some coastal pastoral areas of central regions.



Somalia Cereal production

	2008-2012 average	2012	2013 forecast	change 2013/2012
	000 tonnes		percent	
Sorghum	147	184	160	-13
Maize	110	96	110	15
Rice (paddy)	2	2	2	0
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	259	282	272	-4

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



Maize and sorghum prices increasing seasonally but remain at relatively low levels

Prices of locally grown maize and sorghum increased sharply (by about 25-35 percent) in June in Marka and Baidoa, two key markets located in major crop producing areas in the south of the country. In the capital Mogadishu, increases of maize and sorghum prices in May by 21 and 14 percent, respectively, were followed by stable conditions in June. The recent price surges reflect the depletion of stocks from the deyr crops, harvested last February, and concerns over the performance of the 2013 gu harvest. Nonetheless, current maize and sorghum prices are still around their levels of 12 months earlier and about 70 percent below their peak reached in June 2011, when famine was declared.

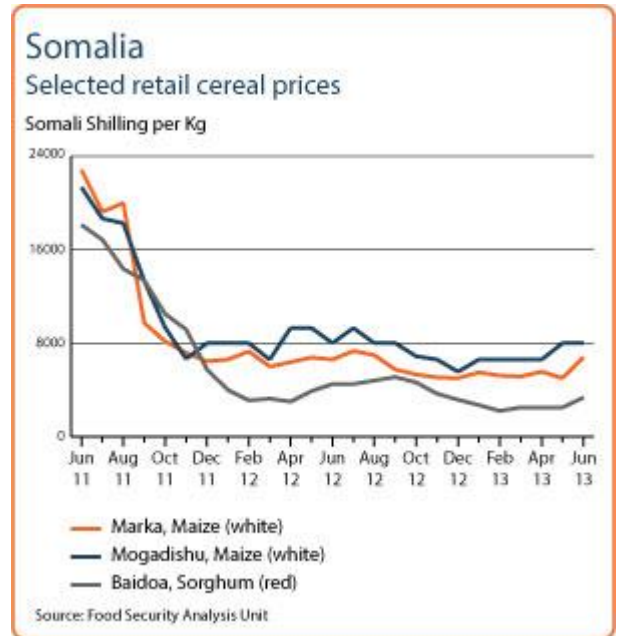
Prices of imported rice were stable in most markets in the first semester of 2013, but increased by 13 percent from April to June in Mogadishu, due to the introduction of new port charges and the depreciation of the local currency. Current rice prices are down by up to 29 percent (compared to June 2013), mainly due to the improved functioning of main ports which allowed a substantial increase in imports.

Food security expected to improve as the 2013 “gu” season harvest starts

The number of people in need of emergency assistance was halved between August 2012 and February 2013 to 1.05 million (including 615 000 IDPs). Continued humanitarian interventions, improved food supply at household and market levels (due to the good 2012/13 “deyr” harvest last February) and improved milk availability in most pastoral areas have all contributed. Pocket areas at food security “crisis” level (IPC phase 3) remain in some livestock dependant coastal areas of central and north-western Somalia as a result of limited livestock assets and poor rains during the last six months.

The overall food security situation is expected to improve from end-July as first green crops become available for consumption and labour opportunities linked to harvesting operations improve income availability and access to food markets for poor rural households. However, these improvements are expected to be short-lived especially where a below average “gu” harvest is expected, such as agro-pastoral areas of central Hiran region.

Although grazing resources are worsening in some north-western areas, food security of pastoralists is generally expected to improve as exports of livestock to the Middle East increase in July/August during Ramadan and Eid celebrations, pushing prices up and increasing households’ income.



Reference Date: 11-June-2013

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Favourable rains in the current 2013 main “gu” cropping season, benefit cereal yields
- Good availability of pasture and water in most pastoral areas
- Prices of coarse grains increase seasonally as the lean season peaks, but remain lower than one year ago
- Just over one million people are in need of humanitarian assistance (about two thirds are IDPs in settlements)
- Food security expected to improve from July as green harvesting of 2013 “gu” crops starts

Good crop yields expected in the 2013 main “gu” cropping season

Planting of the 2013 main “gu” season coarse grains, to be harvested from July/August, was concluded in April and planting area is estimated at average levels. The 2013 “gu” rainy season (April to June) started slightly earlier than usual at the end of March and most parts of the country received average to above average amounts, favouring establishment and development of crops. So far, overall “gu” sorghum and maize production is expected to be near average, although the final outcome still depends on rainfall performance in the remainder of the season, until end of June.

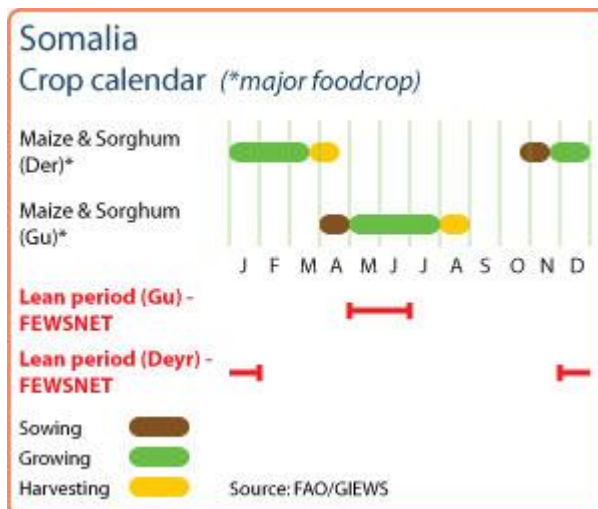
Relatively lower yields are expected in areas that experienced below average rainfall amounts, such as central and north-eastern coastal zones and parts of north-eastern region of Bari and Sanaag, and in areas where rains subsided early in May, such as Middle/Lower Shabelle and Hiran regions in the south. In southern Bay region, high rates of cricket infestation have damaged maize and sorghum crops.

Floods damage “gu” crops in the south, but foster recession planting

Torrential precipitations at the beginning of April, coupled with heavy runoff from rain catchments in Ethiopian highlands, caused seasonal floods in the Shabelle Valley with damages to infrastructure, loss of planted area estimated between 4 000 and 6 000 hectares and displacement of over 50 000 people. However, as flood waters receded, recession cultivation started in May and an above average production of off-season crops (to be harvested between August and September) is forecast.

Favourable grazing conditions reported in most pastoral areas

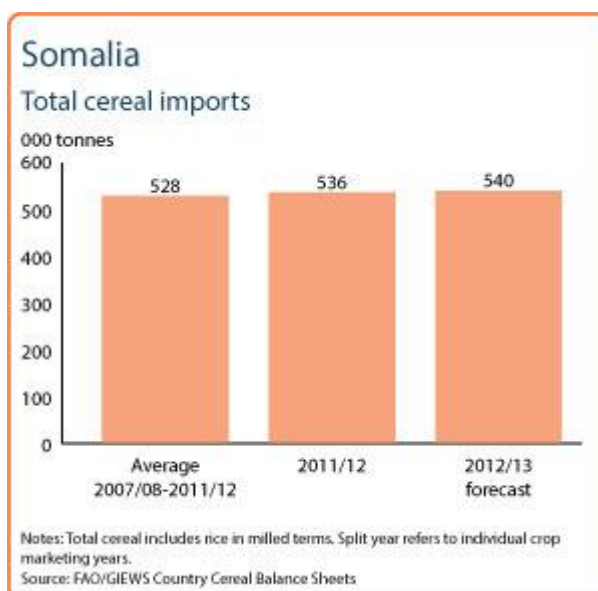
In most pastoral and agro-pastoral areas, favourable “gu” rains have replenished water catchments and significantly improved pasture and browse conditions, with positive effects on livestock body conditions and milk production. However, pasture conditions have worsened in May in some areas that experienced an early cessation of “gu” rains, in particular in parts of central regions and in Sool Plateau and Nugal Valley in the north.



Somalia Cereal production

	2007-2011 average	2011	2012 estimate	change 2012/2011
	000 tonnes			percent
Sorghum	135	142	184	30
Maize	105	114	96	-16
Rice (paddy)	2	2	2	0
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	243	258	282	9

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



Maize and sorghum prices seasonally increasing but remain at relatively low levels

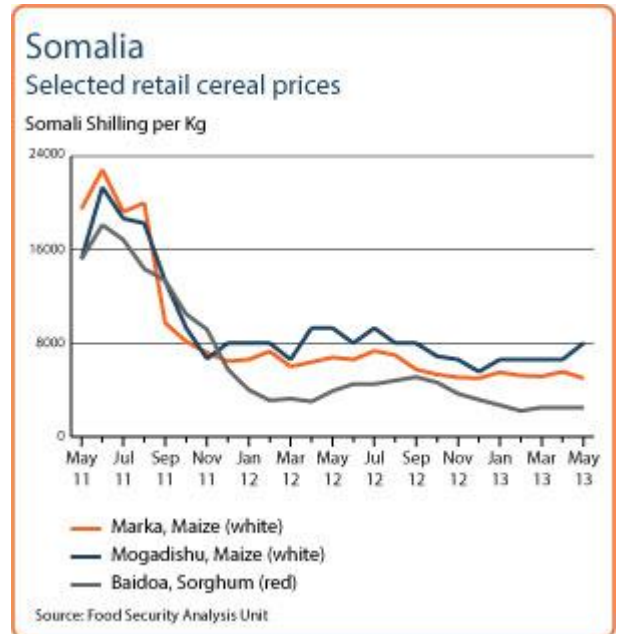
Prices of locally grown maize and sorghum increased in May in the capital city Mogadishu and other markets as supplies from the “deyr” crops, harvested last February, dwindle. Heavy rains in April, which made some roads impassable and disrupted trade flows, added to supply shortages. Nonetheless, current maize prices are about 15-25 percent below their levels of 12 months earlier and about 60-80 percent below the peak reached in June 2011, when famine was declared. Similarly, current sorghum prices in Baidoa market, located in the sorghum belt, are 36 percent lower than 12 months earlier and 86 percent below the peak of June 2011.

Prices of imported rice remained stable in most markets in May, but increased by 8 percent in Mogadishu, partly due to the introduction of new port charges. Compared to May 2013, current rice prices are down by up to 28 percent, mainly due to the appreciation of the Somali Shilling against the US dollar and the improved functioning of main ports which allowed a substantial increase in imports.

Food security expected to improve as the 2013 “gu” season harvest starts

The number of people in need of emergency assistance was halved between August 2012 and February 2013 to 1.05 million (including 615 000 IDPs) following continued humanitarian interventions, improved food supply at household and market levels (due to the good 2012/13 “deyr” harvest last February) and improved milk availability in most pastoral areas. Pocket areas at food security “crisis” level (IPC phase 3) remain in some livestock dependant coastal areas of central and north-western Somalia as a result of limited livestock assets and poor rains during the last six months.

Although malnutrition rates are still among the highest in the world, especially in IDP settlements, the overall food security situation is expected to improve from July as first green crops will be available for consumption and labour opportunities linked to harvesting operations will improve income availability and access to food markets for poor rural households. Food security of pastoralists is also expected to improve as exports of livestock to the Middle East increase in July/August during Ramadan and Eid celebrations, pushing prices up and increasing households’ income.



Reference Date: 11-February-2013

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Well distributed 2012/13 “deyr” rains benefitted cereal yields in most southern and central regions
- Good availability of pasture and water in most pastoral areas
- Prices of coarse grains are stable and low in main markets, while prices of livestock are generally high
- Number of people in need of humanitarian assistance declines to 1.05 million (about two thirds are IDPs in settlements)

Good prospects for 2012/13 “deyr” crops in southern and central Somalia

Harvesting of 2012/13 “deyr” cereal crops is underway and will continue until late March. Crop production is forecast at a near average level in most areas of southern and central Somalia following good and evenly distributed “deyr” rains (October-December). In particular, sorghum planted area was slightly above average, while area planted with maize declined slightly as many farmers in riverine areas shifted to sesame production. By contrast, below average production is expected in some agro-pastoral areas of Gedo as well as Lower and Middle Juba due to inadequate rains. In Juba region, the off-season production, for harvest next March, is expected to be negligible for lack of adequate river flooding that facilitates recessional cultivation.

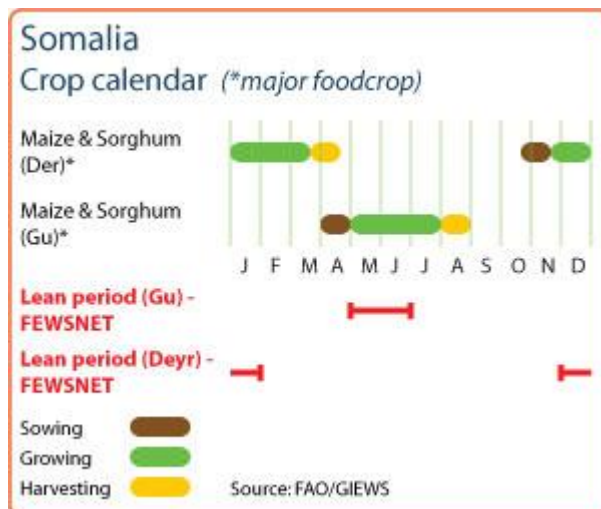
Favourable grazing conditions reported in most pastoral areas

Pasture and water availabilities have improved following favourable “deyr” rains and livestock body conditions are reported to be average to good. Exceptions are parts of Sool Plateau and Nugal Valley in the North-west that experienced poor rains since the onset of the season, resulting in abnormal livestock outmigration towards north-eastern areas. Poor pasture conditions are also reported in Gedo, Coastal Deeh of Lower Shabelle and Lower Juba in South-Central Somalia.

Maize and sorghum prices remain relatively stable and low

Prices of local cereal staples have been stable or declined since the harvest of 2012 “gu” season crops last August/September and are expected to show a downward trend during the first quarter of 2013 as the 2012/13 “deyr” season crops become available on main markets. In major producing areas, maize and sorghum prices in January 2013 were between 18 and 61 percent below the level of January 2012, while in northern cereal deficit areas price declines have been comparatively minor. In particular, in January 2013, prices of maize in the main markets of the capital Mogadishu and Marka, located in the important maize producing region of Lower Shabelle, were about 18 percent below the levels of one year earlier and 69 and 76 percent below the peak reached in June 2011, respectively. Similarly, sorghum prices in January 2013 in Baidoa market, located in the sorghum belt, were 33 percent lower than 12 months earlier and 85 percent below the peak of June 2011.

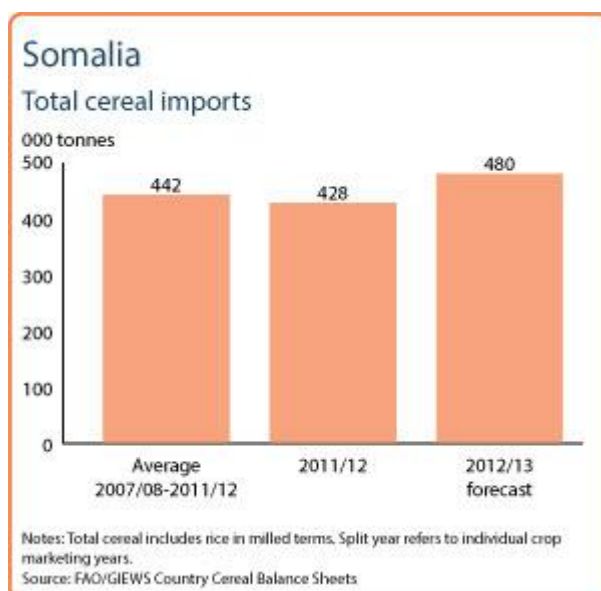
Prices of imported rice also followed a declining trend in 2012 in all



Somalia Cereal production

	2007-2011 average	2011	2012 estimate	change 2012/2011
	000 tonnes			percent
Sorghum	135	142	150	6
Maize	105	114	91	-20
Rice (paddy)	2	2	2	0
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	243	258	243	-6

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

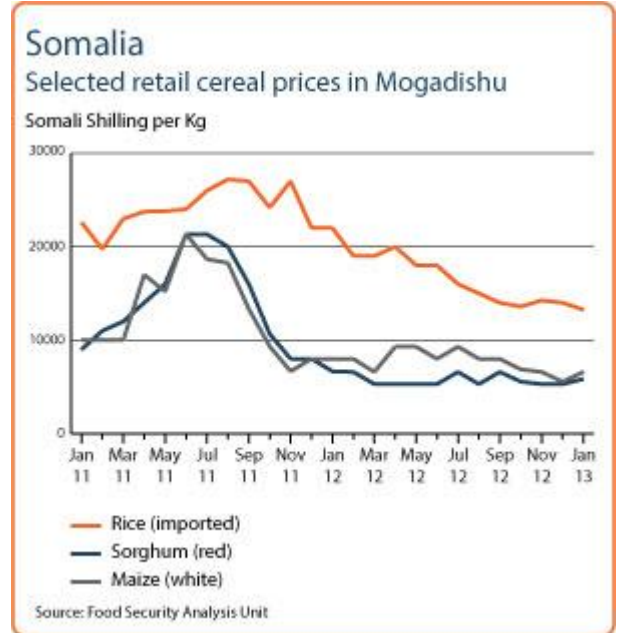


monitored markets and, by January 2013, they were down by up to 40 percent compared to last year, mainly due to the appreciation of the Somali Shilling against the US dollar and the reopening and better functioning of the Mogadishu port, which allowed a substantial increase in imports.

In general, current livestock prices are significantly higher than 12 months ago due to improved body conditions and increased demand for local consumption and export, mainly to Saudi Arabia. During last year, terms of trade for pastoralists have significantly improved, with increases ranging between 50-100 percent.

Improving overall food security situation

The number of people in need of emergency assistance was halved in the past six months to 1.05 million (including 615 000 IDPs) as a consequence of continued humanitarian interventions, improved food supply at household and market levels due to the ongoing 2012/13 “deyr” harvest and improved milk availability in most pastoral areas. Some livestock dependant coastal areas of central and northern Somalia and the agro-pastoral areas in Jamame district still remain at food security “crisis” level (IPC phase 3) as result of limited livestock assets and poor “deyr” rains. Malnutrition rates are still the highest in the world, but have recently improved across the country (except in most IDP settlements) as most households had better access to food following increased income due to livestock sales at the time of Hajj and farm labour opportunities along the “deyr” season. In addition, the enhanced security situation, especially in the capital city Mogadishu, has allowed the re-opening of several markets and households’ food access has significantly improved due to low food prices, stable/rising casual labour wage rates and increasing flow of remittances.



Reference Date: 20-July-2012

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Poor and erratic 2012 “gu” rains affected cereal crops in southern and central regions
- Good availability of pasture and water in most pastoral areas
- Prices of coarse grains are stable at relatively low levels in main markets
- Number of food insecure people expected to remain stable under continued humanitarian support

Unfavourable prospects for 2012 “gu” crops in southern and central Somalia

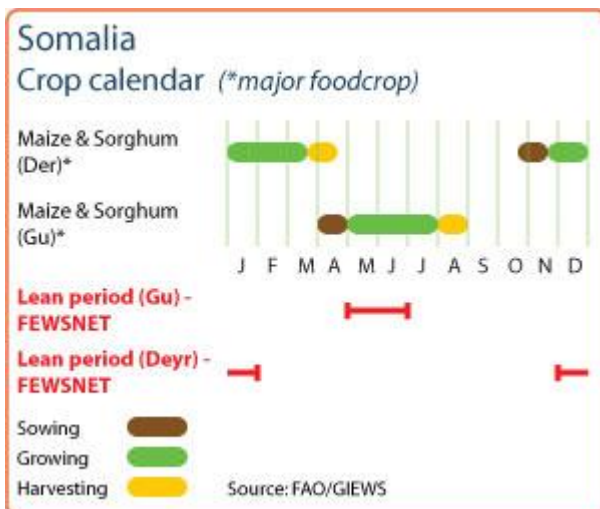
In most parts of the country, the 2012 “gu” rainy season (April to June) started late by 2-3 weeks and overall precipitation was below average and unevenly distributed in time and space. With the exception of northern regions that received favourable “gu” rains, below average rainfall levels were registered in southern agro-pastoral regions of Middle/Lower Juba, Lower Shabelle, Bakool, Hiran, Gedo and parts of Bay (that normally produce two thirds of the national sorghum production). Prolonged dry spells (up to 35 days of moisture stress) and an outbreak of crickets affecting seedlings have resulted in several replantings with a significant reduction in crop established area as compared to the initial area planted. Dry weather conditions have also affected agro-pastoral areas in some central and northern areas such as parts of the Sool plateau, Nugal Valley, Addun and Coastal Deeh.

Harvesting operations of 2012 “gu” cereal crops are expected to start in August, about one month later than usual, and production in South-Central rain-fed areas is forecast at below average levels (but still above last year’s drought-affected output). Conversely, better production prospects are expected for the maize crop in riverine areas of Lower and Middle Shabelle due to relatively better availability of irrigation facilities. In the Northwest, maize and sorghum production is currently forecast at average levels, but the final output will be determined by the impact of “karan” rains, expected to start from the end of July.

The coastal areas of the Shabelle and Juba Valleys, as well as parts of Bay, are already receiving some “hagaa” rains (June to August) that are forecast to be average to above average, reversing moisture deficits and increasing the likelihood of good off-season crops to be harvested in September.

Good conditions of grazing resources in most pastoral areas

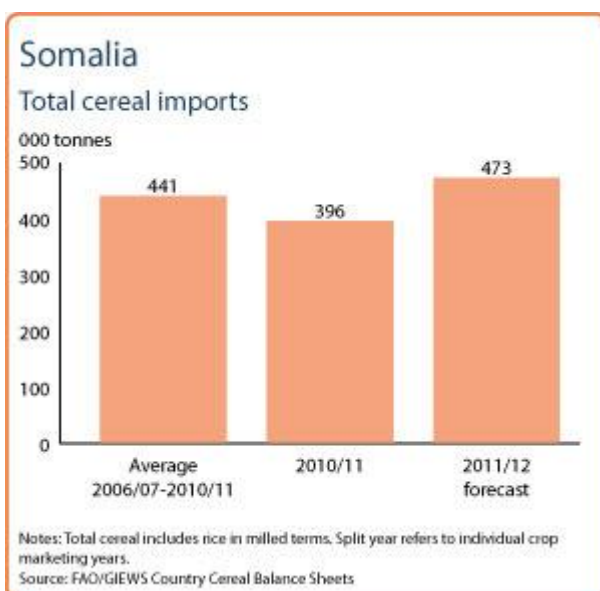
In most pastoral areas, pasture and water availabilities have improved following the last good “deyr” season (October to December) and the recent “gu” rains. Herd size of sheep and goats started to improve since the beginning of the year, while cattle and camels are expected to start calving soon leading to better availability of milk. An early depletion of grazing resources is expected in Coastal Deeh in parts of Addun, Sool and Nugal regions, and in the cowpea belt of central regions as a consequence of poor and erratic 2012 “gu” rains. Recently started



Somalia Cereal production

	2006-2010 average	2010	2011 estimate	change 2011/2010
	000 tonnes			percent
Sorghum	140	158	142	-10
Maize	102	135	114	-16
Rice (paddy)	2	2	2	0
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	244	295	258	-13

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



“hagaa” rains are however expected to improve rangeland conditions along the southern coastal areas.

Maize and sorghum prices remain stable and low

During the last twelve months, prices of local cereal staples have sharply declined from their peak in June 2011 and have been relatively stable at low levels since the first months of 2012. The recent trend is essentially due to the good supply of cereals in main markets following the above average 2011/12 “deyr” harvest, the off-season cereal production harvested in March/April and the substantial cereal imports for humanitarian assistance. Compared to last year, maize and sorghum prices have declined between 50 and 80 percent in the main producing areas, while minor decreases of only 10-15 percent were recorded in northern cereal deficit areas. In particular, in June 2012, prices of maize in the main markets of the capital Mogadishu and Marka, located in the main maize producing southern region of Lower Shabelle, were respectively 62 and 75 percent below the levels of one year earlier. Similarly, sorghum prices in June 2012 in Baidoa market, located in the sorghum belt, were 75 percent below the peaks reached in June 2011.

Prices of imported rice continued their declining trend that started in September 2011, although at a slower rate in recent months. In all monitored markets, current rice prices are down by up to 40 percent compared to last year, mainly due to lower international prices, the slight appreciation of the Somali Shilling against the US dollar and the increase of supplies following the reopening of the Mogadishu port.

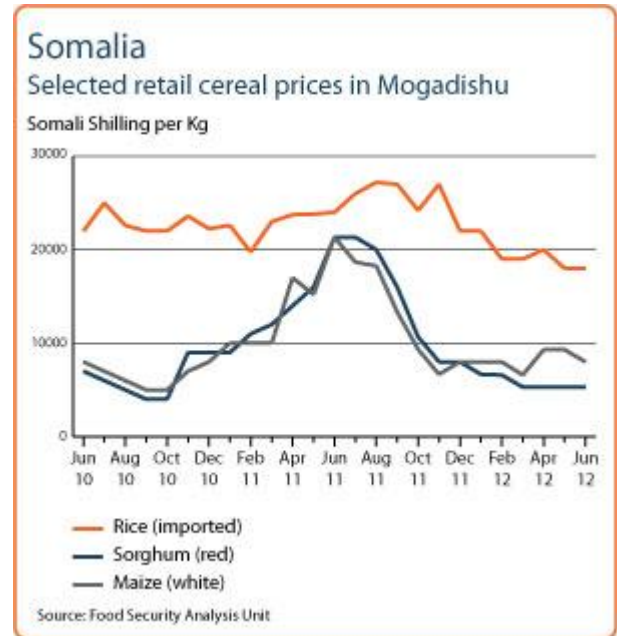
Livestock prices have increased during last six months in most markets as a consequence of generally improved animal body conditions, an increased demand (including for export, mainly to Saudi Arabia) and a reduced supply following the impact of recent droughts on herd size, especially in the South.

Continued humanitarian assistance needed to avoid worsening of the food security situation

The rapid preliminary “gu” season assessment carried out by FAO's Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU) in June 2012, indicated that the total number of food insecure people is likely to remain unchanged in the second half of 2012 provided that current levels of humanitarian support (cash and food) to 3.4 million people are guaranteed.

On the other hand, food security conditions are gradually deteriorating in some southern and central agro-pastoral areas of Bay, Bakool, Gedo, Hiran, and Middle and Lower Juba regions. In addition to the civil insecurity and armed conflict that continue to represent major threats to food security, these areas are experiencing a prolonged lean season following the delay of the “gu” harvest. Improvements are only expected from early September when the bulk of the newly harvested “gu” crops are commercialized.

By contrast, the food security situation is improving in most pastoral areas (except along central and northern coastlines affected by dry weather conditions) following favourable terms-of-trade for livestock and in urban Mogadishu. In the capital city, the enhanced security situation has allowed the re-opening of main markets and households' food access has significantly improved due to low food prices, stable/rising casual labour wage rates and increasing flow of remittances.



Reference Date: 26-March-2012

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- End of famine conditions declared, but an estimated 2.51 million people still need emergency humanitarian assistance
- Humanitarian aid delivery is still heavily hampered by persistent conflict and civil insecurity
- Good prospects for the 2011/12 secondary “deyr” season crops
- Prices of coarse grains are stable at relatively low levels in main markets

Famine ends in southern Somalia, but food security situation remains difficult

The well above average cereal production expected from the 2011 secondary “deyr” season following favourable October-to-December rains coupled with substantial humanitarian assistance during the last six months has mitigated food deficits and significantly reduced both acute malnutrition and mortality in most drought-affected areas. Accordingly, on 3 February 2012, the United Nations has declared the end of famine conditions in southern Somalia and the estimated number of people in need of emergency humanitarian assistance has been revised down to 2.51 million (about 30 percent of the population) from about 4 million at the peak of the emergency during last summer. Most of the affected people are pastoral and agro-pastoral households in southern regions (in particular Lower Shabelle, Bay, Bakool and Gedo) whose resilience and coping strategies have been significantly compromised since the poor outturn of the 2010 “deyr” season. Limited improvements in food security are also registered in coastal areas of central and north east where pastoralists have yet to recover their herd sizes following consecutive seasons of poor rainfall.

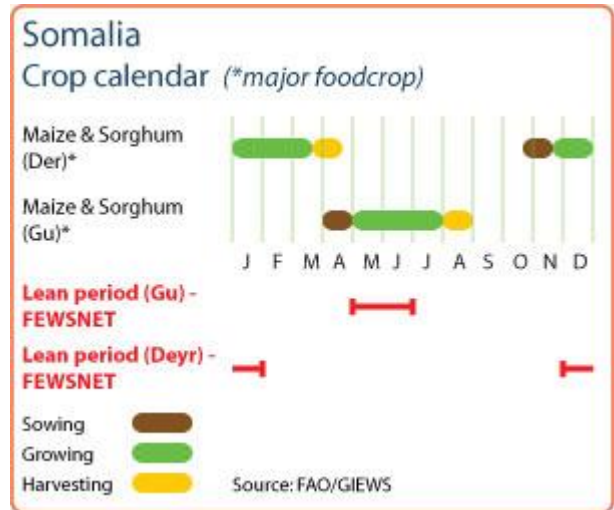
Rate of population displacement declines

The drought-induced influx of Somali refugees into neighbouring countries has significantly declined in recent weeks, with about 22 000 new arrivals since the beginning of 2012. According to UNHCR, the total number of refugees hosted in camps in Kenya, Ethiopia and Djibouti was estimated at about 730 500 people at 21 March 2012. An additional 209 000 Somali refugees are registered in Yemen.

Civil insecurity and armed conflicts continue to represent the major serious threats to food security in most areas of southern and central Somalia, particularly in Mogadishu, parts of Bakool, Juba, Hiran, Mudug, Galgadud, Lower Juba and Gedo regions. This situation has resulted in loss of human lives, increased displacements of civilians, disruption of trade activities and increased transportation costs. Increasing restrictions to delivery of humanitarian assistance in southern and central areas may quickly reverse recent improvements.

Positive outturn of the 2011/12 secondary “deyr” season crops

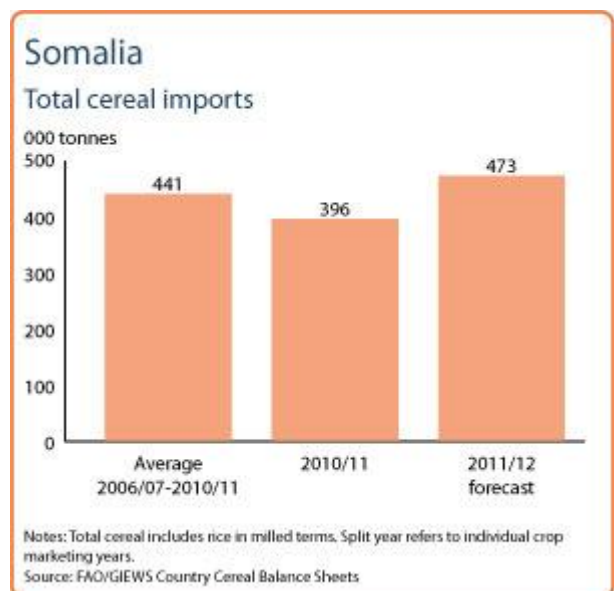
Harvesting of 2011/12 “deyr” season cereal crops is almost complete. Well above average production is forecast in most crop producing areas of southern and central Somalia due to good and evenly distributed rainfall as well as average planted area. According to the



Somalia Cereal production

	2006-2010 average	2010	2011 estimate	change 2011/2010
	000 tonnes			percent
Sorghum	140	158	142	-10
Maize	102	135	114	-16
Rice (paddy)	2	2	2	0
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	244	295	258	-13

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



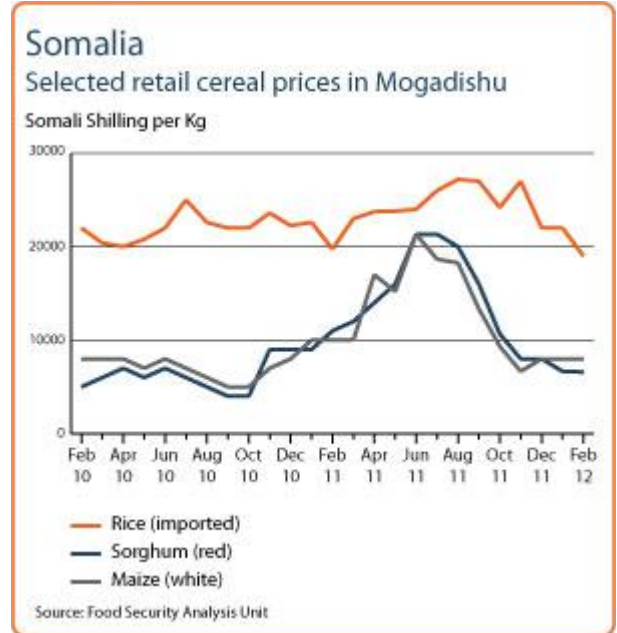
latest deyr production outlook report by FSNAU, major producing regions of Lower Shabelle and Bay are expected to have sufficient cereal stocks at least up to the beginning of the next “gu” harvest in July 2012. Good stock availability is also forecast in Middle Shabelle, Hiran and Bakool regions. In contrast, crop production is forecast at well below average levels in some riverine districts of Juba and Gedo regions due to flash floods and river flooding following torrential rains from late October to early December that damaged standing crops, especially sorghum. However, this excess moisture benefitted off-season crops, mainly sesame, maize and other cash crops, that are currently being harvested.

Most Northern regions received moderate rains in October followed by dry spells in November and December, particularly in parts of Sanaag, Sool, Bari, Awdal and the eastern parts of Nugal region with negative impact on crop yields and pasture conditions. However, agro-pastoral areas of Northwest regions received good and evenly distributed 2011 “karan” rains (August-October) benefitting cereal crop production that is estimated at 68 000 tonnes, the second best performance since 1998.

Maize and sorghum prices remain stable and low

Prices of domestically produced staple cereal crops, which peaked in June 2011 began a downward trend since, stabilised at low levels in the first months of 2012. Prices of maize declined by 62 and 72 percent from June to December in the main markets of Mogadishu, the capital city, and Marka, located in the main maize producing southern region of Lower Shabelle, respectively. Prices of sorghum decreased in Baidoa market, located in the sorghum belt, by 68 percent over the same period. The significant decrease followed the increased supplies from the 2011 “gu” harvest last August and the delivery of humanitarian assistance. In general, maize and red sorghum were traded in February 2012 well below their levels of one year earlier and are expected to decline further in the coming weeks as the bulk of 2011 “deyr” harvest is expected to reach main markets followed by the off-season cereal production obtained in March in riverine districts.

Between September 2011 and February 2012 prices of imported rice declined by 46 and 30 percent respectively in Marka and Mogadishu markets, mainly due to lower international prices coupled with the slight appreciation of the Somali Shilling against the US dollar. In most markets, current rice prices are similar or lower than their levels of one year before.



Reference Date: 08-February-2012

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- End of famine conditions declared, but an estimated 2.32 million people still need emergency humanitarian assistance
- Humanitarian aid delivery is still heavily hampered by persistent conflict and civil insecurity
- Excellent prospects for the 2011/12 secondary “deyr” season crop production, for harvest from February 2012
- Prices of coarse grains declined sharply in the last six months

Famine ends in southern Somalia, but food security situation remains difficult

The well above average cereal production expected from the 2011 secondary “deyr” season following favourable October-to-December rains coupled with substantial humanitarian assistance during the last six months has mitigated food deficits and significantly reduced both acute malnutrition and mortality in most drought-affected areas. On February 3, 2012, the United Nations has declared the end of famine conditions in southern Somalia and the estimated number of people in need of emergency humanitarian assistance has been revised downward from about 4 million to 2.32 million, about 30 percent of the population. Most of the vulnerable are pastoral and agro-pastoral households in southern regions (in particular Lower Shabelle, Bay, Bakool and Gedo) whose resilience and coping strategies have significantly deteriorated since the poor outturn of the 2010 “deyr” season one year ago. Limited improvements in food security are also registered in coastal areas of central and north east, but pastoralists have yet to recover their herd sizes following consecutive seasons of poor rainfall.

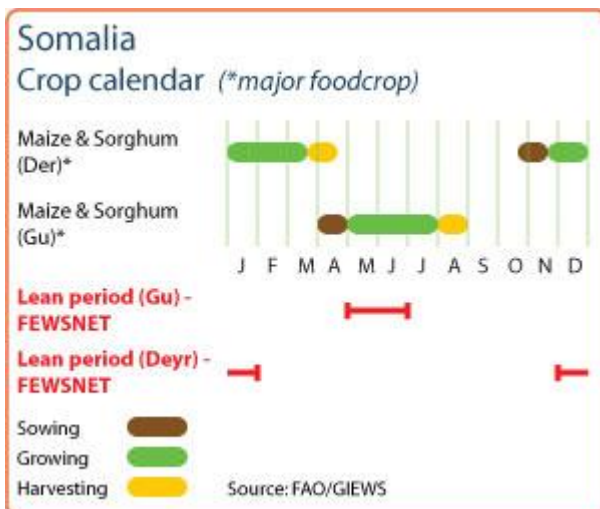
Rate of population displacement declines

The drought-induced influx of Somali refugees into neighbouring countries has significantly declined in recent weeks and, according to UNHCR, the total number of refugees hosted in camps in Kenya, Ethiopia and Djibouti is currently estimated at about 726 000 people.

Civil insecurity and armed conflicts continue to represent the major serious threats to food security in most areas of southern and central Somalia, particularly in Mogadishu, parts of Bakool, Juba, Hiran, Mudug, Galgadud, Lower Juba and Gedo regions. This situation has resulted in loss of human lives, increased displacements of civilians, disruption of trade activities and increased transportation costs. Increasing restrictions to delivery of humanitarian assistance in southern and central areas may quickly reverse recent improvements.

Very good prospects for 2011/12 secondary “deyr” season crops

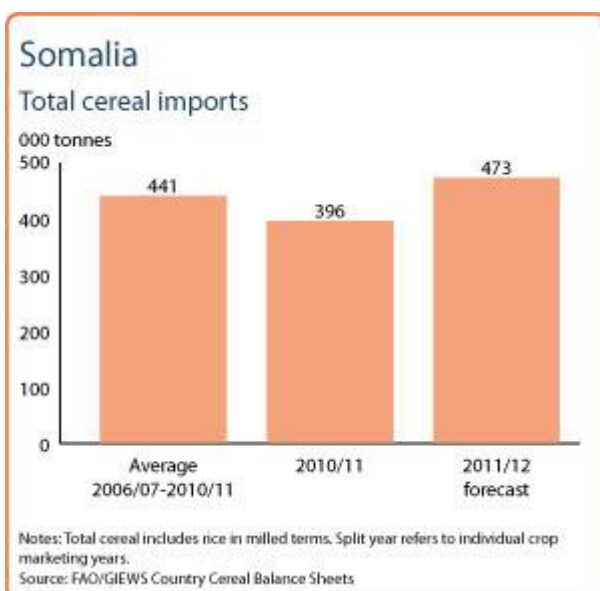
Harvesting of 2011/12 “deyr” season cereal crops has just started and will continue until March. Planting has extended up to the end of November due to continued heavy rains. Crop production is forecast to be well average in most crop producing areas of southern and central Somalia due to good and evenly distributed rainfall as well as average planted area. According to the latest deyr production outlook report by



Somalia Cereal production

	2006-2010 average	2010	2011 forecast	change 2011/2010
	000 tonnes			percent
Sorghum	140	158	142	-10
Maize	102	135	114	-16
Rice (paddy)	2	2	2	0
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	244	295	258	-13

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



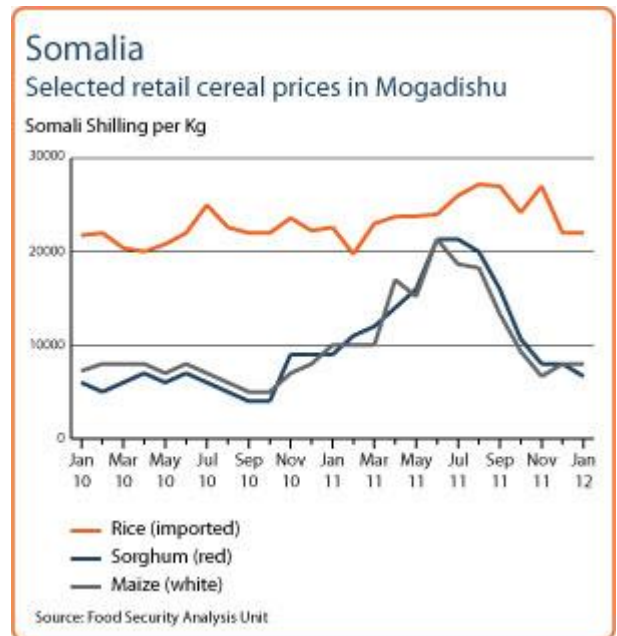
FSNAU, major producing regions of Lower Shabelle and Bay are expected to have sufficient cereal stocks at least up to the beginning of the next “gu” harvest in July 2012. Good stock availability is also forecast in Middle Shabelle, Hiran and Bakool regions. In contrast, crop production is expected to be well below average in some riverine districts of Juba and Gedo regions due to flash floods and river flooding following torrential rains from late October to early December that damaged standing crops, especially sorghum. However, this excess moisture benefitted off-season crops, mainly sesame, maize and other cash crops, to be harvested by the end of March 2012.

Most parts of Northern regions received average rains, with the exception of parts of the Nugal Valley, Sool Plateau and Coastal Deeh where crop and pasture conditions have been affected by insufficient and poorly distributed precipitations. In the Northwest, good 2011 “karan” rains (August-October) benefitted cereal crop production that is estimated at 68 000 tonnes, the second best performance since 1998.

Declining prices of maize and sorghum

Prices of domestically produced staple cereal crops reached record levels in June 2011 in most markets and then sharply decreased in the following six months. Prices of maize declined from June to January in the main markets of Mogadishu, the capital city, and Marka, located in the main maize producing southern region of Lower Shabelle, by 62 and 71 percent, respectively. The significant decrease followed the increased supplies from the 2011 “gu” harvest last August, the good off-season crops harvested in October in riverine areas of Lower Shabelle and, most importantly, the delivery of humanitarian assistance. Prices of red sorghum have also significantly decreased in Mogadishu and Marka markets as a consequence of the possibility for households to substitute sorghum with low-price relief maize. In general, maize and red sorghum were traded in January 2012 at lower levels of one year earlier and are expected to further decline in the coming weeks as the 2011 “deyr” harvest reaches main markets.

Prices of imported rice declined between August/September 2011 and January 2012 by about 33 and 18 percent respectively in Marka and Mogadishu, mainly due to increased supplies from the main regional ports, following the end of the monsoon season, and the slight appreciation of the Somali Shilling against the US dollar. Rice prices are at about the same levels of December 2010 in most, markets.



Reference Date: 09-January-2012

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Famine persists in Middle Shabelle and among Afgoye and Mogadishu IDPs
- Currently, about 4 million people are estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance
- Humanitarian aid delivery is heavily hampered by persistent conflict and civil insecurity
- Mixed prospects for the 2011/12 secondary “deyr” season crop production
- Prices of maize declined sharply in the last six months

Famine still persists in the South, despite some improvements

Famine conditions still persist in agropastoral areas of Middle Shabelle and among IDP populations in Afgoye and Mogadishu. In areas of Bay, Bakool and Lower Shabelle, formerly classified as IPC Phase 5 (Famine), substantial humanitarian assistance and favourable rainfall have mitigated food deficit levels and reduced mortality rates. These areas, as of 18 November 2011, have been downgraded to IPC Phase 4 (Emergency). Following these improvements, the number of people facing starvation declined from 750 000 in August 2011 to 250 000 in late November 2011.

Currently, about 4 million people, more than a third of the country’s population, are estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance. Most of them are pastoral and agro-pastoral households in central and southern areas whose food security conditions have precipitously deteriorated since the poor outturn of the 2010 “deyr” season. Although several areas are expected to remain in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency), no famine is anticipated during the January-March 2012 period, given the deyr harvest. Possible exceptions are IDPs. The number of people in need of humanitarian assistance is likely to remain near current levels until the next main “gu” season harvest in July/August 2012.

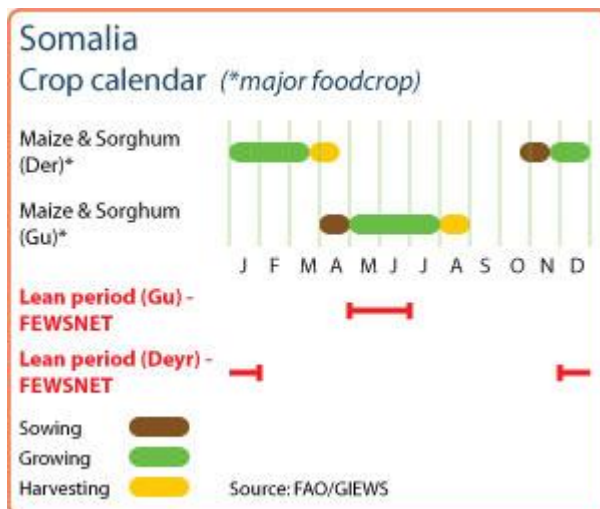
Rate of population displacements declines

The drought-induced influx of Somali refugees into neighbouring countries has significantly declined in recent weeks and, according to UNHCR, the total number of refugees hosted in camps in Kenya, Ethiopia and Djibouti is currently estimated at about 725 000 people

Civil insecurity and armed conflicts continue to represent the major serious threat to food security in most areas of southern and central Somalia, particularly in Mogadishu, parts of Bakool, Juba, Hiran, Mudug, Galgadud, Lower Juba and Gedo regions. This situation has resulted in loss of human lives, increased displacements of civilians, disruption of trade activities and increased transportation costs, while presenting an obstacle to the delivery of humanitarian assistance.

Mixed prospects for 2011/12 secondary “deyr” season crops

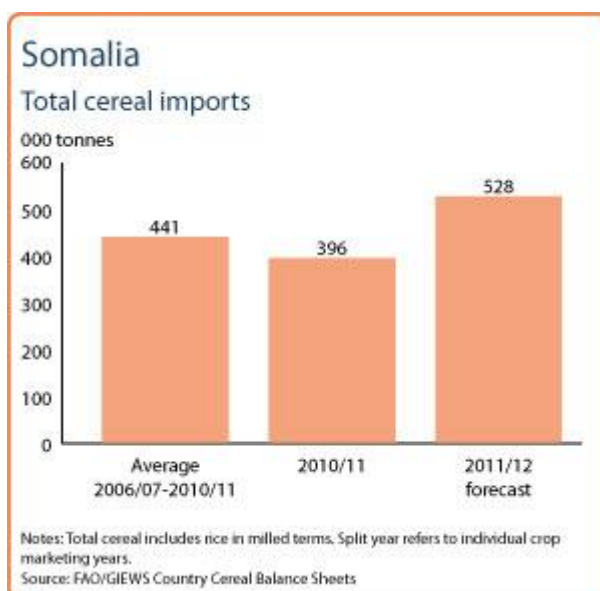
Harvesting of 2011/12 “deyr” cereal crops is about to start and will continue until March. Planting has extended up to the end of November



Somalia Cereal production

	2006-2010 average	2010	2011 forecast	change 2011/2010
	000 tonnes			percent
Sorghum	140	158	60	-62
Maize	102	135	55	-59
Rice (paddy)	2	2	2	0
Others	0	0	0	0
Total	244	295	117	-60

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



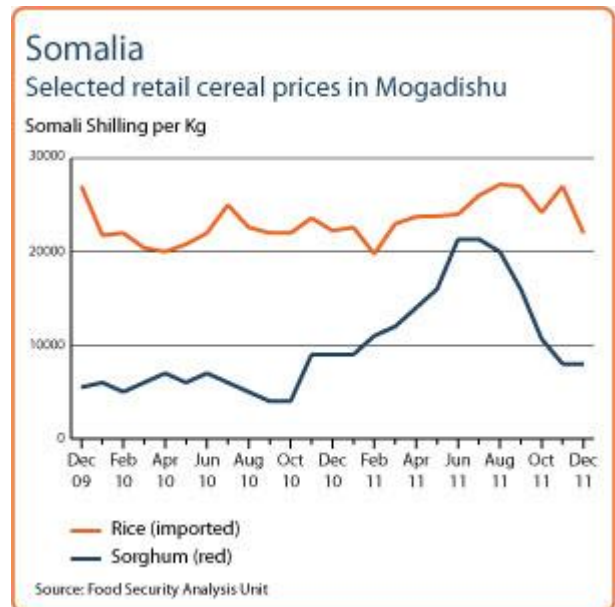
due to continued heavy rains. Crop production is forecast to be average in most crop producing areas of southern and central Somalia due to good and evenly distributed rainfall as well as average planted area. According to the latest deyr production outlook report by FSNAU, major producing regions of Lower Shabelle and Bay are expected to have sufficient cereal stocks at least up to the beginning of the next “gu” harvest in July 2012. Good stock availability is also forecast in Middle Shabelle, Hiran and Bakool regions. In contrast, crop production is expected to be well below average in various riverine districts of Juba and Gedo regions due flash floods and river flooding following torrential rains from late October to early December that damaged standing crops, especially to sorghum. However, this excess moisture will benefit off-season crops, mainly sesame, maize and other cash crops, to be harvested by the end of March 2012.

Most parts of Northern regions received favorable rains, with the exception of some areas of Bari and Sanaag regions and the Nugal valley of Sool region where crop and pasture conditions have been affected by insufficient precipitations. In the Northwest, good 2011 “karan” rains (August-October) benefitted cereal crop production that is estimated at 68 000 tons, the second best performance since 1998.

Declining prices of maize and sorghum

Prices of domestically produced staple cereal crops reached record levels in June 2011 in most markets and then sharply decreased in the following six months. Prices of maize declined from June to December in the main markets of Mogadishu, the capital city, and Marka, located in the main maize producing southern region of Lower Shabelle, by 62 and 72 percent, respectively. The significant decrease followed the increased supplies from the 2011 “gu” harvest last August, the good off-season crops harvested in the riverine areas of Lower Shabelle and, most importantly, the delivery of humanitarian assistance. Prices of red sorghum have also significantly decreased in Mogadishu and Marka markets as a consequence of the possibility for households to substitute sorghum with low-price relief maize. In general, maize and red sorghum were traded in December 2011 at lower or similar levels of one year earlier.

Prices of imported rice declined between August/September and December by about 18 to 22 percent respectively in Marka and Mogadishu, mainly due to increased supplies from the main regional ports, after the end of monsoon season, and the slight appreciation of the Somali Shilling against the US dollar. Rice prices are at about the same levels of December 2010 in Marka and in Mogadishu, while they are higher in other several markets, due to high fuel prices increasing transport costs and market disruptions caused by civil insecurity.



Reference Date: 04-August-2011

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Famine declared in three new areas of southern Somalia
- Persistent conflict and civil insecurity are still major causes of food insecurity
- Record prices for sorghum and maize registered in most markets
- Currently, about 3.7 million people, more than a third of country's population, are estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance

Famine declared in several areas of Somalia

Following the July 20 declaration of famine in two areas of southern Somalia, namely the Bakool agropastoral livelihood zone and all areas of Lower Shabelle, three new areas were now added to the IPC Phase 5 – Famine classification. These areas are the agro-pastoral areas of Balcad and Cadale districts in Middle Shabelle, the Afgoye corridor IDP settlement and the Mogadishu IDP community. Here acute malnutrition tops 30 percent and death rates exceed 2 per 10 000 people per day.

Difficulties in scaling-up emergency assistance programmes due to access restrictions as well as funding gaps, famine is likely to spread across all regions of southern Somalia in coming four to six weeks. Any improvements are not expected until December 2011, following the start of the “deyr” short rainy season in October.

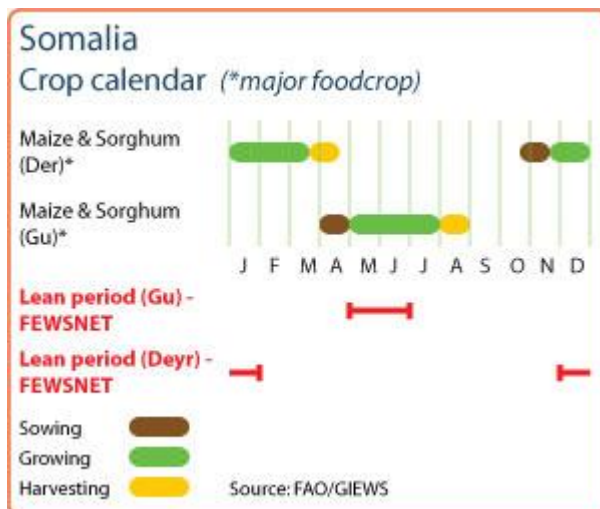
Currently, about 3.7 million people, more than a third of the country's population, are estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance. Most of them are pastoral and agro-pastoral households in central and southern areas whose food security conditions have precipitously deteriorated since the poor outturn of the secondary 2010 “deyr” season harvested in March.

During the past few months, several thousands of people have been internally displaced by the drought, with an increasing flow toward urban areas in search of assistance, or toward the main refugee camps in Kenya and Ethiopia. As July 20, the number of Somali refugees in Kenya and Ethiopia has reached the unprecedented number of about 760 000 people.

Civil insecurity and armed conflicts continue to represent the major serious threat to food security in most areas of southern and central Somalia, particularly in Mogadishu, parts of Bakool, Juba, Hiran, Mudug, Galgaduud, Lower Juba and Gedo regions. This situation has resulted in loss of human lives, increased displacements of civilians, disruption of trade activities and increased transportation costs, while presenting an obstacle to the delivery of humanitarian assistance.

Sorghum and maize prices at record high levels

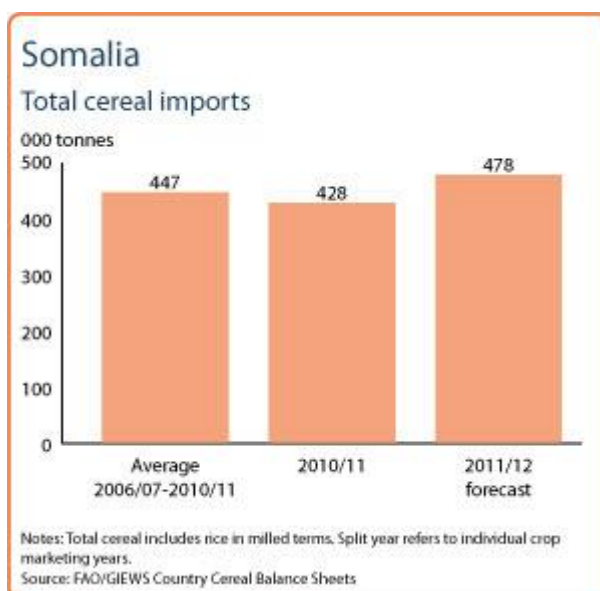
Since last quarter of 2010, prices of domestically produced staple cereal crops have started to rise as a consequence of the depletion of local stocks and the uncertain prospects over the production of the 2011 main “gu” season. In June 2011, prices of sorghum and maize reached record levels in most markets of the country. From January to



Somalia Cereal production

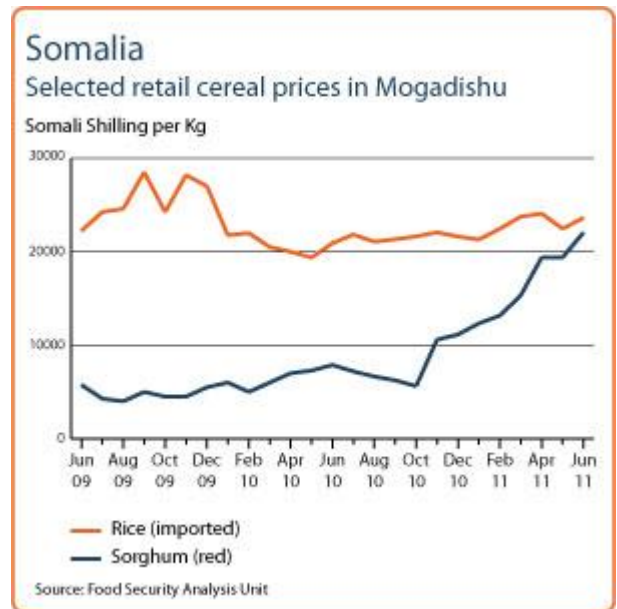
	2006-2010 average	2010	2011 forecast	change 2011/2010
	000 tonnes			percent
Sorghum	140	158	90	-43
Maize	102	135	80	-41
Rice (paddy)	2	2	2	0
Others	140	158	90	-43
Total	244	295	172	-42

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



June 2011, maize prices have risen by 130 percent in Marka market, which is the main maize producing southern region of Lower Shabelle, while sorghum prices increased by 63 percent in Baidoa market, Bay region, located in the Sorghum Belt. In the capital city Mogadishu, prices of maize and sorghum increased over the same period by 96 and 80 percent, respectively. The temporary closure of the main wholesale market in Mogadishu for security reasons from the last week of February to April has also contributed to the escalation of prices.

Prices of imported rice increased during June in most markets, and were between 8 to 13 percent higher than in the previous year, mainly due to high fuel and transport costs reflecting higher international prices and the depreciation of the Somali Shilling against the US Dollar.



Reference Date: 20-July-2011

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Famine declared in two areas of southern Somalia
- Persistent armed conflict is still a major cause of food insecurity
- Record prices for sorghum and maize registered in most markets
- Currently, about 3.7 million people, more than a third of country's population, are estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance

Famine declared in southern Bakool and Lower Shabelle regions

Limited access to food coupled with high malnutrition and mortality rates have led the United Nations to declare a status of famine in two areas of southern Somalia, namely the agro-pastoral livelihood zones of Bakool and Lower Shabelle regions.

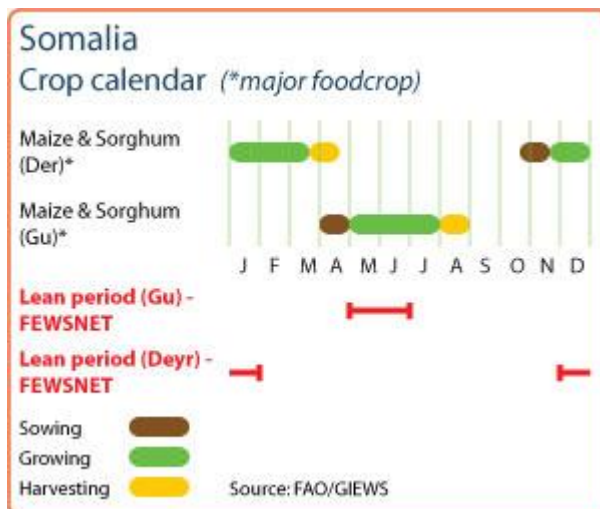
Currently, about 3.7 million people, more than a third of the country's population, are estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance. Most of them are pastoral and agro-pastoral households in central and southern areas whose food security conditions have precipitously deteriorated since the poor outturn of the secondary 2010 "deyr" season harvested in March. Unless immediate large scale humanitarian interventions are forthcoming, food security conditions of drought-affected households are expected to further deteriorate until the onset of "deyr" short rainy season in October 2011 and other areas, especially in the south, are likely to fall soon into famine status.

During the past few months, several thousands of people have been internally displaced by the drought, with an increasing flow toward urban areas in search of assistance, or toward the main refugee camps in Kenya and Ethiopia.

Civil insecurity and armed conflicts continue to represent the major serious threat to food security in most areas of southern and central Somalia, particularly in Mogadishu, parts of Bakool, Juba, Hiran, Mudug, Galgadud, Lower Juba and Gedo regions. This situation has resulted in loss of human lives, increased displacements of civilians, disruption of trade activities and increased transportation costs, while presenting an obstacle to the delivery of humanitarian assistance.

Sorghum and maize prices at record high levels

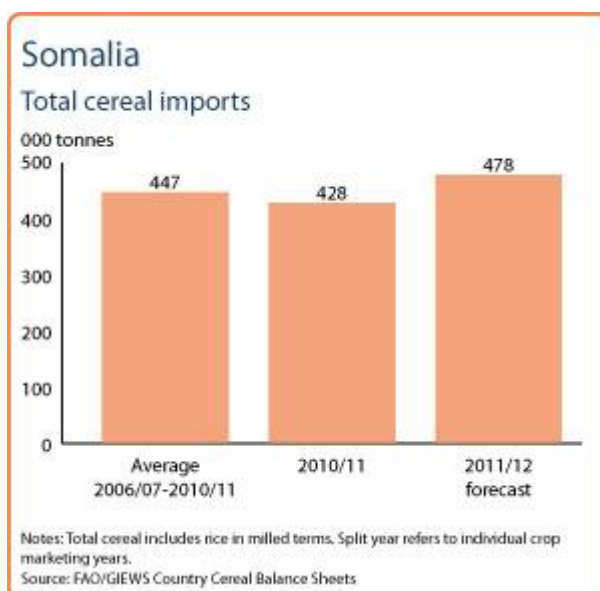
Since last quarter of 2010, prices of domestically produced staple cereal crops have started to rise as a consequence of the depletion of local stocks and the uncertain prospects over the production of the 2011 main "gu" season. In June 2011, prices of sorghum and maize reached record levels in most markets of the country. From January to June 2011, maize prices have risen by 130 percent in Marka market, which is the main maize producing southern region of Lower Shabelle, while sorghum prices increased by 63 percent in Baidoa market, Bay region, located in the Sorghum Belt. In the capital city Mogadishu, prices of maize and sorghum increased over the same period by 96 and 80 percent, respectively. The temporary closure of the main wholesale market in Mogadishu for security reasons from the last week



Somalia Cereal production

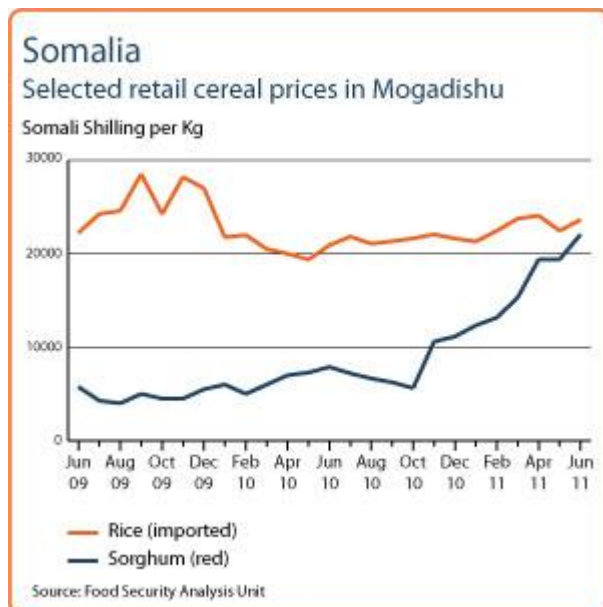
	2006-2010 average	2010	2011 forecast	change 2011/2010
	000 tonnes			percent
Sorghum	140	158	90	-43
Maize	102	135	80	-41
Rice (paddy)	2	2	2	0
Others	140	158	90	-43
Total	244	295	172	-42

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



of February to April has also contributed to the escalation of prices.

Prices of imported rice increased during June in most markets, and were between 8 to 13 percent higher than in the previous year, mainly due to high fuel and transport costs reflecting higher international prices and the depreciation of the Somali Shilling against the US Dollar.



Reference Date: 25-May-2011

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- The 2011 “gu” rainy season started late
- Recent rains improve pasture and water availability after a prolonged drought
- Persistent armed conflict is still a major cause of food insecurity
- Very high and rising sorghum and maize prices are adding to the suffering of the population
- Currently, about 2.4 million people, almost a third of the country’s population, are estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance

The 2011 “gu” rainy season started late and its performance is still uncertain

The 2011 “gu” rainy season (normally between late March/early April to June) started at the end of April/beginning of May with two to four weeks delay. Recent good rains replenished water and helped pasture regeneration in the south and central pastoral and agro-pastoral areas. In these areas, grazing resources were almost completely depleted by the prolonged dry weather conditions for almost nine months, as the 2010 “deyr” short rainy season (October - December) failed due to La Niña. Livestock body conditions are reported to be very poor, with high mortality rates and very low milk production.

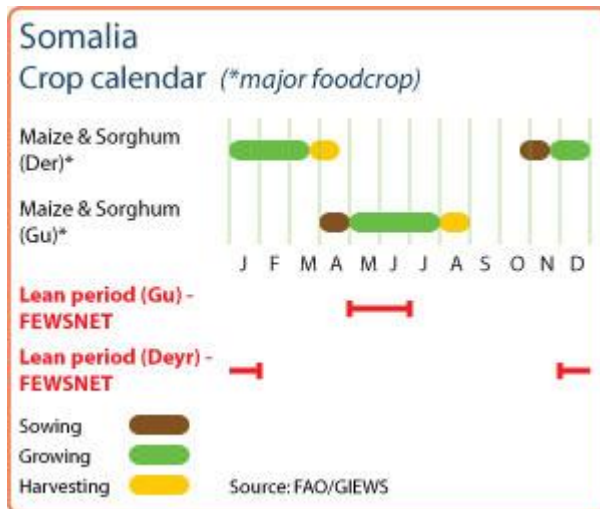
As meteorological forecasts point to below average rainfall amounts for the “gu” rainy season, planted area is expected to be below average and a close monitoring of the remaining weeks of the current rainy season, until end June, is needed to properly assess the “gu” cereal crop production.

Worsening food security across the country

Following the poor outturn of the secondary 2010 “deyr” season in March, food security conditions have continued to deteriorate precipitously. The prolonged and harsh “jilaal” dry season (January to March) and the delayed start of the “gu” rainy season have severely impacted on pastoral and agro-pastoral livelihood systems. During first quarter of 2011, about 52 000 people have been displaced by the drought across the country, with an increasing flow of people toward urban areas in search of assistance.

The positive effect of recent rains on pasture and water is expected to be only temporary as food security conditions of pastoral households will most likely deteriorate from the start of the “hagaa” dry season in July until the onset of next “deyr” short rainy season in October. Currently, about 2.4 million people, almost a third of the country’s population, are estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance. The situation may somewhat improve in August with the harvest of 2011 “gu” crops.

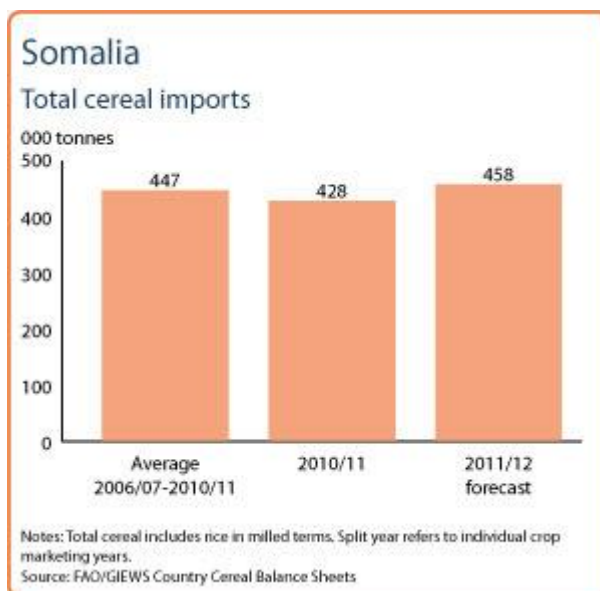
Civil insecurity and armed conflicts continue to represent the major and serious threat to food security in most areas of southern and central Somalia, particularly in Mogadishu, parts of Bakool, Juba, Hiran, Mudug, Galgadud, Lower Juba and Gedo regions. This situation has resulted in losses of human lives, increased displacements of civilian



Somalia Cereal production

	2006-2010 average	2010	2011 forecast	change 2011/2010
	000 tonnes			percent
Sorghum	140	158	140	-11
Maize	102	135	120	-11
Rice (paddy)	3	7	2	-71
Others	140	158	140	-11
Total	245	300	262	-13

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

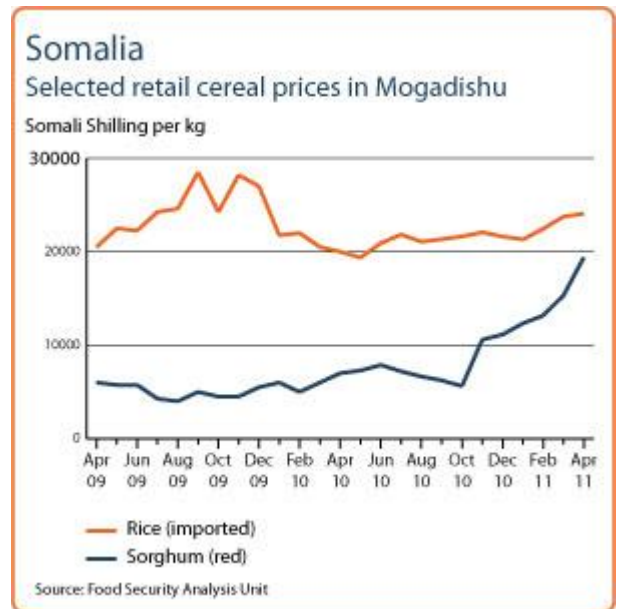


population, disruption of trade activities, increased transportation costs and obstacles to delivery of humanitarian assistance.

Sorghum prices at record high levels

In the first months of 2011, prices of domestically produced cereals, maize and sorghum, continued their upward trend that started in the last quarter of 2010. This reflects the depletion of stocks and the uncertain prospects over the 2011 main Gu season crop. From January to April 2011, maize prices have risen by 76 percent in Marka market, which is the main maize producing southern region of Lower Shabelle, while sorghum prices increased by 52 percent in Baidoa market, Bay region, located in the Sorghum Belt. In the capital city Mogadishu, prices of maize and sorghum increased over the same period by 67 and 57 percent, respectively. The temporary closure of main wholesale market in Mogadishu for security reasons from the last week of February to April has also contributed to the escalation of price levels. In general, current maize prices are around their peak levels of mid-2008, during the food prices crisis. On the other hand, current prices of red sorghum are at record levels and well above the levels in 2008.

Prices of imported rice, which were stable in the last quarter of 2010, have risen during the first months of 2011 and are currently between 15 and 30 percent higher than the previous year. In some inland markets of Central regions such as Galkayo and Belet Weyne, located far from the entry ports, rice prices have increased due to the effect of high fuel prices on transport costs, while in markets located in Southern regions (such as Mogadishu and Marka) price increases are mainly due to trade disruptions caused by the conflict and increased taxation by multiple authorities.



Reference Date: 11-February-2011

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Well below average cereal crop from the 2010/11 secondary “deyr” season
- Deteriorating livestock conditions in most pastoral areas
- Worsening of food security conditions across the country
- Persistent armed conflict is still a major cause of food insecurity

Failed 2010 “deyr” rainy season affects crops and pasture conditions

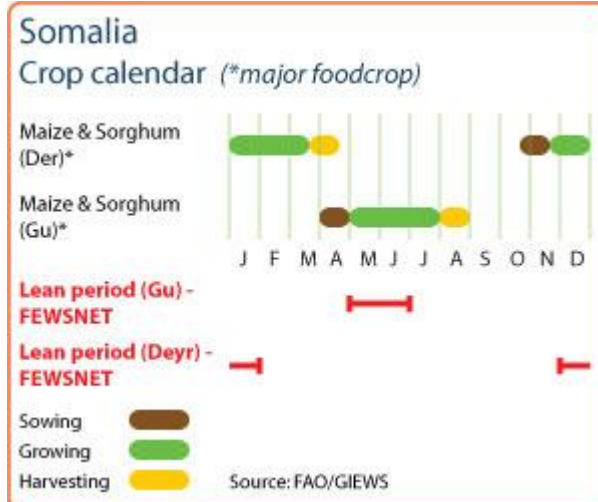
Harvesting of 2010 “deyr” season cereal crops, mainly sorghum, is well advanced. Production prospects are extremely poor, with total crop failure reported in some central and southern agro-pastoral areas. As a consequence of “La Niña” meteorological phenomenon, secondary “deyr” rains (October-December) were well below average, resulting in severe drought conditions in most of the country. Larger rainfall deficits were registered in southern and central regions, especially in coastal areas of Mudug, Galgadud, Hiraan and Lower and Middle Shabelle. Erratic rainfall affected also parts of north-eastern regions of Sool, Sanaag, Nugal and Togdheer. Although the moisture stress has been more evident in rain-fed areas, crop production has decreased also in southern irrigated areas, especially along the Shabelle river, where planted area was below average due to the decrease in river levels.

Following the poor performance of the “deyr” rains, pasture and water availability have significantly deteriorated in most central and southern pastoral areas, with consequent unusual livestock migrations in search of grazing. Slightly better pasture conditions are reported in north-western regions of Awdal and Woqooyi Galbeed that received abundant precipitations. Since the beginning of 2011, it is reported that pastoralists from Middle and Lower Shabelle regions started to move to areas near Mogadishu in search of pasture and alternative livelihoods such as food aid or casual labour. Livestock body conditions are generally poor and they are likely to further deteriorate during the current “jilaal” dry season, ending in late March with the expected arrival of the first “gu” rains.

Worsening food security across the country

The improvement in the food security situation that followed the favourable 2010 “gu” season (April-August) has been eroded gradually by the poor outturn of the secondary “deyr” season. This situation is not expected to change until the beginning of the next rainy season in late March 2011.

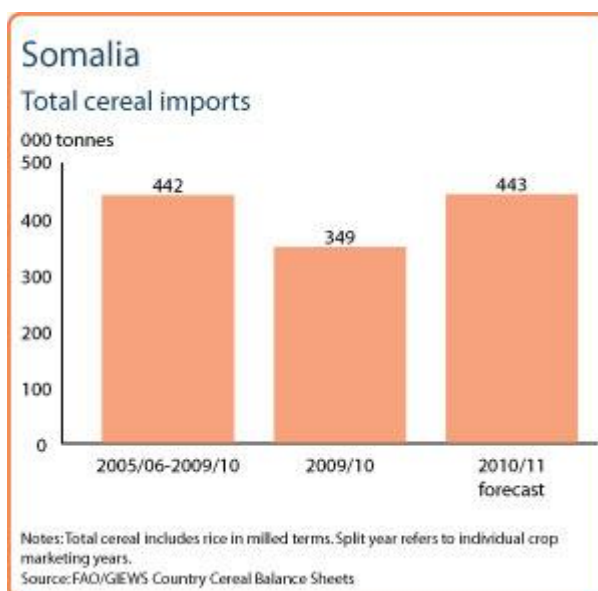
Currently, civil insecurity and armed conflicts continue to represent a serious threat to food security in most areas of southern and central Somalia (particularly in Mogadishu, parts of Bakool, Juba, Hiran, Mudug and Galgadud regions) and, more recently, also in parts of northern Sanaag and Bari regions. This situation has resulted in losses of human lives, escalating displacements of civilian population (with about 300 000 new IDPs in last 12 months), disruption of trade activities, increased transportation costs and obstacles to humanitarian interventions by humanitarian agencies.



Somalia Cereal production

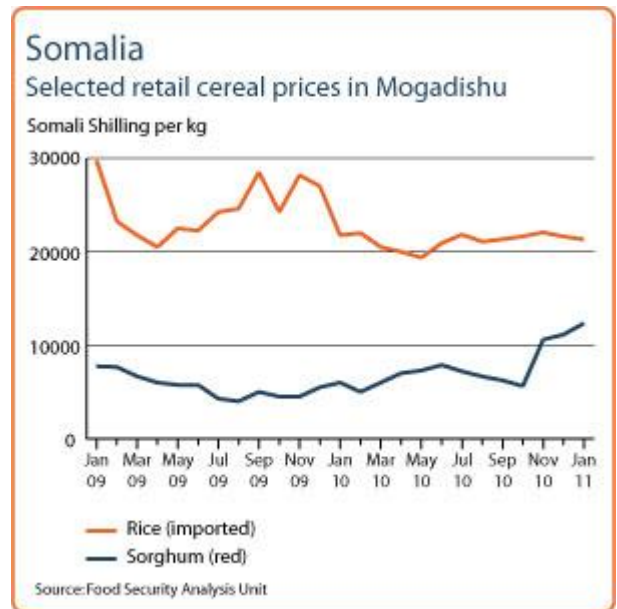
	2005-2009 average	2009	2010 estimate	change 2010/2009
	000 tonnes			percent
Sorghum	120	166	140	-16
Maize	95	128	140	9
Rice (paddy)	2	2	2	0
Total	217	296	282	-5

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



Sorghum and maize prices on the rise in drought-affected areas

Prices of domestically produced cereals, maize and sorghum, sharply increased between October 2010 and January 2011, responding to the anticipated poor “deyr” cereal crops production. In January 2011, maize prices have risen, respectively, by 141 and 95 percent in Buale and Marka markets in the main producing southern regions of Juba and Shabelle, while sorghum prices increased by 88 percent in Baidoa market in the south of the Sorghum Belt. However, the largest increases were observed in the central deficit areas, where sorghum prices in January were almost three times their November averages, as reported in Galkayo market. By contrast, in some areas of north-western regions of Awdal and Woqooyi Galbeed that were not affected by the recent drought, prices of both maize and sorghum were stable in the last several months and at similar or lower levels than one year ago. Prices of imported rice, despite moderate increases in some markets of the country, remained stable due to increased supplies.



Reference Date: 17-January-2011

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Poor crop production forecast for 2010 secondary “deyr” season.
- Deteriorating livestock conditions in most pastoral areas
- Worsening of food security conditions across the country
- Persistent armed conflict is still a major cause of food insecurity

Failed 2010 “deyr” rainy season affects crops and pasture conditions

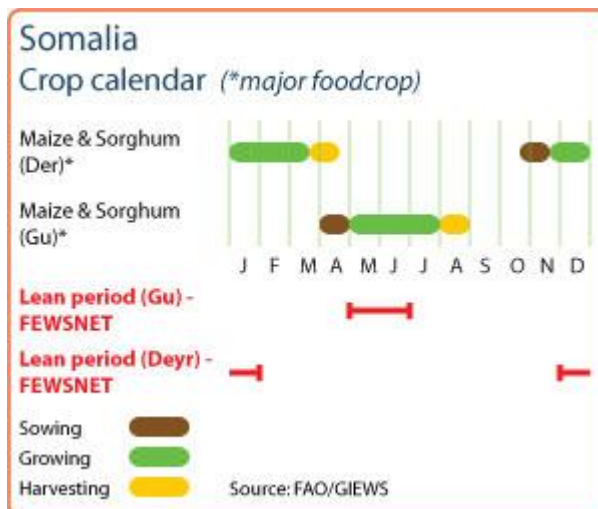
Harvesting of 2010 “deyr” season cereal crops, mainly sorghum, is expected to start in coming weeks and production prospects are generally poor. As a consequence of “La Niña” meteorological phenomenon, secondary “deyr” rains (October-December) were well below average, determining severe drought conditions in most of the country. Larger rainfall deficits were registered in southern and central regions, especially in coastal areas of Mudug, Galgadud, Hiraan and Lower and Middle Shabelle. Erratic rainfall affected also parts of north-eastern regions of Sool, Sanaag, Nugal and Togdheer. Although the moisture stress has been more evident in rain-fed areas, crop production is expected to decrease also in southern irrigated areas, especially along the Shabelle river, where planted area was below average due to constraints with irrigation following the scarcity of rains and the decrease in river levels.

Following the poor performance of “deyr” rains, pasture and water availability have significantly deteriorated in most pastoral areas of the country, with consequent abnormal livestock migrations in search of grazing sources. Since the beginning of 2011, it is reported that pastoralists from Middle and Lower Shabelle regions started to move to areas near Mogadishu in search of pasture and alternative livelihoods such as food aid or casual labour. Livestock body conditions are generally poor and they are likely to further deteriorate during the coming long “jilaal” dry season, when weaker animals are even expected to not survive.

Worsening food security across the country

The recent improvement of food security situation that followed the positive impact of the abundant 2010 “gu” rainy season on crop production and rangeland has been gradually eroded by the prevailing unfavourable dry weather conditions. This situation is not expected to change until the beginning of next rainy season in April 2011 that would improve availability of grazing resources and support planting operations.

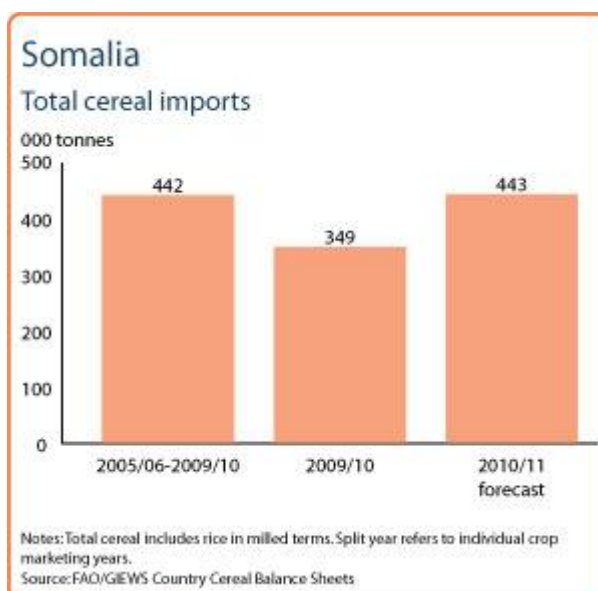
Currently, civil insecurity and armed conflicts continue to represent a serious threat to food security in most areas of southern and central Somalia (particularly in Mogadishu, parts of Bakool, Juba, Hiran, Mudug and Galgadud regions) and, more recently, also in parts of northern Sanaag and Bari regions. This situation has resulted in losses of human lives, escalating displacements of civilian population (with about 300 000 new IDPs in last 12 months), disruption of trade activities, increased transportation costs and obstacles to humanitarian interventions by humanitarian agencies.



Somalia Cereal production

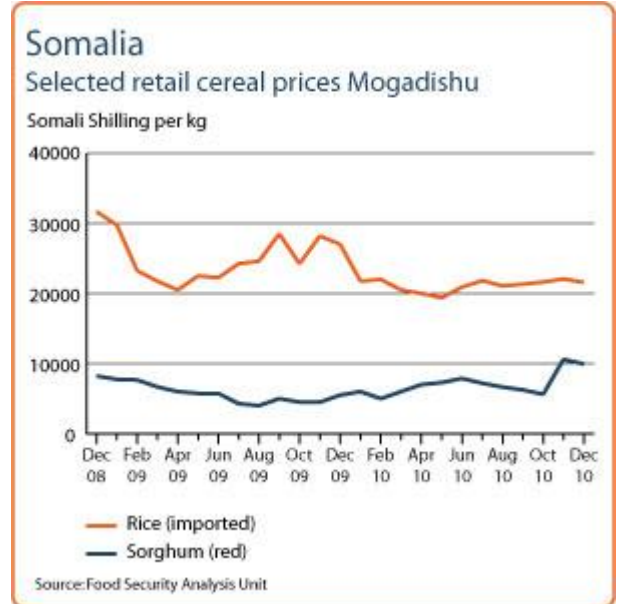
	2005-2009 average	2009	2010 estimate	change 2010/2009 percent
	000 tonnes			
Sorghum	120	166	140	-16
Maize	95	128	140	9
Rice (paddy)	2	2	2	0
Total	217	296	282	-5

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



Maize and sorghum prices on the rise

Prices of domestically produced cereals, maize and sorghum, sharply increased between October and December 2010, responding to the anticipated poor “deyr” cereal crops production. In December 2010, maize prices have risen by 79 percent in Buale and Marka markets in the main producing southern regions of Juba and Shabelle, while sorghum prices increased by 81 percent in Baidoa market in the south of the Sorghum Belt. However, the largest increases have been observed in the central deficit areas, where sorghum prices in December were more than double their November averages, as reported in Galkayo market. By contrast, prices of imported rice and wheat flour remained stable due to increased supplies.



Reference Date: 25-October-2010

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- A slow start to the current secondary “deyr” season (October-December) rains were reported, but some heavy localised rains were observed
- Good crop production estimated for the just concluded 2010 main “gu” season.
- Improved livestock conditions were also reported
- About 2 million people require emergency food assistance until the end of the year compared to 2.65 million during 2010 first semester
- Persistent armed conflict is still a major cause of food insecurity

A slow start to the secondary “deyr” season observed

Recent heavy rains in parts were a welcome change to the otherwise slow start to the secondary “deyr” season (October-December) rains. The slow start has strengthened moisture deficits in parts. Close monitoring of the rainfall amounts and distribution is warranted, especially in light of the predicted occurrence of the “La Niña” meteorological phenomenon that normally results in drier conditions in Somalia.

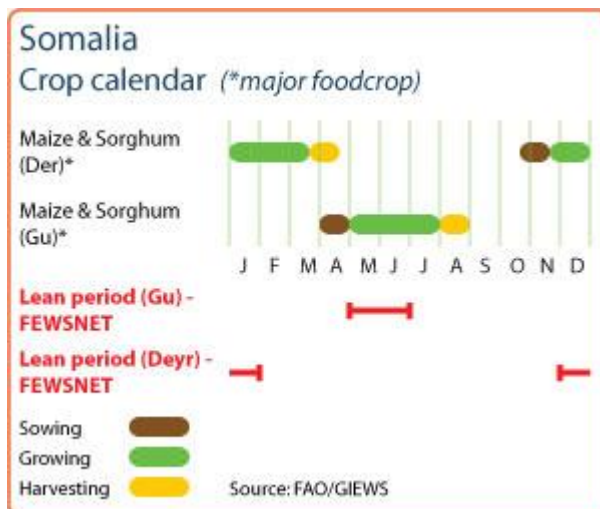
Abundant rains resulted in good 2010 main season cereal production

Harvesting of the 2010 main season “gu” cereal crops has been completed last September. According to the Somalia Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU), production is estimated at a high of 242 000 tonnes, the best outturn in last 15 years. This is mainly due to early, abundant and well distributed rains that have improved yields across most agricultural areas and increased planted area due to the involvement of displaced people in farming, especially in Shabelle region. Exceptions have been reported in some areas of Central and Hiran regions that experienced crop failure due to poor precipitations as well as in Hiran, Juba and Shabelle river catchments where floods damaged standing crops. Adding some 8 500 tonnes of maize as a preliminary estimate of off-season production on flood recessional cropping areas, total 2010 “gu” cereal production is forecast at about 250 000 tonnes.

The abundant rainy season has improved rangeland conditions and water availability in key pastoral areas of the North, Central and Hiran regions, reducing livestock migrations and with positive effects on livestock body conditions and milk productivity.

Improving food security across the country

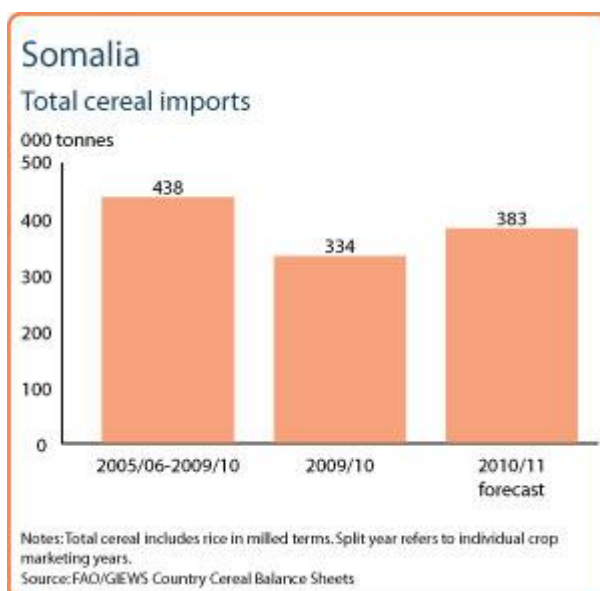
According to the FSNAU, an estimated 2 million people will be in need of emergency livelihood and life saving assistance until the end of 2010, about 650 000 people less than in the first semester of 2010. The food security situation started to improve in March 2010 with the good 2009/10 “deyr” crop production and has continued with the current good “gu” harvest. At the same time, civil insecurity and armed conflicts



Somalia Cereal production

	2005-2009 average	2009	2010 forecast	change 2010/2009
	000 tonnes			percent
Sorghum	120	166	195	17
Maize	95	128	140	9
Rice (paddy)	2	2	2	0
Total	217	296	337	14

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

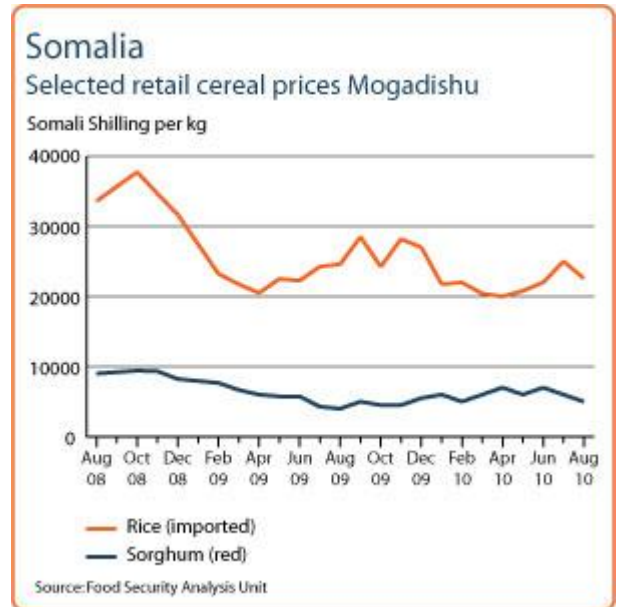


continue to represent a serious threat to food security in most areas of southern and central Somalia (particularly in Mogadishu, parts of Bakool, Juba, Hiran, Mudug and Galgadud regions) and, more recently, also in parts of northern Sanaag and Bari regions. This situation has resulted in losses of human lives, escalating displacements of civilian population (with about 300 000 new IDPs since January 2010), disruption of trade activities, increased transportation costs and obstacles to humanitarian interventions by humanitarian agencies.

Cereal prices declining but market disruptions continue to limit proper transmission

The price of sorghum, the main staple food in the local diet, which was increasing since early 2010 due to the escalation of armed conflict, started to decline in June due to favourable prospects of the “gu” season production. In Mogadishu retail markets, red sorghum was traded at SoS 5 000 per kg in August 2010, about 40 percent less than the price two months earlier. The lowest retail sorghum prices in August 2010 were registered in the important producing areas of Baidoa, with SoS 4 325 per kg, while very high prices were reported in Galkayo market in the Mudug Region, with about SoS 8 000 per kg, due to its remoteness from main producing areas and the intermittent disruptions to trading activities due to conflicts. The frequent suspension of humanitarian assistance and food aid delivery in conflict affected areas determines localized food shortages with upward pressure on local prices.

In November 2009, Saudi Arabia lifted the nine-year ban on livestock exports that followed the suspected Rift Valley Fever. The measure immediately fostered livestock exports with positive impact on incomes of traders and pastoralists in central and northern provinces, especially for the communities near the ports. During the first six months of 2010, livestock exports through the ports of Berbera and Bosasso increased by about 33 percent compared to the same period in 2009 and by about 22 percent compared with last five years average.



Reference Date: 14-September-2010

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Bumper harvest for 2010 “gu” crop production and improving pastoral livelihoods
- 2 million people require emergency food assistance until the end of the year compared to 2.65 million during 2010 first semester
- Escalating armed conflict is still a major cause of food insecurity

Very good estimates for 2010 “gu” cereal crop production

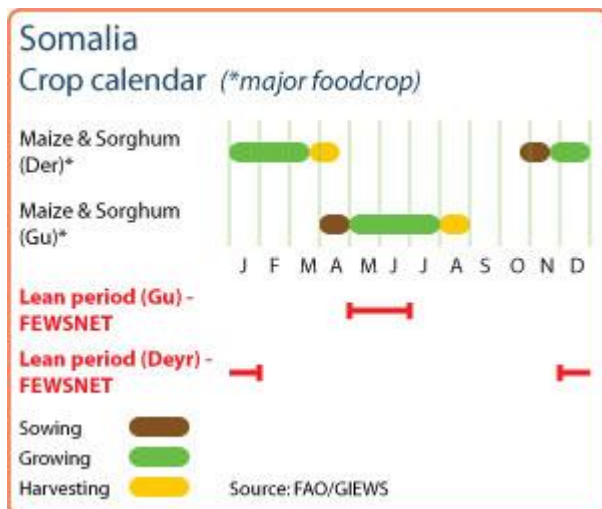
Harvesting of 2010 “gu” cereal crops has been recently completed and, according to the Somalia Food Security Analysis Unit (FSAU), production is early estimated at high 242 000 tonnes, the best result in last 15 years. This is mainly due to early, abundant and well distributed rains that have improved yields across most agricultural areas and increased planted area due to involvement in farming of displaced people, especially in Shabelle region. Exceptions have been reported in some areas of Central and Hiran regions that experienced crop failure due to poor precipitations as well as in Hiran, Juba and Shabelle river catchments where floods damaged standing crops. Adding some 8 500 tonnes of maize expected to be harvested by the end of September as off-season production on flood recessional cropping areas, total 2010 “gu” cereal production is forecast at about 250 000 tonnes.

The abundant rainy season has improved rangeland conditions and water availability in key pastoral areas of the North, Central and Hiran regions, reducing livestock migrations and with positive effects on livestock body conditions and milk productivity.

Improving food security across the country

According to the FSAU, an estimated 2 million people will be in need of emergency livelihood and life saving assistance until the end of 2010, about 650 000 people less than during 2010 first semester. The food security situation started to improve in March 2010 with the good 2009/10 “deyr” crop production and it is continuing with the current bumper “gu” harvest. At the same time, civil insecurity and armed conflicts continue to represent a serious threat to food security in most areas of southern and central Somalia (particularly in Mogadishu, parts of Bakool, Juba, Hiran, Mudug and Galgadud regions) and, more recently, also in parts of northern Sanaag and Bari regions. This situation has resulted in losses of human lives, escalating displacements of civilian population (with about 300 000 new IDPs since January 2010), disruption of trade activities, increase in transportation costs and obstacle to humanitarian interventions by aid agencies.

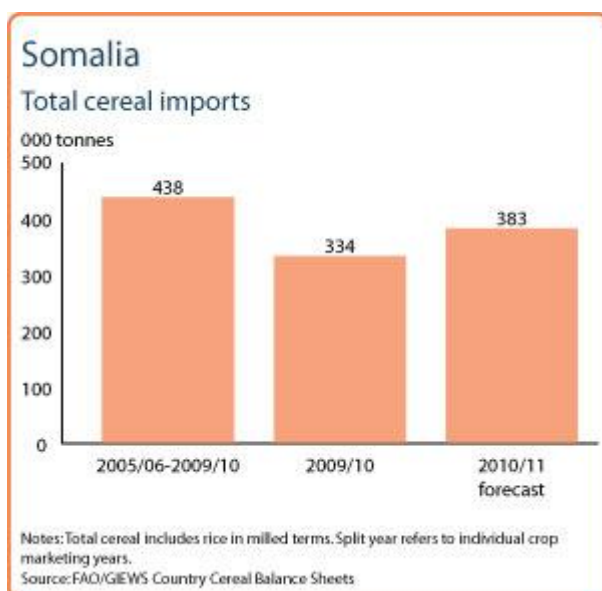
Recent improvements in food security may be reversed by below average “deyr” rains from October to December due to the likely occurrence of “La Niña” phenomenon. Depending on the severity of the phenomenon, it will negatively affect livelihoods of agro-pastoral and pastoral households, especially in Central regions, by rapidly depleting grazing resources and water and reducing “deyr” crop production in Southern and Central areas.



Somalia Cereal production

	2005-2009 average	2009	2010 forecast	change 2010/2009
	000 tonnes			percent
Sorghum	120	166	195	17
Maize	95	128	140	9
Rice (paddy)	2	2	2	0
Total	217	296	337	14

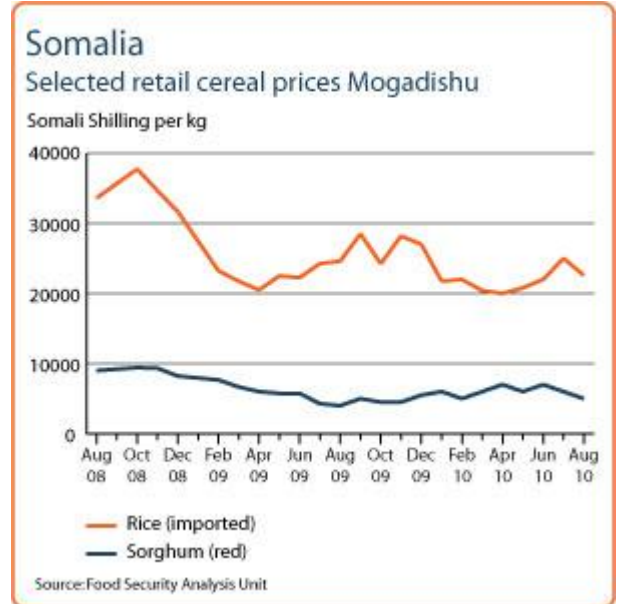
Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets



Cereal prices declining but market disruptions limit their transmission

The price of sorghum, the main staple food in local diet, which was increasing since early 2010 due to the escalation of armed conflict, started to decline in June due to favourable prospects of “gu” season production. In Mogadishu retail markets, (red) sorghum was traded at SoS 5 000 per kg in August 2010, about 40 percent less than the price of two months before. The lowest retail sorghum prices in August 2010 were registered in the important producing areas of Baidoa, with SoS 4 325 per kg, while very high prices were reported in Galkayo market in the Mudug Region, with about SoS 8 000 per kg, due to its remoteness from main producing areas and the persisting conflict that disrupt any trade activities. The frequent suspension of humanitarian assistance and food aid delivery in conflict affected areas determines localized food shortages with upward pressure on local prices.

In November 2009, Saudi Arabia lifted the nine-year ban on livestock exports that followed the suspected Rift Valley Fever. The measure immediately fostered livestock exports with positive impact on incomes of traders and pastoralists in central and northern provinces, especially for the communities near the ports. During the first six months of 2010, livestock exports through the ports of Berbera and Bosasso increased by about 33 percent if compared with the same period in 2009 and by about 22 percent if compared with last five years average.



Reference Date: 23-June-2010

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Favourable 2010 “gu” rains in North and South regions improve production prospects for crops and livestock
- Escalating armed conflict is still a major driver of food insecurity
- An estimated 3.2 million people still require emergency food assistance

Early and abundant 2010 “gu” rains favour crop and livestock production

Unusual rains in late February and early March helped to mitigate the negative effects of the dry “Jilaal” season and improved water, pasture and browse availability in drought-affected pastoral areas, including most of Northwest and Northeast regions. The early onset of “gu” rains favoured also land preparation and crop planting in southern agricultural regions. Abundant rains continued in April and May with good distribution in the South and parts of the North, recharging water catchments and improving rangeland conditions. Generally, prospects for the “gu” harvest in early August are currently favourable. Livestock body conditions and milk productivity are gradually improving, with positive effects on pastoralist and agro-pastoralist livelihoods.

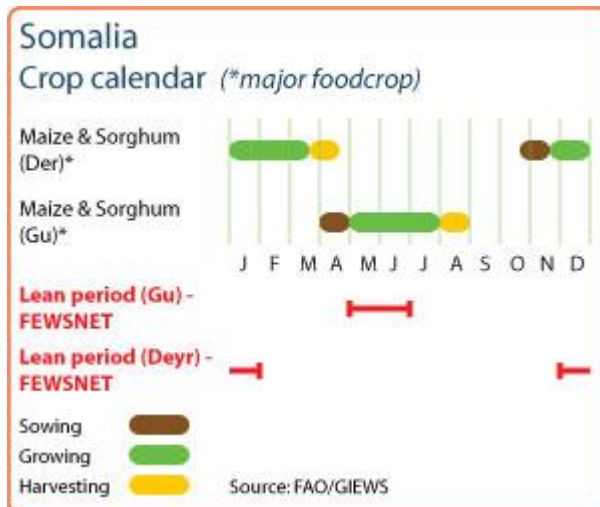
In May, heavy rains in eastern and southern Ethiopian highlands caused the overflow of Shabele and Juba rivers, with localized losses of standing crops (about 6 400 hectares of maize, beans and vegetables) in Middle Juba, Hiran and Lower/Middle Shabele regions. At the same time, a tropical storm hit Puntland coastline in the north, temporarily displacing about 12 000 people. By contrast, average to below average precipitations were reported in parts of northern regions of Togdheer, Sanag and Bari and in parts of central regions of Galgaduud, Mudug and Hiran.

Continued food insecurity in most of the country

Currently, about 3.2 million people (about 40 percent of total population) are still in need of emergency livelihood and life saving assistance. This includes 580 000 urban poor, 1.25 million people in rural areas and 1.4 million IDPs (about 90 percent of them settled in South-Central regions). The food security situation is expected to improve in pastoral and agro-pastoral areas following the good performance of the “gu” rains. However, the civil insecurity continues to represent a serious threat to food security in most areas of southern and central Somalia, particularly in Mogadishu, parts of Juba, Hiran, Mudug and Galgaduud regions. It has resulted in escalating displacements of civilian population, disrupting markets and trade activities, increasing transportation costs and impeding humanitarian interventions. From January 2010, WFP has suspended its food distributions in southern Somalia due to the escalating attack to aid workers.

Cereal prices decline but violent disruptions limit transmission

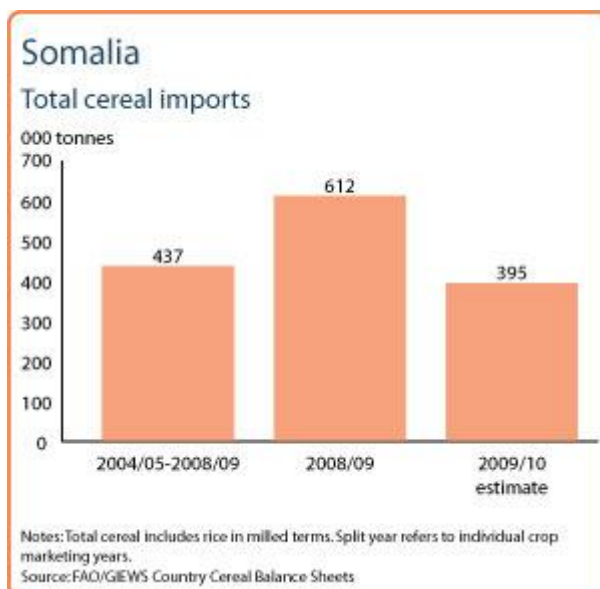
Following some decline at the beginning of the year due to the good 2009/10 secondary “deyr” season harvest, the price of sorghum, the



Somalia Cereal production

	2004-2008 average	2008	2009 estimate	change 2009/2008
	000 tonnes			percent
Sorghum	116	90	166	84
Maize	94	86	128	49
Rice (paddy)	2	2	4	100
Total	211	178	298	67

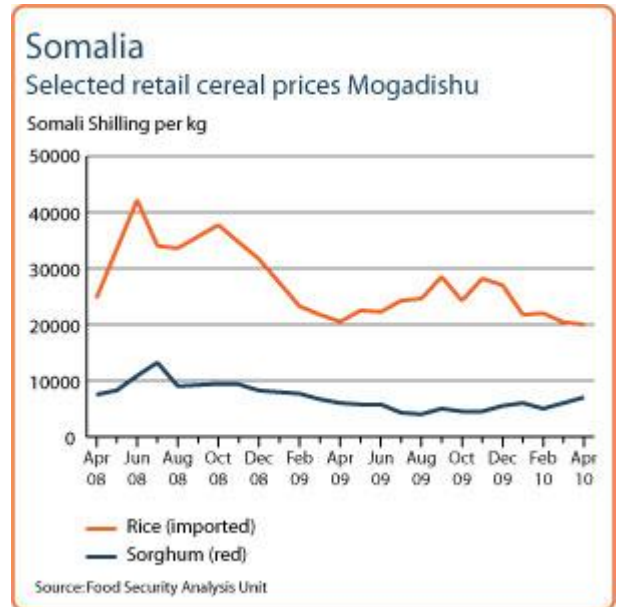
Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets



main staple food in local diet, has started to increase again in most reference markets. In Mogadishu retail markets, (red) sorghum was traded at SoS 7 000 per kg in April 2010, about 40 percent more than the price of two months before. The record price of sorghum was registered in July/August 2008, with different levels across the country, ranging from SoS 13 000 per kg in Mogadishu to SoS 41 000 per kg in Bossaso.

In Mogadishu and in other markets of central and southern regions, the reversed trend in food prices is mainly due to the escalation of armed conflict that is widely blocking all trading activities, with consequent decline in food supply and increasing transport costs. The suspension of food assistance in southern regions further aggravates the shortage of food supply and increase the upward pressure on prices.

In November 2009, Saudi Arabia lifted the nine-year ban on livestock exports that followed the suspected Rift Valley Fever. The measure immediately fostered livestock exports with positive impact on incomes of traders and pastoralists in central and northern provinces, especially for the communities near the ports, as well as in the Somali region of Ethiopia.



Reference Date: 31-March-2010

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Good start of 2010 Gu rains in most of the country
- Escalating armed conflict is still a major driver of food insecurity
- An estimated 3.2 million people still require emergency food assistance

Early onset of 2010 Gu rains

Since the end of February, favourable and abundant rains have fallen in Northwest and Northeast regions, mitigating the negative effects of the dry "Jilaal" season and improving water and pasture availability in drought-affected pastoral areas. An early start of the main "Gu" season rains is benefiting parts of Central and Southern regions, with the exception of Shabelle, recharging water catchments and improving rangeland conditions. Positive effects on livestock body conditions and productivity has been observed. Flash floods are reported in the Awdal province in western Somaliland with localized losses of livestock. If generally favourable weather conditions persist, livestock herds are expected to continue their recovery process after several drought seasons. In addition, the cereal area planted in the 2010 Gu season (for harvest from August) is likely to increase.

Continued food insecurity in most of the country

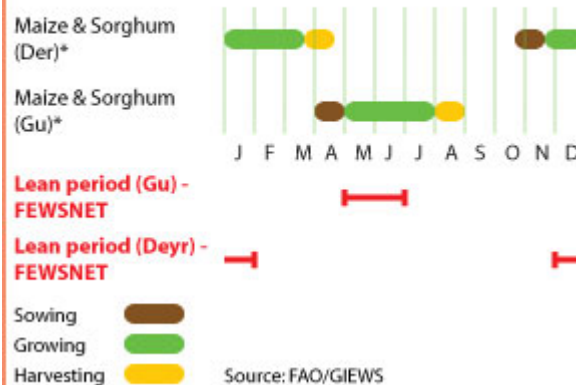
Despite the 2009 above-average cereal production, more than 40 percent of the population (some 3.2 million people) is still in need of emergency livelihood and life saving assistance until June 2010. Central and Northern regions have been severely affected by a prolonged drought and pastoral and agropastoral livelihood systems will need several good seasons to fully recover. In addition, the civil insecurity situation has further deteriorated in most areas of southern and central Somalia, particularly in Mogadishu, parts of Juba, Hiran, Mudug and Galgadud regions. It has resulted in escalating displacements of civilian population, disrupting markets and trade activities, increasing transportation costs and impeding humanitarian interventions. An estimated 1.4 million IDPs are currently settled mainly in South-Central regions. Since January 2010, WFP has decided to suspend its food distributions in southern Somalia due to the escalating attack to aid workers.

Cereal prices decline but violent disruptions limit transmission

Prices of staple cereal crops have slightly decreased between January and February 2010, due to the good 2009/10 secondary "deyr" season harvest, but still remain well-above the price of February 2008, just before they started peaking in August 2008. In February 2010, in Mogadishu retail markets, red sorghum was traded at SoS 5 000 per kg, about 35 percent less than the price of February 2009 but still about 30 percent above that of February 2008. The record price of sorghum was registered in July/August 2008, with different levels across the country, ranging from SoS 13 000 per kg in Mogadishu to SoS 41 000 per kg in Bossaso.

In Mogadishu, the declining trend in food prices may be soon reversed

Somalia Crop calendar (*major foodcrop)

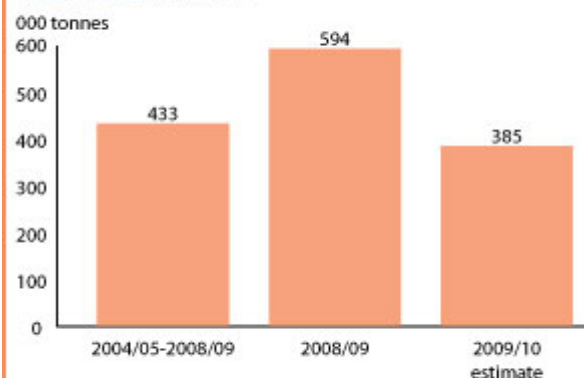


Somalia Cereal production

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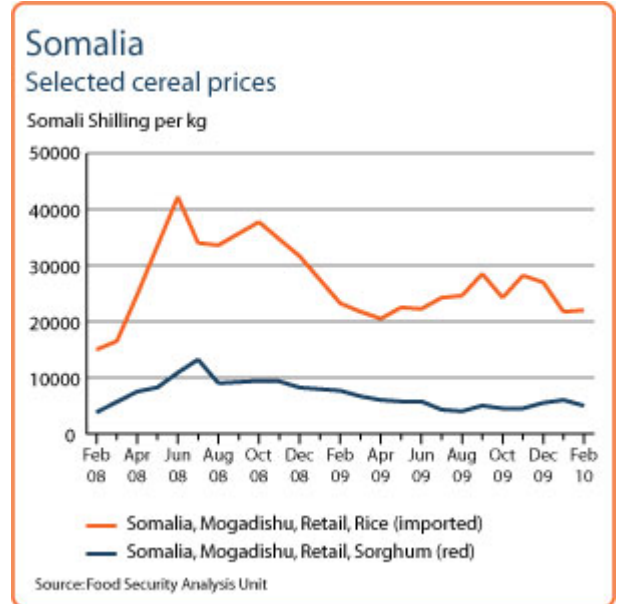
Somalia Total cereal imports



Notes: Total cereal includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

due to the escalation of armed conflict that is widely blocking all trading activities in the main market of Bakara and in other small markets, with consequent decreasing food supply and increasing transport costs.

In November 2009, Saudi Arabia lifted the nine-year ban on livestock exports whose aim was to prevent the spread of the Rift Valley Fever. The expected increase in livestock exports will have a positive impact on incomes of traders and pastoralists in central and northern provinces, especially for the communities near the ports, as well as in the Somali region of Ethiopia.



Reference Date: 11-February-2010

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Aggregate national 2009 cereal production is estimated well above average as a result of generally favourable “gu” and “deyr” rains in southern Somalia
- Poor livestock body conditions in central, northeast and part of northwest Somalia due to insufficient rains
- An estimated 3.2 million people still require emergency food assistance

Favourable prospects for 2009 “deyr” season crops and pasture

The production of the 2009 secondary “deyr” season crops, being harvested, is forecast well above average in most of southern Somalia, as a result of average to above average rains that benefited yields especially in Lower and Middle Juba, Bay and Middle Shabelle. The early start of the “deyr” precipitation has also induced farmers to increase the area planted. In particular, larger areas have been planted with sesame in both rain-fed as well as riverine areas due to high sesame prices and increased export demand. Exceptions include parts of Hiran and Bakool regions where crop establishment was poor due to civil insecurity and yields were affected by below average rainfall. In central, northeast and northwest agropastoral areas, “deyr” output is expected to be below last five-year average due to poor rains. The deterioration of grazing conditions is also reported in these areas. Several seasons of below average rains have resulted in poor livestock body conditions and unusual migration flows, especially toward Somali region of Ethiopia. Flash floods occurred in localised areas of southern Somalia in October and November resulting in temporary displacements and minor damage to crops and infrastructures.

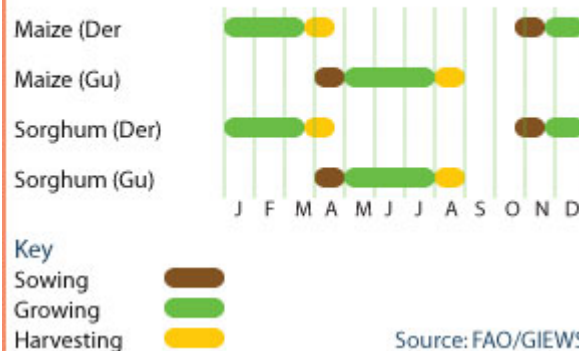
Persisting civil insecurity aggravates food insecurity conditions

The continued civil insecurity situation has further deteriorated in most areas of southern and central Somalia aggravating population displacements, restricting movement of people and goods and hampering the provision of humanitarian aid. At the beginning of 2010, WFP decided to temporarily suspend some of its food distributions in southern Somalia due to the escalating attack to aid workers. According to the Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU) of Somalia, the country is facing the worst humanitarian crisis in eighteen years, with more than 40 percent of the population or an estimated 3.2 million people in need of emergency livelihood and life saving assistance.

Markets disruption affect transmission of cereal prices

Cereal prices vary considerably across the main markets. Between July and November 2009 maize and sorghum retail prices declined between 10 and 25 percent in Shabelle, Bay and the riverine areas of Juba regions as a consequence of the high supply in the markets due to the promising 2009 “deyr” season production, the good off-season production, reduced road blocks and the stability of the local currency against the US dollar. However, high cereal prices are reported in some

Crop calendar Somalia

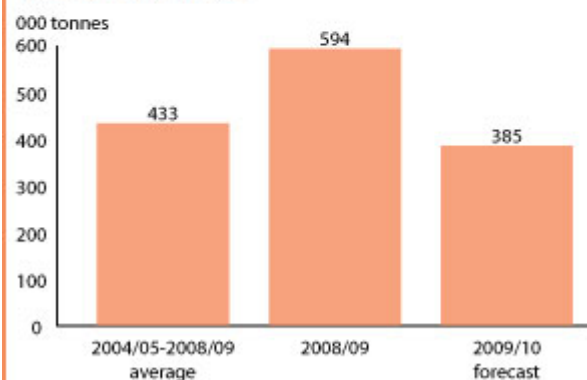


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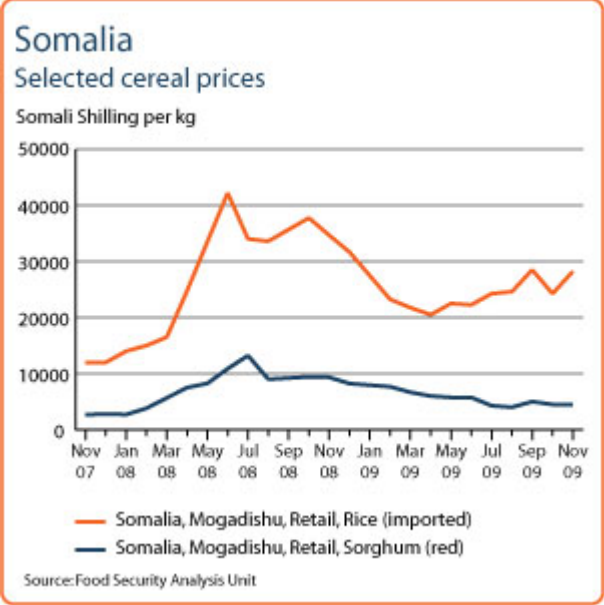
Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.

Total cereal imports



Notes: Total cereal includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

pastoral areas in Lower Juba as well as in Gedo, Bakool and parts of Middle Shabelle regions mainly due to high transportation costs, poor 2009 primary “gu” cereal production, harvested in August, and markets disruption caused by civil insecurity. The recent lifting of Saudi Arabia’s livestock export ban has immediately resulted in sharp increase in exports of meat and live animals.



Reference Date: 29-January-2010

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Above average production of coarse grains expected in southern Somalia, as a result of favourable “gu” rains
- Abundant “deyr” rains benefit yields of second season crops and grazing conditions
- An estimated 3.2 million people still require emergency food assistance

Favourable prospects for 2009 “deyr” season crops and pasture

The production of the 2009 secondary “deyr” season crops, to be harvested by mid-March, is projected to be near normal in most of southern Somalia, as a result of average and above average rains that benefited yields. The early start of the “deyr” precipitation has also induced farmers to increase the area planted. In particular, larger areas have been planted with sesame in both rain-fed as well as riverine areas due to high sesame prices and increased export demand. Exceptions include Kismayo and Afmadow district of Lower Juba as well as parts of Hiran and Bakool regions where crop establishment was poor due to civil insecurity and yields were affected by below average rainfall. The harvest in the northwest agropastoral areas is also likely to exceed the previously forecasted below average levels. Flash floods occurred in localised areas of southern Somalia in October and November resulting in temporary displacements and minor damage to crops and infrastructures. Following the average performance of “deyr” rains, grazing conditions have greatly improved in most areas of the north and water catchments are replenished. In contrast, pasture and water conditions appear extremely poor in North Galgaduud as well as Hiran, where significant unusual migration of livestock is taking place, especially toward Somali region of Ethiopia.

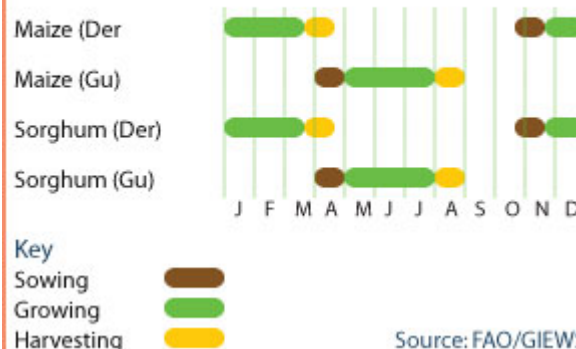
Persisting civil insecurity aggravates food insecurity conditions

The civil insecurity situation has further deteriorated in most areas of southern and central Somalia triggering population displacements, restricting movement of people and goods and hampering the provision of humanitarian aid. At the beginning of 2010, WFP decided to temporarily suspend some of its food distributions in southern Somalia due to the escalating attack to aid workers. As reported by the Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU), the country is facing the worst humanitarian crisis in eighteen years, with approximately half of the population or an estimated 3.2 million people in need of emergency livelihood and life saving assistance

Markets disruption affect transmission of cereal prices

Cereal prices vary considerably across the main markets. Between July and November 2009 maize and sorghum retail prices declined between 10 and 25 percent in Shabelle, Bay and the riverine areas of Juba regions as a consequence of the high supply in the markets due to the promising 2009 “deyr” season production, the good off-season production, reduced road blocks and the stability of the local currency

Crop calendar Somalia

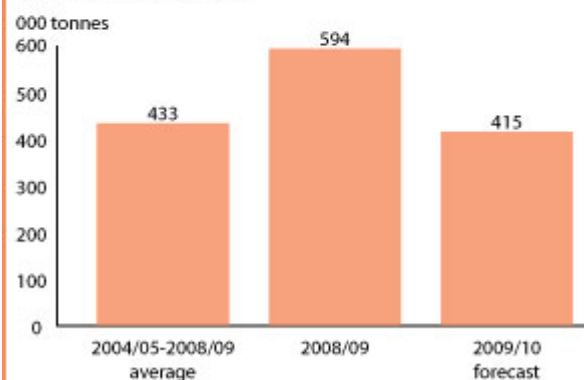


Somalia Cereal production

	2004-2008 average	2008	2009 forecast	change 2009/2008
	000 tonnes		percent	
Sorghum	112	84	117	39
Maize	92	81	130	60
Rice (in milled terms)	1	1	0	-100
Total	206	166	247	49

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.

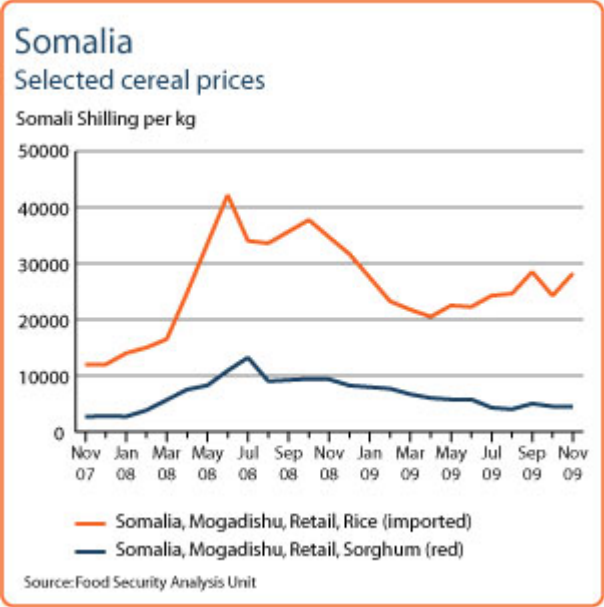
Total cereal imports



Notes: Total cereal includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years.

Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

against the US dollar. However, high cereal prices are reported in some pastoral areas in Lower Juba as well as in Gedo, Bakool and parts of Middle Shabelle regions mainly due to high transportation costs, poor 2009 primary “gu” cereal production, harvested in August, and markets disruption caused by civil insecurity.



Reference Date: 12-September-2009

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Above average production of coarse grains expected in southern Somalia, as a result of favourable “gu” rains
- Dry conditions persist in central and northern regions, negatively impacting the food security of pastoralists
- An estimated 3.6 million people require emergency food assistance

Mixed prospects for 2009 “gu” coarse grains

Harvesting of the 2009 “gu” season maize and sorghum crops is underway, but production is tentatively estimated well below average. This is mainly due to the mixed performance of main “gu” rains (March to June), with below average rainfall that led to a severe and deepening drought conditions in Central regions, parts of the South and in the northwest regions of Hiran, Galgadud, Mudug, Nugal, Sool, Sanag, and Togdheer. On the contrary, 2009 “gu” cereal production estimates for the main southern agriculture regions of Shabelle, Bay and Middle Juba are favourable, on account of near normal rainfall, above normal off-season production (in Lower Juba, Middle Juba and Lower Shabelle due to above normal Hagua showers), improved irrigation systems (in Lower Shabelle) as well as significant increases in cultivated area in Lower Shabelle and Middle Juba.

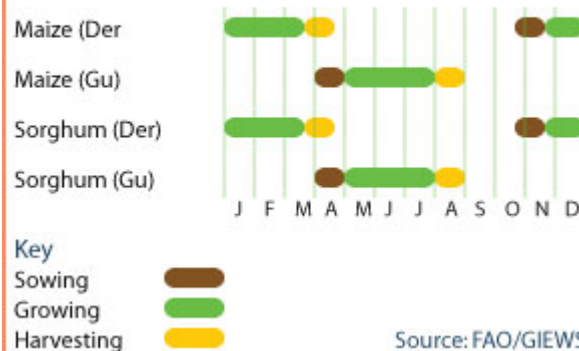
Erratic rains in northern and north-eastern pastoralist regions

Sporadic and low cumulative gu rains in the northern and north-eastern regions from April to June negatively impacted livestock body conditions and productivity. The livelihood systems of about 700 000 pastoralists as well as urban households whose income is highly dependent on livestock markets and trade have been affected. The decrease in livestock prices, as a result of poor body conditions, will have a direct impact on income and food access. Recurring seasons of poor rainfall since 2007 has had a detrimental impact on the long term livelihoods of pastoralists, causing a reduction in herd sizes – estimates reveal a 20-30 percent decline since 2008 in south-central regions – due to both increasing mortality rate and low reproductive levels.

Cereal prices expected to rise during the monsoon season

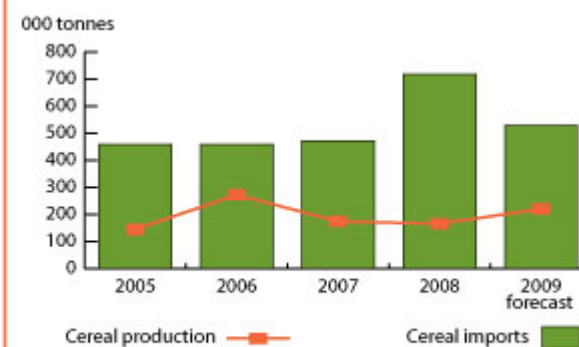
Prices have declined since peaking in mid-2008, improving the purchasing power of households and consequently food access, but still remain above average. The depreciated value of the Somali Shilling, compared to an average of the last five years, and an anticipated reduction in imports during the monsoon season, is expected to lead to an inflation of imported food prices impacting food access.

Crop calendar Somalia



Cereal production and imports Somalia

Cereal production	2004-2008 average	2008	2009 forecast	change 2009/2008
	000 tonnes			percent
Sorghum	112	84	140	66.7%
Maize	92	81	80	-1.2%
Rice (milled)	1	1	1	0%
Total Cereals	206	166	221	33.1%

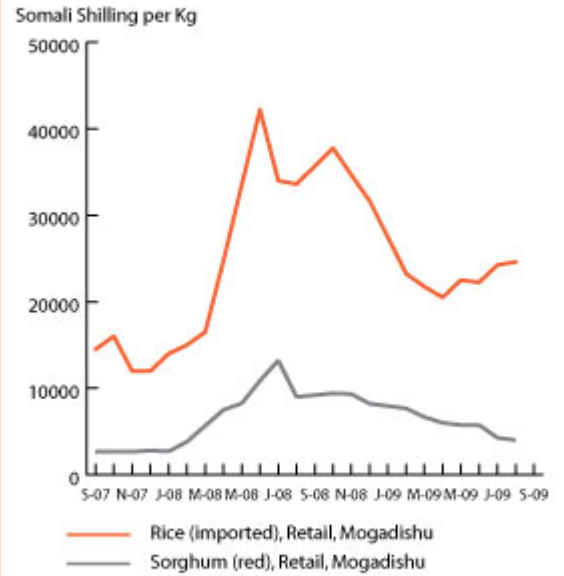


Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Escalating conflict aggravates food insecurity conditions

As reported by the Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU), the country is facing the worst humanitarian crisis in eighteen years, with approximately half of the population or an estimated 3.6 million people in need of emergency livelihood and life saving assistance at least until December 2009. In particular, they include 1.4 million rural people affected by the severe drought, about 655 000 urban poor facing high food and non-food prices, and 1.3 million Internally Displaced People (IDP) consequence of escalating fighting and conflict. Most food vulnerable households are reported in Mudug, Galgadud, Hiran and Bakool regions of south and central Somalia as well as in the capital city.

Somalia Selected food prices



Source: Food Security Analysis Unit