

Price Monitoring and Analysis Country Brief

Somalia

February 2010

Key Messages

- **Market disruption affects transmission of cereal prices which vary considerably in different parts of the country.**
- **Persistent civil insecurity has forced widespread displacement and aggravates food insecurity conditions of the population.**
- **It has been estimated that 3.2 million people require food assistance.**
- **Donors are providing support to agriculture and food security while delivering food aid where it is still possible.**

Background

The total population in Somalia was 8.95 million in 2008 with an annual growth rate of 2%.

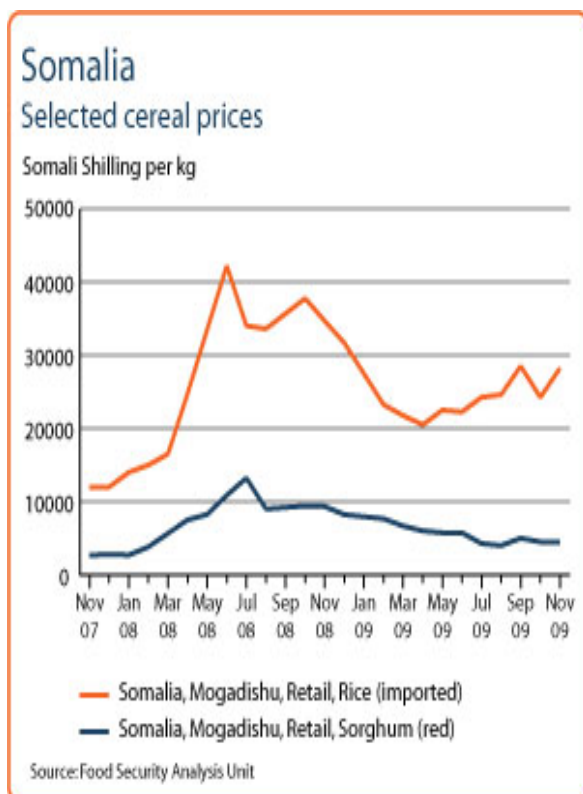
Economic Indicators	View Data
Total Population - 2008 (WB)	8953890
Population growth rate - 2008 (WB)	2%
GNI per capita, \$ PPP	n.a.
Population below 1\$ PPP per day	n.a.
Rural population - 2007 (WB)	64%
Agriculture, value added (% of GDP)	n.a.

Food Consumption	
Undernourished Population	n.a.
Cereal share in total dietary energy consumption	n.a.
Meat share in total dietary energy consumption	n.a.

Health Indicators	
Pop. with sustainable access to improved sanitation - 2006 (WHO)	23%
Life expectancy at birth (years) both sexes - 2006 (WHO)	55
Pop. with access to improved drinking water sources - 2006 (WHO)	29%
Prevalence of HIV among adults aged >= 15 years - 2005 (WHO)	0%

Prices

Cereals: Cereal prices vary considerably across the main markets. Between July and November 2009 maize and sorghum retail prices declined between 10 and 25% 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, reduced road blocks and the stability of the local currency 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 and markets disruption caused by civil insecurity.



Source: [GIEWS Country Briefs](#)

Natural Disasters, Drought and Conflicts

The civil insecurity situation has further deteriorated in most areas of southern and central Somalia. As reported by the Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU), the country is facing the worst humanitarian crisis in eighteen years. IDPs are estimated to be 1.39 million.

Refugees and IDPs	2006	2007	2008
Total in the country	403735	1011824	1289764
Total outside the country	889683	1476007	1860373

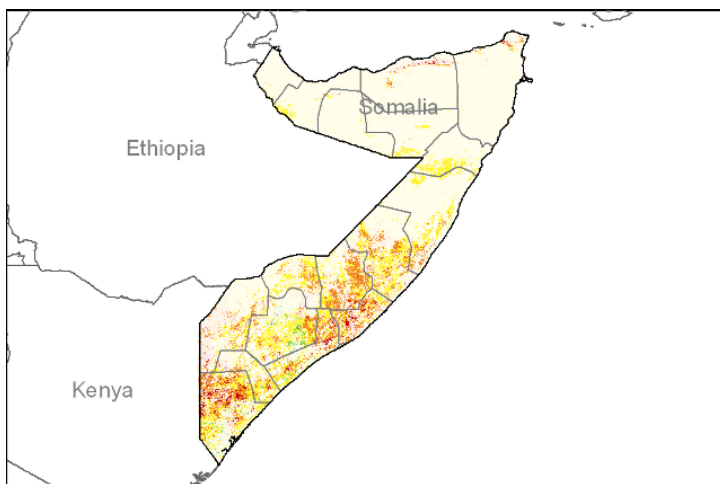
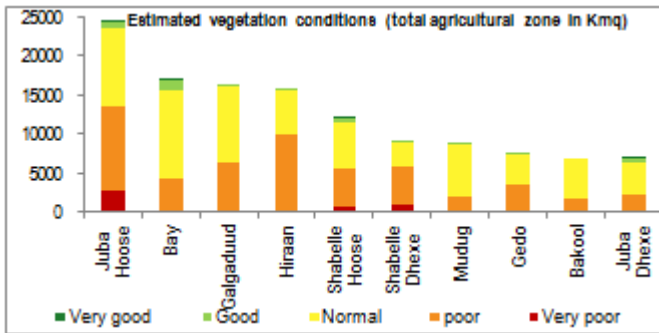
Source: [UNHCR](#) Statistical Online Population Database, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Data extracted on 22/10/2009.

Disaster Type (last year)	Date	Location	Alert
Earthquake	2009-11-20	Bari Province	1/3
No Floods	-	-	-

Source: [Global Disaster Alert and Coordination System](#) - 3 = 1000 or more people killed or 800000 or more people displaced. 2 = 100 or more people killed or 80000 or more displaced.

Vegetation Condition

At the end of the Der season, normal to poor vegetation conditions are observed throughout the country. The general indicator of vegetation condition provided below is the relative difference between the NDVI for January 2010 and the average of the last 10 years, calculated on the agricultural zones derived from the GLOBCOVER land cover database (2005).

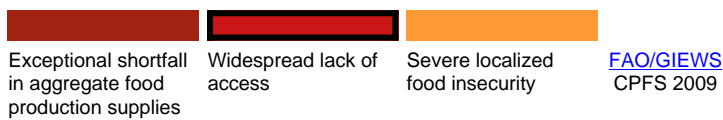


Source: JRC MARS – FoodSec

Food Security Situation

It has been estimated that 3.2 million people will be in need of emergency humanitarian and livelihood assistance through June 2010. GIEWS reports widespread lack of access to food in the short term. The long term situation is likely to remain grave so long as the security situation does not improve.

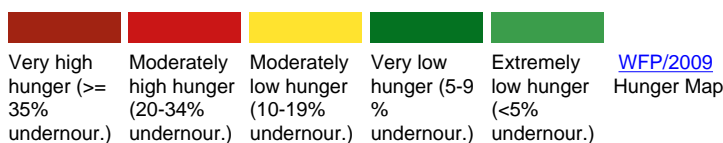
CURRENT EMERGENCY ASSESMENT



The food security situation in all livelihoods of Somalia remains high or extreme, as classified during the post Gu 2009 assessment (June-July 2009), though the early Deyr rains have begun to improve the situation in [...more](#)

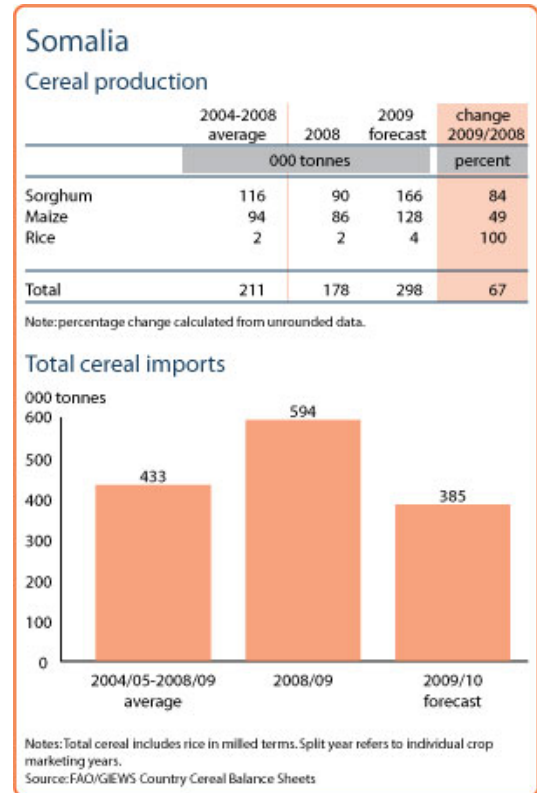
FEWSNET

SCALE OF HUNGER



Food Balance Sheet

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. Import requirements for 2009/2010 marketing year are estimated at 385,000 tonnes compared to the 594,000 tonnes in 2008/09.



Source: GIEWS Country Briefs

Government Policies

In FY 2010, USAID/OFDA has provided nearly \$1.1 million to support agriculture and food security programs, including interventions to improve crop production and storage in drought affected areas. WFP suspended emergency food distributions in southern areas, but it continues to assist around 1.8 million food insecure individuals in other areas. The Government is engaged in fighting rebels.

Consumer and market oriented measures	Storage facilities
Producer oriented measures	Irrigation; Market infrastructure development; Inputs for animal/fisheries production
Trade policy measures	n.a.
Safety net (increased or introduced)	Input distribution

Different sources

Current events to watch (Click to see the full report)

- [SOMALIA: Poverty pushes Bosasso children on to streets](#)
- [In Brief: Floods displace thousands in Somalia-Ethiopia border a...](#)
- [SOMALIA: Hujale Jama, "I never thought I would depend on anyone ...](#)
- [SOMALIA: Ade Sheikdon Negeye, "Having leprosy has worsened my di...](#)
- [SOMALIA: Drought-hit Somaliland pleads for aid](#)

For more information, contact: Information-for-action@fao.org
Website: www.foodsec.org

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