

Price Monitoring and Analysis Country Brief

Somalia

May 2010

Key Messages

- Cereal prices are decreasing from pre crisis levels, but recent prices are still higher than pre crisis levels.
- A widespread humanitarian crisis persists in Somalia where food security situation is exacerbated by escalating conflict and drought in several regions.
- Widespread insecurity and conflict adversely affect food access and 3.2 million people are in need of emergency assistance.
- The Government is engaged in escalating conflict and has yet to come up with development or social protection programmes.

Background

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

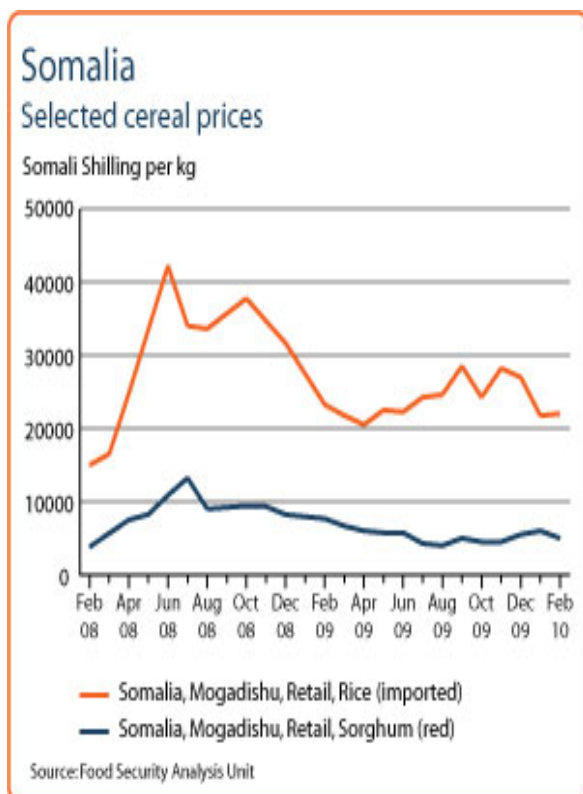
Economic Indicators	View Data
Total Population - 2008 (WB)	8953890
Population growth rate - 2008 (WB)	2%
GNI per capita, \$ PPP	n.a.
Population below 1\$ PPP per day	n.a.
Rural population - 2007 (WB)	64%
Agriculture, value added (% of GDP)	n.a.

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

Red sorghum retail prices in Mogadishu registered a highly volatile trend ranging from 5000 SoS/K in Feb to 7000 SoS/Kg in April. However, prices decreased from peak levels of July 2008 when they ranged from 13000 SoS/k in Mogadishu to 41000 SoS/K in Bossaso. Maize retail prices in Mogadishu have increased since January but stabilized at 8000 SoS/K in Feb, March and April 2010. In Mogadishu, sorghum prices in April (220.4 USD/T) were 37% higher than the international US Sorghum No2 Yellow, Gulf (160.44 USD/T), while maize prices (251.89 USD/T) were 62% higher than the international US Maize No2 Yellow, Gulf (155.85 USD/T).



Source: GIEWS Country Briefs

Natural Disasters, Drought and Conflicts

Escalating conflict continues in central and southern regions, with the most affected areas being Mogadishu, Mudug, Galgadug and Hiran and parts of Juba regions. Latest fighting in the capital city between the government forces and the Al-Shabaab militia displaced an additional 33,000 people which, together with the 100,000 civilians displaced since the beginning of 2010, make Somalia one of the countries with the highest number of displaced people and refugees in the world. According to UNHCR there are more than 1.4 million IDPs while over 560,000 Somalis live as refugees in neighbouring countries. Moreover drought has affected most areas in the northern Sanaag and Togdheer regions where pastoral and agropastoral livelihoods have deteriorated to humanitarian emergency crisis.

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

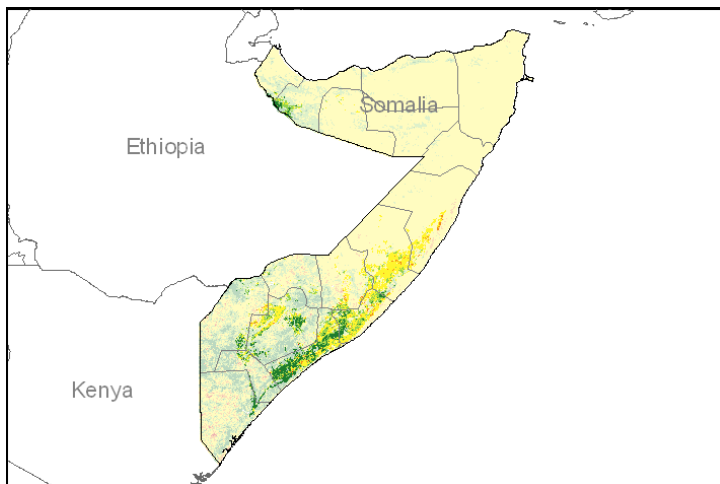
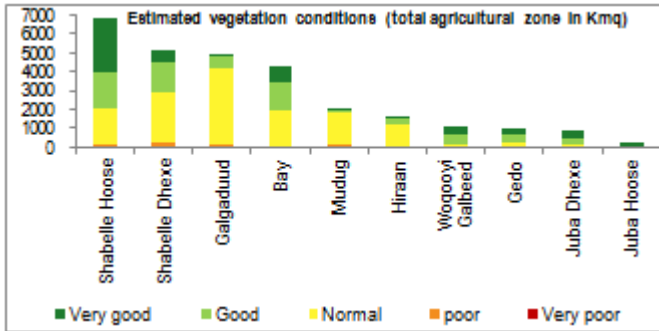
Source: UNHCR Statistical Online Population Database, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Data extracted on 22/10/2009.

Disaster Type (last year)	Date	Location	Alert
Earthquake	2010-05-18	Bari	1/3
Earthquake	2009-11-20	BariProvince	1/3
Flood	2010-04-12	MiddleShabelle	1/3

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

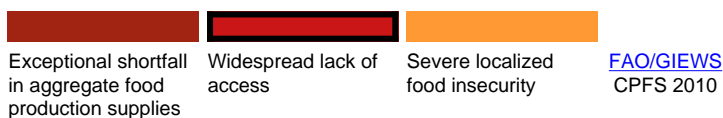


Source: JRC MARS & FoodSec

Food Security Situation

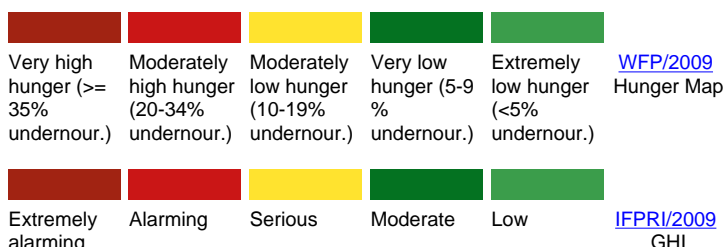
The FSNAU, released in March 2010, estimated that 3.2 million people are in need of emergency humanitarian assistance. The report highlighted that 240,000 children under 5 years of age are acutely malnourished of which 63,000 are severely malnourished. GIEWS reports widespread lack of access to food as a critical problem in the country. Somalia is not covered in Hunger Map and GHI.

CURRENT EMERGENCY ASSESSMENT



Though January assessments suggested a drop in assistance needs, the suspension of food assistance, ongoing conflict, and unseasonable increases in staple food prices, mean that this decline will be less substantial ...[more](#)

SCALE OF HUNGER



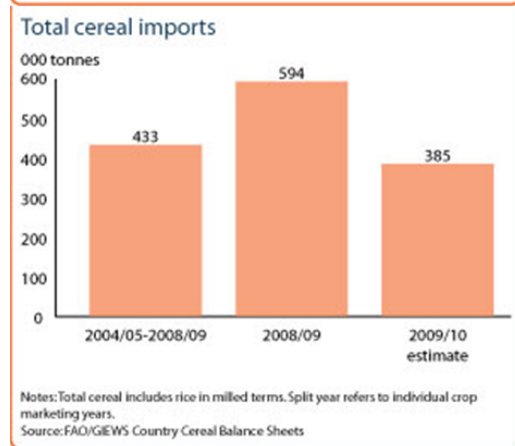
Food Balance Sheet

The Deyr 2009/2010 cereal production in southern Somalia was estimated at 130,150MT thanks to average and above average rains. Total cereal output for 2009 was estimated at 298,000 tonnes, increasing significantly from 2008 production of 178,000 tonnes. As a consequence, import requirements for 2009/10 are expected to decrease to 385,000, from 504,000 tonnes of 2008/09.

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



Source: GIEWS Country Briefs

Government Policies

The implementation of policies to support agriculture and trade is hampered by instability and continuing civil clashes between the government and rebels groups. WFP is assisting the population through food distribution, as of April 2010, beneficiaries were estimated at 718,586 people.

Consumer and market oriented measures	n.a.
Producer oriented measures	n.a.
Trade policy measures	n.a.
Safety net (increased or introduced)	Food distribution (WFP).

Different sources

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

- [SOMALIA: Thousands displaced by rains and clashes](#)
- [SOMALIA: Rise in mental health disorders blamed on conflict](#)
- [SOMALIA: Puntland helps IDPs integrate, learn skills](#)
- [SOMALIA: Thousands affected as floods cut off area in Puntland](#)
- [SOMALIA: Government infighting "good for insurgents"](#)

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

Powered By the [GIEWS Workstation](#)