



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



Somalia Water and Land Information Management

An update on the current drought situation, river levels and likely impact in Somalia



**A Presentation by to the Country Humanitarian Forum
11 April 2019, Mogadishu**



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

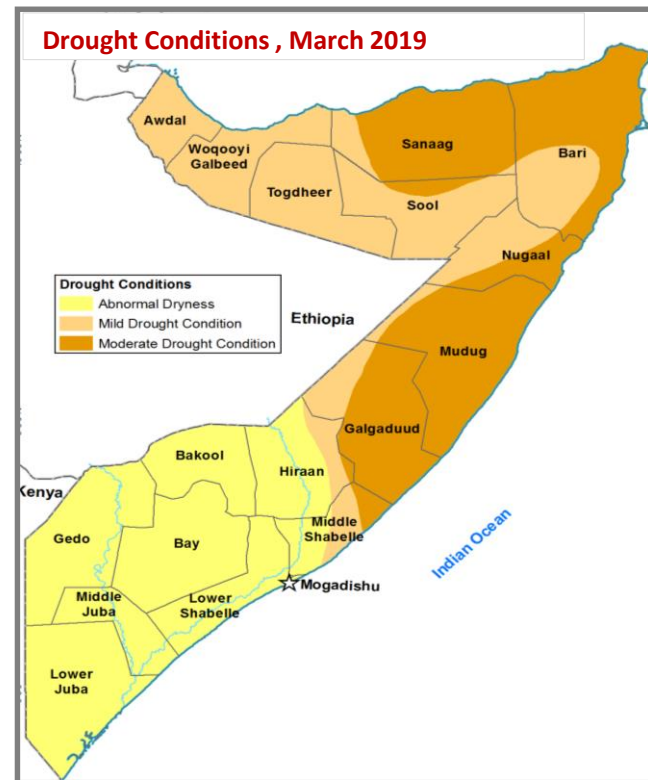
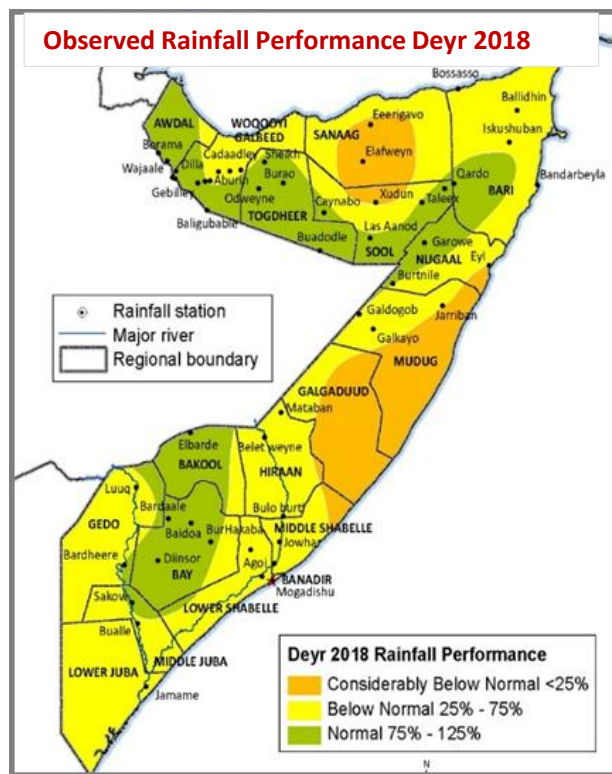


Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC



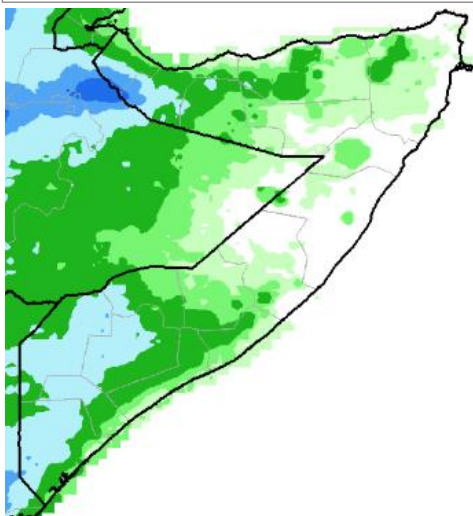
Drought Conditions Update



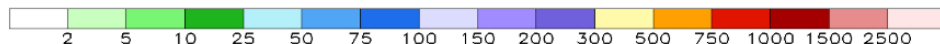
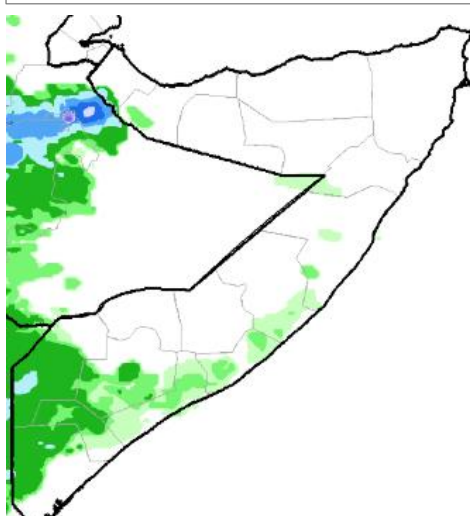
- The poor performance of Deyr 2018 coupled with harsh weather conditions in January – March 2019 has left many parts of Somalia facing mild to moderate drought conditions
- This has led to serious water scarcity and earlier than normal water trucking across the country and in particular in Somaliland and Puntland
- Shabelle & Juba river levels are very low; dried up river beds are seen in some areas

2019 Gu Rainfall Update

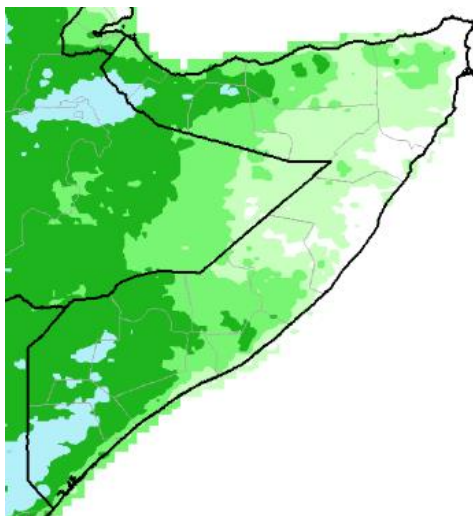
Long-Term/Expected Rainfall (mm), 1-31 Mar



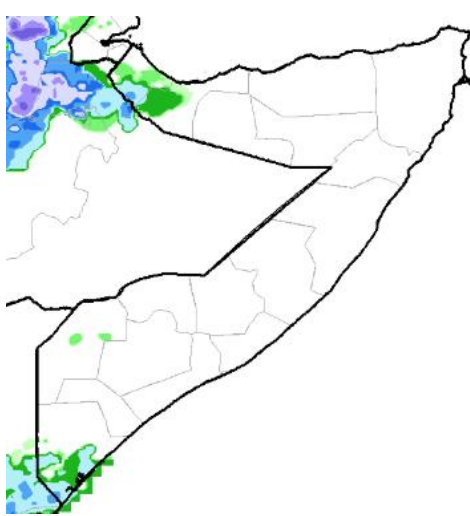
Actual Rainfall (mm), 1-31 Mar 2019



Long-Term/Expected Rainfall (mm), 1-8 Apr



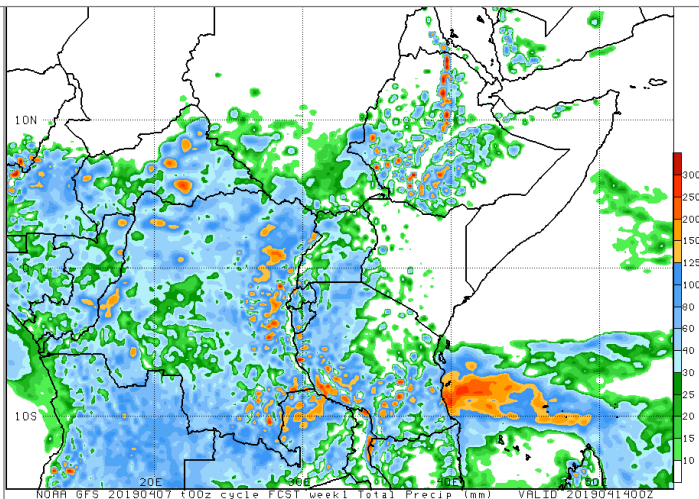
Actual Rainfall (mm), 1-8 Apr 2019



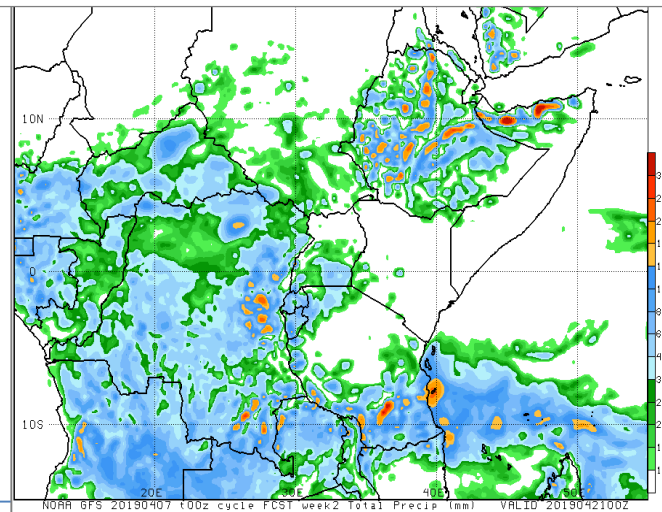
- Most parts of Somalia did not receive rainfall during March through early April
- Modest rainfall amounts received in March were mostly confined to Gedo, Middle and Lower Juba
- In first week of April, some rainfall was received in the extreme northwest of Somalia, with little to no rainfall observed elsewhere in the country

Rainfall Forecast and Implications

Rainfall Forecast (08 - 14 Apr 2019)

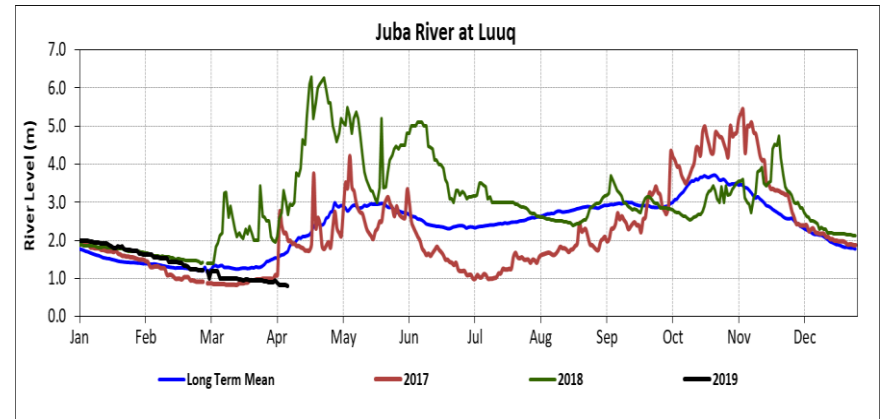
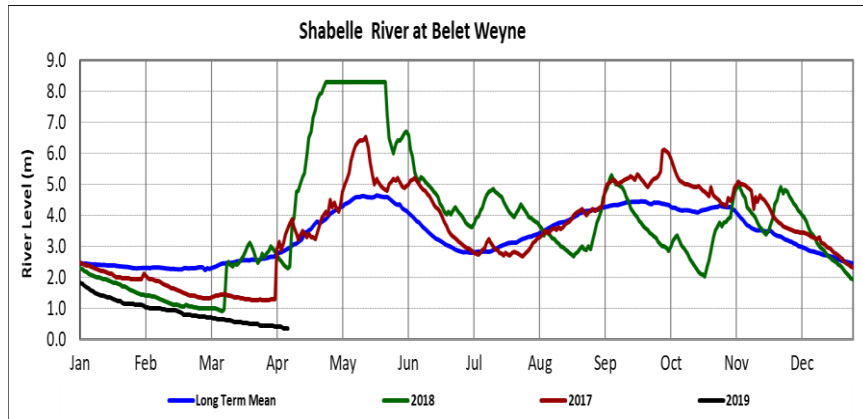


Rainfall Forecast (15 - 21 Apr 2019)



- Minimal or no rains are foreseen in most parts of Somalia during the next two weeks in most parts of Somalia. However, mild to moderate rains are expected in Somaliland and within the Ethiopian highlands.
- The expected rainfall in Somaliland will have a positive impact on the drought situation, especially if it continues into May
- Better rainfall expected in the eastern Ethiopian highlands over the next two weeks is also expected to lead to increased river flow into Shabelle and Juba rivers inside Somalia
- **Continued lack of rainfall beyond the end of April is likely to lead to significant deterioration in the current food security and nutrition situation in many areas**

Shabelle and Juba River Levels



- Both Shabelle and Juba river levels are currently very low
- Jan – Mar 2019 has seen significantly below normal levels along the river since the beginning of January.
- Some parts of the river in the lower reaches have dried up.
- This has been caused by below normal rains experienced in the upper parts of the Shabelle basin during the previous season, leading to reduced river flow and over utilization of the river water for various uses both in Ethiopia and inside Somalia.
- The Ethiopian highlands have received moderate rains in the past few days and more rains are expected in the eastern Ethiopian highlands over the next two weeks. This will translate into an increase of river flows inside Somalia, starting towards mid-April

Sample Photos



Poor livestock body condition, Erigavo, Sanaag (FAO/FSNAU, March 2019)



Empty Berkad, East Golis, Bari (FAO/FSNAU, March 2019)



Water trucking, Nugaal (FAO/FSNAU, March 2019)



Poor livestock body condition, Qardho, Bari (FAO/FSNAU, March 2019)



Depleted pasture, Dangorayo, Nugaal (FAO/FSNAU, March 2019)

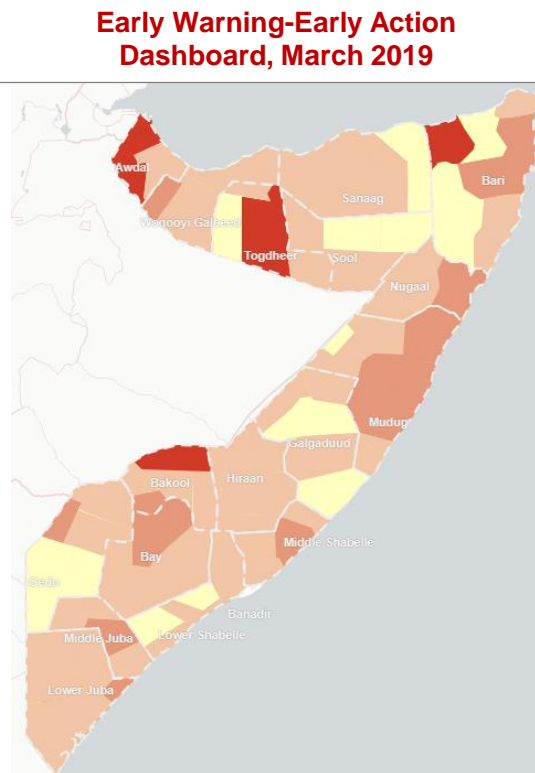
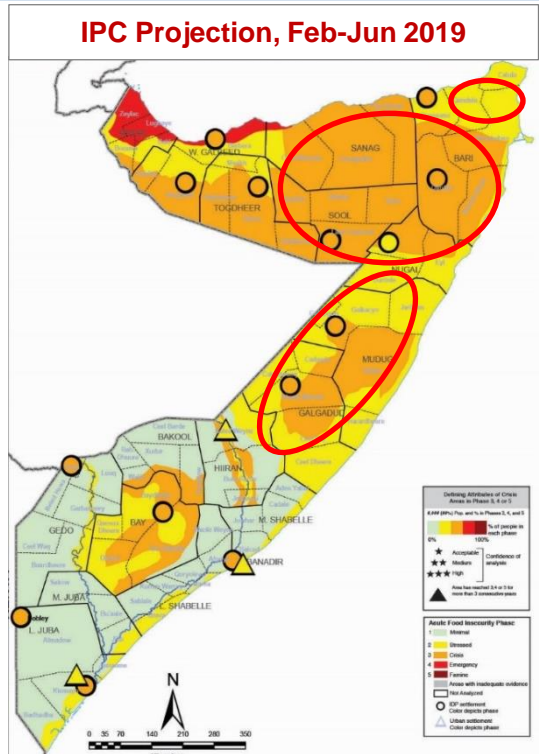


Collecting water from the river bed, Jowhar, M Shabelle (FAO/FSNAU, March 2019)



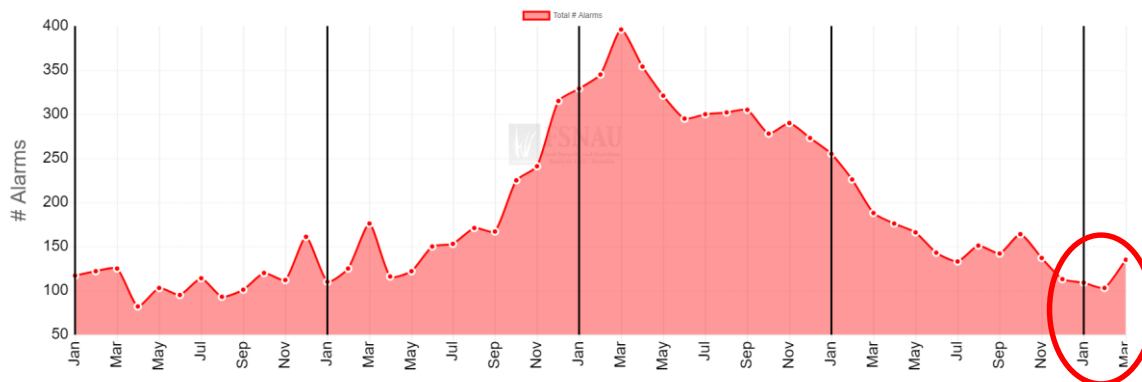
Extremely low river level, Jowhar, M Shabelle (FAO/FSNAU, March 2019)

Likely Impact on Food Security



- Reduced access to milk, increased expenditure on food and water have led to further deterioration of food security among pastoralists in northern and central Somalia
- **In the worst affected areas (areas circled in red on the map), increases in the number of people in IPC Phase 3 & 4 from previous projections for February-June 2019 are likely**

Trends in the number of indicators in alarm phase across Somalia





Questions or comments please send to:

Swalim@fao.org and FSNAU@fao.org