

*Somalia faces large scale food insecurity and malnutrition through June 2016
953 000 people face Crisis and Emergency (IPC Phases 3 and 4); 304 700 children acutely malnourished*

KEY MESSAGES

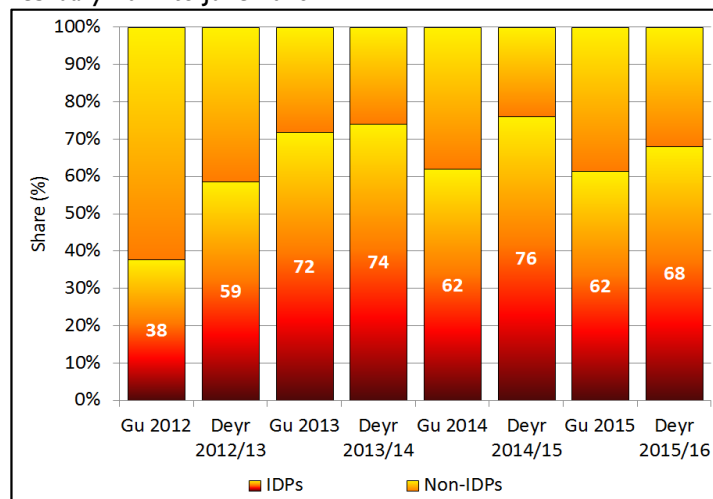
- Somalia faces large-scale food insecurity between now and June 2016 as a result of poor rainfall and drought conditions in several areas, trade disruption, a combination of protracted and new population displacement, all of which is exacerbated by chronic poverty. Acute malnutrition remains high in many parts of the country.
- The latest findings from the 2015/16 Post Deyr countrywide seasonal assessment by FSNAU and partners indicate that 931 000 people will be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and 22 000 people in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) across Somalia through June 2016. Internally displaced persons (IDPs) represent 68 percent of the total number of people in Crisis and Emergency, rural populations (26 percent) and urban populations (6 percent). Approximately 3.7 million additional people across the country are classified as Stressed (IPC Phase 2) through mid-2016. In total, nearly 4.7 million people or 38 percent of the total population of Somalia are acutely food insecure and will be in need of humanitarian assistance between now and June 2016 (Table 1).
- Urgent lifesaving humanitarian assistance and livelihood support is required for populations in Emergency and Crisis (IPC Phases 4 and 3) through June 2016. Populations experiencing Stressed (IPC Phase 2) acute food insecurity remain highly vulnerable to shocks that could push them back to Crisis or Emergency (IPC Phases 3 or 4). They should be supported in order to protect their livelihoods and boost their resilience to shocks.
- Internally Displaced Persons continue to represent a large proportion (60-75%) of the total population in Crisis and Emergency over the past three years (Figure 1). This indicates the protracted nature of the food security crisis among displaced populations and calls for medium to long term

Table 1. Estimated number of people facing acute food insecurity across Somalia, February to June 2016

Region	Total Population	Stressed (IPC 2)	Crisis (IPC 3)	Emergency (IPC 4)	# of People in Need	# of People in Crisis and Emergency
		A	B	C	D=A+B+C	E=B+C
Awdal	673,264	103,000	69,000	-	172,000	69,000
Woqooyi Galbeed	1,242,003	98,000	99,000	4,000	201,000	103,000
Togdheer	721,363	484,000	30,000	5,000	519,000	35,000
Sanaag	544,123	104,000	56,000	-	160,000	56,000
Sool	327,427	156,000	18,000	1,000	175,000	19,000
Bari	730,147	244,000	82,000	1,000	327,000	83,000
Nugaal	392,698	112,000	20,000	-	132,000	20,000
Mudug	717,862	121,000	40,000	1,000	162,000	41,000
Galgaduud	569,434	166,000	38,000	1,000	205,000	39,000
Hiraan	520,686	129,000	36,000	-	165,000	36,000
Middle Shabelle	516,035	114,000	-	-	114,000	-
Lower Shabelle	1,202,219	248,000	10,000	-	258,000	10,000
Bakool	367,227	63,000	22,000	-	85,000	22,000
Bay	792,182	117,000	20,000	3,000	140,000	23,000
Gedo	508,403	128,000	4,000	3,000	135,000	7,000
Middle Juba	362,921	104,000	-	-	104,000	-
Lower Juba	489,307	173,000	21,000	3,000	197,000	24,000
Banadir	1,650,228	1,063,000	366,000	-	1,429,000	366,000
Grand Total	12,327,529	3,727,000	931,000	22,000	4,680,000	953,000

Source: FSNAU

Figure 1. Trends in the proportion of displaced (IDP) and non-displaced number of people in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) in Somalia as percent of the total, February 2012 to June 2016



Source: FSNAU

food security programme/response, including integration of explicit goals and strategies in the preparation of the Somalia National Development Plan (NDP) in order to support sustainable and durable solutions.

- Results from 39 separate nutrition surveys conducted from October to December 2015 by FSNAU and partners also indicate that an estimated 304 700 children under the age of five were acutely malnourished at the time of the survey. This includes 58 300 children under the age of five that are severely malnourished and face increased risk of morbidity and death.
- Despite changes in seasonal food security and livelihood outcomes and continued humanitarian interventions, Critical rates of acute malnutrition persist among several population groups. This shows the protracted nature of the nutrition crisis among these groups.
- Urgent nutrition and health support for the acutely malnourished is needed now and through mid-2016. However, this is not enough for populations experiencing persistently high levels of acute malnutrition. They need additional multifaceted interventions such as the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) movement that are aimed at addressing the underlying causes and contributing factors of malnutrition.
- Climate continues to play a determinant role in shaping food security patterns throughout rural Somalia in both positive and negative ways. Most parts of Southern and Central Somalia received average to above-average Deyr (October-December) rains in terms of amount as well as spatial and temporal distribution. As a result, cereal production in Southern Regions (including off-season production expected in March), was estimated at 28 percent above the long-term average (1995-2014) and 18 percent above the five-year average (2010-2014).
- The situation is very different in the North. Rainfall during the 2015 *Gu* (April-June) and *Karan* (August-September) were below average. This had a severe impact on the *Gu/Karan* cereal harvest in the Northwest agropastoral livelihood zones, which is estimated at 87 percent lower than the five-year average (2010-2014).
- Below normal rainfall and drought conditions prevailed in large portions of Northwest and Northeast Somalia leading to large-scale abnormal outmigration of livestock, rising water prices and sharp increase in debt levels among poor households. In Guban Pastoral livelihood zone of Awdal Region in the Northwest, unseasonal moderate rains in November followed by near normal Hays rains in December contributed to a moderate improvement in terms of pasture and water availability. However, due the large influx of livestock in-migration from drought affected parts of Djibouti, Ethiopia and other adjacent livelihoods and the dry *Jilaal* season, the improved pasture and water will likely be exhausted soon. Drought conditions are expected to prevail until at least the start of the 2016 *Gu* season when rainfall brings some relief to nearby drought-affected areas and opens up the possibility for livestock migration to other areas. The prevailing drought conditions and consequent food security outcomes are expected to worsen at least until the start of *Gu* rains in April and needs to be monitored closely.
- Current forecasts point towards a near-average 2016 *Gu* season rainfall in Somalia. However, during the El Niño transition period, close monitoring is required.

1. Current Food Security Situation (January 2016)

Based on the results of the 2015 post Deyr season (October-December 2015) assessment, current (January 2016) food security outcome and main contributing factors are summarized in the sections below. Further details are provided below separately for rural, urban and displaced populations.

1.1 National Overview

At national level, the current (January 2016) number of people in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) is 912 000 - IDPs represented 71 percent of the total. Approximately 3.6 million additional people were classified as Stressed (IPC Phase 2) – Table

Table 2. Current number of people facing acute food security Stress (IPC 2), Crisis (IPC 3) and Emergency (IPC 4), January 2016

Population Groups	Stressed (IPC 2)	Crisis (IPC 3)	Emergency (IPC 4)
Rural	968 000	211 000	0
Urban	2 326 000	45 000	7 000
IDPs	339 000	634 000	15 000
Total	3 633 000	890 000	22 000

Source: FSNAU

2. This group of households is vulnerable and their food security situation could deteriorate to Crisis or Emergency if exposed to shocks.

In terms of IPC Area Classification (Figure 2), Dollow IDPs in Gedo Region are classified as Emergency (Phase 4). The remaining 12 main IDP settlements across the country have been classified as Crisis (IPC Phase 3). So are the Xudur, Wajid and Bulu Burto, urban areas in Southern Somalia affected by trade disruption. The drought affected Northwest Agropastoral Livelihood Zone and Guban Pastoral Livelihood Zone have also been classified as Crisis. Toghddeer Agropastoral, most parts of Sanaag, Sool, Bari and northern parts of Nugaal, most parts of Galgaduud and southern parts of Mudug, some parts of Hirran, Middle Juba, and coastal parts of Lower Shabelle and Lower Juba Regions as well as several urban populations the country have been classified as Stressed (IPC Phase 2). The rest of the country has been classified as Minimal (IPC Phase 1).

1.2 Rural Areas

The current (January 2016) number of rural people in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) is estimated at 211 000. There are no rural populations facing Emergency (IPC Phase 4). However, approximately 890 000 additional people in rural areas are classified as Stressed (IPC Phase 2).

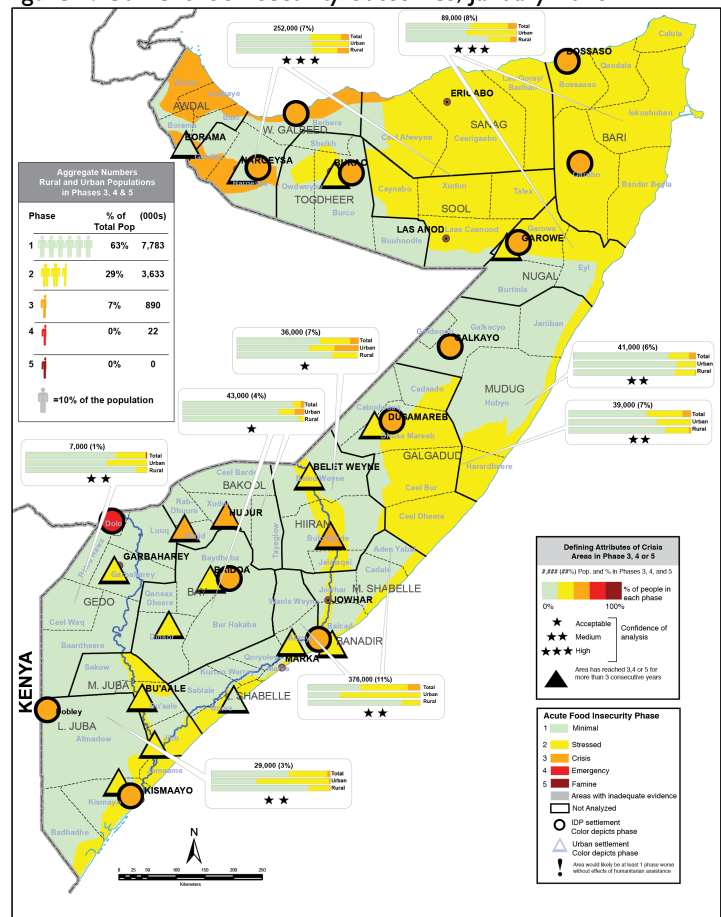
The 2015 *Deyr* (October-December) rains started on time around mid-October in most parts of South and Central Somalia and parts of the North with improved intensity and spatial distribution through November for the South/Central. However, *Deyr* rains started later than usual (November) in most of the pastoral areas of Bari and Sanaag regions in the North which received only few days of localized moderate rains.

Overall 2015 *Deyr* season rainfall performance was largely average to above-average in terms of amount, duration, frequency and temporal and spatial distribution in most parts of South/Central (Figure 3). Localized, unusual moderate rains precipitated in September to November in the previously drought-affected Guban pastoral of Awdal. This was followed by near normal seasonal *Hays* rains in December. However, in most of Bari and Sanaag regions, some parts of Awdal, and coastal parts of Lower Shabelle and Juba regions, rainfall was below average.

In the Northwest agropastoral livelihood zone (Woqooyi Galbeed and Awdal Regions) whose population mainly depend crop cultivation, below average to poor 2015 *Gu* (April-June) and 2015 *Karan* (August-September) rains resulted in a near total crop failure, with total 2015 *Gu/Karan* cereal harvest estimated at 7 700 tonnes. This is 87 percent lower than the average for the previous five years (2010-2014).

Most pastoral livelihoods of Northwest Regions received average *Deyr* rainfall, with the exception of Sool and Sanaag Regions (mostly Northern Inland Pastoral Livelihood Zone) and Hawd parts of Toghddeer Region which received below average rains. The previously drought affected Guban pastoral livelihood zone had received unseasonal *Deyr* rains and near average *Hays* rain s in December 2015/January 2016. Generally pasture and water conditions are average in most

Figure 2. Current food security outcomes, January 2016



Graphic: FSNAU

This map represents acute food insecurity outcomes relevant for emergency decision-making, and does not necessarily reflect chronic food insecurity. For more information on this scale, please visit www.ipcinfo.org

livelihoods but poor in rainfall deficit areas, particularly in parts of Hawd (Togdheer) and most of Northern Inland Pastoral (mainly Sanaag and parts of Sool regions). In these livelihoods water trucking is expected to start earlier than normal in February 2016 due to depletion of pasture and water.

In the Northeast, 2015 *Deyr* 2015 rainfall was average in most pastoral livelihood zones with the exception of most parts of Northern Inland Pastoral livelihoods of Bari and Nugaal Regions which received below average to poor rains. In these areas, earlier than normal depletion of pasture and water is well underway. As a result, high cost water trucking is expected to start in January/February 2016.

In the Central regions, average to above average 2015 *Deyr* rains led to improvement in water and pasture conditions across most livelihoods. However, localized areas in Coastal Deeh (between Hobyo and Harardhere) and pocket areas within Addun Pastoral livelihood zones received below average rainfall.

In the South, 2015 *Deyr* rains were average to above average in most rural livelihoods with the exception of coastal parts of Lower Shabelle and Juba regions which received below average rainfall.

The overall 2015 *Deyr* season cereal harvest (December 2015/January 2016) in Southern Somalia is estimated at 130 100 metric tonnes (including off-season harvest expected in March) is moderately 28 percent higher than the 1995-2014 long-term/post-war average (PWA) and also 18 percent higher than the five-year average (2010-2014).

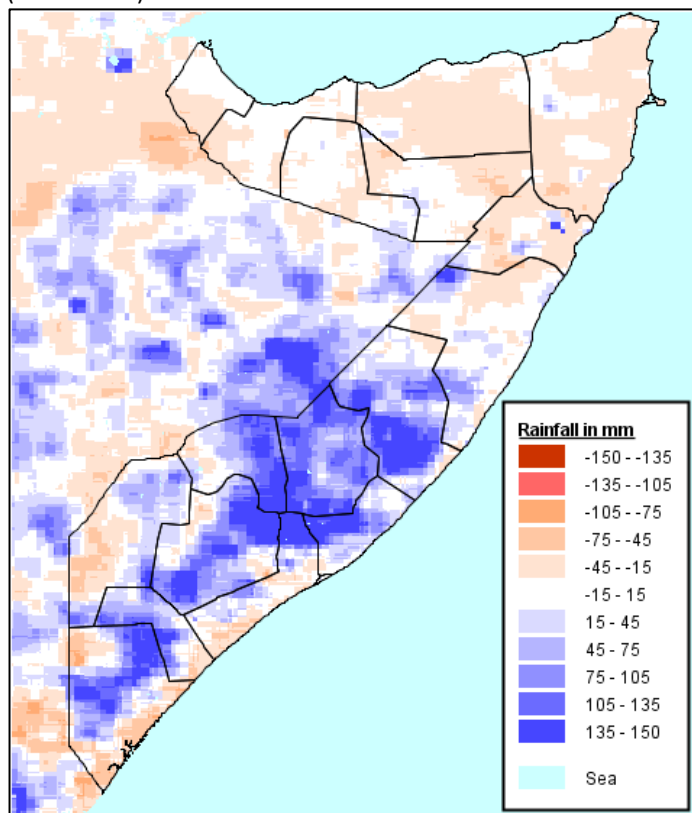
2015 *Deyr* season cereal production is also higher than the long-term average in the surplus producing regions of Bay (by 46%) and Lower Shabelle (by 6%). However, 2015 *Deyr* cereal harvest has been slightly lower (by 4%) in Lower Juba compared to the long-term average.

Due to a combination of depressed prices and concerns over El Nino induced rains damaging irrigation equipment, farmers have planted and produced lower than typical harvest of non-cereal crops (sesame, cowpeas, groundnut, watermelon, tomatoes, and onions) in southern Somalia. These crops are important for household income and food source.

In Northwest Agropastoral livelihood zone, the 2015 *Gu/Karan* cereal harvest is estimated at only 7 700 metric tonnes. This represents 87 percent decline compared to the five-year average (2010-2014). The poor production is mainly attributed to reduced area under crop establishment as a result of poor *Gu/Karan* rainfall performance as well yield reduction due to moisture stress.

Livestock body conditions are average to above average in most of the livelihoods (Pictorial Evaluation Tool-PET scores of 3-4) owing to average pasture and water conditions. However, livestock body condition in areas affected by poor rainfall (mainly Northern Inland Pastoral livelihood Zone) remains poor with PET score of 2. Milk availability is average in most of the pastoral and agropastoral areas except in Northern Inland Pastoral livelihood zone, Northwest agro-pastoral and Guban pastoral where household level milk availability is low.

Figure 3. Deyr Season (October 1 to December 30, 2016) cumulative rainfall anomaly from 2000-2014 short-term mean (millimeters)



Source: U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)/FEWS NET and JRC

Livestock holdings and herd sizes among poor households have generally continued to increase across all species (camel, cattle, sheep/goat). Exceptions are in Guban Pastoral, Coastal Deeh, parts of Northern Inland pastoral and in Northwest Agropastoral livelihood zones where livestock holdings are below baseline levels. Cattle holdings in the Northwest Agropastoral livelihood zone are at baseline level, while in Central (CowpeaBelt and Coastal) cattle holdings are below baseline.

Goat prices in December 2015 in Northwest Regions showed a 27 percent increase compared to the five-year average for 2010-2014. However, goat prices were lower than the five-year average for 2010-2014 in Central (9%) and Northeast Region (11%). Similarly, in Sorghum Belt markets goat prices were lower compared the five-year average: Bay (23%), Hiran (11%), Bakool (6%) and Gedo (3%). Goat prices were also lower in Juba Region (3%) compared to the five-year average. However, In Shabelle Region, goat prices were higher (4%) than the five-year average.

Cattle prices in southern markets were higher (11% in Shabelle and 4% in Sorghum Belt) compared to the five-year average but lower (by 3% in Juba). The highest increase in cattle prices is reported in the Northwest (28%) compared to the five-year average as a result of reduced supply due to the impact of drought. Livestock prices are expected to decline through March 2016 consistent with seasonal trends.

The purchasing power of poor households measured through terms of trade (TOT) between local-quality goats and cereals remained favorable for the majority of pastoralists and agro-pastoralists, mainly as a result of a decline in cereal prices. TOT between local quality goats to rice is higher compared to the five-year average (2010-2014) in the North and Central regions, owing to lower rice prices. In the South, goat/local cereals TOT declined in most regions compared to five year average (2010-2014) levels due to decrease in goat prices except in Shebelle regions where TOT increased as a result of increased goat price and decreased cereal prices.

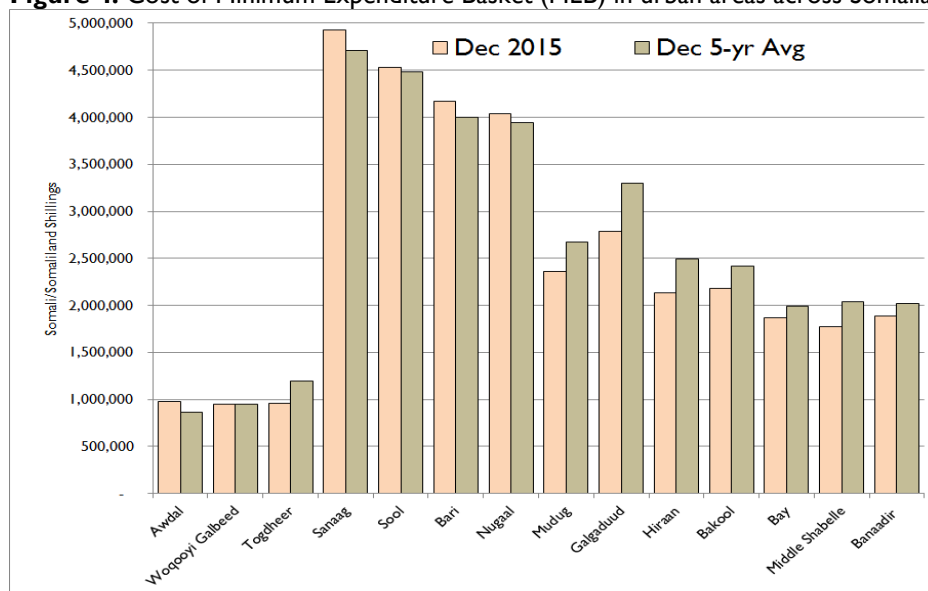
Agricultural labor wages are the major source of income for poor households in riverine and agropastoral areas in most of Southern Somalia. Labour wages remained high compared to the five-year averages in most regions. As a result of increased labor wages and lower cereal prices, the purchasing power of poor households expressed as the terms of trade (TOT) between agricultural labor wage to cereals has improved in most crop-growing areas compared to the five-year average.

1.3 Urban Areas

Current (January 2016) acute food security outcome analysis for IPC area classification indicate that most urban populations have been classified as Stressed (IPC Phase 2), apart some urban areas in Southern Somalia affected by protracted trade disruption: Hudur, Wajid districts (Bakool region) and Buloburto (Hiran) which have been classified as facing acute food security Crisis (IPC Phase 3).

In January 2016, about 45 000 urban people in across the country were classified in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and 7 000 in Emergency (IPC Phase 4). Additionally, about 2.3 million urban populations across Somalia were classified as stressed (IPC Phase 2).

Figure 4. Cost of Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) in urban areas across Somalia



Source: FSNAU

Urban populations depend on purchases from the market to access food. Therefore, it is important to the cost of living approximated through the cost of Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) and the purchasing power of poor urban households measured through the terms of trade (TOT) between casual labor wage rates and staple cereal prices. Cost of Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) indicated mixed trends. MEB increased compared to the five-year average for 2010-2014 in most of the drought affected Northern Regions (Awdal, Sanaag, Sool, Bari and Nugaal). However, MEB declined compared to the five-year average in all of the urban reference markets in central and southern Regions (Figure 4), mainly due to decline in sorghum prices (which accounts for a larger portion of the MEB).

Compared to the five-year average, Terms of Trade (TOT) between casual labour and most commonly consumed cereals increased (by 1 to 5 Kilograms of cereals per daily labor wage) or remained stable in most of regions (Figure 5). Hiran and Gedo are the two regions where the casual labor to cereals TOT declined by 1 to 2 kilograms compared to the five-year average.

In urban areas in Southern Somalia affected by protracted trade disruption caused by insurgents (i.e. Hudur and Wajid of Bakool Region and Bulo Burte of Hiran Region), both local cereals and imported food prices (rice, sugar, vegetable oil, wheat flour) have also declined in local currency terms compared to one year ago (December 2014) and six months ago (July 2015) due to above average production in all neighboring rural areas; improved humanitarian assistance delivery and use of alternative supply routes by traders (smuggling and/or use of military convoys) – Figure 6. This has led to improved purchasing power in these areas.

Figure 5. Casual labour to cereals Terms of Trade (TOT) in urban areas across Somalia (in Kilograms)

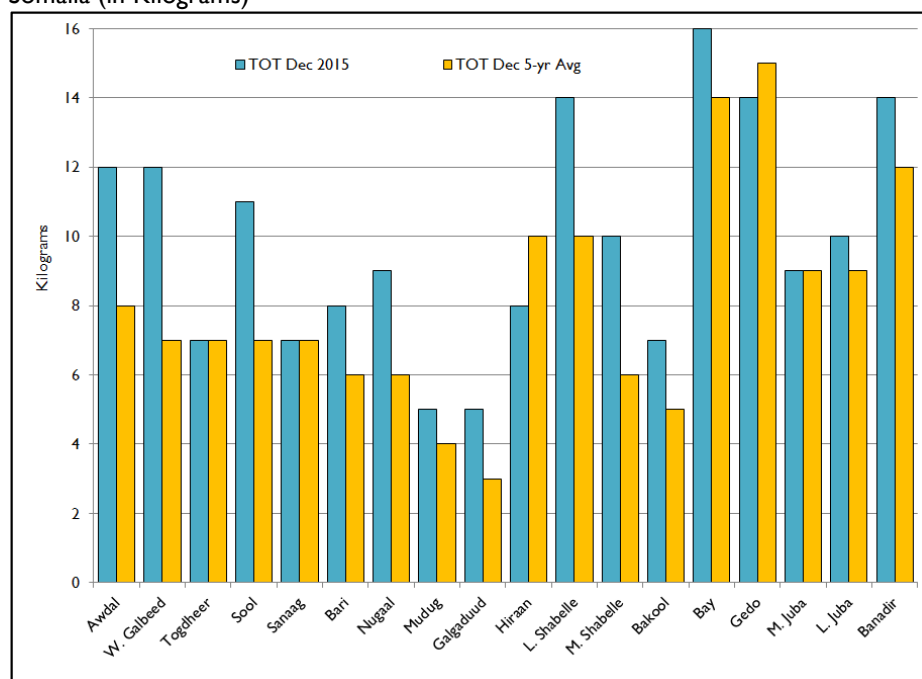
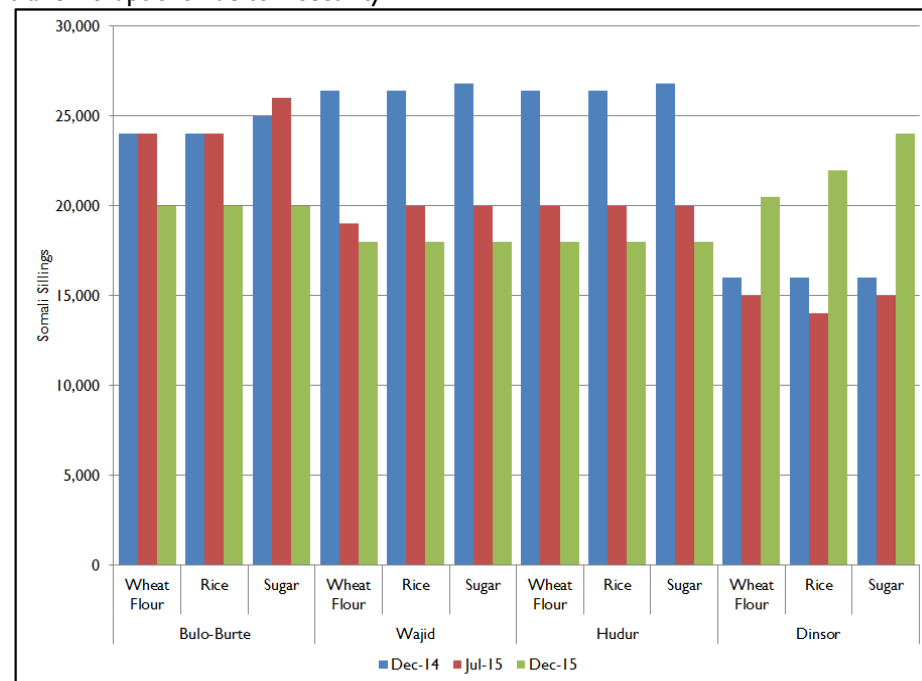


Figure 6. Cereal prices in selected urban markets in Southern Somalia affected by trade disruptions due to insecurity



Source: FSNAU

In Diinsor town of Bay Region which was captured from insurgents more recently, however, prices of both local and imported commodities increased due to aggravating trade disruption and consequent decline in market supply.

In November 2015, FSNAU has also conducted integrated food security and nutrition surveys in the following urban areas: Mogadishu and Kismayo cities and urban areas of Bari and Nugaal Regions. Results from these surveys indicate that nearly all households had “Acceptable” level of household food consumption (Food Consumption Score-FCS ≥ 42). However, average expenditure on food for most households represented 60 to 80 percent of their total household expenditure. For poor urban households, this makes them vulnerable to shocks such as increases in food prices and/or decline in household incomes. This IPC household and area classification for these four urban areas was primarily based on the following key food security indicators: household food consumption, share expenditure on food out of total household expenditure, and the use of moderate or severe coping strategies.

1.4 Settlements of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

Most IDP households in the main settlements have very few (livelihood) assets and derive their income from casual labor employment in the surrounding urban areas.

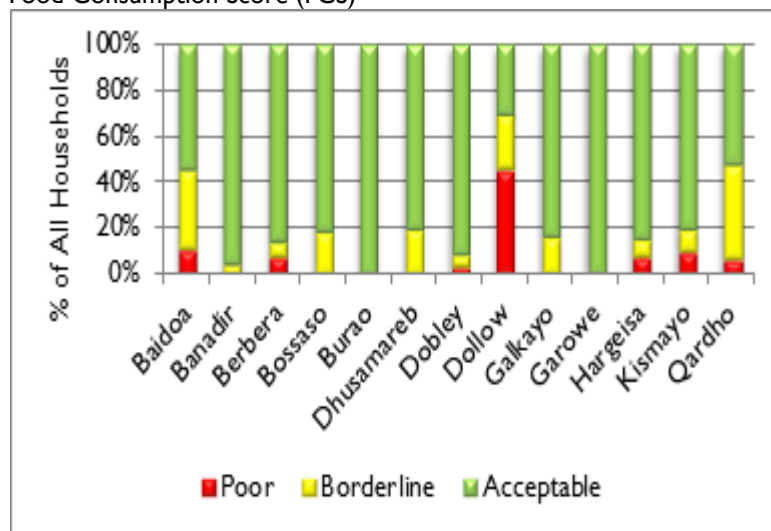
Based on current (January 2016) acute food security outcome analysis, in terms of IPC area classification, 12 out of 13 main IDP settlements across Somalia were classified as Crisis (IPC Phase 3) with the exception of Dollow in Gedo Region which has been classified as facing Emergency (IPC Phase 4). This classification was primarily based on the following key food security indicators: household food consumption and share expenditure on food out of total household expenditure.

In January 2016, about 634 000 IDPs across Somalia were classified in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and 15 000 in Emergency (IPC Phase 4). Approximately 339 000 additional IDPs across the country were classified as stressed (IPC Phase 2).

In November 2015, FSNAU has also conducted integrated food security and nutrition surveys in each of the 13 main IDP settlements across the country. Findings from these survey indicate that over the 12 month period preceding the survey, the highest proportions of new IDP arrivals were reported in Kismayo (33%), Baidoa (32%) and Banadir (22%). Insecurity and localized floods were the main causes of displacement.

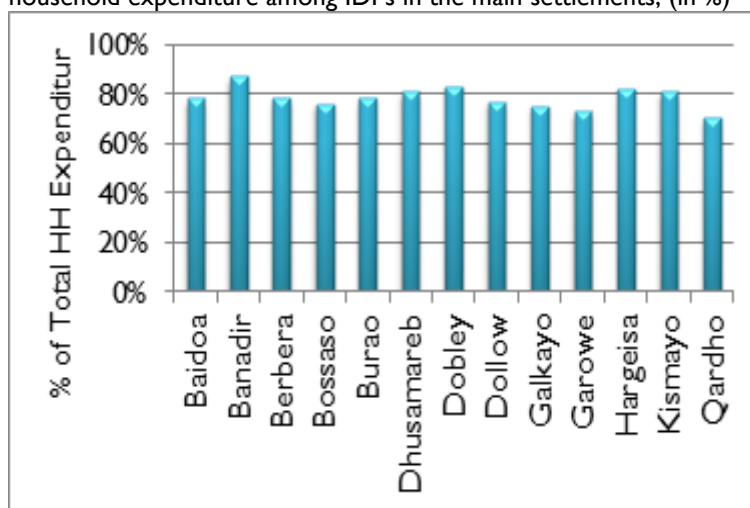
The findings also indicate that most IDP households had “Acceptable” level of food consumption (Food Consumption Score-FCS ≥ 42) with the exception of IDPs in Dollow, Baidoa

Figure 7. Classification of internally displaced households based on Food Consumption Score (FCS)



Source: FSNAU

Figure 8. Share of expenditure on food as a proportion of total household expenditure among IDPs in the main settlements, (in %)



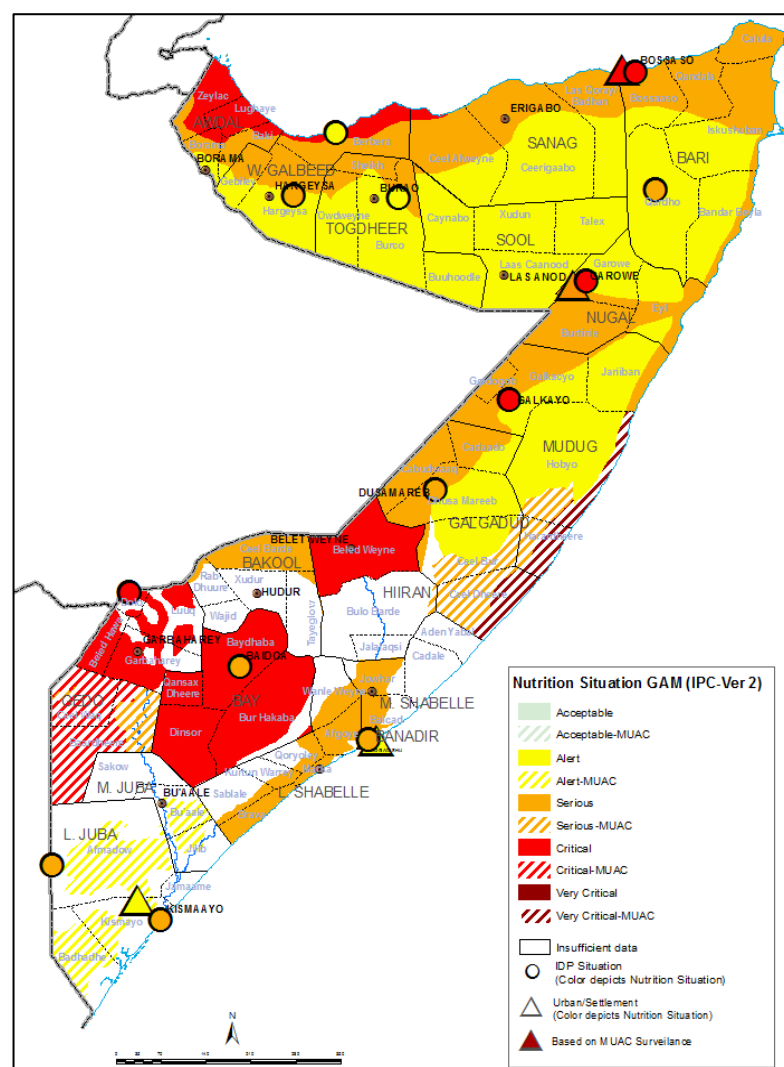
Source: FSNAU

and Qardho where a substantial proportion of households had “Poor” (FCS < 28) or “Borderline” (FCS 28 to 42) household

food consumption (Figure 7). Although most surveyed IDP households also consumed four food groups or more, over 80 percent of the households in the surveyed areas engaged mild to moderate coping mechanisms for accessing food and allocated over 70 percent of their total household expenditure for food, which is a sign of high vulnerability to potential increases in food prices and/or a reduction in household income (Figure 8).

1.5 Current Nutritional Status (January 2016)

Figure 9. Current Estimated Acute Malnutrition Situation (GAM) Map for Somalia, January 2016 (based on October-December 2015 surveys)



Source: FSNAU

Between October through December 2015, FSNAU conducted 39 standard nutrition surveys across most regions and livelihood zones of Somalia, covering displaced, urban and rural populations. The assessments were conducted in collaboration with government institutions (Ministries of Health) and partners and covered 27 455 Children (6-59 months) from 16 538 households. Surveys were conducted using Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (SMART) methodology, which incorporates standard guidelines, questionnaires, and a software to enter, assess data quality and provide analysis on key nutritional index and mortality rate. Both Weight-for-Height and MUAC measurements were taken for the 33 surveys while, only Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) measurement was taken in the remaining six surveys due to security constraints in these areas. The nutrition survey in Guban Pastoral livelihood zone was conducted in September 2015, increasing the total number of surveys to 40.

Table 3. Acute Malnutrition Prevalence in Somalia Among Children 6-59 Months Old (based on October-December 2015 surveys)

Livelihood Zone/Population	GAM	SAM
SOUTH CENTRAL		
Bay Agropastoral	17.3	5.0
Bakool Pastoral	11.2	1.5
North Gedo pastoral	21.3	4.1
North Gedo Riverine	19.5	4.0
Beletweyne District	19.0	3.9
Mataban District	18.1	4.5
Shabelle Riverine	11.4	2.1
Shabelle Agropastoral	14.3	1.4
Baidoa IDPs	14.5	4.4
Mogadishu IDPs	11.4	2.5
Dolow IDPs	25.0	6.1
Dobley IDPs	14.0	2.7
Kismayo IDPs	12.9	2.9
Mogadishu urban	8.3	1.8
Dhusamreeb IDPs	10.9	1.6
Hawd Central	12.0	2.8
Addun Central	9.5	1.9
Kismayo Urban	8.8	1.6
NORTH EAST		
East Golis	12.2	1.6
Hawd	12.0	2.8
Addun Central	9.5	1.9
Coastal Deeh	11.2	1.4
Bari Urban	15.4	3.6
Nugaal Urban	12.2	2.3
Bossaso IDPs	16.8	2.9
Qardho IDPs	10.4	1.1
Garowe IDPs	19.5	3.8
Galkayo IDPs	16.5	1.7
NORTH WEST		
Northwest Agropastoral	6.4	0.5
Northern Inland Pastoral	8.0	0.7
Hawd	9.6	2.6
West Golis	13.7	1.7
Guban Pastoral	22.3	5.9
Hargeisa IDPs	12.1	2.0
Burao IDPs	6.4	0.4
Berbera IDPs	9.9	1.4
SOUTH CENTRAL (MUAC)		
Livelihoods		
Coastal deeh Central	<12.5 CM	<11.5 CM
Cowpea Belt	18.0	6.4
South Gedo Pastoral	10.2	4.2
South Gedo Agropastoral	11.6	1.0
South Gedo Riverine	10.6	0.4
Juba Cattle Pastoral	10.5	0.4
Juba Cattle Pastoral	5.5	1.2
Color Codes:		
Acceptable		
Alert		
Serious		
Critical		
Very Critical		

Acute malnutrition:

Survey results indicate that 304 700 children under-five across Somalia (or 12% of the total populations of children under the age of five) were acutely malnourished. Out of this total, 58 300 children were severely malnourished and face higher risk of morbidity and death. In nearly one-third of the population groups surveyed (i.e. 11 out of 34) using Weight-for-Height Z-Score, the prevalence of acute malnutrition is considered Critical and exceeds the UN trigger for emergency action (Global Acute Malnutrition-GAM $\geq 15\%$) – Figure 9 and Table 3. Serious levels of GAM (≥ 10 to $<15\%$) were observed in 16 out of 34 population groups surveyed. Alert level of GAM (≥ 5 to $<10\%$) were reported in the remaining seven (Figure 9 and Table 3).

Highest prevalence of acute malnutrition (based on Weight for Height Z-Scores) was recorded among Dolow IDPs (25.0% GAM) and Guban Pastoral Livelihood Zone (22.3% GAM). Critical to Very Critical levels of acute malnutrition were also recorded among rural livelihoods of South Gedo Pastoral (Gedo Region) and Coastal Deeh (Central Regions) based on MUAC measurements (i.e. 10.7% or more of children having a Mid-Upper Arm Circumference-MUAC below the 12.5 centimeters threshold).

Table 4. Trends in Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) Rates in Selected Population Groups Across Somalia, January 2013 to January 2016 (based on *Gu* and *Deyr* seasonal nutrition surveys)

Population Groups	Deyr 2015/16	Gu 2015	Deyr 2014/15	Gu 2014	Deyr 2013/14	Gu 2013	Deyr 2012/13
Bari Urban	15.4	18.4	14.0	17.5		21.2	18.4
Bossaso IDPs	16.8	12.5	17.2	13.2	13.5	17.3	20.6
Garowe IDPs	19.5	15.7	19.6	21.0	15.8	19.2	14.3
Galkayo IDP's	16.5	20.2	15.1	16.5	15.0	19.4	17.0
Dhusamareb IDPs	10.9	10.5	14.4	18.2	16.0	21.4	22.6
Mataban District	18.1	18.6	17.8	22.2	12.6	10.0	24.6
Beletweyne District	19.0	16.8	17.3	15.0	16.4	20.2	24.9
Bay Agropastoral	17.3	14	19.0	17.1	19.6	22.6	18.7
Baidoa IDPs	14.5	15.3	15.3	12.9	14.3	15.8	12.8
Mogadishu IDPs	11.4	14.9	13.4	18.9	8.2	12.6	16.0
North Gedo Pastoral	21.3	20.3	25.2	20.7	14.1	18.8	15.6
North Gedo Riverine	19.5	18.8	19.9	19.3	13.6	15.2	13.6
Dolow IDPs	25.0	26.4	21.6	18.8	19.7	16.4	24.9
Dobley IDPs	14.0	20.7	11.0	16.5	15.8	20.3	20.8
Kismayo IDPs	12.9	12.5	8.5	16.6	16.2	17.6	20.3

Source: FSNAU

In some population groups, Critical rates of acute malnutrition (i.e. 15% or more Global Acute Malnutrition – GAM) persist despite changes in seasonal food security and livelihood outcomes and continued humanitarian interventions (Table 4). Over the past seven consecutive seasons, Critical levels of GAM were sustained among the following population groups: Garowe IDPs (Nuggal Region), Galkayo IDPs (Mudug Region), Mataban and Beletweyne Districts (pastoral parts of Hiran Region), North Gedo Pastoral (Gedo Region), North Gedo Riverine (Gedo Region) and Dolow IDPs (Gedo Region).

In population groups such as IDPs in Mogadishu where relative improvements were observed in recent seasons, this is primarily due to sustained humanitarian interventions which could be reversed when humanitarian assistance is scaled down as witnessed during the 2014 *Gu*. Sustained Critical level of GAM in the above mentioned areas is symptomatic of the protracted nature of the nutrition crisis among these population groups and calls for multifaceted interventions that address contributing factors and underlying causes of acute malnutrition in these areas.

Mortality and Morbidity:

Mortality assessment was covered in 36 out of the 40 nutrition surveys conducted by FSNAU. The results from these surveys indicated that 34 of the surveys showed Acceptable levels of Under-Five Death Rate (U5DR). However, Mogadishu

IDPs and Guban Pastoral had Under-Five Death Rate (U5DR) exceeding 1/10 000/day which is considered as an Alert situation.

There was no major outbreak in communicable disease reported this period. However, morbidity incidences in the two weeks prior to the assessments showed higher rates (morbidity >20%) in 25 out of 34 population groups surveyed. Morbidity rate are generally lower among population groups in Northwest parts of the country where GAM rates are also lower relative to other parts of Somalia.

Chronic malnutrition (Stunting) and Underweight prevalence:

The overall stunting prevalence in Somalia is 8.9 percent and is considered Low (<20%). However, there are major differences between different parts and population groups of the country: 12.6 percent in South and Central Somalia; 7.7 percent in the Northeast; 2.7 percent in the Northwest; and 14.9 percent among IDPs across the country. Stunting is not therefore, a public health problem in Somalia as most population groups reported Low (<20%) to Medium (20-30%) stunting prevalence with the exception of Kismayo IDPs that reported Very High (>40%) prevalence.

Underweight levels in Somalia are Low (<10%) to Medium (10-19.9%) prevalence with the exception of Kismayo IDPs that reported 30.1 percent underweight prevalence which is considered Very High (>30%); High underweight prevalence (20-20.9%) was also observed in Bay agro-pastoral livelihood (20.4%), Baidoa IDPs (23.6%), Dolow IDPs (29.7), Garowe IDPs (24.0%) and Galkacyo IDPs (21.4%). The overall Underweight prevalence in Somalia is 11.1 percent and is considered to be Medium (10-19.9%), with substantial variation across the three zones: 13.5 percent in South and Central Somalia; 10.2 percent in the Northeast; 5.8 percent in the Northwest; and 15.6 percent among IDPs across the country.

Current number of acutely malnourished children:

Based on GAM prevalence estimates from the 2015/16 *Deyr* nutrition surveys, an estimated 304 700 children under the age of five across Somalia were suffering from acute malnutrition at the time of the assessment. Out of this total, 58 300 were severely malnourished. Approximately 58 percent of the acutely malnourished children are found in Southern and Central Somalia, with Lower Shabelle, Banadir and Bay regions accounting for one third of the total. Among IDPs, 51 percent of the total number of acutely malnourished IDP children comes from Mogadishu.

For operational, response, planning and programming purposes, the above acute prevalence estimates need to be translated into estimated acute malnutrition burden which depends on calculating a number of elements but primarily the prevalence, the incidence correction factor and the population.

2. Most Likely Food Security Outcomes (February to June 2016)

Assumptions:

The following assumptions based on the most likely scenario have been used in developing the food security outlook for February to June 2016 and the nutrition outlook for February to April 2016. The assumptions are presented under the following themes: Climate, Agriculture, Livestock, Market and Trade, Humanitarian Assistance and Conflict.

Climate:

- The January to March 2016 *Jilaal* dry season will likely be mild in terms of the length of the dry period and temperatures in most parts of the country except Northern Inland Pastoral and Northwest Agropastoral livelihoods where the dry period is expected to be harsher than normal
- Long range forecast indicate that the April to June 2016 *Gu* rains will be near average in amount
- The 2016 *Karan* rains (July-September) in Northwest livelihoods are likely to be near average in amount

Agriculture:

- Slightly below average *Deyr* off-season crops (sesame, maize and sorghum) is expected be harvested in March 2016 which contribute about one month of cereal stocks among poor households among agropastoral of Hiran and riverine of Gedo Regions

- Agricultural labor demand is likely to be average from April to June in riverine and agropastoral areas of Southern Somalia
- As a result of average to above average 2015/16 *Deyr* cereal harvest in the South, amount of cereals available at both markets and households levels is expected to increase through April.
- The reduction in the production of other crops such as sesame will likely result reduced income for poor households from cash crop harvest labor
- As a results of poor 2015 *Gu/Karan* cereal harvest in the Northwest, most of agropastoral households in this zone will have limited food stocks from their own production and will be dependent on market purchase until the next harvest

Livestock:

- Livestock body conditions are likely to remain average during the dry January to March *Jilaal* season due to availability of dry pasture and browse. However areas affected by poor rainfall and drought will experience a harsh *Jilaal* (poor pasture, browse, and water availability). These include most parts of Awdal, Sanaag and Bari Regions and some parts of Nugaal and parts of Hobyo District (Central) where livestock body condition will likely remain below average until the start of *Gu* rains in April.
- Early depletion of water and pasture and increased water trucking at increased cost/indebtedness and high livestock off-take (due to distress sell and death) is foreseen in aforementioned areas affected by poor rainfall and drought
- Parts of Northwest and Northeast that had better pasture and water are expected to experience continued large scale livestock in-migration from areas affected by drought, including from drought affected parts of Ethiopia and Djibouti
- Medium camel calving and kidding are expected in late March to July in South and Central Regions while cattle calving will likely be low to medium. In the North, cattle and camel calving is expected to be low to medium while sheep and goat births will likely be medium.
- Milk availability will seasonally decrease during the January to March *Jilaal* dry season as pasture quality deteriorates and the number of milking livestock decreases. However, milk availability will improve following births between late March and July as pasture and water improves consistent with seasonal trends
- Milk prices will follow the seasonal trend of increasing during the February to March *Jilaal* dry season, and decrease in during the April to July wet season following livestock births (April to September in Northwest).
- Livestock prices are likely to follow normal seasonal patterns with prices expected to decline through late February but increase gradually from March through August related to demand for *Ramadan* fasting and *Hajj* pilgrimage periods

Markets and trade:

- Due to above average 2015/16 *Deyr* cereal production, sorghum and maize prices will likely decrease through February/March 2016 as new supplies reach markets. Local cereal prices will likely increase from April through June 2016 as market stocks are drawn down and demand increases as the agricultural lean season approaches.
- In markets affected by trade disruption, prices of both locally produced and imported commodities are likely to remain high.
- Sorghum and maize imports from Ethiopia is expected to be below average due to below average production in parts of Ethiopia where the supply originates.
- Cross-border livestock trade between Ethiopia and Somalia will likely remain high and stable.
- Imported commodity prices are expected to remain low and follow normal seasonal trends with prices increasing between May to August during the monsoon season that limits shipping activities on the high seas.

Humanitarian assistance:

- Access to humanitarian interventions will likely be stable between February to June 2016 in Northern and most accessible parts of Central and Southern regions currently under the control of the Federal Government and Regional administrations (mostly towns).
- Between April and June, physical access to isolated rural areas will decline as most dirt roads become impassible during the rainy season.

Conflict:

- Military offensive in most of the Southern regions is expected to gain momentum during the projection period. The creation and consolidation of regional states might also spark conflicts; sporadic clan conflicts is expected to continue

- In Shabelle, parts of Hiran and parts Mudug and Galgadud Regions. As a result, there is a potential for further population displacement and trade disruption impacting additional areas.

2.1 National Overview

Based on the foregoing assumptions, the most likely food security and nutrition outcomes for February to June 2016 are outlined below.

At national level, approximately 931 000 people will be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and 22 000 people in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) from February to June 2016 (Table 5). Therefore, the total number of people facing acute food security Crisis and Emergency (IPC Phases 3 and 4) is 953 000. There are 3.7 million additional people who face acute food security Stress (IPC 2) through the end of the June 2016.

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) account for a majority (68%) of the projected number of people in Crisis and Emergency. Further details on acute food insecurity outcome projections through mid-2016 are provided below, separately, for rural, urban and displaced populations.

In terms of IPC Area Classification for February to June 2016 (Figure 10), Dollow IDPs in Gedo Region are classified as Emergency (Phase 4). The remaining 12 main IDP settlements across the country have been classified as Crisis (IPC Phase 3). So are the Xudur, Wajid and Bulu Burto, urban areas in Southern Somalia affected by trade disruption. The drought affected Northwest Agropastoral Livelihood Zone and Guban Pastoral Livelihood Zone have also been classified as facing acute food security Crisis (IPC Phase 3). Togheer Agropastoral, most parts of Sanaag, Sool, Bari and northern parts of Nugaal, most parts of Galgadud and southern parts of Mudug, some parts of Hiran, Middle Juba, and coastal parts of Lower Shabelle and Lower Juba Regions as well as several urban populations across the country have been classified as Stressed (IPC Phase 2). The rest of the country has been classified as Minimal (IPC Phase 1).

2.2 Rural Areas

In rural areas across Somalia, an estimated 250 000 people will be in Crisis (IPC Phases 3) between February to June 2016. The majority of the total number of rural people in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) are found in Awdal (28%), Waqooyi Galbeed (23%), Sanaag (22%), and Bari (12%). An additional 1 064 000 people in rural areas are likely to be Stressed (IPC Phase 2) through June 2016.

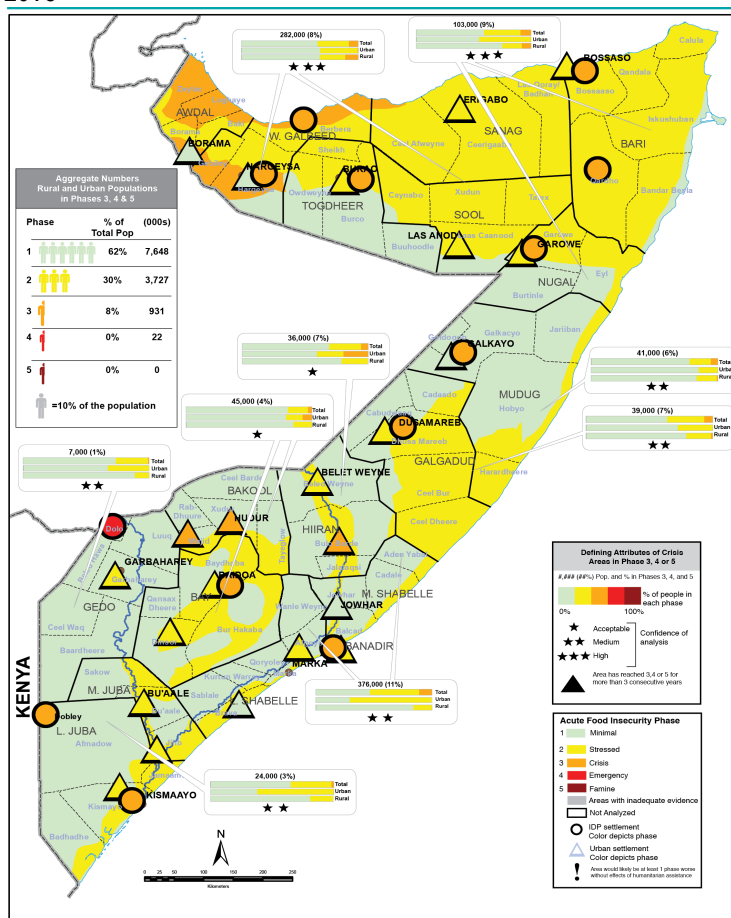
Most of Northern Inland Pastoral livelihood zone

Table 5. Projected number of people in acute food security Stress (IPC 2), Crisis (IPC 3) and Emergency (IPC 4), February to June 2016

Population Groups	Stressed (IPC 2)	Crisis (IPC 3)	Emergency (IPC 4)
Rural	1 064 000	250 000	0
Urban	2 324 000	47 000	7 000
IDPs	339 000	634 000	15 000
Total	3 727 000	931 000	22 000

Source: FSNAU

Figure 10. Projected food security outcomes, February to June 2016



Graphic: FSNAU

This map represents acute food insecurity outcomes relevant for emergency decision-making, and does not necessarily reflect chronic food insecurity. For more information on this scale, please visit www.ipcinfo.org

(Sanaag, Bari, Sool and Nugaal regions), localized parts of Guba Pastoral livelihood zone (Awdal Region), Hawd Pastoral livelihood zone (Togdheer and Waqooyi Galbeed Region), Addun Pastoral livelihood zone of Central Regions, and Coastal Deeh of Lower Shabelle Region will experience poor pasture and water shortage until the start of 2016 *Gu* rains in April and may start water trucking earlier than normal (starting from February). In the drought affected Northwest agropastoral livelihood zone and Northern Inland Pastoral livelihood zone, the current severe water shortage is expected to worsen until the start of *Gu* rains in April.

Consistent with normal seasonal trends and due to projected near average 2016 *Gu* rainfall, food security outcomes in most pastoral areas of the country are expected to sustain current IPC Phase during the projection period although food security outcomes. However, the number of people facing acute food security Crisis (IPC Phase 3) is expected to increase in the drought in affected parts of Sanaag, Sool, Bari and Nugaal Regions. The current number of people in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) will remain unchanged in the other drought affected northern regions: Awdal and Waqooyi Galbeed.

By March 2016, an estimated 3 300 metric tons of off-season cereal harvest is expected in the riverine of Middle Shabelle, Gedo, Juba regions and Hiran Regions, which will help reduce food shortages among poor households during part of the lean season. Agricultural labor employment opportunity and wage rates are also expected to support poor households in riverine and agropastoral livelihoods in Southern Somalia during the 2016 *Gu* agricultural season.

2.3 Urban Areas

In urban rural areas across Somalia, an estimated 54 000 people will be in Crisis and Emergency (IPC Phases 3 and 4) between February to June 2016. The majority of the total number of urban people in Crisis and Emergency (IPC Phase 3 and 4) are found in regions that have been trade disruption (30% in Hiran and 22% in Bakool) as well as other regions in the north (19% in Togdheer and 13% in Sool). The number of people facing acute food security Crisis (IPC Phase 3) is expected to increase from 2 000 (current) to 4 000 (projected) in Diinsoor of Bay Region due to escalating trade disruption by insurgents.

In terms of IPC area classification for acute food insecurity, the classification of urban areas across Somalia will remain unchanged during the projection period (February-June 2016).

Non-farm employment opportunities (casual labour in construction, petty trades etc.) will continue to be available for poor households in most urban areas across the country. In urban areas in Southern Somalia that are located within riverine and agropastoral livelihoods, poor households will also have additional on-farm employment opportunities during the 2016 *Gu* agricultural season. Both imported and local commodities are also expected to be available at stable or low prices in most urban towns of Somalia due to the combined effects of above average 2015/16 *Deyr* harvest, globally low prices of imported commodities and low fuel prices and transport costs.

The major hazards that could affect food security outcomes during the projection period (February-June 2016) in Southern and Central Somalia are possible expansion of military offensive and sporadic clan conflicts both of which could cause further population displacement and potential trade disruption in the areas affected.

2.4 Settlements of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

An estimated 649 000 IDPs across Somalia will remain in Crisis and Emergency (IPC Phases 3 and 4) in the period of February to June 2016. This includes 634 000 IDPs in Crisis and an additional 15 000 IDPs in Emergency. The majority of IDPs in Crisis and Emergency (IPC Phases 3 and 4) are located in Banadir (56%), Bari (8%), Waqooyi Galbeed (7%), Mudug (6%) and Galgaduud (5%) Regions.

In terms of IPC area classification for acute food insecurity, the classification of the 13 main IDP settlements across Somalia will remain unchanged during the projection period (February-June 2016).

Humanitarian interventions are likely to continue in major IDP settlements. As most of the main IDP settlements are located in urban areas, IDP households are expected to benefit from low local cereal and imported food commodities as well as casual labor employment opportunities in and near the urban areas where they are located. However, possible expansion

of military offensive and sporadic clan conflicts could cause further population displacement and put a strain on resources and available support interventions in existing IDP settlements.

2.5 Most Likely Nutrition Outcomes

The nutrition situation in the drought affected areas of Northwest agropastoral and Northern Inland Pastoral livelihoods zones is expected to deteriorate from Alert (<10% GAM) to Serious (10-14.9%) until the next *Gu* rains are fully established in April (Figure 11). This is due to the expected reduction in availability of milk for children and reduction in access to water for both human and livestock consumption.

Deterioration of the current nutrition situation is also expected in Addun Pastoral livelihood zone due to anticipated deterioration of pasture and water resources during the dry *Jilaal* season.

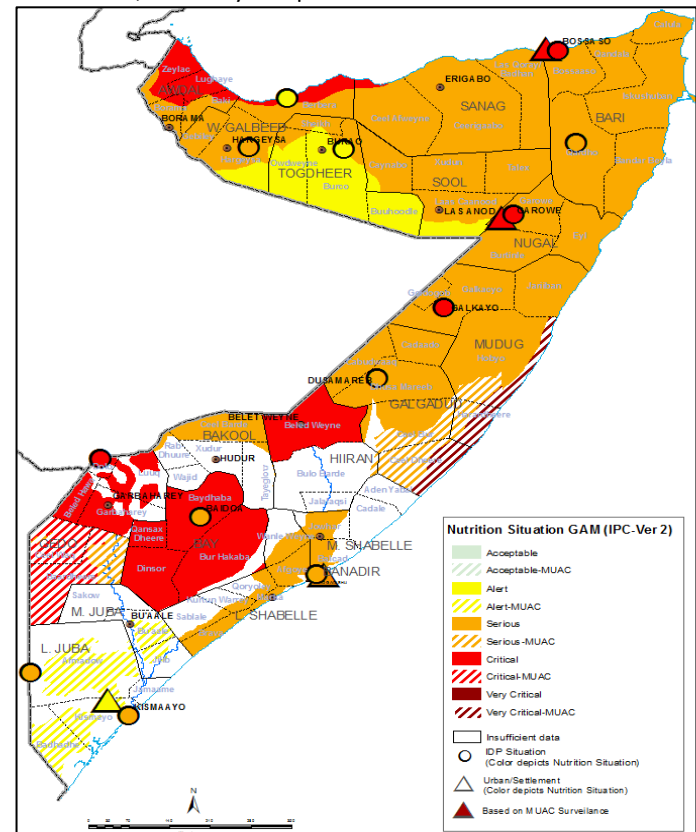
2.6 Priority Areas of Concern in Terms of Food Insecurity and Malnutrition

Populations in Crisis and Emergency (IPC Phases 3 and 4) are priorities for food security and livelihoods support programming. They are found in large proportions (10 percent or more of their respective total regional population) in the following regions: Banadir (22%), Bari (11%), Awdal (10%) and Sanaag (10%).

2.7 Priority Areas of Concern in Terms of Food Insecurity and Malnutrition

Populations in Crisis and Emergency (IPC Phases 3 and 4) are priorities for food security and livelihoods support programming. They are found in large proportions (10 percent or more of their respective total regional population) in the following regions: Banadir (22%), Bari (11%), Awdal (10%) and Sanaag (10%).

Figure 11. Projected Acute Malnutrition Situation (GAM) Map for Somalia, February to April 2016



Source: FSNAU

The prevailing drought conditions and consequent food security outcomes are expected to worsen at least until the start of *Gu* rains in April in Awdal, Bari and Sanaag Regions and deserve preparedness action and continued close monitoring.

Other priority groups include poor vulnerable urban populations in the South that have been affected by trade disruption due to insurgent activities: Bulo Burto (Hiran Region), Hudur and Wajid (Bakool Region), and Diinsoor (Bay Region).

Nutrition Situation is considered as Critical when Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) prevalence is 15 percent or higher or if 10.7 percent or more of children have Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) below the 12.5 centimeter threshold. The following livelihood zones and population groups have Critical levels of acute malnutrition and are priorities (hotspots) for nutrition programming:

- Guban Pastoral (Awdal and W. Galbeed Regions)
- Garowe IDP, Bosaaso IDP and Bari Urban (Bari Region)
- Galkayo IDP (Mudug Region)
- Coastal Deeh of Central Regions (Mudug and Galgaduud)
- Mataban District and Beletweyne District (Hiran Region)
- Bay agro-pastoral (Bay Region) ; and
- Dolow IDP, North Gedo Pastoral, North Gedo Riverine and South Gedo Pastoral (Gedo Region)

Although GAM rates in Mogadishu IDP settlements are relatively lower (10-14.9% GAM or Serious), they deserve particular attention as they account for 51 percent of the total number of acutely malnourished IDP children under-five.

Urgent nutrition and health support for the acutely malnourished is needed now and through mid-2016. However, this is not enough for populations experiencing persistently high levels of acute malnutrition. They need additional multifaceted interventions such as the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) movement aimed at addressing the underlying causes and contributing factors. Conducting nutrition causal analysis would also be appropriate in order to unearth the underlying causes and contributing factors in order to inform improved programme/response planning.

Some population groups in Somalia suffer from high levels of acute food insecurity as well as acute malnutrition. Given the protracted nature of the food security crisis in some parts of the country (especially among IDPs), conducting IPC chronic analysis would be appropriate in order to inform medium to long term food security programme/response planning. Integration of explicit food security and nutrition goals and strategies for the identification of long-term/durable solution for displaced populations should be adequately considered and reflected in the ongoing preparation of National Development Plan (NDP) by the Federal Government of Somalia. This also calls for commensurate donor support for addressing both immediate humanitarian needs as well as interventions aimed at addressing the underlying causes of acute food insecurity and malnutrition.