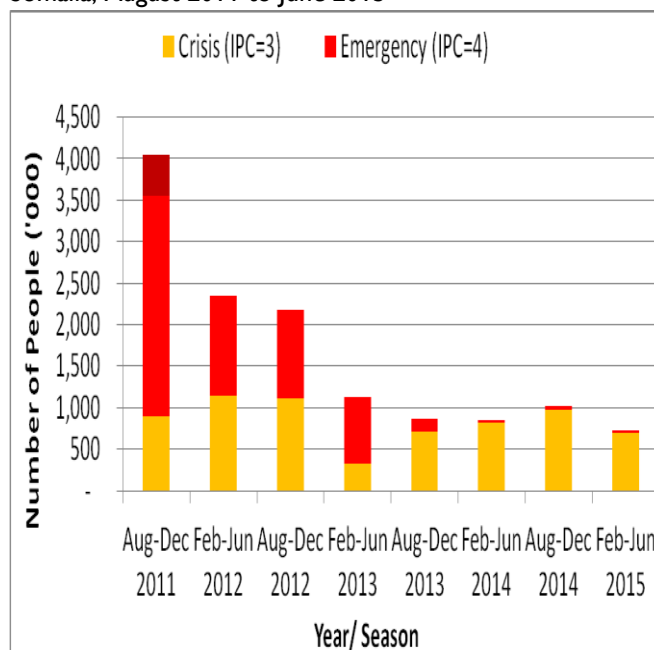


731 000 People Face Acute Food Security Crisis in Somalia Despite Some Improvement

KEY MESSAGES

- An estimated 731 000 people (of which Internally Displaced Persons-IDPs represent 76 % of the total) will be in Crisis and Emergency (IPC Phases 3 and 4) from February to June 2015, according to the latest findings from the 2014 Deyr season (October-December) assessment led by the Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU) of FAO Somalia, FEWS NET and other partners. This figure represents a 29 percent decrease from the estimates for July to December 2014 when 1 025 000 people were in Crisis and Emergency; and a 15 percent decline from the estimates for February to June 2014 of 857 000 people in Crisis and Emergency.
- Results of 41 nutrition surveys conducted across Somalia from October to December 2014 indicate that an estimated 202 600 children under the age of five are acutely malnourished, including 38 200 who are severely malnourished and face a high risk of morbidity and death. The numbers of acutely and severely malnourished children have declined by 7 and 13 percent, respectively, since July 2014.
- Urgent lifesaving humanitarian assistance and livelihood support is required for the population in Emergency and Crisis (IPC Phases 4 and 3) between now and June 2015 to help meet immediate food needs, including urgent nutrition and health support for the acutely malnourished.
- Nearly 2.3 million additional people are classified as Stressed (IPC Phase 2) through June 2015 and require interventions to protect their livelihoods and build their resilience against future shocks. This group of households remains highly vulnerable and could slide to Crisis or Emergency (IPC Phases 3 or 4) if they are subjected to shocks.

Figure 1. Historical Trends in the Number of People in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) in Somalia, August 2011 to June 2015



Source: FSNAU

Areas and Populations of Concern

- The food insecurity situation among IDPs in Dolow is classified as Emergency (IPC Phase 4). Populations in the remaining 12 IDP settlements are classified as Crisis (IPC Phases 3).
- Urban populations in the South (Hudur, Wajid and Buloburte) affected by trade disruptions face acute food security Crisis (IPC 3) despite a modest improvement of the situation since July 2014.
- Southern agropastoral populations in Juba and destitute pastoralists in coastal areas of Northeastern, Central and South Somalia face acute food security Crisis (IPC 3).
- In Riverine livelihoods of Middle and Lower Juba affected by floods during the Deyr season, food security will continue to deteriorate until the late (off-season) harvest becomes available in March. Similarly, in parts of pastoral and agropastoral livelihood zones that received below-average Deyr rains, household food security will continue to deteriorate until the start of Gu rains in April.

- With Critical¹ rates of acute malnutrition, the following livelihood zones and population groups are considered as priorities for nutrition programming: Pastoral, Agro pastoral and Riverine livelihoods in North and South Gedo Regions; Agropastoral livelihoods and Baidoa IDPs in Bay Region; Beletweyne and Mataban Districts in Hiran Region; Hawd in Central and North East; Bossasso IDPs in Bari Region; Garowe IDPs in Nugal Region; and Galkayo IDPs in Mudug region.

1. Current Situation (January 2015)

1.1 National Overview

Based on the results of the 2014 Deyr season (October-December) assessment, at national level, the current (January 2015) number of people in Crisis and Emergency (IPC Phases 3 and 4) is estimated at 751 000 (of which Internally Displaced Persons-IDPs represent 74 % of the total). Nearly 2 286 000 additional people are classified as Stressed (IPC Phase 2). Further details are provided below.

1.2 Rural Areas

The current (January 2015) number of rural people in Crisis and Emergency (IPC Phases 3 and 4) is estimated at 111 000. Nearly 1 260 000 additional people in rural areas are classified as Stressed (IPC Phase 2).

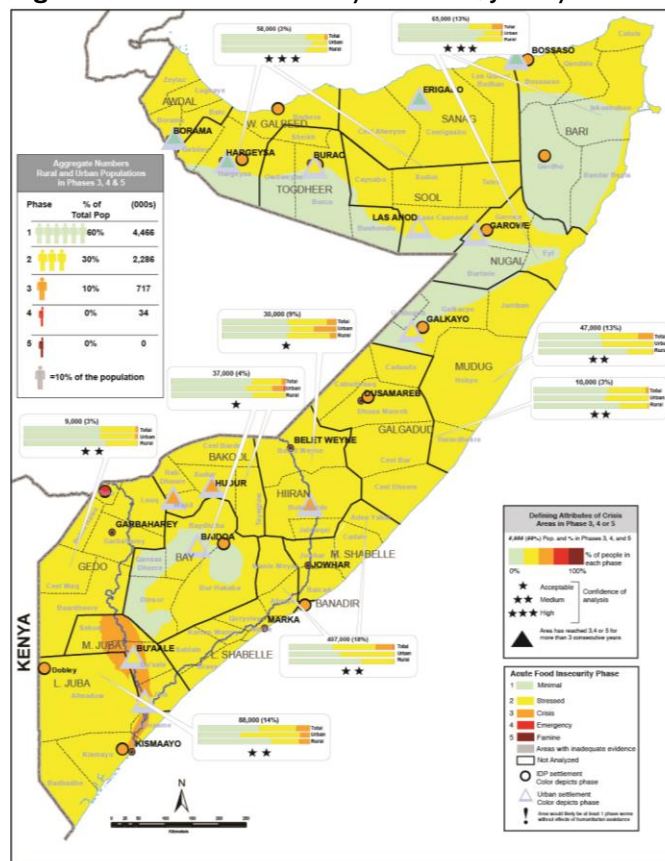
Deyr rains started on time in most of the rural livelihoods and rainfall amounts were largely average to above average with normal duration and distribution, except in parts of South, North and Central regions (Figure 3).

In the Northwest most pastoral livelihoods received average to above average rainfall. However, parts of Hawd, Nugal Valley and East Golis received below average rainfall. Generally, pasture and water conditions are average in most livelihoods, but below average in rainfall deficit areas in parts of Hawd Nugal valley and East Golis. In Northwest agropastoral areas dependent on Gu/Karan rainfall for crop cultivation, these areas received below-average Gu rains, which affected crop development. However, this was partly compensated by average Karan rains received in August and September 2014 in Woqooyi Galbeed and Awdal Regions, which improved crop yield.

In the Northeast regions Deyr rainfall was near average in most pastoral livelihood zones with the exception of parts of East Golis of Bari Region, Hawd and Addun livelihoods of North Mudug Region and localized areas in Coastal Deeh livelihood of Nugal region which experienced below average Deyr rains.

In the Central Regions, near average to average Deyr rains in October and November 2014 improved water and pasture in Cowpea Belt, Coastal Deeh and parts of Hawd and Addun. However, in some parts of Hawd and Addun Pastoral livelihood zones (mainly Adado, parts of Dhusamareb, Hobyo and Galkaayo) the rains were below average in amount and erratic in terms distribution over time and space. In these areas, earlier than normal depletion of pasture and water is likely. As a result, water trucking is expected to start in February 2015.

Figure 2. Current food security outcomes, January 2015



Source: FSNAU, FEWS NET Somalia, and partners

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.

¹ Nutrition Situation is considered as Critical if Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) prevalence is 15% or higher or if 10.7% or more of children have Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) below the 125 millimeters (mm) threshold.

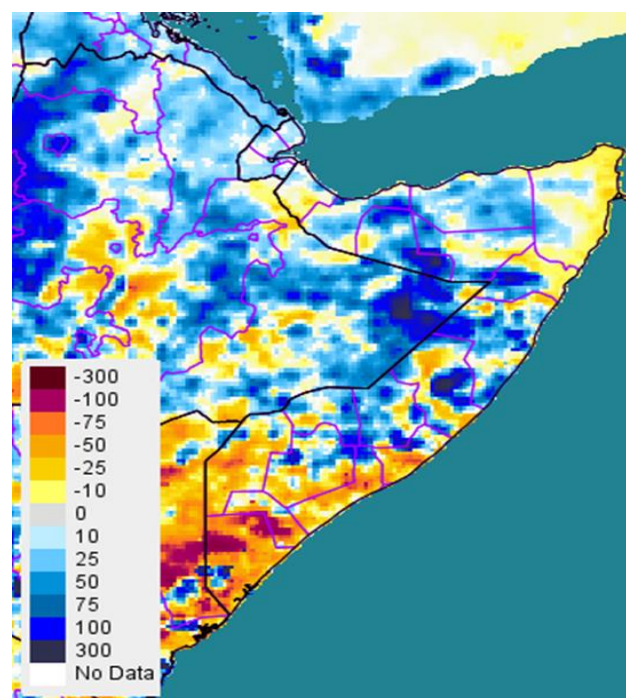
In the South, Deyr rains were average to above average in most rural livelihoods with the exception of parts of Hiran, Juba and parts of Gedo regions which received below average rains.

The overall 2014 Deyr season cereal harvest in Southern Somalia is estimated at 104 200 metric tonnes, slightly higher (5%) than the 1995-2013 post-war average (PWA) but slightly lower (5%) than the five-year average for 2009-2013.

In the surplus producing Bay region, Deyr cereal output was 130 percent of PWA. However, production was below average in the major cereal producing region of Lower Shabelle (86% of PWA). Production has also been lower than average in the marginal cereal producing regions of Hiran, Middle Juba and Lower Juba (74%, 79% and 38% of PWA, respectively). Other crops such as sesame, cowpeas, groundnut, watermelon, tomatoes, and onions have also been harvested in southern Somalia. These crops are important for household income and food security.

In Northwest Agropastoral livelihood zone, the Gu/Karan cereal crops production is estimated at 46 500 metric tonnes. This represents 70 percent of the average Gu/Karan production for 2010 to 2013. The below-average production was mainly attributed to lower yields because of moisture stress during the early part of the growing season (Gu).

Figure 3. October 1 to December 30, 2014 cumulative rainfall anomaly from 2001 to 2013 mean, in millimeters (mm)



Source: [U.S. Geological Survey \(USGS\)/FEWS NET](#)

Livestock body conditions are average to above average in most of the livelihoods with a Pictorial Evaluation Tool (PET) score of 3-4, owing to average pasture and water conditions. However, livestock body conditions in rainfall deficit areas remain poor to average with a PET score of 2-3. Milk availability is mostly average in most of the pastoral and agro pastoral areas except in East Golis and Coastal Deeh of (Bari region) and parts of Addun and Hawd where it is below average due to low conception during previous seasons.

Livestock holdings and herd sizes among poor households have generally increased across all species. In North and Central, camel holding is either near baseline or above baseline levels, while sheep and goat holding is near baseline to baseline in North, but near baseline to below baseline in Central (well below baseline in Cowpea Belt). In the South, camel holding is mostly near to below baseline levels, except in Southern Inland Pastoral of Juba where it is above baseline. Cattle and sheep/goat holdings are below baseline to near baseline for most livelihood zones.

There has been a seasonal decline in goat prices mostly in South and Central regions mainly due to excess market supply. Cattle prices in the South have been affected by increased border patrols which restricted movements related to insecurity in northern Kenya.

The purchasing power of poor households measured through terms of trade (ToT) between local-quality goats and cereals have remained mostly favorable for pastoralists and agro pastoralists. Goat to cereals ToT has shown an increase over the past six months in most southern regions due to declined cereal prices. On the other hand, TOT deteriorated in other regions, most significantly in Central (18%) due to declined livestock prices. ToT is higher than or close to the 2009-2013 five-year average in most regions, apart from Bakool, Gedo, Northern and Central Regions where TOT are lower.

Casual labor wages are the major source of income for poor households in riverine and agropastoral areas in Southern regions. Farm labour wages have increased significantly since July 2014 in most southern regions with the exception of Juba regions where wages declined due to reduced agricultural activity in these regions due to a combination of poor rainfall in

agropastoral areas and flooding in riverine zones. Labour wages are also higher compared to last year and the 2009-2013 five-year averages in most regions, apart from Hiran and Juba. As a result of increased labor wages and lower cereal prices, the wage labor to cereal ToT has improved in most crop-growing areas compared to six months ago as well as the five-year average.

1.3 Urban Areas

In January 2015 (current), an estimated 84 000 people in urban areas across Somalia were in acute food security Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4). An additional 992 000 people in urban areas are classified as Stressed (IPC Phase 2).

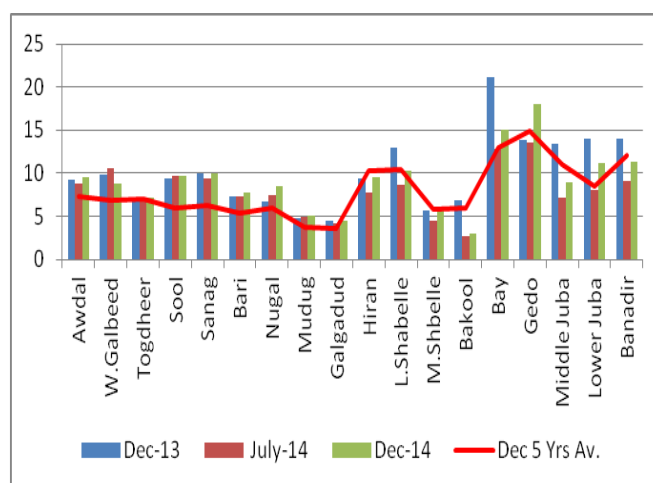
Between July and December 2014, the urban food security situation has shown stable to improving trends in most parts of the country. Urban areas in southern Somalia, which were previously classified as Emergency (IPC Phase 4) [Hudur, Wajid and Buloburte] in July 2014 due to a significant surge in food prices following trade disruption caused by insurgents, have been categorized into Crisis (IPC Phase 3) due to reduction in market prices over the past six months. Other urban poor populations in parts of Lower Juba, Hiran, Middle Juba and Gedo in southern regions were also classified in Crisis (IPC Phase 3). Acute food insecurity among urban populations in Northern regions (Awdal, Waqooyi Galbeed, Sanaag and Bari) was classified as Minimal (IPC Phase 1).

Daily casual labor to cereals ToT improved (by 1-4 kg) and exceeded five-year average levels in most regions (Figure 4). Declining trend of locally-produced sorghum and maize prices in all regions in the South was recorded in the last six months. Prices of imported food (rice, sugar, vegetable oil, wheat flour) in local currency terms remained relatively stable in all parts of the country, except in Bakool and Hiran. These improvements are also reflected in declining costs of the Minimum Expenditure Basket (CMB) and declining Consumer Price Indices (CPI) in most of the regions since July 2014.

While the CMB and CPI (which in the context of Somalia measures the percentage change in CMB) provide a guide to the overall cost of living, the actual purchasing power of the urban poor can be approximated through the ToT between casual daily labor wages and cereals. A favorable casual labor to cereal ToT will boost the purchasing power of poor urban households whose main income source tends to be casual wage labor employment. Overall, the December 2014 Terms of Trade between daily labor wage to locally produced cereal are significantly above their five-year average levels, except in Bakool and Middle Juba regions where they are 49 and 19 percent lower, respectively (Figure 4). In Lower Shabelle labor wage to cereals ToT was near its five-year average levels.

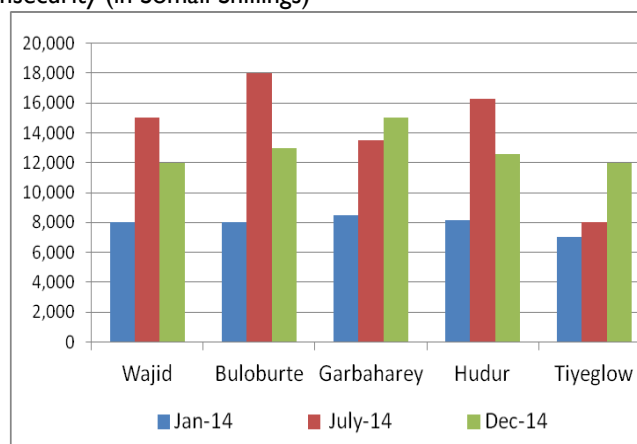
In areas affected by trade disruptions due to insecurity, analysis of local cereal price trends indicates significant price increase between January and July 2014 in Hudur (67%), Wajid (88%) and Tiye glow in Bakool (14%); Buloburte in Hiran (25%) and Garbaharey in Gedo (59%). These increases were attributed to trade embargo imposed by insurgents, which affected trade flow and supplies of these commodities into local markets. However, cereal prices declined between July and

Figure 4. Terms of Trade (Casual labour Wage to Cereals) in Urban Areas Across Somalia (in Kilograms)



Source: FSNAU

Figure 5. Cereal Prices in Selected Urban Markets in Southern Somalia Affected by Trade Disruptions due to Insecurity (in Somal Shillings)



Source: FSNAU

December 2014 in some of the above-mentioned areas (in Buloburte by 28%, in Hudur by 17% and in Wajid by 20%) - (Figure 5). This is due to a combination of factors: improved harvest prospects in the surrounding regions; smuggling by local traders; and access to humanitarian assistance (albeit sporadically).

1.4 Settlements of internally displaced persons (IDPs)

Displaced populations across Somalia continue to experience acute food insecurity. An estimated 556 000 IDPs throughout the country are currently in Crisis (IPC Phases 3) or Emergency (IPC Phases 4). An additional 34 000 IDPs are Stressed (IPC Phase 2).

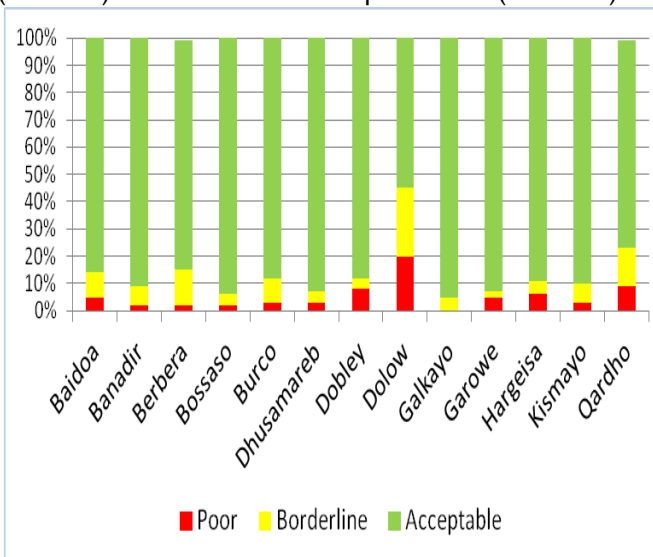
Currently (January 2015), out of the 13 main IDP settlements covered in the Deyr (October-December) assessment, 12 of them have been classified in Crisis (IPC Phase 3), while Dolow IDPs were classified in Emergency (IPC Phase 4). Declined labor wages to cereals terms of trade (ToT), a high proportion of households with Poor and Borderline Food Consumption Score (FCS); increased use of moderate and severe coping strategies; sustained Critical level of acute malnutrition (21.6% Global Acute Malnutrition-GAM in Deyr 2014 compared to 18.8% GAM in Gu 2014 and 19.7% GAM in Deyr 2013) reflect a food security crisis of emergency proportion in Dolow.

In 11 out of 13 main IDP settlements spread across Somalia and covered in the assessment, a majority of the IDPs in the other settlements have Acceptable food consumption, except in Dolow and Qardho where over 40 percent and 20 percent of IDP households, respectively, had Poor to Borderline food consumption (Figure 6).

A large proportion of IDP households across most settlements consumed four or more of the 12 food groups included in household dietary diversity score (HDDS). However, a large proportion of IDPs in Kismayo, Baidoa and Dolow consumed fewer than four food groups, majority of which were Women Dependent Households (WDHs). WDHs constitute the majority of households with Poor to Borderline food consumption, particularly at Dolow settlement.

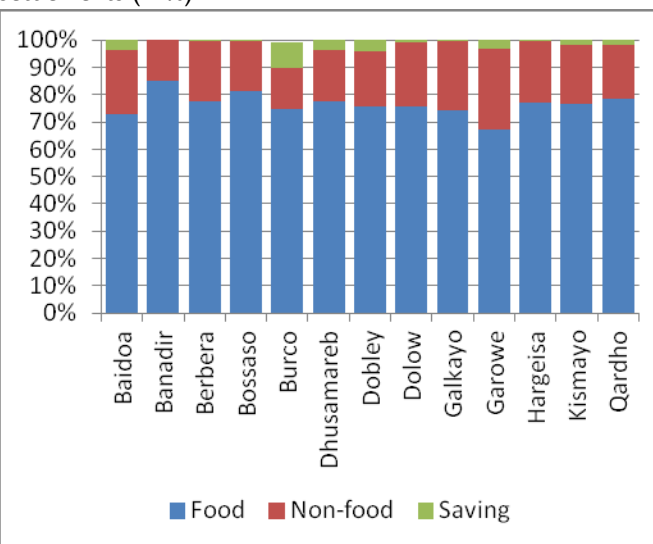
IDP households in all surveyed settlements spent on average 75 percent of their income on food which signifies their vulnerability to potential food price increases (Figure 7). Most IDP households have fewer sources of income, the dominant being casual labor. Men Dependent households (MDHs) generate income mainly from casual labor, self-employment and skilled labor whilst WDHs tend to obtain income mainly from petty trade. In Baidoa, Mogadishu, Dhusamareb and Kismayo, incomes were more diversified, and households had one to two income sources. The vast majority of IDPs are also asset poor. The majority of the IDPs assessed did have access to potable water. However, only a limited proportion of households had access to safe water in IDP settlements in Kismayo (3%), Baidoa (56%) and Bossaso (23%).

Figure 6. Classification of Internally Displaced Households (IDP HHs) Based on Food Consumption Score (% of HHs)



Source: FSNAU

Figure 7. Share of Expenditure on Food as a proportion of Total Household Expenditure Among IDPs in the Main Settlements (in %)

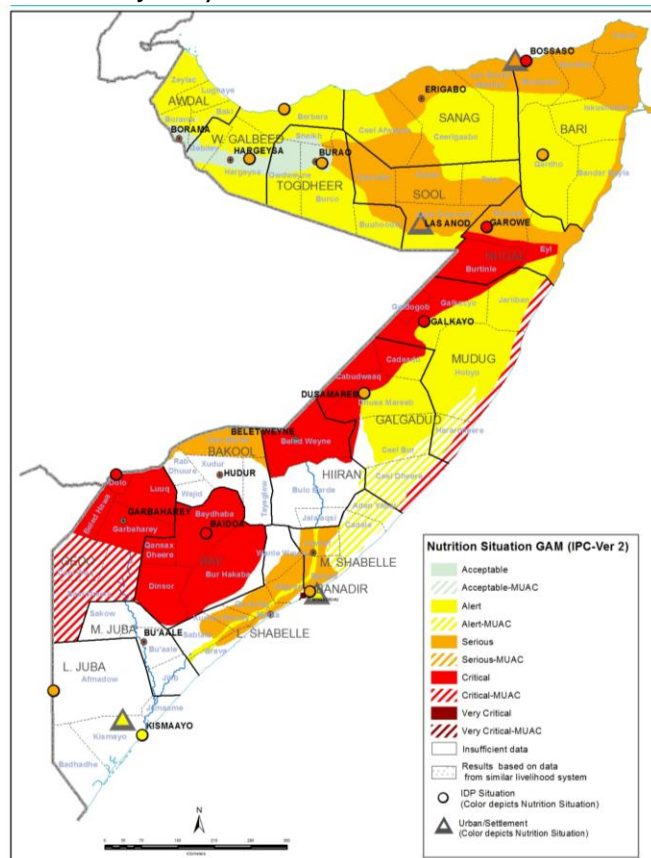


Source: FSNAU

1.5 Nutritional Status

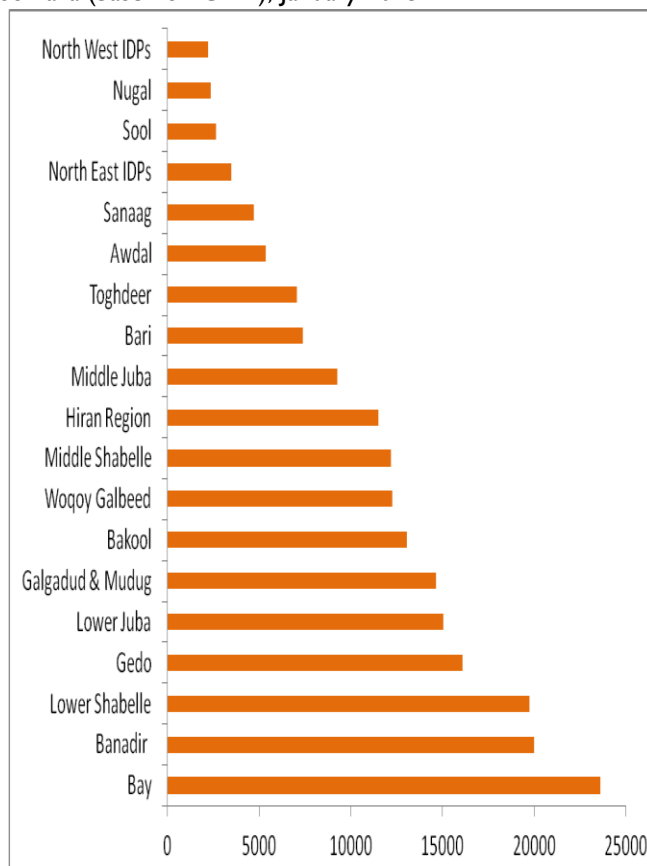
Between October through December 2014, FSNAU conducted 41 nutrition surveys covering 28 996 children (6-59 months) from 17 962 households across most regions and livelihood zones of Somalia. The assessments were conducted in collaboration with government institutions (Ministries of Health) and partners. Surveys were conducted using the Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (SMART) methodology. Weight for Height Z-Scores were used for measurement of acute malnutrition among children under-five in 36 out of 41 nutrition surveys conducted while in the remaining 5, Mid Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) was used as an indicator of wasting.

Figure 8. Estimated Acute Nutrition Situation (GAM) Map for Somalia, January 2015



Source: FSNAU

Figure 9. Number of Acutely Malnourished Children Across Somalia (based on GAM), January 2015



Acute malnutrition (Wasting): Results from the 41 nutrition surveys indicate that 202 600 children under the age of five across Somalia (or 12% of the total populations of children under the age of five) are acutely malnourished, with 38 200 children (or 1.9% of the total under-five population) being severely malnourished (Figures 8 & 9). In 13 out of 36 population groups surveyed, the prevalence of acute malnutrition is considered Critical and exceeds the UN trigger for emergency action (Global Acute Malnutrition-GAM $\geq 15\%$). Highest prevalence of acute malnutrition (based on Weight for Height Z-Scores) was recorded among livelihoods of North Gedo Pastoral (25.2%) and North Gedo Agropastoral (24.7%). Critical levels of acute malnutrition were also recorded among all rural livelihoods of South Gedo (Pastoral, Agro pastoral and Riverine) based on MUAC measurements (i.e. 10.7% or more of children have Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) below the 125 millimeters threshold).

The median GAM (15.3%) and median SAM (3.3%) rates in South Central region of Somalia are higher when compared to 12.9 percent median GAM and 2.2 percent median SAM in the Northeast region or 9.9 percent median GAM and 1.1 percent median SAM in the North West region though these differences are not statistically significant.

The nutrition situation of children among Internally Displaced Populations (13.4% median GAM) is worse compared to those of rural populations (9.9% median GAM). Prevalence of acute malnutrition is Critical (GAM 15 to 30%) in 5 out of 13 IDPs surveyed. Among IDPs in Galkayo, Garowe and Dolow, Critical GAM levels have persisted since Gu 2013. Significant improvement in the nutrition situation was observed among IDPs in Mogadishu and Kismayo. The nutrition situation in these settlements has improved from Critical during Gu 2014 (16.6% GAM in Kismayo and 18.9% GAM in Mogadishu) to Alert in Kismayo (8.5% GAM) and Serious (13.4% GAM) in Mogadishu during Deyr 2014/15. These improvements primarily reflect the positive impact of targeted nutrition interventions by UN and agencies and NGO partners in these settlements.

Mortality and Morbidity: Out of 41 population groups surveyed 35 showed Acceptable levels of Under-Five Death Rate (U5DR). In the remaining 6, Serious to Critical levels of U5DR ($>1/10\,000/\text{day}$) were reported out of which 4 were IDPs settlements (Figure 10). The doubling of U5DR noted among Kismayo IDPs is of public health significance despite the significant improvement in GAM prevalence in this settlement. The increase in U5DR is closely associated with infection and illness as Kismayo IDPs recoded the highest prevalence of Morbidity (62.3%) which is significantly higher than levels reported in Gu 2014 (41.2%). Diarrhoea was reported as the main cause of death in 11 out of 13 children in the settlement.

Chronic malnutrition (Stunting) and Underweight: The overall prevalence of Stunting is 10.8 percent (or Low) in Somalia which suggests that it is not a problem of public health significance. However, Stunting rates were High (30-39%) among IDPs in Baidoa, Kismayo, Dusamareb and Bossaso.

High Stunting rates have also been observed in livelihoods with high prevalence of GAM. This is also reflected in the significant association observed between GAM and Stunting ($r=0.38$; $p<0.05$) and SAM and Stunting ($r=0.51$; $p<0.01$).

The overall prevalence of Underweight across Somalia is 11.6 percent (or Medium). However, there are several population groups with High (20-29%) Underweight prevalence (Bay Agropastoral, North Gedo Pastoral, North Gedo Riverine, Beletweyne District, Baidoa IDPs, Kismayo IDPs, Dhusamareb IDPs, Bossaso IDPs and Garowe IDPs). Underweight prevalence was Very High (32.0%) among Dolow IDPs. This is also reflected in the significant association noted between GAM and Underweight ($r=0.75$; $p<0.01$) and SAM and Underweight ($r=0.80$, $p<0.01$).

Among all livelihoods prevalence of Stunting and Underweight was more in boys compared to girls irrespective of age group (6-23 and 24-59 months).

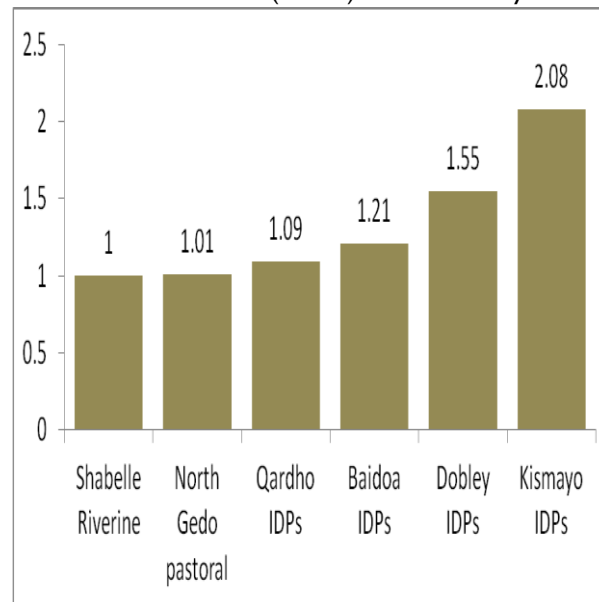
Current case load: Deyr 2014/2015 assessment results indicate that 202 600 children under five years of age are acutely malnourished in Somalia, close to the 203 300 acutely malnourished children reported during Deyr 2013/14 although it is 7 percent lower than the 218 300 acutely malnourished children reported for Gu 2014 (six months ago).

2. Most Likely Food Security Outcomes (February to June 2015)

Assumptions

The February to June 2015 outlook is based on the below assumptions grouped under the following themes: Climate, Agriculture, Livestock, Market and Trade, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance.

Figure 10. Population Groups with Serious to Critical Under-Five Death Rate (U5DR) $>1/10\,000/\text{day}$



Source: FSNAU

Climate:

- January to March 2015 Jilaal dry season will likely be normal in terms of the length of the dry period and temperatures.
- The December 2014 to February 2015 Xays rains that cover coastal areas of Djibouti and northwestern Somalia are likely to be near average, thereby replenishing water and pasture availability on the coastal strip of the Northwest.
- As a result of the early cessation of Deyr (October-December) rains, a harsher than normal Jilaal dry season is expected in areas that received below normal Deyr rainfall. This will lead to earlier than normal depletion of water and pasture and early water trucking (one month earlier than normal), starting from the last dekad of February in the following areas: North Galkacyo, parts of Jariban district, northeastern part of Goldogob, parts of Qandala (East Golis) and Iskushuban (Coastal Deeh) districts; parts of Lasqoray (East Golis and Sool Plateau), Burao (Hawd livelihood) districts; Adado (Hawd and Addun livelihood zones), upper parts of Dhusamareeb and parts of Galkacyo districts; parts of Juba and Gedo regions (Southeast Pastoral, Southern Inland Pastoral and Dawo Pastoral livelihood zones).
- Gu 2015 (April to June) rains are likely to be near average in terms of cumulative rainfall and are likely to start on time.

Agriculture:

- The near average Deyr cereal harvest in January/February 2015 will help sustain supply of locally produced cereals on local markets as well as availability of food stocks at household level during the dry Jilaal season. In areas with below average Deyr cereal harvest (Hiran and Juba), cereal price may start to increase slightly atypically in January. Prices are likely to decline slightly from March onwards in Juba regions upon collection of off-season harvest. Consistent with normal seasonal trends, cereal prices are expected to increase across southern Somalia starting in April with the start of the Gu rains as available cereal stocks from local harvest decline.
- The Deyr cash crop harvest in January/February 2015 is expected to be above average in terms of volume throughout the South. This is the result of above-average area planted under cash crops and of fairly good yields of sesame and other cash crops. This will likely result in increased cash income for farmers from cash crop sales.
- Farm labor demand from January to March will likely be high in most areas of Shabelle riverine and Sorghum Belt (Bay, Gedo, Shabelle agropastoral and Hiran) with the harvesting of cash crops in these areas.
- The off-season harvest expected in March in flood affected areas of Juba is also expected to boost the demand for farm labor.
- From April to June, with likely normal Gu rains, area planted is expected to be close to average. Land preparation and planting are likely to start on time. Agricultural labor demand is likely to be normal from March through June for land preparation, planting and weeding.

Livestock:

- Livestock body conditions are likely to remain near average during the dry Jilaal season due to the anticipated continued availability of dry pasture and browse. Despite the expected deterioration of pasture, browse and water availability in the rain-deficit areas, livestock migration patterns are expected to be normal in these areas.
- Milk availability will decline seasonally during the dry Jilaal season as pasture availability and the number of milking animals decrease. However, medium births (sheep and goats) and low to medium births (cattle and camel) expected in April to June as well as increased pasture and water availability during Gu rainy season will improve milk availability starting in April.
- Milk prices will follow the seasonal increasing trend during the dry Jilaal season, and start to decrease seasonally following livestock births from mid-April through June.

Markets and Trade:

- The United States dollar exchange rate against the Somali and Somaliland Shillings are likely to be stable through June.
- Despite the expected average Deyr harvest in January/February, sorghum and maize prices will likely decrease through February as new supplies reach markets. Sorghum and maize prices will likely increase from March through June as market stocks are drawn down and demand increases as the agricultural lean season progresses. However, markets will likely remain supplied with some local cereals. Many middle and better-off households are expected to invest the proceeds of cash crop sales in cereal purchases, while prices are lower in January/February. They will then sell these between March and June, after prices increase, allowing traders to purchase cereals through June to meet market demand.

- Imported commodity prices are likely to remain stable through April. Following the normal seasonal trend, prices of imported commodities are expected to rise seasonally starting in May as shipping is curtailed from May to August due to strong monsoon winds on the high seas.
- Livestock prices are likely to follow typical, seasonal trends. They will continue declining through the end of February due to low export and domestic demand, and then start to increase gradually from March through May due to the start of traders' restocking for sales during Ramadan in June and July.

Conflict:

- Inter-clan conflict in Lower Shabelle (Marka) and Galgaduud (Guriceel, Dhusamareeb and Balanballe) regions will likely continue and conflicts are likely to continue to limit trade, labor migration, and normal movement of people, livestock, and goods in these areas.
- Armed confrontations between Al-Shabaab and government forces supported by troops from the African Union Mission to Somalia (AMISOM) is likely to persist between now and June. The resulting conflict is likely to reduce trader movements and humanitarian access in some areas (Bakool, Hiran, Lower Shabelle, and Gedo); increased road blocks and check points are also likely to lead to higher transaction costs for transport of goods.
- Additional conflict related displacement is expected to continue between now and June.
- Forced evictions of IDPs from public and private premises in Mogadishu are also likely to continue.

Humanitarian assistance:

Access to humanitarian assistance between now to June 2015 is projected to remain at current levels. Physical access to isolated rural areas, particularly in Central and Southern Somalia will decline as most dirt roads become impassible during the rains. Insecurity in Southern Somalia is likely to persist, thereby limiting humanitarian access to some areas. Humanitarian access to urban areas affected by trade disruption (Bakool, Hiran and Gedo regions) is likely to remain a challenge during the projection period.

2.1 National Overview

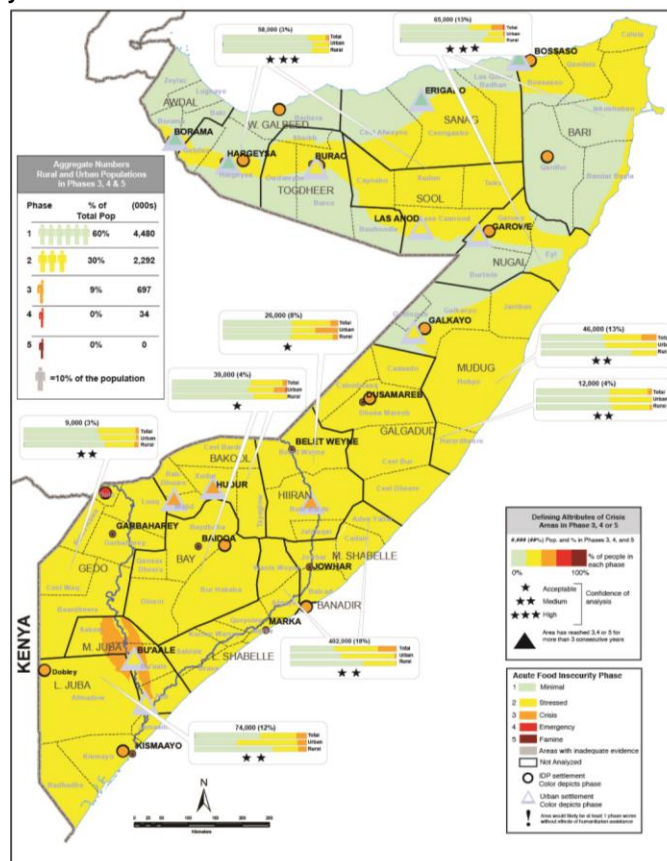
Based on the foregoing assumptions, the most likely food security and nutrition outcomes for February to June 2015 are outlined below. Accordingly, at national level, an estimated 731 000 people (of which Internally Displaced Persons-IDPs represent 76 % of the total) will be in Crisis and Emergency (IPC Phases 3 and 4) from February to June 2015 (Figure 11).

The above figure represents a 29 percent decrease from the estimates for July to December 2014 when 1 025 000 people were in Crisis and Emergency; and a 15 percent decline from the estimates for February to June 2014 of 857 000 people in Crisis and Emergency.

An additional 2 292 000 people across Somalia are projected to remain Stressed (IPC Phase 2) from February to June 2015.

Further details on acute food security outcome projections through mid-2015 are provided below, separately, for rural, urban and displaced populations.

Figure 11. Projected food security outcomes, February to June 2015



Source: FSNAU, FEWS NET Somalia, and partners
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.

2.2 Rural Areas

In rural areas across Somalia, an estimated 89 000 people will be in Crisis and Emergency (IPC Phases 3 and 4) between now and June 2015. A majority of the total number of rural people in Crisis and Emergency are found in Middle Juba, Lower Juba, Middle and Lower Shabelle, Hiran, Galgaduud and South Mudug. An additional 1 268 000 people in rural areas are likely to remain Stressed (IPC Phase 2) through mid 2015.

East Golis (Northeast), parts of the Sool plateau, Hawd and Nugal Valley in Northwest, parts of Hawd and Addun in Central, and parts of Gedo and Juba, along the border with Kenya will experience water shortage until the start of Gu 2015 rains in April and may start water trucking earlier than normal (starting from late February).

Due to the expected average Gu (April to June) rainfall, food security outcomes in pastoral areas of the country are expected to improve between April and June 2015, consistent with normal seasonal trends. As a result, acute food insecurity will be Minimal (IPC Phase 1) in Hawd, West and East Golis Pastoral livelihood zones in Northwest, Hawd of Nugal, North Mudug and Sool Plateau of Bari region.

Food security in some parts of agropastoral and riverine livelihoods are likely to improve or remain Stressed (IPC Phase 2) from April to June as income from agricultural labor increases. However, Southern Agropastoral livelihood zone in Middle Juba is likely to remain in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) until the Gu harvest in July 2015. Riverine areas of Juba affected by river floods will likely improve from crisis (IPC Phase 3) to Stressed (IPC Phase 2) towards the end of March, following the arrival of the expected average off-season harvest of maize and sesame. Poor households in these areas will likely benefit from farm labor opportunities both from off-season as well as Gu 2015 related agriculture activities.

2.3 Urban Areas

An estimated 86 000 people will be in Crisis and Emergency (IPC Phases 3 and 4) between now and June 2015 in urban areas across Somalia. A majority of the total number of urban people in Crisis and Emergency are found in Bakool, Bandadir, Hiran, Lower Juba, Middle Juba and Sool regions. An additional 990 000 people in urban areas are likely to remain Stressed (IPC Phase 2) through mid 2015.

Between now and June 2015, most urban areas are projected to remain Stressed (IPC Phase 2). However, urban areas in Hiraan and Bakool regions affected by trade disruptions are projected to remain in Crisis (IPC Phase 3).

The expected seasonal price increase of local grain from March to June is likely to reduce the purchasing power of the urban poor. CPI is also likely to increase starting in March due to the expected increase of sorghum prices although imported commodity prices will remain stable through April and only increase slightly from May onwards. Labour wage opportunities are expected to remain stable in most urban areas. However, insecurity remains a major risk factor for food access of urban households in South-Central Somalia. Urban households who are forced to flee due to conflict lose connections to important markets in which to sell their labor. Continued conflict in South-Central Somalia will likely affect trader movements and trade flow. Displacement also creates increased competition for labor opportunities in urban areas, as IDPs compete with the urban poor for the same opportunities.

2.4 Settlements of IDPs

Across Somalia, between now and June 2015, an estimated 556 000 IDPs will be in Crisis and Emergency (IPC Phases 3 and 4). A majority of the total number of IDPs in Crisis and Emergency are found in Bandadir (65%) and Bari (10%) regions. There are also an additional 34 000 IDPs that are projected to remain Stressed (IPC Phase 2) through June 2015.

Acute food security Emergency in Dolow and Crisis in the remaining 12 main IDP settlements are expected to persist through June as no significant improvements are expected in the factors affecting food security for these populations. However, IDPs will have access to employment opportunities related to the constructions of government or corporate premises in Mogadishu and Gu season related farming activities in Southern regions of Somalia.

IDPs remain vulnerable to several types of shocks following displacement including disease due to outbreaks, poor hygiene and sanitation, and congestion in informal settlements. They are also at high risk of physical insecurity, adverse exposure to extreme temperatures, and exposure to the rain due to poor housing conditions. Continued conflicts in South-Central

Somalia and forced evictions of IDPs from government and private premises in Mogadishu is likely to lead to further displacement and vulnerability.

2.5 Most Likely Nutrition Outcomes Through April 2015

Between now and April 2015, deterioration in nutrition situation is expected among Northwest Agropastoral (Hawd, West Golis, Sool Plateau, Burao and Berbera IDPs) form Alert to Serious due to limited water availability for both livestock and human consumption (Figure 12). Out-migration of livestock during the dry Jilaal season and consequent reduction in milk availability at household level will contribute to the expected deterioration in the nutrition situation in the above mentioned areas.

Deterioration of the nutrition situation is also expected among IDPs in Burao and Berbera due to limited humanitarian interventions in these settlements and the seasonal spikes in acute malnutrition observed based on historical data. In Southern Somalia, the nutrition situation observed during Deyr 2014/15 is expected to be sustained except in Shabelle Agropastoral where the nutrition situation may deteriorate due to outbreak of measles reported recently in the area.

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

Priority areas of concern in terms of acute food insecurity and malnutrition are the following:

The food insecurity situation among IDPs in Dolow is classified as Emergency (IPC Phase 4). Populations in the remaining 12 IDP settlements are classified Crisis (IPC Phases 3).

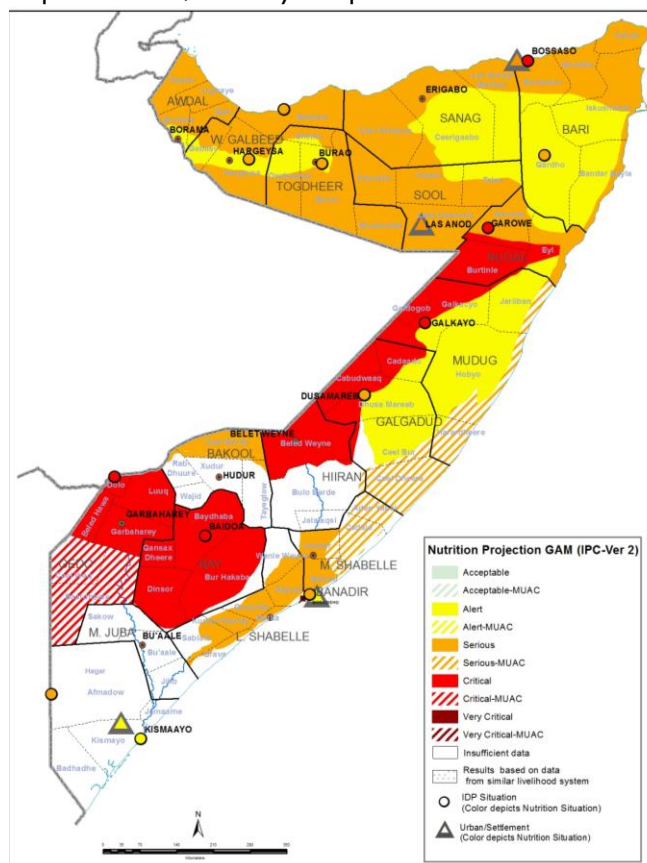
Urban population in the South (Hudur, Wajid and Buloburte) affected by trade disruptions face acute food security Crisis (IPC 3) despite a modest improvement of the situation since July 2014.

Southern agropastoral population in Juba and destitute pastoralists in coastal areas of Northeastern, Central and South Somalia face acute food security Crisis (IPC 3).

In Riverine livelihoods of Middle and Lower Juba affected by floods, food security will continue to deteriorate until the delayed (off-season) harvest becomes available in March. Similarly, in parts of pastoral and agropastoral livelihood zones that had below average Deyr rains, household food security will continue to deteriorate until the start of Gu rains in April.

With Critical rates of acute malnutrition, the following livelihood zones and population groups are considered as priorities for nutrition programming: Pastoral, Agro pastoral and Riverine livelihoods in North and South Gedo Regions; Agropastoral livelihoods and Baidoa IDPs in Bay Region; Hawd livelihood in Central and North East region Beletweyne and Mataban Districts in Hirran Region; Bossasso IDPs in Bari Region; Garowe IDPs in Nugal Region; and Galkayo IDPs in Mudug region.

Figure 12. Estimated Acute Nutrition Situation (GAM) Map for Somalia, February to April 2015



Source: FSNAU