

## KEY ISSUES

- The 2019 *Deyr* (October-December) rains began earlier than normal between mid-September and early October in some parts of Somalia. The rains expanded to cover most parts of the country between mid-October and early December. The overall rainfall performance in terms of amount and distribution was average to above average in southern Somalia and many parts of central and northern regions.
- However, excessive rainfall in October and November resulted in extreme river floods as well as flash floods, leading to population displacement, crop damage and disruptions to road networks in several areas of Somalia. Most flood-affected areas are in Hiiraan, Middle Shabelle, Middle Juba, Lower Juba, Gedo and Bay regions. In flood-affected areas, 400,000-500,000 people were affected, mainly in Beledweyne of Hiiraan, Berdaale of Bay region, Baardhere of Gedo, Jammame of Lower Juba and other areas, while swathes of agricultural areas and standing crops were submerged.
- River floods and flash floods from excessive rainfall have caused moderate damage to crops, especially in riverine livelihood zones. Accordingly, FSNAU estimates total 2019 *Deyr* season cereal production to be 80-90 percent of the long-term (post-war) average for 1995-2018. On the other hand, a significant increase in sesame crop cultivation is anticipated from late December 2019 onwards.
- In the crop growing areas of agropastoral livelihood zones in northwest Somalia (Woqooyi Galbeed, Awdal and Togdheer regions), below-average March to May rainfall initially compromised crop performance for the 2019 Gu/Karan (April-September) season. Based on assessments conducted in July 2019, FSNAU/FEWS NET, in collaboration with the Somaliland Ministry of Agriculture Development had estimated that 2019 Gu-Karan cereal production was 23 000 tons, with the harvest expected in November. However, intensified Karan rains in August and September significantly improved Gu/Karan harvest prospects in the region, despite some damage to maturing crops from excessive rainfall. As a result, FSNAU has revised its estimates and expects 2019 Gu/Karan cereal harvests in northwest Somalia could reach up to 30, 000 tons and will be harvested in December 2019. However, the revised estimates are still 27% below the 2010-2018 average.
- According to Protection and Return Monitoring Network (PRMN) data from UNHCR, over half a million people were displaced between July and November 2019 across Somalia due to floods (71%), conflict/insecurity (15%) and drought related (13%) causes.
- Between July and November 2019, there has been sustained large scale food assistance reaching between 1.7 million to 2 million rural, IDP, and urban people every month.
- Results from 22 integrated nutrition surveys conducted among Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and urban populations across Somalia In November 2019 by FSNAU in collaboration with the Ministries of Health and partners indicate a Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) prevalence of (13.1%), reflecting similar levels of Serious (GAM WHZ 10-14.9%) acute malnutrition since the 2018 *Deyr* (11.7%) and 2019 Gu (12.9%).
- As a result of improved access to milk, improving livestock herd sizes as well as increased agricultural employment opportunities in most agropastoral areas, most rural livelihood zones of Somalia are currently classified as Stressed (IPC Phase 2) or Minimal (IPC Phase 1) in the presence of food assistance. In areas where sustained humanitarian assistance has reached more than 25 percent of the population, it is likely preventing worse food security outcomes, particularly in

Climate

Civil  
Insecurity

Livestock

Agriculture

Markets

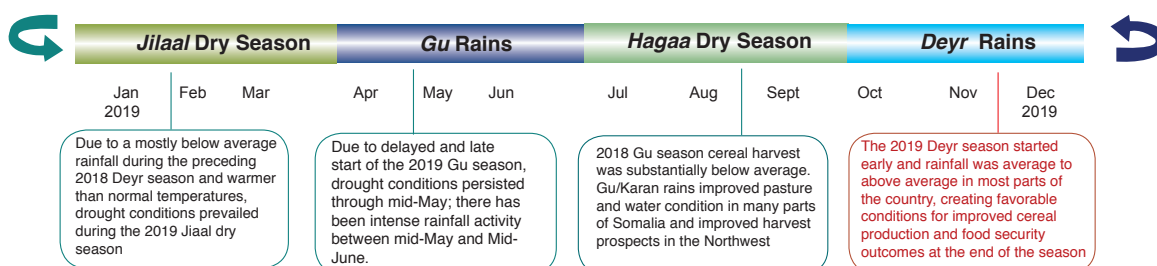
Nutrition

Integrated  
Analysis

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### Somalia Seasonal Timeline & Key Events



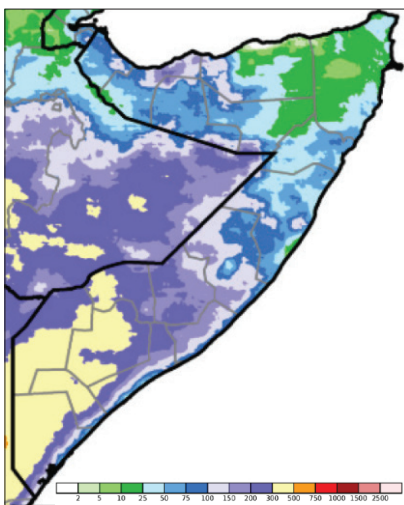
northern and central regions. Exceptions include some pastoral livelihood zones in northern and central Somalia that are currently classified as Crisis (IPC Phase 3), as a result of the cumulative impact of consecutive seasons of poor rainfall performance since 2017 on livestock assets. With the arrival of a near average Deyr harvest between January and March/April 2020, further improvements in the overall food security situation in Somalia are likely between February and June 2020.

- Most of the main IDP settlements are currently classified as Crisis (IPC Phase 3). Given the level of destitution among IDPs and their limited livelihood options, their food security situation is unlikely to improve significantly during the projection period (February-June 2020). The results of the FSNAU Deyr assessment show that urban populations in some regions (Toghdeer, Mudug, Galgadud and Lower Juba) are currently facing food consumption gaps and are classified as Crisis (IPC Phase 3). With the prospect of improved food security in rural areas, this is expected to have spillover effects as staple food prices become more affordable, leading to improvements in purchasing power and improved food access among urban households, especially the poor. As a result, food security outcomes are likely to improve from Crisis (IPC Phase 3) to Stressed (IPC Phase 2) in Mudug and Galgadud between February and June 2020.
- In urban Beletweyne, where floods have disrupted livelihoods and caused large population displacement, significant humanitarian assistance is currently preventing targeted households to meet minimally adequate food consumption requirements. Therefore urban Beletweyne is currently classified as Stressed (IPC Phase 2) when considering the positive impact of humanitarian assistance. Food security outcomes are expected to deteriorate to Crisis (IPC Phase 3) between December 2019 and June 2020 as they will be facing food consumption gaps that they will not be able to reduce without continued humanitarian assistance.

## SECTOR HIGHLIGHTS

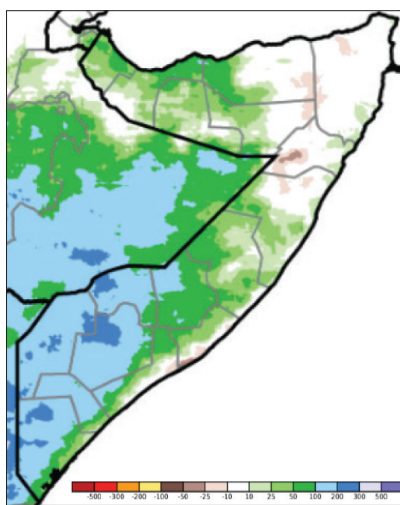
### CLIMATE

**Map 1: Map 1: Total Rainfall (mm) for 6 October- 5 December 2019**



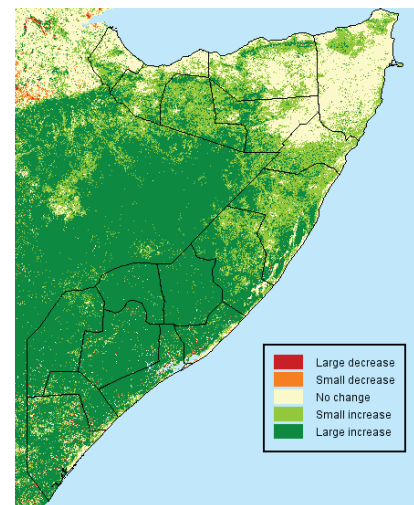
Source: CHIRPS

**Map 2: Total Rainfall Deviation from Normal (mm) for 6 October – 5 December 2019**



Source: CHIRPS

**Map 3: Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) Deviation from Normal for November 2019**

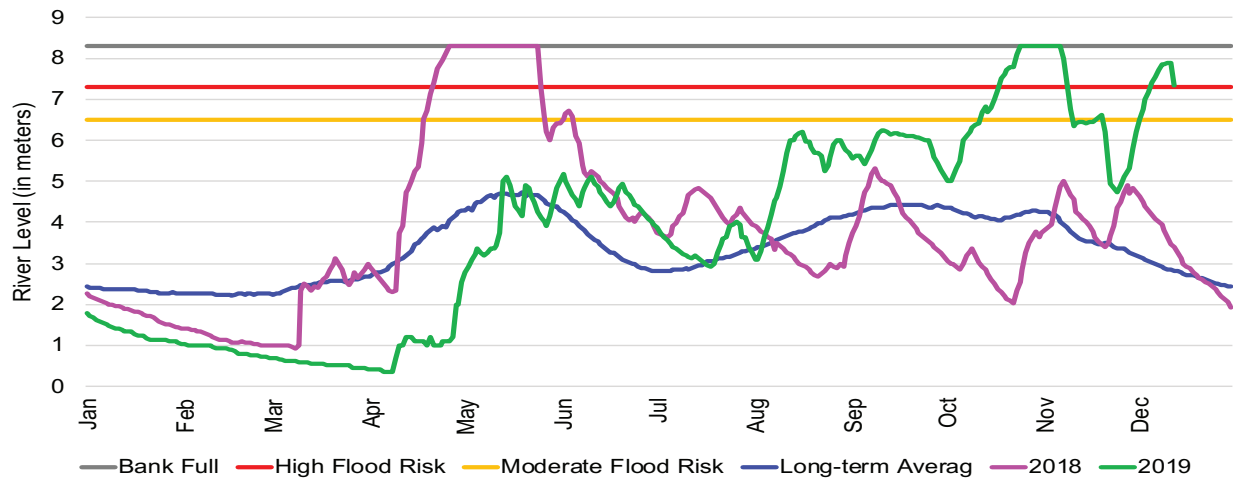


Source: USGS

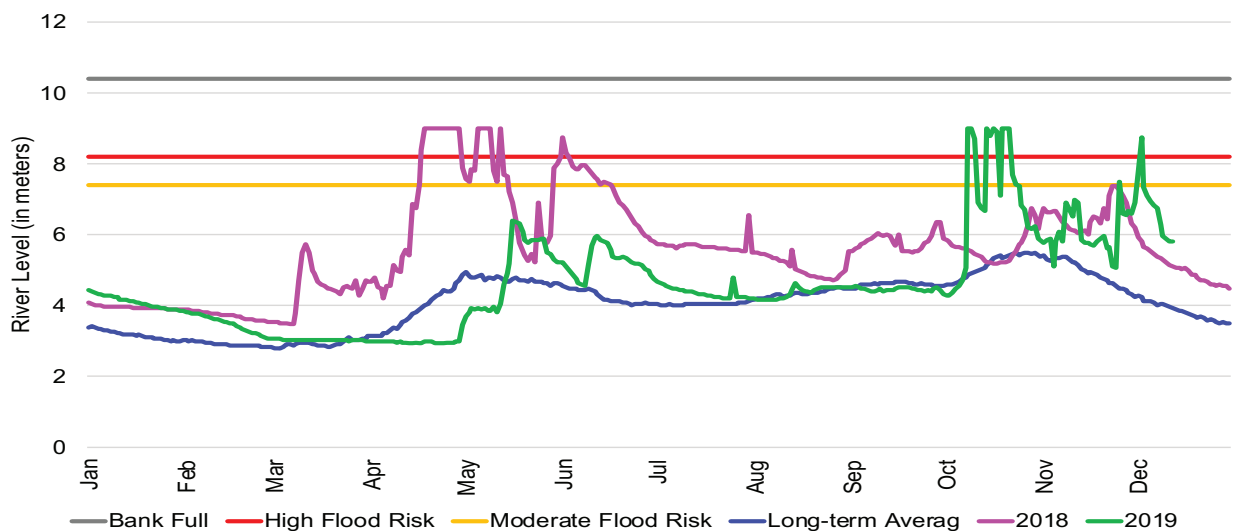
The 2019 *Deyr* (October-December) rains began earlier than normal between mid-September and early October in some parts of Somalia. The rains expanded to cover most parts of the country between mid-October and early December, with the onset of rain occurring the latest in northeastern Somalia. The overall rainfall performance in terms of amount and distribution was average to above average in southern Somalia and many parts of central and northern regions. However, rains were average to below average for eastern parts of Sool and most parts of Sanaag regions, until the arrival of torrential rains associated with cyclone Pawan in early December improved the situation.

Between 6 October and 5 December 2019, remote-sensing (satellite estimated) data (CHIRPS) indicates that southern Somalia received cumulative rainfall amounts exceeding 150 millimeters (mm), with large parts of Juba, Bay and Gedo receiving amounts exceeding 300 mm. Rainfall amounts are typically lower in central and northern regions. Central and northwestern parts of the country received rainfall totals between 50 mm and 100 mm, while most of northeastern regions of Bari, Nugaal and north Mudug received 10-75 mm (see Maps 1). Most parts of the country recorded above-average cumulative amounts, with anomalies of 100-200 mm in southern regions and 10-100 mm in central and northwestern areas of the country. Rainfall totals in northeastern regions are average or below average

**Figure 1: Shebelle River Level at Beletweyne, Hiran Region**



**Figure 2: Juba River Level at Bardhere, Gedo Region**



Source: SWALIM

(see Map 2). By the second week of December, rains across Somalia as well as adjacent eastern Ethiopian highlands have started to subside in intensity. However, cyclone Pawan that made a landfall in early December 2019, causing damage to fishing boats, road infrastructure, homes and livestock in coastal parts of Bari, Nugaal and Sanaag regions.

In areas that received excessive rainfall in October and November, extreme river floods and flash floods led to population displacement, crop damages, and disruptions to road networks in some parts of Somalia. Most of the flood-affected areas are in Hiiraan, Middle Shabelle, Middle Juba, Lower Juba, Gedo and Bay regions. The floods have affected nearly 400,000-500,000 people, mainly in Beledweyne of Hiiraan, Berdaale of Bay region, Baardhere of Gedo, Jammame of Lower Juba and other parts of Somalia, while swathes of agricultural areas and standing crops in these areas were flooded.

After reaching bank full or high flood risk in October, the Shabelle and Juba river levels started to decline between late November and early December. However, river levels remain at moderate to high flood-risk levels in Beletweyne (Hiiraan) and Jowhar (Middle Shabelle). As a result, the areas that have already been adversely affected by floods in October and November face further threats in the event of continued heavy rainfall during the rest of the month in December.

Despite the negative impacts of excessive rainfall and flooding, the *Deyr* rains replenished pasture and water and improved livestock body conditions and milk production and opened up livestock migration possibilities across the country, except in eastern parts of Northern Inland Pastoral (NIP) livelihood zone of Lasqoray/Badhan and Erigavo districts in Sanaag region where *Deyr* rains were mostly below average. Here, dry pasture from the 2019 Gu season is still available in Lasqoray/Badhan and Erigavo districts of Sanaag, and Iskushuban of Bari region. However, there is water scarcity which is forcing pastoralists to migrate with their livestock to eastern parts of Bari Region or towards Hawd Pastoral livelihood zone of Nugaal, Sool, and Mudug regions.

Above-normal vegetation conditions measured through the Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI), improved vegetation is visible across most of parts of Somalia (Map 3). However, vegetation is relatively less vigorous in parts of Sool, Sanaag, Bari, Nugaal and northern Mudug regions, although dry pasture from the 2019 Gu season is still available.

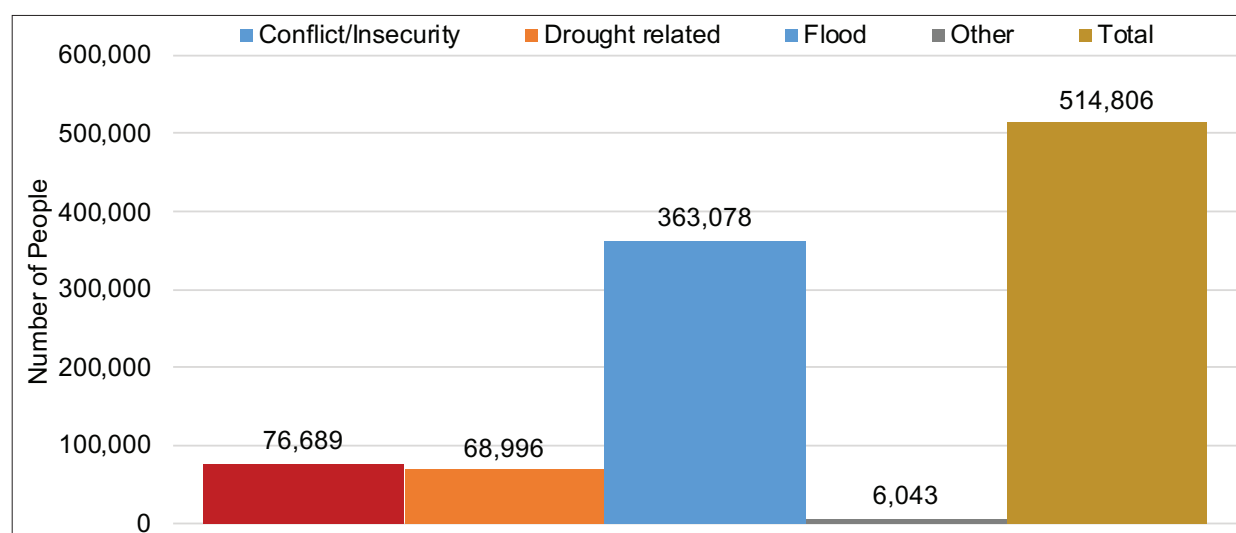
Based on the NOAA Climate Prediction Centre rainfall (CPC) forecast through the end of December 2019, there is a high likelihood of little to no rainfall across most parts of the country in late December, potentially signaling the end of the 2019 *Deyr* season rainfall.

Looking forward, the North American Multi-Model Ensemble (NMME) long-range forecast indicates that the 2020 Gu (April-June) season rainfall is most likely to be average. However, uncertainty exists given the expectation of neutral ENSO and IOD conditions.

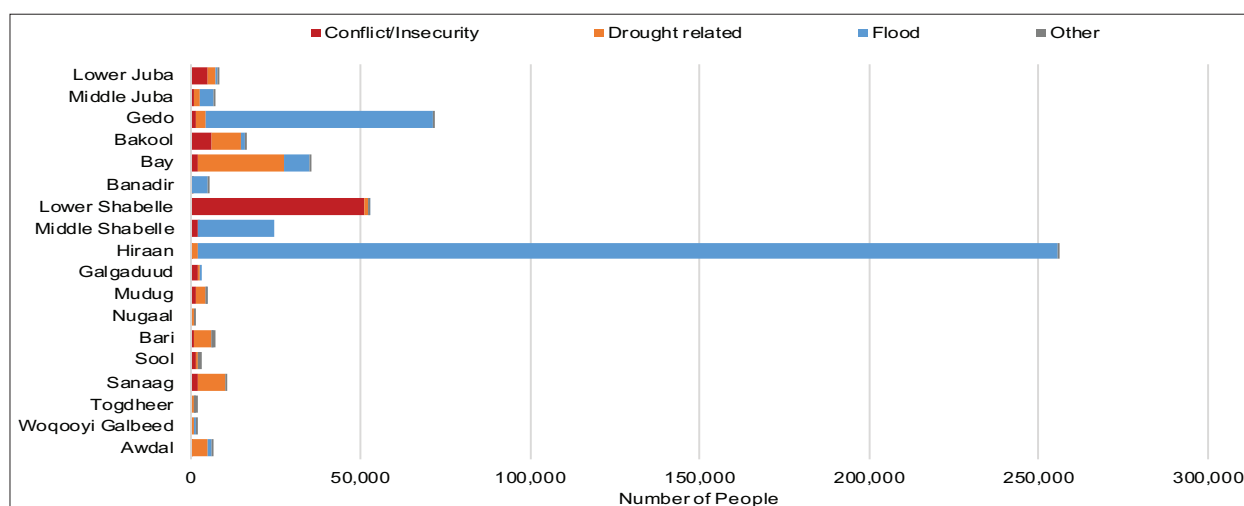
## CIVIL INSECURITY

According to Protection and Return Monitoring Network (PRMN) data from UNHCR, over half a million people were displaced between July and November 2019 across Somalia due to floods (71%), conflict/insecurity (15%) and drought related (13%) causes (see Figure 3). As shown in Figure 4, most of the displacements occurred in Hiiraan (floods), Gedo (floods), Lower Shabelle (conflict/insecurity), Bay (drought related and floods) and Middle Shabelle (floods). The main regions of destination for those that have been displaced are Hiiraan (floods), Gedo (floods), Bandir (conflict/insecurity), Bay (drought related and floods) and Middle Shabelle (floods) (see Figure 5).

**Figure 3: Population Movement by Main Reason of Displacement, July-November 2019**

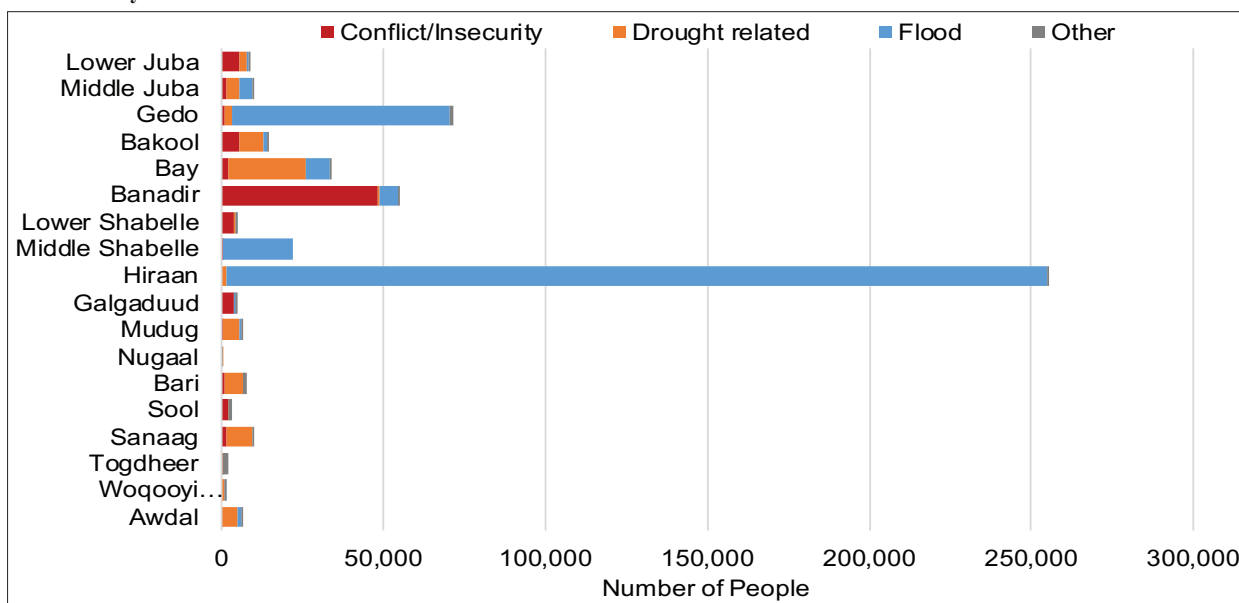


**Figure 4: Population Movement by Main Reason of Displacement and Region of Origin (Previous Region), July-November 2019**



Insecurity has persisted in most parts of southern and central regions of Somalia, leading to disruption of markets and livelihoods. The key drivers of insecurity have been conflict between insurgents and Somali government forces, supported by the African Union Mission to Somalia (AMISOM). In addition, clan rivalry has remained a significant trigger of violence in parts of Sanaag and Galgaduud regions. There has also been continued political tensions between the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) and Jubaland State and between FGS and Galmudug State related to presidential elections within the two states. Border disputes between Somaliland and Puntland has remained unresolved and is a cause of tension between the two sides.

**Figure 5: Population Movement by Main Reason of Displacement and Region of Destination (Current Region), July-November 2019**



Data Source: UNHCR PRMN

## AGRICULTURE

Results from the FSNAU 2019 *Deyr* season preliminary food security assessment, conducted in late November 2019, indicate that the 2019 *Deyr* season cereal harvest will range from average to below average across agropastoral areas, resulting in moderately below-average aggregate cereal production. In southern Somalia excessive rainfall and flooding caused damages to crops. Floods damaged cultivated land planted with cereal crops in Shabelle and Juba riverine livelihood zones, as well as large areas in Sorghum Agropastoral High-Potential livelihood of Shabelle and Bay regions. The 2019 *Deyr* season cash crop (mainly sesame) cultivation in southern Somalia was also adversely affected and hampered by flooding and excessive rainfall.



*Good Condition Maize Crop in Qoryoley, L.Shabelle, FSNAU, November 2019*

Area planted under cereals (sorghum and maize) varied from below average to average in most parts of southern Somalia. However, early-planted maize crops in some riverine areas of Shabelle regions and most agro-pastoral are performing well due to irrigation opportunities and favorable rains received in the first half of November 2019. Harvest of established crops not affected by floods and excessive rainfall are expected to be ready for harvest between late January and February 2020. Accordingly, FSNAU estimate the overall 2019 *Deyr* season cereal production to be 80-90 percent of the long-term (post-war) average for 1995-2018.

On the other hand, a significant increase in sesame crop cultivation is anticipated from late December 2019 onwards, taking advantage of residual moisture in the soil and favorable hot weather condition that accompanies the onset of the Jiaa (dry) season in January. This will help to compensate for cereal crop losses in some of the areas affected by flooding.

In crop growing areas of agropastoral livelihood zones of northwest Somalia (Woqooyi Galbeed, Awdal and Togdheer regions), below-average March to May rainfall initially compromised crop performance for the 2019 Gu/Karan (April-September) season. Based on assessments conducted in July 2019, FSNAU/FEWS NET, in collaboration with the Somaliland Ministry of Agriculture Development, had estimated the 2019 Gu-Karan cereal production at 23 000 tons with harvest expected in November. However, intensified Karan rains in August and September significantly improved Gu/Karan harvest prospects in the region, despite some damage to maturing crops from heavy rainfall. As a result, FSNAU has revised its estimate and expects the 2019 Gu/Karan cereal harvest in northwest Somalia will be harvested in December 2019 and could reach up to 30 000 tons. However, the revised estimates are still 27% below the 2010-2018 average

## LIVESTOCK

Above-average rainfall during the 2019 Karan (July-September) season in the northwest, followed by above-average 2019 Deyr (October-November) rainfall across most of Somalia, replenished rangeland resources. Water availability and accessibility is above normal in all livelihood zones, with fully replenished water catchments, including berkads, dams and ditches. As a result, the price of water dropped in all parts of Somalia. Across the country, pasture, browse and water improved significantly except in some portions of the Northern Inland Pastoral livelihood zone. This should have minimal adverse impact, as livestock migration is possible to adjacent livelihoods that have favorable pasture and water conditions.



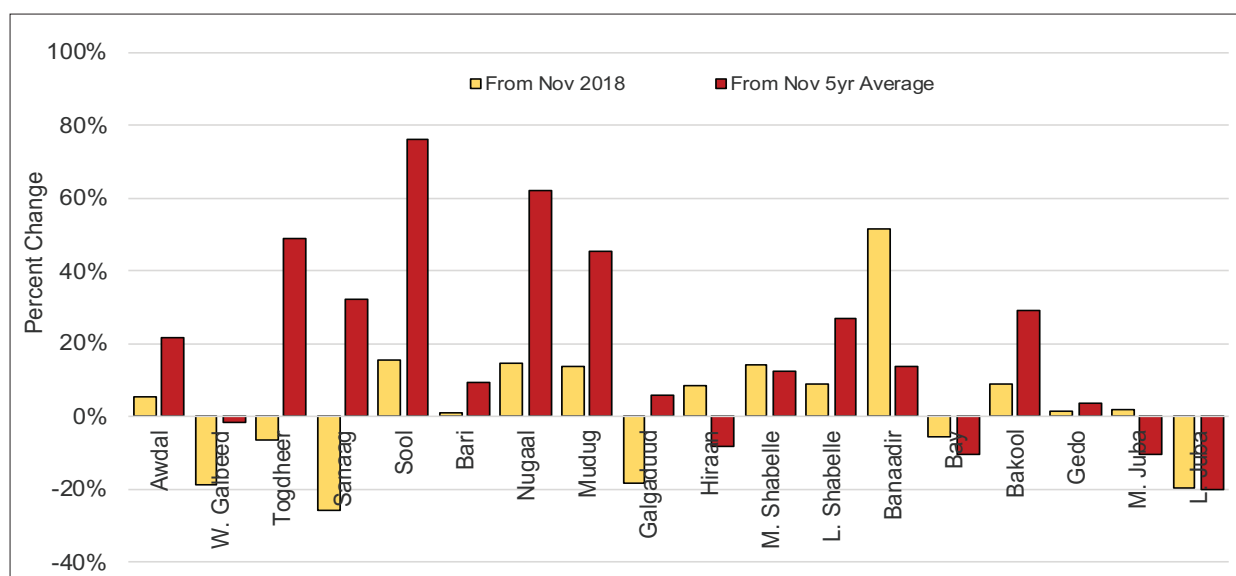
*Good Body condition, Juab cattle pastoral, FSNAU, November 2019*

A great swarm of locusts at the pupa or hopper stages of development have infested parts of the northern and central Somalia with some damage to pasture and browse. Although the damage by desert locust has been largely mitigated by the benefits of average to above average Karan/Deyr rainfall, the locust infestation poses a serious threat well into 2020. The pest could multiply and spread quickly, due to favorable ecological conditions. There is a risk of widespread and rapid deterioration of pasture and browse in parts of northern and central regions at levels higher than anticipated.

Livestock body conditions for all species are normal to above normal (PET score 3-4) across most of the country, due to improved rangeland conditions and availability of abundant nutritious pasture, browse and water. Livestock migration has remained normal within the traditional wet grazing zones in all regions/livelihoods.

Above-normal pasture and water conditions have supported seasonal livestock births, with medium calving taking place among cattle during the Hagaa (August-September) and medium goat/sheep kidding/lambing during the Deyr (October-November) across most parts of the country. Camel calving, which started at low levels in November 2019,

**Figure 6: Regional Trends in Local Quality Goat Prices (SoSh/SISh)**



Source: FSNAU and FEWS NET

is expected to exceed medium calving levels by the end of December 2019. However, livestock reproduction is likely to remain low in coastal parts of Bari region and NIP of Sanaag (Erigavo, Badhan/Lasqoray) and all livelihood zones in central and Gedo regions, as a result of low livestock conceptions in the two preceding, below-average rainfall seasons (2018 *Deyr* and 2019 *Gu*).

Local quality goat prices in most northwest regions are lower compared to one year ago (November 2019) but show a stable or increasing trend in most of the other regions of the country. Current local goat prices are higher in most regions of the country compared to the five-year average for 2014-2018, with few exceptions (Figure 6).

Milk production for consumption and sales improved in most of the country, given low to medium kidding/calving during the *Deyr* season, in addition to continued lactation among camels that gave birth during the preceding 2019 *Gu* season. The increase in supply has driven a decline in camel milk prices in most of the main markets of the country.

With these positive improvements in birth levels and body conditions, livestock holdings and herd sizes among poor rural households have generally increased or remained stable across all livestock species in southern and northern Somalia. However, herd size among poor households continued to decline in central regions during the current *Deyr* season due to low livestock births and increased off-take to meet household consumption requirements. Despite some gains, livestock holdings still remain below baseline levels across northern and central regions, due to the cumulative impact of consecutive droughts. Whereas in most southern regions, livestock holdings are expected to reach near baseline or above baseline levels between mid to late 2020.

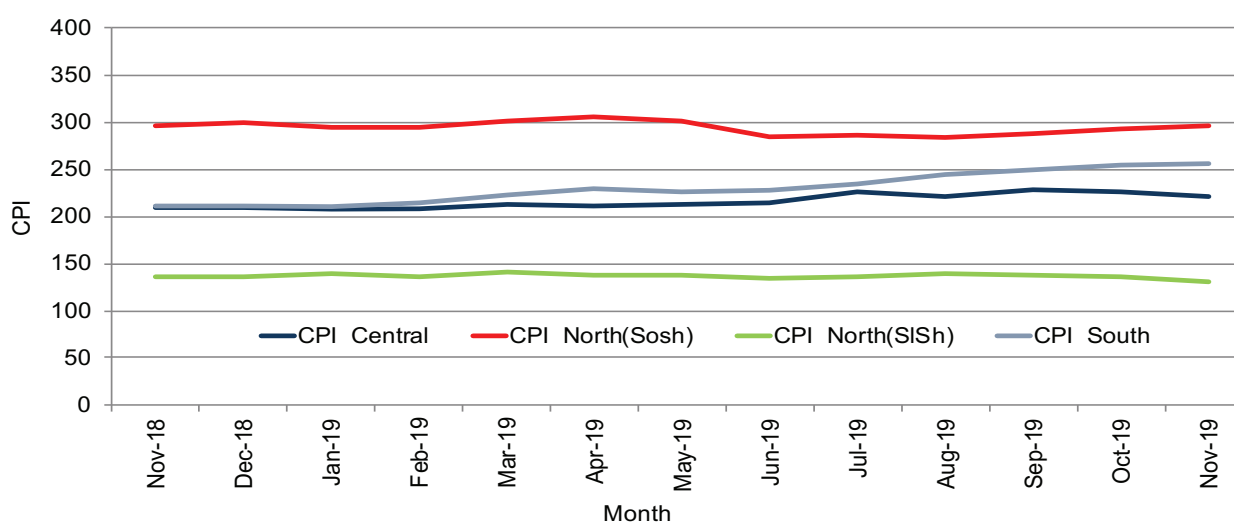
## MARKETS AND TRADE

### Exchange Rate Trends

From July to November 2019, both the Somaliland Shilling (SLS) and the Somali Shilling (SOS) were stable against the U.S. dollar (USD) in most markets in Somalia. However, in compared to November 2018, the SLS appreciated significantly (16%) to near average levels in Toghddeer, Awdal and Waqooyi Galbeed markets due to efforts made by Somaliland to stabilize the foreign exchange market. The SOS was stable in most parts of the country compared to November 2018 and the five-year average. However, in the northeastern Puntland State, the SOS lost its value by nearly a third when compared to the five-year average because of the increased circulation of newly printed local currency notes since late 2017.

Between July and November 2019, the prices of imported commodities (rice, wheat flour, sugar and vegetable oil) prices increased moderately (5-30%) in southern regions due to ongoing heavy rains that rendered most roads impassable, which hampered overland supplies from the ports. However, in central and northern markets, food prices are either stable or have only slightly changed given that relatively better road infrastructure has continued to facilitate fairly normal supply flows to most markets. Annual price changes for food items in southern regions indicate price increases of 18-60 percent, whereas food prices either remained stable or increased at relatively moderate rates in central and northern markets.

**Figure 7: Regional Trends in Consumer Price Index (CPI)**



Source: FSNAU and FEWS NET

Informal cross-border imports of sorghum and maize from Ethiopia to central and northern Somalia between July and November 2019 are estimated at 3 123 tons, comparable to imports between July and October 2018. This reflects sustained supplies to cereal deficit central and northern Somalia. In addition, an estimated 37 305 tons of different food items (mainly pasta, sugar, wheat flour and rice) were imported into Somalia through the ports of Bossaso, Berbera and Mogadishu and were re-exported to Ethiopia and Kenya, an amount which is 12 percent higher compared to the same period last year. This cross-border re-export is beneficial to traders, transporters and laborers in Somalia.

Since November 2018, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for urban households has remained stable or changed at mild rates in central and northern regions (Figure 7). However, the CPI increased at moderate to significant rates (6-22 %) during the same period in southern markets due to currently high cereal prices (especially sorghum) in these areas.

## NUTRITION

In November 2019, FSNAU in collaboration with the Ministries of Health and partners conducted 22 integrated nutrition surveys among Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and urban populations across Somalia. Preliminary results from these surveys indicate a Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) prevalence of 13.1%, reflecting a slight increase in the level of Serious (10-14.9%) acute malnutrition observed since the 2018 *Deyr* (11.7%) and 2019 *Gu* (12.9%).

The acute malnutrition situation in 4 out of the 22 IDP or urban population groups surveyed showed Critical GAM prevalence (15-29.9%): Mogadishu (16.8 %), Galkacyo (16.8 %), Bossaso (16.5 %) and Baidoa (IDPs) (15.8 %). Serious GAM prevalence (10-14.9%) was recorded in 13 out of the 22 population groups assessed. Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) prevalence was serious (>2.5-4%) in 8 out of 22 assessed population groups (see Table 1).

**Table 1: 2019 Deyr Somalia Nutrition Assessment Results Among IDP and Urban Populations**

| Population Group            |         |         | CDR            | U5DR | Morbidity (%)<br>(High≥20%) |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------|----------------|------|-----------------------------|
| Assessed                    | GAM (%) | SAM (%) | Per 10 000/day |      |                             |
| Hargeisa IDPs (W. Galbeed)  | 7.6     | 1.2     | 0.35           | 0.82 | 29.9                        |
| Hargeisa Urban (W. Galbeed) | 6.1     | 0.8     | 0.31           | 0.00 | 26.8                        |
| Burao IDPs (Toghdeer)       | 7.1     | 0.4     | 0.33           | 0.29 | 3.6                         |
| Burao Urban (Toghdeer)      | 6.2     | 0.9     | 0.31           | 0.00 | 2.7                         |
| Lasanood IDPs (Sool)        | 12.2    | 1.6     | 0.13           | 0.00 | 4.1                         |
| Lasanood Urban (Sool)       | 11.4    | 1.8     | 0.30           | 0.00 | 5.3                         |
| Bosasso IDPs (Bari)         | 16.5    | 2.7     | 0.11           | 0.14 | 24.1                        |
| Bosasso Urban (Bari)        | 10.5    | 2.0     | 0.04           | 0.00 | 19.4                        |
| Garowe IDPs (Nugaal)        | 12.0    | 1.4     | 0.40           | 0.77 | 30.0                        |
| Garowe Urban (Nugaal)       | 6.2     | 0.3     | 0.14           | 0.00 | 20.5                        |
| Galkacyo IDPs (Mudug)       | 16.8    | 3.3     | 0.29           | 0.67 | 37.8                        |
| Galkacyo Urban (Mudug)      | 14.2    | 2.8     | 0.15           | 0.15 | 30.8                        |
| Dhusamareb IDPs (Galgadud)  | 13.1    | 2.0     | 0.30           | 0.92 | 27.7                        |
| Dhusamareb Urban (Galgadud) | 14.9    | 4.0     | 0.17           | 0.50 | 34.0                        |
| Mogadishu Urban (Banadir)   | 14.2    | 2.8     | 0.35           | 1.08 | 23.9                        |
| Mogadishu IDPs (Banadir)    | 16.8    | 3.6     | 0.66           | 1.33 | 31.5                        |
| Baidoa IDPs (Bay)           | 15.8    | 2.2     | 0.23           | 0.37 | 27.6                        |
| Baidoa Urban (Bay)          | 11.5    | 3.0     | 0.24           | 0.15 | 15.6                        |
| Dolow IDPs (N Gedo)         | 14.3    | 3.1     | 0.30           | 0.82 | 12.6                        |
| Dolow Urban (N Gedo)        | 13.1    | 0.5     | 0.35           | 0.47 | 3.9                         |
| Kismayu Urban (L. Juba)     | 11.5    | 1.5     | 0.11           | 0.28 | 14.1                        |
| Kismayu IDPs (L. Juba)      | 11.8    | 1.8     | 0.29           | 1.01 | 21.5                        |

Source: FSNAU

The nutrition situation among Bosaaso IDPs (Bari) and Kismayo IDPs (Lower Juba) has shown a statistically significant deterioration compared to last year (November 2018). This may reflect widening food consumption gaps, in light of low income and declining humanitarian food assistance levels in some settlements, as well as increased morbidity among Kismayo IDPs.

In November, morbidity among children was high ( $\geq 20\%$ ) in 13 out of 22 population groups surveyed, with the highest prevalence reported among Galkacyo IDPs (37.8%), Dhusamareb IDPs (34%) and Mogadishu IDPs (31.5%), followed by Galkacyo urban (30.8 %), Garowe IDPs (30%) and Hargeisa IDPs (29.9 %). Low morbidity ( $< 5\%$ ) was seen in some populations groups, including Lasaanood IDPs (4.1%); Dolow IDPs (3.9 %); Burao IDPs (3.6%); and Burao Urban (2.7 %).

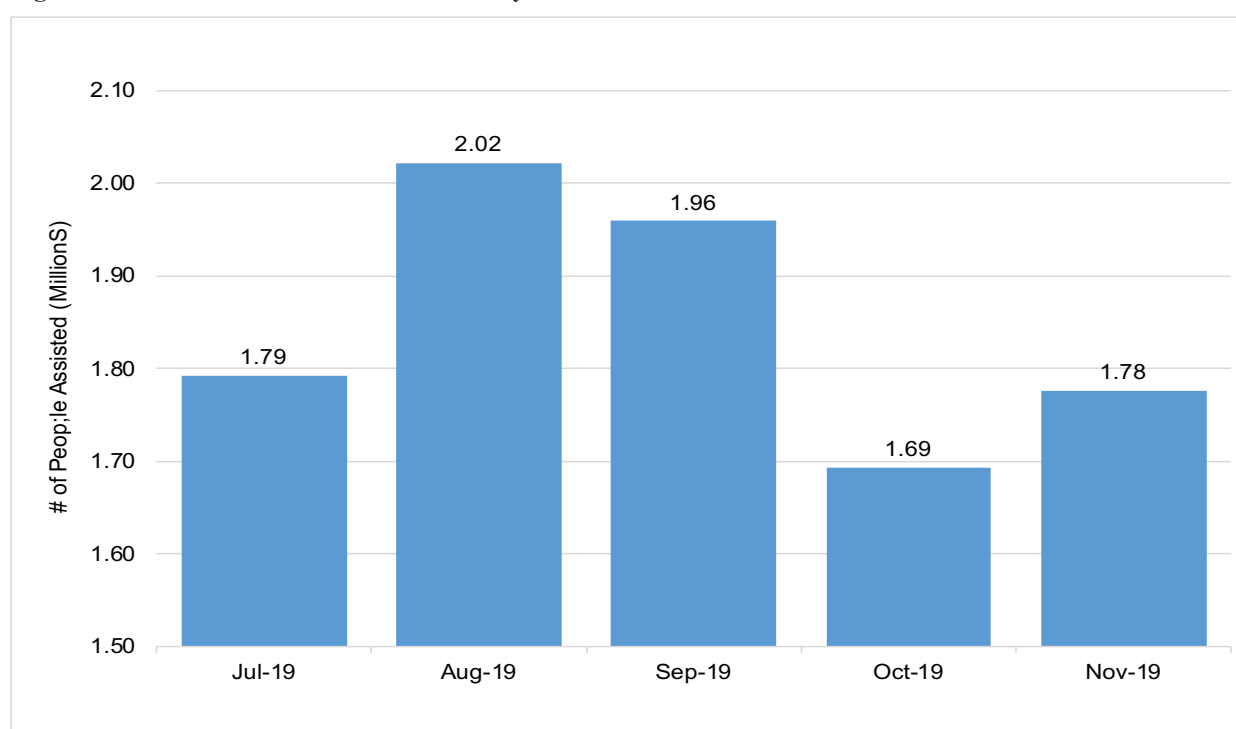
The Crude Death Rate (CDR) and Under-Five Death Rate (U5DR) were relatively low in most of the population groups surveyed.

The widespread acute malnutrition situation across most of the IDP settlements calls for sustained humanitarian interventions in the form of integrated nutrition as well as nutrition sensitive programming.

## HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

Between July and November 2019, there has been sustained large scale food assistance reaching between 1.7 million to 2 million people every month. This level of assistance is likely preventing worse food security outcomes in many areas, mostly in northern and central regions where food assistance is reaching at least 25 percent of the total population.

**Figure 8: Food/Cash Assistance Between July to November 2019**



Source: Somalia Food Security Cluster

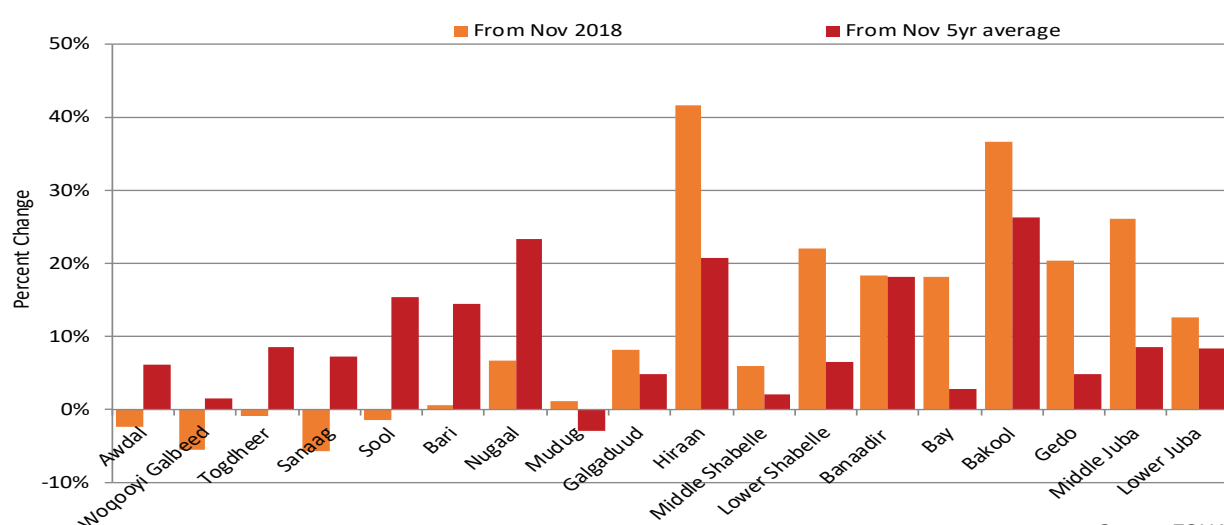
Similar levels of assistance are expected to continue through December 2019, based on Food Security Cluster operational plans.

## URBAN

Urban households, including Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) who live in large urban settlements, mostly rely on purchases from the market to access food. Among poor urban households, including IDPs, who typically spend a large proportion of their income on food, heavy reliance on market purchases makes them vulnerable to increases in food prices. The vulnerability of poor urban households in Somalia is measured through changes in the cost of the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) and their purchasing power as measured by the terms of trade (ToT) between the daily labor wage (the main source of income among poor households) and staple food prices.

The MEB in November 2019 indicates increases in most southern regions compared to last year (November 2018) and the five-year average for 2014-2018. In central and northern regions the MEB mostly showed either a stable trend or moderate or slight to moderate changes (less than  $\pm 10\%$ ) in November 2019 compared to the five-year average. However, MEB was slightly lower compared to last year in most of the northern regions (Figure 9).

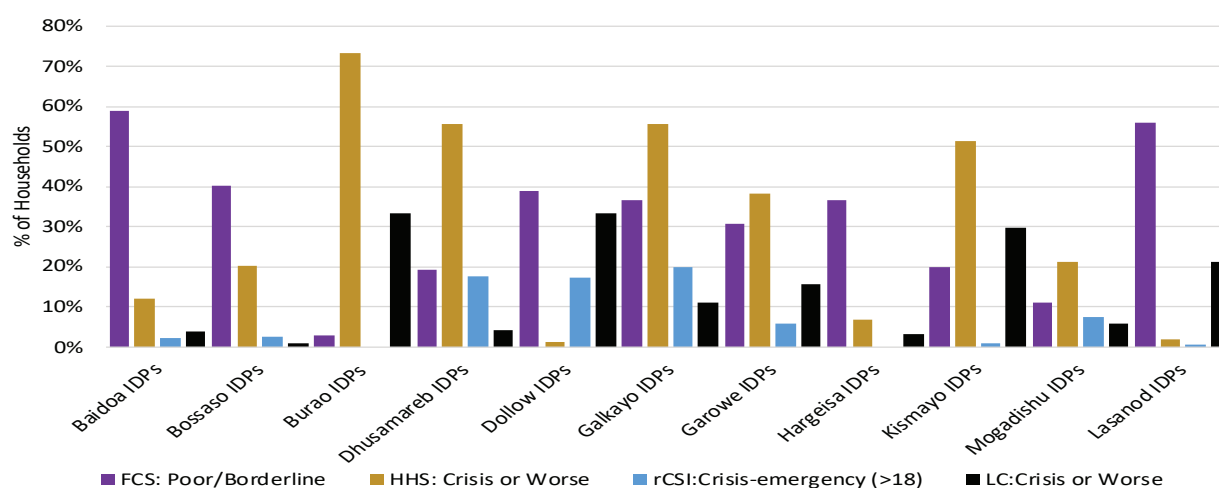
**Figure 9: Regional Trends in the Cost of the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB)**



Source FSNAU

In November 2019, local cereal prices (maize/sorghum), increased in all southern regions both compared to November 2018 and the five-year average. Prices of imported food items indicate a stable trend and/or slight decline in most northern and central regions consistent with normal seasonal patterns. However, the prices of these items depicted mild to moderate increase in most northern/central regions, compared to five-year averages.

**Figure 10: 2019 IDP Integrated Assessment Outcome Indicators**

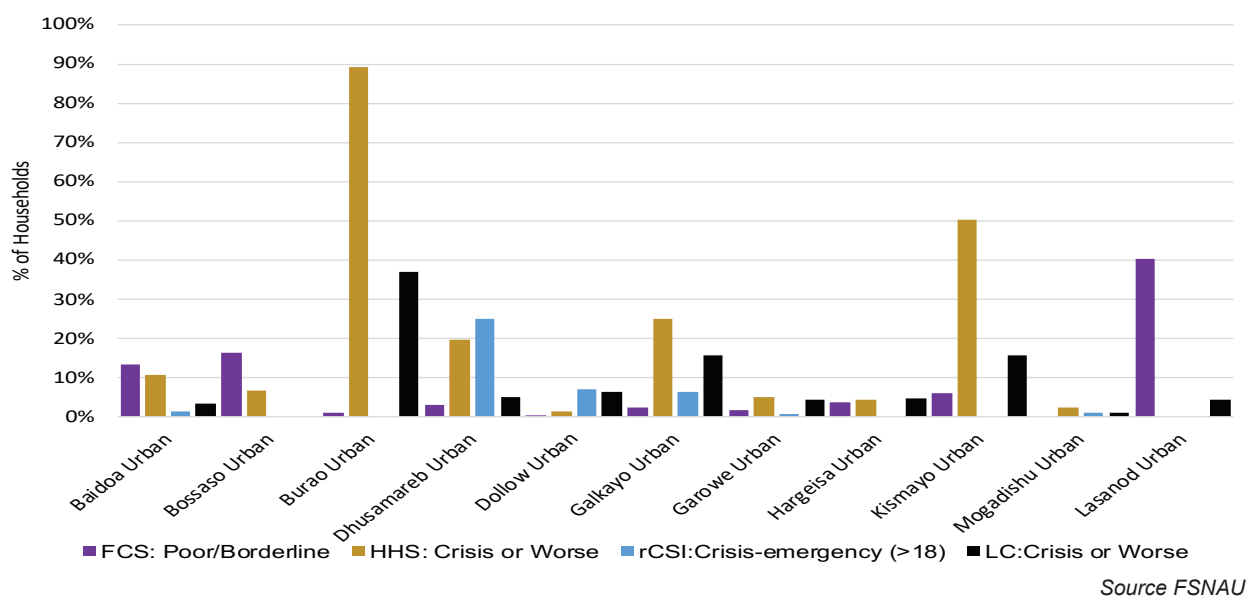


Source FSNAU

Casual labor employment constitutes an important source of income among poor urban households. In November 2019, daily labor wage increased in most southern regions. This is ascribed to improved agricultural employment opportunities in the surrounding rural areas which in turn put upward pressure on wage rates. Exceptions are Hiiraan (Beletweyne), Lower Juba and Gedo regions, where labor wages exhibited mild to moderate decreases (3-16%) in both comparison periods, due to the disruptive effects of river floods and consequent displacement.

Wage rates either remained stable or increased in all northern and central regions compared to November 2018, except in Mudug region, where labor wages declined slightly by 5 percent. Labor wages in November 2019 are also significantly higher in all northern and central regions compared to the five-year average. Accordingly, the terms of trade between the casual labor wage rate and staple food (cereal) prices indicates a stable situation or mild to moderate increase (1-4kg of cereals/daily wage) in most central and northern regions of the country in both comparison periods.

**Figure 11: 2019 Urban Integrated Assessment Outcome Indicators**



In November 2019, FSNAU conducted the post-Deyr season integrated food security and nutrition assessment across Somalia covering 22 urban and Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) population groups. The results indicate that significant proportions of IDP households had Poor or Borderline Food Consumption Score (FCS), moderate to severe hunger (Crisis or worse Household Hunger Scale-HHS), use crisis or emergency consumption based and livelihood coping strategies (Figure 10 and 11). Accordingly, most of the main IDP settlements are classified as Crisis (IPC Phase 3) with the exception of IDPs in Hargeisa (Woqooyi Galbeed), which has been classified as Stressed (IPC 2). Given the level of destitution among IDPs and their limited livelihood options, their food security situation is unlikely to improve significantly during the projection period (February-June 2020). The assessments results also show that urban populations in Burao (Toghdeer), Galkayo (Mudug), Dhusamareb (Galgadud) and Kismayo (Lower Juba) are currently facing food consumption gaps and are classified as Crisis (IPC Phase 3). With the prospect of improved food security in rural areas, this is expected have spillover effects in urban areas, leading to improvements in purchasing power and improved food access among urban households, especially the poor. As a result, food security outcomes are likely to improve from Crisis (IPC Phase 3) to Stressed (IPC Phase 2) in Galkayo (Mudug) and Dhusamareb (Galgadud) between February and June 2020.

In urban Beletweyne, where floods have disrupted livelihoods and caused large population displacement, significant humanitarian assistance is currently preventing targeted households to meet minimally adequate food consumption requirements. Therefore urban Beletweyne is currently classified as Stressed (IPC Phase 2) when considering the positive impact of humanitarian assistance Food security outcomes are expected to deteriorate to Crisis (IPC Phase 3) between December 2019 and June 2022 as they will be facing food consumption gasps that they will not be able to reduce without continued humanitarian assistance.

## Northern regions

Delayed and below-average Gu season rainfall adversely affected crop production in agropastoral livelihoods of northwest Somalia (W. Galbeed, Awdal and Togdheer regions). However, intensified Karan rains in August and September have improved the 2019 Gu/Karan harvest prospects in the region despite some damage to maturing crops from excessive rainfall. As a result, FSNAU estimates that the 2019 Gu/Karan cereal harvest in northwest Somalia which is expected to be harvested in December 2019 could reach up to 30 000 tons (including early planted sorghum that has already been harvested in August in Togdheer region). Grass fodder production in most parts of the agro pastoral livelihood zone in Togdheer is average.

Consecutive good rainfall during the Karan and *Deyr* rains between September and November significantly improved pasture, browse and water condition in most of the northern regions. This has in turn improved livestock body condition (PET Score 3-4), livestock births and milk production with a positive impact on food access among pastoral households.

Improved livestock performance and Gu/Karan harvest prospects are also contributing to improved food security outcomes in Northwest Agropastoral livelihood zone. In the adjacent Togdheer Agropastoral livelihood zone, where there has been limited fodder production and crop planting during the *Deyr* season, the near-average Gu season sorghum harvest collected in August has been exhausted and due to seasonally low livestock export demand, income from labor and self-employment activities among poor households have also declined. As a result, poor households in this livelihood are currently facing food consumption gaps.

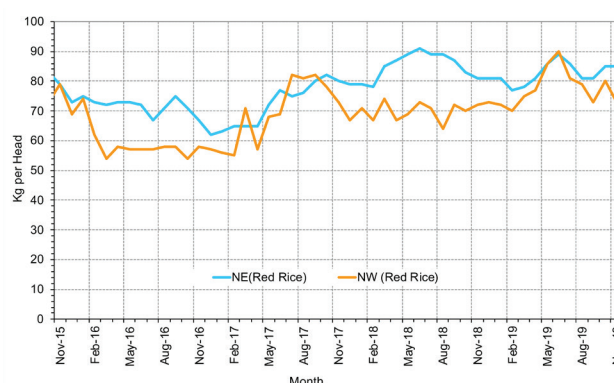
Medium goat kidding has taken place in October in most northern livelihoods with the exception of Coastal Deeh Pastoral of northeast where goat kidding is low due to low conception during the 2019 Gu (April-June) season because of poor pasture. Medium sheep lambing is observed in parts of northern pastoral livelihoods due to favorable Gu season rainfall followed by a mild dry Hagaa (July-September) season. Low to medium camel calving is expected in most livelihoods of the north in December.

Milk production for consumption and sales improved in the north following medium kidding/calving in October and continued lactation among camels that gave birth during the preceding Gu season. As a result of the increase in supply, the price of camel milk declined in most of the main markets in northern regions of the country. For instance, the price of fresh camel milk declined in W. Galbeed (14%), Nugaal (23%), Sanaag (29%), Togdheer (30%) and Sool (33%) regions compared to the five year averages. Further price decline in camel milk is likely as more camels give birth in December 2019 and January 2020.

The ToT between goat and rice, on average, is 85 kg/head in the Northeast and 73kg/head in the Northwest in November 2019. Compared to November 5-year average, the TOT showed mild increase in both the northeast (10%) and the northwest (6%).

Livestock holdings are improving in most of the livelihood zones, although herd sizes remain below baseline levels among poor households in parts of East Golis Pastoral and Northern Inland Pastoral livelihood zones, who still do not have enough saleable animals to cover their food consumption requirements.

**Figure 12: Regional Trend in Terms of Trade: Goat to Cereal (North)**



*Good Pasture/Browse and Body condition (NIP) - Sool region- Eynabo district- FSNAU – November 2019*

Based on the above factors, most rural livelihood zones in northern Somalia are currently classified as Stressed (IPC 2). However, Guban Pastoral, Toghdeer Agropastoral and East Golis Pastoral and Northern Inland Pastoral of Lasqoray district in Sanaag region are classified as Crisis (IPC Phase 3). In some of these areas, sustained humanitarian assistance is preventing worse food security outcomes. In the absence of humanitarian assistance, East Golis Pastoral and Northern Inland Pastoral livelihood of Sanaag is expected to deteriorate to Crisis (IPC Phase 3) between December 2019 and June 2020.

## Central regions

Following poor to below-average 2019 Gu season rainfall, water and pasture conditions in most of the rural livelihoods of central Somalia (Coastal Deeh, Addun, Hawd and Cowpea Belt) have fully recovered due to enhanced rainfall during the current 2019 *Deyr* season. As a result, livestock body conditions have improved (PET score 3-4), with the exception of lactating camels which currently have below-average to near-average body condition (PET score 2-3) but are expected to continue to improve through the end of the year. Livestock migration remained normal within the traditional grazing zones.

However, widespread desert locust infestations (swarms and hoppers) have been reported in several pastoral livelihoods of central regions, causing some damage to pasture and browse. Thus far, the benefits of average to above average *Deyr* rainfall on pasture and browse outweigh the damages caused by desert locusts. However, desert locust infestations in central regions could get worse due to prevailing favorable conditions and could cause significant damage to pasture and crops, potentially leading to significant crop losses (cowpea in Cowpea Belt Agropastoral livelihood) and earlier than normal depletion of pasture and browse (i.e. during the dry Jilaal season that spans from January to March 2020).

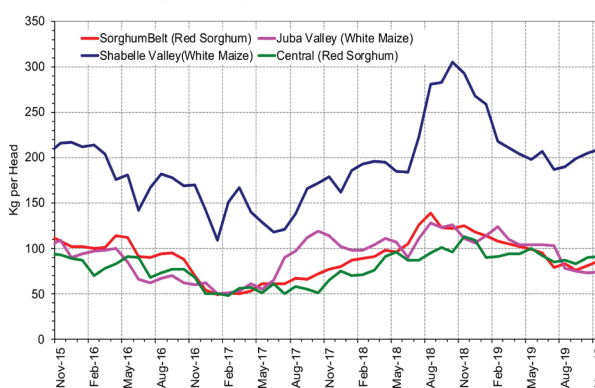
Due to consecutive seasons of below-average rainfall and associated low conception levels during the preceding 2018 *Deyr* and the 2019 Gu seasons, sheep and goat kidding/lambing in November 2019 was minimal to low in Hawd Pastoral, Addun Pastoral, Coastal Deeh Pastoral and Fishing and Cowpea Belt Agropastoral livelihood zones. Similarly, camel calving is low across central regions due to low conception during the 2018 *Deyr* season. However, camel milk availability improved slightly due to the expansion of dairy farms owned by urban wealthier groups and increased milk yield from the limited camels that gave birth during the current *Deyr*. As a result of increased supply, the price of fresh camel milk declined by 36 percent in November 2019 compared to the five-year average (2014-2018); while goat milk availability for sale and consumption among poor households remains limited and low. In addition, livestock holding among poor households is well below baseline due to the cumulative impact of livestock deaths and increased off-take since 2017.

In Cowpea Belt Agropastoral livelihood zone where the 2019 *Deyr* rains in October and November were average to above average and well distributed, cowpea crops are performing well and expected production is likely to be average to above average in most districts. Sorghum is also performing well during the current *Deyr* growing season, although sorghum is a marginal crop for the Cowpea Belt livelihood zone. An average to above average cowpea harvest could cover the food needs of poor households for up to 3-4 months.

The ToT between local quality goat and cereals (rice) in central regions in November 2019) was 64 kg/head, which represents a 12 percent increase compared to the five-year average. The improved ToT mostly reflect the increase in the price of a local quality goat, caused by reduced supply of saleable animals (given limited household asset holdings) and improved livestock body conditions. Compared to November 2018, the ToT declined mildly (by 9%) from 70kg/head to 64 kg/head.

As a result, households in Addun Pastoral, Coastal Deeh Pastoral and Fishing, and Cowpea Belt Agropastoral have food consumption gaps and are currently classified as Crisis (IPC Phase 3). These households are experiencing a combination of reduced access to milk, limited availability of sellable animals and limited availability of cowpea crops, which are not yet ready for the harvest. In Hawd Pastoral livelihood zone, which has also been affected by similar

**Figure 13: Regional Trend in Terms of Trade: Cereal to Goat (Central)**



factors, sustained humanitarian assistance is preventing worse food security outcomes and it is currently classified as Stressed (IPC Phase 2).

With the expected arrival of a likely average to above average cowpea harvest in January, likely improvements in milk availability and access, and projected average 2020 Gu season, food security outcomes are likely to improve from Crisis (IPC Phase 3) to Stressed (IPC Phase 2) in Coastal Deeh Pastoral and Fishing and Cowpea Belt Agropastoral livelihood zones in the February to June 2020 projection period. In Addun Pastoral, Crisis (IPC Phase 3) is expected to persist until livestock holdings (herd sizes) among poor households improve, which is likely to occur only by mid-2020 or later in the year.



*Light to moderate damage to pasture and browse from Desert Locust infestation - Central Region - FSNAU - November 2019*

## Southern Regions

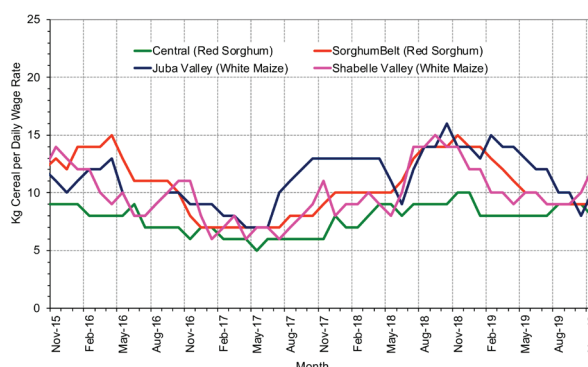
The overall rainfall performance of the 2019 *Deyr* season rainfall was average to above average in southern Somalia in terms of amount and distribution, with a mostly positive impact on crop production prospects in agropastoral areas. However, excessive rainfall has also caused flash floods and river floods in riverine livelihoods and some agropastoral livelihoods of southern Somalia. As a result, crop production during the current 2019 *Deyr* season cereal harvest will range from average to below average across agropastoral areas, of southern Somalia, resulting in moderately below-average aggregate cereal production

Heavy floods resulted in crop losses and led to the internal displacement of 547 000 people in the affected regions (in Beledweyne of Hiiraan, Berdaale of Bay region, Baardhere of Gedo, Jammame of Lower Juba). Floods destroyed standing crops, disrupted market access and led to food prices increases. Flooding has also increased the risk of outbreak of water-borne diseases such as AWD/Cholera. In Lower Shabelle, which is a major maize producing area in southern Somalia, maize cultivation (area planted) during the current *Deyr* season is below average to near average due to flooding along the Shabelle River. Improved weather conditions and soil moisture are expected to increase yield per unit area. However, this is not enough to offset the reduction in area planted. As a result, approximately 15- 20 percent decline in *Deyr* season cereal production is expected in Lower Shabelle region compare to the long-term average. The decline in area planted with maize is mostly evident in Marka, Kurtunwarey Afgooye, and part of agro-pastoral livelihood in Qoryooley district. On the other hand, maize harvest is likely to be average in the riverine livelihood of Qoryooley and Sablale. An average sorghum harvest is likely in Sorghum High-Potential Agropastoral livelihood of Wanla-weyn district, which is among the areas that received above average rain within the Shabelle Valley during the current *Deyr* season.

Favorable weather conditions have also contributed to increased cultivation and planting of sesame crop during the current *Deyr* season. This is expected to continue through January 2020 as sesame crop requires less water and can grow on residual moisture in the soil.

In Bay region, which is a major sorghum producing area, crop planting started on time owing to the early *Deyr* rains and crops are at different stages of development. The improved soil moisture has encouraged early planting and expansion of cultivated areas. However, torrential heavy rains in October and November 2019 caused waterlogging and flash floods, which damaged standing crops and submerged cropped areas in some parts of Baydhabo, Dinsor, and Qansaxdhere districts. An estimated 12 030 hectares of cropped land in Bay region is affected by the flash floods. In most of the flood affected areas, the damage to planted crops is slight to moderate. However, in some of the cropped

**Figure 14: Regional Trend in Terms of Trade: Labour to Cereals (South)**



land, flood has caused significant to total damage. At a regional level, some of the damage caused by flash floods is expected to be off-set by an expected increase in crop yields. Consequently, overall, 2019 *Deyr* season cereal production in Bay region is likely to be slightly below average to near average. In the neighboring Bakool region, approximately 2 000 hectares of cropped land was affected by flash floods but the overall cereal 2019 *Deyr* season harvest in the region is likely to be slightly below average to near average due to likely improvements in crop yields.



*Floods in Mahday, Middle Shabelle. FSNAU, November 2019*

In Hiiraan, Middle Shabelle and Juba regions where river floods caused significant damages to crops, overall cereal crop production during the current *Deyr* season is expected to be below average in riverine livelihood zones of these regions. Floods in late October in the riverine livelihood Beletweyn destroyed about 5 000 hectares of standing crops in addition to damages to agricultural infrastructure (canals and culverts). Floods in Middle Shabelle region have also damaged approximately 8 000 hectares of maize and 2 000 hectares of sesame. Prospects for 2019 *Deyr* main season cereal production in Juba regions will be below average due to river floods and heavy downpours that disrupted seasonal land preparation and planting activities. In Gedo region, heavy rains in early October affected both riverine and agro pastoral livelihoods of Bardhere district, destroying standing crops and forcing farmers to replant particularly in the Sorghum High-Potential livelihood zone. River and flash floods have reduced *Deyr* season crop harvest prospects in the above-mentioned regions. Nevertheless, as flood waters recede, significant off-season crop cultivation in desheks and currently flooded agriculture lands, will likely improve cereal production by March-April 2020.

Poor households in most rural livelihoods in southern Somalia currently have no cereal stocks of their own and are dependent on market purchase. Local cereals are available in most markets due to recent 2019 Gu off-season harvests (September 2019). As a result, cereal price increases were mostly mild to moderate (3-23%) in November although there has been declines in some regions (11% in Lower Juba and 1% in Bay). As wealthier rural households and traders release more of their cereal stocks into the market as the *Deyr* season crop harvest approaches, cereal prices in southern Somalia will likely decline through the first quarter of 2020, .

The food security situation of poor households in most of the pastoral, agropastoral and riverine livelihoods in Lower Shabelle and Gedo region in southern Somalia is expected to improve. Poor households in most riverine/ agro-pastoral areas of southern regions have already exhausted their cereal stocks. The exceptions are poor households in major cereal producing regions of Lower Shabelle and Bay where some cereal stocks were available in November. However, good seasonal performance of the current *Deyr* rains and improved access to agriculture inputs, including humanitarian/ livelihood assistance in the form of seeds and tractor hours have created employment opportunities and boosted income among poor households in most agropastoral livelihoods of southern Somalia.

In pastoral livelihoods of southern Somalia, the 2019 *Deyr* rains have improved pasture conditions, replenished water catchments and contributed to improved livestock body conditions (PET score of 3-4). Consequently, livestock migration is mostly confined to normal wet-season grazing areas. Milk availability for household consumption and sale has greatly improved due to medium calving and kidding for cattle, sheep and goat since October, as well as improved milk yield among camels. From November onwards, more camel calving is expected, and this will further improve milk availability and access. Kidding/lambing of small ruminants is expected in late February/early March 2020, while cattle calving expected in June 2020. Hence, livestock herd size, particularly small ruminants, will likely reach baseline or above baseline levels in most pastoral and agro pastoral livelihoods in south by the end of the current *Deyr* season. Poor households in riverine livelihoods of southern Somalia had limited agricultural employment opportunities to earn a living. They are also expected to face an extended lean season due to anticipated delays in the 2019 *Deyr* season cereal harvest (i.e. off-season harvest in March/April 2020).

The highest ToT of cereals against the daily labor wage was recorded in Middle Shabelle (13kg) followed by Lower Shabelle (12kg), while the lowest ToT was in Bakool (6kg) as of November 2019. Annual comparison and comparisons with the five-year average indicate significant deterioration in the labor to cereals ToT in most of the southern regions. The ToT between local quality goat and cereal price showed mild to moderate increases across most parts of Somalia.

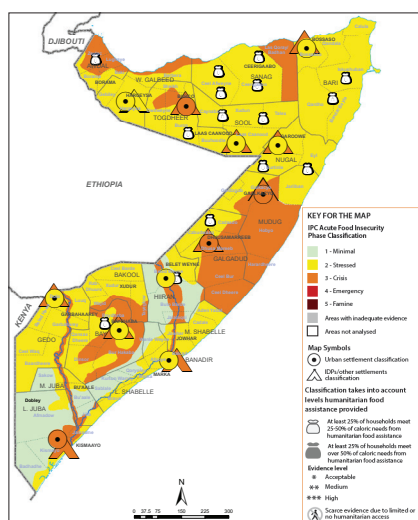
In November 2019, the lowest ToT was recorded in Hiiraan region (59kg/goat); while the highest ToTs were recorded in Lower Shabelle (217kg/goat) and Middle Shabelle (200kg/goat). Annual comparisons show deteriorated ToTs between local quality goat and local cereals in Bay (45%), Middle Juba (37%), Hiiraan and Lower Juba (32%), Gedo (31%), Lower Shabelle (30%) and Middle Shabelle (28%) regions due to low livestock prices and higher cereal prices. Similarly, TOT between local quality goats to cereal in November 2019 is lower compared to the five-year average (2014-2018) in most of the southern regions.

Improved access to milk, near to above baseline herd sizes that enable poor households to sell more livestock to meet consumption requirements and increased agricultural employment opportunities, access to wild foods and green harvest contribute to improved access to food in most parts of southern Somalia. Further improvements are expected in the lead up to and following the arrival of the 2019 *Deyr* cereal harvest in January 2020.

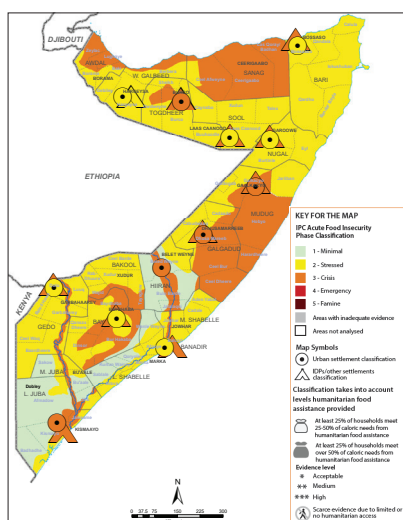
Based on the above factors, most pastoral and agropastoral livelihoods of southern Somalia are currently classified as Minimal (IPC Phase 1) or Stressed (IPC Phase 2), with the exception of riverine livelihoods in Hiiraan, Middle Shabelle, Gedo and Juba regions and Bay-Bakool Low Potential Agropastoral which are classified as Crisis (IPC Phase 3). These classifications are expected to persist through mid-2020. However, food security outcomes are expected to improve from Crisis (IPC Phase 3) to Stressed (IPC Phase 2) in Gedo riverine areas and Bay-Bakool Low Potential Agropastoral with the arrival of the *Deyr* harvest between January and March/April 2020.

### Somalia Acute Food Insecurity Situation Overview

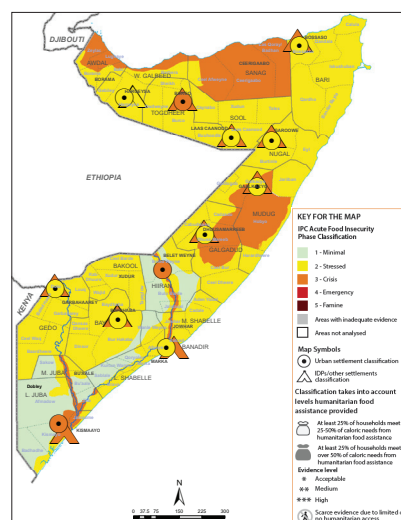
**Map 4: Current food security outcomes, November 2019**



**Map 5: Projected food security outcomes, December 2019-January 2020**



**Map 6: Projected food security outcomes, February-June 2020**



**Source: FSNAU and FEWS NET**

The above FSNAU and FEWS NET classification is **IPC-compatible**. **IPC-compatible** analysis follows key IPC protocols but does not necessarily reflect the consensus of national food security partners.

#### Recent publications and releases

- *FSNAU Climate Update, November 2019*
- *FSNAU Market Update, November 2019*
- *Somalia Food Security Outlook, October 2019-May 2020*

**NOTE:** The above publications and releases are available on the FSNAU website: [www.fsnau.org](http://www.fsnau.org)