

Highlights

January to March is a typically dry Jilaal season across most parts of Somalia. In the months of January and February 2022, harsh and drier than normal weather conditions prevailed throughout the country. Based on data obtained from rain gauge readings at meteorological stations across Somalia, only two stations recorded some rainfall in January (Erigavo – 31mm in the second dekad & Jowhar – 18mm in the first dekad) - see table 1. No rainfall was recorded across all the meteorological station in the country during the month of February.

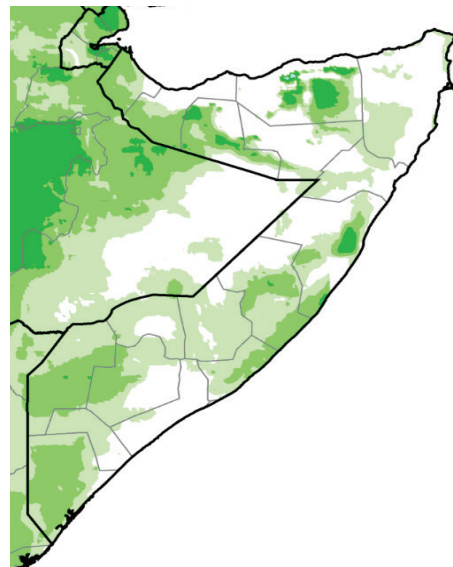
Some light rain showers were received in southern and central and some northern parts of the country between 1 and 20 March 2022 – see Map 1. Further localized rainfall is expected through 5 April (Map 2).

However, cumulative rainfall amounts, including forecast through 5 April are expected to remain low (less than 25 mm) in areas that receive rainfall with most northern and adjacent regions expected to remain dry.

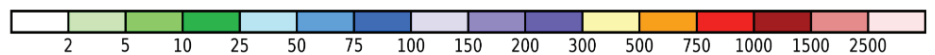
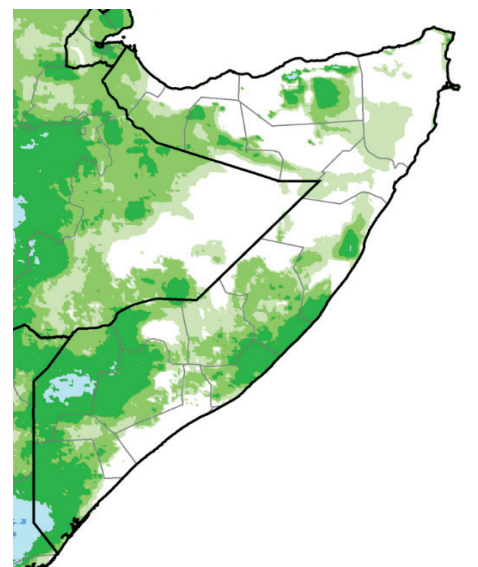
Cumulatively, total rainfall amounts from 1 March through 5 April 2022, including forecasts from 21 March to 5 April 2022, are expected to remain below average in most parts of the country. Rainfall deficits through 5 April are expected to range from 10 to 50 mm (Maps 3 and 4). This underscores continuation of ongoing drought conditions at least through early April. Research by University of California Santa Barbara Climate Hazard Center indicate increased risk of a fourth below average March to May rainy season in Somalia and adjacent regions of neighboring countries in the Horn of Africa.

Vegetation cover measured through the Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) remained poor through the second dekad of March 2022 in most parts of central and southern Somalia, reflecting the extended impact of the ongoing drought (see Map 5 to Map 7).

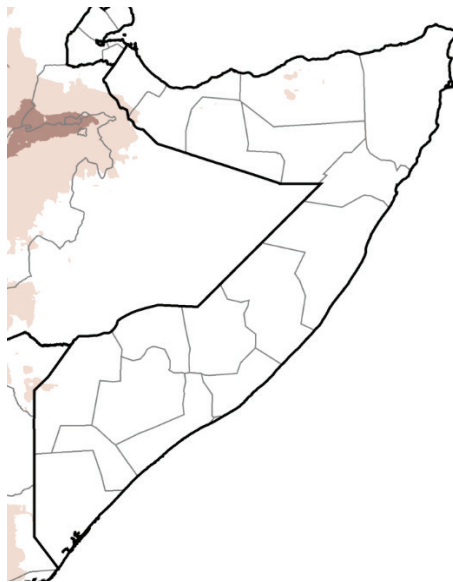
Map 1: Rainfall Total (mm): 1 Mar to 20 Mar 2022



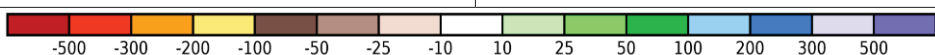
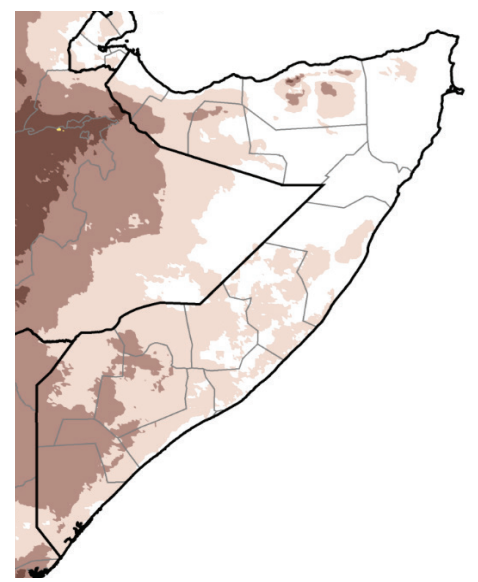
Map 2: Rainfall Total (mm): 1 Mar to 5 Apr 2022
(includes forecast data for 21 Mar-5 Apr)



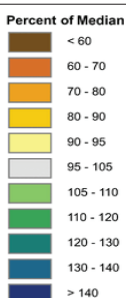
Map 3: Rainfall Anomaly (mm): 1 Mar to 20 Mar



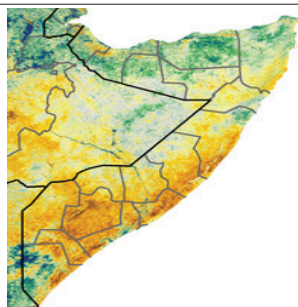
Map 4: Rainfall Anomaly (mm): Mar to 5 Apr 2022
(includes forecast data for 21 Mar-5 Apr)



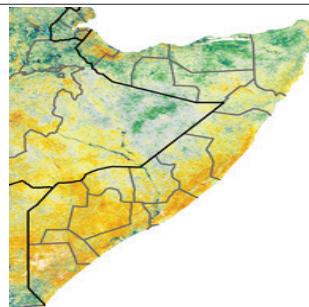
Legend for NDVI Maps
5-7



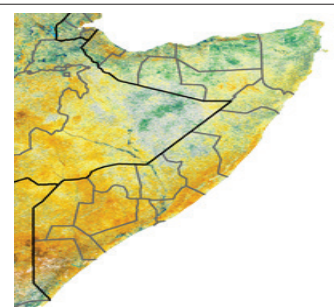
Map 5: NDVI Percent of Median: 11-20 Jan 2022



Map 6: NDVI Percent of Median: 11-20 Feb 2022



Map 7: NDVI Percent of Median: 11-20 Mar 2022



Severe water shortage, and increased reliance and use of water trucking were reported throughout January, February and mid-March 2022 in parts of northern and central regions with increased water prices for livestock and human consumption.

Water prices were significantly higher in both January and February 2022 compared to five-year averages for January and February (2017-2021) in most parts of northwest (5-20%), most parts of northeast – Bari and Nugaal (36-184%), in central regions - Mudug (33-41%), and in parts of southern Somalia: Shabelle (4-5%), Bakool (45-50%), Bay (26-34%), and Middle Juba (80% in January but 5% in February due to installation of hand-pump water wells). Moreover, water prices in remote areas are much higher than water prices near main towns and urban areas where there are permanent water sources.

Due to scarce pasture and water resources throughout the country, livestock body conditions have continued to deteriorate as drought conditions worsen. In northeastern and central regions, livestock body conditions are typically poor. Drought related livestock deaths are increasing in many parts of the country and have been reported in East Golis Pastoral, Northern Inland Pastoral, Hawd Pastoral, Addun Pastoral, Southern Inland Pastoral of Hiraan and Bakool, Coastal Deeh Pastoral, including in agropastoral and pastoral livelihood zones in southern Somalia.

Increased indebtedness and rising levels of debt are reported among poor pastoral households in northern and central regions due to increased costs associated with livestock feed, water and migration in search of water and pasture. Destitution and drought related displacement is also reported in drought affected areas of northern, central and southern Somalia.

Poor households in Agropastoral who have sustained widespread crop losses and harvest failure as well as loss of income from agricultural employment during the 2021 Deyr cropping season are experiencing worsening food insecurity as their food stocks have been depleted and they face rising food prices in the market.

With little to no rainfall expected through the first week of April, drought conditions are expected to continue with further adverse impacts on rural livelihoods.

The Juba and Shabelle Rivers are currently experiencing a Hydrological drought which has led not only TO reduced flow but also resulted in significant changes in water quality. River levels have declined to record low levels not observed since the severe drought period of early 2017. The lower reaches of the Shabelle River have already dried up and dry river beds can be observed. Shabelle and Juba river levels are expected to remain low until the establishment of the 2022 Gu season rainfall around mid to late April.

Observed rain gauge data compared to Short Term Averages - STA (January 2022 and February 2022)

Northern regions					
Region	Station Name	Jan 2022	Jan STA	Feb 2022	Feb STA
Awdal	Borama	0.0	4.1	0.0	21.0
Awdal	Qulenjeed	0.0	5.1	0.0	21.0
Wogooyi Galbeed	Gebilley	0.0	1.2	0.0	4.8
Wogooyi Galbeed	Malawle	0.0	1.9	0.0	10.0
Wogooyi Galbeed	Wajaale	0.0	1.0	0.0	3.8
Wogooyi Galbeed	Hargeisa	0.0	2.3	0.0	11.8
Wogooyi Galbeed	Daraweyne	0.0	3.3	0.0	13.8
Wogooyi Galbeed	Cadaadley	0.0	3.9	0.0	13.9
Wogooyi Galbeed	Dilla	0.0	2.3	0.0	10.5
Wogooyi Galbeed	Aburin	0.0	1.4	0.0	7.6
Wogooyi Galbeed	Dhubato	0.0	3.7	0.0	13.9
Wogooyi Galbeed	Baligubable	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.0
Wogooyi Galbeed	Berbera	0.0	6.0	0.0	0.0
Togdheer	Burao	0.0	2.0	0.0	3.5
Togdheer	Sheikh	0.0	5.0	0.0	12.9
Togdheer	Odweyne	0.0	2.2	0.0	10.5
Togdheer	Buadodde	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4
Sanaag	Eerigavo	31.0	9.9	0.0	8.0
Sanaag	Elafweyn	0.0	7.1	0.0	6.0
Sool	Caynabo	0.0	1.3	0.0	0.0
Sool	xudun	0.0	3.1	0.0	3.0
Sool	Taleex	0.0	1.4	0.0	1.8
Sool	Las Aanod	0.0	1.1	0.0	1.1
Bari	Bossasso	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bari	Qardo	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9
Bari	Dangoroyo	0.0	1.3	0.0	2.5
Bari	Ballidhin	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0
Bari	Alula	0.0	1.6	0.0	0.1
Bari	Bandarbeyla	0.0	4.8	0.0	2.2
Bari	Iskushuban	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0
Nugaal	Garowe	0.0	1.5	0.0	2.4
Nugaal	Eyl	0.0	5.0	0.0	5.0
Nugaal	Burtinle	0.0	0.8	0.0	1.2
Mudug	Galdogob	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mudug	Jarriban	0.0	4.4	0.0	2.8
Mudug	Galkayo	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0

Southern regions					
Region	Station Name	Jan 2022	STA	Feb 2022	STA
Bakool	Hudur	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bakool	Elbarde	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bay	Baidoa	0.0	3.0	0.0	3.0
Bay	Diinsor	0.0	3.0	0.0	0.0
Bay	Bardaale	0.0	3.1	0.0	1.4
Bay	BurHakaba	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.0
Gedo	Luuq	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.9
Gedo	Bardheere	0.0	3.0	0.0	5.9
Hiraan	Belet weyne	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hiraan	Bulo burti	0.0	0.7	0.0	3.0
Hiraan	Mataban	0.0	5.6	0.0	0.2
Lower Shabelle	Wanleweyne	0.0	11.0	0.0	4.7
Banadir	Mogadishu	0.0	0.1	0.0	1.9
Middle juba	Bualle	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.0
Middle Shabelle	Jowhar	18.0	0.0	0.0	0.5
Lower Juba	Jamame	0.0	0.7	0.0	1.1

Data source: FAO SWALIM

Source of satellite Images used in this analysis are the Climate Hazard Center at the University of California Santa Barbara (for rainfall) and FEWS NET (for NDVI).