

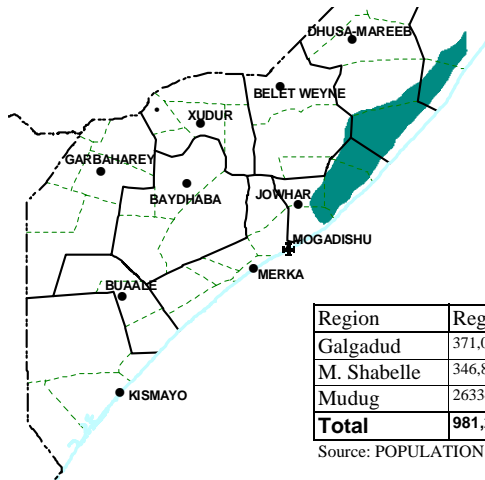
# LIVELIHOOD BASELINE PROFILE



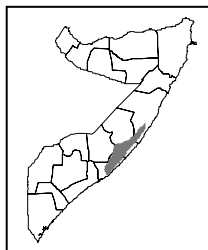
## Central Agro-Pastoral Cowpea, Shoats, Camels and Cattle



### Map of Livelihood Zone & Population Figures



More Information Available:  
Lack of space restricts this profile to just some of the details on this baseline. FSAU has further information available on request; contact [fsauinfo@fsau.or.ke](mailto:fsauinfo@fsau.or.ke).



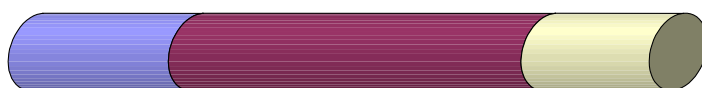
Source: POPULATION; UNDOS, 1998

### Description of LZ

- The cowpea belt covers six districts in three regions of central Somalia - Hobyo and Harardere in Mudug; Ceel Bur /Galhareeri and Ceel Der in Galgadud; and Adan Yabal and Cadale/Warshikh in Middle Shabelle region.
- The LZ is mainly livestock-dependent and is classified among the Agro-pastoral (livestock) food economy groups.
- Livestock reared are mainly camels and goats with cattle and sheep being less dominant.
- Modal farm sizes range between 3 and 4 Ha. Shifting cultivation is practiced with farms abandoned after 3 years and only returned to after 30-35 years. Therefore, large tracts of land are constantly cleared and fencing is very thick causing serious loss of vegetation. Farm families are estimated to have increased 100% - 120% since 1991 due to influx of people originally from other regions of Somalia as a result of the civil war.
- Cowpea is the major crop grown in both *Gu* and *Deyr* seasons. Sorghum cultivation is rare but happens mainly in the *Deyr* season because it is more resistant to water stress. The two crops are often intercropped with watermelon.
- Main income source is livestock, especially goat. Main food sources are livestock products, purchase and cowpea.
- Seasonal livestock movement is practised and the main determinants are pasture, water and livestock pests.
- The poor agro-pastoralists are most vulnerable since their herd sizes are small and the cowpea crop is unreliable.
- Water is mainly from private *berkads* and boreholes. Boreholes are rare and the *Jilaal* season is a time of chronic water scarcity in the inland areas and livestock trek long distances for water. Body condition reduces and prices plummet.
- The cowpea belt is surrounded by sheep pastoralists on the coastal side and camel and shoat pastoralists to the west. There is little interaction with the sheep pastoralists but more with the camel and shoat pastoralists.
- The seasonality of sea trade and livestock demand from Saudi Arabia is important. Cattle and camel are exported to Yemen. Northern areas are more economically integrated with Bosasso, southern areas with Mogadishu.

### Wealth Breakdown

Wealth is measured by herd size.



Poor  
20-30%

Middle  
50-60%

Better off  
15-25%

### Wealth Group Characteristic

Poor	Middle	Better off
HH size 7-8	HH size 7-8	HH size 7-8
20-40 shoats	50-70 shoats	80-150 shoats
1-5 camels	5-15 camels	20-40 camels
0-3 cattle	3-5 cattle	5-10 cattle
1-2 hectares of land	3-4 hectares of land	1.5-2.5 hectares of land
Income: \$293 per year	Income: \$575 per year	Income: \$1050 per year

### Time Line

Event	Production
<b>1991</b> Government collapse. Start of insecurity.	<b>Poor year</b> Poor rains, low livestock production
<b>1992</b> Insecurity and severe drought, ICRC help. New ports - Cige, X/Deere.	<b>Bad year</b> Very poor rains. Poor livestock production and death
<b>1993</b> Relative peace in the area.	<b>Near-normal year</b> Average rains, livestock improves;
<b>1994</b> Relative peace prevails, dry conditions exist.	<b>Poor year</b> Long dry periods in some parts.
<b>1995</b> Post-drought recovery.	<b>Normal Year</b> Good livestock production; cowpea crop average.
<b>1996</b> Improvement and continued recovery	<b>Normal year</b> Good livestock production; average cowpea crop.
<b>1997</b> Start of El Nino rains, lots of insects and crop diseases.	<b>Poor year</b> Good pasture but only average livestock production; poor crops.
<b>1998</b> Livestock export ban. Insects and diseases persist.	<b>Poor year</b> Good pasture due to El Nino effects, only average livestock production; poor cowpea crop.
<b>1999</b> Lifting of livestock export ban.	<b>Normal year</b> Low <i>Gu</i> and good <i>Deyr</i> rains; good livestock and crop.
<b>2000</b> Re-imposition of livestock ban - September.	<b>Normal year</b> Good <i>Gu</i> rains.

### Normal Year Definition:

1996 is considered the most recent 'normal' year and defines the baseline.

In a baseline year, terms of trade are:

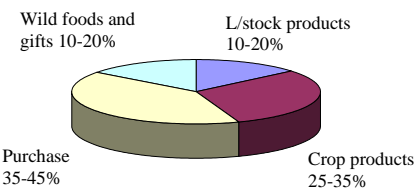
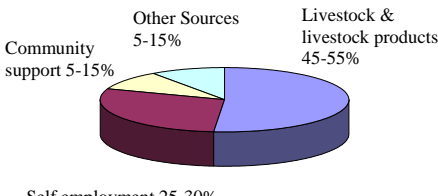
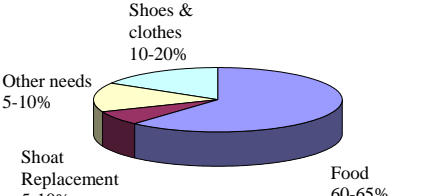
At *Hagay* (harvest time), 1 export quality shoat = 2 sacks sorghum/maize and 1 sack cowpea

1 l milk = 1 kg sorghum/maize

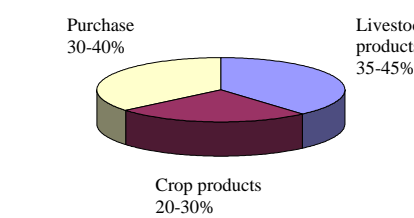
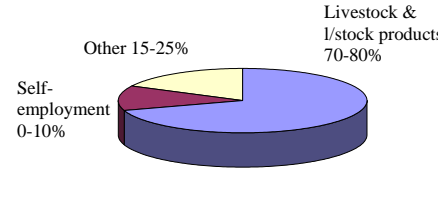
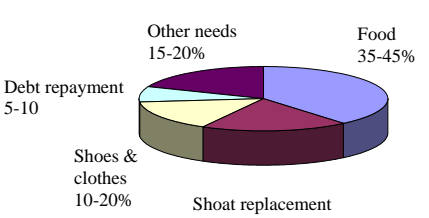
In *Jilaal*, 1 shoat = 1 sack sorghum/maize

In *Gu*, livestock move far inland, in *Hagay*, livestock move to coastal areas

**POOR**

<u>Sources of Food</u>	<u>Sources of Income</u> Annual income = \$293	<u>Expenditure Pattern</u>
		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Over one third of the annual food consumption is met through purchase comprising mostly of cereals (rice, cowpea, sugar.) Another third is obtained from crop products; this is mainly because the poor households neither give <i>zakaat</i> nor gifts of crop products.</li> <li>➤ Livestock products include milk mainly from camel and goats. Wild foods such as gocosu, xabag, meat, and food gifts constitute another 15% of food consumption.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The main source of income derives from livestock and livestock products &amp; self-employment. Self employment activities are mainly charcoal making and collection of construction poles and sticks</li> <li>➤ Community support is in the form of <i>zakaat</i>, gifts and credit. Remittance is generally unavailable to the poor WG.</li> <li>➤ Other sources of income include crop sales and employment. Main employment is farm work and payment is usually in kind (cereal).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ About two-thirds of the annual income is spent on foodstuffs and the balance spent on non-food items such as clothes, kerosene, medicine, soap and Koranic schooling.</li> <li>➤ The poor have small goat flocks, so they try hard to purchase about 3 shoats annually as replacements towards the 10 or so that are sold.</li> <li>➤ Veterinary drugs are hardly purchased because of the very small cattle and camel numbers.</li> <li>➤ Other needs are mainly, non-food essentials, Koranic school and human medicine.</li> </ul>

**MIDDLE**

<u>Sources of Food</u>	<u>Sources of Income</u> Annual income = \$575	<u>Expenditure Pattern</u>
		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The most important food source is livestock products especially milk, with ghee and meat playing relatively smaller roles. Of almost equal importance is food purchases and crop products (cowpea, melons, some sorghum)</li> <li>➤ 4130 litres of milk is produced per year mainly from camels. Skimmed milk is of little significance because cattle ownership is small.</li> <li>➤ No significant wild food usage</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Main income from the sale of their livestock (mainly shoats) &amp; sale of animal products especially camel milk. Goats' milk is more important for home consumption.</li> <li>➤ Self employment includes, charcoal burning, construction poles and sticks.</li> <li>➤ Other income sources include, credits.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 35-45% of income is spent on food items mainly cereal, sugar, &amp; oil.</li> <li>➤ Middle households take some credit, mainly in kind during land preparation and weeding. Younger shoats (usually fewer than those sold) are bought to replace old ones at a lower price and the margin is used to buy household needs.</li> <li>➤ Other needs category mainly includes Koran school, non-food essential, vet and human medicines, detergents, and gifts.</li> </ul>

