

SOMALIA Dekadal Food Security and Nutrition Monitoring August 16, 2011

Given the severity of current and projected food insecurity in Somalia, FEWS NET and FSNAU will jointly release updated food security and nutrition reports every ten days. The objective of this enhanced monitoring is to ensure that new information is incorporated into analysis and shared as rapidly as possible in order to inform decision-making related to humanitarian assistance.

Key Messages

- New evidence indicates that both the prevalence of acute malnutrition and rates of crude mortality have surpassed famine thresholds in the agropastoral areas of Balcad and Cadale districts of Middle Shabelle, the Afgoye corridor IDP settlement, and the Mogadishu IDP community. Food access indicators in these areas surpassed the famine threshold earlier this year. As a result, FSNAU and FEWS NET have now classified these areas as IPC Phase 5 – Famine. These three areas join the Bakool agropastoral livelihood zone and the Lower Shabelle region, where famine was declared on July 20th.
- Preliminary estimates from the ongoing Post-*Gu* assessment indicate that significantly below-average crop production, about one-third of the 1995-2010 *Gu*-season average, is expected in the South.
- Alarming rates of confirmed cholera cases among IDPs have been reported in Mogadishu. Outbreaks are also confirmed in the Afgoye corridor, Baidoa, Kismayo and Awdhegale and Wanlaweyne district in Lower Shabelle and Xaradhere, Bursalah, Goldogob and Hoby districts in Mudug region.¹

Current food security outcomes and classification

- Evidence of severely reduced food access, acute malnutrition, and crude mortality indicates that a famine is currently ongoing in five areas of southern Somalia: the Bakool and Middle Shabelle (Balcad and Candale) agropastoral livelihood zones, all areas of Lower Shabelle and the IDP settlements in the Afgoye corridor and Mogadishu. A humanitarian emergency currently exists across all other regions of the south, with the exception of camel pastoralists in some areas.
- In the north, a humanitarian emergency persists in Sool plateau of Sanag, and assessment findings confirm that in the Sool Plateau of Bari, Nugal Valley, East Golis of Sanag, Kakaar-Dharoor and Coastal *Deeh* livelihood zones, the food security situation has deteriorated.
- Despite scale-up in the past two days, current humanitarian response remains inadequate to meet emergency needs. As a result, famine is expected to spread across nearly all regions of the south in the coming 4-6 weeks.
- In total, 3.7 million people are currently in crisis nationwide; among these, 3.2 million people need immediate, lifesaving assistance (2.8 million in the south). As of early July, 390,000 children under five are acutely malnourished, 170,000 severely; 81 percent of acutely malnourished children live in the south.
- The current situation represents Africa's worst food security crisis since Somalia's 1991/92 famine. A massive multisectoral response is critical to prevent additional deaths and total livelihood/social collapse. Most immediately, interventions to improve food access and to address health/nutrition issues are needed. In the medium term, interventions to rebuild and support livelihoods are critical. Extraordinary measures to provide these responses should be implemented. These assistance needs will persist through at least December 2011.

Crop conditions and harvest prospects

- **Northwest:** Karaan rain have intensified and spread up to Hawd of Hargeisa, Guban of west Berbera and Awdal region which is unusual. These rains have improved the standing crop in the Northwest Agropastoral LZ (W. Galbeed and

¹ WHO, Emergency Humanitarian Action, 6-12th August 2011



Awdal regions) and raised harvest prospects.

- **Central:** Various pests have reportedly attacked crop stems, leaves, and buds during early growth stages, causing visible signs of damage and slowed crop growth. Although most parts of the cowpea belt received delayed but moderate rains, this widespread pest damage has significantly lowered cowpea harvest expectations. In Hiran, cereal crops have failed in the agropastoral and riverine livelihood zones, while fodder and cash crops are being harvested by better-off and upper middle farmers in the irrigated riverine areas.
- **South:** Significantly below-average crop production, about one-third of the Gu Post War Average (PWA) , is expected in the South. Most regional harvests are also expected to be one month late. This is primarily due to the late start of seasonal rainfall in Somalia and upper river catchments of Ethiopian highlands and, subsequent low river levels.
 - **Shabelle Regions:** Hagaa rains have intensified during the first dekad of August in Lower Shabelle (Coastal *Deeh*, riverine, shabelle rainfed and irrigated agropastoral), significantly improved the standing crop. A below-average crop (about 70%) is being harvested in agropastoral areas of Wanlaweyn and has started arriving in Afgoye and Mogadishu markets. In Middle Shabelle, Hagaa rains failed, however riverine households are harvesting. Cowpea Belt of Adan Yabaal and Adale have experienced total crop failure. Maize has been harvested in Jowhar district and is possibly reaching Hiran Markets..
 - **Bay/Bakool:** No *Hagaa* rains have been received in Bay region, further exacerbating the moisture stress which led to significant crop production deficits in the region. Agropastoral areas of Qansaxdheere and Diinsoor districts have experienced a complete crop failure. Baidoa and Burhakaba have harvested crops equivalent to nearly 40 percent of the post-war average (PWA). In Bakool, long dry spells in June and July have led to crop wilting and farmers in Bakool agropastoral and Bay/Bakool agropastoral low potential are expected to harvest only one-fifth of the planted area, with very low yield.
 - **Juba:** Localized Hagaa showers were received in Jamame and Kismayo districts which slightly improved the standing crop, mainly Sesame. Jilib and Buale did not receive Hagaa rains causing severe moisture stress to the standing crop. Sakow Pump Irrigation Riverine has increased irrigation and planted with maize. Juba agropastoral (L. Juba Agropastoral and Southern Agropastoral) missed Hagaa rains and standing maize crop experienced severe moisture stress which has led to almost complete crop failure.
 - **Gedo :** Remains unchanged as it did not get Hagaa rains and the Gu season is over.

Pastoral conditions

- There is little change in most of the country, however, Livestock in Juba have started to move to south of Barawe district of Lower Shabelle region after Hagaa rains failed in most of the riverine and key grazing areas of Juba regions.
- **Northern and Central regions:** Low numbers of camel births were reported due to high abortion rate during the *Jilaal* season. Similarly, goat kidding was limited due to inadequate conceptions during *Deyr* 2010. Most sheep that conceived during *Deyr* 2010 died or aborted during the *Jilaal*. Camel milk availability has slightly improved in Hawd, Sool plateau, West-Golis/guban, Nugal and Dharoor valley due to improved pasture and browse conditions, while it remains limited in Addun, Coastal Deeh and the central agropastoral livelihoods due to very limited livestock births. Most camels conceived in July, while small ruminants started to conceive in June. Conception rates are high to medium in Awdal, W. Galbeed, Bari, Nugal and North Mudug, but medium to low in Togdheer, Sool and Sanaag due to poor pastoral conditions in these areas. In Hiran, livestock body conditions slightly improved while conceptions and births were low.
- **Southern Regions:** Livestock body conditions have improved, particularly in Juba, Shabelle and Bay. Livestock from Bakool and Gedo that migrated during *Deyr* 2010 have not returned and remain in Juba, Bay, Shabelle and Somali region of Ethiopia. Livestock births are low due to high abortion and death rate during *Jilaal*. However, livestock conception rates are high for all species. Milk production has slightly increased due to improved pasture and water availability.
- Cattle to maize terms of trade in July were 7 percent below than previous month (June) and 81 percent lower than July 2010 in Juba. Goat-to-red sorghum terms of trade declined 69 percent compared to July 2010 but remained stable from the previous month (June) in the sorghum belt reference markets. In Central, goat-to-cereal terms of trade

decreased by 23 percent in July compared to June and by 45 percent compared to July 2010.

Food availability, market functioning, and trade

- Imports of rice, wheat flour, and pasta in the first half of 2011 were 98 percent higher than during the same period last year. At Mogadishu's El Ma'an market, rice imports in June 2011 were 393 percent above the five-year average.
- Prices of locally produced white maize and red sorghum have slightly declined as some Gu 2011 harvests have begun in the southern regions. Sorghum prices in Bay region declined by 10% between June and July 2011. Short-term declines in prices are also expected in August as more harvest enters markets, however, prices are expected to resume an upward trend from September.
- Commodity imports such as rice, wheat flour and vegetable oil will most likely decline in August due to typical seasonal reductions in imports related to the monsoon winds. Higher fuel prices and increased demand for these commodities during Ramadan will likely put upward pressure on prices.
- Most of the monitored markets in the Sorghum Belt trade catchment along with some markets in Mogadishu and Middle Juba appear to have remained well integrated for locally produced grain as they all exhibited similar, very slight increases in price in June and July.

Food prices and Terms of Trade

- Both labour- and goat-to-cereal terms of trade continued to decline and are significantly lower than a year ago in most of the southern markets.
- In Buale market (Middle Juba), the average daily wage rate in July 2011 is two kilograms of white maize compared to 8 kg per day during the same period last year. In the Shabelle Valley trade catchment, the average daily wage rate is four kilograms of white maize, compared to 7 kg/day last year.
- In the Sorghum Belt, terms of trade for livestock have also been declining since September 2010. A goat in the Sorghum Belt is now worth, on average, 28 kilograms of white maize, less than half its value from a year ago.
- Absolute food prices and the size of food price increases continue to be highest for local cereals in Bay, Middle Juba, and Lower Shabelle Region. The highest observed annual price rise is in Jilib, Middle Juba, where white maize in July was 325 percent above June 2010.

Health²

- The cholera season is ongoing. Some areas received sporadic rains, posing a high risk for transmission of waterborne disease. As mentioned earlier cholera outbreaks are confirmed in Mogadishu, Bay, Lower Shabelle Galgadud and Mudug regions, though the outbreak in Bay is considered under control.
- Measles outbreaks are confirmed in northern eastern regions of Bari and Nugal.
- Whooping cases continue to be reported in lower Shabelle region

Nutrition and Mortality

- Nutrition and mortality surveys have commenced in 4 regions in southern Somalia with the remaining 4 regions to start later this week. A module on micronutrient deficiency surveillance will be included for wet Beri Beri and scurvy in light of the recent outbreak in Bakool region

Security³

- During the first week of August, Al shabab withdrew from Mogadishu in what they have termed a tactical withdrawal, The Somali population and TFG welcomed the withdrawal of the armed group and believed that humanitarian response and access may be enhanced. However, several fighting between the TFG backed by AMISOM and Al shabab, as well as sporadic killing within Mogadishu, occurred within the first week of August.

² WHO

³ UN OCHA

Displacement⁴

- Approximately 1.46 million people are displaced within Somalia, with Mogadishu hosting 370,000 old IDPs and 100,000 IDPs who have moved into the city within the last two months. There is a proliferation of IDP camps in every corner of the city. In addition, displaced persons continue to cross to Kenya at a rate of 1,500 people per day and to Ethiopia at a rate of 300 people per day.

Response⁵

- Humanitarian responses scaled up during the reporting period, Arab countries and Muslim league organization made considerable pledges and donations to Mogadishu and other parts of the country
- The Somalia operation as a whole has received US\$ 576.4 million since the beginning of the year, representing 47% of the requested amount. This represents a sizeable response from donors – in response to the ongoing up-scaling. There is still, however, a significant funding gap. The operation requires new money as famine is predicted to rapidly spread to all eight regions in southern Somalia in the coming weeks.
- The UN agencies and international NGOs have adopted a common strategy to address the current crisis. The strategy aims at mitigating drought, reducing mortality levels, provision of humanitarian assistance to the needy populations wherever they are inside the country (access permitting), provision of assistance at the transit points along the borders, and provision of humanitarian assistance to the needy populations through local and international partners who have access in areas where some lead agencies lack access, especially in southern Somalia.

Most-likely scenario

Key assumptions

- Based on an analysis of satellite-derived Normalized Difference Vegetation Index imagery, current pasture conditions are below average across southern Somalia and have declined rapidly since May. Further deterioration is expected as the dry season progresses, particularly given forecasts for higher than usual dry season temperatures. Vegetation conditions in northern and central Somalia are, in general, expected to remain near seasonal averages.
- July medium-range precipitation forecasts by ECMWF, IRI, and NOAA still suggest largely normal October to December rainfall totals across Somalia. However, July forecast updates now suggest an increased probability of below-average rainfall in some localized areas. Even normal rains are likely to increase morbidity and mortality risk and pastoral/cropping households are unlikely to be able to fully take advantage of these rains given displacement and asset losses, and the likelihood of reduced animal births.
- Local cereals prices are likely to continue rising in the south. Rice prices are expected to remain stable and to act as a ceiling on the price of local maize and sorghum.
- Though some localized concerns have been raised, current main season harvest prospects for Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda are near average.
- Despite good *Hagaa* rains in Juba, which could improve pasture and water, large livestock in-migration to Lower Juba from Kenya and parts of Gedo, particularly in Afmadow district, will result in immediate pasture depletion in the area.
- The number of displaced persons from Bay region to main towns of Baidoa, Dolow and Mogadishu will continue to increase unless assistance is provided locally. Continued displacement would result in cultivated area that is significantly lower than average for the Deyr season, with subsequent impacts on crop production.
- Large migration from Shabelle regions coupled with limited income to pay farm labour wages, will affect maize cultivation in the maize belt. Though some farmers are likely to return to their farms if prospects for the Deyr are at least average, the current assumption is that Deyr 2011/12 productions will be less than average due to a decrease in cultivated area.

Projected outcomes

- **Southern Regions:** Given current levels of malnutrition, mortality, and humanitarian response, in combination with the

⁴ UN OCHA

⁵ UN OCHA

likelihood of increasing prices and a harsh dry season, food security is expected to deteriorate over the coming months. By August/September, all regions of southern Somalia are likely to face famine.

- **Central Regions:** Although significant improvements in pasture have been observed, livestock production and milk availability remain limited due reduced herd sizes following excess animal mortality over the past six months. Production for the cowpea belt is uncertain due to reported disease. Some improvement is expected over the coming months though Crisis, and in some cases Emergency, levels of food insecurity are expected to remain.
- **Northern Regions:** Mixed outlook in terms of crop production, which could impact local cereal prices in coming months. Livestock body conditions and conception rates have improved in parts of the north and limited camel and goat births have slightly improved milk production, though herd sizes will remain significantly below average in Northeast (NE), Coastal Deeh, and adjacent livelihoods of Addun and Sool plateau.

Key information gaps: Displaced populations flows, magnitude and areas of origin, recent morbidity monitoring data including outbreaks, response coverage and gaps, detailed information on household and market cereal stock levels, Remittance flows

ANNEX 1 – Most recent nutrition, mortality, and food access data for Somalia, by region

Region	Livelihood	Date of nutrition and mortality survey	GAM Prevalence	SAM Prevalence	Crude mortality rate	Under-5 mortality rate	Livestock-to-cereal ToT	Wage-to-cereal ToT
Lower Shabelle	Riverine	July 2011 N=804	28.7% (24.4-33.5)	14.2% (11.6-17.3) 3.6% oedema	6.12 (4.3-7.93)	20.3 (13.0-27.6)	Goat-white maize tot- decreased by 70 percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (48kg from 159kg)	Wage-white maize-tot- decreased by 43 percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (4 kg from 7 kg)
	Agropastoral	July 2011 N=799	40.6% (34.6-46.8)	20.9% (16.2-26.5) 4.0% oedema	4.29 (3.1-5.46)	13.2 (8.7-17.7)	Goat-white maize tot- decreased by 72 percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (39kg from 138kg)	Wage-white maize-tot- decreased by 29 percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (3 kg from 7 kg)
Middle Shabelle	Riverine	July 2011 N=809	19.6% (16.4-23.2)	8.2% (5.7-11.6)	1.72 (1.14-2.3)	5.29 (3.78-6.82-)	Goat-white maize tot- decreased by 50 percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (57kg from 115kg)	Wage-white maize-tot- decreased by 29 percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (5 kg from 7 kg)
	Agropastoral*	July 2011 N=626	35.3% (24.9-47.3)	17.1% (10.3-27.1)	2.3 (1.6-2.9)	7.0 (4.8-9.2)	Goat-red sorghum-tot- decreased by 60 percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (20kg from 50kg)	Wage-red sorghum-tot- decreased by 60 percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (2 kg from 5 kg)
Bay	Agropastoral	July 2011 N=456	55.0% (45.8-64)	29.8% (22.8-38) 7.7% oedema	1.10 (0.17-2.03)	4.12 (2.47-5.77)	Goat-red sorghum-tot-decreased by 74 percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (35kg from 137kg)	Wage-red sorghum-tot- decreased by 67 percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (3 kg from 9 kg)
Bakool	Agropastoral	July 2011 N=244	45.9% (42.3-49.6)	16.4% (12.9-20.6)	2.2 (1.7-2.7)	7.0 (5.2-8.8)	Goat-red sorghum-tot- decreased by 77 percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (24kg from 103k)	Wage-red sorghum-tot- decreased by 40 percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (3kg from 5kg)
	Pastoral	July 2011 N=270	55.9% (50.6-61.2)	20.4% (15.2-26.7)	1.94 (1.44-2.43)	5.3 (4.02-6.59)	Goat-red sorghum-tot- decreased by 66 percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (30kg from 89kg)	Wage-red sorghum-tot- decreased by 50 percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (4kg from 8kg)
Middle/Lower Juba	Riverine	July 2011 N=868	45.9% (41.5-50.3)	21.9% (18.9-25.2) 4.0% oedema	1.18 (0.5-1.82)	4.76 (3.38-6.14)	Goat-white maize-tot- decreased by 82 percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (25kg from 140kg)	Wage-white maize-tot- decreased by 81% percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (3kg from 16kg)
	Agropastoral	July 2011 N=825	38.9% (34.8-43.1)	17.2% (14.0-20.9) 3.2% oedema	1.13 (0.51-1.75)	4.20 (3.06-5.33)	Goat-white maize-tot- decreased by 69 percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (39kg from 127kg)	Wage-white maize-tot- decreased by 76% percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (4kg from 17kg)
	Pastoral	July 2011 N=868	39.5% (35.9-43.2)	18.7% (15.8-21.9) 2.2% oedema	1.25 (0.68-1.81)	4.33 (3.23-5.43)	Goat-white maize-tot- decreased by 70 percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (23kg from 76kg)	Wage-white maize-tot- decreased by 71% percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (2kg from 7kg)

Gedo	Riverine	July 2011 N=642	48.1% (38.7-57.7)	25.2% (19.1-32.6) 0.2 % oedema	1.62 (1.00-2.25)	6.20 (4.21-8.19)	Goat-red sorghum-tot- decreased by 71 percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (22kg from 76kg)	Wage-red sorghum-tot- decreased by 67 percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (4kg from 10kg)
	Agropastoral	July 2011 N=834	51.9% (41.8-61.9)	19.3% (13.8-26.3) 1.8% oedema	1.68 (1.08-2.28)	5.42 (3.80-7.04)	Goat-red sorghum-tot- decreased by 77 percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (24kg from 72kg)	Wage-red sorghum-tot- decreased by 60 percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (6kg from 17kg)
	Pastoral	July 2011 N=1078	23.8% (20.1-28.0)	5.9% (4.1- 8.5) 0.6% oedema	1.21 (0.64-1.78)	6.06 (4.39-7.74)	Goat-red sorghum-tot- decreased by 64 percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (29kg from 80kg)	Wage-red sorghum-tot- decreased by 56 percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (4kg from 9kg)
Hiran	Riverine	July 2011 N=570	20.7% (18.4-23.2)	9.1% (7.2-11.5) 0.2% Oedema	1.41 (0.86-1.96)	4.2 (3.15-5.26)	Goat-white maize-tot- decreased by 63 percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (37kg from 101kg)	
	Agropastoral	July 2011 N=535	43.2% (37.7-48.9)	16.3% (13.4-19.6) 0% Oedema	1.5 (0.9-2.1)	4.32 (3.1-5.5)		
	Pastoral	July 2011 N=444	27.3% (24.2-30.6)	12.8% (10.5-15.6) 0.2% Oedema	1.76 (1.22-2.3)	4.41 (3.28-5.53)		
IDPS	Afgoye	July 2011 N=952	40.7% (34.5-47.2)	17.7% (13.4-22.9) 0% Oedema	4.33 (3.39-5.26)	13.21 (9.6-16.82)	Goat-red sorghum-tot- decreased by 81 percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (42kg from 221kg)	Wage-red sorghum-tot- decreased by 60 percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (4kg from 10kg)
	Mogadishu	July 2011 N=899	39.4% (32.4-46.9)	15.3% (11.6-19.8)	4.37 (3.42- 5.32)	15.04 (10.8-19.2)		
Central Regions	Hawd Pastoral	July 2011 N=576	14.4% (10.9-18.8)	3.8% (2.4-6.0) 0.5% Oedema	0.91 (0.60-1.37)	2.12 (1.19-3.77)	Goat-red sorghum-tot- decreased by 54 percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (60kg from 131kg)	Wage-Red sorghum-tot- decreased by 57 percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (6kg from 14kg)
	Addun Pastoral	July 2011 N=583	17.8% (13.3-23.6)	4.1% (2.5-6.7) 0.3% Oedema	0.56 (0.34-0.91)	1.92 (1.02-3.59)	Goat-red sorghum-tot- decreased by 22 percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (38kg from 49kg)	Wage-Red sorghum-tot- decreased by 40 percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (3kg from 5kg)
Northern Regions	Coastal Deeh	July 2011 N=599	17.4% (13.8-21.6)	4.2% (2.7-6.4) 0.2% Oedema	0.87 (0.57-1.35)	1.15 (0.58-2.25)	Goat-red sorghum-tot- decreased by 37 percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (41kg from 65kg)	Wage-Red sorghum-tot- decreased by 29 percent between July 2011 and July 2010 (4kg from 7kg)
	West Golis	July 2011 N=844	22.0% (18.9-25.4)	5.0% (3.4-7.4)				

North East IDPs	Bossasso IDPs	June 2011 N=611	24.4 (20.9-28.3)	4.7 (3.2- 7.1) 0.8% oedema	0.89 0.58-1. 37	2.23 1.20-4.11		
	Qardho IDPs	June 2011 N=211	>23.8 (Pr=0.90)	>8.2 (Pr=0.90) 0.9% oedema	-	-		
	Garowe IDPs	June 2011 N=604	20.5 (17.5-24.0)	1.8 (0.9- 3.7) 0.3% oedema	0.61 0.31-1. 19	1.39 0.47-4.02		
	Margaga IDPs	June 2011 N=207	22.7 (Exhaustive)	2.9 (Exhaustive)	-	-		
	Galkayo IDPs	June 2011 N=612	20.3 (16.1-25.2)	4.4 (2.9- 6.6) 0.5% oedema	0.89 0.59-1. 36	1.01 0.47-2.17		
North West IDPs	Hargeisa IDPs	May 2011 N=677	10.9 (8.1-14.5)	2.2 (1.0- 5.0) 0.1% oedema	0.37 0.19-0. 73	0.59 0.22-1.55		
	Burao IDPs	May 2011 N=652	19.1 (14.6-24.5)	5.6 (4.1- 7.7) 1.2% oedema	0.56 0.30-0. 91	2.02 1.21-3.34		
	Berbera IDPs	May 2011 N=662	14.5 (Exhaustive)	3.0 0.5% oedema	0.28 0.15-0. 54	0.31 0.09-1.13		

* Results from a representative survey of all agropastoral livelihood zones of Middle Shabelle indicate that levels of acute malnutrition and mortality have crossed famine thresholds. However, the cases of malnutrition and deaths identified by the survey are not evenly distributed across the region. Instead, there is significant clustering in Balcad and Cadale districts. This geographic distribution is supported by the proximity of these districts to Mogadishu, information from field staff, and the relatively better service availability in Jowhar District. Therefore, the current famine declaration applies to only these two areas of Middle Shabelle.