



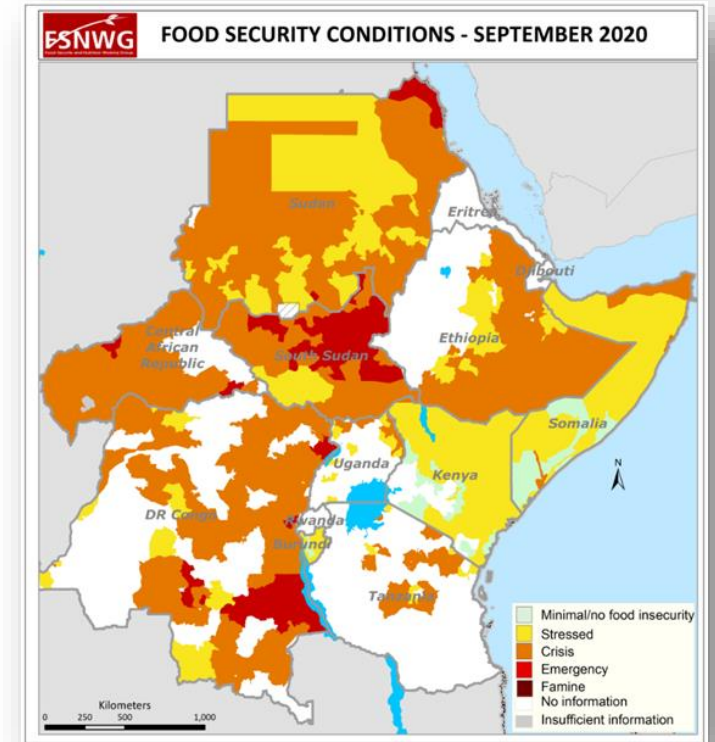
IGAD DROUGHT DISASTER RESILIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE (IDDRSI)

14th MEETING OF THE PLATFORM'S STEERING COMMITTEE

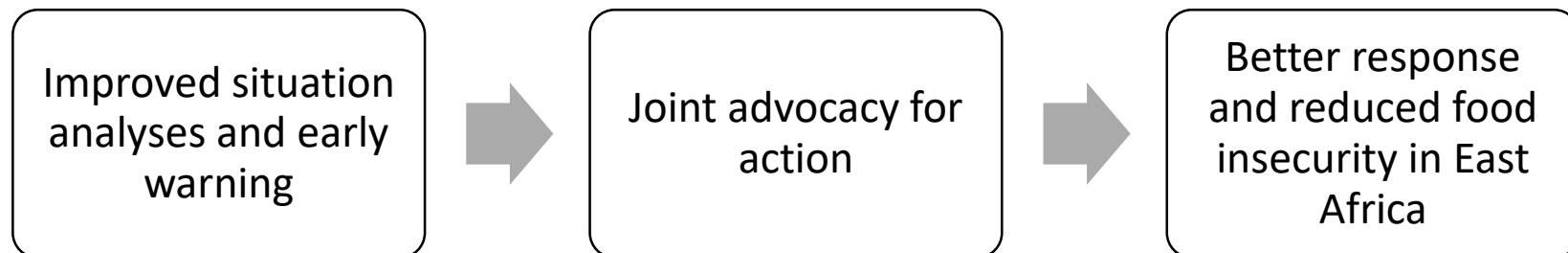
FOOD SECURITY TRENDS AND THE IMPACTS OF THE CURRENT DROUGHTS IN THE IGAD REGION



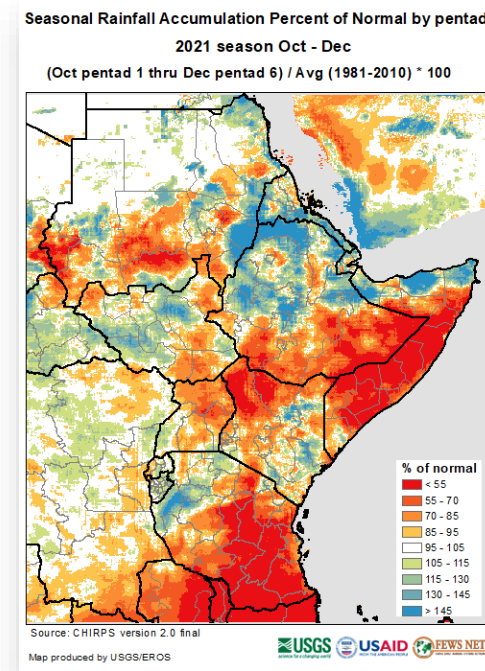
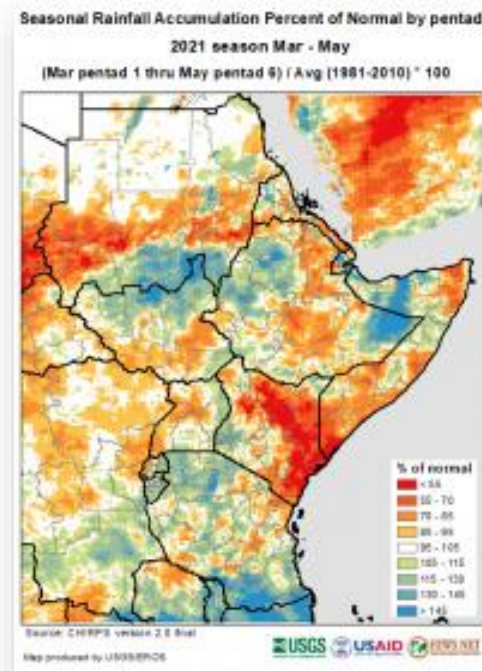
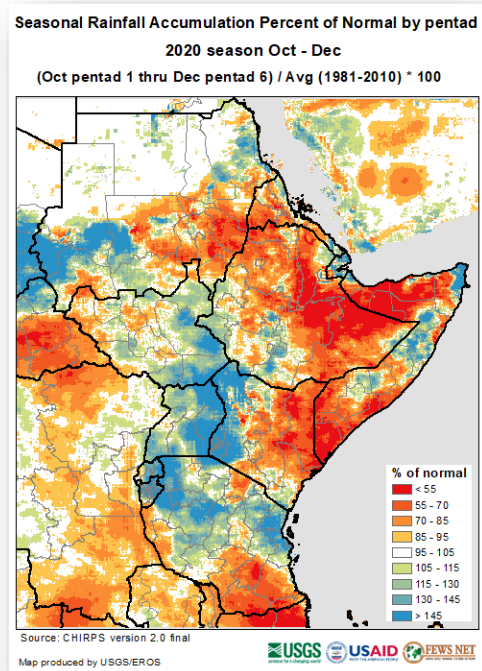
- FSNWG is a regional platform for coordination of food security and nutrition early warning and advocacy
- Co-chaired by IGAD and FAO
- Currently covers 13 countries
- Over 80 member organizations (UN, NGO, Humanitarian Community, Private Sector, Research/Academia, etc.)
- >1,200 email subscribers



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Even before the below-average 2022 March to May (MAM) rainy season, the East Africa region had already been struggling with severe drought conditions, with most areas of the eastern Horn of Africa, particularly northern and eastern Kenya, southern and south-eastern Ethiopia, and Somalia, having already faced three consecutive below-normal rainy seasons.





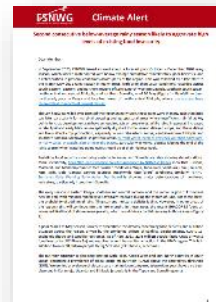
Following the progression of the drought, FSNWG published special alerts/alerts in October 2020, May 2021, October 2021, November 2021, February 2022, and April 2022 calling for immediate action.

In addition to the current drought, the region has been experiencing other shocks and stressors affecting food security and nutrition, including flooding, conflict and insecurity, macroeconomic challenges, rising global food prices linked to the Ukraine crisis, COVID-19, and desert locusts.

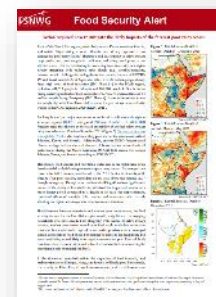
Oct 2020:



May 2021:



Oct 2021:



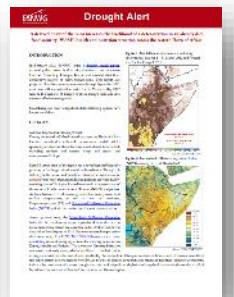
Nov 2021:



Feb 2022:



Apr 2022:

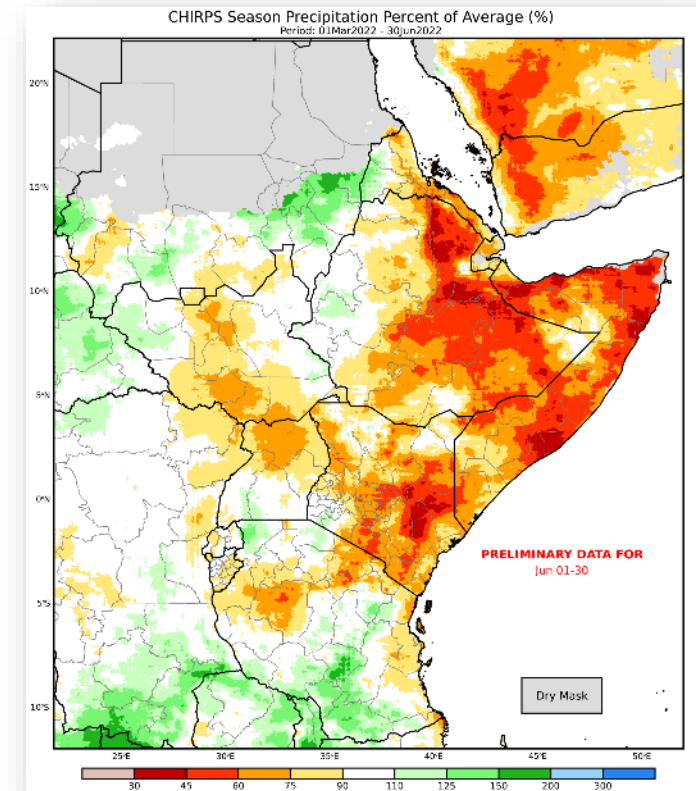


How is the food security and nutrition situation in the region now?

Rainfall performance

- The performance of the 2022 March to June season across the Horn of Africa was extremely poor, with observed rainfall deficits across much of the region being amongst the lowest in the past 70 years.

Rainfall anomalies as a % of normal (1 March to 30 June 2022). Source: UCSB Climate Hazards Center (CHC)

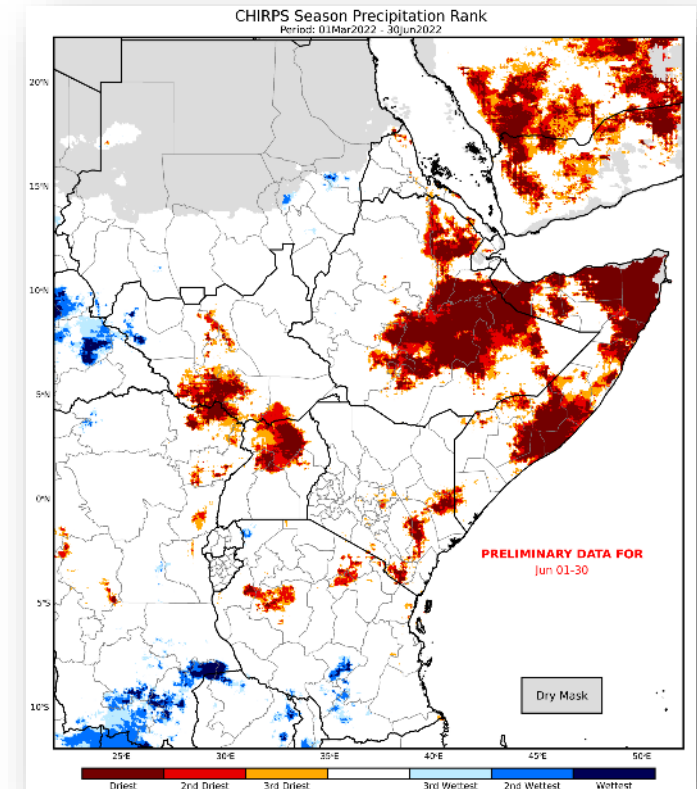


How is the food security and nutrition situation in the region now?

Rainfall performance

- Central and north-central Ethiopia, much of central and northern Somalia, northern Uganda, south-central South Sudan, and localized areas of Kenya received record or near record low rainfall levels. The poor March – June season is the fourth consecutive below-average rainy season across the region.
- In Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia, such an event hasn't been seen since the beginning of the satellite era when remote sensing rainfall data became available.

Areas where 1 March - 30 June 2022 rainfall was amongst the top three driest on record.
Source: UCSB Climate Hazards Center (CHC)

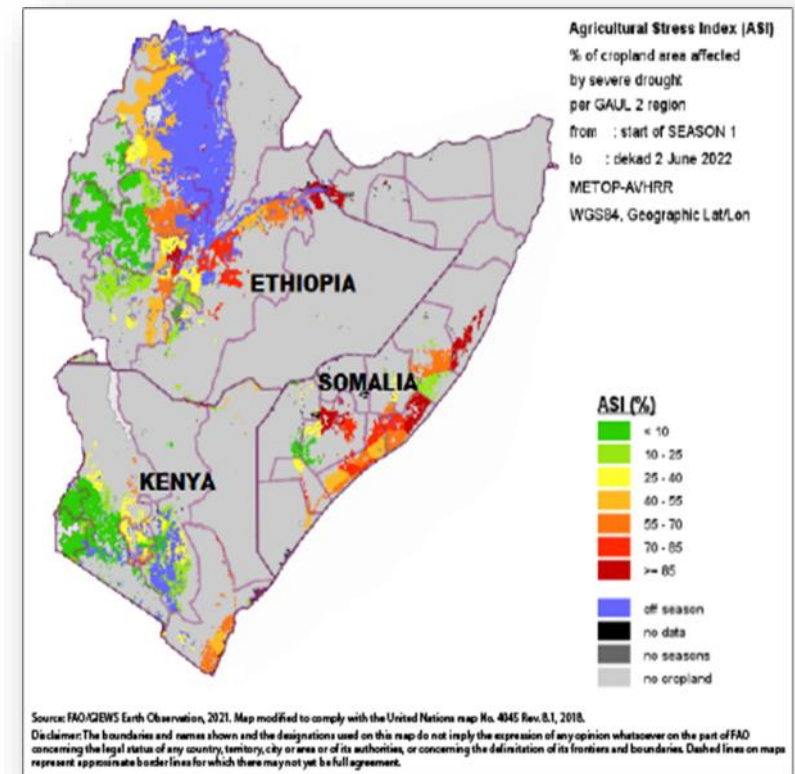


How is the food security and nutrition situation in the region now?

Crop conditions

- In Ethiopia, the production prospects for “belg” cereal crops are unfavourable, raising food security concerns for local households that had a poor harvest also last year.
- According to FAO’s Agricultural Stress Index (ASI), as of mid-June, in most cropping areas, between 40 to 85+ percent of cropland was affected by severe drought.
- In the Southern Zone of the Tigray Region and in Amhara region, agricultural operations continue to be affected by insecurity and input shortages due to the ongoing conflict.

Percentage of cropland affected by severe drought in Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia (Second dekad of June 2022). *Source: FAO-GIEWS*

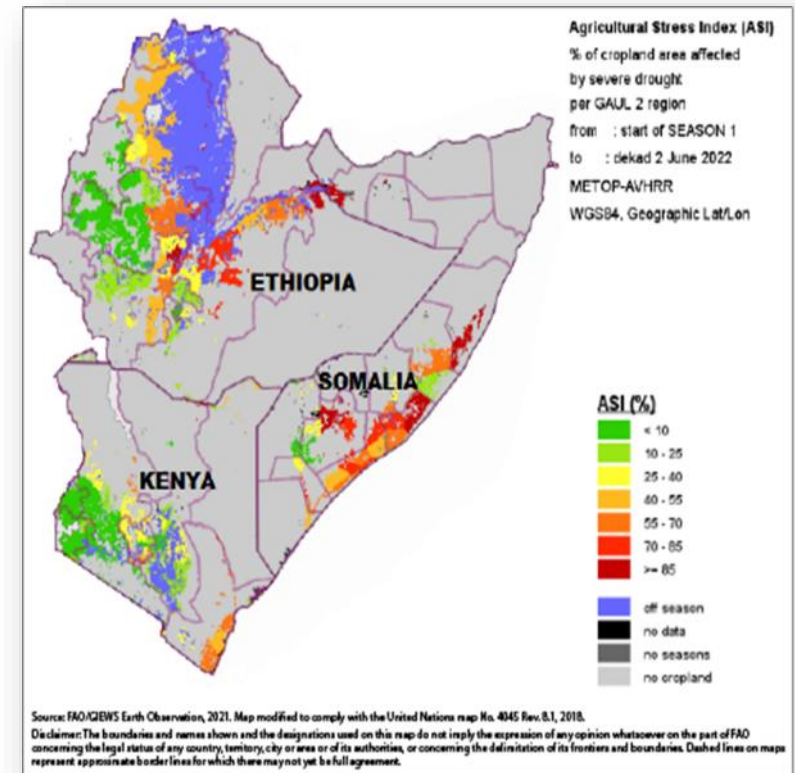


How is the food security and nutrition situation in the region now?

Crop conditions

- In Somalia, the 2022 main “Gu” season crops, to be harvested this month and accounting for about 60 percent of the country's total annual cereal output, have been severely affected by the poor seasonal rains.
- Farmers also faced difficulties accessing agricultural inputs and labour as high food prices drained household finances and drought resulted in widespread displacements.
- FSNAU and FEWS NET estimated the season’s cereal production to be 40-60 percent below-average, representing the fifth consecutive season with a reduced cereal output.

Percentage of cropland affected by severe drought in Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia (Second dekad of June 2022). *Source: FAO-GIEWS*

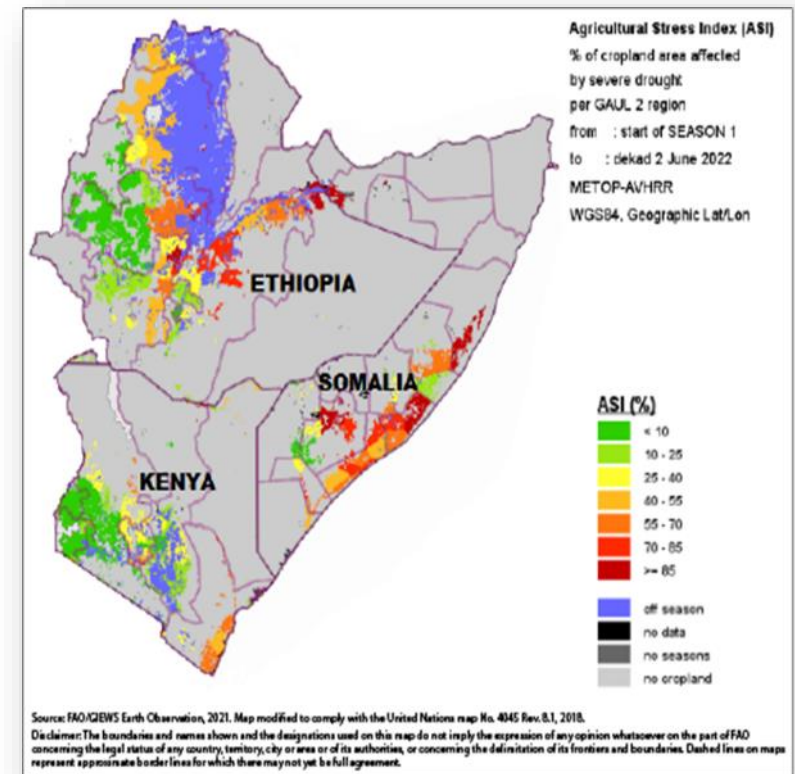


How is the food security and nutrition situation in the region now?

Crop conditions

- In Kenya, cereal production prospects in drought-affected, marginal agricultural areas are not good, likely leading to a fourth consecutive poor harvest.
- Severe rainfall deficits have affected the planting and establishment of main (March-May) season crops in the southeastern and coastal marginal agriculture areas of Kenya.
- Although rains improved during the second half of April and had a positive impact on vegetation conditions, crop recovery was modest as rains were late and dry conditions established again in mid-May. In the second dekad of June, in south-eastern and coastal areas, up to 70 percent of cropland was affected by severe drought.

Percentage of cropland affected by severe drought in Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia (Second dekad of June 2022). *Source: FAO-GIEWS*



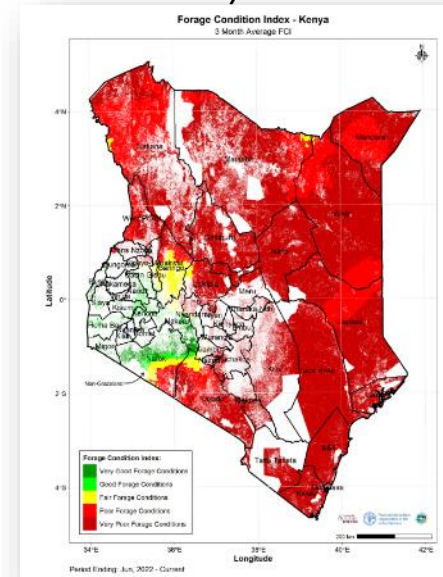
How is the food security and nutrition situation in the region now?

Livestock conditions

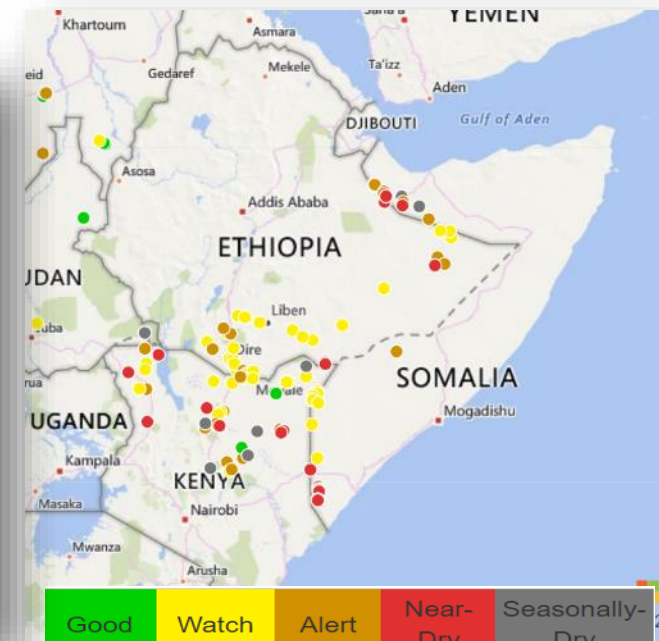
- As of the beginning of July, pastoral conditions across the Horn of Africa remain poor.
- The Predictive Livestock Early Warning System (PLEWs) in Kenya is forecasting that very poor pastoral conditions will continue throughout all ASAL regions of Kenya through at least September 2022.
- Water availability for livestock is below normal. Despite some improvements at water points during the rainy season compared to the first quarter of 2022, water levels are still below normal levels and are expected to deteriorate quicker than usual during the upcoming June to September dry season

Predictive Livestock Early Warning System (PLEWS).

Source: FAO/Texas A&M



Status of livestock water points, 15 July 2022. Source: USGS/FEWS NET



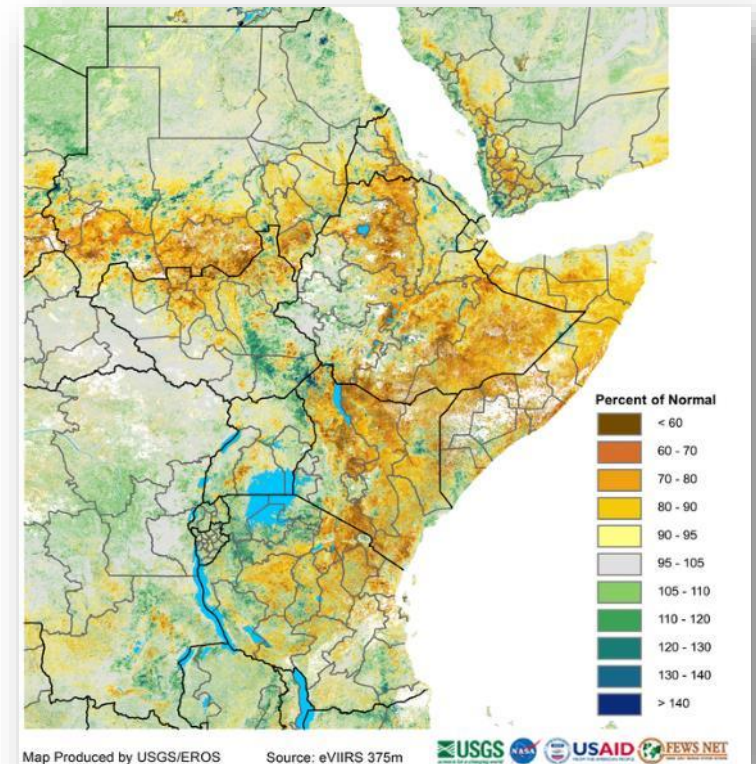
How is the food security and nutrition situation in the region now?

Livestock conditions

Widespread livestock deaths have been recorded across the region with at least 9.2 million livestock deaths regionally including:

- 3.8 million in southern Ethiopia
- 2.4 million in Kenya
- > 3 million in Somalia

Percent of Mean NDVI, 1-10 July, 2022.
Source: USGS/FEWS NET





How is the food security and nutrition situation in the region now?

Displacement

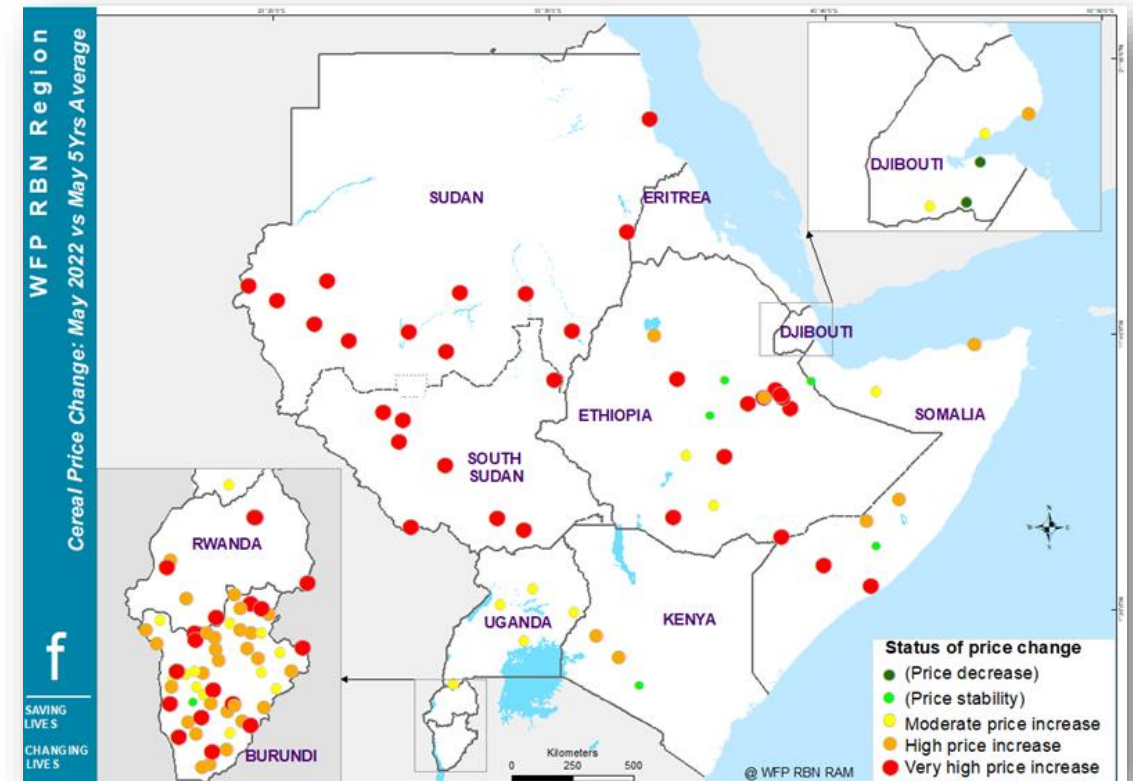
- As the drought crisis worsens, hundreds of thousands of people have been forced to flee their homes in search of life-saving aid. By the end of 2021, the East and Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes region had 12 million internally displaced people (<https://reporting.unhcr.org/globalreport2021/ehagl>)
- Resource-based conflicts have increased throughout the drought-affected areas in the region notably, Somalia, Kenya and Ethiopia.
- There has been an imminent threat of increased deaths and injuries related to inter-community conflicts this year. The violent conflict situation in pastoral areas is further complicated by increasing politicization and commercialization of cattle raids ([CEWARN,2022](#)).

How is the food security and nutrition situation in the region now?

Market conditions

- The fallout of the war in Ukraine is adding to already fragile economies struggling to recover from impacts of COVID-19.
- After a rebound in 2021 – following the fallout of COVID-19 in 2020 - economies in the region are forecast to record decline in growth in 2022, mainly economic growth slowdown is projected in Ethiopia and Kenya.

Cereal price change: May 2022 vs 5-yr average. *Source: WFP*





How is the food security and nutrition situation in the region now?

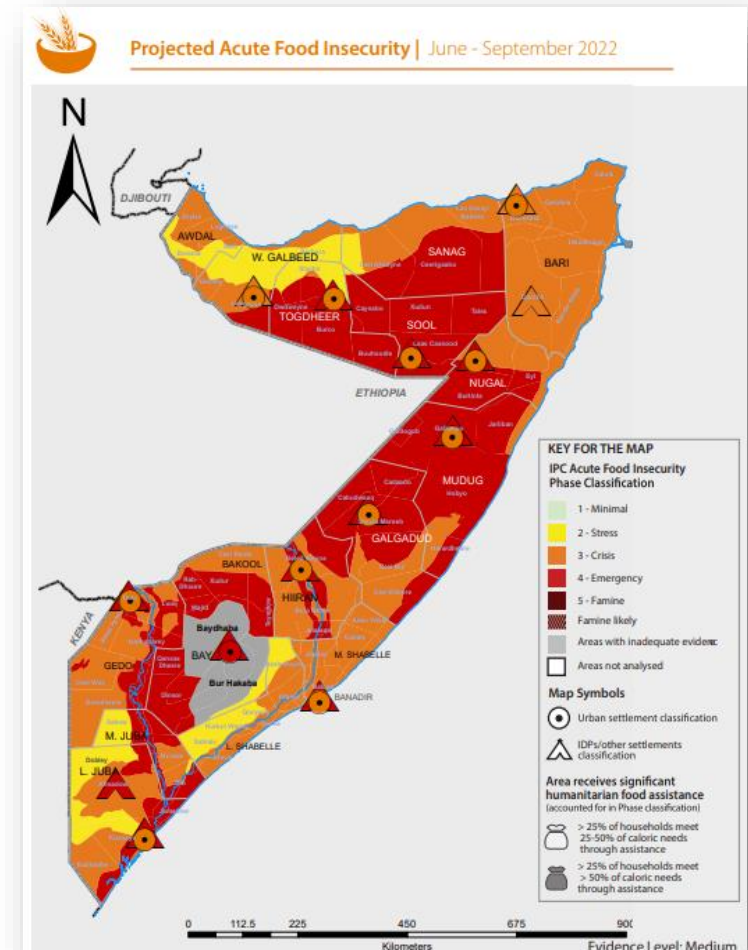
Food security

- Currently, across Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia, about 18.6 - 19.3 million people face high levels of acute food insecurity due solely to the drought.
- Of these, 3.2 million people are in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) in Kenya and Somalia, and over 200 thousand people are in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) in Somalia.
- Populations in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) and Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) are of particular concern as these phases are associated with increased rates of excess mortality.

How is the food security and nutrition situation in the region now?

Food security

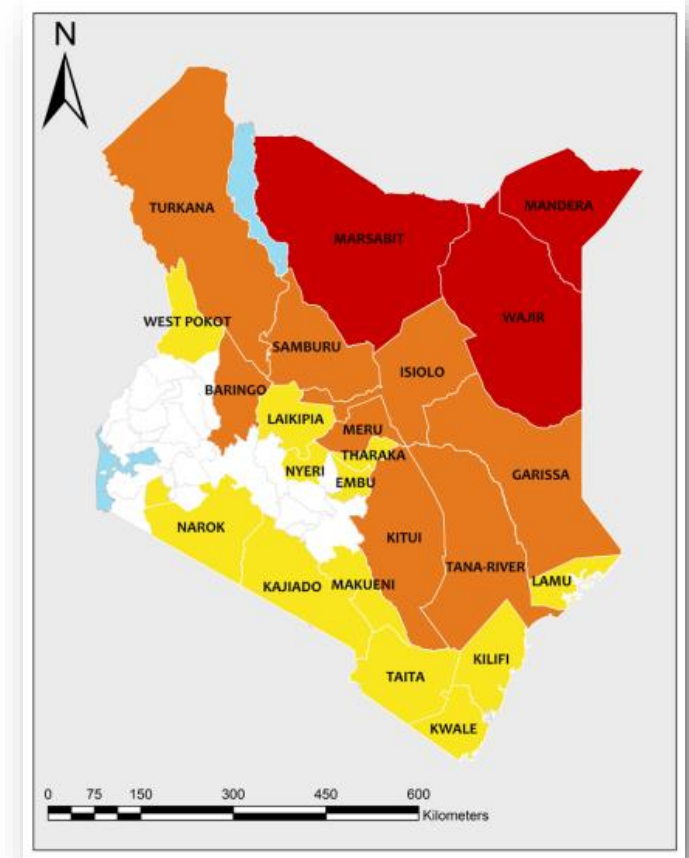
- Significant parts of Somalia are facing a Risk of Famine (IPC Phase 5) through at least September. Particularly dire situation has been reported in Bay region:
- Famine (IPC Phase 5) threshold was surpassed for acute malnutrition in Baidoa district.
- Crude death rates hit Emergency thresholds in agropastoral communities of Burhakaba and Baidoa districts, and under 5 death rates reached Emergency thresholds in Bay Agropastoral of Baidoa.
- Other areas of concern in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) include Pastoralist communities of Hawd in Northwest and Togder and Southern rain-fed agropastoralists. The situation of the IDPs communities in Burao, Las'anod, Garoowe, Belet Weyne, Doolow and Kismaayo is also worsening.



How is the food security and nutrition situation in the region now?

Food security

- In Kenya, Marsabit, Wajir and Mandera counties faced Emergency (IPC Phase 4) between March and June 2022, with significant deteriorations in Mandera and Wajir since the previous analysis, moving them from Crisis (IPC Phase 3) to Emergency (IPC Phase 4). Additionally, Marsabit, Isiolo, Turkana, Baringo, Samburu and Garissa also saw significant deteriorations in their food insecure populations.
- Official IPC analyses are not available for Ethiopia. However, IPC-compatible analyses from FEWS NET shows widespread Emergency (IPC Phase 4) area classifications across southern and south-eastern Ethiopia, including parts or all of Koraha, Shabelle, Afder, East Bale, Bale, Liban, Daawa, Guji, Borena, and South Omo zones.





How is the food security and nutrition situation in the region now?

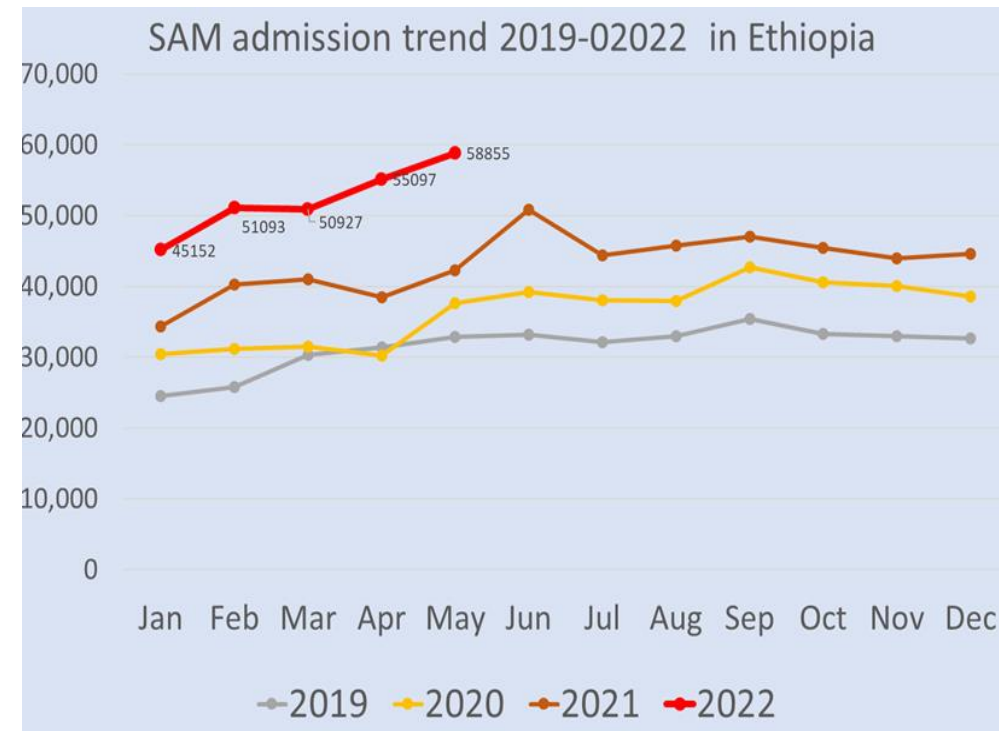
Nutrition

- The nutrition situation in the Horn of Africa continues to deteriorate rapidly. Over 350 thousand children have been admitted for Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) treatment in Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia alone, up significantly compared to recent years.
- Looking forward, 6.5 million children are projected to suffer from acute malnutrition, of which 1.8 million are children with severe wasting in Kenya, Somalia, and Ethiopia.

How is the food security and nutrition situation in the region now?

Nutrition

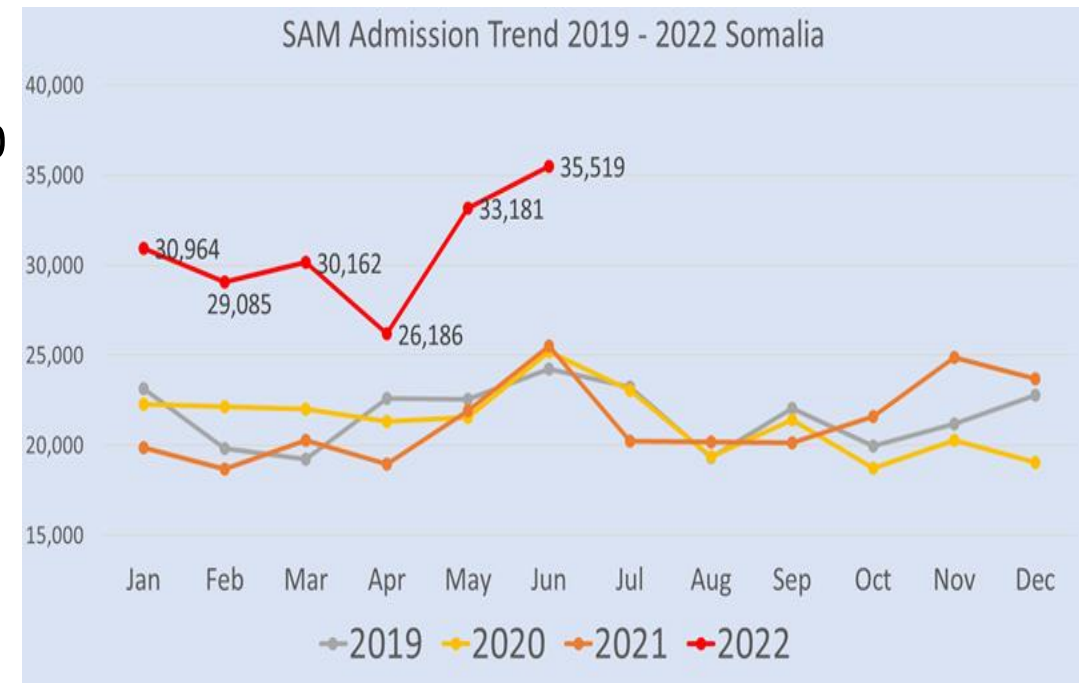
- Ethiopia has admitted over 200 thousand severely wasted children between January and April 2022, with the last three months recording over 50,000 admissions each month.
- Currently, over 1.2 million children are projected to need treatment for severe acute malnutrition.
- As per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) assessments conducted from August 2021 to March 2022, 77 percent of the woredas, where proxy global acute malnutrition (GAM) assessments were conducted in Afar, Tigray, Oromia and Somali regions, had very high GAM prevalence (above 15 percent).



How is the food security and nutrition situation in the region now?

Nutrition

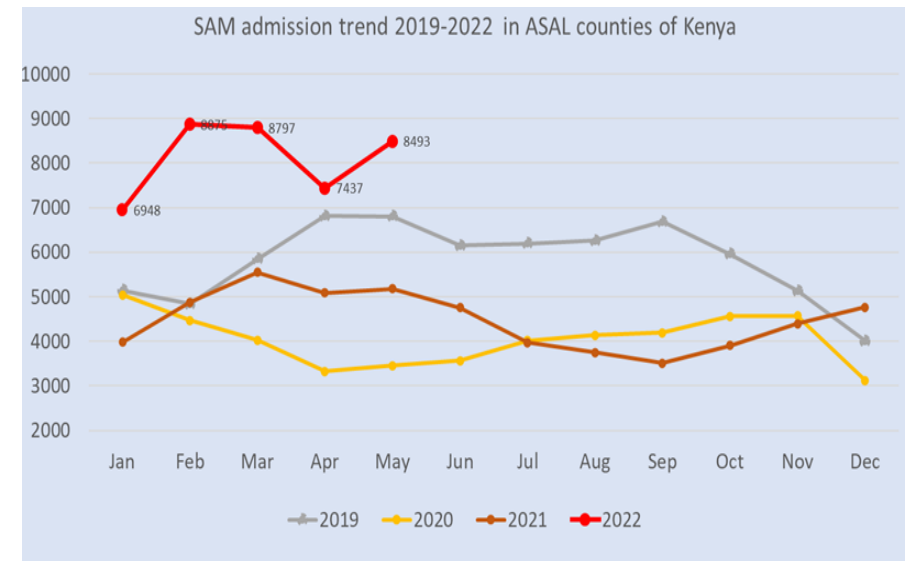
- With children estimated to suffer from acute malnutrition reaching 1.48 million, the overall nutrition status has significantly deteriorated in Somalia. Of these, more than 380 thousand children are expected to suffer from severe acute malnutrition in 2022.
- This change was also reflected in the sharp increase in admissions in the first four months of 2022 which is 46 percent higher than the same period last year.
- The key drivers for the deteriorating nutrition situation include, in addition to the failed rains, conflict resulting in large-scale displacements, economic challenges due to conflict, and impacts of the Ukraine war.



How is the food security and nutrition situation in the region now?

Nutrition

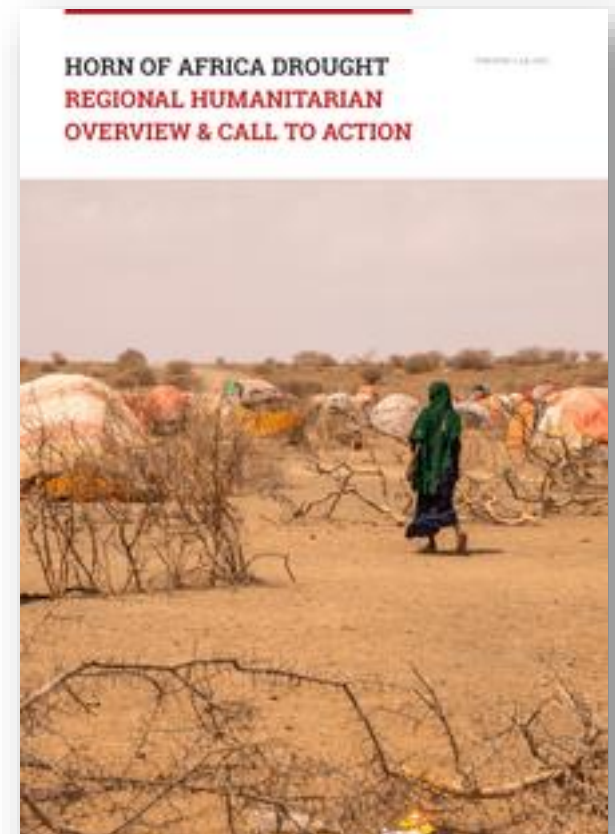
- The nutrition situation of Kenya's ASAL and coastal regions is deteriorating, with a highly critical situation reported in Mandera (34.7 GAM prevalence, according to a March 2022 SMART survey).
- The rapid deterioration is mainly attributed to the deteriorating food security situation, resulting from the cumulative effects of the failed rainy seasons and the very late onset of the 2022 long rains.
- SAM admissions in the first four months of the year have registered a 64 percent increase compared to the same time last year.
- According to the IPC update released on 10th of June, over 942,000 children are expected to suffer from acute malnutrition, including 229,000 with SAM in 2022.



How is the food security and nutrition situation in the region now?

Humanitarian response

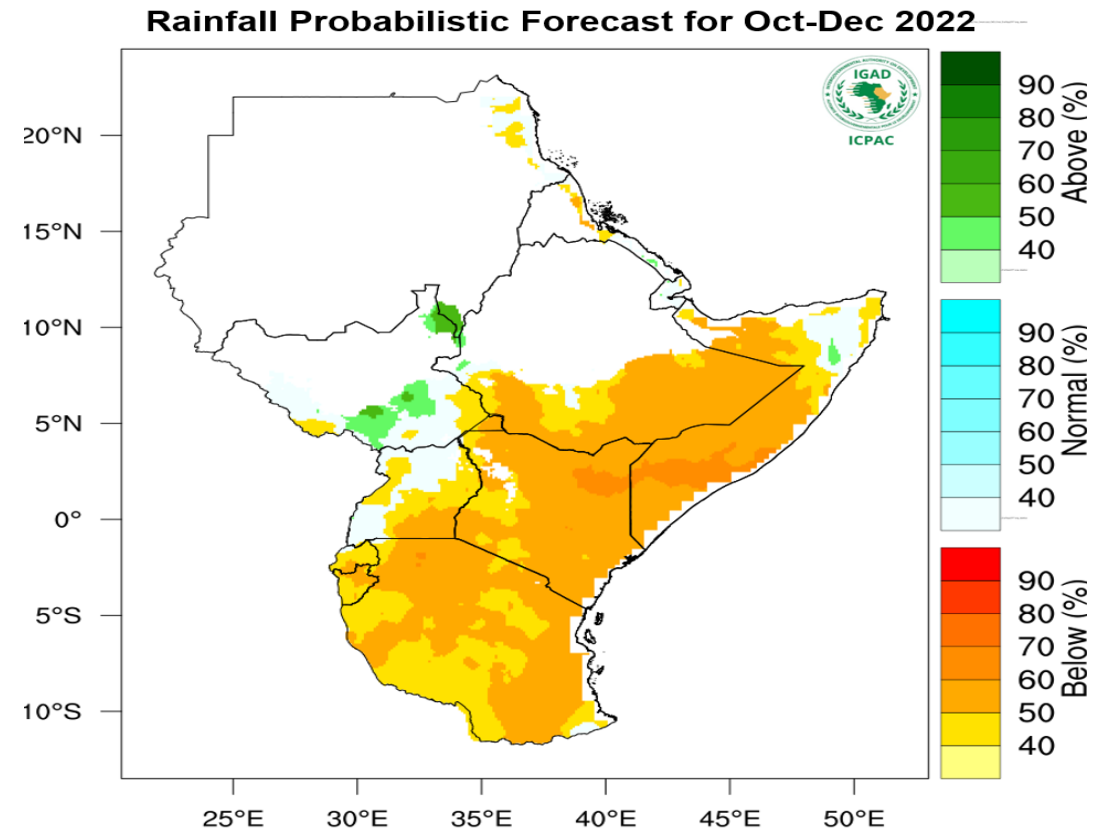
- Nearly 9 million drought-affected people have been reached with humanitarian assistance in Ethiopia (4.5 million), Kenya (over 585 thousand) and Somalia (3.9 million) so far in 2022.
- To enable humanitarian partners to ramp-up their response to the drought in the three countries, about US\$1.8 billion is required over the next months.
- The recent Communiqué from the IGAD Ministerial Meeting on the ongoing drought, held in Nairobi in May 2022, highlights the political and financial commitments required to fight this drought, and the urgent need for coordinated and collective action.



Where is the food security and nutrition situation likely to go?

Food security outlook through February 2023

Given a broad consensus across meteorological agencies on the prospects of another below-average rainy season across the Horn of Africa between October and December 2022, FSNWG has conducted an analysis projecting what food security outcomes could look like moving into the January to February 2023 dry season should another poor rainy season materialize.



Where is the food security and nutrition situation likely to go?

Food security outlook through February 2023

- Based on the current situation and the food security trends observed during the 2011 and 2017 drought emergencies in the region, FSNWG estimates that between 23 - 26 million people will face high levels of food insecurity by February 2023, due primarily to the drought in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia.
- Within already food insecure populations, the severity of their food insecurity will increase as the duration of the drought becomes further prolonged (e.g., increased populations in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) and Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5)).
- This is of particular concern given that IPC Phase 4 and 5 are associated with increased rates of excess mortality.



Recommendations

Scaled-up multisectoral response urgently needed

Food security:

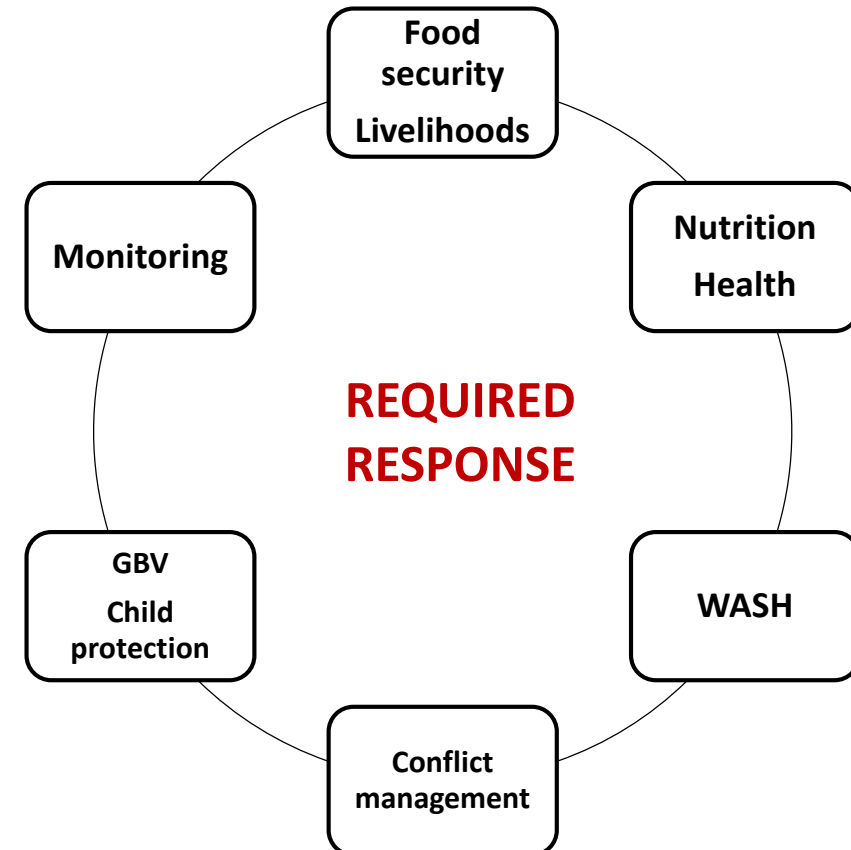
- Scale up interventions that provide food assistance to affected households. Interventions should also protect livelihoods, including smallholder farming and pastoralism, to support recovery of food production through the provision of productive inputs, livestock supplements and livestock disease surveillance.
- Conducting continuous monitoring of food availability and prices on markets.

Health:

- Ensuring the provision of lifesaving essential health services for the affected communities, including perinatal, child health, and immunization services is critical.
- Monitoring the dynamic needs and gaps including disruption of essential health services provision, and providing coordinated and context-sensitive support, at national and subnational levels, is a priority action.

Nutrition:

- The nutrition sector has seen funding deficits for both MAM and SAM, and as a result, coverage for MAM and other prevention actions remains low. Comprehensive response including BSFP, and GFD required to prevent large-scale death in most affected areas.





THANK YOU!

Updates can be found at:

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