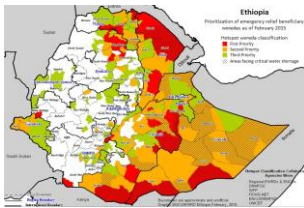


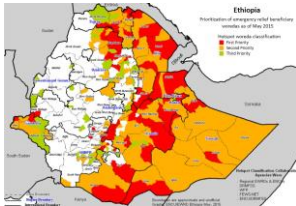


CHRONOLOGY OF HOTSPOT CLASSIFICATION IN ETHIOPIA – FEBRUARY 2015 TO JUNE 2017

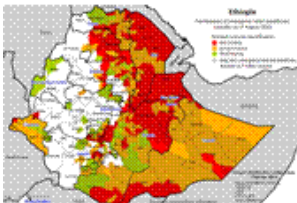
HOTSPOTS – FEBRUARY 2015
(49 Priority 1 *woredas*)



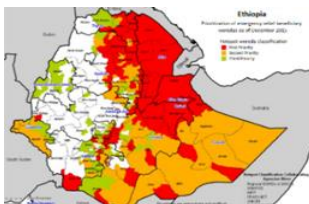
HOTSPOTS – MAY 2015
(97 Priority 1 *woredas*)



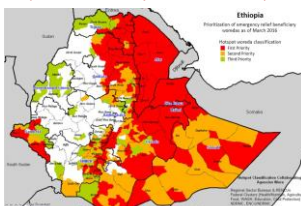
HOTSPOTS – AUGUST 2015
(142 Priority 1 *woredas*)



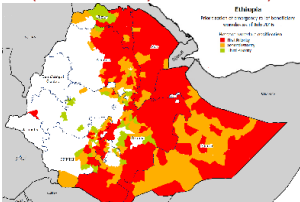
HOTSPOTS – DECEMBER 2015
(186 Priority 1 *woredas*)



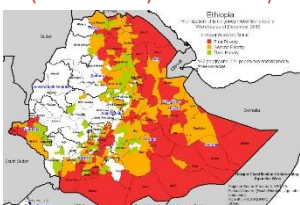
HOTSPOTS – MARCH 2016
(224 Priority 1 *woredas*)



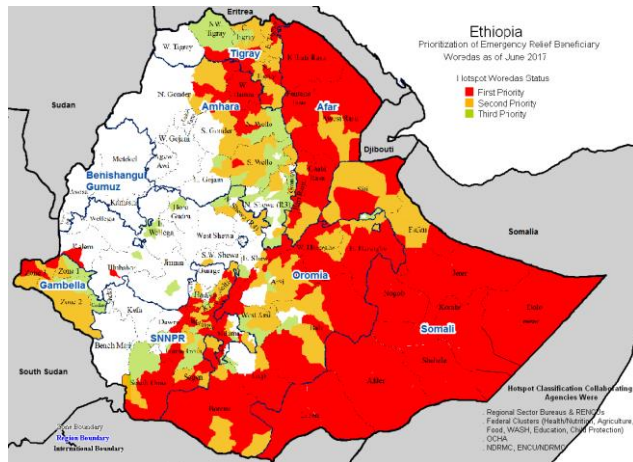
HOTSPOTS – JULY 2016
(205 Priority 1 *woredas*)



HOTSPOTS – DECEMBER 2016
(192 Priority 1 *woredas*)



HOTSPOTS – JUNE 2017
(228 Priority 1 *woredas*)



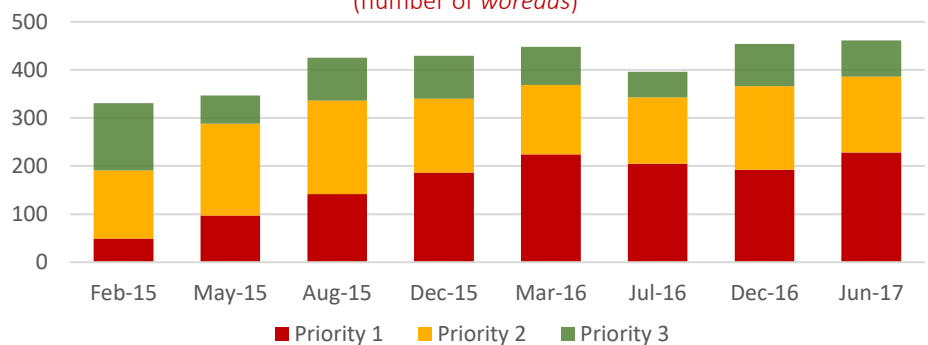
The number of *woredas* (districts) requiring urgent humanitarian response has returned to levels not seen since the height of El Niño drought impacts in 2016, and have increased in terms of total number affected and those classified as Priority 1. Of the 461 current hotspots, nearly half (228) are considered top priority. From December 2016 to June 2017, the status of 102 *woredas* worsened while just 34 improved.

The 19% increase in Priority 1 *woredas* is largely due to prevailing drought conditions in southern and southeastern Ethiopia, where the October–December rains failed and the subsequent March–May rains were late, below average and erratic. As a result, water and pasture availability is extremely low, significantly impacting livestock production, the main source of food and income for the majority of households in the affected areas. Prices for livestock have plummeted, while nationally the cost of staple foods has increased. Livelihood response has generally been too little too late, and remains underfunded. Insufficient coverage has contributed to a surge in food aid and nutrition needs, particularly in Somali Region.

As food reserves deplete and livestock body conditions decline, the ongoing long dry season in southern and southeastern pastoral areas is likely to be characterized by sustained and increasing vulnerability – especially in view of a possible pipeline break for food aid and nutrition support in July. In farming areas, *belg* harvests are expected to be below average due to poor rainfall, while the production of *mehar* crops is threatened by the rapid spread of a devastating new crop pest, the fall armyworm.

To prevent further deterioration in the food security situation, emergency livelihood support will remain critical through the rest of the year to protect remaining livestock assets and safeguard agricultural production.

HOTSPOT CLASSIFICATION CHRONOLOGY
(number of *woredas*)



Hotspot classification is derived using six multisector indicators, including agriculture, nutrition and markets, agreed at regional and federal levels. A hotspot matrix is often used as a proxy for the acute Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) and is indicative of food security and nutrition status. Scaled from Priority 1 to 3, hotspot *woredas* require urgent humanitarian response.