

Price Monitoring and Analysis Country Brief

Kenya

June-August 2010

Key Messages

- **Food access remains difficult because of high prices in local markets.**
- **Insecurity in the country continues due to the on-going conflict in Somalia which also results in widespread displacement of people in Kenya.**
- **Agencies report seriously high food insecurity in the long term with an estimated 1.6 million people currently requiring food assistance.**
- **The government is supporting production with inputs and assisting the most vulnerable through a social protection programme to address hunger.**

Background

In 2008, Kenya's total population was estimated to be 38.53 million, with a population growth rate of 2% per annum. The proportion of undernourished population was 32% in 2005 and the prevalence of HIV among adults was estimated at 6%.

Economic Indicators	View Data
Total Population (millions) - 2008 (WB)	38.765
Population growth rate - 2008 (WB)	2%
GNI per capita, \$ PPP - 2008 (WB)	1560
Population below 1\$ PPP per day - 2005 (MDGI)	19%
Rural population - 2008 (WB)	78%
Agriculture, value added (% of GDP) - 2008 (WB)	26%

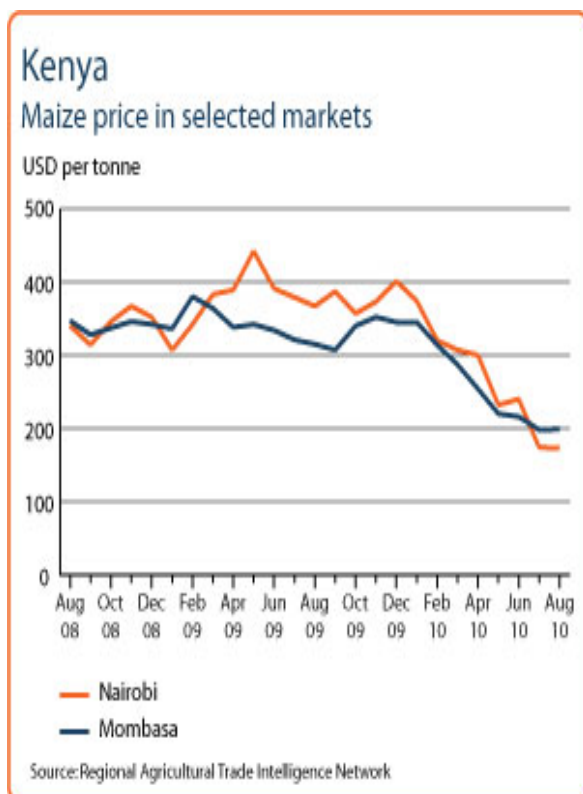
Food Consumption	
Undernourished Population - 2005/2007 (FAO)	31%
Cereal share in total dietary energy consumption - 2007 (FAO)	49%
Meat share in total dietary energy consumption	n.a.

Health Indicators	
Pop. with sustainable access to improved sanitation - 2008 (WHO)	31%
Life expectancy at birth (years) both sexes - 2008 (WHO)	54
Pop. with access to improved drinking water sources - 2008 (WHO)	59%
Prevalence of HIV among adults aged >= 15 years - 2005 (WHO)	6%

Prices

Cereals: Maize prices in Nairobi declined in July 2010 to around 170 USD/T, but in August rose to 197 USD/T, same price as May 2010. However, prices are still lower than those in July/ August 2009 when maize was sold in Nairobi markets at 380/370 USD/T. In August maize prices in Nairobi were 13% higher compared to the international market prices (174.11 USD/T).

Livestock: Above average livestock conditions resulted in higher prices (30 to 50% above the five years average price in June) benefiting pastoralist terms of trade.



Source: [GIEWS Country Briefs](#)

Natural Disasters, Drought and Conflicts

Increased food insecurity in the country resulted from aflatoxin contamination which according to FEWSNET destroyed more than 50% of the 2009/2010 maize harvest in central areas of Eastern Province. High insecurity continues on the Kenya-Somalia border in Wajir, Mandera and Garissa districts, North Eastern Province. The frequency of attacks has increased and Islamists militias from Somalia are increasingly launching raids in the remote north eastern areas of Kenya. Moreover the ongoing conflict in Somalia continues to displace a high number of people, forcing them to flee into Kenya. According to UNHCR, Kenya hosts more than 395,708 refugees. Violence and internal displacement is also caused by cattle rustling conflicts in pastoral areas where the number of food insecure people is estimated at 1.1 million.

Refugees and IDPs	2007	2008	2009
Total in the country	371495	1180088	882339
Total outside the country	9277	762617	417052

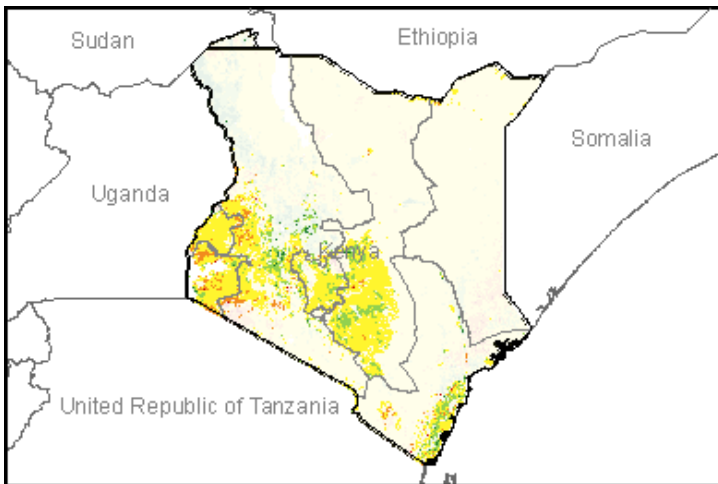
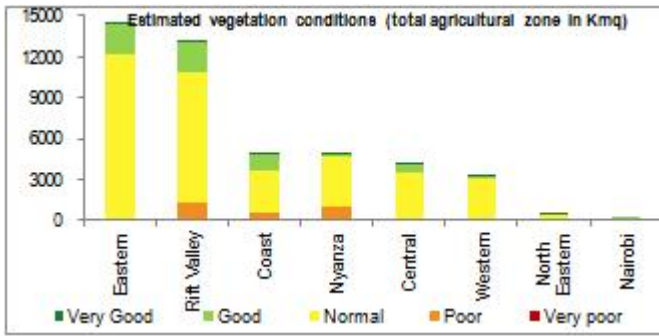
Source: [UNHCR Statistical Online Population Database](#), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Data extracted on 22/09/2010.

Disaster Type (last year)	Date	Location	Alert
Earthquake	2010-06-13	Nyanza	1/3
Flood	2010-05-08	Western-Rift Valley	1/3
Flood	2010-03-07	Western	1/3

Source: [Global Disaster Alert and Coordination System](#) - 3 = 1000 or more people killed or 800000 or more people displaced. 2 = 100 or more people killed or 80000 or more displaced.

Vegetation Condition

At this period, normal vegetation conditions are observed throughout the country. The general indicator of vegetation condition provided below is the relative difference between the NDVI for August 2010 and the average of the last 10 years, calculated on the agricultural zones derived from the GLOBCOVER land cover database (2005).



Source: JRC MARS – FoodSec

Food Security Situation Assessment

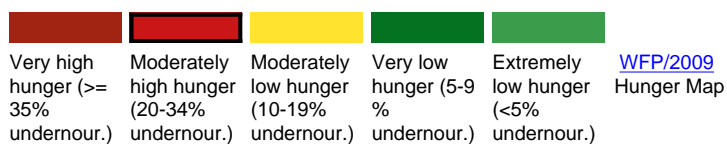
Food security is improving but 1.6 million people still require food assistance. According to FEWSNET, areas of the Turkana, Marsabit and Isiolo districts continue to be highly food insecure in the short term. GIEWS reports severe localized food insecurity while WFP and IFPRI estimate moderately high and alarming hunger.

CURRENT EMERGENCY ASSESMENT



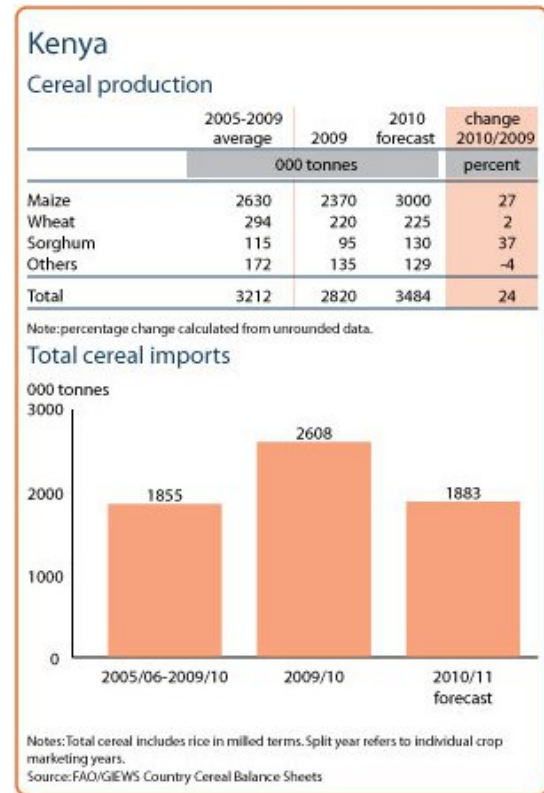
The delayed start to the lean season, attributed to a succession of two good seasons in significant parts of the drought-prone pastoral and marginal agricultural areas, has extended the recovery from previous drought ...[more](#)

SCALE OF HUNGER



Food Balance Sheet

The 2010 maize crop harvest due in October is projected to be good thanks to good long rains. Production is estimated at 2.6 million tonnes, well above the last five years average and about 27% more than the 2009 long-rains season production which was severely affected by drought. Import requirements for 2009/2010 marketing year (Oct/Sept) are 2.6 million tonnes.



Source: GIEWS Country Briefs

Government Policies

The East Africa Common Market Protocol has come into effect paving the way for the free movement of goods, labour, services and capital. The Gvmt introduced price subsidies for fertilizers. About 200,000 small farmers received seeds and fertilizers through the National Accelerated Agricultural Input Access Program. The Hunger Safety Net Programme (HSNP) includes cash transfers to address chronic hunger.

Consumer and market oriented measures	n.a.
Producer oriented measures	Subsidies for fertilizers; inputs for crop production.
Trade policy measures	n.a.
Safety net (increased or introduced)	Cash transfers.

Different sources

Current events to watch (Click to see the full report)

- [KENYA: Training health workers on HIV prevention for positives](#)
- [KENYA: Infant male circumcision for HIV prevention "promising"](#)
- [KENYA: Poor sanitation brings misery to slums](#)
- [KENYA: Voices of peace in a land of conflict](#)
- [KENYA: When orphans become care-givers](#)

For more information, contact: Information-for-action@fao.org
Website: www.foodsec.org

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