

Price Monitoring and Analysis Country Brief

Somalia

June-August 2010

Key Messages

- Cereal prices varied significantly between markets and remained high due to market disruptions caused by on-going conflict.
- Civil insecurity and armed conflicts continue to present a serious threat to food security in most areas of southern and central Somalia.
- 2 million people require emergency food assistance until the end of the year compared to 2.65 million during 2010 first semester.
- Government interventions are constrained by widespread and violent conflict.

Background

The total population in Somalia was 8.95 million in 2008 with an annual growth rate of 2%.

Economic Indicators	View Data
Total Population (millions) - 2008 (WB)	8.926
Population growth rate - 2008 (WB)	2%
GNI per capita, \$ PPP	n.a.
Population below 1\$ PPP per day	n.a.
Rural population - 2008 (WB)	63%
Agriculture, value added (% of GDP)	n.a.

Food Consumption	
Undernourished Population - 2005/2007 (FAO)	< 5%
Cereal share in total dietary energy consumption	n.a.
Meat share in total dietary energy consumption	n.a.

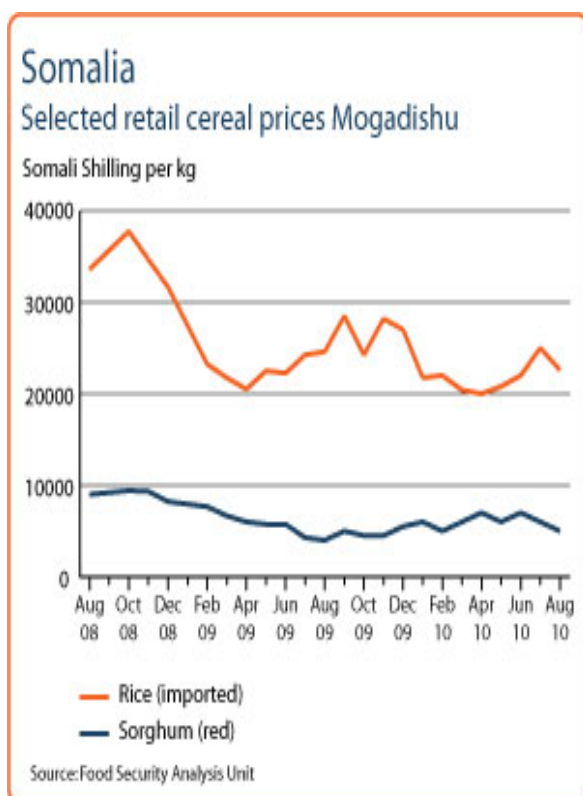
Health Indicators	
Pop. with sustainable access to improved sanitation - 2008 (WHO)	23%
Life expectancy at birth (years) both sexes - 2008 (WHO)	48
Pop. with access to improved drinking water sources - 2008 (WHO)	30%
Prevalence of HIV among adults aged >= 15 years - 2007 (WHO)	0%

Prices

In Mogadishu red sorghum retail prices, after reaching 7000 SoS/Kg in June, decreased to 5000 SoS/kg in August. The lowest retail sorghum prices in August 2010 were registered in the producing areas of Baidoa at 4325 SoS/Kg, while very high prices were reported in Galkayo market in the Mudug Region, with about 8000 SoS/kg. In Bossaso prices were even higher: 17000 SoS/Kg. Maize in Mogadishu was traded at 6000 SoS/Kg, after decreasing from 8000 in June. In the capital city also rice prices were very high in August (22,600 SoS/Kg) though decreased from 25,000 in July. The prices of red sorghum in Mogadishu in July quoted 185.04 USD/T compared to 167.88 USD/T of US Sorghum No2 Yellow, Gulf. Maize prices were 35 % higher in Mogadishu in July (215.88 USD/T) than the international prices of US Maize No2 Yellow Gulf (160.38 USD/T).

Natural Disasters, Drought and Conflicts

Central regions, particularly Mogadishu, Mudug, Galgadud, Hiran, but also areas of southern Somalia like parts of Bakool and Juba continue to be the epicentre of the humanitarian crisis due to on-going conflicts. More recently, armed clashes have occurred in parts of the northern Sanaag and Bari regions, in the North between the Puntland authorities and a new opposing faction in Bossaso areas, and between the Somaliland government and a newly formed local faction (Sool Sanaag and Cayn (SSC)) in Buhodle and Lasanod areas. The situation is particularly worrisome for displaced people which reached 1.41 million within the country with about 300,000 new IDPs since January 2010. Obstacles to humanitarian interventions by aid agencies are also a main concern. According to FSNAU, excessive rains in the past months led to floods with devastating impact on livelihoods in the Juba Riverine where many crops from early Gu planting were damaged. This resulted in 55,000 people from Juba Riverine falling into crisis.



Source: GIEWS Country Briefs

Refugees and IDPs	2007	2008	2009
Total in the country	1011824	1289764	1576544
Total outside the country	1476007	1860373	2249454

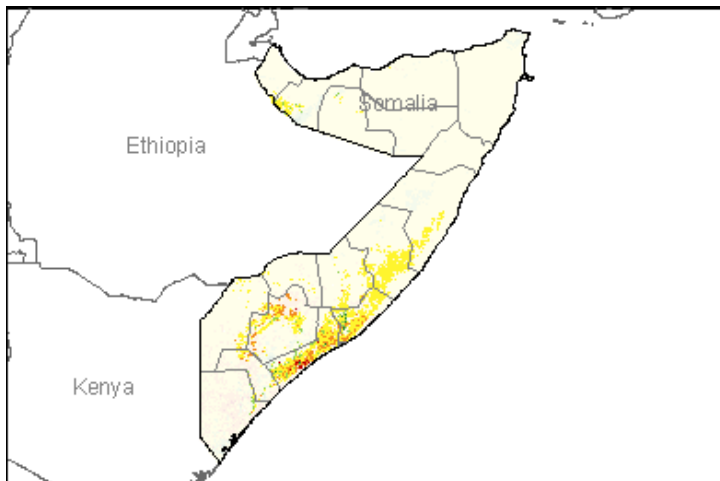
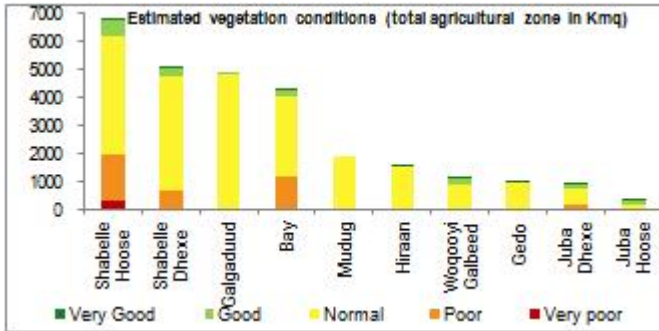
Source: UNHCR Statistical Online Population Database, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Data extracted on 22/09/2010.

Disaster Type (last year)	Date	Location	Alert
Earthquake	2010-06-27	Woqooyi Galbeed	1/3
Earthquake	2010-06-05	Bari	1/3
Flood	2010-04-12	Middle Shabelle region	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

Normal vegetation conditions are observed throughout the country except for the provinces of Shabelle Hoose, Shabelle Dhexe and Bay where poor conditions are ponctually observed. The indicator of vegetation condition provided below is the relative difference between the NDVI for August 2010 and the average of the last 10 years on the agricultural zones derived from the GLOBCOVER database.



Source: JRC MARS – FoodSec

Food Security Situation Assessment

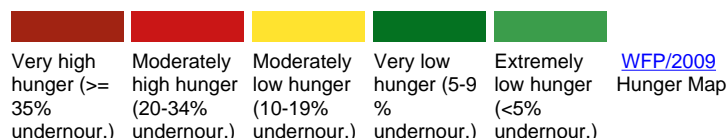
According to the FSAU findings, an estimated 2 million people will be in need of emergency humanitarian assistance until the end of 2010. GIEWS reports, in the short term, widespread lack of access. FEWSNET describes the food security situation as extreme. Somalia is not covered in the WFP Hunger Map and GHI.

CURRENT EMERGENCY ASSESMENT



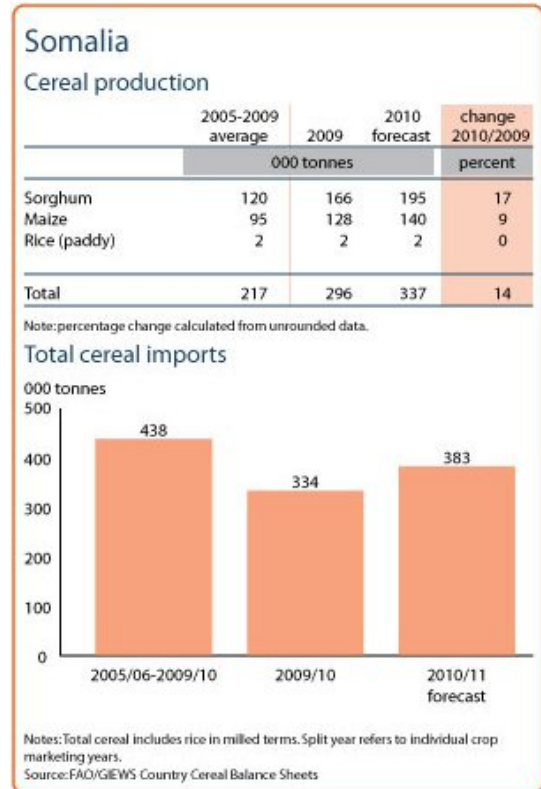
The findings of the FSNAU, FEWSNET and partners' post Gu 2010 seasonal assessment confirm that the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance in Somalia dropped by 25 percent in the first half of 2010. Howe ...[more](#)

SCALE OF HUNGER



Food Balance Sheet

The Somalia Food Security Analysis Unit (FSAU) estimated the 2010 "gu" cereal production at 242,000 tonnes, plus some 8,500 tonnes of maize expected to be harvested by the end of Sept as off-season production. This bumper harvest represents the best result in last 15 years. Total 2010 cereal production is forecast at about 337,000 tonnes with imports at 383,000 tonnes.



Source: GIEWS Country Briefs

Government Policies

Although the presence of international humanitarian staff in July 2010 increased from December 2009, insecurity continues to hamper humanitarian operations in the country. In August, WFP delivered food aid to 940,000 beneficiaries. As no peace and reconciliation efforts are currently taking place, political conflicts are expected to continue in the affected areas with little or no development programmes.

Consumer and market oriented measures	n.a.
Producer oriented measures	n.a.
Trade policy measures	n.a.
Safety net (increased or introduced)	WFP food distribution.

Different sources

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

- [SOMALIA: Spotlight on maternal health risks in rural areas](#)
- [SOMALIA: "Now there is nothing, no handouts, no work"](#)
- [SOMALIA: Somaliland and Puntland to cooperate on security](#)
- [SOMALIA: Khat-chewing "contributes to rise in Burao TB patients"](#)
- [KENYA-SOMALIA: Insecurity without borders](#)

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