



Price Monitoring and Analysis Country Brief

Ethiopia

September 2011 - February 2012

Key Messages

- Food prices have shown a declining trend in recent months thanks to good 2011 meher season harvests, but have recently started going up and remain above prices of one year earlier and have recently started going up.
- Food security conditions have generally improved; however an estimated 3.2 million people remain in need of humanitarian assistance, mostly in southern pastoral areas and in northern and north-eastern Belg producing zones.
- The number of refugees in Ethiopia remains at approximately 298,244 people. The majority are those escaping violence, insecurity and poverty in Sudan, Somalia and Eritrea.
- The Government is assisting most vulnerable groups with food and cash transfers with the help of international agencies.

Background

In Ethiopia, total population is about 82.9 million with a 2% annual growth rate. An estimated 41% of the population is reported to be undernourished. Only 12% of the population has access to improved sanitation and the prevalence of HIV is 2.1%.

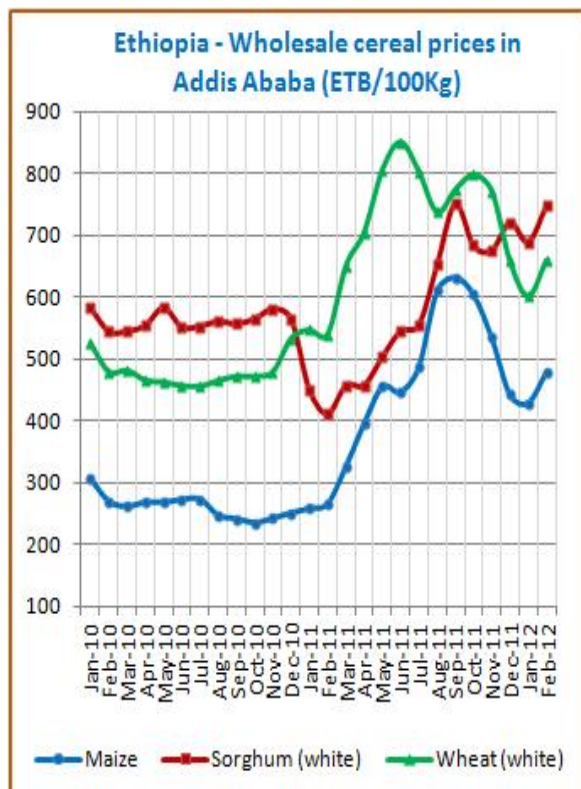
Economic Indicators	View Data
Total Population (millions) - 2010 (WB)	82.949
Population growth rate - 2010 (WB)	2%
GNI per capita, \$ PPP - 2010 (WB)	1030
Population below 1\$ PPP per day - 2005 (MDGI)	39%
Rural population - 2010 (WB)	82%
Agriculture, value added (% of GDP) - 2010 (WB)	47%

Food Consumption	
Undernourished Population - 2006/2008(FAO)	41%
Cereal share in total dietary energy consumption - 2007 (FAO)	66%
Meat share in total dietary energy consumption - 2007 (FAO)	2%

Health Indicators	
Pop. with sustainable access to improved sanitation - 2008 (WHO)	12%
Life expectancy at birth (years) both sexes - 2009 (WHO)	54
Pop. with access to improved drinking water sources - 2008 (WHO)	38%
Prevalence of HIV among adults aged >= 15 years - 2007 (WHO)	2.1%

Prices

Cereal prices declined from their peak levels in Sept/Oct 2011 as newly harvested crops from the 2011 main "meher" season began reaching markets. In Addis, wheat and maize prices decreased by 25 and 29% respectively in January, while red sorghum prices declined by 6%. However, wheat and maize prices increased again in February, by 10 and 12% respectively. Wheat was sold at 659 Birr/qt, maize at 479 Birr/qt, red sorghum at 499 Birr/qt and teff at 912 Birr/qt in February 2012. As compared to February 2011, prices were higher by 20% for wheat, 80% for maize, 79% for red sorghum and 40% for teff. In Addis, wheat prices were 45% above prices of Wheat No2 Hard Red Winter in Feb.



Source: [GIEWS Country Briefs](#)

Food Security Situation Assessment

According to OCHA, some 3.2 million people need humanitarian assistance in first half of 2012. Until December 2011, the number of people was 4.6 million, mostly in southern and south-western parts. Food security has currently improved thanks to good "meher" harvest, and decreased prices. However, despite general improvements, food security is expected to be at Crisis levels (IPC Phase 3) in most southern pastoral areas and in northern and north-eastern Belg producing zones of North Wollo and Afar. GIEWS estimates severe localized food insecurity. FAO hunger map depicts very high prevalence of hunger while IFPRI GHI reports alarming hunger.

CURRENT EMERGENCY ASSESMENT

Exceptional shortfall in aggregate food production supplies	Widespread lack of access	Severe localized food insecurity	FAO/GIEWS CPFS 2011
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Based on the Joint Government and Humanitarian Partners Requirement Document released on the 12th of January, about 3.2 million people will require food assistance in the first half of 2012. ...[more](#)

[FEWSNET](#)

SCALE OF HUNGER (% of Undernourishment)

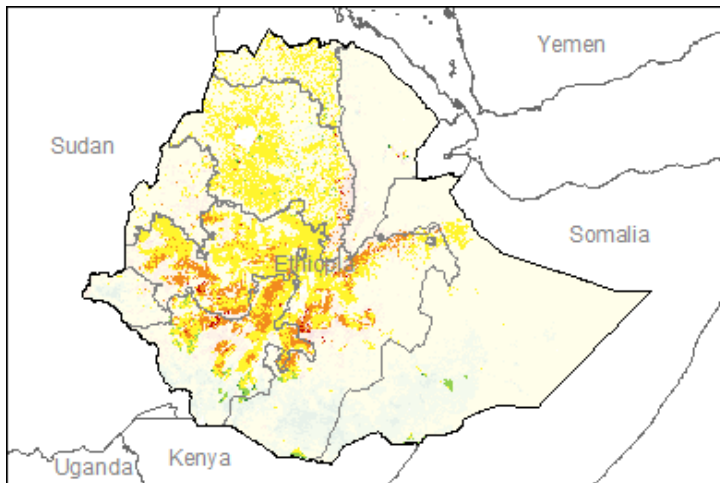
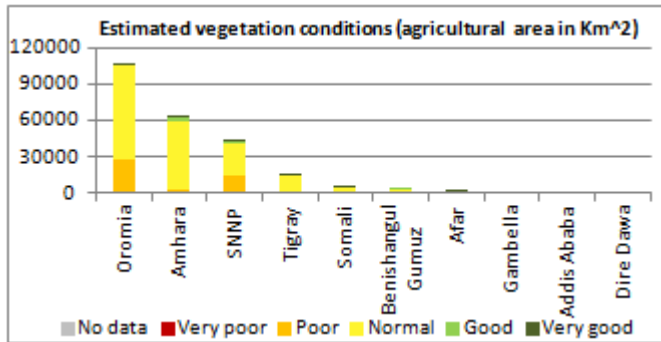
Very high (>= 35%)	High (25-34%)	Moderately high (15-24%)	Moderately low (5-14%)	Very low (< 5% under.)	FAO Hunger Map
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FAO Hunger Map classifies all countries of the world into five based on % of population undernourished.

Extremely alarming	Alarming	Serious	Moderate	Low	IFPRI/2011 GHI
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Vegetation Condition

According to the reference cropping calendars, at the moment this area is out of cropping season. Normal conditions are observed throughout the country except in Oromia and SNNP where conditions are normal to poor. The general indicator of vegetation condition provided below is the absolute difference between the NDVI for February 2012 and the average of the last 10 years, calculated on the agricultural zones derived from the Woody Biomass dataset (World Bank).



Source: JRC MARS – FoodSec

Crop phase in the reference period

Sowing	All Cereals (second)
Growing	No crops are growing during the reference period
Harvesting	Barley Teff and Wheat - Maize - Millet - Oats - Sorghum

Natural Disasters, Drought and Conflicts

Although the influx of refugees from Somalia has significantly declined since Aug, in Jan 8,050 new arrivals were registered, according to UNHCR. As of Jan, the total number of refugees reached some 298,244 people of whom 187,344 Somalis, 55,880 Eritreans, 51,298 Sudanese as well as 3,722 refugees from different nationalities, including more than 2,700 Kenyans.

Refugees and IDPs	2008	2009	2010
Total in the country	85417	124361	155329
Total outside the country	95552	111645	117717

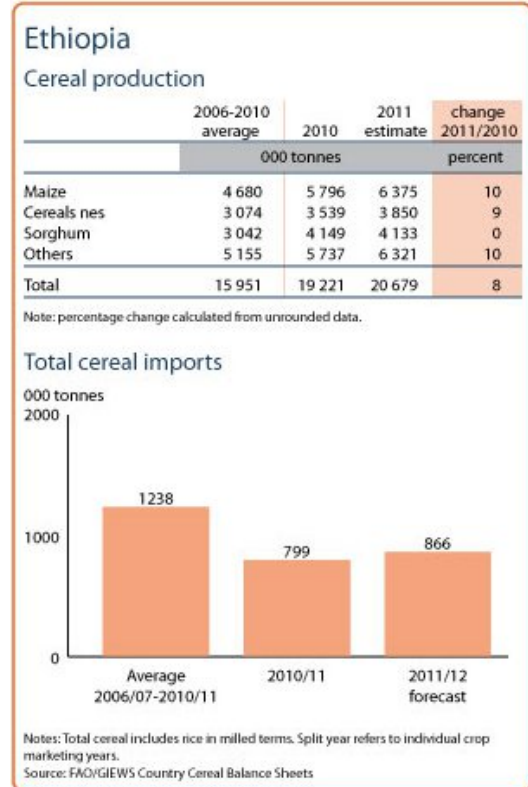
Source: UNHCR Statistical Online Population Database, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Data extracted on 01/03/2012.

Disaster Type (last year)	Date	Location	Alert
Earthquake	2011-03-19	Sidamo Province	2/3
Earthquake	2010-12-19	Shewa Province	2/3
Flood	2010-03-01	Somaliland	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.

Food Balance Sheet

The 2011 total cereal production was estimated at 20.7 mln tons, which represents 8% increase from 2010 output and 37% increase from the five year average. Maize production has also increased by 10% in 2011 compared to previous year's output and was estimated at 6.3 mln tons. Imports for 2011/2012 marketing year are put at 866,000 tons, 8% above last year's imports, but 30% below the five year average.



Source: GIEWS Country Briefs

Government Policies

The Government initiated food deliveries with the help of humanitarian partners. A cash transfer program was launched in September to help reach some of the most vulnerable people in Tigray. The Government has also started implementing the new Agricultural Transformation Program (ATP).

Consumer and market oriented measures	n.a.
Producer oriented measures	ATP
Trade policy measures	Cereal export ban
Safety net (increased or introduced)	PSNP; Cash transfer

Different sources

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

No News Found

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

Powered By the [GIEWS Workstation](#)

The Programme on Linking Information and Decision Making to Improve Food Security is funded by the European Union and implemented by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

* For a further analysis of prices in Ethiopia please see: [Annex](#)