

HORN OF AFRICA CRISIS REPORT



Updated 6 Feb 2009

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ACRONYMS

ALRMP	Arid Lands and Resource Management Project
CAP	Consolidated Appeal Process
CBPP	<i>Contagious Bovine PleuroPneumonia</i>
CERF	Central Emergency Response Fund
ECHO	European Commission's Humanitarian Aid Office
EMOP	Emergency Operations
ENCU	Emergency Nutrition Coordination Unit
FEWSNET	Famine Early Warning Systems Network
FMD	Foot and Mouth Disease
FSAU	Food Security Analysis Unit
FSNWG	Food Security and Nutrition Working Group
GAM	Global Acute Malnutrition
HOA	Horn of Africa
HRF	Humanitarian Response Fund
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
IGAD	Inter-Governmental Authority on Development
IMC	International Medical Corps
<i>IPC</i>	Integrated Food Security Phase Classification
ITN	Insecticide-Treated Nets
KFSSG	Kenya Food Security Steering Group
MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industries and Fisheries
MoH	Ministry of Health
PMN	Protection Monitoring Network
PMT	Population Movement Tracking
PPR	<i>Peste de petits ruminants</i>
PSNP	Productive Safety Net Programme
RDT	Regional Directors Team
RHEG	Regional Health Emergencies [Working] Group
RHPT	Regional Humanitarian Partnership Team
RVF	Rift Valley Fever
SAM	Severe Acute Malnutrition
TSF	Targeted Supplementary Feeding
UNDSS	UN Department of Safety and Security
UNFD	National Union of Djibouti Women
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Funds
UNOCHA	United Nations Office for the coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
UPDF	Uganda Peoples Defense Forces
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USD	United States Dollar
WFP	World Food Programme

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Many parts of the Horn of Africa (HOA) continue to suffer under a precarious security situation coupled with susceptibility to harsh climatic conditions. Sporadic violence and prolonged drought conditions continue to strain the coping mechanisms of millions of people in the region. An estimated 19.8 million people are in need of emergency assistance in the HOA. The humanitarian situation remains critical in parts of Ethiopia, Somalia and Kenya. High or extreme food insecurity remains a concern in lowland pastoral and agro-pastoral areas of central and southern Somalia, Djibouti, southeastern Ethiopia, most northern districts of Kenya and the Karamoja region of Uganda. Despite the near to normal October to December 2008 rains, food security in these countries is not expected to improve significantly from January to March 2009 due to, among other factors, significant asset losses, including the death of livestock, and increased food prices. By contrast, food security in most of the region's cropping highlands has gradually improved over 2008 due to near-normal March to May and July to September rains.¹

The impact of these trends further presents severe implications for an estimated 15 to 18 million pastoralists within the HOA, perceived as among the most vulnerable of the affected groups. Livestock diseases have compounded pastoralists' plight, as has continued cattle rustling across the borders of Kenya, Ethiopia, Sudan and Uganda. Cross-border clashes have had a profound impact on the food production and nutritional campaigns in affected areas.

Renewed conflicts and insecurity have further led to increased population movements in the HOA region. As of December 2008, total internal displacement in Kenya, Somalia, and Ethiopia is estimated at 2.74 million,² of which 1.3 million IDPs have been registered in Somalia. On the other hand, an estimated 50,000³ Somali refugees have sought asylum in Kenya, Eritrea, Ethiopia and Djibouti during the last half of 2008. Ensuring regular access to the most affected areas and population, and guaranteeing acceptable conditions for effective humanitarian action remains a huge challenge. Safety and security for humanitarian workers continues to be an issue of profound concern in the region.

While existing sectoral humanitarian interventions have facilitated positive progress in some sectors, there still remains a large gap in terms of ensuring a linkage between early warning, emergency response and early recovery and development work in the HOA region.

The global financial crisis is of particular concern as its impact may reach African countries more significantly in the coming months. The funding of emergency programmes and level of resources for response may also be impacted by governments' strained resources. There is growing pressure on funding and resource allocation within the HOA. To date a total of USD 1.2 billion shortfall (1.246, 300 million metric tons) for food alone is anticipated for 2009 according to WFP.

A sustained aid and recovery effort until at least mid-2009 appears necessary; in particular in pastoral and agro-pastoral areas where specific interventions are required to assist pastoralists recover from significant losses of cattle.

¹ FEWSNET, East Africa Regional Food Security Outlook, Oct 2008-March 2009

² OCHA ROCEA '*Displacement Report*': June-December 2008

³ UNHCR Branch Office for Somalia, December 2008

1. INTRODUCTION

As a follow-up to the previous HOA Crisis report released on 24th December 2008, the current report outlines the humanitarian situation in the region as of January 2009.

For purposes of this report, the Horn of Africa region comprises of Kenya, Somalia, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Djibouti and Uganda. These countries show relatively similar trends as regards the impact of natural disasters and insecurity, hence the practicality of addressing them at a sub-regional level. Majority of these countries also have large pastoralist populations, whose competition for natural resources often leads to cross-border attacks affecting more than one country.

The report begins with a part on the key challenges and structural issues to be tackled within the Horn of Africa. It is followed by a sub-regional overview of the humanitarian situation in the HOA. It highlights the impact of the recurrent drought within the HOA, which has progressively eroded the livelihoods and community coping mechanisms. A general overview of the impact of rising food and fuel prices, amidst prolonged conflict and insecurity, and poor health and nutrition conditions in most HOA countries is further outlined.

Subsequent sections of the report provide information on the country specific humanitarian context, including updates on food security, health and nutrition status, impact of increased global fuel prices on local markets, on-going humanitarian responses and the latest funding status per country. Special emphasis has been placed on the impact of these trends on the pastoralist community, perceived as the most vulnerable among the affected groups.

The report makes reference to latest documents and reports from different organizations, including the Regional Inter Agency Working Group on Food Security and Nutrition (FSNWG), FEWSNET and FSAU/Somalia and the revised 2008 response plans and consolidated appeals/funding mechanisms for Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Djibouti and Uganda. Further contributions have been made by members of the Regional Directors Team (RDT), the Regional Humanitarian Partnership Team (RHPT) and the various inter-agency regional working groups.

The report is updated on a quarterly basis, subject to availability of new information from humanitarian actors in the affected countries.

2. Looking back and lessons (not) learned

As one of the most food-deficit regions in the world, the greater Horn of Africa (HoA) has endured several crises related to drought and/or serious food insecurity. With a population which has doubled since 1974, food insecurity in the HoA has become a major concern for both government and the international community. No later than in 2006, a number of organizations highlighted the challenges “posed by the climatic evolutions and progressively eroded resilience in a region where socio-economic indicators (health, nutrition, access to education) are often on the lower side of the international spectrum”.⁴ The same interagency team summed up a number of key findings such as:

“Preparedness for rapid onset disasters is very patchy in the region [...]

There is still inadequate information exchange between systems and across the region on populations and livestock movements as well as trade and commodity flows,

Resource mobilization in all recent emergencies has been weighted toward food aid rather than non-food responses [...]⁵

Two years ago, the number of affected population by drought and complex emergencies was estimated 8.2 million⁶ with an important percentage in Kenya (3.5 million). The Special Humanitarian Envoy at the time, Kjell Magne Bondevik, urged governments and aid agencies to embark on long-term development solutions to reduce vulnerability to drought. But the Bondevik mission did not yield any dedicated follow-up from governments and little has changed in the way aid agencies tackle these issues.

In 2007, FAO compiled no less than 25 recommendations with an emphasis to improve the quality of delivery and to better determine the impact at the field level. Among these we can find:

[...] build stronger links between food security and livestock-related information systems,

Continue to advocate [...] for a greater proportion of humanitarian funding to focus on livelihood interventions,

Actively engage in the development of medium term strategies that determine priorities in addressing chronic food insecurity,

Promote longer term recovery and resilience of local production systems to climatic shocks, through improved natural resource management, water and soil conservation, rehabilitation of damaged irrigation infrastructure, improved grain storage, promotion of livestock trade and destocking, security of land tenure, dialogue on trans boundary water bodies [...].⁷

The current crisis is not an unfortunate event but rather a chronic feature of the region. This will challenge us to change and adapt the tools and methodologies that we employ in the prevention, mitigation and response to the crisis. The unpredictable negative effects of climate change must also be taken into consideration as people struggle to adapt to the new realities of changed weather patterns and more frequent extreme weather events. We must prepare ourselves now for this long-term scenario. But as Ethiopian Prime Minister mentioned: “adaptation means fighting poverty and, fighting poverty quickly and effectively. The sooner you did that, the more resources you would have to adapt to climate change”.⁸

It is not yet certain that the lessons have really been learnt either by government, organizations or donors: “One key lesson of this crisis is that, where agencies had a long-term presence and were flexible in redeploying funds earmarked for long-term activities, livelihoods interventions were implemented in a timely manner. This technical capacity and funding flexibility must become the norm if livelihoods are to be protected in future emergencies. While it is important to enhance the capacity of humanitarian actors to undertake robust needs assessments and devise appropriate livelihoods responses in slow-onset crises, it is also essential that relevant national preparedness plans are in place in contexts where vulnerability is chronic, and where acute crises are

⁴ Real Time Evaluation of the Drought Response in the Horn of Africa, Final Report 16/12/2006

⁵ idem

⁶ Horn of Africa CAP, April 2006

⁷ Evaluation of the FAO Emergency and Rehabilitation Assistance in the Greater Horn of Africa (2004-2007), Final Report, FAO, 2007

⁸ P.M. Meles Zenawi, ECA, Press Conference, 15 January 2009

likely to develop. In order for these plans to be effectively put into operation, there must be investment in national capacity to implement emergency livelihoods programming on a large scale “⁹

Today, insecurity is more widespread in Somalia and the Somali region of Ethiopia than 2-3 years ago. Border tensions between Ethiopia and Eritrea and Eritrea and Djibouti are far from resolved. Kenya is recovering from widespread political violence which caused more than 300,000 people to become displaced in early 2008 and the country is experiencing a fragile power-sharing agreement.

New and old vulnerabilities

To some extent, the effects of the 2006 drought are still inherent: affected populations have not had time to recover before the 2008 soaring food prices and drought crisis hit them once more. New vulnerable groups have emerged and require new approaches to food security while very few food producers benefit from the higher prices on the market in a region where most agriculture is subsistence farming.

The dramatic rise of food prices in the last months both at the global and sub-regional level poses challenges not only to food security but to socio-economic, environmental and security sectors as well. The High-level Task Force on the Global Food Crisis identified four key outcomes to meet the immediate needs of the most vulnerable populations¹⁰:

- 1) “Emergency food assistance, nutrition interventions and safety nets to be enhanced and made more accessible;
- 2) Smallholder farmer food production to be boosted;
- 3) Trade and taxes policies to be adjusted;
- 4) Macroeconomic implications to be managed

In the longer-term, four additional critical outcomes are put forward:

- 1) Social protection systems to be expanded
- 2) Smallholder farmer-led food availability growth to be sustained
- 3) International food markets to be improved
- 4) International biofuel consensus to be developed.”

How do these outcomes relate to the Greater Horn of Africa? All four immediate outcomes are critical for the HoA but there is more: the different natures of the crisis in the HoA require a special attention on the type of vulnerable groups and their specific needs. A FSAU ‘Food & Security’ quarterly brief for Somalia published in 2008 states that: “The ‘new food crisis’ among the urban poor demands strategic thinking and response ‘outside the box’, to enable people access food and other essential items without leading to further harmful economic and market distortions. Complementary interventions are needed to address underlying issues including the inability of the poor to cover the costs of a basic minimum basket of expenditures, hyperinflation, currency devaluation, and the reduction in purchasing power.”¹¹

The recent emergency appeal of the Government of Kenya not only considers the ‘traditional’ drought related affected population but increasingly vulnerable urban dwellers unable to cope with the high food prices. WFP is about to initiate programs covering urban populations, for example Djibouti.

A more flexible and timely food aid response is critically needed to avoid an over-dependency on food aid programs. In view of the recurrence of natural and man-made emergencies in the HoA and other parts of the east and central Africa region, WFP is working toward establishing a revolving emergency food stocks pre-positioned within the region in order to reduce the lead time in responding to emergencies.

⁹ Saving lives through livelihoods: critical gaps in the response to the drought in the Greater Horn of Africa, HPG Briefing Note, ODI, May 2006

¹⁰ High-level Task Force on the Global Food Crisis, Comprehensive Framework for Action, July 2008

¹¹ FSAU Somalia, Quarterly Brief, 9 May 2008

3. SUB-REGIONAL OVERVIEW

3.1. Conflict and tensions

In south and central Somalia civil conflict and insecurity continue, particularly targeting community leaders and humanitarian workers. Ethiopian troops' withdrawal has fuelled fears of Islamist ascendancy and renewed infighting among the various factions. Such level of lawlessness and insecurity is putting humanitarian operations at risk. WFP indicated on 22 January 2009 that it may suspend some of its programs in central and southern Somalia. Meanwhile, CARE international withdrew from these regions of Somalia in 2008. The Ethiopians have withdrawn their military presence from Somalia, thus causing fears that clan groupings and militias may become again the order of the day which will give a hand to the al-Shabaab militias. This leaves a vacuum and it is unclear how it will be addressed.

Persistent civil insecurity and the associated market disruptions also continue to negatively impact the food security situation in parts of **Somali Region of Ethiopia**, causing concerns that the emergency situation in these areas could be deteriorating rapidly. Similarly, resource-based conflicts in various districts in northern Kenya and northeastern Uganda have remained a serious cause of concern to the pastoral livelihoods in that area.

Meanwhile, Kenya parliament has recently expressed concerns over **Ethiopia** initiating dam constructions on the Omo River, claiming Kenya's Lake Turkana's survival is at risk following Ethiopia's development operations upstream.

Tension continues at the **Djibouti-Eritrea** border since February 2008, when Eritrean troops progressively began regrouping at the border and occupying a peninsula and an island. However, on 13th January 2009, the UN Security Council gave Eritrea 5 weeks to withdraw from the contested area.

Tensions continue between **Ethiopia** and **Eritrea** over their border demarcation. The nations disagree over the Border Commission's decision reiterated in December 2007

Tensions in the Kenyan part of the Mander triangle continue with many of the people displaced by the conflict and the subsequent military operation yet to come back. Violence in the area re-started between Murule and Garre in Mander town triggered by inadequate space for 920 families displaced by flash floods. A security operation was then set up by the government to intervene after the conflict took a cross-border dimension with one clan allegedly getting support from Al-Shabaab militants from Somalia¹² However as a result of the operation the armed conflict has ceased; nevertheless there is lack of trust between the communities. This greatly hampers both trade and natural resource sharing amongst pastoralists communities especially during this time of the drought.

3.2. Policies and Governance

Ethiopia

The Charities and Societies Proclamation law (CSO law)

On 6th January 2009, the Ethiopian parliament adopted the Charities and Societies Proclamation law (CSO law), to regulate all domestic and international civil society organizations (CSOs) carrying out activities in the country. A potentially repressive new law, its provisions would create a complex web of arbitrary restrictions and criminal penalties on the work civil society groups can engage in, according to Human Rights Watch¹³.

The Ethiopian government claims the CSO law addresses perceived inadequacies in the existing legal regime, promotes financial transparency and accountability, and provides proper administration and regulation of civil society.

If enforced, the CSO law will criminalize human rights activities undertaken by Ethiopian organizations that receive more than ten percent of their funding from abroad. The law will also criminalize human rights

¹² OCHA Kenya Situation Report – Mander Crisis # 4 – November 20th, 2008

¹³ Human Rights Watch's Analysis of Ethiopia's Draft Civil Society Law, October 2008.

activities by foreign NGOs, including campaigning for gender equality, children's rights, disabled persons' rights and conflict resolution. Furthermore, the new law will impose disproportionate and criminal penalties for minor administrative breaches of the law, according to Amnesty International; establish a Charities and Societies Agency with broad discretionary power over civil society organizations; and allow government surveillance of, and interference in, the operation and management of civil society organizations.

The law has been met with strong opposition from some Ethiopian civil society actors and some international non-governmental organizations including some of Ethiopia's key bilateral partners.

The current text of the law is less restrictive than the original draft in some respects. It would not bar foreign and foreign-funded CSOs from working on poverty alleviation or economic development issues; the original text however did. It also explicitly places religious organizations outside of its scope of application.

Restricted Access

Restrictions of movement and requirement of military escorts in the Somali region have profoundly affected the delivery of food assistance to beneficiaries by WFP and WFP monitoring activities have also been constrained. Although the Government of Ethiopia continues to issue monthly blanket security travel clearance for WFP staff, this continues to be a major operational concern.

Eritrea

Generally the humanitarian condition in Eritrea has been deteriorating, mainly attributed to the cumulative effect of consecutive drought. The situation remains unclear due to several factors lack of empirical data, among others.

Government's fuel embargo to the UN since April 2008

UN agencies and other partners including ICRC have not been receiving the monthly diesel allocation from the government since April 2008. This continues to seriously undermine partners' field activities and the ability to properly assess the humanitarian situation throughout the country.

Lack of NGOs, WFP not operational in Eritrea

WFP suspended its operation in Eritrea in May 2006 – this follows a dispute with the government regarding the impounding of its food aid. OCHA and ICRC have down-sized their operations in August 2008 and only six international NGOs are operating in the country compared to more than 30 in 2005.

Travel restrictions

All international staff require a government-issued travel permit in order to travel outside the capital, Asmara. The permits for international staff typically require ten days to process. There is no restriction for travels undertaken by Eritrean nationals, except to some strategic areas in the country in the border region. Humanitarian workers also continue to face travel permit difficulties in Eritrea.

Kenya Agricultural and Food Policy

Even though the current deficit in the food security crisis arises from low harvests due to internal displacements, high costs of production and low acreage, failure of the October-December rains in most parts of the short rains dependent districts, among others, lack of good governance and unsound market or food policies also play a role. The extent of market and imports disruptions in the maize sector clearly demonstrates this issue. As a result, affected communities continue to depend solely on relief food from the government and aid agencies.

Kenya's policy environment for managing chronic food security is guided by the draft Food Security and Nutrition Policy (FSNP), which has been developed into a Sessional Paper. The draft Policy is supported by the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP), Strategy to Revitalize Agriculture (SRA), draft ASAL Policy, draft National Disaster Management Policy, Economic Recovery Strategy (ERS) for Wealth and Employment Creation, and draft Vision 2030, among others.

Given the significant food deficits with the projected poor short rains harvest and also in view of the increasingly limited supply of non genetically modified (GMO) cereals in the region, it is imperative for the Kenyan Government to expedite on the pending GMO and biosafety bill currently in parliament.

3.3. Drought

A crippling drought combined with unprecedented high food prices and – in some areas – insecurity continue to jeopardize the livelihood of millions of people in both rural and urban communities who already live on the margins of survival due to conflict, displacement and chronic poverty. The recurrence of drought in the Horn of Africa, following delayed or lack of rains, and in some cases torrential rains that cause severe flooding and destruction of crops, has progressively eroded livelihoods and community coping mechanisms.

The October-December rains set out on time within the region. Overall, the rains brought initial relief by improving water and pasture availability and enabling crop planting among the pastoral and agro pastoral/marginal farming communities, who had been adversely affected by previous rainfall failures. However, the rains were significantly below-average, and almost non-existent, in most parts of southern Somalia and into parts of southern Ethiopia and eastern and southeastern, coastal lowlands and northern pastoral districts of Kenya. Little to no rainfall accumulation is expected in the near-term for these areas. As a result, many local areas are likely to experience failed crop harvests, water shortages, and deteriorating rangeland conditions over the next couple of months.

The unprecedented food price increases and in some countries unprecedented levels of conflict not seen since the 1990s, seriously compound the complexity of the situation and consequently the capacity of governments and aid agencies to respond. Lack of proper mitigation and recovery programmes continued to hamper recovery efforts for the largely pastoral communities in the Horn.

Food prices are expected to remain above average, thus continue to limit access for vulnerable households despite a stabilization or decline in cereals prices. A sustained aid and recovery effort until at least mid-2009 appears necessary, in particular in pastoral and agro-pastoral areas.

3.4. Population Movements

A worsening situation has been reported in the Somali region of Ethiopia due to progressive shortages of water and food thus resulting in increased rural-urban migration.¹⁴ Concerning refugees from Somalia, the ARRA (government refugees' body) has reported that the Somali refugee influx into Ethiopia has increased from 40 persons per day to 150 persons from mid-January. This influx is following the withdrawal of Ethiopian troops and is expected to continue in the coming weeks. Unconfirmed reports indicate that 7,000 refugees are already in the Dolo Odo area. A joint UNHCR/WFP mission in Ethiopia is ongoing to facilitate contingency planning for a possible further movement of Somali refugees, not only to Ethiopia but also other neighboring countries.

Insecurity in Somalia continues to prompt refugees from Somalia to cross over into Kenya despite the closure of the Kenya-Somalia border by the Kenyan authorities late 2008, Somali new arrivals have continued to cross over into Kenya through porous border crossing points that include Mandera, El Wak, Amuma and Lamu (Kiunga). According to UNHCR, some 18,000 crossed into Kenya in 2007 and another 60,000 in 2008. It is expected that this constant inflow will persist in the coming months and further escalate, as a result of ongoing violence in Somalia.

Higher numbers of Somali refugees, majority of whom are fleeing from the insecurity in South and Central Somalia have also been reported in Djibouti and Eritrea. Economic migrants out of Eritrea have also been reported in Ethiopia (Afar), Djibouti and Yemen. Furthermore, the migrants' nutritional status is considered very poor in Afar, Ethiopia.¹⁵

Total internal displacement within Somalia is estimated at 1.3 million people, majority of whom were displaced by conflict in Central/Southern Somalia. This represents an additional 200,000 IDPs since July 2008.

In Uganda, increasing out-migration from the Karamoja region following drought and insecurity conditions, particularly in the districts of Kotido, Moroto and Nakapiripirit, to peri-urban areas near Kampala, Iganga, Jinja

¹⁴ Regional DPPB in OCHA, Weekly Humanitarian Highlights in Ethiopia, 15 Sep 2008

¹⁵ OCHA Situation report, 8 Sep 2008

and Mbale, as well as to bordering parts of Pader, Kitgum, Katakwi and Amuria districts, has been reported. Women and children constitute the majority of the migrating population, raising potential protection concerns.

3.5. Health and Nutrition

The depletion of household resources due to drought or high food prices is having a serious impact on the populations general health and nutrition condition in countries of the Greater Horn of Africa. The vicious circle of malnutrition leading to poor health leading to increased poverty means that fewer resources are dedicated to health and nutrition care, which is increasingly needed as a result of poor diet, increased morbidity, poor infant and young child care practices and food insecurity.

Additional factors such as lack of water and population displacement – and consequently precarious sanitation – will further increase the risk of communicable diseases such as cholera, typhoid fever, diarrhoea, acute respiratory infections and measles all of which are in turn closely related to the incidence of malnutrition. The main sub-regional epidemic health threats are either related to low accessibility to potable water (cholera, typhoid), caused by and causing poor nutritional status weak disease and nutrition surveillance systems, limited medical personnel, particularly at the community level and low immunization coverage (polio, meningitis).¹⁶ The longer-term impacts include impaired mental development, reduced work productivity and higher rates of chronic diseases.

The Nutrition Situation Report for the Horn of Africa (Jan 09) published by the Regional Food and Nutrition Security Working Group highlights the existence of very critical levels of acute malnutrition in Somalia (Central, Bossasso, Gedo, Bakool and Coastal areas Somaliland) and critical situation in other parts of Somalia (Hiran, Juba, and Gedo). In Ethiopia very critical malnutrition rates have been recorded in Afar and critical situations in hotspots in SNNPR and Oromia (note Nutrition surveys have not been authorized for sometime in Somali Region of Ethiopia). Population density means that SNNPR and Oromia represent the largest concentration of malnutrition children in the region. Up to date nutrition survey data is not yet available from the North and North East arid lands of Kenya but other nutritional data indicates a very critical to critical situation. On the positive side the Juba and Shabelle areas of Somalia showed sustained recovery in nutritional status related to improved harvests and linked to humanitarian efforts.

A sustained integrated multi-sector response at the national level (watsan, nutrition, health, food, agriculture, education, and protection) and stronger cross-border approaches for displaced populations are crucial to effectively counter deteriorating health and nutrition conditions.

¹⁶ Regional Emergency Health Group, Sept 2008

HOA Nutritional Overview: (UNICEF ESARO, January 2009):

Country	Total Pop	Estimated Children GAM (<80% WFH)	% Children covered	Estimated Children SAM (<70% WFH)	% Children covered	Comments
Somalia	7.5 ¹⁷	200,000	30%	60,000	50%	SAM and GAM figures represent estimated caseload in most affected areas of country, not actual country caseload
Ethiopia	73.9 ¹⁸	500,000	n/a	34,379	n/a ¹⁹	Idem
Eritrea	4.5	85,000	60%	7,000	70%	Idem
Kenya	35.6	103,000	46% (moderate)	12,000	60% ²⁰	Idem Based on figures of August 2008
Djibouti	.6	25,000	40%	5,000	50%	Coverage estimates
Uganda	1.1 ²¹	35,000	n/a	7,500	60%	Coverage estimates

¹⁷ FSAU reference

¹⁸ Ethiopian Central Statistics Agency – December 2008

¹⁹ The Emergency Nutrition Coordination Unit (ENCU) is calculating for each regional state a TFP and TSF coverage indicator that could be used as a proxy indicator for coverage. The last available consolidated value at national level was of 56% TFP coverage in October 2008

²⁰ Referred for case management

²¹ Population for Karamoja region

3.6. Funding and gaps

It is estimated that the combined needs for the response in the Horn of Africa in 2009 total about 2 billion USD.

Country	Affected Populations	Source	Needs USD million	Remark
Somalia	3.5	FSAU, Jan 2009	918.8 ²²	Up from 2.6 in April 2008 and 90% increase since January 2008
Ethiopia	12 ²³	Humanitarian Requirements 2009, Joint Government and Humanitarian Partners' Document, 30 January 2009	454.3 ²⁴	2009 Humanitarian Requirements Document issued on 30 January 2009
Kenya	3.2 ²⁵	Kenya Food Security Steering Group, 19 Aug 2008 + initial 2009 assessments	390 ²⁶	Up from 1.2 million in June 2008.
Djibouti	149,000 (food)	WFP/FEWSNET 16 September 2008	22	Up from 120,000 in July (Joint Appeal) 265,000 in need of emergency water supply
Uganda (Karamoja)	970,000 (food)	WFP Jan 2009	52	Up from 707,000 people in 2008
Eritrea	unknown			
Total	19.8 million		1.84 billion	

WFP Projected Food Requirements and shortfalls - Jan-Dec 2009:

Country	WFP planned caseload ²⁷	Food shortfall MT (Jan-Dec 09)	2009 Food shortfall USD
Somalia	3,500,000	224,600	239,400,000
Ethiopia ²⁸	8,581,000	622,000	625,000,000
Kenya ²⁹	3,200,000	306,400	289,200,000
Djibouti	150,000	22,300	21,400,000
Uganda (Karamoja)	970,000	71,000	52,000,000
Total³⁰	16,401,000	1,246,300	1,227,000,000

Source: WFP Regional Bureau, 23 January 2009

²² Consolidated Appeal for Somalia 2009.

²³ Figure includes 7 million beneficiaries under Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP), 1.2 million beneficiaries of supplementary food and 4.9 million requiring emergency assistance in 2009.

²⁴ For food and non-food

²⁵ Temporary figure based on initial 2009 assessments. Government of Kenya has declared 10 million people in need of emergency food aid on 15 January 2009.

²⁶ Emergency Humanitarian Response Plan 2009 for Kenya

²⁷ Does not take into account people under regular programs such as school feeding or refugees.

²⁸ Ethiopia WFP beneficiaries include relief food assistance and PSNP beneficiaries.

²⁹ Kenya information is based on the Government of Kenya appeal from January 16, 2009 and subject to change based on a forthcoming assessment in February 2009

³⁰ These figures do not include school children, HIV/AIDS affected, refugees, and other vulnerable communities that WFP supports in the Horn of Africa through its development programmes and refugee operations

4. Special Focus on Pastoralist

Heavy rains reported in the month of November 2008 in most parts of **Kenya**, subsequently enhanced prospects for improved food cropping and access in selected parts of the country. However, several challenges emerged as a result of the heavy rains with pastoralists in the Lake region pastoral districts of Turkana, Mandera, Garissa, Tana River experiencing serious flooding that resulted in the loss of life, livestock and temporary displacements.

Livestock diseases, in particular the *Peste des Petits Ruminants* (PPR), remain a major threat to the pastoral livelihood, while current flooding suggests that monitoring of the Rift Valley Fever (RVF) is a priority.³¹

In **Somalia**³², pastoralists in the Central, Hiran, and Bakool regions continue to struggle as herd sizes are severely depleted since pastoralists have sold large numbers of animals over the past 6-12 months to meet the high cost of food and water trucking. Herds could take three to four normal seasons to recover depending on the livestock species. Households are indebted and social support mechanisms are overburdened. Food prices, though stabilizing, still remain at record high levels. With limited livestock to sell and high prices, pastoralists will continue to struggle to not only meet their basic needs and non food needs, but to take actions to recover their primary livelihood assets-livestock. It will take several good seasons for livelihoods to recover.

The situation in **Somali region of Ethiopia** continues to be of concern. The findings of the 2008 multi-agency needs assessment team identified approximately 1.5 million beneficiaries that are facing food and livelihood protection deficit for emergency assistance. Although the *deyr* rains (October to November 2008) have brought much relief in terms of availing pasture and water, potentially addressing concerns over livestock survival in the current *jilaal* (dry) season, their contribution in terms of reducing overall food insecurity was insignificant. The failure 2007 and 2008 rains, led to low livestock reproduction rate and high mortality and miscarriage levels in the dry seasons (*jilaal* and *hagaa*) of 2008. Crop production was, despite the *deyr* rains, severely constrained by shortage of seeds, early cessation of the rains and floods in the riverine areas. Additionally, poorly functioning markets with high food prices (worsened by poor local production) and deficient livestock demand, have severely limited purchasing power.

Pastoralist populations in **Karamoja** remain the most food insecure in **Uganda**³³ due to lack of available food stocks compounded by widespread poverty and livestock diseases. A third consecutive year of failed or poor harvest means that households will be unable to replenish their stocks and therefore incomes will remain low. Terms of trade are also expected to remain low and likely to decline until next year's harvest in September/October. Low food supplies maintain high crop prices and livestock conditions decline due to poor pasture conditions and restrictions on inter-district livestock movements. Livestock conditions may further decline due to increased incidences of disease as the October to April dry season sets in. Many households now depend on meager food supplies, mainly from gathering wild foods, hunting and limited purchases using income from the sale of firewood and livestock. Some 970,000 people in Karamoja (more than 95% of the region's population) will be targeted by WFP for food aid as part of an Emergency Operation (EMOP) in the region.

Pastoralist cross border conflicts and impact on pastoralist food security in the HOA;

Aggravated by the availability of small arms in the region, cattle rustling incidents have increased in many arid regions in recent months within the Horn, as pastoralists seek to restock herds depleted by a searing drought across east Africa over the last three years. Long-running disputes over access to water and pasture in the arid ranges have also worsened inter-clan ties, complicating governments' capacity to restore stability in the pastoral areas. The humanitarian community is increasingly concerned as current cross-border conflict in pastoral areas continues to affect humanitarian and emergency relief efforts within the HOA region.

The ongoing inter-clan, cross-border armed clashes since October 2008 in the **Mandera** region straddling the **Somalia, Ethiopia and Kenya border** continues to undermine the humanitarian response in the region. More recently, in November 2008, at least 1,500 families (9,000 people) fled from Elwak (an area in Mandera) and its environs following conflict in October 2008 between the Garre and Murule clans. The Kenyan military has scaled up its patrol activities following the official closure of the border to aid deliveries.

³¹ Kenya Food Security Update – November 2008

³² Adapted from Food and Security Analysis Unit Somalia report, November 21, 2008

³³ Summary for Uganda adapted from Uganda Food Security Update (October 2008)

Other cross-border conflict hotspots include the **Uganda-Kenya border**. While northern Kenya and northeastern Uganda (Karamoja) continue to experience prolonged outbreaks of pastoralist-related armed clashes, the situation seems to have been exacerbated by the recent drought and scramble for limited grazing and water sources.

The Kibish stretch from Turkana North to Lokichar in Turkana South has been hard hit by extreme food insecurity. Reportedly, some families from Oropoi, Kakuma, Lokichogio and Nanan divisions of Turkana North have moved to neighboring parts of Uganda. More than 10,000 Turkana pastoralists are believed to have sought refuge in northeastern Uganda in August 2008, with cattle estimated to number 200,000.³⁴

The issue of the Turkana presence in Uganda has raised concerns about the cross-border flow of small arms. Armed Kenyan pastoralists have been barred from entering or asked to leave the country by the Uganda Peoples Defense Forces (UPDF). While a high-level meeting of Ugandan and Kenyan officials initially scheduled for 30 July 2008, on the issue of the Turkana presence in Uganda, did not take place, other initiatives are ongoing, including through the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), bilateral meetings between representatives of local government in Karamoja and Turkana and internal and external pastoralist forums.

Since August 2008, Pokots within Kenya have mounted two successive raids in South Turkana district which saw over 70 people killed and at least 2,800 head of cattle stolen and driven towards West Pokot district.³⁵

There is also growing concern over the **Ethiopian and northern Kenya border**. Since April 2008, Ethiopian pastoralists have been killed in northern Kenya as a result of cattle rustling activities. At least 15 pastoralists were killed in Turkana district in April 2008 as police clashed with cattle rustlers who crossed into northern Kenya. The August killing brought to 42 the number of people killed in 2008 following cattle-rustling related attacks in Turkana district which neighbours strife-torn Southern Sudan and north-eastern Uganda. In 2006, a revenge attack by Ethiopian rustlers killed at least 77 Kenyan villagers including 56 school children, in the worst-ever single episode of violence in the country's post-colonial history.

The **Kenya and Southern Sudan border** is another hotspot. In September, 70 pastoralists lost their lives in a massacre in three villages of Lokor Division in Turkana South District. In August, at least 19 pastoralists were killed in Turkana north District in clashes between local herders and rustlers from Southern Sudan.

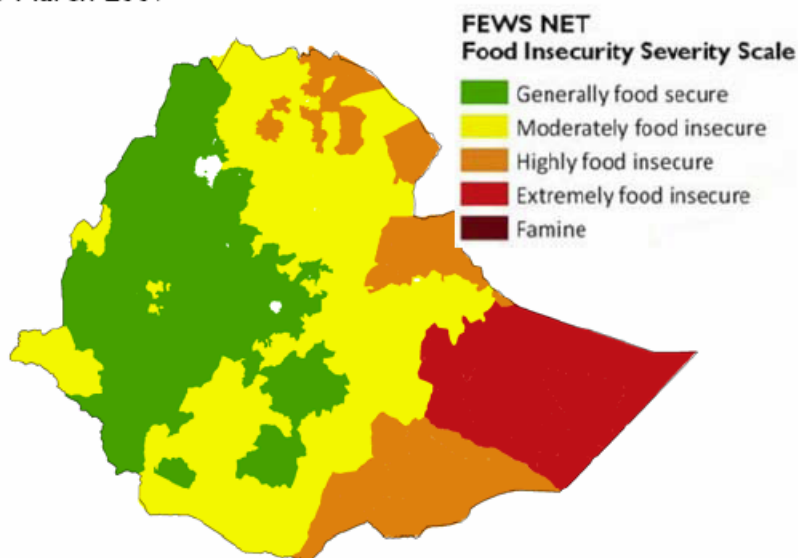
³⁴ Unofficial source, The Daily Nation, 22 Aug 2008

³⁵ Weekly security Advisory on 22 August 2008

5. COUNTRY UPDATES

Ethiopia

Figure 1. Current estimated food security conditions, January to March 2009



Source: FEWS NET and WFP Ethiopia

In 2009, over 12 million people, 20 percent of the rural population will continue to require assistance. The Humanitarian Requirements Document issued on 30 January 2008 indicates that a total of 4.9 million people will require emergency food assistance in addition to the 7 million chronically food insecure people that continue to be assisted through Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP). The Government requests a net total of USD 454,396,769 to address food needs for the year and non-food needs for the first six months of 2009. The net food requirement stands at 450,611 MT, valued at US\$ 389,327,904. In addition, the Targeted Supplementary Food Programme requires 30,327 MT amounting to US\$ 26.2 million to respond to needs of estimated 1.2 million beneficiaries. The net requirement for the non-food sectors (health and nutrition, water and sanitation and agriculture and livestock) amounts to US\$ 38,866,337. The findings of the multi-agency, sectoral emergency needs assessment conducted during November/December 2008 formed the basis for the above identified needs.

The poor performance of seasonal rains, poor crop production coupled with increases in the price of staple food commodities led to a deterioration of the food security situation, particularly in some of the eastern half of the country in 2008. The health and nutrition status of vulnerable households was also exacerbated by food insecurity. In order to alleviate the suffering of people affected by the crisis, the Government, with the support of its partners continually reviewed beneficiary figure from 2.2 million to 6.4 million and necessitated additional resources. The Revised Humanitarian Requirements Document noted that an estimated 84,200 children will require emergency nutritional interventions. Additionally, Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD) continued to be a challenge and a total of 3,941 cases from 55 woredas in six regions and Addis Ababa Municipality was reported during the year. Shortage of water and pasture affected livestock condition and productivity. However, the capacity of Government and humanitarian partners to effectively respond to the crisis was impeded by shortages of emergency resources.

Humanitarian challenges are anticipated to continue in 2009. The projection of humanitarian requirements for food and non-foods is based on analysis of the findings of the Government-led multi-agency seasonal assessment. The primary purpose of the seasonal assessment, conducted between the 17th November and 8th December 2008, was to review the overall humanitarian situation in each region of the country. In light of the Government's new strategy to shift from a more food-focused response mechanism to all hazard early warning and Response system, a multi-disciplinary team was deployed in the affected areas to identify emergency food and non-food requirements including Health and Nutrition, Water and Sanitation and Agriculture and Livestock. Assessment teams, composed of government and its humanitarian partners, evaluated the weather conditions, crop production prospects, livelihood and market situation as well as pasture and water conditions

in order to identify needs and estimate humanitarian requirements outlined in this document. As a result an estimated 4.9 million people likely to require humanitarian assistance in the coming six months.

Major findings of the multi-stakeholder seasonal assessment indicate favourable food security prospects in the western *meher* crop producing areas. However, people living in some areas of the eastern half of the country are expected to face food deficits and, consequently, will require external assistance until the *belg* harvest in June/July 2009. In these areas, the *meher* production is below average due to the poor performance or total failure of the *belg* (March to May) season that affected land preparation and the planting of long cycle *meher* crops. The high yielding long cycle crops, planted during the *belg* season in these parts, were replaced by lower yielding short cycle crops and varieties, following the poor performance of *belg* rains. The performance of the planted short cycle crops are reported to be below average, particularly in the lowlands, due to the late onset of the *kiremt* rains (June to September) and consecutive dry spells. Pastoralists and agro-pastoralists of the northeast, the south and the southeast are also expected to face notable food and income deficits in 2009.

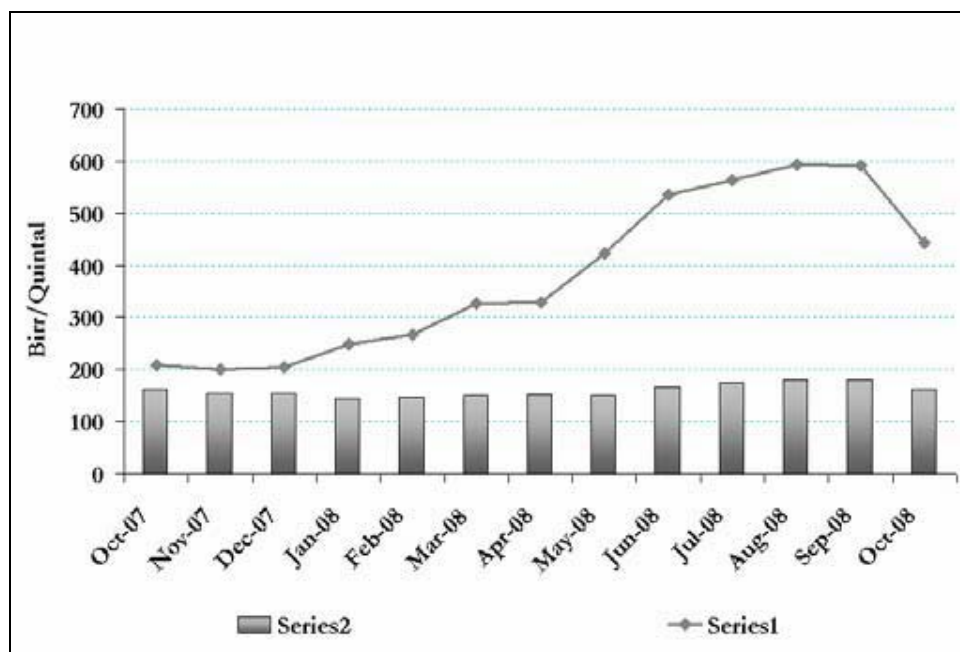
According to the findings, food security situation in most parts of the country including Eastern, Southern, South-eastern and some areas in Central zones of Tigray, lowlands of North Shewa, Oromiya, South Wello and North Wello and Waghamara zones of Amhara, in the low land areas of East and West Hararghe, Bale, Arsi, West Arsi and North Shewa of Oromiya and Dire Dawa Regions, has deteriorated due to the poor performance of the *belg* and *meher* seasons, increase of food prices, low demand for agricultural labour, reduction of livestock prices and deteriorating physical condition of livestock. Water and pasture shortages will continue to be serious problems in many areas of Shinille and Jijiga and some pocket areas of Korahe and Warder zones in Somali Region, particularly during the first two months of the *jilal* (dry) season.

In addition, in Afar Region the overall crop production prospects for the year is not promising, with the exception of areas that benefit from irrigation. Internal conflicts over scarce resources in parts of Assosa and Kemashi zones of Beneshangul Gumuz have inhibited normal agricultural activities. Due to significant harvest loss by floods along the banks of the major rivers, localized wind and hailstorms, some communities in parts of Gambella Region are likely to encounter food shortages in 2009. Meanwhile, in SNNPR, as a result of improved crop production, the food security situation is expected to be better than last year, apart from coffee-producing areas that continued to be affected by the effects of the 2008 poor *belg* rains, pastoral areas of South Omo and flood affected areas of Shashago. Due to maximized income from crop and livestock sales, most households in Hareri Region were able to increase their income and food purchases to fill food gap without requiring external assistance.

Market prices

Meanwhile, cereal prices continue to show slight decline in parts of Amhara, Tigray, Oromiya, Somali and SNNP Regions, following the start of *meher* harvest, in addition to the resumption of government sales of subsidized wheat in urban areas, and food aid, notes FEWSNET. In Somali Region, maize and wheat prices in October have decreased by 40 percent and 16 percent, respectively compared to prices in September. Livestock prices, however, slightly increased in Liben and Degehabur zones of Somali Region due to higher demand. However, the price of cereals remains extremely high compared to the five year average (2003-2007). Nominal price of maize is still 172 percent higher than the 2003-2007 average.

Nominal retail prices of white maize in Addis Ababa compared to the 2002-06 monthly average:



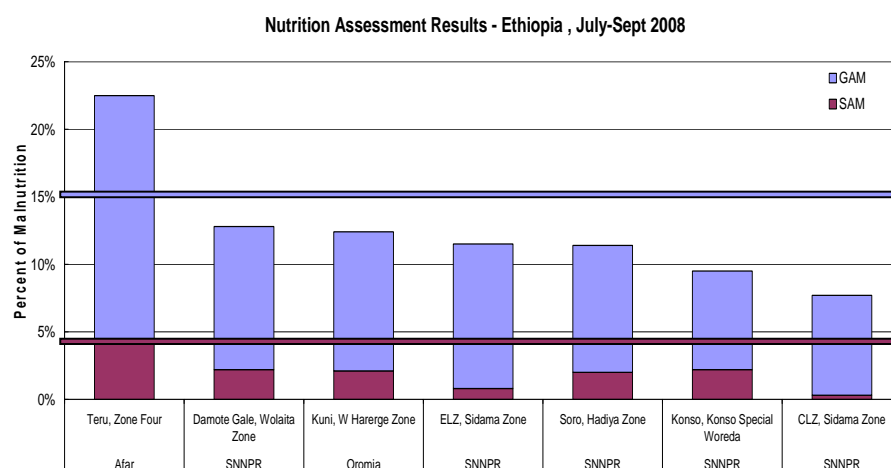
Source: Data archives of FEWSNET/Ethiopia, and Ethiopian Grain Trade Enterprise (EGTE), November 2008.

Health and Nutrition

In January 2009, the ENCU identified 216 hotspot woreda's in Somali, SNNPR, Oromiya, Amhara, Afar, and Tigray regions due to a combination of high food insecurity, serious to very critical acute malnutrition rates, epidemic outbreaks, natural disasters, or conflict.

- SNNPR 54 hotspot woredas
- Oromia 84 hotspot woredas
- Amhara 22 hotspot woredas
- Tigray 15 hotspot woredas
- Afar 12 hotspot woredas
- Somali 29 hotspot woredas
- **Total 216 hotspot woredas**

UNICEF estimates that an average of 20,000 children a month (240,000 in 2008) were admitted to programmes for the management of acute malnutrition in 2008 reaching a peak in July, August and September, up from around 5,000 new admissions a month in 2007. In 2009 UNICEF with its partners anticipates reaching at least 17,000 children a month (204,000 for 2009)



The impact of the poor meteorological conditions, food and financial crisis and the extension of programmes for the management of acute malnutrition (moderate and severe) have resulted in tremendous demand for ready-to-use therapeutic food and increased admissions of both moderate and acute malnourished children. The Humanitarian Response Fund (HRF) has so far allocated 46% of the total funding to nutrition interventions.

Access and Coordination

Coordination: The overall federal and regional humanitarian coordination will be undertaken by Disaster Management and Food Security Sector (DMFSS) within the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MoARD). DMFSS, with two wings of Early Warning and Response Department (EWRD) and Food Security Department, has been established to forecast risks, alert the public and provide relief as well as coordinate humanitarian response. Coordination mechanisms will be further strengthened at all levels in the regions.

A Special Committee composed of concerned Government bodies, donors, UN agencies and NGOs will be revitalized to facilitate enhanced coordination of humanitarian operations in Somali Region. In addition, a special logistics arrangement (hubs and spokes system) has been established in Dire Dawa, Degehabur and Gode in coordination with the Early Warning and Response Department of DMFSS. The sectoral taskforces led by the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Water Resources and Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, will be responsible for the coordination, monitoring and reporting on emergency response interventions in their respective sectors, in partnership with relevant UN agencies, NGOs and donors.

Access: Humanitarian access is still a challenge for NGOs and UN agencies operating in the five military operation zones in Somali Region. The Regional Government is in the process of issuing new operational procedures for aid agencies (NGOs) in the region. The Regional Government has provided a blanket travel clearance for WFP; as a result food aid delivery has improved during January 2009. Meanwhile, other UN agencies continue to review ad-hoc clearance following submission of complete staff list, and vehicles information to the Security and Justice bureau.

Funding

The revised emergency assistance needs for Ethiopia³⁶ as of 30 January 2009 identifies 4.9 million people in need of emergency assistance for 2009. In addition, 1.2 million people will require supplementary food and 5.7 million are still under the Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP). The total food and non-food requirements amount to USD 602 millions.

There are pipeline breaks for all relief and Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP) commodities, which have already resulted in reduced rations since July 2008 (reduced cereal rations, limited amounts of blended food and no oil or pulses). Reduced rations are expected to continue during the 1st quarter 2009.

³⁶ Humanitarian Requirements 2009, Joint Government and Humanitarian Partners' Document, 30 January 2009

Summary of Humanitarian Requirements for 2009:

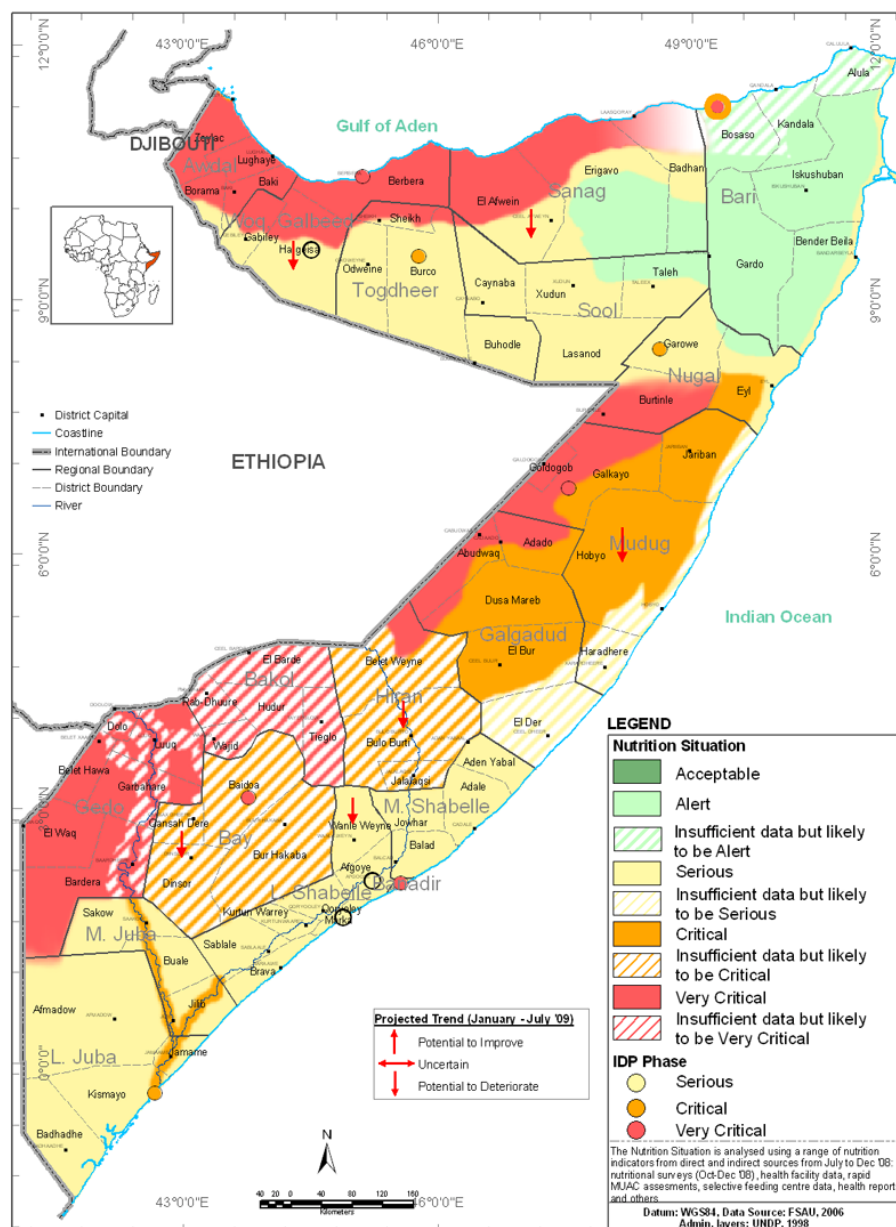
Sector	Total Requirement	Available Resources	Net Requirement
General Ration: Gross: 591,503 MT (478,950 MT cereals; 14,368 MT oil; 47,895 MT pulse; 50,290 MT blended food) Net: 450,611 MT	511,058,592	121,730,688	389,327,904
Supplementary food for EOS/TSF: Gross: 59,127 MT (53,065 MT blended food, and 6,062 MT oil) Net: 30,327 MT	51,085,728	24,883,200	26,202,528
Food sub-total	562,144,320	146,613,888	415,530,432
Health and Nutrition	24,173,823	1,009,434	23,164,389
Water and Sanitation	6,169,213	-	6,169,213
Agriculture and Livestock	9,532,735	-	9,532,735
Non-food sub-total	39,875,771	1,009,434	38,866,337
GRAND TOTAL	602,020,091	147,623,322	454,396,769

Somalia

Food Security

Over 3.5 million people are in acute food and livelihood crises or humanitarian emergency, an increase of 90% since January 2008. Of these, 705,000 represent the urban poor living in main towns and rural settlements. The findings of the 2008 post-*Gu* seasonal assessment conducted by FSAU, FEWSNET and partners' confirm that the humanitarian crisis in Somalia continues to deteriorate at an accelerated rate due to the combined effects of drought, conflict and inflation, especially in the south and central regions.³⁷ An FSAU third round of urban assessment conducted in October 2008 established an increase of 27% in the proportion of households applying distress coping mechanisms compared to October 2007 when it was estimated to be 37%.

Estimated most likely food security conditions (Jan –March 2009)



Source: FSAU January 2009

Gu rains in southern and central **Somalia** have been very poor and well below average. Overall, these regions remain critically dry and pastoralist groups are particularly exposed to a deterioration of their livelihoods.

³⁷ FSAU, FEWSNET and partners' post-*Gu* seasonal assessment, October 2008.

Widespread violence in rural and urban areas and poor access further exacerbates the dramatic humanitarian conditions. In the recent months civil insecurity has expanded to rural areas in central Somalia with a 64% increase in the number of people in need of emergency assistance.³⁸

Overall *deyr rains* are considered to be normal resulting in regeneration of pasture and improved water availability.³⁹ In the most-likely scenario, food security conditions are expected to remain unchanged through March 2009. In areas of the south and central regions high and extreme levels of food insecurity will persist. High level of food insecurity will also continue to prevail among a significant number of poor urban households. Pastoral areas of north and central regions will receive normal to near-normal *deyr rains* during October to December. However, in drought affected pastoral areas where most animals did not conceive during the last several seasons, livestock productivity (milk and ghee) is not expected to improve. With limited livestock to sell and high prices, pastoralists will continue to struggle to meet both their basic needs and to recover their livelihood.⁴⁰

Food aid

In November, WFP and the International Committee of the Red Cross distributed 35,915 MT of food aid to 1.6 million beneficiaries in Somalia, according to WFP. Following recent USAID/WFP contributions, WFP pipeline needs for Somalia are currently met through June 2009.⁴¹ Increased naval patrols and the setting-up of a combined task force in January 2009 should reduce the likelihood of piracy attacks against humanitarian shipments.

Market Prices

While the rapid increase in price of food commodities over the last 12 months has slowed down, prices are still significantly higher than 12 months ago and the five-year average. Local cereal prices have decreased by between 25% and 45% in the maize producing areas and by between 20% and 30% in sorghum producing areas since July 2008. The lower prices are due to good off-season maize production, in addition to the overall decrease of imported commodity prices, food aid distributions in the region, and the good start to the seasonal rains. Maize prices in the Juba regions have shown similar trends.

Households are also severely indebted and social support mechanisms are overburdened. According to a recent FSAU urban analysis, the cost of the minimum basket in Dhusamareb increased by 88% between March and October 2008. Food prices, though stabilizing, still remain at record high levels. The combination of limited numbers of marketable animals and high food prices means pastoralists will continue to struggle, not only to meet their basic food and nonfood needs, but will continue to deplete their primary livelihood asset-livestock. Milk production is and will remain low to none, due to the lack of lactating animals, in addition to the fact that no livestock calving and kidding is expected until the next Gu season 2009.

Health and Nutrition

There is an overall mixed picture in Somalia with sustained *Very Critical* rates of acute malnutrition in many parts (Central, Bossaso, Gedo, Bakool and Coastal areas Somaliland) and sustained recovery in other parts (Juba and Shabelles – note likely linked to relief efforts). Estimated numbers of acutely malnourished children at 200,000 of which 60,000 are severely malnourished (ref: WHO GS). This represents a slight increase from the *Gu* assessment due to new areas in Somaliland and increase in Mogadishu where the number was (previously underestimated. This still means that 1 in 6 under five children are acutely malnourished. The caseload still show highest numbers in Shabelles (35%) due to population density followed by Central regions (18%), Bay region (12%) Juba regions (9%), Bakool region (7%), Gedo region (7%) Hiran (6%) Northern IDP (4%) Northern Crisis (2%). The causes of malnutrition require multi sectoral integrated interventions addressing care practices, public health environment and food security

³⁸ FEWSNET, Somalia Food Security Outlook, October 2008 – January 2009

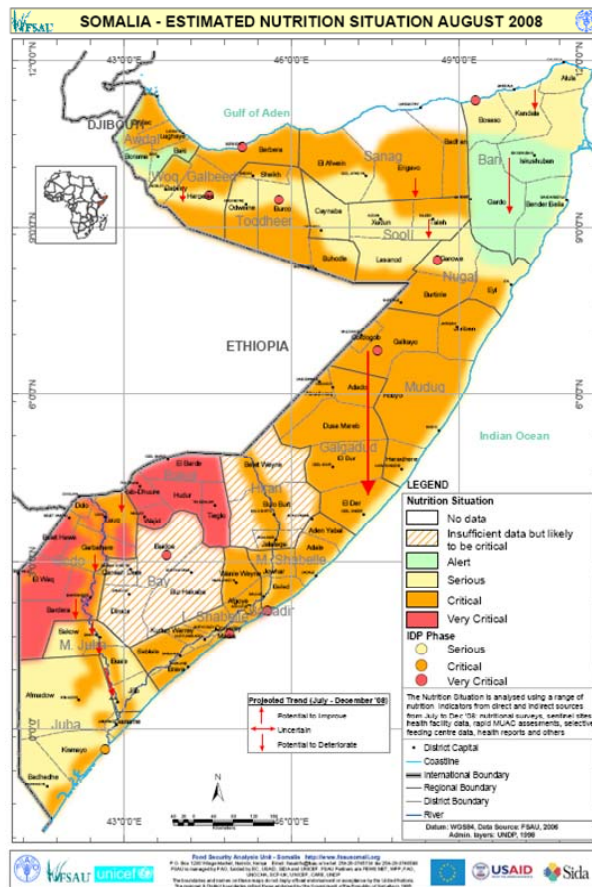
³⁹ FSAU, Food Security and Nutrition, Quarterly Brief

⁴⁰ Idem

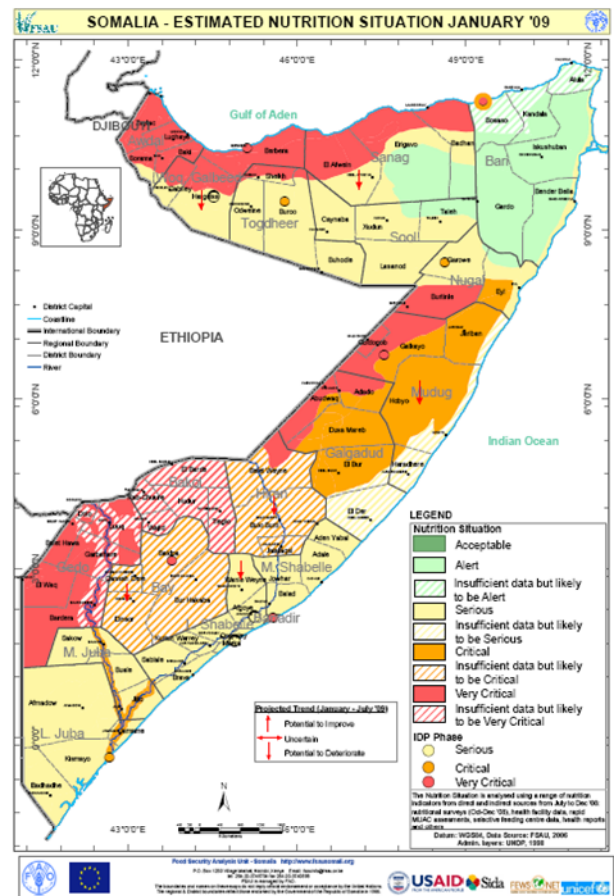
⁴¹ USAID, Somalia Complex Emergency, 15 January 2009

Somalia Nutrition Situation Maps

Nutrition Situation Estimates, August 2008



Nutrition Situation Estimates, January 2009



Population movements in Somalia

As of January 7, OCHA reported approximately 1.3 million IDPs in Somalia, representing an 18 percent increase since July 2008. UNHCR noted that insecurity displaced approximately 54,375 people throughout Somalia in November, including more than 22,000 people from Mogadishu. Between December 27 and January 3, fighting between armed militias in Galgadud Region displaced an estimated additional 120,000 people, according to UNHCR. Fighting and resulting displacement have exacerbated humanitarian conditions in Galgadud Region, which currently hosts approximately 130,000 IDPs.

In Lower and Middle Shebelle 39,000 IDPs were reported to have moved to Shabelle Hoose from Mogadishu since 1 September, 2008. Of these, a majority are in the IDP settlements in Afgooye and Mogadishu (30,000), although a significant number of about 6,400 moved to Marka by end of November 2008.

Access and security

According to OCHA, attacks on humanitarian workers resulted in 35 deaths and 26 kidnappings between January 1 and December 15 2008. In addition, on January 6 and 8, unidentified gunmen killed two U.N. World Food Programme (WFP) staff in separate incidences in Gedo and Banadir regions, respectively. On 22 January, WFP warned that it may suspend some operations in Somalia should the security situation continue to be so volatile.

Funding

There is an urgent need to scale up integrated emergency livelihood and humanitarian assistance. Asset preservation must be a key element of the response, to restore affected families' ability to cope with ongoing economic shocks, and to prevent a further slide into an acute humanitarian emergency. However, humanitarian agencies continue to face low funding and pipeline breaks, as well as restricted humanitarian access.

The 2008 humanitarian appeal for Somalia was 71% funded as of 15 December 2008. There are some variations in funding levels between sectors - safety & security for staff (8%), agriculture & livelihoods (24%), health (40%), education (42%), protection (42%) and food aid (95%).

The 2009 Somalia Consolidated Appeal Process (CAP) was launched in Nairobi on 1 December 2008 appealing for over US\$918 million in support of some 200 projects from 14 United Nations agencies, 32 International NGOs and 39 National NGOs. The increase in scope and funding size of the Somalia appeal from US\$662 million in 2008 to US\$918 million for 2009 reflects not only the dramatic increase in the number of people in need (3.2 million) but also the sharp rise in commodity and delivery costs for Somalia⁴².

Somalia's unique situation requires special support, especially for critical security and common services. To date, only 8% of the security sector has been funded, which has had a direct impact on the provision of assistance on the ground. At a time when humanitarian workers are being killed on a regular basis, the failure to fund security has a direct impact on the survival of hundreds of thousands of people. Equally urgent is the need for naval escorts at sea, where growing piracy needs to be combated if life-saving aid is to reach Somalia by sea.

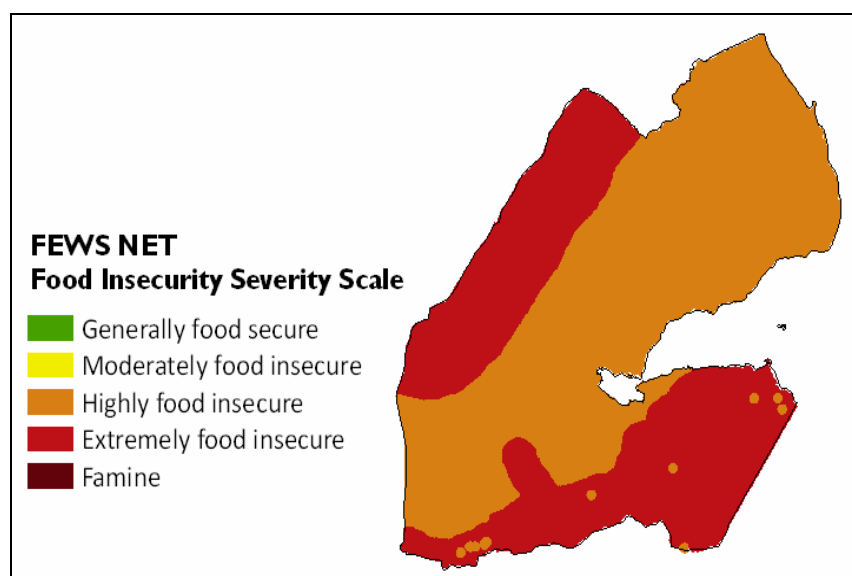
⁴² OCHA Somalia Humanitarian Bulletin, December 2008

Djibouti

Food security

The food security situation in coastal areas has slightly improved due to favorable seasonal rains in September-October. However inland areas remain extremely food insecure; and the situation in the coastal areas will remain precarious should normal rainfall not occur over the coming months. Recurrent droughts in Djibouti had considerably eroded the coping mechanisms of pastoralists in the northwestern and southern areas in particular.

Estimated food security conditions



Source: FEWSNET Djibouti

In response to rising food insecurity, rural exodus to urban areas is increasingly reported as pastoral families facing asset depletion and destitution migrate in search of casual labour employment in the city.

Latest figures from FEWS NET and WFP indicate that 130,000 persons are highly food insecure (of which 80,000 in rural and 50,000 in urban areas) and 328,000 moderately food insecure in Djibouti city. Both groups will require emergency food and/or non-food assistance for at least 6 months in 2009. This is up from 120,000 when the Joint Appeal was launched in August 2008. According to authorities, 265,000 people (among them 185,000 in urban areas) need emergency water supply.

Border dispute with Eritrea could again escalate as UN Security Council's ultimatum for Eritrea to withdraw its troops from contested area will expire end of February. Approximately 1,000 people have been displaced and as many as 22,000 may be displaced should the current hostilities escalate.

All joint assessments⁴³ conducted with representatives from the Government of Djibouti and UN agencies in the last four years indicate that pastoralist terms of trade have declined to marginal levels. Most of these pastoralists have lost the majority of their livestock (40%-70%). The remaining livestock are in poor condition mainly due to opportunistic parasites and diseases, exacerbated by the lack of food and water. Pastoralists in Djibouti rely on their livestock for consumption and trade. As a result, their income is dependant almost entirely on the health and productivity of their livestock.⁴⁴ When these animals die or are in poor condition, Djibouti pastoralists are left with little to eat and nothing to trade.

⁴³ Joint assessment missions 27 October to 4 November 2004 and 21 to 25 March 2005 by ONARS, the UN World Food Programme (WFP) and the Famine Early Warning Systems (FEWSNET). Multicultural evaluation, ONARS, February 2006. WFP and UNICEF assessment, December 2007

⁴⁴ Reduced income has also affected the health situation. People use their money to buy food and truck water, delaying needed health services until their condition deteriorates. Also, water borne illnesses increase with the decreased availability of safe water and malaria and pregnancy complications become deadly when coupled with malnutrition.

The few remaining pastures are overgrazed and rural populations have a tendency to regroup around wells or boreholes still in function, or around town centers in the hope of support from the Government or organizations.

On October 30 2008, U.S. Ambassador to Djibouti reissued a disaster declaration in response to several years of continuous drought and the impact of increasing food prices⁴⁵.

Market prices

Although food prices appear to have stabilized, the general price level remains high, and the situation therefore requires continued close monitoring. The effects of the new value added tax (VAT), introduced as of 1 January 2009, are not yet known. Although certain basic food items are exempt from VAT, the general effect of the tax on household purchasing power will require continued monitoring.

The Government of Djibouti has instituted policy measures designed to relieve the high food prices: taxes on agricultural inputs, basic food commodities and petrol (kerosene used for domestic energy) have been suspended. Special loans are offered to those investing in agro-forestry and limited food assistance has been granted to the National Union of Djibouti Women (UNFD) for some of the most vulnerable urban poor families.

Health and Nutrition

While no recent nutritional surveys are available for Djibouti, the situation remains extremely precarious in the Southeast and Northwest border pastoral livelihood zones where climatic conditions have been poor throughout 2008 and food prices remained high.⁴⁶ According to a recent UNICEF report⁴⁷, the nutrition status of children in Djibouti remains serious despite intervention programmes introduced in previous years. No tangible improvement has been seen since 2002 and UNICEF attributes this to several probable factors including poor weighing scales due to lack of expertise and general problem with data collection. According to UNICEF, over 25,000 children under-five required supplementary or therapeutic feeding. The report further stated that the situation is critical and that pre-famine indicators have been observed.

Funding

In August 2008, a 6 months appeal for USD 31.7 million was launched to respond to the combined effects of the drought and global food prices. As of 29 January 2009, the appeal has received USD 10,3 million with a significant shortfall of USD 21.5 million.

⁴⁵ USAID, 31 Oct 2008

⁴⁶ Alarming levels of malnutrition were recorded by UNICEF and the Ministry of Health in a nutrition survey end of 2007: 16.8% global acute malnutrition (GAM) rate for children under-five years old and 2.4% severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in the Southeast border region. In the North West Region 25% GAM was recorded.

⁴⁷ UNICEF Regional Office, 'L'état Nutritionnel Des Enfants A Djibouti', December 2008

Kenya

Food Security

On 15 January 2009 the Government of Kenya (GoK) indicated that 10 million persons are highly food insecure. The number includes a provisional estimate of 3.2 million drought affected marginal farmers, agro pastoralists, and pastoralists; about 150,000 IDPs; 850,000 school children; 3.5 million urban dwellers, and about 2.2 million persons affected by HIV and AIDS, including orphans. Rapid assessments planned for February will clarify the depth and extent of food insecurity.⁴⁸

A poor food production in Kenya in 2008 after the country experienced a major setback has been compounded by erratic rains and post-2007 election displacement of populations. The post-election violence affected primarily the Rift Valley Province, Kenya's grain basket. Countrywide over 500,000 people were initially displaced.

According to FEWS NET, poor rains in the southeastern and coastal marginal agricultural lowlands, in combination with an early end to the short rains season, and after a succession of three poor seasons, have resulted in widespread crop failure, and precipitated a likely humanitarian and livelihood crisis. Some northeastern and southeastern pastoral districts have benefited from improved livestock conditions, but the early cessation of the short rains could cause a rapid deterioration in pasture and water availability, resulting in a quick decline in food security. Pastoral areas in the north and south received poor short rains and require immediate assistance.⁴⁹

Findings from a multi-sectoral food security assessment in August 2008 suggest worsening food security compared to April-June⁵⁰ 2008. An estimated 1.38 million persons will require a comprehensive, integrated intervention to avert a food security crisis from September 2008 through March 2009⁵¹. A gradual reduction of beneficiaries from the current 210,000 people affected by post-election violence down to 150,000 by January 2009, coupled with further reductions in early 2009, was recommended.⁵²

Heavy rains are reported to be spreading out through most parts of the country and as such enhancing prospects for improved food security as observed in early November 2008. Further to these has been rainfall outbursts recorded in the first dekad of November that have caused flooding and landslides in Western, Northwestern and Northeastern regions. Nevertheless, the heavy rains have accelerated widespread planting of the short term crops and a good harvest is anticipated should the rains remain favorable and their intensity moderated.⁵³

⁴⁸ idem

⁴⁹ FEWSNET, Kenya Food Security Update, January 2009

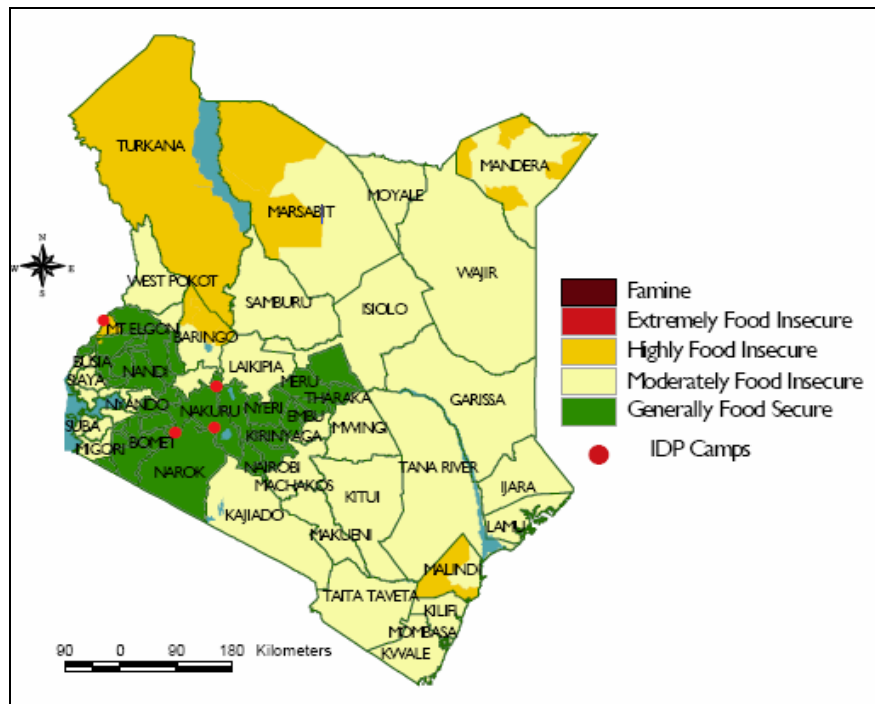
⁵⁰ Kenya Food Security Steering Group

⁵¹ FEWSNET, Kenya Food Security Update, August 2008

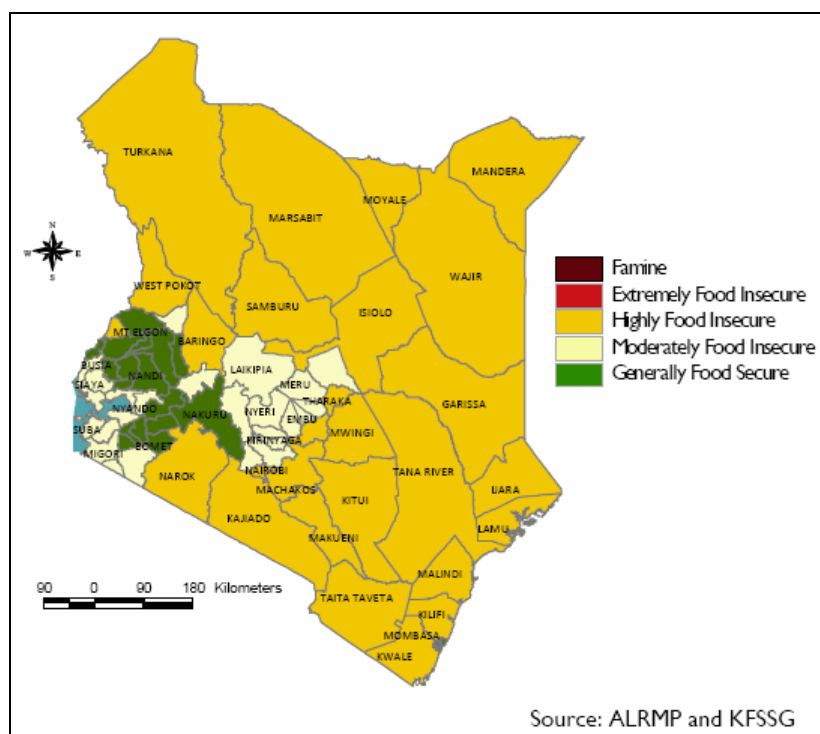
⁵² A food security assessment was conducted following the first harvest in September and October by the Government, WFP and Kenya Red Cross Society in the post-election crisis areas

⁵³ FEWSNET, Kenya Food Security Update, November 2008

Food security conditions November 2008:



Current food security conditions January 2009:



Source: ALRMP and KFSSG January 2009

While pastoral food security conditions have remained largely unchanged, recovery of the pastoral livelihood is expected to resume, especially in the northwest and the Maasai rangelands in the south, due to an uncharacteristically early onset of sustained rains. The Arid Lands and Resource Management Project (ALRMP) has reported unusually heavy rains which have recharged key water sources and hastened pasture and forage growth.

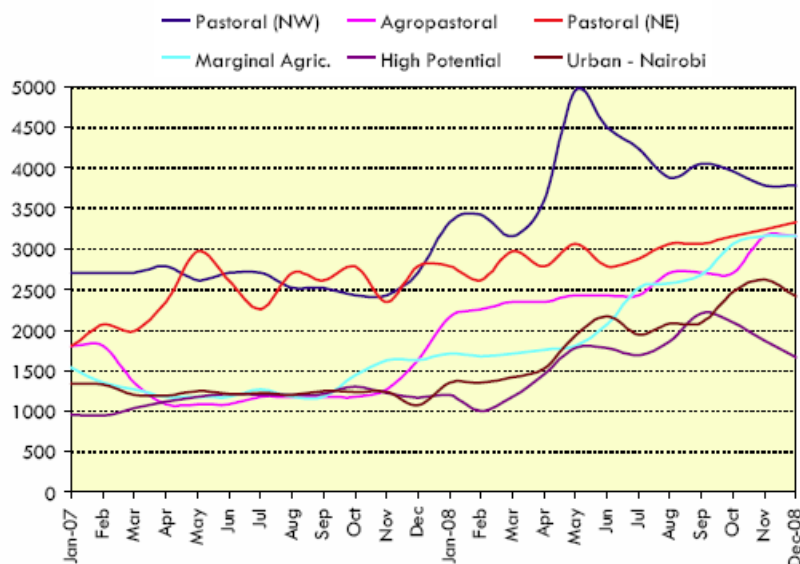
Overall, food security in pastoral areas remains unstable. Though the impacts of improved environmental conditions will be more visible in December, assuming normal rains through that period, a combination of livestock disease (in particular PPR), conflict, successive droughts and well above-average food and non-food

prices are likely to moderate the impacts of a good short rains season. In addition, acute child malnutrition rates remain persistently above the WHO's emergency threshold of 15%, in Turkana, Mandera, and parts of Wajir and Marsabit, indicating prolonged food insecurity across the pastoral livelihood.⁵⁴

Market prices

Maize prices have remained firm or risen, even with the increased availability following the long rains harvest. The unprecedented escalation in the price of maize threatens to deepen already serious food insecurity among the country's most vulnerable groups including urban poor and pastoralists.⁵⁵

Figure 5. Maize price trends across livelihoods



Source of Data: MoA, ALRMP, KNBS

The pastoral, agro-pastoral and marginal agricultural livelihoods, that are the most food insecure, are reporting prices that are 30-50% higher than in the production epicenters and 20-30% higher than in key urban centers.

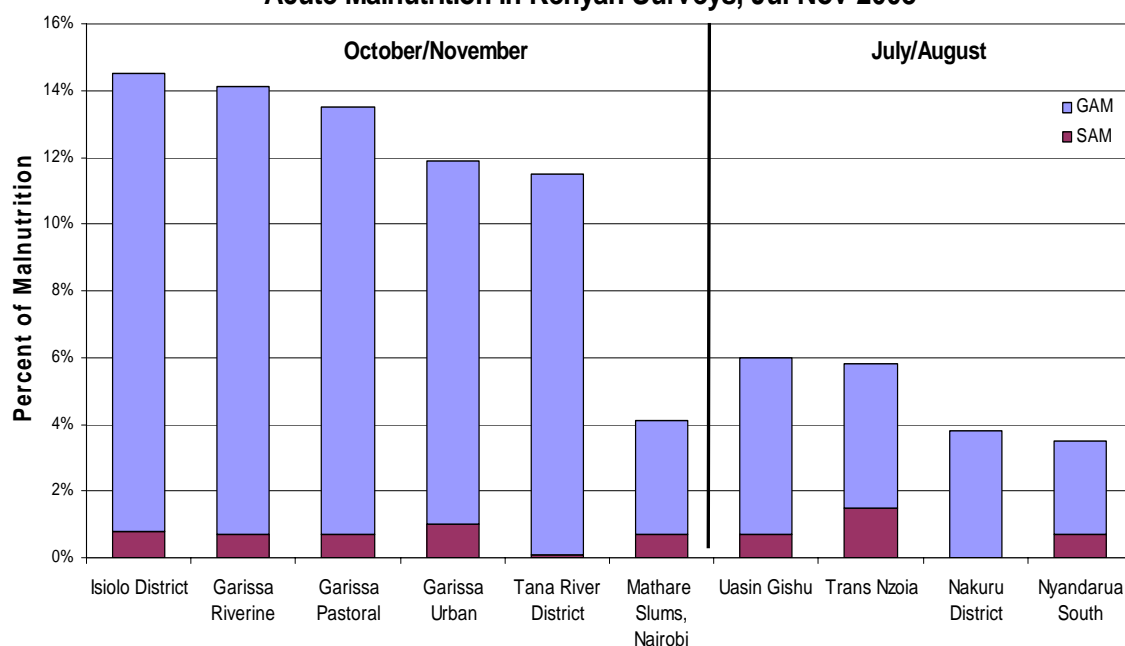
The Ministry of Agriculture has reported that national maize output for the 2008/'09 production season is about 2.16 million MT and could be much lower, once final figures are compiled. National output is close to 20 percent lower than the short term average. Poor rainfall in the southeastern, coastal lowlands and the central highlands coupled with lowered production in key growing areas has precipitated the decline in output. The period between May and August is likely to be extremely difficult with little maize available on markets.

In addition, a number of alleged irregularities and mismanagement scandals have affected the National Cereals and Produce Board of Kenya, a key national institution in charge of delivering subsidized maize. The gravity of the allegations, which may amount to KSH 825 million (about 10.5 million USD), has prompted the Government to order an audit and to dissolve the Board in January 2009.

⁵⁴ Idem

⁵⁵ Kenya Food Security Update, FEWSNET, December 2008

Acute Malnutrition in Kenyan Surveys, Jul-Nov 2008



The caseload for the management of acute malnutrition programming is on the rise among the urban poor, and recent surveys show persistent high levels of acute malnutrition in the ASAL districts. New assessments and surveys are expected in February and March 2009 for many of the other ASAL districts.

Interventions have been initiated to mitigate a probable outbreak of Rift Valley Fever. Pre-emptive vaccination by the Department of Veterinary Services has reached 1.4 million livestock in hotspot areas.

Funding

The 2008 Emergency Humanitarian Response Plan (EHRP) stands 75 % funded (USD 146.4 million committed against the total request of 207.6 million) with an additional 49.7 million outstanding in pledges. According to FTS, the food sector accounts for by far the greatest amount of funding. Sectors which have received less than 50% funding are education, early recovery, water and sanitation, shelter, coordination and agriculture⁵⁶.

The 2009 Emergency Humanitarian Response Plan amounts to USD 390 million. It has been developed with the participation of over 50 organizations, including the Government of Kenya, local and international NGOs, UN agencies and the Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS). The appeal outlines key response and preparedness requirements as well as early recovery strategies in eleven sectors.

⁵⁶ OCHA Kenya, December 2008

Eritrea

Remark: very little data is available for Eritrea. The paragraphs and figures given below should therefore be taken with precautions and should be updated once humanitarian organizations have better access to the different parts of the country.

Food security

The 2008 *Kremti* rainy season performed badly with an estimate of 200,000 MT of cereals production which represents nearly half of the 2007 production. This critical situation was confirmed in September, except for the high production mechanized fields of Gash Barka, where the situation is similar to that of 2007. In comparison to previous average rainfall over the past nine years or to the long term average of 30 years, the rainfall observed in September 2008 has been normal and similar to last year.⁵⁷

The onset of the previous agricultural season has been delayed due in part to very poor rains in June. Pastoralist populations are also affected and their cattle suffer from lack of pasture. Previous rains (The *Bahri* in October 2007-February 2008) failed affecting most of the secondary crops, which make up 20% of the country's cereal needs. The *Azmera* rains from March to May 2008 have been below average with the exception of the April rains which were normal⁵⁸.

The combination of drought and the knock-on effect of the increase in global food price is likely to affect a significant percentage of the population of Eritrea.

Market prices

With only 60% of the country's food needs covered within the country, significant imports are required. Prices of imported goods rose slightly in 2005 and 2006, but increased sharply in 2007 and 2008. Not only are these latter increases due to the global economy and fuel shortages that have hampered transport, inflating the prices of the food that is available, acute fuel shortage has become a major challenge to humanitarian work as well.

Health and Nutrition

Despite the limitation in accurate nutrition data, it is envisioned that the drought and the high food prices will impact the nutritional status of vulnerable groups. Pastoralists are seen as the most vulnerable and at greater risk. This may be confirmed by the increased number of Eritrean migrants reaching the Afar region of Ethiopia in a very poor nutritional condition.⁵⁹ UNICEF has observed spikes in acute malnutrition among children in parts of Eritrea.⁶⁰

⁵⁷ Food Security Crop Monitoring in Eritrea, 15 October 2008, Vol 06-2008, IPSC - JRC/ECHO

⁵⁸ Food Security Crop Monitoring in Eritrea, 15 May 2008. Vol 02-2008, IPSC - JRC/ECHO

⁵⁹ OCHA Ethiopia, 25 August 2008.

⁶⁰ UNICEF, Situation worsens for children as relief measures falter in Horn crisis, Nairobi, 5 Sep 2008

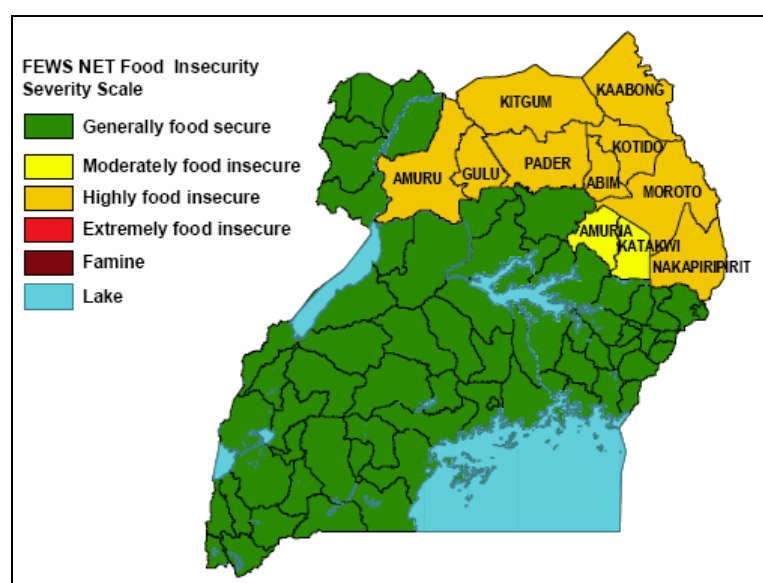
Uganda (Karamoja)

Food Security

Pastoralist populations in the **Karamoja** region of northeastern Uganda remain the most food insecure in the country⁶¹ due to lack of available food stocks, compounded by widespread poverty and livestock diseases. In 2008, the region experienced its third consecutive year of failed or bad harvests due to a prolonged dry spell, leaving the large majority of the region's population increasingly reliant on food assistance to meet many of their food needs. As of January 2009, WFP is targeting 970,000 persons in need of emergency food aid in 2009.

Given the consecutive harvest failures, households have consumed or sold many of their food and seed stocks and been unable to replenish them, resorting instead to coping mechanisms such as gathering wild foods and hunting. Limited household food purchases are funded through income from the sale of fuel wood and livestock, with the environmental impact of such coping mechanisms as fuel wood gathering and charcoal burning raising further concern.

Current estimated food security conditions, October 2008:



Sources: WFP, UN FAO, GoU; Graphic: FEWSNET Uganda

The extended dryness has also placed additional pressure on pasture and water availability in this predominantly pastoralist region, resulting in poor nutrition among cattle and, consequently, their owners. Livestock diseases – particularly *contagious bovine pleuropneumonia* (CBPP) among cows and *peste de petits ruminants* (PPR) among sheep and goats – have also impacted negatively on livestock conditions. An outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) reported in Abim has the potential to spread to other districts. Moreover, central government policies such as the embargo on inter-district cattle movements (imposed in December 2007) and the gathering of animals in protected kraals (resulting in restricted access to pasture and water for animals and decreased access to animal products for communities) have affected livestock conditions in the region.

Humanitarian and development agencies are working with the Government to procure and conduct livestock vaccination campaigns. For example, in August 2008, FAO received USD 700,000 from the CERF (out of a total USD 4,982,951 grant for urgent interventions in the areas of food and nutritional security and human and animal health) to jumpstart the vaccination of 700,000 goats and sheep against PPR and 500,000 head of cattle against CBPP. To date, FAO has acquired 2.4 million PPR vaccines for goats and sheep which have been delivered to the region, and plans to acquire doses and vaccinate 1.2 million cattle against CBPP by mid-February 2009. Unfortunately, the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industries and Fisheries (MAAIF) does not have vaccines against FMD available, so the potential spread of that disease poses a serious threat.

⁶¹ Summary for Uganda adapted from Uganda Food Security Update (October 2008)

The food security situation is expected to remain grave through the next harvest, which is not expected until September/October 2009, as low food supplies maintain high crop prices. Livestock conditions may further decline due to increased incidence of disease as the October to April dry season sets in.

Market prices

Prices in Lira and Soroti markets, major suppliers to Karamoja, remain significantly higher than the five-year average. Though Lira prices fell six percent between July and September (a normal situation as short-cycle sorghum harvested in July enters the market), sorghum prices in Soroti rose nine percent over the same period. The above-normal prices are mainly due to high inflation (estimated now at 16%), high and increasing transport charges due to high fuel prices, and increasing demand for sorghum within Soroti and Karamoja where it is the main staple. High demand for crops, including sorghum, by traders from Sudan is another factor contributing to higher than normal prices for many commodities in Uganda. This is now a major food security concern, especially in northern and northeastern Uganda.⁶²

The average annual food prices rise countrywide is 50%,⁶³ which is significantly lower than other countries of the sub-region.

Health and Nutrition

MSF-Holland, MSF-Spain and ACF, with UNICEF support (including with CERF funds) scaled up therapeutic and supplementary feeding programmes in Karamoja in response to higher than “normal” prevalence of acute malnutrition in February 2008. There is still a significant caseload in Karamoja with serious implications for child survival in the region.

Child health in Karamoja is also threatened by high levels of malaria and pneumonia amongst children under five and a child mortality rate almost 30% higher than the national average⁶⁴. According to UNICEF, some 90,000 children under five years have not been immunized. Bed-net coverage in Karamoja households was only 3.4% until an intensive campaign in October 2008 in which some 340,000 insecticide-treated nets (ITNs) were distributed by UNICEF, potentially raising ITN coverage to above 90% in the region.

Access to water and sanitation also has significant health impacts in the region: only 30% of the population has access to safe drinking water, while only 9% have access to sanitation, according to UNICEF.

Funding

For 2009, the humanitarian community in Uganda has requested some US\$ 77 million in urgent assistance for the Karamoja region. This includes US\$ 52 million for food assistance for 970,000 individuals, with the remainder covering interventions in the areas of livelihoods, health and nutrition, education, water, sanitation hygiene and disaster risk reduction and preparedness.

⁶² FEWSNET, Uganda Food Security update, October 2008

⁶³ FAO, August 2008

⁶⁴ Regional Food Security and Nutrition Working Group, 4 Sep 2008

Annex 1

