Reference Date: 18-September-2019

**FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT**
- Normal progress of 2019 cropping season
- Slightly above-average cereal production expected in 2019
- Continued assistance needed for vulnerable people

**Normal progress of 2019 cropping season due to favourable moisture conditions**

Planting operations of the 2019 rice and coarse grain crops (maize, millet and sorghum), to be harvested from October, started on time in February-March in the southern part of the country and were completed across the country in June. Favourable moisture conditions are benefiting crop development and weeding activities are underway in most cropping areas.

Pasture supply and quality are currently favourable, allowing animals to maintain good body conditions and enhance their market value. The animal health situation is generally satisfactory, with no major disease outbreaks.

**Slightly above-average harvest expected in 2019**

The harvest of the main 2019 season cereal crops is expected to start from October across the country. The aggregate cereal output in 2019 is forecast at an average of 3.7 million tonnes reflecting favourable rainfall coupled with the Government’s support in terms of seeds, fertilizers, tractors, capacity building and management.

Cereal import requirements for the 2018/19 (November/October) marketing year are forecast at an above-average 1.3 million tonnes as traders aim to replenishing their stocks.

**Continued assistance needed for vulnerable people**

Despite overall favourable food security conditions, some vulnerable households still need external food assistance. According to the March 2019 “Cadre Harmonisé” analysis, about 288,000 people are estimated to be in need of food assistance from June to August 2019, with a significant increase from 21,000 food insecure people in June-August 2018. The food security situation has deteriorated in recent years, mainly due to the expansion of the mining sector to the detriment of subsistence agriculture. Most displaced small-scale farmers lack the technical
skills to be employed into the mining sector and the reduced own production of food has resulted in an increase of market dependency. The expansion of the mining sector is also affecting pastoral livelihoods through the reduction of grazing areas and constraints on transhumance movements. In addition, outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease and other recurrent epizootics continue to affect livestock (especially cattle) in most pastoral areas.

### Guinea

#### Cereal Production

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2014-2018 average</th>
<th>2019 forecast</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rice (paddy)</td>
<td>2,146</td>
<td>2,194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>765</td>
<td>776</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cereals NES</td>
<td>435</td>
<td>485</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>267</td>
<td>263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>3,663</td>
<td>3,718</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>change 2015/2016</th>
<th>percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-6.2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-5.2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-4.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-4.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>-5.7</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.*


#### Cereals Imports

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>000 tonnes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average 2014/15-2016/19 (2015/16)</td>
<td>527</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016/17</td>
<td>517</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017/18</td>
<td>541</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years (for rice, calendar year of second year shown).*

GIEWS Country Brief
Guinea

Reference Date: 20-May-2019

**FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT**
- Normal progress of 2019 cropping season
- Above-average cereal production gathered in 2018
- Strong economic growth and increasing food price inflation
- Continued assistance needed for vulnerable people

**Normal progress of 2019 cropping season due to favourable moisture conditions**
Following a timely onset of the seasonal rains in March, planting operations for rice, maize, millet and sorghum crops are ongoing and the harvests are expected to start in October 2019. Cumulative rainfall amounts since the start of the season are providing adequate soil moisture for crop development. Favourable rains are also contributing to the recovery of pasture conditions across the country. Weeding activities are underway in most cropping areas.

**Above-average harvest gathered in 2018**
Government and partner support to farmers in terms of seeds, fertilizers, tractors, capacity building and management, coupled with favourable rainfall in 2018, benefitted crop development in most parts of the country. Despite some localized flooding and Fall Armyworm outbreaks, the 2018 cereal production is estimated at 3.9 million tonnes, about 4 percent higher than the previous year and 12 percent above the five-year average. Paddy production, which accounts for the bulk of the cereal production, is estimated at 2.3 million tonnes, about 7 percent above the previous year.

Pasture supply and quality are currently improving, allowing animals to maintain good body conditions. The animal health situation is generally satisfactory.

Following an above-average harvest, import requirements for the 2018/19 (November/October) marketing year are forecast at 830,000 tonnes, slightly below the last five-year average.

**Strong economic growth and increasing food price inflation**
According to the Economic Intelligence Unit (EIU), the economic growth is forecast to remain strong at about 6.4 percent in 2019, up from 6 percent recorded in 2018, mainly due to sustained public investments in infrastructures, high foreign direct
investments in the mining sector (bauxite and gold) and above-average agricultural production. In 2019, the year on year food price inflation is forecast at 10.2 percent, slightly up compared to the previous year. This is explained by the increase of a 25 percent in fuel prices in the last quarter of 2018, which has raised transportation costs.

**Continued assistance needed for vulnerable people**

Despite the overall favourable food security conditions, some vulnerable households still need external food assistance. According to the March 2019 “Cadre Harmonisé” analysis, about 146 000 people are estimated to be in need of food assistance from March to May 2019, with a significant increase from 5 000 food insecure people in March-May 2018. The current caseload is expected to increase to 288 000 during the June to August 2019 period, if no mitigation actions are taken. The strong pressure exerted by the mining companies on the agricultural production and pastoral areas explains the significant deterioration of the food security situation compared to last year. This has resulted in a reduction of transhumance corridors. In addition, the effects of foot-and-mouth disease and recurrent epizootics continue to affect livestock life (especially cattle) in livestock areas.

---

**Guinea**

**Cereal Production**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rice (paddy)</td>
<td>2 051</td>
<td>2 138</td>
<td>2 340</td>
<td>6.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>736</td>
<td>817</td>
<td>919</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cereals NES</td>
<td>473</td>
<td>488</td>
<td>509</td>
<td>4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>271</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3 533</td>
<td>3 775</td>
<td>3 942</td>
<td>4.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data. Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheet.

**Guinea**

**Cereals Imports**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 200</td>
<td>1 000</td>
<td>900</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years (for rice, calendar year of second year shown). Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets.

---

Disclaimer: The designations employed and the presentation of material in this information product do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of FAO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.
**GIEWS Country Brief**

**Guinea**

Reference Date: 13-March-2019

**FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT**

- Above-average cereal production gathered in 2018
- Strong economic growth and increasing food price inflation
- Continued assistance needed for vulnerable people

**Above-average harvest gathered in 2018**

Government and partner support to producers in terms of seeds, fertilizers, tractors, capacity building and management as well as favourable rainfall in 2018 benefitted crop development in most parts of the country. Harvesting of maize, millet, sorghum and rice crops was completed in November 2018, while harvesting of irrigated cassava will continue until end-July 2019. Some localized flooding and Fall Armyworm outbreaks were recorded with about 11 200 hectares of maize and 8 300 households affected. However, 2018’s national cereal production is estimated at 3.9 million tonnes, about 5 percent higher than the previous season’s output and 12 percent above the five-year average. Paddy production, which accounts for the bulk of the cereal production, is estimated at 2.4 million tonnes, about 10 percent above the previous year.

Pasture supply and quality are currently favourable, allowing animals to maintain good body conditions. The animal health situation is generally satisfactory. However, the incidence of seasonal diseases, including the foot-and-mouth disease in northwestern parts, the sheep and goat plague and rage were observed with the latter presenting an upsurge during this year.

Following an above-average harvest, import requirements for the 2018/19 (November/October) marketing year are forecast at 860 000 tonnes, slightly below the last five-year average.

**Strong economic growth and increasing food price inflation**

According to the Economic Intelligence Unit, the economic growth is forecast to remain strong at about 6.4 percent in 2019, up from 6 percent recorded in 2018, mainly due to public investment in infrastructure, high foreign direct investment inflows into the mining sector (bauxite and gold) and agricultural production. In 2019, the year-on-year food price inflation is forecast at 10.2 percent, slightly up compared to the previous year. The increase is mainly due to the impact of the 25 percent increase in fuel prices in the last quarter of 2018 on food production and transportation costs.

---

**Guinea**

**Crop Calendar**

- **Cassava (1st year)**
- **Cassava (2nd year)**
- **Maize, Millet & Sorghum**
- **Rice**
- **Yams**

**Lean period**

- Sowing
- Growing
- Harvesting

Source: FAO/GIEWS.

**Cereal Production**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>000 tonnes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rice (paddy)</td>
<td>2 061</td>
<td>2 198</td>
<td>2 418</td>
<td>10.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>736</td>
<td>817</td>
<td>756</td>
<td>-7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cereals NES</td>
<td>473</td>
<td>488</td>
<td>473</td>
<td>-3.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>247</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>279</td>
<td>16.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3 517</td>
<td>3 743</td>
<td>3 916</td>
<td>4.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: percentage change calculated from rounded data.
Continued assistance needed for vulnerable people

Despite the overall favourable food security conditions, some vulnerable households still need external food assistance. According to the November 2018 “Cadre Harmonisé” analysis, about 90,000 people were estimated to be in need of food assistance from October to December 2018, with a significant increase from 5,000 food insecure people in March-May 2018. This number is expected to increase to 117,000 during the June to August 2019, if no mitigation actions are taken. Furthermore, according to the Global Analysis of Vulnerability, Food Security and Nutrition (AGVSAN), in December 2018, 22 percent of the household in Guinea are in a situation of food insecurity with about 41 percent located in N’Zérékoré Region.

Disclaimer: The designations employed and the presentation of material in this information product do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of FAO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.
Timely start of cereal planting in the country

Planting operations of the 2018 rice and coarse grains crops (maize, millet and sorghum), to be harvested from October, started on time in February-March in the southern part of the country and continued in the northern cropping areas where they are almost complete. Favourable moisture conditions are benefiting crop development in most cropping areas.

Pasture supply and quality are currently favourable, allowing animals to maintain good body conditions and enhance their market value. The animal health situation is also relatively satisfactory. No major disease outbreaks have been recorded yet.

Average harvest gathered in 2017 due to good weather conditions

The 2017 agricultural season was characterized by near-average rainfall. Despite some localized weather shocks such as prolonged dry spells or floods and some Fall Armyworm outbreaks, the national cereal production was estimated at 3.7 million tonnes, about 2 percent higher than the previous season’s output and 10 percent above the five-year average. Paddy production, which accounts for the bulk of the cereal production, is estimated at 2.2 million tonnes, similar to the previous year.

On average, about 700 000 tonnes of cereals (mostly rice and wheat) are imported every year, corresponding to about 20 percent of the domestic cereal consumption requirements. Following an above-average harvest, import requirements in 2018 are expected to decrease.

Continued assistance needed for vulnerable people

There has been a significant recovery of marketing activities (movement restrictions and limited trade flows) since the Ebola outbreak impacted the local economy in June-August 2014. According to the Economic Intelligence Unit (EIU), the economy
grew at about 8.1 percent in 2017, driven mostly by agriculture. Although it is expected to slow down at 6.4 percent in 2018, the growth will remain sustained due to public investment in infrastructure and mining, in particular bauxite and gold. In 2018, the food price inflation year-on-year is forecast at 9.5 percent, up from the 8.9 percent reported in 2017, due to higher global oil and food prices. This will continue to erode the purchasing power of the most vulnerable households.

Despite the overall favourable food security conditions, some vulnerable households still need external food assistance. According to the March 2018 “Cadre Harmonisé” analysis, about 5 000 people are estimated to be in need of food assistance from March to May 2018, with a significant decrease from 110 000 food insecure people in March-May 2017 due to the increase in the efforts by the Government and its partners to improve agricultural production. This number is expected to increase to 21 000 people during the June to August period, if no mitigation actions are taken.

Disclaimer: The designations employed and the presentation of material in this information product do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of FAO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

Guinea
Cereal production

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012-2016 average</th>
<th>2017 estimate</th>
<th>change 2017/2016 percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rice (paddy)</td>
<td>1 991</td>
<td>2 174</td>
<td>2 198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>701</td>
<td>766</td>
<td>817</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cereals nes</td>
<td>461</td>
<td>478</td>
<td>488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>249</td>
<td>235</td>
<td>240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3 403</td>
<td>3 652</td>
<td>3 743</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

Guinea
Total cereal imports

- Average 2013/14-2017/18: 847 tonnes
- 2017/18: 798 tonnes
- 2018/19 forecast: 858 tonnes

Notes: Total cereal includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing year.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets
Favourable rains in 2017 resulted in above-average cereal production

Harvesting of maize, millet and sorghum was completed in November 2017, while harvesting operations for rice, the most important crop produced in the country, was just concluded in January. Most cropping areas benefited from the timely and favourable rains during the growing period. Some areas, particularly in the east part of the country, such as Kankan and Mali regions, experienced rainfall deficits towards the end of the season compared to the average. These deficits, however, did not compromise crops' performance.

According to preliminary estimates, despite some Fall Armyworm outbreaks, the aggregate cereal production in 2017 is estimated at about 3.9 million tonnes, 6 percent above the previous year's output and 14 percent above average. Of this total, paddy rice production is estimated at 2.3 million tonnes, an 8 percent increase from the year before. Rice accounts for the bulk of the cereal production.

Owing to favourable rains, pasture supply and quality are currently favourable. However, with the progress of dry season, which lasts from February to May, coupled with bush fires, pasture supply is expected to deteriorate, particularly in the Middle and Upper Guinea regions.

On average, about 700 000 tonnes of cereals (mostly rice and wheat) are imported every year, corresponding to about 20 percent of the domestic cereal consumption requirements. Following an above-average harvest, the import requirement is estimated to decrease.

Small pockets of food insecurity prevail

The local economy continues to be negatively affected by the lingering effects of the Ebola virus outbreak of 2014. The economy grew at about 6 percent in 2016 and 2017, driven mostly by agriculture, while services and manufacturing sectors continue to stagnate. Food price inflation remains in the double-digit territory, ranging from 12 to 14 percent in 2017, eroding the
purchasing power of the most vulnerable.

Small pockets of food insecurity prevail due to localized production shortfalls. According to the last analysis of the “Cadre Harmonisé” (Harmonized Framework) conducted in November 2017, around 34,000 people were estimated to be in Phase 3: “Crisis” and above between October and December 2017, down from about 286,000 people during the same period in the previous year.

Disclaimer: The designations employed and the presentation of material in this information product do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of FAO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.
**GIEWS Country Brief**

**Guinea**

Reference Date: 23-March-2017

### FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT
- An above-average cereal harvest was gathered in 2016
- Cereal import requirements in 2017 forecast to decline compared to 2016 levels
- Number of food insecure people estimated at about 51,000

Favourable rains in 2016 resulted in above-average cereal harvest

Harvesting of maize, millet and sorghum was completed in November, while harvesting operations for rice, the most important crop produced in the country, was concluded in January 2017. Most cropping areas benefited from favourable rains during most of the growing period. An above-average crop was harvested for the second consecutive year after the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak severely affected agricultural production in several areas in 2014. According to preliminary estimates, the aggregate cereal production in 2016 was estimated at about 3.6 million tonnes, 3 percent above the previous year’s output and 14 percent above average. Of this total, paddy rice production was estimated at 2.174 million tonnes, a 6 percent increase from the year before. Rice accounts for the bulk of the cereal production.

In 2014, the EVD outbreak resulted in a serious shock to the agriculture and food sectors. The epidemic started to spread when crops were being planted and grew during the crop maintenance period and expanded rapidly during the critical harvesting period for the staple crops: rice, maize and cassava. Various farming activities, including crop maintenance (weeding, fencing and application of chemicals) and harvesting were disrupted mostly through labour shortages. Rice production declined by 5 percent compared to the 2013 harvest. The relatively low level of impact at the national level masked the sub-national production and food security impacts. For example, the impact on rice production was estimated to be as high as -8.5 percent in N’zérékoré. In particular, cereal production in N’zérékoré was substantially affected by the EVD outbreak that started to spread when the crops were already being planted and expanded during the whole crop-growing season until the critical harvesting period.
Cereal import requirements in 2017 estimated lower than the previous year’s levels

Guinea, in a normal year, relies on imports for about 20 percent of its cereal consumption requirements (mostly rice and wheat). Cereal import requirements in 2017 are estimated at about 788,000 tonnes, 17 percent below the previous year’s level reflecting the increase in domestic supplies. Rice import requirements account for about 500,000 tonnes of the total.

In 2014, the border closures with neighbouring Senegal, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea-Bissau disrupted cross-border trade of agricultural commodities. Borders have re-opened, which led to a significant increase in trade flows.

Food security situation expected to remain stable in 2017

Beyond its impact on the agriculture and food sectors, the EVD outbreak has seriously affected all other sectors of the economy. According to the Economic Intelligence Unit (EIU), Guinea’s real GDP contracted by 0.4 percent in 2014 and recovered only slightly, growing by an estimated 0.1 percent in 2015. With the EVD epidemic largely under control, the real GDP growth in 2016 is estimated at 4.8 percent. Agricultural manual labour has returned to near-normal levels; moreover, the recovery of agricultural, livestock and fishing activities as well as the re-opening of most of the neighbouring borders with Guinea, has improved the food situation.

Although the Ebola outbreak has ended, according to the latest "Cadre Harmonisé" analysis, about 51,000 people, located mostly in N’zérékore and Kindia, were estimated to be in Phase 3: "Crisis" and above, between October and December 2016. The number of food insecure people is forecast to increase to over 125,000 between June and August 2017. The Government and its partners have provided assistance with agricultural inputs and equipment particularly in the Ebola-affected areas for the 2016/17 agricultural season.

Disclaimer: The designations employed and the presentation of material in this information product do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of FAO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.
**FIND SECURITY SNAPSHOT**
- Above-average 2016 cereal harvest expected
- Cereal import requirements in 2016 estimated at around same level as in 2015
- Number of food insecure people estimated at about 84 085

**Overall prospects favourable for 2016 cereal production**
Harvesting of coarse grains is almost completed, while harvesting operations for rice, the most important crop produced in the country, will continue until January 2017.

Data obtained from satellite images shows that crops benefited from favourable climatic conditions during most of the growing period. An above-average crop is expected for the second consecutive year after the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak severely affected agricultural production in several areas in 2014.

Cereal production recovered in 2015 following the previous year’s Ebola-affected crop. The aggregate cereal production in 2015 was estimated at about 3.5 million tonnes, 7 percent above the previous year’s output and 11 percent above average. Of this total, paddy rice production was estimated at 2.047 million tonnes, a 4 percent increase from the year before. Rice accounts for the bulk of the cereal production.

In 2014, the EVD outbreak resulted in a serious shock to the agriculture and food sectors. The epidemic started to spread when crops were being planted and grew during the crop maintenance period and expanded rapidly during the critical harvesting period for the staple crops: rice, maize and cassava. Various farming activities, including crop maintenance (weeding, fencing and application of chemicals) and harvesting were disrupted mostly through labour shortages. Rice production declined by 5 percent compared to the 2013 harvest. The relatively low level of impact at the national level masked the sub-national production and food security impacts. For example, the impact on rice production was estimated to be as high as -8.5 percent in N’zérékore. In particular, cereal production in N’zérékore was substantially affected by the EVD outbreak that started to spread when crops were already being planted and expanded during the whole crop-growing season until the critical harvesting period.
Cereal import requirements in 2016 estimated at around same level as in previous year

Guinea, in a normal year, relies on imports for about 20 percent of its cereal consumption requirements (mostly rice and wheat). Cereal import requirements in 2016 are estimated at about 688,000 tonnes, similar to the previous year’s level. Rice import requirements account for about 430,000 tonnes of the total.

In 2014, the border closures with neighbouring Senegal, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea-Bissau disrupted cross-border trade of agricultural commodities. Borders have re-opened, which led to a significant increase in trade flows.

Food security and economy expected to improve in 2016

Beyond its impact on the agriculture and food sectors, the EVD outbreak has seriously affected all other sectors of the economy. According to the Economic Intelligence Unit (EIU), Guinea’s real GDP contracted by 0.3 percent in 2014 and recovered only slightly, growing by an estimated 0.5 percent in 2015. With the EVD epidemic largely under control, the real GDP in 2016 is predicted to grow by 5.9 percent. Despite the recent new cases, agricultural manual labour has returned to near-normal levels; moreover, the recovery of agricultural, livestock and fishing activities as well as the re-opening of most of the neighbouring borders with Guinea, has improved the food situation.

Although the Ebola outbreak has ended, according to the latest “Cadre Harmonisé” analysis, about 84,085 people, located mostly in N’zérékore and Kindia, were projected to be in Phase 3: “Crisis” and above, between June and August. The Government and its partners have provided assistance with agricultural inputs and equipment particularly in the Ebola-affected areas for the 2016/17 agricultural season.

[Diagram showing total cereal imports and Guinea - Agricultural Stress Index (ASI) from start of season 1 to dekud 3, October 2016]
FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Harvest prospects generally favourable
- Cereal import requirements in 2016 estimated at around same level as in 2015
- Number of food insecure people estimated at about 90,700

Overall prospects favourable for 2016 cereal production

Planting of maize, millet and sorghum was completed in June, while planting operations of rice, the most important crop produced in the country, are about to conclude. Data obtained from satellite images shows that the growing crops benefited from favourable climatic conditions in most of the regions during the sowing season and the vegetation period from April to the third dekad of July. Harvesting of rice and coarse grains will begin in October.

Cereal production recovered in 2015 following the previous year’s Ebola-affected crop. The aggregate cereal production in 2015 was estimated at about 3.5 million tonnes, 7 percent above the previous year’s output and 11 percent above average. Of this total, paddy rice production was estimated at 2.047 million tonnes, a 4 percent increase from the year before. Rice accounts for the bulk of the cereal production.

In 2014, the EVD outbreak resulted in a serious shock to the agriculture and food sectors. The epidemic started to spread when crops were being planted and grew during the crop maintenance period and expanded rapidly during the critical harvesting period for the staple crops: rice, maize and cassava. Various farming activities, including crop maintenance (weeding, fencing and application of chemicals) and harvesting were disrupted mostly through labour shortages. Rice production declined by 5 percent compared to the 2013 harvest. The relatively low level of impact at the national level masked the sub-national production and food security impacts. For example, the impact on rice production was estimated to be as high as -8.5 percent in N’zérékoré. In particular, cereal production in N’zérékoré was substantially affected by the EVD outbreak that started to spread when crops were already being planted and expanded during the whole crop-growing season until the critical harvesting period.
Cereal import requirements in 2016 estimated at around same level as in previous year

Guinea, in a normal year, relies on imports for about 20 percent of its cereal consumption requirements (mostly rice and wheat). Cereal import requirements in 2016 are estimated at about 688,000 tonnes, similar to the previous year’s level. Rice import requirements account for about 430,000 tonnes of the total.

In 2014, the border closures with neighbouring Senegal, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea-Bissau disrupted cross-border trade of agricultural commodities. Borders have re-opened, which led to a significant increase in trade flows. Reflecting strong demand for agricultural products during the fasting month of Ramadan in June, prices of local and imported rice have risen in recent months. However, they will likely fall to normal levels due to the arrival of the new harvest.

Food security and economy expected to improve in 2016

Beyond its impact on the agriculture and food sectors, the EVD outbreak has seriously affected all other sectors of the economy. According to the EIU, Guinea’s real GDP contracted by 0.3 percent in 2014 and recovered only slightly, growing by an estimated 0.5 percent in 2015. With the EVD epidemic largely under control, the real GDP in 2016 is predicted to grow by 5.9 percent. Despite the recent new cases, agricultural manual labour has returned to near-normal levels; moreover, the recovery of agricultural, livestock and fishing activities as well as the re-opening of most of the neighbouring borders with Guinea is expected to improve the food situation.

Although the Ebola outbreak has ended, according to the latest “Cadre Harmonisé” analysis, about 148,400 people, located mostly in N’zérékoré and Kindia, were projected to be in Phase 3: “Crisis” and above and in need of urgent assistance. The Government and its partners are providing assistance in agricultural inputs and equipment particularly in the Ebola-affected areas for the 2016/17 agricultural season.
GIEWS Country Brief
Guinea

Reference Date: 28-June-2016

**FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT**
- Harvest prospects generally favourable
- Cereal import requirements in 2016 estimated at around same level as in 2015
- Number of food insecure people estimated at about 90,700

Early prospects favourable for 2016 cereal production

Land preparation and planting of the 2016 rice and coarse grains crops are underway countrywide, following the start of the raining season in May. Data obtained from satellite images indicates generally adequate climatic conditions in most regions with average to above-average rainfall estimated from April to the second dekad of June. However, a delay in the start of the cropping season was reported in some areas.

Seven newly-confirmed cases of the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) were reported between mid-March and early April. According to the World Health Organization, the last case tested negative for Ebola virus for the second time on 19 April and Guinea declared an end to Ebola virus transmission on 1 June. The resurgence of Ebola is unlikely to have any major impact on the 2016 agricultural season.

Cereal production recovered in 2015 following the previous year’s Ebola-affected crop. The aggregate cereal production in 2015 was estimated at about 3.5 million tonnes, 7 percent above the previous year’s output and 11 percent above average. Of this total, paddy rice production was estimated at 2.047 million tonnes, a 4 percent increase from the year before. Rice accounts for the bulk of the cereal production.

In 2014, the EVD outbreak resulted in a serious shock to the agriculture and food sectors. The epidemic started to spread when crops were being planted and grew during the crop maintenance period and expanded rapidly during the critical harvesting period for the staple crops: rice, maize and cassava. Various farming activities, including crop maintenance (weeding, fencing and application of chemicals) and harvesting were disrupted mostly through labour shortages. Rice production declined by 5 percent compared to the 2013 harvest. The relatively low level of impact at the national level masked the sub-national production and food security impacts. For example, the impact on rice production was estimated to be as high as...
-8.5 percent in N’zérékore. In particular, cereal production in N’zérékore was substantially affected by the EVD outbreak that started to spread when crops were already being planted and expanded during the whole crop-growing season until the critical harvesting period.

**Cereal import requirements in 2016 estimated at around same level as in previous year**

Guinea, in a normal year, relies on imports for about 20 percent of its cereal consumption requirements (mostly rice and wheat). Cereal import requirements in 2016 are estimated at about 688 000 tonnes, similar to the previous year’s level. Rice import requirements account for about 430 000 tonnes of the total.

In 2014, the border closures with neighbouring Senegal, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea-Bissau disrupted cross-border trade of agricultural commodities. These neighbouring countries sincere-opened their borders with Guinea, which led to a significant increase in trade flows. However, following the Resurgence of EVD, the Liberian border has since been closed which is likely to disrupt cross-border trade. Prices of local and imported rice have been mostly stable in recent months and will likely remain stable due to the availability of agricultural products and well-supplied markets.

**Food security and economy expected to improve in 2016**

Beyond its impact on the agriculture and food sectors, the EVD has seriously affected all other sectors of the economy. According to the EIU, Guinea’s real GDP contracted by 0.3 percent in 2014 and recovered only slightly, growing by an estimated 0.5 percent in 2015. With the EVD epidemic largely under control, the real GDP in 2016 is predicted to grow by 5.9 percent. Despite the recent new cases, agricultural manual labour has returned to near-normal levels; moreover, the recovery of agricultural, livestock and fishing activities as well as the re-opening of most of the neighbouring borders with Guinea is expected to improve the food situation.

Although the Ebola outbreak has ended, according to the latest “Cadre Harmonisé” analysis, about 148 400 people, located mostly in N’zérékore and Kindia, were projected to be in Phase 3: “Crisis” and above and in need of urgent assistance. The Government and its partners are providing assistance in agricultural inputs and equipment particularly in Ebola-affected areas for the 2016-2017 agricultural season.
FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Preliminary estimates for 2015 harvest point to above-average cereal production
- Cereal import requirements estimated to fall in 2016 compared to last year’s level
- Number of food insecure people estimated at about 40 501

Favourable rains in 2015 resulted in above-average cereal harvest

Harvesting of maize, millet and sorghum was completed in November, while harvesting operations for rice, the most important crop produced in the country, was concluded in January 2016. Most cropping areas benefited from favourable rains. Precipitation was particularly abundant in several areas, including Forécariah, Boke, Koundara, Dinguiraye and Mamou. However, rainfall deficits were recorded in pockets of the eastern part of Upper Guinea and the South Forest regions.

The Ebola Virus Disease (EVD), which significantly affected farming activities in 2014, has been largely controlled. The country was declared free of Ebola transmission in December 2015. As a result, the aggregate cereal production in 2015, estimated at about 3.5 million tonnes, is 7 percent above the previous year’s output and 11 percent above-average. Of this total, paddy rice production is estimated at about 2.047 million tonnes, a 4 percent increase from the year before, and accounts for the bulk of the cereal production.

In 2014, the EVD outbreak resulted in a serious shock to the agriculture and food sectors. The epidemic started to spread when crops were being planted and grew during the crop maintenance period and expanded rapidly during the critical harvesting period for the staple crops: rice, maize and cassava. Various farming activities, including crop maintenance (such as weeding, fencing and application of chemicals) and harvesting were disrupted mostly through labour shortages. Rice production declined by 5 percent compared to the 2013 harvest. The relatively low level of impact at the national level masked the sub-national production and food security impacts. For example, the impact on rice production was estimated to be as high as -8.5 percent in N’zérékore. In particular, cereal production in N’zérékore was substantially affected by the EVD outbreak that started to spread when crops were already being planted and expanded during the whole crop-growing season until the critical harvesting period.

Cereal import requirements estimated to decline in 2016

Guinea, in a normal year, relies on imports for about 20 percent of its cereal consumption requirements (mostly rice and wheat). Cereal import requirements in 2016 are estimated at about 613 000 tonnes, 7 percent below the previous year’s level.

The commercial imports of rice are forecast to fall by 9 percent, while wheat imports are anticipated to remain at the level of recent years.
All neighbouring countries have re-opened their borders with Guinea, which led to a significant increase in trade flows. In 2014, the border closures with neighbouring Senegal, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea-Bissau disrupted cross-border trade of agricultural commodities. However, prices of local and imported rice have been mostly stable in recent months and will likely remain stable due to the availability of agricultural products and well-supplied markets.

**Food security and economy expected to improve in 2016**

Beyond its impact on the agriculture and food sectors, the EVD has seriously affected all other sectors of the economy. According to the EIU, Guinea’s real GDP contracted by 0.3 percent in 2014 and recovered only slightly and grew by an estimated 0.5 percent in 2015. With the EVD epidemic largely under control, the real GDP in 2016 is predicted to grow by 5.9 percent. The return of agricultural manual labour after the control of the outbreak; the recovery of agricultural, livestock and fishing activities as well as the re-opening of the borders with Guinea are expected to improve the food situation.

Although the Ebola outbreak has ended, according to the latest “Cadre Harmonisé” analysis, about 40 500 people, located mostly in Nzerekore and Kindia, are currently estimated to be in Phase 3: “Crisis” and above and are in need of urgent assistance. The Government and its partners are providing assistance in agricultural inputs and equipment particularly in Ebola-affected areas for the 2016-2017 agricultural season.
Favourable rains in 2015 resulted in above-average cereal harvest
Harvesting of maize, millet and sorghum was completed in November, while harvesting operations for rice, the most important crop produced in the country, are about to conclude. Most cropping areas benefited from favourable rains. Precipitation was particularly abundant in several areas, including Forécariah, Boke, Koundara, Dinguiraye and Mamou. However, rainfall deficits were recorded in pockets of the eastern part of Upper Guinea and the South Forest regions.

The Ebola Virus Disease (EVD), which significantly affected farming activities in 2014, has been largely controlled. The country was declared free of Ebola transmission in December 2015. As a result, the aggregate cereal production in 2015, estimated at about 3.5 million tonnes, is 7 percent above the previous year’s output and 11 percent above-average. Of this total, paddy rice production is estimated at 2.047 million tonnes, a 4 percent increase from the year before and accounts for the bulk of the cereal production.

In 2014, the EVD outbreak resulted in a serious shock to the agriculture and food sectors. The epidemic started to spread when crops were being planted and grew during the crop maintenance period and expanded rapidly during the critical harvesting period for the staple crops: rice, maize and cassava. Various farming activities, including crop maintenance (such as weeding, fencing and application of chemicals) and harvesting have been disrupted mostly through labour shortages. Rice production declined by 5 percent compared to the 2013 harvest. The relatively low level of impact at the national level masks the sub-national production and food security impacts. For example, the impact on rice production is estimated as high as -8.5 percent in N’zérékore. In particular, cereal production in N’zérékore was substantially affected by the EVD outbreak that started to spread when crops were already being planted and expanded during the whole crop-growing season until the critical harvesting period.

Cereal import requirements are estimated to decline in 2016
Guinea, in a normal year, relies on imports for about 20 percent of its cereal consumption requirements (mostly rice and wheat). Cereal import requirements in 2016 are estimated at about 613 000 tonnes, 7 percent below the previous year’s level.

The commercial imports of rice are forecast to fall by 9 percent, while wheat imports are anticipated to remain at the level of recent years.
All neighbouring countries have reopened their borders with Guinea, which led to a significant increase in trade flows. In 2014, the border closures with neighbouring Senegal, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea-Bissau disrupted cross-border trade of agricultural commodities. However, prices of local and imported rice remained mostly stable in recent months.

**Food security and economy severely affected by EVD outbreak**

Beyond its impact on the agriculture and food sector, the EVD has seriously affected all other sectors of the economy. According to the EIU, Guinea’s real GDP contracted by 0.3 percent in 2014, and recovered only slightly and grew by an estimated 0.5 percent in 2015. With the EVD epidemic largely in control, real GDP in 2016 is predicted to grow by 5.9 percent.

Although the Ebola outbreak has ended, according to the latest “Cadre Harmonisé” analysis, about 40 500 people, located mostly in Nzerekore and Kindia, are currently estimated to be in Phase 3: “Crisis” and above and are in need of urgent assistance.
Guinea

Reference Date: 07-August-2015

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Early prospects for 2015 cereal production are favourable
- After several years of steady growth, rice production is estimated to have dropped by 4 percent in 2014 due to Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak
- Cereal import requirements in 2015 are, therefore, estimated to increase slightly compared to last year's level
- Number of food insecure people estimated at about 393,000 between June and August

Overall crop prospects are favourable

Planting of maize, millet and sorghum was completed in June, while planting operations of rice, the most important crop produced in the country, are about to conclude. Data obtained from satellite images shows that the crops benefited from favourable climatic conditions in most of the regions during the sowing season and the vegetation period. Moreover, the EVD, which significantly affected farming activities last year, has been largely controlled. There was only one confirmed case of EVD reported in the week of 2 August 2015. Harvesting of rice and coarse grains will begin in October.

Last year, the EVD outbreak resulted in a serious shock to the agriculture and food sectors in 2014. The epidemic started to spread when crops were being planted and grew during the crop maintenance period and expanded rapidly during the critical harvesting period for the staple crops: rice, maize and cassava. Various farming activities, including crop maintenance (such as weeding, fencing and application of chemicals) and harvesting have been disrupted mostly through labour shortages. The aggregate food crop production in 2014 was estimated at 3.04 million tonnes (including cassava in cereal equivalent and rice in milled terms), 3 percent lower than the record harvest of 2013. Of this total, milled rice production was estimated at 1.315 million tonnes, 4 percent lower than the year before and accounts for the bulk of the cereal production. The relatively low level of impact at the national level masks the sub-national production and food security impacts. For example, impact on rice production is estimated as high as -8.5 percent in N’zérékoré.

Cereal import requirements are estimated to increase in 2015

Guinea, in a normal year, relies on imports for about 20 percent of its cereal consumption requirements (mostly rice and wheat). Cereal import requirements in 2015 are estimated at 444,000 tonnes, slightly up from last year. Rice import requirements account for about 320,000 tonnes of the total. The commercial imports of rice (at 300,000 tonnes) and wheat (at 100,000 tonnes) are anticipated to remain at the level of 2013. The uncovered gap is estimated at about 44,000 tonnes for which additional resources and international assistance is required. The significant impact of Ebola on export earnings is expected to have compromised the country’s ability to import more.

All neighbouring countries have reopened their borders with Guinea, which led to a significant increase in trade flows. Last year, the border...
closures with neighbouring Senegal, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea-Bissau had negatively impacted on cross-border trade of agricultural commodities. Prices of local and imported rice remained mostly stable in recent months.

Food security severely affected by the EVD outbreak

Beyond its impact on the agriculture and food sector, the EVD has seriously affected all other sectors of the economy. According to the Economic Intelligence Unit estimates, 2014 GDP growth fell drastically to 1.1 percent from 4.5 percent expected before the Ebola crisis. National output is forecast to contract by 1.5 percent in 2015, with serious impacts on livelihoods, income and access to food. Overall, according to the latest “Cadre Harmonisé” analysis, about 393 000 people are currently estimated to be in Phase 3: “Crisis” and above and are in need of urgent assistance across the country. Boke, Faranah, Kankan, Kindia, Labe and Nzerekore are most affected by the effects of EVD. More than half of all food insecure people are in Labe and Nzerekore.
FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- After several years of steady growth, rice production is estimated to have dropped by 4 percent in 2014 due to Ebola Virus Disease outbreak
- Cereal import requirements in 2015 are, therefore, estimated to increase slightly compared to last year's level
- Prices of imported rice, which normally covers about 25 percent of country's consumption requirements, remained stable and around their levels a year earlier
- Number of food insecure people estimated at about 970 000 as of December 2014, projected to increase to 1.2 million by March 2015

**Ebola Virus Disease outbreak caused agricultural production to fall in affected areas**

Harvesting of maize, millet and sorghum was completed in November, while harvesting operations of rice, the most important crop produced in the country, are about to conclude. The Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak resulted in a serious shock to the agriculture and food sectors in 2014. The epidemic started to spread when crops were being planted and grew during the crop maintenance period and expanded rapidly during the critical harvesting period for the staple crops: rice, maize and cassava. Various farming activities, including crop maintenance (such as weeding, fencing and application of chemicals) and harvesting have been disrupted mostly through labour shortages. Based on the GIEWS Disease Impact on Agriculture – Simulation (DIAS) Model and the findings of Rapid Assessments carried out in the country, the aggregate food crop production in 2014 is estimated at 3.04 million tonnes (including cassava in cereal equivalent and rice in milled terms), which is 3 percent lower than the record harvest of 2013. Of this total, milled rice production is estimated at 1.315 million tonnes, 4 percent lower than the year before and accounts for the bulk of the cereal production. Total coarse grains (maize, sorghum, millets and other small grains) and cassava, in cereal equivalent, are estimated to have declined by 3 percent and 1 percent, respectively. The relatively low level of impact at the national level masks the sub-national production and food security impacts. For example, impact on rice production is estimated as high as -8.5 percent in N’zérékoré.

**Cereal import requirements are estimated to increase in 2015**

Guinea, in a normal year, relies on imports for about 20 percent of its cereal consumption requirements (mostly rice and wheat). Cereal import requirements in 2015 are estimated at 444 000 tonnes, slightly up from last year. Rice import requirements account for about 320 000 tonnes of the total. The commercial imports of rice (at 300 000 tonnes) and wheat (at 100 000 tonnes) are anticipated to remain at the level of 2013. The uncovered gap is estimated at about 44 000 tonnes for which additional resources and international assistance is required. The significant impact of Ebola on export earnings is expected to have compromised the country’s ability to import more.
The border closures with neighbouring Senegal, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea-Bissau have led to a decline of trade volumes of agricultural commodities between Guinea and neighbouring countries. Prices of local rice fell in several markets in recent months with increased supplies from the new harvest and were below their levels of a year earlier. Similarly, prices of imported rice, which normally covers about 25 percent of the country’s consumption requirements, remained stable and around their levels of a year earlier.

**Food security severely affected by the EVD outbreak**

Beyond its impact on the agriculture and food sector, the EVD has seriously affected all other sectors of the economy. According to the World Bank’s revised estimates, 2014 GDP growth fell drastically to 0.5 percent from 4.5 percent expected before the Ebola crisis, with serious impact on livelihoods, income and access to food. According to remote surveys undertaken by WFP, Ebola appears to be a shock to an already precarious situation of chronic food insecurity, particularly in the severely EVD-affected Forest Guinea. Wage rates and terms of trade are lower in this region compared to the rest of the country. About 970,000 people, are estimated to be severely food insecure as of December 2014. The impact of EVD accounts for 230,000 people. The number of food insecure is projected to increase to 1.2 million by March 2015, 470,000 of which are attributed to EVD. Almost 90 percent of the Ebola-driven food-insecure live in rural areas. Among income groups, petty traders and unskilled labourers have the highest share of food insecure people.
GIEWS Country Brief

Guinea

Reference Date: 10-February-2014

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT
- Aggregate cereal production in 2013 forecast to increase on previous year
- Access to food improved in recent years reflecting lower inflation
- Large number of people exposed to chronic food insecurity

A good 2013 cereal output forecast
Harvesting of maize, millet and sorghum was completed in November, while harvesting operations of rice, the most important crop produced in the country have just been completed. Most cropping areas benefited from beneficial rains and remote sensing analysis indicates that cumulative rainfall estimates were 10 to 50 percent above average during the cropping period (April-September) in most areas of the country. As a result, a joint FAO/WFP/CILSS/FEWSNET/Government crop assessment mission that visited the country in September 2013 put the aggregate 2013 cereal production at 3.4 million tonnes, about 6 percent up on 2012.

Access to food has improved in recent years reflecting lower inflation
Following a strong depreciation of the Guinea Franc, inflation peaked at 34 percent in 2006, seriously eroding the purchasing power and access to food of both urban and rural populations (prices of rice, the staple food for Guineans, more than doubled between 2006 and 2007). In the following years rates of inflation were high and volatile. Subsequently, the Guinean Franc became relatively stable from early 2012, pushing inflation down from 21 percent in 2011 to 15.2 percent in 2012 and to 12.7 percent in 2013.

A substantial section of the population is exposed to chronic food insecurity
Large numbers of people are exposed to chronic food insecurity and malnutrition. According to a joint WFP/Government survey of food security and vulnerability conducted in 2012, out of a total population of 6.7 million, 220 000 individuals were estimated to suffer from severe food insecurity, while 1.8 million were estimated to be moderately food insecure. The areas most affected by food insecurity are the regions located in the west (Boké, Kindia, Conakry) and in the South (N’Zérékoré).
Guinea

Reference Date: 28-November-2013

**FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT**
- Aggregate cereal production in 2013 forecast to increase on last year
- Access to food improved in recent years reflecting lower inflation
- Large number of people exposed to chronic food insecurity

**A good 2013 cereal output forecast**
Harvesting of maize, millet and sorghum has just been completed, while harvesting operations of rice, the most important crop produced in the country, are currently underway. Most cropping areas benefited from beneficial rains and remote sensing analysis indicates that cumulative rainfall estimates were 10 to 50 percent above average during the cropping period (April-September) in most areas of the country. As a result, a recently concluded joint FAO/WFP/CILSS/FEWSNET/Government crop assessment mission put the aggregate 2013 cereal production at 3.4 million tonnes, about 6 percent up on 2012.

**Access to food has improved in recent years reflecting lower inflation**
Following a strong depreciation of the Guinea Franc, inflation peaked at 34 percent in 2006, seriously eroding the purchasing power and access to food of both urban and rural populations (prices of rice, the staple food for Guineans, more than doubled between 2006 and 2007). In the following years rates of inflation were high and volatile; subsequently, the Guinean Franc became relatively stable from early 2012, pushing inflation down from 21 percent in 2011 to 15.2 percent in 2012 and to 12.7 percent in 2013.

**A substantial section of the population is exposed to chronic food insecurity**
Large numbers of people are exposed to chronic food insecurity and malnutrition. According to a joint WFP/Government survey of food security and vulnerability conducted in 2012, out of a total population of 6.7 million, 220 000 individuals are estimated to suffer from severe food insecurity, while 1.8 million are estimated to be moderately food insecure. The areas most affected by food insecurity are the regions located in the west (Boké, Kindia, Conakry) and in the South (N’Zérékoro).
**Food Security Snapshot**

- The 2013 cropping season progressing well
- Aggregate cereal production in 2012 is estimated to have increased by 10 percent compared to 2011
- Access to food improved due to lower prices mainly following a significant recovery of the Guinean Franc

---

**The 2013 cropping season is progressing well**

Following above average cumulative rains, the first maize, millet and sorghum crops are growing satisfactorily, while they are at emerging/tillering stage in the centre. Sorghum is still being planted in the north. Planting of rice is completed, except for swamp and low-lying areas in the south.

**Favourable weather conditions benefited crops in 2012**

Harvesting of rice, the most important crop produced in the country, was completed last January. Crops benefited from favourable climatic conditions in most areas of the country. Aggregate 2012 cereal production is estimated to have increased by about 10 percent to 3.2 million tonnes compared to 2011.

**Access to food has improved reflecting lower food prices and inflation**

Access to food has improved in recent months, driven mostly by lower prices of imported commodities. Following a strong depreciation of the Guinean Franc, the price of rice - the staple food for Guineans - more than doubled between 2006 and 2007, fuelling inflation and seriously eroding the purchasing power and access to food of both urban and rural populations. Since then, rice prices have generally followed an upward trend through 2011. However, the Guinean Franc became relatively stable from early 2012 on, pushing inflation down from 21 percent in 2011 to 14 percent in 2012. Consumer price inflation is forecast to drop further to 11.5 percent in 2013 driven by a continuing recovery of the Guinean franc and more stable rice prices.

**A substantial section of the population is exposed to chronic food insecurity**

Large numbers of people are also exposed to chronic food insecurity and malnutrition. According to the WFP’s latest detailed survey of food security and vulnerability, about 600 000 people located mostly in Kindia, Labe and N’Zerekore regions suffer from severe food insecurity, while an additional 1.7 million are considered at risk.
The 2013 cropping season has started

Land preparation and planting of the 2013 rice and coarse grains crops are underway countrywide, following the start of the raining season in May.

Favourable weather conditions benefited crops in 2012

Harvesting of rice, the most important crop produced in the country, was completed last January. Crops benefited from favourable climatic conditions in most areas of the country. Aggregate 2012 cereal production is estimated to have increased by about 10 percent to 3.2 million tonnes compared to 2011.

Access to food has improved reflecting lower food prices and inflation

Access to food has improved in recent months, driven mostly by lower prices of imported commodities. Following a strong depreciation of the Guinea Franc, the price of rice - the staple food for Guineans- more than doubled between 2006 and 2007, fuelling inflation and seriously eroding the purchasing power and access to food of both urban and rural populations. Since then, rice prices have generally followed an upward trend through 2011. However, the Guinean Franc became relatively stable from early 2012 on, pushing inflation down from 21 percent in 2011 to 14 percent in 2012. Consumer price inflation is forecast to drop further to 11.5 percent in 2013 driven by a continuing recovery of the Guinean franc and more stable rice prices.

A substantial section of the population is exposed to chronic food insecurity

Large numbers of people are also exposed to chronic food insecurity and malnutrition. According to the WFP’s latest detailed survey of food security and vulnerability, about 600,000 people located mostly in Kindia, Labe and N’Zerekore regions suffer from severe food insecurity, while an additional 1.7 million are considered at risk.
GIEWS Country Brief

Guinea

Reference Date: 27-March-2012

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT
- Aggregate cereal production in 2011 is estimated to have increased by 16 percent compared to 2010
- However, access to food continues to be affected by high prices mainly following the rapid depreciation of the Guinean Franc

Favourable weather conditions benefited crops in 2011
Harvesting of rice, the most important crop produced in the country, was completed in January. Crops benefited from favourable climatic conditions in most areas of the country. Aggregate 2011 cereal production is estimated to have increased by about 16 percent to 3.3 million tonnes compared to 2010.

Access to food is constrained by high prices
In spite of the good harvest, access to food continues to be negatively affected by high price and inflation rates. Following a strong depreciation of the Guinea Franc, the price of rice - the staple food for Guineans- more than doubled between 2006 and 2007. Since then, rice prices have generally been following an upward trend, fuelling inflation and seriously eroding the purchasing power and access to food of both urban and rural populations. Consumer price inflation is estimated to have reached 20 percent in 2010 and 16 percent in 2011, up from 9 percent in 2009, driven by a renewed and rapid depreciation of the Guinean franc and continuing rise in rice prices.

A substantial section of the population is exposed to chronic food insecurity
Large numbers of people are also exposed to chronic food insecurity and malnutrition. According to the WFP's latest detailed survey of food security and vulnerability, about 600,000 people located mostly in Kindia, Labe and N’Zerekore regions suffer from severe food insecurity, while an additional 1.7 million are considered at risk.

Crop calendar
Guinea

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cassava (1st year)</th>
<th>Maize</th>
<th>Millet</th>
<th>Rice</th>
<th>Sorghum</th>
<th>Yams</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="crop_calendar.png" alt="Crop Calendar" /></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: FAO/GIEWS

Guinea Cereal production

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2006-2010 average</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011 estimate</th>
<th>change 2011/2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>000 tonnes</td>
<td>percent</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rice (paddy)</td>
<td>1,460</td>
<td>1,604</td>
<td>1,664</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>577</td>
<td>584</td>
<td>757</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cereals nes</td>
<td>288</td>
<td>384</td>
<td>429</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>202</td>
<td>279</td>
<td>451</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2,527</td>
<td>2,451</td>
<td>3,301</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: percentage change calculated from unsourced data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS/Country Cereal Balance Sheets
GIEWS Country Brief

Guinea

Reference Date: 24-January-2012

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Aggregate cereal production in 2011 is estimated to have increased by 16 percent compared to 2010
- However, access to food continues to be affected by high prices mainly following the rapid depreciation of the Guinean Franc

Favourable weather conditions benefited crops in 2011

Harvesting of rice, the most important crop produced in the country, is nearly complete. Crops benefited from favourable climatic conditions in most areas of the country. Aggregate 2011 cereal production is estimated to have increased by about 16 percent to 3.3 million tonnes compared to 2010.

Access to food is constrained by high prices

In spite of the good harvest, access to food continues to be negatively affected by high price and inflation rates. Following a strong depreciation of the Guinea Franc, the price of rice - the staple food for Guineans - more than doubled between 2006 and 2007. Since then, rice prices have generally been following an upward trend, fuelling inflation and seriously eroding the purchasing power and access to food of both urban and rural populations. Consumer price inflation is estimated to have reached 20 percent in 2010 and 16 percent in 2011, up from 9 percent in 2009, driven by a renewed and rapid depreciation of the Guinean franc and continuing rise in rice prices.

A substantial section of the population is exposed to chronic food insecurity

Large numbers of people are also exposed to chronic food insecurity and malnutrition. According to the WFP’s latest detailed survey of food security and vulnerability, about 600 000 people located mostly in Kindia, Labe and N’Zerekore regions suffer from severe food insecurity, while an additional 1.7 million are considered at risk.

### Guinea

#### Cereal production

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2006-2010 average</th>
<th>2010 estimate</th>
<th>2011 estimate</th>
<th>change 2011/2010 percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rice (paddy)</td>
<td>1 430</td>
<td>1 604</td>
<td>1 664</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>577</td>
<td>584</td>
<td>757</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cereals</td>
<td>288</td>
<td>384</td>
<td>429</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>202</td>
<td>279</td>
<td>451</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2 527</td>
<td>2 451</td>
<td>3 301</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: percentage change calculated from unsound data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS/Country Cereal Balance Sheets
FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Land preparation of the 2011 cropping season has started following first rains in May
- Last year’s aggregate cereal production is estimated to have increased by 7 percent compared to 2009
- However, access to food continues to be affected by high prices mainly following the rapid depreciation of the Guinean Franc

Seasonably dry conditions prevail in most parts of the country

Limited rains in May were registered in the extreme south where land preparation for planting of rice and coarse grains has started. However, seasonably dry conditions still prevail in most parts of the country.

Favourable weather conditions benefited crops in 2010

Harvesting of rice, the most important crop produced in the country, was completed last January. Crops benefited from favourable climatic conditions in most areas of the country. Aggregate 2010 cereal production is estimated to have increased by about 7 percent to 2.85 million tonnes compared to 2009.

Access to food is constrained by high prices

In spite of the good harvest, access to food continues to be negatively affected by high price and inflation rates. Following a strong depreciation of the Guinean Franc, the price of rice - the staple food for Guineans - more than doubled between 2006 and 2007. Since then, rice prices have generally been following an upward trend, fuelling inflation and seriously eroding the purchasing power and access to food of both urban and rural populations. Consumer price inflation is estimated to have reached 15 percent in 2010, up from 9 percent in 2009, driven by a renewed and rapid depreciation of the Guinean franc and continuing rise in rice prices.

A substantial section of the population are exposed to chronic food insecurity

Large numbers of people are also exposed to chronic food insecurity and malnutrition. According to the WFP’s latest detailed survey of food security and vulnerability, about 600 000 people located mostly in Kindia, Labe and N’Zerekore regions suffer from severe food insecurity, while an additional 1.7 million are considered at risk.
GIEWS Country Brief
Guinea

Reference Date: 1-February-2011

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Aggregate 2010 cereal production is estimated to have increased by 7 percent compared to 2009.
- However, access to food continues to be affected by high prices driven by a rapid depreciation of the Guinean Franc.

Favourable weather conditions benefited crops in 2010

Harvesting of rice, the most important crop produced in the country, is nearly complete, while harvesting of maize and millet was completed in November. Crops benefited from favourable climatic conditions in most areas of the country. Aggregate 2010 cereal production is estimated to have increased by about 7 percent to 2.85 million tonnes compared to 2009.

Access to food is constrained by high prices

In spite of the good harvest, access to food continues to be negatively affected by high price and inflation rates. Following a strong depreciation of the Guinea Franc, the price of rice - the staple food for Guineans - more than doubled between 2006 and 2007. Since then, rice prices have generally been following an upward trend, fuelling inflation and seriously eroding the purchasing power and access to food of both urban and rural populations. Consumer price inflation is estimated to have reached 15 percent in 2010, up from 9 percent in 2009, driven by a renewed and rapid depreciation of the Guinean franc and continuing rise in rice prices.

A substantial section of the population are exposed to chronic food insecurity

Large numbers of people are also exposed to chronic food insecurity and malnutrition. According to the WFP’s latest detailed survey of food security and vulnerability, about 600,000 people located mostly in Kindia, Labe and N’Zerekore regions suffer from severe food insecurity, while an additional 1.7 million are considered at risk.
FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Aggregate 2009 cereal production is estimated to have increased by 6 percent compared to 2008.
- However, access to food continues to be affected by high prices driven by a rapid depreciation of the Guinean Franc.

Favourable weather conditions benefited crops in 2009

Land preparation is underway for planting of the 2010 rice and coarse grains crops, which normally starts in May. Last year, crops benefited from favourable climatic conditions in most areas of the country. Aggregate 2009 cereal production is estimated to have increased by about 6 percent to 2.67 million tonnes compared to 2008.

Access to food is constrained by high prices

In spite of the good harvest, access to food continues to be negatively affected by high price and inflation rates. Following a strong depreciation of the Guinean Franc, the price of rice - the staple food for Guineans - more than doubled between 2006 and 2007 fuelling inflation and seriously eroding the purchasing power and access to food of both urban and rural populations. Since then, good harvests both in Guinea and in neighbouring countries, together with a substantial fall in inflation, helped to improve food access. However, inflation which was estimated to have fallen from 22.9 percent in 2007 to 9 percent in 2009 is forecast to rebound in 2010 driven by a renewed and rapid depreciation of the Guinean franc and new rise in rice prices.

Over 400 000 tonnes of rice were imported in 2009, following a temporary suspension of import tariffs on rice introduced by the Government last year.

A substantial section of the population are exposed to chronic food insecurity

Large numbers of people are also exposed to chronic food insecurity and malnutrition. According to the WFP’s latest detailed survey of food security and vulnerability, about 600 000 people located mostly in Kindia, Labe and N’Zerekore regions suffer from severe food insecurity, while an additional 1.7 million are considered at risk.
FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

• Aggregate 2009 cereal production is forecast to increase by 5 percent compared to 2008.
• However, access to food continues to be affected by high prices driven by a rapid depreciation of the Guinean Franc.

Favourable weather conditions benefited crops in 2009
Harvesting of rice, by far the most important crop, is nearly complete. Crops benefited from favourable climatic conditions in most areas of the country at planting and during growth. Aggregate 2009 cereal production is forecast to increase by about 6 percent to 2.67 million tonnes compared to 2008.

Access to food is constrained by high prices
In spite of the good harvest, access to food continues to be negatively affected by high inflation and high prices. Following a strong depreciation of the Guinea Franc, the price of rice - the staple food for Guineans - more than doubled between 2006 and 2007 fuelling inflation and seriously eroding the purchasing power and access to food of both urban and rural populations. Since then, good harvests both in Guinea and throughout the whole of the subregion, together with a substantial fall in inflation, helped to improve food access. However, inflation which was estimated to have fallen from 22.9 percent in 2007 to 9 percent in 2009 is forecast to rebound in 2010 driven by a rapid depreciation of the Guinean franc and new rise in rice price.
**GIEWS Country Brief**

**Guinea**

**Reference Date:** 24-September-2009

**FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT**
- Overall favourable crop prospects for 2009
- Access to food improved, following a decline in inflation thanks to more conservative monetary policy

**Satellite images indicate favourable harvest prospects**
The harvesting of rice, which is by far the most important crop, should begin at the end of September. Data obtained from satellite images shows that the crops benefited from favourable climatic conditions in most of the regions during the sowing season and the vegetation period.

**Lower inflation thanks to improved monetary policy and food access**
The good harvests both in Guinea and throughout the whole of the subregion in 2008, together with a substantial fall in inflation, helped to improve food access. Inflation was estimated to have fallen from 34.7 percent and 22.9 percent in 2006 and 2007, respectively, as a result of the steep devaluation of the Guinean franc, to 15 percent in 2008, and is expected to fall further in 2009 due to improved monetary policy and lower fuel and food prices.

Now that peace has returned to Sierra Leone and the situation in Liberia has improved, the numbers of refugees have declined, but there are still about 20,000 in Guinea and dependent on humanitarian assistance.