GIEWS Country Brief
Chad

Reference Date: 02-October-2020

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Near-average output expected in 2020 due to favourable moisture conditions
- Above-average cereal production estimated in 2019
- Prices of coarse grains generally stable or seasonally increased in July 2020
- Significant increase in prevalence of food insecurity in second half of 2020

Near-average output expected in 2020 due to favourable moisture conditions

Harvesting operations are ongoing in the Sudanian zone while in the Sahelian zone they are expected to begin in October. Planting of the 2020 coarse grain crops (maize, millet, sorghum and rice) started on time with the onset of rains in the Sudanian zone in May and in the Sahelian zone in June. Throughout most parts of the country, abundant seasonal precipitation amounts since May resulted in normal crop germination, establishment and development (see ASI image). Weather forecasts point to above-average rainfall until October. These conditions are expected to have a positive impact on crop yields. However, in the regions of Logone Occidentale, Logone Orientale, Mayo-Kebbi Est, Mayo-Kebbi Ouest and Tandjilé, crops were affected by long dry periods during the first decade of August, causing crop losses and curbing the production prospects. Similarly, periods of heavy rains resulted in localized flooding in July and August in the provinces of Ndjamenya and the Mandoul and in areas bordering Lac Chad, causing human casualties, loss of livelihoods and damage to crops, livestock and infrastructures. Although abundant rains had an overall beneficial impact on the crops, the 2020 cereal crop production is estimated at near-average levels.

In most pastoral areas of the country, favourable rainfall in August improved natural pasture conditions and replenished water reserves to satisfactory levels, with positive effects on livestock body conditions. However, cross border movements of transhumant herds remain limited due to the persistent insecurity in neighbouring Nigeria, Central African Republic and Libya. Access to natural grazing areas is also constrained by the structural conflict between farmers and pastoralists with high incidences in Kanem and Bahr El Ghazal provinces as well as the high levels of insecurity in Tibesti Province. The animal health situation is overall stable, with just some seasonal outbreaks of epizootic diseases,
such as the Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) in sheep and goats and the Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) in cattle.

**Above-average cereal production estimated in 2019**

Favourable rainfall in 2019 benefitted crop development in most parts of the country. Overall, the 2019 national cereal production is estimated at about 3 million tonnes, 7 percent above the previous five-year average. However, production shortfalls occurred in the provinces of Kanem, Bahr El Ghazal and Hadjer Lamis due to prolonged dry spells in June and early July in 2019, which caused some damages on crops at seeding and tillering stages and favoured pest attacks on re-planted crops.

Despite the above-average production in 2019, import requirements for the 2019/20 marketing year (November/October) are expected to increase at above-average levels due to strong demand by the local traders aiming at replenishing their stocks.

**Prices of coarse grains generally stable or seasonally increased in July**

Although food availability is adequate in most markets, some field reports indicate a decline in supplies in Bahr el Ghazal, Kanem, Sila and Lake provinces due to civil insecurity and poor road conditions. Household demand remains strong due to a seasonal depletion of stocks. Prices of millet increased in July in most markets, with seasonal patterns exacerbated by the impact of trade restrictions linked to the COVID-19 pandemic. By contrast, sorghum prices remained stable since early 2020 due to the good levels of market stocks and regular import flows from the Sudan and Cameroon.

Despite the improvement of livestock body conditions in August, prices of live animal remain below average due the increased supply on the local markets following the closure of the borders with Nigeria and Libya (main outlets). The livestock-to-cereals terms of trade are generally unfavourable to pastoralists as prices of animals are declining, while cereal prices are increasing.

**Significant increase in prevalence of food insecurity in second half of 2020**

The COVID-19 pandemic containment measures continue to slow down the national economy, reducing employment opportunities. This has contributed to a weakening of the purchasing power of the poor vulnerable households, limiting their access to food. In addition, the persisting insecurity in Lac and Tibesti regions continues to disrupt livelihood activities and to cause population displacements. According to UNHCR, as of August 2020, the country hosts about 479 500 refugees from neighbouring countries, including the Central African Republic, Nigeria and the Sudan, affected by persisting civil conflicts. According to IOM, as of August 2020, about 297 000 people were internally displaced due to insecurity in the Lake Chad Province. The above-average cumulative rainfall amounts in August caused flooding in several areas, mainly in Ndjamen, Mandoul and Lake provinces and affected about 3 800 households (nearly 190 000 people), resulting in displacements, loss of lives and damage to infrastructures. The majority of the displaced people, refugees and host communities are highly dependent on humanitarian assistance to satisfy their basic needs.
According to the March 2020 "Cadre Harmonisé" analysis, the aggregate number of severely food insecure people (CH Phase 3: “Crisis” and above) is estimated at about 1 million during the lean season between June and August 2020, well above the 520,000 food insecure people that were estimated for the period June-August 2019. However, the situation is worse than previously expected on account of the impact from the COVID-19 pandemic, including the containment measures that adversely effected households’ livelihood activities and incomes. After the revision of the humanitarian response plan due to COVID-19, 5.9 million people were estimated to be severely food insecure in August 2020, the peak of the lean season.

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GIEWS Country Brief
Chad

Reference Date: 03-April-2020

**FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT**
- Above-average production harvested in 2019
- Cereal import requirements forecast at above-average level
- Prices of coarse grains generally stable, but down from year earlier
- Continued food and humanitarian assistance needed

**Above-average harvest gathered in 2019**
Seasonal dry weather conditions are prevailing in most areas of the country and planting of the 2020 crops is expected to begin in May-June with the normal onset of the rains.

Harvesting of millet, sorghum, maize and rice (paddy) was completed in December 2019. Overall, the 2019 national cereal production is estimated at 2.9 million tonnes, 7 percent above the five-year average and similar to the 2018 output. However, production shortfalls occurred in the provinces of Kanem, Bahr El Ghazal and Hadjer Lamis due to prolonged dry spells in June and early July, causing some damages on crops at seeding and tillering growth stages which favoured pest attacks on the newly planted crops in July.

Pastoral resources have been affected by prolonged dryness in June and July and floods caused by late rains in October, leading to a fodder deficit of about 30 million tonnes of dry matter. The largest fodder deficits were recorded in the provinces of Barh El Ghazal, Batha, Borkou, Ennedi Ouest, Hadjer Lamis, Kanem, Ouaddai and Wadi Fira. As a result, an earlier-than-normal and harsh pastoralists' lean season is expected to start in April in these areas, causing competition between farmers and breeders to access natural grazing areas.

**Cereal import requirements forecast at above-average level**
Despite the above-average 2019 production, import requirements for the 2019/20 marketing year (November/October) are expected to remain at an above-average level of about 200,000 tonnes. Local traders will likely maintain the high level of imports of 200,000 tonnes to replenish their stocks and to supply the northern regions of Tibesti, Borkou and Ennedi as the persisting insecurity continues to disrupt trade flows from Libya.

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**Chad**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crop Calendar</th>
<th>(*major foodcrop)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>J F M A M J</td>
<td>S O N D</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Cereal Production**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sorghum</td>
<td>930</td>
<td>988</td>
<td>946</td>
<td>-4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Millet</td>
<td>686</td>
<td>757</td>
<td>705</td>
<td>-6.8</td>
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<td>699</td>
<td>714</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,763</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,032</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,968</strong></td>
<td><strong>-1.8</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Prices of coarse grains generally stable, but down from year earlier

Most markets are well stocked following the above-average production of cereals in 2019, the contribution of the good levels of residual commercial stocks and imports from the Sudan and Cameroon. Prices of coarse grains followed mixed trends in January, despite adequate cereal availabilities at the national level. Prices of millet strengthened in January 2020 while those of sorghum declined or remained relatively stable. The Libyan border closure and conflict continued to disrupt market activities and supported prices in several markets in Lake Chad and Tibesti regions.

In most livestock markets, the supply of animals is adequate. The prices rose in January 2020, compared to the previous months, due to an increase in export demand to the Sudan as a result of an improvement of security along the border. The livestock-to-cereals terms of trade are generally favourable to pastoralists. However, the market value of the animals is expected to moderately deteriorate between April and June in the areas affected by fodder deficits or limited access to fodder resources due to insecurity.

Food assistance still needed for vulnerable population

Food security conditions remained precarious in 2019, particularly in Lac and Tibesti regions due to persisting insecurity that resulted in the disruption of livelihood activities and population displacements. According to UNHCR, as of February 2020, the country hosts about 465 000 refugees from neighbouring countries, including the Central African Republic, Nigeria and the Sudan, affected by persisting civil conflict. According to IOM, as of December 2019, about 170 000 people were displaced due to insecurity in Lake Chad Region. The majority of the displaced people, refugees and host communities are highly dependent on humanitarian assistance to satisfy their basic needs.

According to the March 2020 "Cadre Harmonisé" analysis, the aggregate number of severely food insecure people (CH Phase 3: “Crisis” and above) is estimated at about 453 000, up from the 312 000 estimated in March 2019. If appropriate measures and responses are not implemented, this number is projected to increase to nearly 1 million during the next lean season between June and August 2020, well above the 520 000 food insecure people that were estimated for the period June-August 2019.

COVID-19 and measures adopted by the Government

In view of the evolving COVID-19 situation, the Government has taken some necessary measures to close the land borders and the suspension of air traffic, with the exception of cargo aircrafts. The Government has developed a contingency plan of XAF 15 billion with the technical support of donor partners. A special fund is set up, comprising of internal resources and the contribution of international solidarity. Official restrictions on population movements, combined with heightened levels of fear, have led to a reduction of income-earning opportunities in some places. Field reports indicate cases of food hoarding in several local markets.
Favourable moisture conditions allowed timely planting of cereal crops in south
Seasonal rains started in May and allowed a timely start of planting activities of the 2019 coarse grain crops (maize, millet, sorghum and rice) in the southern cropping areas. Soil moisture is currently adequate, supporting crop germination and development. In northern parts of the country, the rainy season is yet to start and activities are limited to land preparation and dry planting of early millet and sorghum crops, to be harvested from October.

Above-average harvest gathered in 2018
Abundant rainfall amounts have been favourable for agricultural production in 2018. The country’s national cereal production was estimated at 3 million tonnes, about 14 percent above the five-year average. Major year-on-year production increases were observed for millet and local sorghum (Berbère).

Despite the above-average 2018 cereal production, import requirements for the 2018/19 (November/October) marketing year (mainly imported rice and wheat flour) are set at an above-average level of 190 000 tonnes. The high level of imports is explained by the strong demand by traders to replenish their stocks and to supply the northern regions (Tibesti, Borkou and Ennedi) as trade flows from Libya have been limited for several months due to the closure of the border.

Prices of coarse grains generally declined
Most markets are well supplied following the above-average cereals production in 2018 and imports. However, marketing activities remained disrupted in the northern regions (Tibesti, Borkou and Ennedi) due to the closure of the border with Libya and in the Lac Region due to the recent upsurge of civil conflict. Prices of coarse grains declined in several markets in March and were well below their year-earlier levels as a result of the good availabilities on markets.
Despite improvements in security conditions, food assistance still needed for vulnerable population

In the Lac and Tibesti regions, heightened insecurity in recent months continues to disrupt livelihood activities and population displacements. According to UNHCR, as of April 2019, the country hosts about 462,000 refugees from neighbouring countries, including the Central African Republic, Nigeria and the Sudan, affected by persisting civil conflict. According to IOM, as of May 2019, 130,000 people were displaced due to insecurity in the Lake Chad Region. The majority of displaced people, refugees and host communities are highly dependent on humanitarian assistance to satisfy their basic needs.

According to the March 2019 “Cadre Harmonisé” analysis, about 312,000 people are estimated to be in need of food assistance from March to May 2019, with a significant decrease from 624,000 people from March to May 2018. However, the caseload is expected to increase to 640,000 people during the lean season (June-August 2019), if no mitigation actions are taken.

### Chad

<table>
<thead>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>000 tonnes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sorghum</td>
<td>899</td>
<td>946</td>
<td>988</td>
<td>4.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Millet</td>
<td>646</td>
<td>660</td>
<td>757</td>
<td>14.6</td>
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<tr>
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<td>459</td>
<td>449</td>
<td>579</td>
<td>29.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>679</td>
<td>662</td>
<td>699</td>
<td>5.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2,683</td>
<td>2,717</td>
<td>3,022</td>
<td>11.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

### Chad

Retail prices of cereals in N’Djamena

CFA Franc BCEA per kg

![Graph showing retail prices of cereals in N’Djamena]

Source: FAO/GIEWS Food Price Monitoring and Analysis Tool.

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FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT
- Onset of rains in May favoured timely start of planting in south
- Above-average harvest gathered in 2018
- Prices of coarse grains stable compared to last year
- Continued food and humanitarian assistance needed

Favourable moisture conditions allowed timely planting of cereal crops in south

Seasonal rains started in May and allowed a timely start of planting activities of the 2019 coarse grain crops (maize, millet, sorghum and rice) in the southern cropping areas. Soil moisture is currently adequate, supporting crop germination and development. In northern parts of the country, the rainy season is yet to start and activities are limited to land preparation and dry planting of early millet and sorghum crops, to be harvested from October.

Above-average harvest gathered in 2018

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Despite improvements in security conditions, food assistance still needed for vulnerable population

In the Lac and Tibesti regions, heightened insecurity in recent months continues to disrupt livelihood activities and population displacements. According to UNHCR, as of April 2019, the country hosts about 462 000 refugees from neighbouring countries, including the Central African Republic, Nigeria and the Sudan, affected by persisting civil conflict. According to IOM, as of May 2019, 130 000 people were displaced due to insecurity in the Lake Chad Region. The majority of displaced people, refugees and host communities are highly dependent on humanitarian assistance to satisfy their basic needs.

According to the March 2019 “Cadre Harmonisé” analysis, about 312 000 people are estimated to be in need of food assistance from March to May 2019, with a significant decrease from 624 000 people from March to May 2018. However, the caseload is expected to increase to 640 000 people during the lean season (June-August 2019), if no mitigation actions are taken.

### Chad

#### Cereal Production

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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### Chad

#### Retail prices of cereals in N’Djamena

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CFA Franc BCEA per kg</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar 17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Millet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sorghum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Source: FAO/GIEWS Food Price Monitoring and Analysis Tool.

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GIEWS Country Brief
Chad

Reference Date: 11-January-2019

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT
- Above-average harvest gathered in 2018
- Average economic growth and slightly increasing inflation rate
- Stable prices of coarse grains compared to last year
- Continued food and humanitarian assistance needed, including for refugees

Above-average harvest gathered in 2018
Harvesting of millet, sorghum, maize and rice paddy has just been completed and the 2018 national cereal production was estimated at 3 million tonnes, about 12 percent above 2017’s output and 14 percent above the five-year average. Compared to 2017, major increases were observed in sorghum production.

Following the good performance of the agricultural season and a fodder balance sheet with a surplus of about 105 million tonnes of dry matter, the pastoral situation is overall satisfactory. The animal health situation is relatively stable due to the vaccination campaigns undertaken by the Government and its partners. Rearing conditions across pastoral areas of the country are generally favourable supporting good livestock body conditions and improving their market value.

Average economic growth and increasing inflation rate
According to the Economic Intelligence Unit (EIU), the economy is expected to grow by 3.5 percent in 2019 driven by a slight increase in economic activity and oil production. In 2019, the year-on-year inflation is forecast at 1.8 percent, up from 13 percent reported in 2018, due to higher domestic and oil prices.

Prices of coarse grains stable compared to previous year
The prices of coarse grains were relatively stable in October 2018 compared to October 2017 as a result of increased market availabilities from the new harvest. However, some significant declines, up to 20 percent, compared to last year were recorded for millet and sorghum on Moundou and Sarh markets. In most livestock markets, prices of animals are stable compared to last year and below the five-year average due to weak local and

Chad

Cereal Production

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sorghum</td>
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<td>946</td>
<td>1200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Millet</td>
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<tr>
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<td>2717</td>
<td>3066</td>
<td>12.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data. Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheet.
external demand, mainly from Nigeria, but also from the Sudan and Libya due to persisting civil insecurity in these countries.

**Continued assistance needed due to persisting civil insecurity in neighbouring countries**

The conflicts in Lake Chad Region and recently, in Tibesti Region, are disrupting livelihoods and markets. The last attacks on Lake Chad Region in September 2018 have also caused a wave of displacement. According to UNHCR, as of November 2018, the country hosts 451,000 refugees from neighbouring countries, including the Central African Republic, Libya, Nigeria and the Sudan, affected by persisting civil conflict. In the Lake Chad Region, civil insecurity related to the presence of armed groups continues to prevent access to humanitarian actors and it amplifies the level of vulnerability of displaced people. In the east and central parts of the country, the recurrent attacks, including car highjacking on aid organizations may have a serious impact on humanitarian interventions. According to IOM, as of October 2018, 163,000 people were displaced due to insecurity in the Lake Chad Region.

According to the November 2018 "Cadre Harmonisé" analysis, about 189,000 people are estimated to be in need of food assistance from October-December 2018, with a significant decrease from 318,000 people from October-December 2017. However, the caseload is expected to increase to 519,000 people during the lean season (June-August 2019), if no mitigation actions are taken.

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FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Planting of 2018 cereal crops started on time in southern farming areas under favourable conditions
- Above-average harvest gathered in 2017
- Prices of coarse grains remain below 2017 levels due to increased supply
- Continued food and humanitarian assistance needed, including for refugees

**Timely onset of rains favours normal planting activities**

Planting of the 2018 coarse grain crops (maize, millet, sorghum and rice), to be harvested from September, started on time in May in the southern part of the country and will continue until July. The agricultural season is progressing normally, with steady accumulation of seasonal rainfall since early May 2018 supporting crop development and growth in the most recently planted areas in the south.

In northern parts of the country, the season has just started with land preparation and first plantings of millet and sorghum crops to be harvested from October. Sowing operations are expected to finalize in July.

**Above-average harvest gathered in 2017 due to favourable moisture conditions**

The 2017 agricultural season was characterized by some localized dry spells that negatively impacted crop development in Kanem, Lac, Wadi Fira, Batha, Hadjer Lamis and Bahr-El-Gazel areas. However, the national cereal production was estimated at 2.7 million tonnes, about 5 percent less than the previous season’s output and 2 percent below the five-year average. Production of sorghum and millet both decreased by 5 and 9 percent, respectively, compared to 2016.

The uneven distribution and early cessation of rainfall had a negative impact on pasture availability and rearing conditions across the pastoral areas of the country. A high concentration of livestock has been observed in the Sudanian zone, the Lake Fitri and the Lake Chad. In these areas, pastoralists are highly vulnerable to lack of pasture as well as depressed prices for livestock products. The situation is unlikely to improve until the end
of July unless immediate actions by the Government and its partners are taken to alleviate the situation.

**Prices of coarse grains stable, but higher than previous year**

Cereal prices in April 2018 remain generally higher than the previous year due to the reduced 2017 harvests in some regions and the decline in the flows of local cereal grains (maize and sorghum) from Lake Chad Region due to the civil conflict. Important increases are recorded in Moussoro market, up to 33 percent for millet and 15 percent for maize in Bol and sorghum in Sarh. Prices of livestock continue to significantly decline compared to the previous months, driven by reduced exports to Nigeria (caused by persisting conflict) and the shortage of pastures, resulting in forced sales, depressed prices and a significant deterioration in the purchasing power of pastoralists.

**Food security affected by reduced livestock revenues and by civil insecurity in neighbouring countries**

The country continues to host a large number of refugees because of persisting civil conflict in neighbouring countries, including the Central African Republic, Libya, Nigeria and the Sudan. In the Lake Chad Region, civil insecurity, related to Boko Haram, continues to limit the access to grazing areas for herders. Limited access to pasture resources is accentuating the loss of body weight and lowering livestock commercial value. The pressure of the displaced populations, refugees and returnees on resources of host communities amplifies the level of vulnerability in some areas. According to UNOCHA, as of April 2018, an additional 170,000 people were internally displaced due to insecurity in the Lake Chad Region. As of May 2018, the number of refugees in the country exceeded 450,000, with an increase of over 40,000 people compared to November 2017. According to the March 2018 “Cadre Harmonisé” analysis, about 624,000 people are estimated to be in need of food assistance from March to May 2018, with a significant increase from 318,000 people from October to December 2017. The caseload is expected to increase to 990,000 during the June to August 2018 period, if no mitigation actions are taken.

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**Chad**

**Cereal production**

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<tr>
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<th>2012-2016 average</th>
<th>2016 estimate</th>
<th>change 2017/2016</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sorghum</td>
<td>944</td>
<td>946</td>
<td>-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Millet</td>
<td>683</td>
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<td>-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cereals nes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Others</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2,772</td>
<td>2,874</td>
<td>-5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.

Source: FAO/FEWSNET Country Cereal Balance Sheets

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**Chad**

**Retail prices of cereals in N’Djamena**

![Diagram showing retail prices of cereals in N’Djamena](source)

Source: FEWSNET

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GIEWS Country Brief Chad

Reference Date: 28-November-2017

**FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT**
- Average cereal production expected in 2017
- Prices of coarse grains declining
- GDP growth expected to remain negative in 2017
- Continued assistance required to improve access to food and protect livelihoods of food insecure and vulnerable people, including refugees and returnees

**Average harvest expected in 2017**
Harvesting of the 2017 maize and millet crops was completed in October, whereas those of rice and sorghum will be completed by the end of November. Following the timely onset of the first rains in April, the 2017 cropping season benefitted from abundant precipitations above the level observed in the previous year, albeit with considerable regional variations. Many regions in the Sahelian zone of the country (notably Kanem, Lake Chad, Wadi Fira, Batha, Hadjer Lamis and Bar El Ghazal), were affected by periods of dryness in July and August, whereas abundant rains in the Sudanian zone caused several floods, particularly affecting crop production in Mandoul and Moyen Chari regions.

Isolated cases of infestations by caterpillars, grasshoppers and Fall Armyworms have been reported throughout the country, but the phytosanitary situation is judged to be under control with limited impact on crop production. The 2017 cereal production is forecast at about 2.8 million tonnes, 3 percent below the levels in the previous year and similar to the five-year average. Sorghum accounts for the largest share of total production, with about 30 percent, followed by millet and maize which account for about 25 and 15 percent, respectively.

**Prices of coarse grains decline, following seasonal patterns**
Prices of locally-produced coarse grains began their seasonal decline in most markets in September, as the newly-harvested crops enhanced supply. The steep depreciation of the local currency in neighbouring Nigeria and the re-opening of the border with Libya, which was closed in January this year, also supported the increased cereal import flows to the country. Prices of livestock have declined significantly in recent months, driven by reduced exports to Nigeria and shortage of pastures, causing a significant deterioration in the purchasing power of pastoralists.
GDP growth expected to remain negative in 2017

According to the Economist Intelligence Unit, the country’s economic performance in 2016 was the worst in almost two decades, with a contraction of 7 percent in real GDP. A combination of falling oil production volumes and a continued decline in international prices led to a 50 percent drop in the country’s oil receipts (oil accounts for around 60 percent of the fiscal revenue), which has forced the Government to introduce an emergency action plan to cut spending. As a result, the Government’s social protection schemes have been reduced, negatively affecting vulnerable households’ access to food. Although oil prices have recovered slightly in 2017, real GDP growth is expected to remain negative.

With more than 20 million livestock heads, the country has one of the largest herds in the Sahel Region and the sector contributes to about 18 percent of the GDP. Civil insecurity and difficult macroeconomic conditions in neighbouring Nigeria due to the steep depreciation of its local currency and reduced oil receipts in recent years have dampened Nigerian demand for livestock imports from Chad. Similarly, due to insecurity, local pastoralists face difficulties in trading across borders with other major trading partners, including Libya and the Central African Republic. A pastoral crisis was declared by the Government in June 2017, due to the unusual deterioration of livestock conditions and increased mortality in pastoral areas.

Food security affected by reduced livestock revenue and civil insecurity in neighbouring countries

The country hosts a large number of refugees due to the continuing civil conflict in neighbouring countries: the Central African Republic, Libya, Nigeria and the Sudan. The ongoing civil insecurity due to Boko Haram led to large population displacement, compromising the food security amongst refugees, returnees and host communities in the whole Lake Chad Region. According to OCHA, as of November 2017, about 104 000 people were internally displaced due to insecurity in the Lake Chad Region, down from about 112 000 a year earlier. In addition, the number of refugees increased to 407 000 compared to 387 000 a year earlier, while about 97 000 Chadians have returned to the country. Deteriorating terms of trade have negatively affected food security in most pastoral and agro-pastoral zones of the country. The economic downturn amplified the impact of these various factors. According to the latest “Cadre Harmonisé” analysis, between June and August 2017, about 900 000 people (compared to 941 000 a year earlier) are estimated to be in Phase 3: “Crisis” and above, and are in need of urgent assistance across the country.

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.
FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Planting of 2017 cereal crops has started in most parts of the country under generally favourable conditions
- Above-average crop production gathered in 2016 due to adequate rainfall throughout the season
- Prices of millet and sorghum are on increase, while livestock prices are falling
- Unusual deterioration of livestock conditions with increased mortality is observed in parts resulting in declaration of pastoral crisis in June 2017
- Continued assistance required to improve access to food and protect livelihoods of food insecure and vulnerable people, including refugees and returnees

The 2017 growing season has started in most parts of the country

Following the onset of first rains in April in the extreme south, precipitations progressed northwards in the Sahelian zone in June. According to satellite-based images, from April to the second dekad of July, precipitations were generally favourable and soil moisture reserves were adequate in most parts of the country. Millet and sorghum crops are tillering in the Sahelian zone and growing satisfactorily in the Sudanian zone.

Cereal production recovered in 2016

The 2016 cropping season was characterized by favourable rains in the major cereal producing regions of the country. Despite some localized attacks by pests, the 2016 aggregate cereal production was estimated at about 2.8 million tonnes, about 15 percent above the previous year’s output and about 11 percent above the five-year average. However, insufficient rains in the Sahelian zone affected grazing resources and lowered water points’ level in the most pastoral and agro-pastoral areas of the country. Lac, Kanem, Bar El Ghazal, Batha and Wadi Fira regions were most affected as well as parts of Guera, Salamat and Sila regions.

Coarse grain prices increased in recent months, following normal seasonal patterns

Prices of locally-produced millet and sorghum have been generally on the rise since February 2017 following the steep decline of the previous months. However, prices remained generally below their year-earlier values, mainly as a result of the good output in 2016.
and ample domestic supplies. The steep depreciation of the local currency in neighbouring Nigeria and the re-opening of the border with Libya, which was closed in January this year, also supported increased cereal import flows to the country. Livestock prices have declined significantly in recent months, driven by reduced exports to Nigeria and shortage of pastures, causing a significant deterioration of the terms-of-trade for pastoralists.

Overall economic situation
According to the Economist Intelligence Unit, the country’s economic performance in 2016 was the worst in almost two decades, with a contraction of 3.1 percent in real GDP. A combination of falling oil production volumes and a continued decline in international prices led to a 50 percent drop in the country’s oil receipts (oil accounts for around 60 percent of fiscal revenue), which has forced the Government to introduce an emergency action plan to cut spending. As a result, the Government’s social protection schemes have been reduced, negatively affecting vulnerable households’ access to food.

Livestock is an important sector in terms of livelihood and export revenue. With more than 20 million livestock heads, the country has one of the largest herds in the Sahel region and the sector representing about 18 percent of GDP. Insecurity and economic downturn in Nigeria continue to hamper the livestock sector. The steep depreciation of the Naira have affected Nigerian demand for livestock imports from Chad. Similarly, due to insecurity, local pastoralists face difficulties in trading across borders with other major trading partners, including Libya and the Central African Republic. A pastoral crisis was declared by the Government in June 2017, due to unusual deterioration of livestock conditions and increased mortality in pastoral areas.

Food security affected by pasture deficits in pastoral zones and civil insecurity in neighbouring countries
The country hosts a large number of refugees due to the continuing civil conflict in neighbouring countries: the Central African Republic, Libya, Nigeria and the Sudan. The ongoing civil insecurity due to Boko Haram led to large population displacement, compromising the food security amongst refugees, returnees and host communities in the whole Lake Chad region. According to OCHA, about 104 000 people have been internally displaced due to insecurity in the Lake Chad Region. In addition, over 394 000 refugees are estimated to be currently living in the country, while about 117 000 Chadians have returned to the country. Moreover, pasture deficits and deteriorating terms-of-trade have negatively affected food security in most pastoral and agro-pastoral zones of the country. The economic downturn amplified the impact of these various factors. According to the latest “Cadre Harmonisé” analysis, about 900 000 people are estimated to be in Phase 3: “Crisis” and above, between June and August 2017 and are in need of urgent assistance across the country.

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.
Cereal production recovered in 2016
Harvesting of the 2016 cereal crops was completed last November. In most agricultural regions, the 2016/17 cropping season was characterized by favourable rains in terms of amounts and distribution in time and space. Despite some attacks by pests reported in some areas, the 2016 aggregate cereal production is estimated at about 2.8 million tonnes, about 15 percent above the previous year’s output and about 11 percent above the last five-year average.

Coarse grain prices stable in January, but remained above last year’s levels
Millet prices began to stabilize in January 2017 following the steep decline of the previous months. However, they remain well below their year-earlier values as a result of good supplies from the above-average 2016 harvest.

The steep depreciation of the local currency in neighbouring Nigeria also supported increased cereal imports to Chad.

Food security continues to be affected by civil insecurity in neighbouring countries
The country hosts a large number of refugees due to the continuing civil conflict in neighbouring countries: the Central African Republic, Libya, Nigeria and the Sudan. The ongoing civil insecurity due to Boko Haram led to large population displacement, compromising the food security amongst refugees, returnees and host communities in the whole Lake Chad region. According to OCHA, as of March 2017, about 104 000 people have been internally displaced due to insecurity in the Lake Chad Region. In addition, over 394 000 refugees are estimated to be currently living in Chad, while about 117 000 Chadians have returned to the country. As a result of these various factors, according to the latest
“Cadre Harmonisé” analysis, about 456 000 people are currently estimated to be in Phase 3: “Crisis” and above and are in need of urgent assistance across the country.
GIEWS Country Brief
Chad

Reference Date: 21-October-2016

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT
• Crop prospects favourable due to adequate rainfall since beginning of cropping season
• Prices of millet and sorghum remained mostly stable in recent months
• Continued assistance required to improve access to food and protect livelihoods of food insecure and vulnerable people, including refugees and returnees

Cereal production expected to recover in 2016
Harvesting of coarse grains has started in most parts of the country. Prospects are favourable mainly due to sufficient rains received at the start of the cropping season and subsequent normal to above-normal precipitation in most agricultural regions. Despite pockets of dryness in the Sudanian zone, an above-average 2016 crop is expected, according to preliminary estimates.

Last year, cereal production dropped below average due to irregular rains in several parts of the country. The 2015 aggregate cereal production was estimated at some 2.45 million tonnes, 11 percent below the previous year’s output and 9 percent below average. As a result, the pasture situation was characterized by lower pastures, early drying of ponds and waterholes and early transhumant descent towards the South.

Coarse grain prices remained mostly stable
In spite of the reduced crop in Chad, coarse grain prices have been mostly stable throughout 2015 and 2016 so far, reflecting adequate regional supplies and imports from neighbouring countries as well as favourable prospects for the 2016 cereal production. The steep depreciation of the local currency in neighbouring Nigeria also supported increased cereal imports to Chad.

Food security continues to be affected by civil insecurity in neighbouring countries
Chad hosts a large number of refugees due to the continuing civil conflict in neighbouring countries: the Central African Republic, Libya, Nigeria and the Sudan. The ongoing civil insecurity due to Boko Haram led to large population displacement compromising
the food security amongst refugees, returnees and host communities in the Lake Chad region. According to OCHA, as of October 2016, about 111,980 people have been internally displaced, due to insecurity in the Lake Chad Region. In addition, over 387,000 refugees are estimated to be currently living in Chad, while about 95,108 Chadians have returned to the country. As a result of these various factors, about 941,000 people are currently estimated to be in Phase 3: “Crisis” and above and are in need of urgent assistance across the country, according to the last “Cadre Harmonisé” analysis.
GIEWS Country Brief
Chad

Reference Date: 30-June-2016

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Favorable rains received at start of cropping season with pockets of dryness in Sudanian zone
- Prices of millet and sorghum remained mostly stable in recent months
- Continued assistance required to improve access to food and protect livelihoods of food-insecure and vulnerable people, including refugees and returnees

Growing season started in most parts of the country

Following the first rains in mid-March in the extreme south and in mid-April in the southwest, precipitation progressed northwards in the Sahelian zone in June. According to satellite-based images, from April to the second dekad of June, precipitations were mostly favourable with pockets of localized dryness observed in the Sudanian zone. Land preparation and sowing of coarse grains are in progress in the Sahelian zone, while in the Sudanian zone crops are emerging.

The 2015 aggregate cereal production was estimated at some 2.45 million tonnes, 11 percent below the previous year’s output and 9 percent below average. Lower pastures, early drying of ponds and waterholes as well as early transhumant descent towards the South, characterized the pasture situation. An above-average crop was gathered in 2014. Aggregate cereal production was estimated at about 2.7 million tonnes, 5 percent above the previous year’s output and 12 percent above average.

In spite of the reduced crop in Chad, coarse grain prices have been mostly stable throughout 2015 and 2016 so far, reflecting adequate regional supplies and imports from neighbouring countries.

Food security continues to be affected by civil insecurity in neighbouring countries

Chad hosts a large number of refugees due to the continuing civil conflict in neighbouring countries: Central African Republic, Libya, Nigeria and the Sudan. According to OCHA, as of May 2016, about 101 157 people have been internally displaced, including an estimated 56 000 people displaced recently in the sub-prefectures.
of Daboua and Liwa due to insecurity in the Lake Chad Region. In addition, over 380 000 refugees are estimated to be currently living in Chad, while about 91 383 Chadians have returned to the country. As a result of these various factors, over 1 000 000 people are currently estimated to be in Phase 3: “Crisis” and above and are in need of urgent assistance across the country, according to the last “Cadre Harmonisé” analysis.
FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT
- Below-average cereal production gathered in 2015 due to poor distribution of rains
- Prices of millet and sorghum remained mostly stable in recent months
- Continued assistance required to improve access to food and protect livelihoods of food-insecure and vulnerable people, including refugees and returnees

Irregular rains caused significant decline in 2015 cereal output
During the 2015/16 cropping season, the Government and its partners strengthened their support to agricultural producers through the provision of various inputs, including fertilizers, seeds, pesticides and agricultural equipment. However, most parts of the country witnessed a late start of the raining season followed by poor distribution of rains. As a result, the 2015 aggregate cereal production is estimated at some 2.45 million tonnes, 11 percent below the previous year’s output and 9 percent below average. Lower pastures, early drying of ponds and waterholes and early transhumants descent towards the South, characterized the pasture situation.

An above-average crop was gathered in 2014. Aggregate cereal production was estimated at about 2.7 million tonnes, 5 percent above the previous year’s output and 12 percent above average.

In spite of the reduced crop in Chad, coarse grain prices have been mostly stable throughout 2015 and early 2016 reflecting adequate regional supplies and imports from neighbouring countries.

Food security continues to be affected by civil insecurity in neighbouring countries
Chad hosts a large number of refugees due to the continuing civil conflict in neighbouring countries: Central African Republic, Libya, Nigeria and the Sudan. According to OCHA, as of April 2016, about 94 000 people have been internally displaced, including an estimated 56 000 people displaced recently in the sub-prefectures of Daboua and Liwa due to insecurity in the Lake Chad Region. In addition, over 377 000 refugees are estimated to be currently living in Chad, while about 80 000 Chadians have returned to the country. As a result of these various factors, over 1 000 000 people are currently estimated to be in Phase 3: “Crisis” and above and are in need of urgent assistance across the country, according to the last “Cadre Harmonisé” analysis.
GIEWS Country Brief

Chad

Reference Date: 08-March-2016

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT
- Below-average cereal production gathered in 2015 due to poor distribution of rains
- Prices of millet and sorghum have remained mostly stable in recent months
- Continued assistance required to improve access to food and protect livelihoods of food-insecure and vulnerable people, including refugees and returnees

Irregular rains caused significant decline in 2015 cereal output
Harvesting of the 2015 cereal crops was completed in November. During the 2015-2016 cropping season, the Government and its partners strengthened their support to agricultural producers through the provision of various inputs, including fertilizers, seeds, pesticides and agricultural equipment. However, most parts of the country witnessed a late start of the raining season followed by poor distribution of rains. As a result, the 2015 aggregate cereal production is estimated at some 2.43 million tonnes, 12 percent below the previous year’s output and 10 percent below average. However, the pasture regeneration and water points’ level in pastoral areas of the country were reported to be adequate, with the exception of Ouaddai, Wadi Fira, Batha, Beg, Kanem and Lac regions.

An above-average crop was gathered in 2014. Aggregate cereal production was estimated at about 2.7 million tonnes, 5 percent above the previous year’s output and 12 percent above average.

Coarse grain prices have been mostly stable throughout 2015 reflecting adequate supplies from the previous year’s harvest.

Food security affected by civil insecurity in neighbouring countries
Chad hosts a large number of refugees due to the continuing civil conflict in neighbouring countries: Central African Republic, Libya, Nigeria and the Sudan. According to OCHA, as of end-January 2016, about 45 000 people have been internally displaced due to persisting civil insecurity. Overall, over 373 000 refugees are estimated to be currently living in Chad, while about 100 000 Chadians have returned to the country. As a result of these various factors, over 447 000 people were estimated to be in need of food assistance according to the last “Cadre Harmonisé” analysis.
Below-average cereal production expected this year due to unfavourable rainfall

Harvesting of the 2015 main staple crops began in September in the southern part of the country. Most areas experienced a late start of the raining season, which may have affected potential yields. The first rains were registered in the third dekad of April in the Sudanian zone (South) and the second dekad of May in the Sahelian zone. These rains were followed by long dry spells that led to significant rainfall deficit in several parts of the country. Cumulative rainfall as of late August was below average in most meteorological stations, particularly in the Sudanian zone. According to a preliminary forecast released by national agricultural statistics, a below-average cereal harvest is anticipated this year.

An above-average crop was gathered in 2014. Last year’s aggregate cereal production was estimated at about 2.7 million tonnes, 5 percent above the previous year’s output and 12 percent above average.

Cereal prices mostly stable in recent months

Coarse grain prices have stabilized in recent months in most parts of the country, notably in N'Djamena, driven by adequate supplies, following last year’s adequate harvest. Although sorghum prices seasonally increased in August (the peak of the lean season), coarse grain prices were still generally below their year-earlier levels, with the exception of sorghum prices in Moundou and Sahr located in the Sudanian zone.

Food security affected by civil insecurity

Chad hosts a large number of refugees, due to the continuing civil conflict in the neighbouring countries: Central African Republic, Libya, Nigeria and the Sudan. The influx of refugees increased dramatically over the past few months following the deterioration of the security situation in Nigeria. According to OCHA, about 15 000 Nigerians fled to Chad in recent months, while more than 41 000 people have been internally displaced between July and August 2015 in the Lac Region. In addition, as of September 2015 over 84 000 refugees from the Central African Republic and more than 295 000 refugees from the Sudan are estimated to reside in Chad. Overall, over 395 000 refugees are estimated to be currently living in Chad, while about 240 000 Chadians have returned to their country. Chad also has more than 567 000 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). As a result of these various factors, as of August 2015 over 660 000 people were estimated
to be in need of food assistance according to the last “Cadre Harmonisé” analysis.
**FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT**

- In spite of erratic rains at beginning of cropping season, preliminary estimates for 2014 harvest point to an above-average cereal production
- High food prices persist in parts
- Continued assistance is required to improve access to food and protect livelihoods of food-insecure and vulnerable people, including refugees and returnees

An above-average harvest was gathered in 2014

Harvesting of the 2014 cereal crops was completed in December. Most parts of the country witnessed erratic and below-average rains until mid-July that resulted in replanting in some areas. However, precipitation improved significantly since the last dekad of July over the main producing areas, thus replenishing water reserves, providing relief to stressed crops and improving crop conditions in most parts of the country. As a result, a joint CILSS/FAO/WFP Crop Assessment Mission, which visited the country recently, estimated 2014 aggregate cereal production at some 2.67 million tonnes, slightly above the previous year’s and 9 percent above average. However, the erratic rains affected pasture regeneration and water points’ level in pastoral areas of the country, notably in the Sahelian zone.

The 2013 aggregate cereal production, estimated at some 2.62 million tonnes, was 15 percent above average but 17 percent lower than the previous year’s bumper crop.

Relatively high cereal prices persist in major urban markets

Prices of millet and sorghum, the main staple crops, remained stable or declined in most markets over the past few months. In spite of these general price patterns, sorghum prices in Abeche and N’Djamena in December 2014 were still 27 percent and 16 percent, respectively, above last year’s levels. Insecurity in Chad’s neighbouring countries has affected commodity movement and led to increased influx of refugees and returnees, putting additional pressure on the domestic market.

Continued assistance is still needed for vulnerable people

Chad hosts a large number of refugees, due to the continuing civil conflict in the neighbouring countries of the Central African Republic, Libya, Nigeria and the Sudan. The influx of refugees increased dramatically over the past few months following the deterioration of the security situation in the Central African Republic and Nigeria. Over 110 000 people are estimated to have left the Central African Republic for Chad in 2014, while the escalating security conflict in Nigeria led to the influx of an estimated 17 000 Nigerians over the past few weeks. Overall, over 450 000 refugees are estimated to be currently living in Chad, while about 340 000 Chadians have returned to their country. The refugee crisis has exacerbated an already fragile food situation.

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GIEWS Country Brief
Chad

Reference Date: 06-February-2015

**Crop calendar Chad**

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<th>Cereal</th>
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<th>2014 estimate</th>
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Note: percentage change calculated from unsourced data.

Source: FAO/GIEWS/Chad Cereal Balance Sheets

**Chad**

Retail prices of cereals in N’Djamena

**Source:** FES/CHAD/NET
Chad has been struck by successive severe food crises in recent years that have had very adverse, longer-term impact on household assets and savings. As a result of these various factors, about 653 842 people are projected to be in Phase 3 (Crisis) and above from January-March 2015, according to the last Cadre Harmonisé analysis conducted in the country. An additional 2.2 million people are estimated to be in Phase 2: at risk of food insecurity.
GIEWS Country Brief
Chad

Reference Date: 06-August-2014

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT
- Early crop prospects are uncertain due to insufficient and irregular rains
- High food prices persist in parts
- Continued assistance is required to improve access to food and protect the livelihoods of food-insecure and vulnerable people, including refugees and returnees

Late and inadequate seasonal rains affect prospects for current crops and pastures
Erratic and insufficient rainfall since the beginning of the rainy season in May/June over most parts of the country have delayed plantings and affected growing crops and pastures. Satellite imagery analysis indicates negative Vegetation Anomaly in several areas of the country, mostly in the western part of the Sahelian zone which is predominantly pastoral. The Vegetation Index is estimated to be 40 to 60 percent below average (see map) in the Lac and Kanem regions. Low Vegetation Index is also estimated for several areas of the Sudanian zone which includes the most important crop producing regions of the country. Due to the earlier drier conditions, adequate rainfall in August will be critical for regeneration and development of crops and pastures.

Last year’s aggregate cereal production, estimated at some 2.6 million tonnes, was 15 percent above average but 17 percent lower than the previous year’s bumper crop.

High cereal prices persist in major urban markets
Prices of millet and sorghum, the main staple crops, remained stable or declined in most markets over the past few months. In spite of these general price patterns, sorghum and millet prices in Abeche in June 2014 were still 55 percent and 11 percent, respectively, above last year’s levels. In N’Djamena, millet prices in June were 8 percent above their levels a year ago. Increased influx of refugees and returnees due to insecurity in Chad’s neighbouring countries, have affected commodity movement and put additional pressure on the domestic market.

Continued assistance is still needed for vulnerable people
Chad hosts a large number of refugees, due to the continuing civil conflict in the neighbouring countries of the Central African Republic, Libya, Nigeria and the Sudan. The influx of refugees increased dramatically over the past few months following the deterioration of the security situation in the Central African Republic. Over 110 000 people are estimated to have left the Central African Republic for Chad between December 2013 and June 2014. As of June 2014, more than 461 000 refugees were living in Chad, while about 340 000 Chadians have returned to their country. The refugee crisis has exacerbated an already fragile food situation. Chad has been struck by successive severe food crises in recent years that have had very adverse, longer-term impact on household assets and savings. As a result of these
various factors, about 811,570 people are estimated to be in Phase 3 (Crisis) and above during the lean season from June-August, according to the last Cadre Harmonisé analysis conducted in the country. An additional 3.1 million people are estimated to be in Phase 2: at risk of food insecurity.

The United Nations and humanitarian partners recently launched a three-year Regional Strategic Response Plan (RSRP) to provide aid to millions of people in nine countries of the Sahel belt. The country plan for Chad is seeking to mobilize USD 527 million to provide food and non-food assistance to nearly 4 million people across the country.
FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Estimates point to a significant decline in cereal production in 2013
- Pastures affected by irregular rains
- High food prices persist in most parts
- Continued assistance is required to improve access to food and protect the livelihoods of food insecure and vulnerable people including refugees and returnees

2013 cereal production reduced by irregular rainfall

Harvesting of the 2013 cereal crops was completed in December. A delayed start and early end to rains resulted in significant decline in coarse grain yields, notably in the northern Sahelian zone. A joint CILSS/FAO/FEWSNet/WFP mission that visited the country in October has estimated 2013 cereal production at 2.5 million tonnes. At this level, production is about 19 percent lower than the previous year’s output but 12 percent above the five-year average. Production of sorghum and millet, the most important food crops, is estimated to have declined by 36 percent and 31 percent, respectively. The most affected regions include Kanem, Wadi-Fira, Barh-El Ghazel, and Hajer Lamis located in the Sahelian zones of the country. Pastures and water points were also affected, which is likely to lead to early transhumance movement of livestock.

In 2012, a record harvest was gathered owing to favourable climatic conditions in the main cereal growing regions. The 2012 cereal output was estimated at about 3.1 million tonnes, 91 percent higher than the 2011 drought-affected output and 55 percent above the average of the past five years.

Cereal markets affected by trade disruption

In spite of the bumper crop gathered in 2012, some inter-regional restrictions on commodity movement have reduced the flow between deficit and surplus areas of the country. Moreover, insecurity in Nigeria has affected commodity movement between both countries, contributing to higher prices in parts. Although the new cereal harvests pushed prices down in November and December, millet prices in N'djamena were still 27 percent above previous year’s levels.

Continued assistance is still needed for vulnerable people

Chad has been struck by successive severe food crises in recent years that have had very adverse, longer-term impact on household assets and savings. Moreover, the continuing civil conflict in neighbouring countries has increased the number of refugees and returnees fleeing from Darfur, the Central African Republic, Nigeria and Libya. As of early February 2014, more than 467,000 refugees were living in Chad, while about 350,000 Chadians have returned to their country. About 2.4 million people are estimated to be at risk of food insecurity.

The United Nations and humanitarian partners recently launched a three-year Regional Strategic Response Plan (RSRP) to provide aid to
millions of people in nine countries of the Sahel belt. The country plan for Chad is seeking to mobilize USD 527 million to provide food and non-food assistance to nearly 4 million people across the country.
FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT
- Another above-average cereal harvest is anticipated this year.
- Pasture conditions have also improved across the country.
- High food prices persist in spite of last year’s good harvests.
- Continued assistance is required to improve access to food and protect the livelihoods of food insecure and vulnerable people.

Overall prospects for the 2013 cereal crops are favourable
Harvesting of the 2013 cereal crops has started in the southern parts of the country, and overall prospects are favourable. The late onset of the cropping season was followed by adequate precipitation and soil water reserves from July over the main producing areas. Satellite imagery analysis in early October indicates that good rains continued to fall over most of the country. Pastures have been regenerating countrywide, improving livestock conditions.

In 2012, a record harvest was already gathered owing to favourable climatic conditions in the main cereal growing regions. According to the final estimates, the 2012 cereal output was estimated at about 3.1 million tonnes, 91 percent higher than the 2011 drought-affected output and 55 percent above the average of the past five years.

Cereal markets affected by trade disruption
In spite of the good crop gathered last year, some inter-regional restrictions on commodity movement have reduced the flow between deficit and surplus areas of the country. Moreover, insecurity in Nigeria has affected commodity movement between both countries, contributing to higher prices in parts. For example, millet prices in Abéché and Moundou in August 2013 were, respectively, 38 percent and 25 percent above last year’s crisis affected levels. Prices have also remained relatively high in N’Djamena.

Continued assistance is still needed for vulnerable people
Chad has been struck by successive severe food crises in recent years that resulted in depletion of household assets and high levels of indebtedness. In spite of last year’s good harvests, the food security situation remains difficult in parts, due to high food prices and the lingering effects of previous crises. Moreover, over 300 000 people from the Sudan’s Darfur region and the Central African Republic are located as refugees in southern and eastern regions of Chad. Safety-net interventions as well as implementation of income generation and asset reconstitution activities for food insecure and vulnerable people should continue.
GIEWS country brief
Chad

Reference Date: 18-March-2013

**FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT**
- A record crop was gathered in 2012 and rangelands have recovered well
- The food supply situation has improved significantly in 2012/13 compared to the previous year
- However, household assets, saving and the health and nutritional status of the population has been severely eroded following recent successive severe food crises
- Humanitarian assistance continues to be needed to improve access to food and protect the livelihoods of food insecure and vulnerable people

**A satisfactory food supply situation expected during the 2012-13 marketing year following a record harvest in 2012**

Despite flooding in parts, adequate rainfall, during the main cropping season together with improved distribution of key inputs, has resulted in a favourable cereal harvest in 2012. A joint FAO/CILSS/WFP/FEWSNet Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission that visited the country in October-November 2012, estimated the 2012 aggregate cereals production at over 3.7 million tonnes (including off-season crop harvest forecasts), more than double the 2011 drought-affected output and 81 percent above the average of the past five years.

With the exception of a few localized areas, the rangelands have recovered well and the water points have been replenished.

The improved harvest position, coupled with favourable crop prospects in most neighbouring countries, is expected to lead to much improved food availability during the 2012/13 marketing year (November-October).

**Cereal prices exhibit mixed trends**

In spite of the good crop gathered, some inter-regional restrictions on commodity movement have reduced the flow between deficit and surplus areas of the country and contributed to higher prices in parts. For example in the capital city N'djamena, millet prices declined only slightly during the harvest period (September-November) 2012. Although they dropped by 24 percent in January 2013, prices were still above their levels a year earlier. By contrast, in Moundou region in the southern part of the country, millet prices have followed a downward trend since October 2012, and in January they were 24 percent below last year’s levels.

**Humanitarian assistance is still needed to improve households’ access to food**

This generally favourable food situation nevertheless follows the severe food crisis that struck the country in 2011/12 (similar to 2004/05 and 2009/10). Household assets and savings together with the health and nutritional status of the population have endured a severely adverse long-term impact, while the levels of indebtedness have increased.
Despite the good crop gathered in 2012, several segments of the population still need food and non-food assistance to restore their livelihoods. Implementation of income generation and asset reconstitution activities for food insecure and vulnerable people is recommended. Moreover, over 300,000 people from the Sudan’s Darfur region and the Central African Republic are located as refugees in southern and eastern regions of Chad.
Crop prospects adversely affected by irregular rains in several parts of the country

Harvesting of the 2011 cereal crops was completed in November 2011. Erratic rains and extended dry spells throughout the growing period caused serious damage to crops, reducing coarse grains yields and delaying harvests in several parts of the country. The prolonged dryness also negatively impacted pasture production in the pastoral and agropastoral areas of the country. The most affected areas include the northern sahelian zone (Kanem, Bar El Gazal, Hadjer Lamis, Ouaddai, Wadi Firra, Batha regions) and Logone Occidental and Guera regions in the southern sudanian zone.

Following release of the final 2011 cereal production figures, aggregate cereal production is estimated at some 1.6 million tonnes, 49 percent less than last year’s record harvest and 21 percent below the average for the previous five years. Production of millet and sorghum, the main staple cereals in the country, is estimated to be reduced by half.

Cereal prices are on the increase across the country

Unlike the normal seasonal patterns, prices of locally produced cereals (millet and sorghum) have remained firm in recent months in several markets despite the recent 2011 crop harvest. In all monitored markets, prices in January 2012 were well above the levels of the same month last year, by up to two times. For example, millet and sorghum prices were about 41 percent higher than in January 2011 in the capital N’Djamena, while in the Moundou market, located in a major cereal production area in the Southern Sudanian zone, prices of millet and sorghum were 133 and 80 percent higher than in the same month of the previous year, respectively.

Prices of imported rice, mainly consumed in urban centres, in the capital N’Djamena were in January about 28 percent higher than in the same month last year, supported by increasing fuel prices and transport costs.

Food and agricultural assistance is needed to prevent a further deterioration of food insecurity

Global high malnutrition rates are structurally high in the country, especially in the Sahel. According to a nutritional survey conducted in August 2011 by the Ministry of Public Health and UNICEF in the 11 Sahelian regions, the emergency threshold set by World Health Organization (WHO) for Acute Global Malnutrition, 15 percent, is exceeded in 6 regions (Kanem, Wadi Firra, Bar El Gazal, Batha, Hadjer
Lamis and Salamat), where the situation is critical, while the situation has been classified as “severe” (with a rate higher than 10 percent) in all the other regions. The low cereal and pasture outputs and the prospect of an earlier than usual start of the lean season is likely to further aggravate global acute malnutrition rates. About 3.6 million people, located mainly in the regions of the Sahelian belt, but also in parts of Mayo Kebbi Est, Mayo Kebbi Ouest, Logone Orientale, Logone Occidentale and Tandjilé regions, in the Sudanian zone, are estimated to be at risk of food insecurity.

Moreover, the influx of returnees from Libya is putting additional pressure on food supply. According to OCHA, about 83 000 Chadian workers returned as of late November, with a further 40 000 expected in the near future. The country also hosts 288 000 refugees from Sudan’s Darfur region and 75 000 from the Central African Republic.

To tackle the current food insecurity situation, a joint effort was launched by the government, the United Nations and the humanitarian community, which by early March has received about 20 percent of its required funding of USD 455 million. Specific measures include targeted distribution of food and agriculture equipment and inputs, such as seeds, fertilizers and pesticides.
FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT
- Estimates for the 2011 harvest point to a sharp decline in coarse grains production
- Cereal prices are on the increase despite the recent harvests.
- Large number of returnees and refugees are putting pressure on food supply.
- Assistance is needed for large segments of the population

Crop prospects adversely affected by irregular rains in several parts of the country
Harvesting of the 2011 cereal crops was completed in November. Erratic rains and extended dry spells throughout the growing period caused serious damage to crops, reducing coarse grains yields and delaying harvests in several parts of the country. The prolonged dryness also negatively impacted pasture production in the pastoral and agropastoral areas of the country. The most affected areas include the northern sahelian zone (Kanem, Bar El Gazal, Hadjer Lamis, Ouaddai, Wadi Firra, Batha regions) and Logone Occidental and Guera regions in the southern sudanian zone.

A joint FAO/CILSS/WFP Crop Assessment Mission which visited the country recently estimated 2011 aggregate cereal production at some 1.6 million tonnes, 50 percent less than last year’s record harvest and 23 percent below the average for the previous five years. Production of millet and sorghum, the main staple cereals in the country, is estimated to be reduced by half.

Cereal prices are on the increase across the country
Unlike the normal seasonal patterns, prices of locally produced cereals (millet and sorghum) have remained firm in recent months in several markets despite the recent 2011 crop harvest. In all monitored markets, prices in November 2011 were well above the levels of the same month last year, by up to 71 percent for millet and 95 percent for sorghum. For example, millet and sorghum prices in the capital N’Djamena were 52 and 20 percent higher than in November 2010, respectively.

Prices of imported rice, mainly consumed in urban centres, increased in November in N’Djamena (+21 percent from October to November) and were 71 percent higher than at the same time last year, consistent with trends in international food markets and supported by increasing fuel prices and transport costs.

Food and agricultural assistance is needed to prevent a further deterioration of food insecurity
Global high malnutrition rates are structurally high in the country, especially in the Sahel. According to a nutritional survey conducted in August 2011 by the Ministry of Public Health and UNICEF in the 11 Sahelian regions, the emergency threshold set by World Health Organization (WHO) for Acute Global Malnutrition, 15 percent, is exceeded in 6 regions (Kanem, Wadi Firra, Bar El Gazal, Batha, Hadjer
Lamis and Salamat), where the situation is critical, while the situation has been classified as “severe” (with a rate higher than 10 percent) in all the other regions. The low cereal and pasture outputs and the prospect of an earlier than usual start of the lean season is likely to further aggravate global acute malnutrition rates.

According to the findings of the joint FAO/CILSS/WFP Crop Assessment Mission, and based on estimates from the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) 1.6 million people, located mainly in the regions of the Sahelian belt, but also in parts of Mayo Kebbi Est, Mayo Kebbi Ouest, Logone Orientale, Logone Occidentale and Tandjilé regions, in the Sudanian zone, are at risk of food insecurity.

Moreover, the influx of returnees from Libya is putting additional pressure on food supply. According to OCHA, about 83 000 Chadian workers returned as of late November, with a further 40 000 expected in the near future. The country also hosts 288 000 refugees from Sudan’s Darfur region and 75 000 from the Central African Republic.

To tackle the current food insecurity situation, a joint effort was launched by the government, the United Nations and the humanitarian community, which has so far received just over half of its required funding of USD 455 million. Specific measures include targeted distribution of food and agriculture equipment and inputs, such as seeds, fertilizers and pesticides.
GIEWS Country Brief
Chad

Reference Date: 19-October-2011

**FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT**
- Prospects for the 2011 cereal crop are unfavourable.
- Coarse grains prices are on the increase due to delayed harvests.
- Large number of returnees and refugees are putting pressure on food supply.

**Crop prospects adversely affected by irregular rains in several parts of the country**
Harvesting of coarse grains has started across the country. Prospects are unfavourable mainly as a consequence of insufficient soil moisture at planting and subsequent erratic rains in several growing areas seriously reducing yield potential. Stages of development of crops vary significantly across the country and are generally late compared to normal years. The most affected areas are the Sahel and Ouaddai Assongha regions. A joint CILSS/FAO/WFP Crop Assessment Mission is scheduled from 24-29 October to estimate 2011 cereal production.

**Coarse grains prices are on the increase across the country**
Price of main staples millet and sorghum increased in recent months across the country following the unfavourable crop prospects. Although in several markets millet prices in August are still significantly below their levels of the previous year, increases of 24 percent in Moundou and 4 percent in N'Djamena, the capital city were registered.

**Large number of returnees and refugees**
The return of an estimated 48 000 Chadians from Libya is putting additional pressure on food supply. Chad is also home to more than 300 000 refugees from Sudan's Darfur region and the Central African Republic.

An Emergency Operation (EMOP) is currently underway, distributing food to about 1.032 million people including refugees, IDPs, returnees and affected host populations in eastern Chad for a period of 12 months (January-December 2011).
Harvest prospects remain uncertain in spite of improved growing conditions in August

Following irregular and below average rains in June and July, precipitation improved in August and remained widespread in most areas until early September. However, in spite of the increased precipitation in the past few weeks, significant rainfall deficits persist in several areas, notably in the Sahel and Ouaddaï Assongha regions. Stages of development of crops vary significantly in the regions and are generally late compared to normal years. Millet, sorghum and maize crops are generally ripening in the Sudanian zone, and elongating in the Sahelian zone while rainfed rice crops in the Sudanian zone are elongating. In the areas affected by earlier dry conditions, yield potential will be reduced and late plantings and replanting will need rains until October to cover their entire growing cycle.

Coarse grains prices remain relatively low in most markets

Following last year’s good crop, prices of millet, the main staple, remained significantly below their levels of the previous year in most markets. For example, in N'djamena millet prices in August 2011 were about 8 percent below their level of a year earlier despite the significant increase in the past few months. Prices dropped sharply in the eastern part of the country. Millet prices declined by 49 percent in the year to July 2011 in Abéché. The main exception is Sahr market in the South, where millet price increased by 26 percent over the same period.

Large number of returnees and refugees

The return of an estimated 48 000 Chadians from Libya is putting additional pressure on food supply. Chad is also home to more than 300 000 refugees from Sudan's Darfur region and the Central African Republic.

An Emergency Operation (EMOP) is currently underway, distributing food to about 1.032 million people including refugees, IDPs, returnees and affected host populations in eastern Chad for a period of 12 months (January-December 2011).
FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT
- The rainy season has started in the extreme south but seasonably dry conditions still prevail in most parts of the country
- A record crop was gathered in 2010 and rangelands have recovered well
- A much improved and satisfactory food availability is expected during the 2010/2011 marketing year (November/October)
- However, the 2009/10 food crisis has had very adverse, longer-term impact on household assets and savings, and on the health and nutritional status of the population
- Assistance needs to continue to improve access to food

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

A satisfactory food supply situation expected during the 2010/11 marketing year (November/October) following a record harvest in 2010
Favourable weather conditions combined with the improved distribution of key inputs has resulted in a record cereal harvest in 2010. Final production estimates released by the Government put the 2010 aggregate cereals production at about 3.4 million tonnes, more than double the 2009 drought-affected harvest and 85 percent above the average of the past five years.

With the exception of a few localised areas, the rangelands have recovered well following the sound phenological development of the fodder crops, and the water points have been replenished.

The high level of cereals production, coupled with favourable harvests in the neighbouring countries, particularly in Nigeria and Niger, is expected to lead to a much improved and satisfactory food availability during the 2010/2011 marketing year

Food prices dropped steeply but firmed slightly in the last few months
The 2010 bumper crop has resulted in a sharp decline in prices of both millet and sorghum since September 2010. Although prices increased from February following seasonal patterns, they remained significantly below their levels of the previous year. For example, millet prices in N'Djamena in March 2011 were about 12 percent below their level of a year earlier. Prices dropped sharply also in the eastern part of the country where they reached the highest levels during the 2009/10 food crisis. Millet prices declined by 37 percent in the year to March 2011 in Abéché.
**Assistance is still needed to improve households’ access to food**

The generally favourable food situation nevertheless takes place in the wake of the previous difficult year. The food crisis that struck the country in 2009/10 has had very adverse, longer-term impact on household assets and savings, and on the health and nutritional status of the population. Severe decline in pasture conditions led to serious livestock deaths and damage, notably in west-central areas of Chad. Acute malnutrition rates reached the alarming rate of 27.2 percent in parts of the Western Kanem region, a number well above the WHO critical emergency threshold.

Despite the nationally good outturn of the 2010/11 agricultural season, several segments of the population still need food and non-food assistance to restore their resilience capacity and to enable them to have better access to food. Therefore, there is a need to improve household purchasing power and access to food by supporting herd replenishment, off-season cropping and other income-generating activities. Support should also be given to agricultural product marketing by replenishing cereals banks and national security stocks and making humanitarian purchases, where possible. It is also essential to continue supporting the nutritional recuperation centres.

**Large number of returnees and refugees**

The return of an estimated 25 000 Chadians from Libya is putting additional pressure on food supply. Chad is also home to more than 300 000 refugees from Sudan's Darfur region and the Central African Republic.

An Emergency Operation (EMOP) is currently underway, distributing food to about 1.032 million people including refugees, IDPs, returnees and affected host populations in eastern Chad for a period of 12 months (January-December 2011).
A satisfactory food supply situation expected during the 2010-11 marketing year following a record harvest in 2010

Despite the flooding that occurred in some parts of the country in July and August 2010, the overall rainfall during the cropping season was adequate. This, combined with the improved distribution of key inputs, has resulted in a favourable cereal harvest in 2010. A joint CILSS/FAO/WFP/Fews Net Crop Assessment Mission that visited the country recently, estimated 2010 aggregate cereals production at over 2.6 million tonnes (including off-season crop harvest forecasts), about 68 percent higher than the 2009 output and 44 percent above the average of the past five years.

With the exception of a few localised areas, the rangelands have recovered well following the sound phenological development of the fodder crops, and the water points have been replenished.

The high level of cereals production, coupled with favourable harvests in the neighbouring countries, particularly in Nigeria and Niger, is expected to lead to a much improved and satisfactory food availability during the 2010/2011 marketing year.

Food prices dropped steeply

The recently harvested bumper crop has resulted in a sharp decline in prices of both millet and sorghum since September. By November, prices of millet were between 24 and 40 percent below their levels of a year earlier, and between 34 and 50 percent lower for sorghum. Prices dropped sharply also in the eastern part of the country where they reached the highest levels during the crisis. Between July and November 2010, millet prices declined by over 53 percent in Abéché.

Assistance is still needed to improve households’ access to food

This generally favourable situation nevertheless follows in the wake of a difficult year. The food crisis that struck the country in 2009-2010 has had very adverse, longer-term impact on household assets and savings, and on the health and nutritional status of the population. Severe decline in pasture conditions led to serious livestock deaths and damage, notably in west-central areas of Chad. Acute malnutrition reached the alarming rate of 27.2 percent in parts of the Western Kanem region, a number well above the WHO critical emergency threshold.
Despite the 2010/11 agricultural season being generally good at the national level, several segments of the population will still need food and nonfood assistance to restore their resilience capacity and to enable them to have better access to food. Therefore, there is a need to improve household purchasing power and access to food that is available domestically by supporting herd replenishment, off-season cropping and other income-generating activities. Support should also be given to agricultural product marketing by replenishing cereals banks and national security stocks and making humanitarian purchases, where possible. It is also essential to continue supporting the nutritional recuperation centres.
**Harvest prospects are favourable in spite of flooding in parts of the country**

Rainfall has been adequate since the start of the growing season in May, allowing satisfactory development of crops countrywide. Heavy rains, however, led to substantial flooding in several parts of the country in late July. Faya-Largeau (North), Bardai (North), Dar Sila (East), Salamat (South-East), Batha (Centre), Mandoul (South) are the most affected regions. The floods have caused localised damage to agriculture and disrupted transhumance patterns. However, overall crop prospects remain favourable. Millet and sorghum are maturing in the Sudanian zone while they are still developing in the Sahelian zone. Pastures are regenerating, improving livestock conditions.

Last year, cereal production dropped by 11 percent compared to 2008, as a consequence of erratic rains and extended dry spells during the cropping season. Severe decline in pasture conditions led to serious livestock deaths and damage, notably in west-central areas of Chad. The lack of pasture and poor livestock conditions have led to early transhumance movement and a deterioration of the terms of trade for pastoralists.

**The food and nutrition situation remains critical**

A study conducted recently (in early July) by Action contre la Faim (ACF) along with the government showed that acute malnutrition reached the alarming rate of 27.2 percent in parts of the Western Kanem region. This number is well above the WHO critical emergency threshold. Approximately 2 million people are estimated to require food assistance during 2010. Emergency interventions are underway including cereal sale at subsidized prices by the Government, food distribution by WFP as well as distribution of seeds and animal feed by FAO. However, most roads became impassable following the floods, hampering humanitarian assistance in several areas.

**Food prices stabilise but remain high**

The humanitarian interventions, the beginning of harvesting in neighboring coastal countries and the favorable crop prospects in Chad have resulted in cereal prices showing signs of stabilisation over the past few months in several parts of the country, but still remain high. Retail millet prices on the N’Djamena markets in July 2010 were still 67 percent higher than in July 2007 - just before the global food price crisis. Prices are much higher in Abéché, near the border with Soudan. In this area, the influx of refugees from Darfur and the Central African
Republic, estimated at over 300,000 people, places additional demand on the already limited food supplies.

Livestock prices have started to recover, improving slightly the terms-of-trade for pastoralists. However, the food situation remains critical, due to the persisting high food prices and the impact of the recent floods. Market and price conditions and the situation of vulnerable groups, need to be closely monitored until harvest of current crops.
FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Poor rainfall during the beginning and end of season led to a decline in 2009 cereal production and pasture
- Persistent high prices restrict normal food access
- Nearly two million people in need of food assistance, mainly in the Sahelian zone
- Insecurity hampers agricultural activities and aggravates food insecurity throughout the country, particularly in border regions with Sudan

2009 cereal production drops following prolonged dry conditions

The poor growing conditions for cereal crops and pastures across most parts of the country, due to a late start of the rainy season and subsequent erratic precipitation, resulted in a reduced 2009 cereal harvest. Final production estimates released by the Government show that cereal production fell by 11.5 percent relative to the previous season’s output and is the lowest since 2006. The largest production losses were concentrated in the Sahelian regions, in particular Chari Baguirmi, Guéra, Kanem and Ouaddai, where cereal harvests were approximately half of the 2008 level.

Lack of pasture led to high livestock mortality

Severe decline in pasture conditions have led to serious livestock deaths and damage. In 2009, a death rate of about 31 percent of cattle was reported in west-central areas of Chad. The lack of pasture and poor livestock conditions have led to early transhumance movement and a deterioration of the terms of trade for pastoralists. Furthermore, the current poor pasture conditions are raising concerns that the high livestock mortality rates may continue this year, particularly if rains are delayed for the forthcoming season, which normally begin in May/June.

Millet prices higher in the Sahelian zone

Persistent above average prices are limiting food access for households in poor urban and peri-urban areas, who are predominantly reliant on market supplies. In the Sahelian zone, millet prices in February in Massourou and Abeche increased at the end of 2009 and are approximately 50 percent higher than levels recorded in Moundou in the Soudanian zone.

Nearly 2 million people need food assistance this year; Civil insecurity aggravating food insecurity in eastern regions

The current food insecurity situation is likely to intensify in pastoralist areas, notably in the western Sahelian region of Chad. A joint government/FAO/WFP/FEWSNET needs assessment, conducted in December 2009, estimated that approximately 2 million people have been affected by the poor performance of cereal crops and will need food assistance during 2010. Of the total number of people affected, 750,000 are located in the west and central Sahelian regions. A nutrition survey conducted by Action Against Hunger in November and
December 2009 revealed that levels of global acute malnutrition (GAM) in Noukou and Bahr el Gazel departments, in the Kanem region, was 26.9 percent, well above emergency levels. The government estimates that between 80 000 and 100 000 tonnes of cereals are required to cover the needs of the affected population.

The influx of refugees from Darfur and the Central African Republic, estimated at over 300 000 people, places additional demand on the already limited food supplies. Moreover, insecurity in eastern Chad has disrupted the delivery of emergency supplies to displaced Chadians and refugees, as well as restricted agricultural activities in the area.

FAO is providing seeds to 33 000 households throughout Sahelian regions in eastern and western Chad, with land preparation and planting scheduled to begin in May. In addition, FAO is providing animal feed to safeguard the livelihoods of 4 556 vulnerable pastoralist households. An estimated 737 000 beneficiaries in the west and central Sahelian regions will receive food assistance through a WFP Emergency Operation (EMOP), between March and December 2010.
GIEWS Country Brief
Chad

Reference Date: 04-March-2010

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT
• Poor rainfall during the beginning and end of season led to a sharp decline in 2009 cereal production and pasture
• Two million people affected by low cereal availability, mainly concentrated in the Sahelian zone
• In spite of Government intervention, persistent high prices restrict normal food access
• Persistent insecurity hampers agricultural production and aggravates food security throughout the country, particularly in border regions with Sudan

Significant reduction in 2009/10 cereal harvest
The poor growing conditions for cereal crops and pastures across most parts of the country, due to a late start of the rainy season and subsequent erratic precipitation, resulted in a significant decline in cereal production, the harvest of which was completed in November 2009. A joint CILSS/FAO/FEWSNET/WFP mission estimated national cereal production in 2009/10 at 1.17 million tonnes, about 34 percent below the previous year’s good output. Only the regions of Batha and Biltine recorded a larger harvest than the previous season. Production of sorghum and millet, the main staple food crops, is estimated to have declined by 22 percent and 34 percent, respectively, to 460 900 tonnes and 310 500 tonnes.

Lack of pasture led to high livestock mortality
Severe decline in pasture conditions have led to serious livestock deaths and damage. In 2009, a death rate of about 31 percent of cattle was reported in west-central areas of Chad. The lack of pasture and poor livestock conditions have led to early transhumance movement and a deterioration of the terms of trade for pastoralists. Furthermore, the current poor pasture conditions are raising concerns that the high livestock mortality may continue this year, particularly if rains are delayed for the forthcoming season, which normally begin in May/June.

Higher than normal food prices affect food access
Persistent above average prices are limiting food access for households in poor urban and peri-urban areas, who are predominantly reliant on market supplies. The Government, in agreement with private traders, established a price ceiling on August 1st 2009 for staple cereals, including millet and maize, to stabilise price levels. Consequently, prices of these cereals generally decreased between August (peak price) and January 2010 in N’Djamena, Moundou and Sarh markets, also coinciding with seasonal price declines. By contrast, sorghum prices in Abeche, which have been relatively low over the past two years compared to other markets, and Moussoro, increased during the last quarter of 2009. Reports indicate that regional and national trade from surplus to deficit areas is continuing. In addition, the depreciation of the Nigerian Naira against the CFA franc has helped the flow of cross-border trade.
Prolonged dry conditions affect 2 million people; insecurity aggravating food security conditions in eastern regions

The current food insecurity situation is likely to intensify in pastorals areas, notably in the western Sahelian region of Chad. A joint government/FAO/WFP/FEWSNET needs assessment, conducted in December 2009, estimated that at least 2 million people have been affected by the poor performance of cereal crops and will need assistance during 2010. A nutrition survey conducted by Action Against Hunger in November and December 2009 revealed that levels of global acute malnutrition (GAM) in Noukou and Bahr el Gazel departments, in the Kanem region, was 26.9 percent, well above emergency levels.

Furthermore, the continuing civil conflict in neighbouring countries increased the number of refugees fleeing from Darfur and the Central African Republic. The refugee influx will place additional demand on the already limited food supplies. Moreover, insecurity in eastern Chad continues to restrict the delivery of emergency supplies to displaced Chadians and refugees, and to disrupt agricultural activities.

An estimated 737 000 beneficiaries in the west and central Sahelian regions will receive food assistance through a WFP Emergency Operation (EMOP).
**FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT**
- Unfavourable rainfall during the beginning and end of season contributed to a reduced harvest, completed in November.
- Government intervenes in cereal market to help stabilize prices.
- Persistent insecurity hampers agricultural production and food security throughout the country, particularly in border regions with Sudan.

**Prolonged dry conditions cause a decline in cereal production**
Growing conditions for cereal crops and pastures have been poor in most parts of the country, due to a late start of the rainy season, which delayed plantings, and subsequent erratic precipitation. A joint CILSS/FAO/FEWSNET/WFP mission has estimated cereal production in 2009/10 at 1.17 million tonnes. At this level, production is about 34 percent lower than both the previous year’s good output and the five year average. Production of sorghum and millet, the most important food crops, is estimated to have declined by 22 percent and 36 percent, respectively, to 460 900 tonnes and 300 000 tonnes. Pastures were seriously affected with reports of livestock deaths in the important pastoral areas of Kanem, Batha Ouest and Nord Biltine. The lack of pasture and poor livestock conditions are likely to lead to early transhumance movement and deteriorate the terms of trade for pastoralists.

**Cereal prices decrease as the new harvest reaches the market, but remain higher than normal**
Despite the new harvest reaching the market, the persistent above average prices are affecting food access for households in poor urban and peri-urban areas, who are predominantly reliant on market supplies for food. The Government, in agreement with private traders, established a price ceiling on August 1st for staple cereals, including millet and maize, to stabilise price levels. Consequently, prices of these cereals generally decreased between August (peak price) and November in N'Djamena, Moundou and Sarh markets. However, in N'Djamena cereal prices still remain more than a third higher for maize and sorghum, while millet is approximately 80 percent greater than prices recorded in the same month in 2007.

**Insecurity in Chad and neighbouring countries is impeding cereal production and food access**
The continuing civil conflict in neighbouring countries has increased the number of refugees fleeing from Darfur and the Central African Republic. The refugee influx will place additional demand on the limited food supplies. Furthermore, insecurity in eastern Chad is restricting the delivery of emergency supplies to displaced Chadians and refugees, as well as forcing farmers to reduce the amount of land planted. The continued insecurity and low production levels in neighbouring countries is also raising concerns that normal trading patterns will be disrupted, exacerbating the already poor food security conditions. Currently, food assistance for 2010 is expected to target 642 000 refugees and IDPs, however, due to the poor cereal production, this...
number may need to be revised.


FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Crop prospects uncertain following irregular rains at the beginning of the season.
- Persistent insecurity hampers food security throughout the country.
- Food prices remain high.

Harvest prospects uncertain due to insufficient rains at the beginning of the season

Sowing of the main staple crops began in June, with harvesting expected to start in late August/early September. Early season dryness in the southern region, caused by low rainfall levels in May and June, negatively affected crop planting activities and initial development of staple crops in localised areas. In the south-west there were reported incidences of failed millet crops. However, increased rainfall recorded in July and August has helped to mitigate early season dryness. Rainfall forecasts indicate that southern Chad will receive normal rainfall for the remainder of the cropping season (July to September).

High food prices limiting access to food across the country

Persistent conflict and civil unrest along the eastern border with Sudan has severely hindered agriculture production in the region. Cereal production estimates from Biltine (eastern Chad) for the 2008 season reveal that there was a 57 percent reduction, relative to an average of the last five years. Reports indicate that as a consequence of low households’ stocks, food reserves are nearly depleted, increasing households’ reliance on market supplies. However, high food prices and limited trade are further contributing to lowering food access and availability, aggravating the current poor food security conditions in eastern regions. Prices of cereals throughout the country remain at above average levels and are gradually increasing during the hunger period (June to October). Prices of sorghum and millet in Moundou, the second largest market in Chad, were approximately double the level in June 2009 relative to the same period in 2007. While maize prices in the N’Djamena were 17 percent higher in June 2009 compared to a year earlier.

Persistent insecurity in Chad and neighbouring countries hampers food security notably in the east

The continuing civil conflict in neighbouring countries has increased the number of refugees fleeing from Darfur and the Central African Republic. The refugee influx will place additional demand on the restricted food supplies. Furthermore, insecurity in eastern Chad is restricting the delivery of emergency supplies to displaced Chadians and refugees. Currently, food aid distributions are targeting approximately 700 000 refugees, from Sudan and CAR, and IDPs.