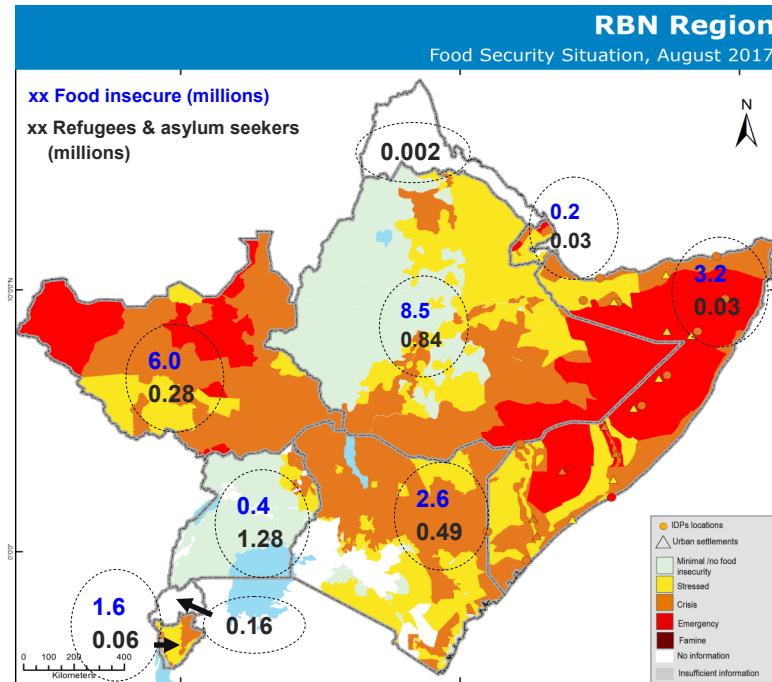


EAST AND CENTRAL AFRICA REGIONAL FOOD SECURITY AT A GLANCE

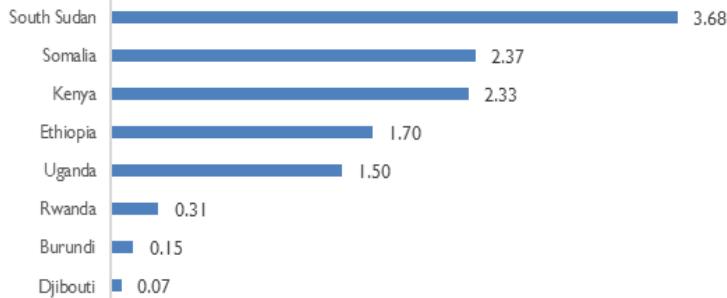
WFP Regional Bureau Nairobi Vol 2

August 2017

Heightened Food Insecurity persists in the region



WFP Prioritized beneficiaries (millions) in August 2017



- ⇒ About 23.7 million people are acutely food insecure and in need of humanitarian assistance. This represents a 24% increase (i.e. from 19.1 million) from August 2016, a slight decrease compared to the peak in July.
- ⇒ While recent harvests across the region provided some temporary reprieve, food insecurity expected to deteriorate further for Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia through November, due to poor cropping and livestock conditions. Hence, the food insecure population is projected to be around 22 million till end of 2017.
- ⇒ High food insecurity is driven by effects of consecutive droughts, conflict/insecurity, high food prices and malfunctioning markets, poor economic conditions in some countries and crop pest infestation mainly the fall army worm (FAW).
- ⇒ Continued influx of refugees and asylum seekers compound the food insecurity. The number of refugees and asylum seekers has increased by 37% (to 4.55 million) since January 2016.
- ⇒ Nutrition situation continues to worsen in several countries across the region as depicted by increasing admission trends to treatment centers and persistent GAM prevalence exceeding emergency thresholds (>15%) in Somalia, Kenya, South Sudan and 31% for the refugee sites.

- ⇒ Food security trends—current and projected in 2017:

	May—Sep	Oct—Dec
Uganda/Burundi	Improved	Improving
Djibouti	No change	No change
Kenya	Deteriorated	Some improvement
South Sudan	Deteriorated	Some Improvement
Somalia	Deteriorated	No change
Ethiopia	Deteriorated	Some improvement

- ⇒ WFP continues provide the bulk of the humanitarian response to meet the needs across the countries.

Greatest Areas of Concern

South Sudan: Populations facing famine in Leer, Mayendit, Koch counties of Unity state; and Ayod in Jonglei. Other areas of concern are Nyiror, Duk, Uror, Pigi and islands in Jonglei; Longechuk and Maiwut in Upper Nile; and Mundri, Mvolo, Yei and Terekeka in the Greater Equatoria.

Ethiopia: Mainly in Somali region, southern and eastern Oromiya, northern Amhara and southern SNPPR regions

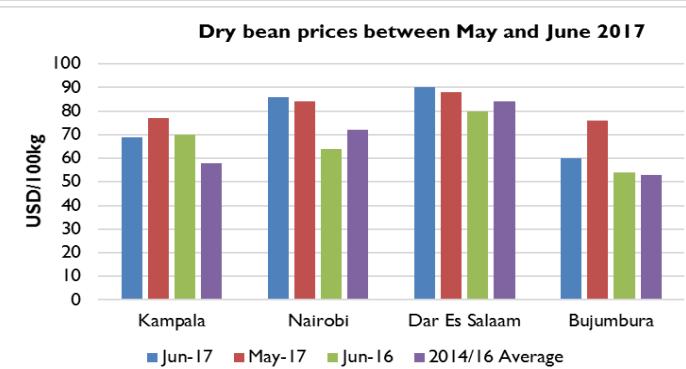
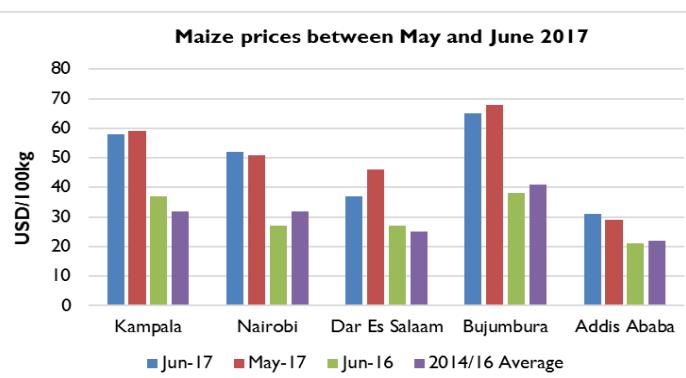
Somalia: Deteriorating food and nutrition security in central and northern Somalia

Kenya: The northern and eastern pastoral areas due to poor seasonal rainfall worsened off by spike in food prices and low livestock prices

Issues to watch (September—December)

- Impact of Fall Armyworm on harvest in Kenya, Uganda, South Sudan and Ethiopia.
- Forecasted normal-to-below normal rainfall over eastern and north-eastern parts of the equatorial and southern parts of the northern sector, which are also the currently highly food insecure .
- Warmer than normal land surface temperatures which are likely to heightened degeneration of rangeland areas.
- Continued conflict in South Sudan and refugee influx into Uganda.
- Elevated staple food prices which are likely to persist through end of 2017.
- Progress of the Meher season in the central highlands of Ethiopia, given the forecasted normal to below normal rainfall .

Markets behavior

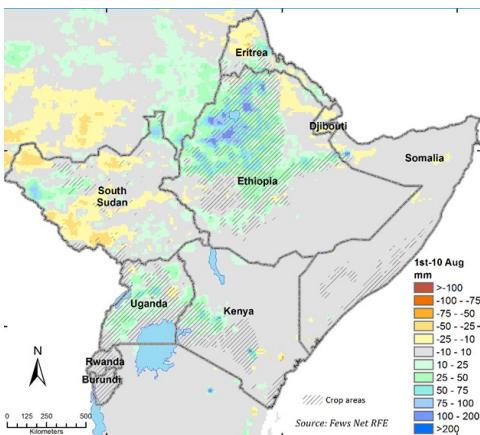


Commodity prices continue to remain elevated across the region (*example of some selected main markets*)

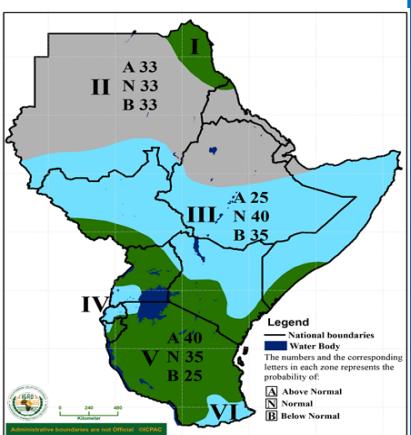
- ◆ Staple food prices across most markets remained fairly stable and/or declined, but remained above average levels.
- ◆ The stability and/or reduction in prices corresponds to the May-June-July harvest seasons across many countries which increased market supplies and replenished household stocks temporarily reducing market demand.
- ◆ Staple food prices are likely to remain stable or decline marginally through September. However, stocks will be depleted faster-than-normal due to below average harvests. Prices to increase steadily through early 2018, as market demand heighten again.
- ◆ Livestock prices across many pastoral markets remain below average levels and to continue so, despite recent seasonal rains that marginally improved rangeland resources, resulting in some improvements in livestock body conditions.
- ◆ Volume's of staple foods traded in the region remain below average levels, occasioned by low carry-over stocks from previous below average crop harvests, and export bans in some countries like Tanzania, which has restricted flows.

Season Progress and Climate outlook

Seasonal Rainfall Anomaly—August 2017



October to December Rainfall Forecast



- ◆ Large parts of eastern, central and southern Rift Valley in **Kenya** where harvesting has started are expected to experience below average production, due to earlier late seasonal onset and lengthy dry spells.
- ◆ Fall armyworm is likely to affect production, and has reduced maize production by 30% in Kenya especially in the northern Rift Valley; affected maize in all regions in South Sudan; affected 22% of the 1.7 million hectares in Ethiopia; and other countries in the region have reported the problem but the impact is yet to be assessed.
- ◆ In **South Sudan**, first season green harvest reported in Greater Equatoria, though harvest is expected to be below average as conflicts disrupted normal planting. Significant FAW infestation in parts of Central and Eastern Equatoria, Jonglei, and Western Bahr el Ghazal is likely to affect crop production.

- ◆ Below-average rains continued in parts of southwestern South Sudan, northeast Ethiopia and northern Eritrea in early August, and likely to impact on the June—September cropping season.
- ◆ From October to December, normal to below normal rainfall is expected over much of the equatorial sectors including southeastern Ethiopia and Somalia. The southern and western sectors are likely to have normal to above normal rainfall. The season is likely to start late over southeastern Ethiopia and Somalia, where it is likely to be shorter than average. Extended dry periods are expected during October, but November is expected to have shorter dry spells compared to average.
- ◆ Vegetation condition continue to deteriorate in parts of southeast and northeast Ethiopia, northern and central Somalia, northeast Kenya, southern Sudan and Eritrea, negatively impacting on livestock productivity.
- ◆ Warmer-than-normal land surface temperatures in pastoral areas to continue until October rains start.
- ◆ Cropping conditions are generally favorable in most central and western parts of **Ethiopia** due to good seasonal rains to date. However, flooding is likely in the coming weeks in prone western areas.
- ◆ Harvesting and drying of first season crops ongoing in most bi-modal areas of central, eastern, south and western **Uganda**. However, current rains may delay harvesting and drying activities.

Assessments/Analysis Planned — September to December 2017

- **Somalia:** Release of the Post Gu Assessment and IPC (August)
- **South Sudan:** Food Security and Nutrition Monitoring (FSNMS) and IPC (August/September)
- **Ethiopia:** Meher assessment and Humanitarian Requirement Document
- Djibouti : FSNMS and Joint Nutrition and Food Security Assessment
- Uganda refugee targeting study and Karamoja FSNA
- Kenya food chain assessment in Karkuma
- Rwanda JAM report release and FSNMS