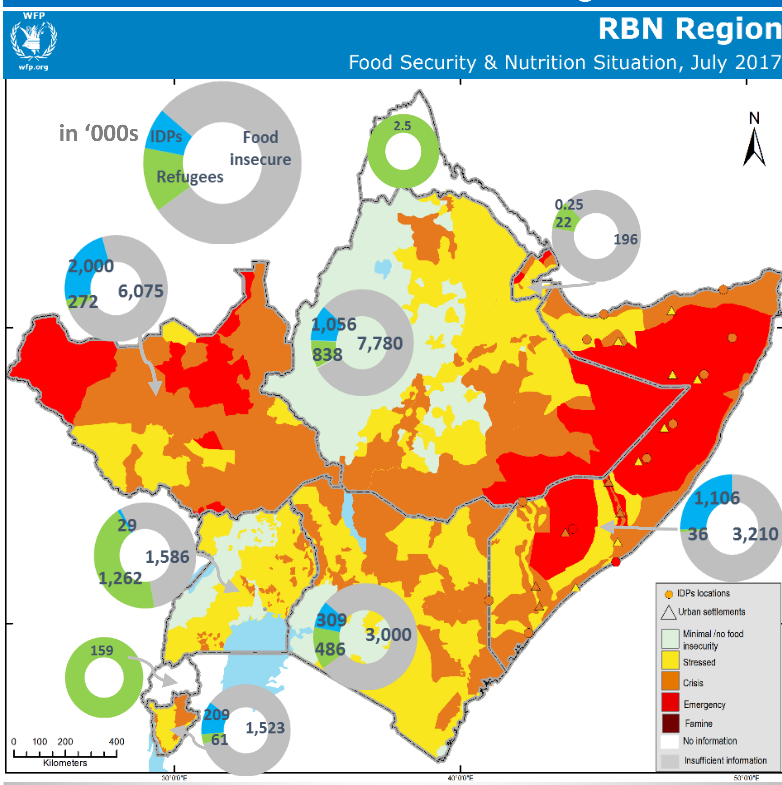
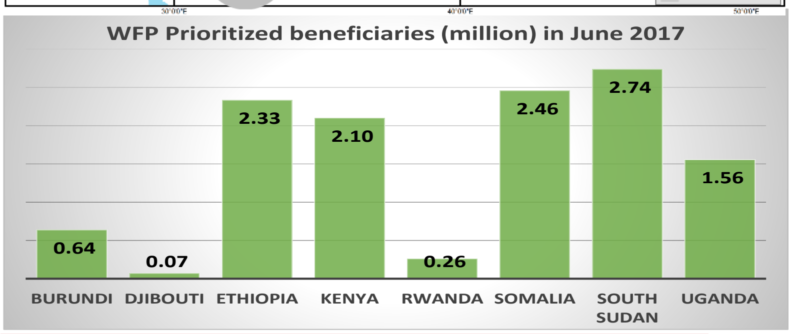
EAST AND CENTRAL AFRICA REGIONAL FOOD SECURITY AT A GLANCE

WFP Regional Bureau Nairobi Vol 1 July 2017

Worsening Food Security in the region





- ⇒ About **23.3 million** people are facing food insecurity: IPC Phase 3 and above need humanitarian assistance, with 45,000 people in South Sudan having an elevated risk of famine. The needs have increased by 19% from around 19.5million in June 2016 and early 2017.
- ⇒ High food insecurity is driven by effects of consecutive droughts, conflict/insecurity, high food prices and malfunctioning markets accompanied by poor economic situation in some countries .
- ⇒ Additionally, over 3.1 million vulnerable refugees (an increase of 33% since January 2016) and over 3 million DPs aggravate the food insecurity situation.
- ⇒ *Current food security conditions have deteriorated compared to July 2016, but compared to beginning of 2017: **IMPROVED SLIGHTLY:** in Uganda, Burundi ; **NO CHANGE:** Djibouti & Rwanda **DETERIORATED:** in Somalia, Ethiopia, Kenya & South Sudan*
- ⇒ Food insecurity likely to persist in some of the worst affected areas due to effects of poor seasonal rainfall performance and pests infestation affecting production.
- ⇒ High malnutrition rates above emergency thresholds among vulnerable groups in Somalia, Kenya, South Sudan and Somali of Ethiopia 31% refugee sites in the region.
- ⇒ Continued humanitarian interventions are required to support food insecure population.
- ⇒ WFP has continued to 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.

Ethiopia: Food security and nutrition deteriorating due to drought conditions in southern and eastern Ethiopia and pastoral drop outs in Somali region.

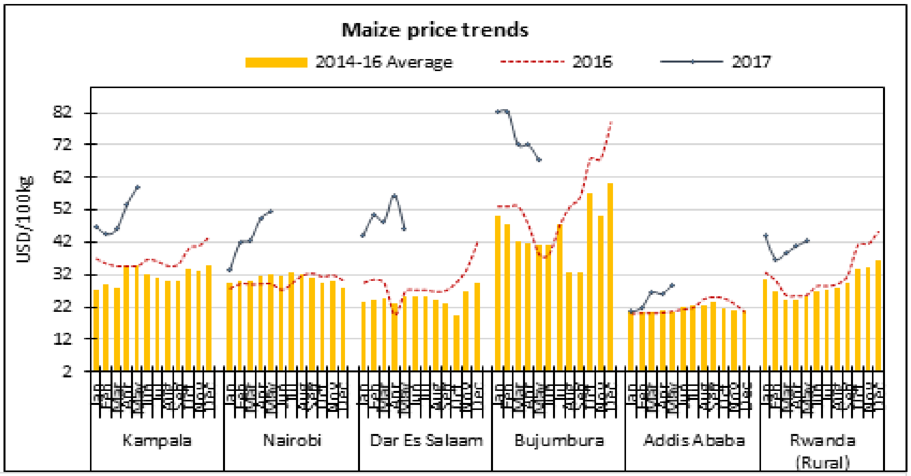
Somalia: Deteriorating food and nutrition security in central and northern Somalia.

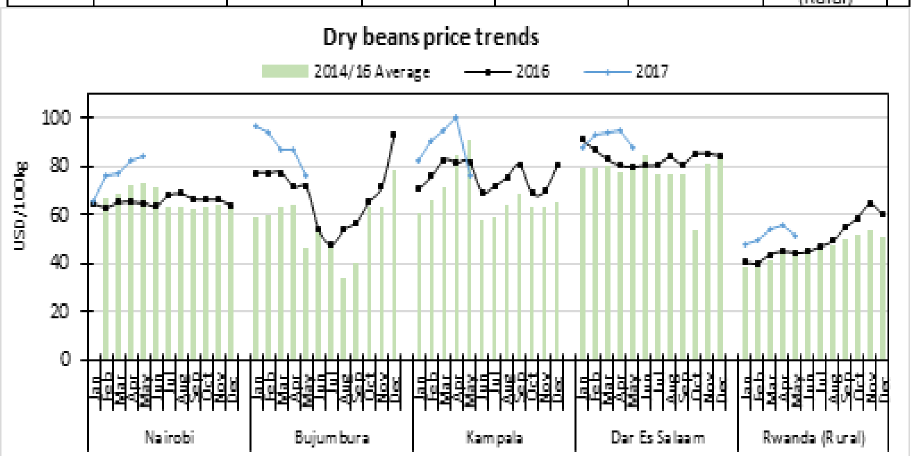
Kenya: The northern pastoral areas due to poor seasonal rainfall worsened off by spike in food prices.

Issues to watch (July to September)

- El Nino Development in the last quarter of 2017 can result in droughts in the Northern Sector of the region and flooding in the southern sector of the region
- Impact of Fall Armyworm on harvest in Kenya, Uganda, South Sudan and Ethiopia
- Rainfall performance for Meher producing areas in Ethiopia
- Continued conflict in South Sudan and refugee influx into Uganda.
- Prices of major cereals that has remained above long term average and last year

Markets behavior



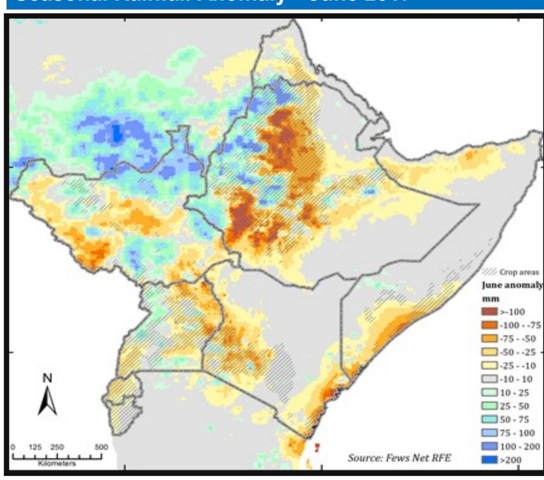


Commodity prices continue to remain elevated across the region

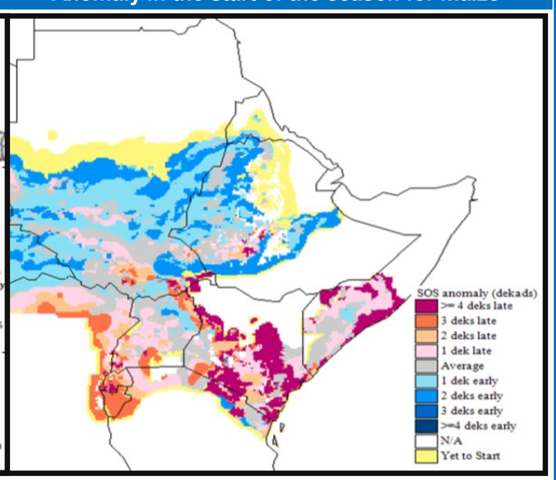
- ♦Staple food prices continue to remain above average levels across most markets in the region driven by tightening supplies due to previous seasons below average crop harvests and some trade restrictions.
- ♦Seasonal decline in prices are expected from June through September across many parts of the region as the May – August harvested crops become available. However, the decline will be moderated by continued high domestic and regional demand in a bid to replenish depleted household stocks, with prices expected to remain above average levels at least through early 2018.
- ♦Regional trade contraction is likely to continue as below-average-to-near average current season crop production is expected, which will limit available marketable surplus.
- ♦Livestock prices continue to remain below last year and 5-year price levels, due to poor animal body conditions, due to exceptional reduction in water and pasture availability, especially in South-eastern Ethiopia, most of Somalia, Northern and North-eastern Kenya.

Season Progress

Seasonal Rainfall Anomaly—June 2017



Anomaly in the start of the season for maize



- ♦ Below-average rainfall in several areas and could negatively impact on cropping season especially in western Ethiopia, South Sudan, and northern Uganda, if they don't improve.
- ♦ Pastoral areas of Kenya, Somalia and Ethiopia remained dry, in line with the season, However, dry conditions could trigger early deterioration of range condition and limit the availability of pasture before next rains in October

The maize growing season started generally later than normal in parts of Kenya, southern Somalia, Burundi, Rwanda and Uganda due to delayed onset of rains in March. It was however earlier than normal in the norther sector (northern South Sudan and western Ethiopia following the rains received in April and May. The crop is at vegetative stage in northern sector regions and at reproductive /maturation stage in the southern sector. This will improve crop supply and food security situation in Rwanda, parts of Uganda and Kenya.

Assessments/Analysis Planned — July to August

- **Kenya:** Long rains seasonal assessment + Agricultural market assessment for Baringo and West Pokot
- **Somalia:** Post Gu Assessment and IPC
- **South Sudan:** Food Security and Nutrition Monitoring (FSNMS) and IPC + Juba urban study
- **Rwanda:** Joint Assessment Mission (JAM)
- **Ethiopia:** Belg assessment and Humanitarian Requirement Document

For further information contact: Elliot.Vhurumuku@wfp.org