Somalia 2020 Post *Deyr* Food Security and Nutrition Outcomes and Projections

A Virtual Briefing for Food Security Cluster Partners

16 February 2021

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2020 Post-*Deyr* Assessment, Analysis and Vetting Process

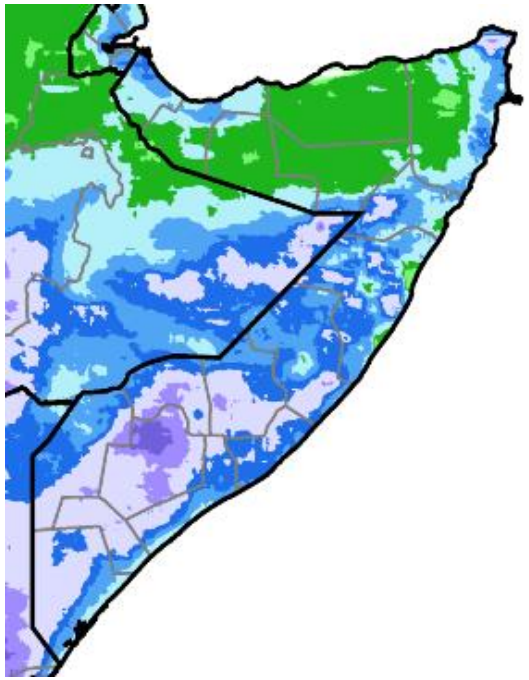
Planning, assessment, analysis and vetting of the results were conducted in collaboration with government, UN agencies, local and international NGOs and technical partners.

- Briefing of partners on 2020 Post Deyr assessment plan and survey protocol – **Oct/Nov 2020**
- Regional Planning Workshop/Training for rural food security assessment: Hargeisa, Garowe, Galkacyo, Dhusamareb, Beletweyne, Mogadishu, Baidoa, Dollow and Kismayo: **Dec 2020**
- Fieldwork (data collection): **Nov-Dec 2020**
- Regional Analyses Workshops: **6-10 January 2021**
- IPC Analyses Workshops and Technical Vetting: **11-19 Jan**
- Technical Briefing for Government (virtual): **1 Feb**
- Briefing for UN Heads of Humanitarian Agencies (virtual): **2 Feb**
- Briefing for Senior Government Officials: (virtual): **3 Feb**
- Final Dissemination to All Stakeholders (virtual): **4 Feb**

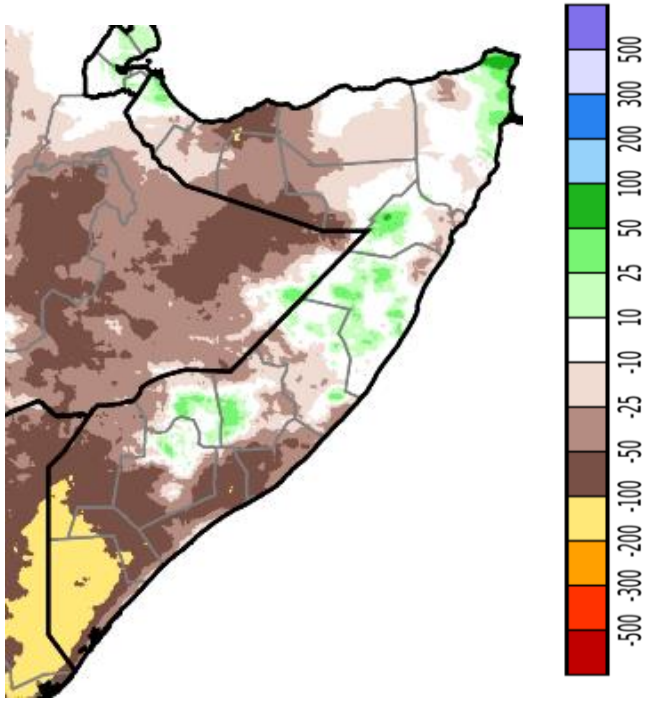
- **Participation in the 2020 Post Deyr IPC Analysis:**
- Total number of participants: **103 participants**
  - Government institutions: **33 participants**
    - Federal Government of Somalia
    - Galmudug
    - Hirshabelle
    - Southwest
    - Jubaland
    - Puntland
    - Somaliland
  - NGOs/INGOs: **25 participants**
  - Local Universities (Puntland State University): **2 participants**
  - Technical partners (FEWS NET, IPC GSU and): **5 participants**
  - UN (FAO/FSNAU, WFP and UNICEF): **35 participants**
  - Food Security and Nutrition Clusters - **3**

2020 *Deyr Season* Rainfall Performance

Cumulative Seasonal Rainfall in MM (CHIRPS), Oct-Dec 2020



Cumulative Seasonal Rainfall Deviation from Average in MM (CHIRPS), Oct-Dec 2020



- The 2020 Deyr season rainfall was characterized by delays and erratic distribution Overall, the 2020 Deyr season rainfall was below average in most parts of the country with adverse impact on replenishment of pasture and water resources and on Deyr season crop production.

- Mixed 2020 Deyr onset; delays in most of North and large parts of the South (Gedo, Shabelle, and Juba regions);

- Ineffective rainfall establishment in the North, erratic distribution across many areas.

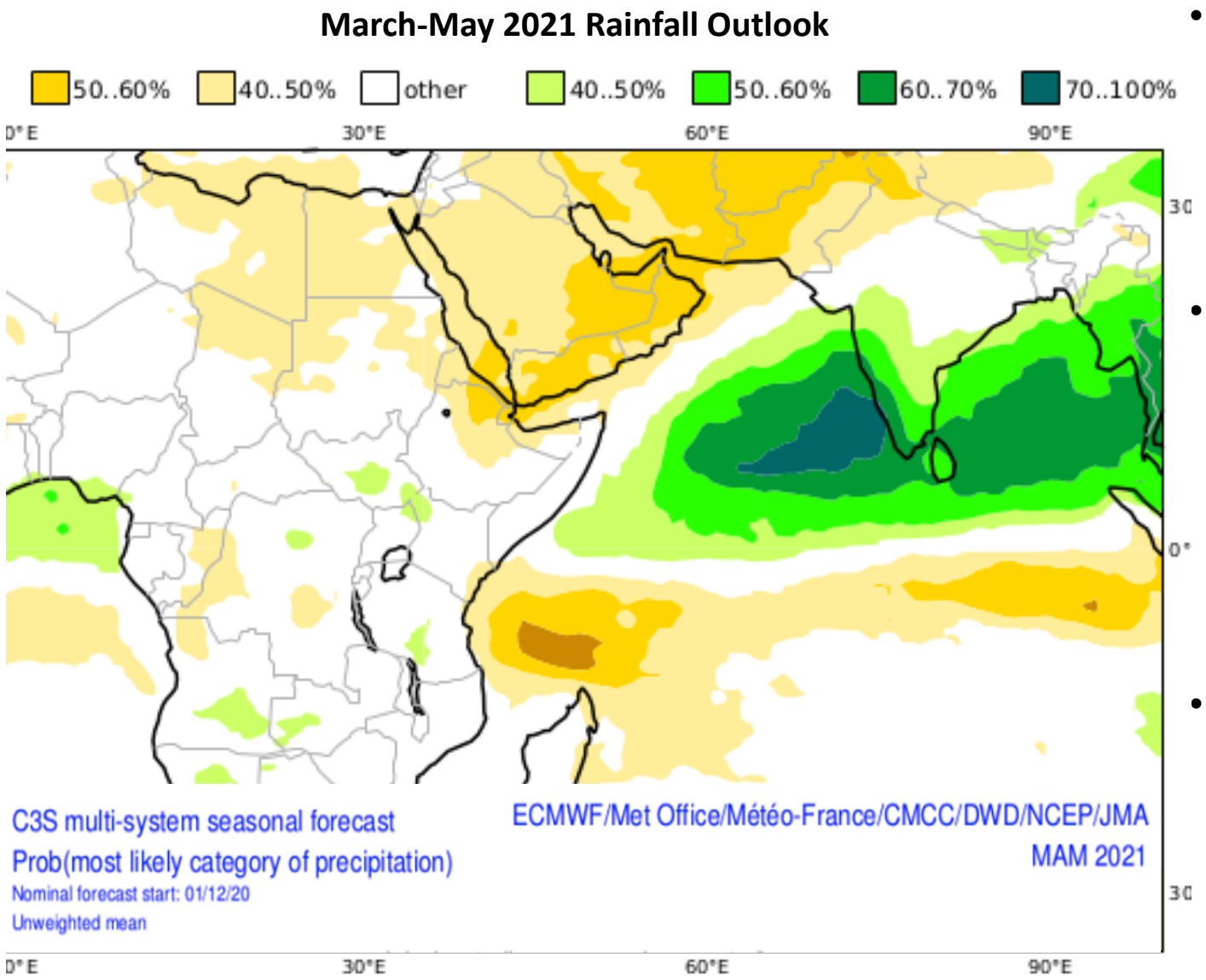
- Cyclone Gati with torrential rains which hit coastal areas of Bari (late November) caused significant damages although it also brought favorable rainfall to coastal and adjacent pastoral areas of Sanaag, Woqooyi Galbeed and Awdal.

- Rainfall totals in most northern and southern areas below average.

- Average to above average totals in many areas of central regions, parts of Bay, Bakool and Hiiraan and in Cyclone GATI affected areas in the northeast and adjacent parts of northwest,

- Floods continued in Hiiraan, Shabelle and Juba regions from late October to early November

2021 *Gu* Season Rainfall Forecast



- In the Horn of Africa (GHA) region, La Niña is usually associated with drought conditions and El Niño with flooding. GHA climate is also influenced by the Indian Ocean Diploe (IOD).

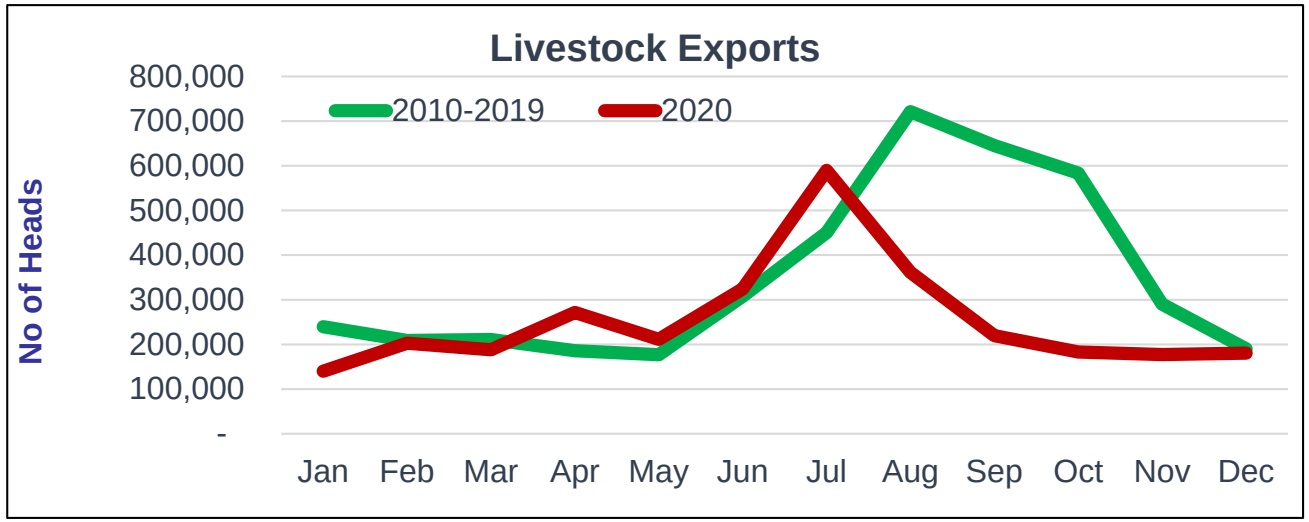
- Latest forecasts from CPC/NCEP/NWS/IRI indicates that La Niña is expected to continue during *Jilaal* (~95% chance between January and March 2021), with a potential transition to ENSO-neutral (i.e. neither La Niña, nor El Niño) during the forthcoming Gu (55% between April and June 2021).

- Based on assumptions of waning La Niña conditions, warm western Pacific Ocean gradients, and a neutral IOD, there is greater likelihood of below-average to average April to June 2021 Gu season rainfall in central and southern Somalia and below average rainfall in the northern regions.

Market Prices

July-December 2020

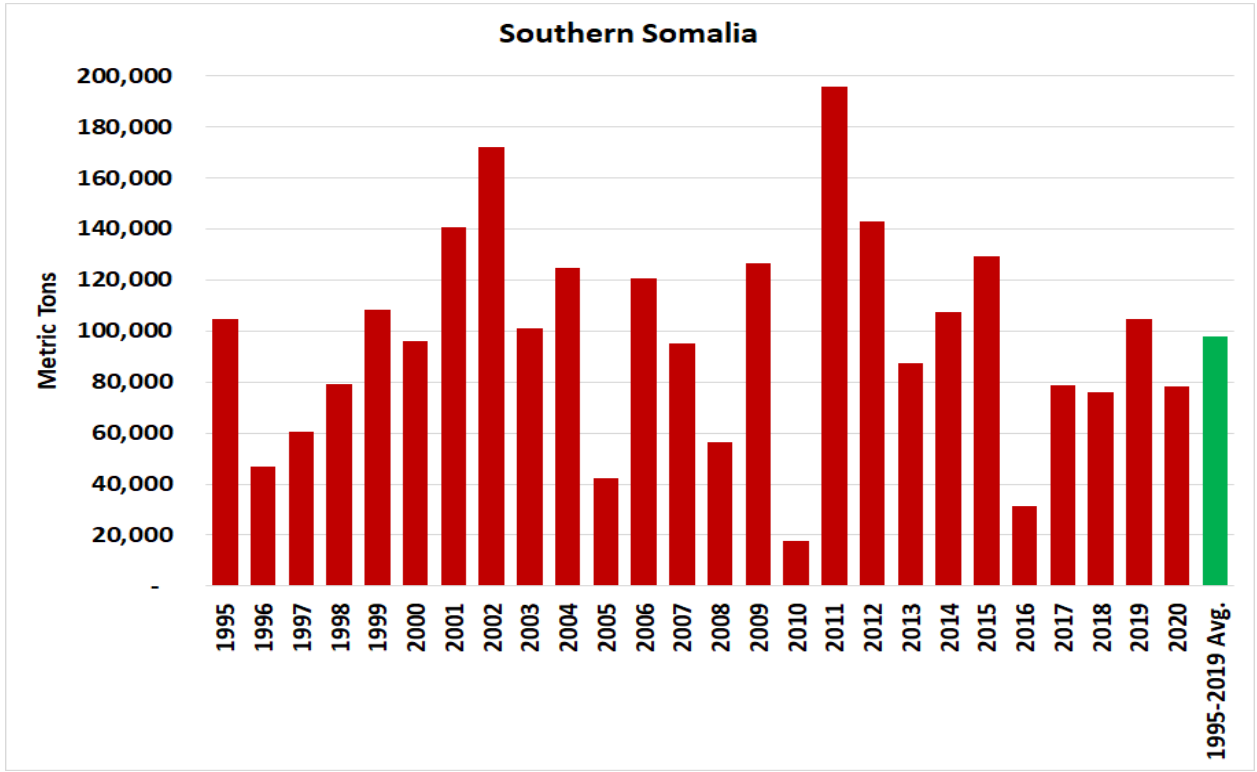
- Somali/Somaliland Shilling was stable over the past six months, except in Puntland where the local Somali Shilling continued to depreciate against the US Dollar.
- Prices of imported food commodities were generally stable, except in in northeast (Puntland) where prices increased sharply due to depreciation of the local currency.
- Cereal food prices (maize and sorghum) were generally stable and close to the five-year average apart from the northeast region that has been affected by inflationary pressures caused by depreciation of the local currency.
- Significant increase in the cost of the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) was observed in the Puntland regions.
- Livestock exports declined sharply between August to December 2020 compared to average.



January-June 2021 Outlook

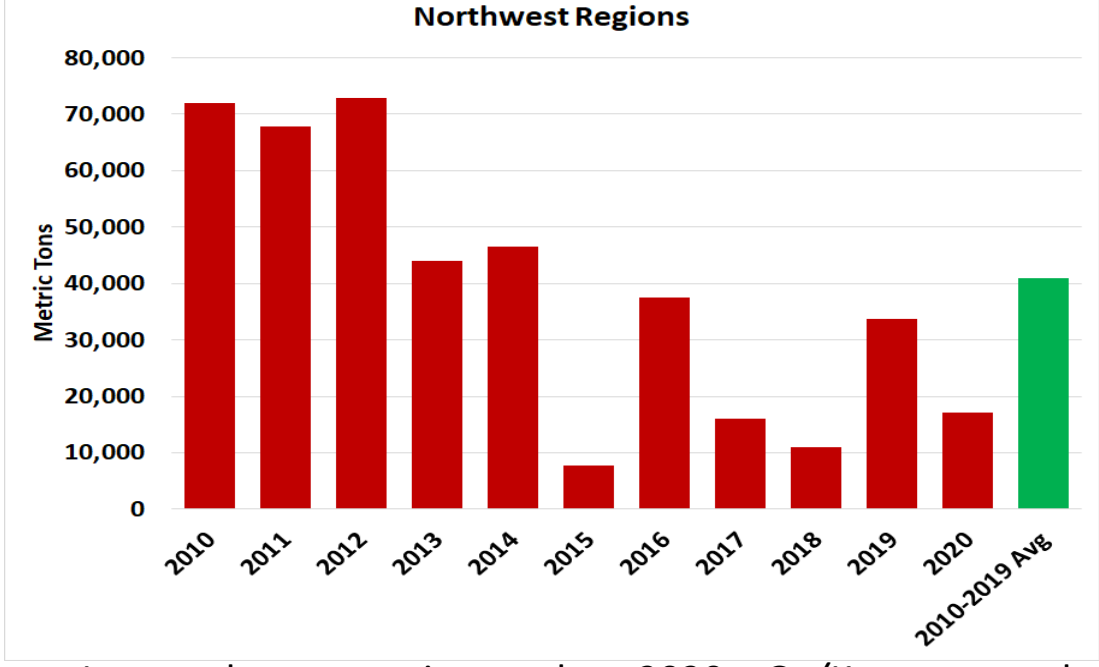
- The SOSH/SLSH exchange rate against USD is likely to be stable in most markets, partly boosted by expected increases in livestock export in the lead up to and during Ramadan and Hajj (March-May). However, some exchange rate fluctuations is expected in northeast markets.
- A below average 2020 Deyr harvest and expected below average 2021 Gu season rainfall will likely tighten domestic cereal supply and put upward pressure on prices starting in April.
- Sorghum and maize imports from Ethiopia will supplement supplies to adjacent markets in northern, central and southern regions.
- Food import (rice, flour and sugar) prices are expected to be stable through mid-2021 from promising global export availabilities, sluggish demand and low oil price.
- Livestock prices will likely follow seasonally trend through June from improved livestock condition and productivity as well as increased exports. Prices are expected to be close or above the average in most markets with regional differences.

Impact on Agriculture (Maize and Sorghum Production)



- In southern Somalia, the 2020 *Deyr* season cereal production is estimated at **78 600 tons,** including **4 100 tons** of off-season harvest expected in March 2021. The 2020 *Deyr* harvest is **20** percent lower than the long-term average for 1995-2019.

- Main factors for the reported production decline include: erratic rainfall, successive and severe flooding, Desert Locust and insecurity/conflict.

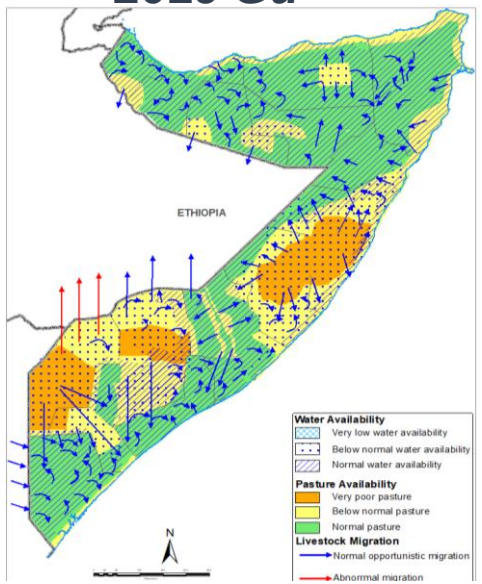


- In northwest regions, the 2020 *Gu/Karan* cereal production was previously estimated at **22 500** MT (September 2020), based on mid-season crop assessment.

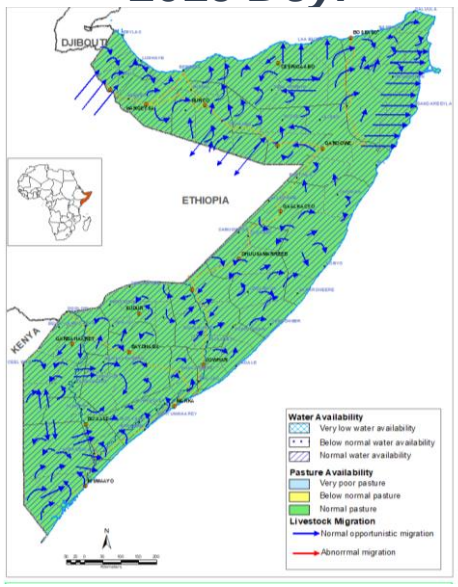
- However, based on crop harvest assessments conducted in November, the revised production estimate is **17 100 MT.** This is **58** percent lower than the average for 2010-2019, mainly due to erratic rainfall, Desert Locust and stalk borer infestation on both sorghum and maize crops.

Impact on Pasture and Water Availability

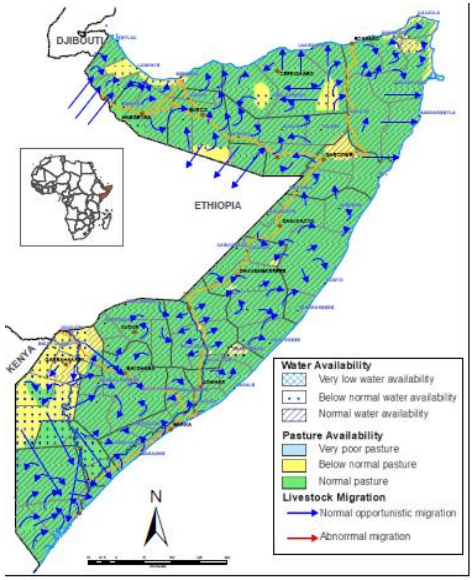
2019 *Gu*



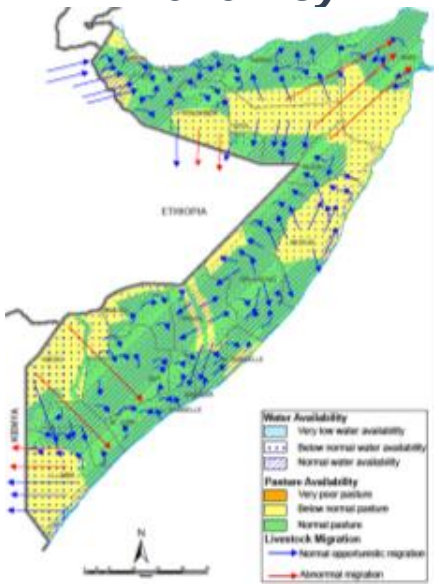
2019 *Deyr*



2020 *Gu*



2020 *Deyr*



- Carryover water and pasture from the 2020 *Gu* season supported livestock through late October. Despite Desert Locust damage in northern and central and parts of south regions, average to near average 2020 *Dey* rainfall in November have moderated the impact and replenished pasture and browse in south/central and parts of north.

- In late November, tropical cyclone GATI was experienced in northern regions mainly, Hafuun/Iskushuban, Alula, Bederbeyla, Bossasso, Qandala, Erigavo and Laasqoray districts. Although the cyclone caused significant damage, it also improved pasture and water in the affected areas.

- Harsh *Jiilaal* (January-March 2021) is expected particularly in rain deficit areas of northern and central regions, leading to water scarcity, increased water trucking and early and atypical livestock migration and increased abortion among small ruminants in some regions.

Impact on Livestock Production and Productivity

- Conception during the 2020 Deyr was medium among small ruminants. Among large ruminants, conception was low to medium during the 2020 Deyr due to long gestation periods (most of them conceived *2020 Gu* seasons or have given birth during the 2020 Deyr). Livestock births during the 2020 Deyr were also medium for small ruminants.

- Milk availability is average to above average in southern Somalia, except in Gedo where milk availability is low due to less favorable pasture and browse conditions.

- Although milk production has improved in northern and central regions, availability remains low due to (1) low ownership of milking/lactating animals as herd sizes have not yet fully recovered from the extended cumulative impact of previous droughts (2) most livestock have migrated to distant grazing areas in search of water and pasture.

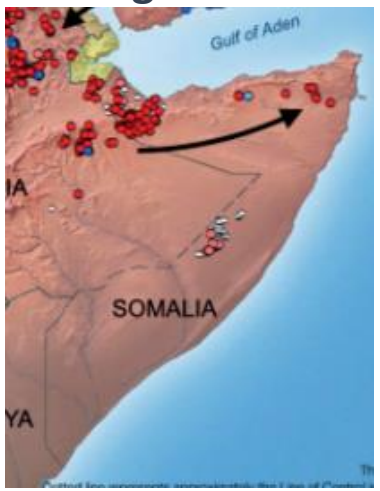
- Milk availability is expected to decline through mid-2021 due to harsh conditions during *Jilaal* and a likely below average 2021 *Gu* (April-June) season rainfall, particularly in northern and central regions.

- Livestock holding among poor pastoral households continued to increase during the 2020 Deyr season. Further increases are expected towards mid-2021 year due to anticipated medium births between now and mid-2021 in southern regions.

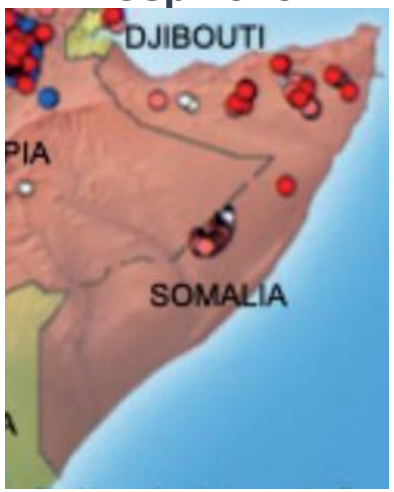
- However, livestock holding among poor pastoral households will still remain below baseline in central and parts of northern Somalia by mid-2021 but reach near baseline or above baseline levels in southern Somalia.

Desert Locust Infestation and Outlook

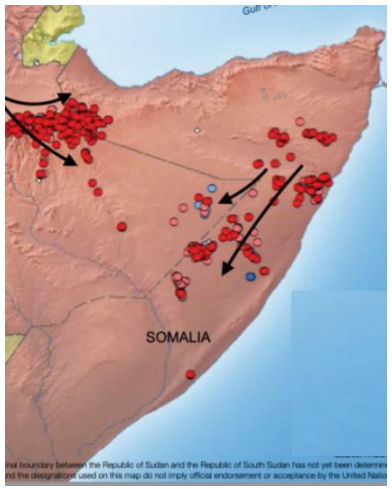
Aug 2020



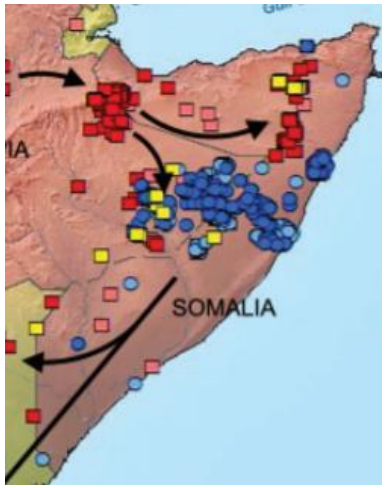
Sep 2020



Oct 2020

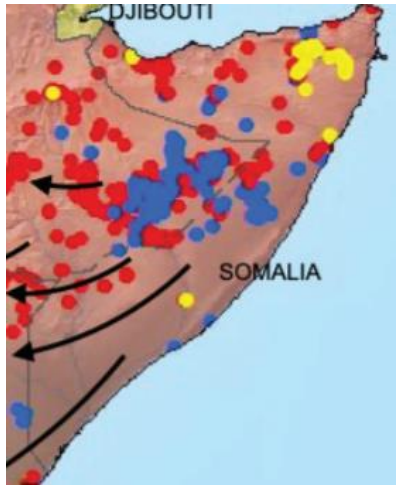


Nov 2020



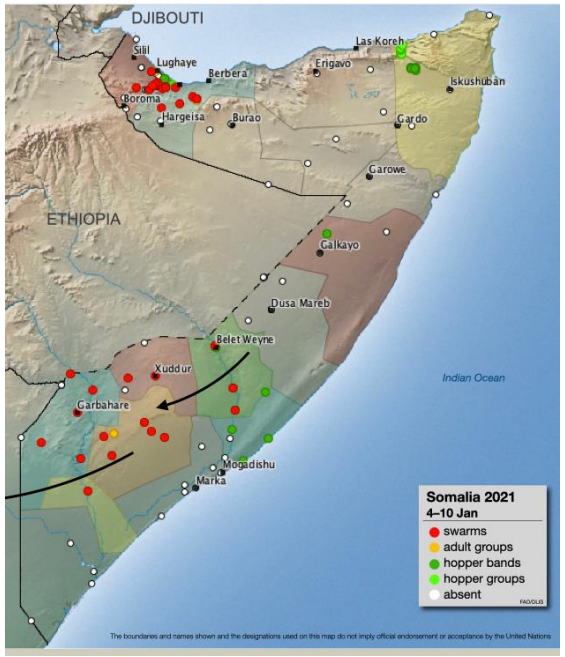
- Desert locust which has mostly affected northern and central regions since late 2019, it has expanded to southern Somalia since October 2020.
- The southward movement and breeding of Desert Locust coincided with both the planting and harvesting periods. Despite ongoing control operations which are reducing impacts.
  - Desert Locust has caused significant damage to 2020 Deyr season cereal crop cultivation and harvest in central and southern regions.
  - Latest forecasts indicate that Desert Locust continues to pose a very high risk to rural livelihoods across Somalia in 2021, potentially exacerbating the impact of a below average 2021 *Gu*.

Dec 2020

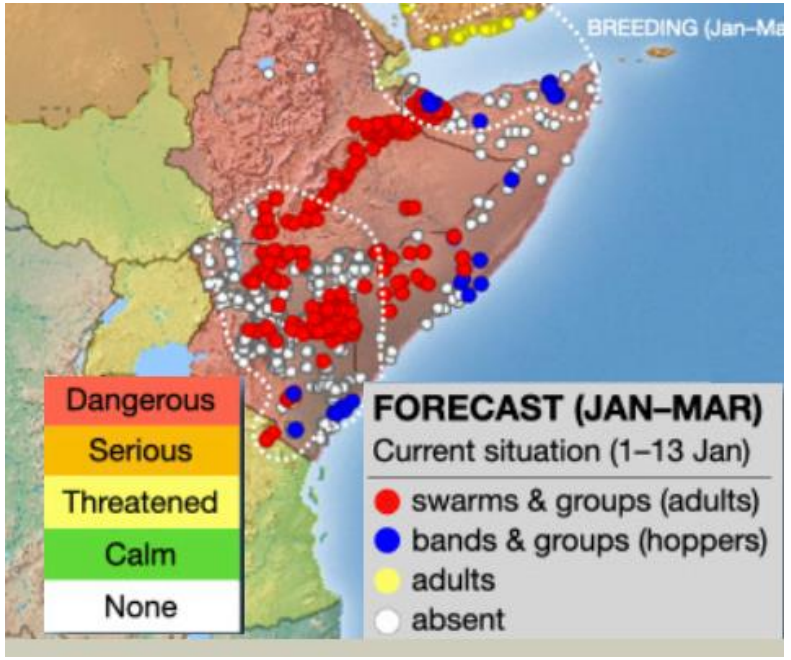


Source of Maps and Forecast: FAO Desert Locust Watch

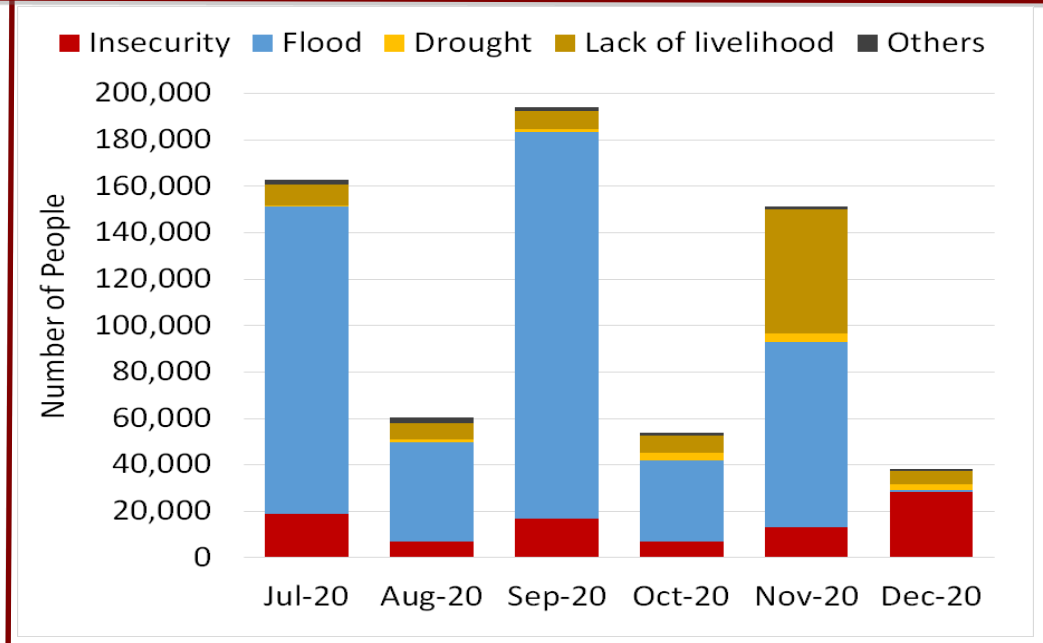
4-10 Jan 2021

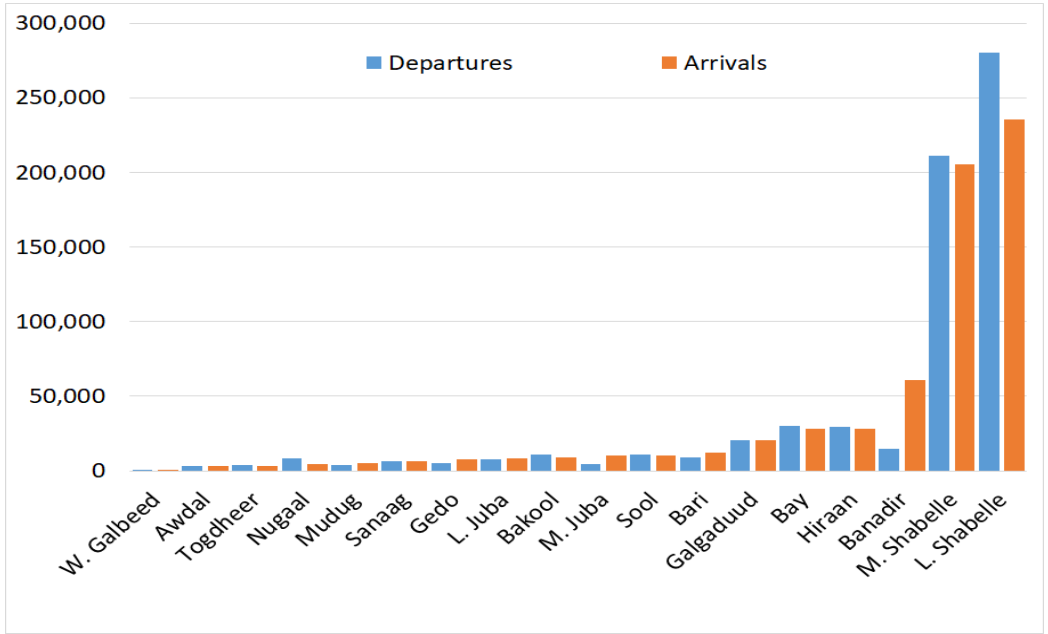


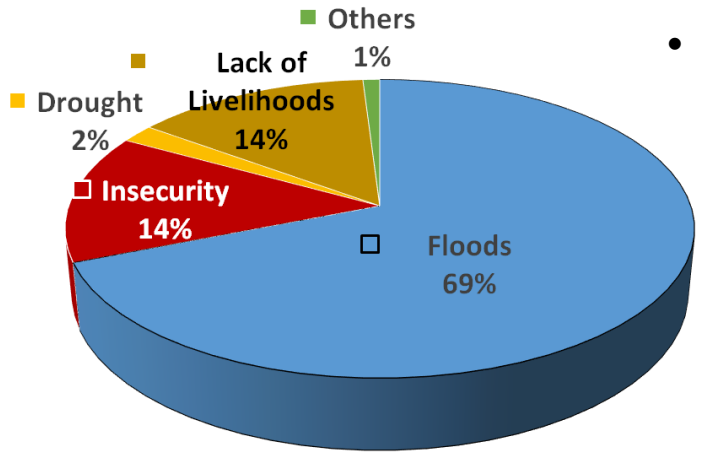
Forecast (Jan-Mar 2021)



Somalia Population Movement/Displacement and Impact, Jul-Dec 2020 (UNHCR/PRMN Data)







- Overall, nearly **661 000** persons were displaced between July and Dec 2020, mainly due to floods (**69%**), insecurity/conflict (**14%**) and lack of livelihoods (**14%).**

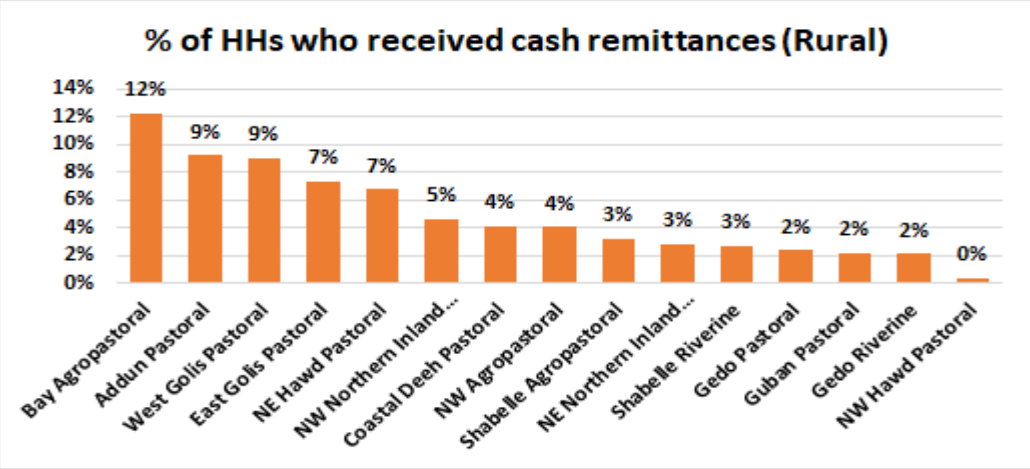
- Most of the displacements occurred between July and Sept and November, mainly driven by recurrent floods.

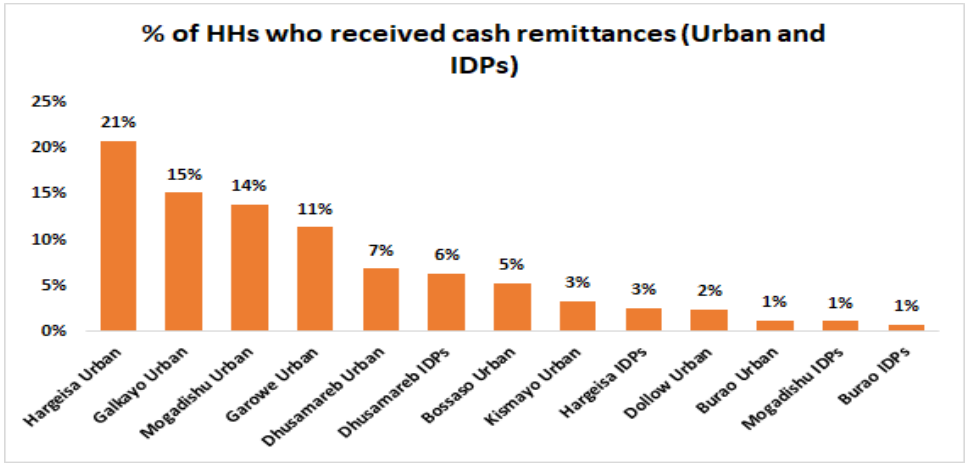
- Most of the population displacements occurred in Lower Shabelle and Middle Shabelle and Banadir regions.

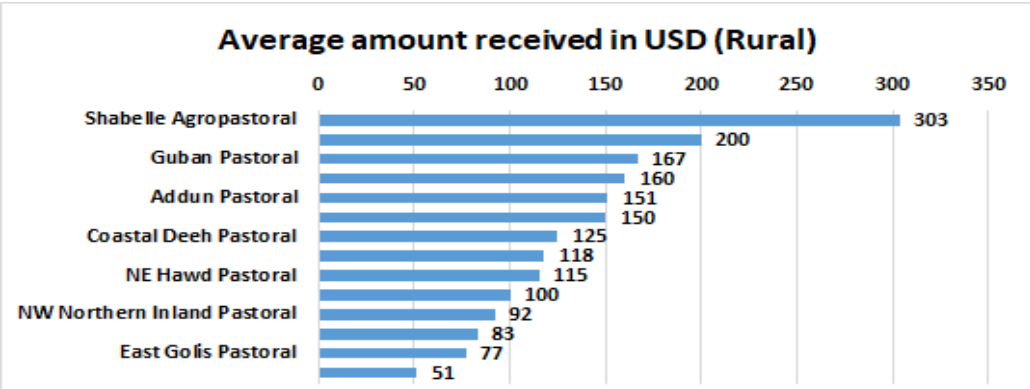
- Flooding and insecurity/conflict related displacements have contributed to lower crop production in Hiran, Middle and Lower Shabelle regions.

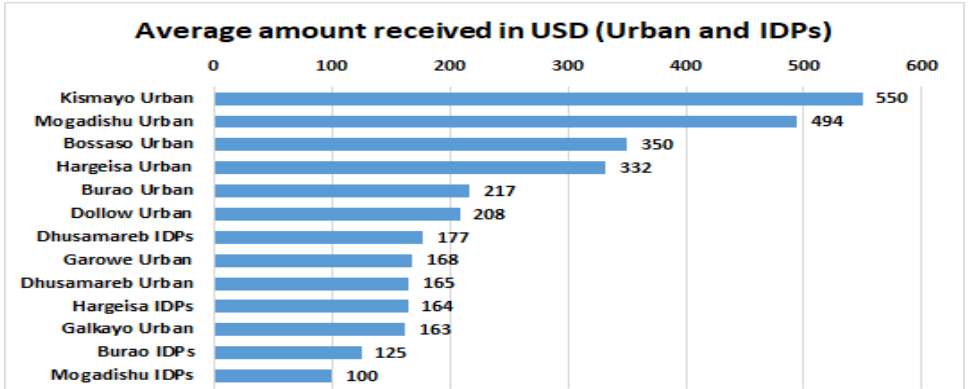
- Armed and political conflict, drought and flood related displacements are expected to continue through mid-2021, further exacerbating food insecurity across many parts of Somalia.

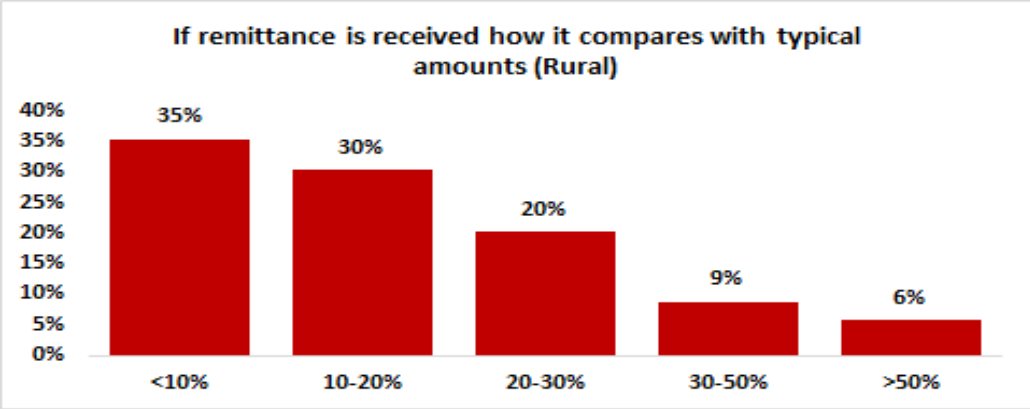
Remittance Receipts by Households, Aug/Sep-Oct/Nov 2020

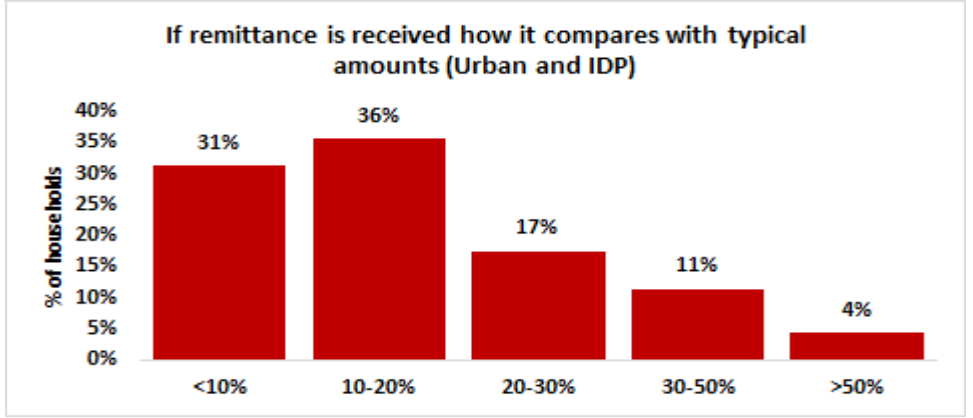






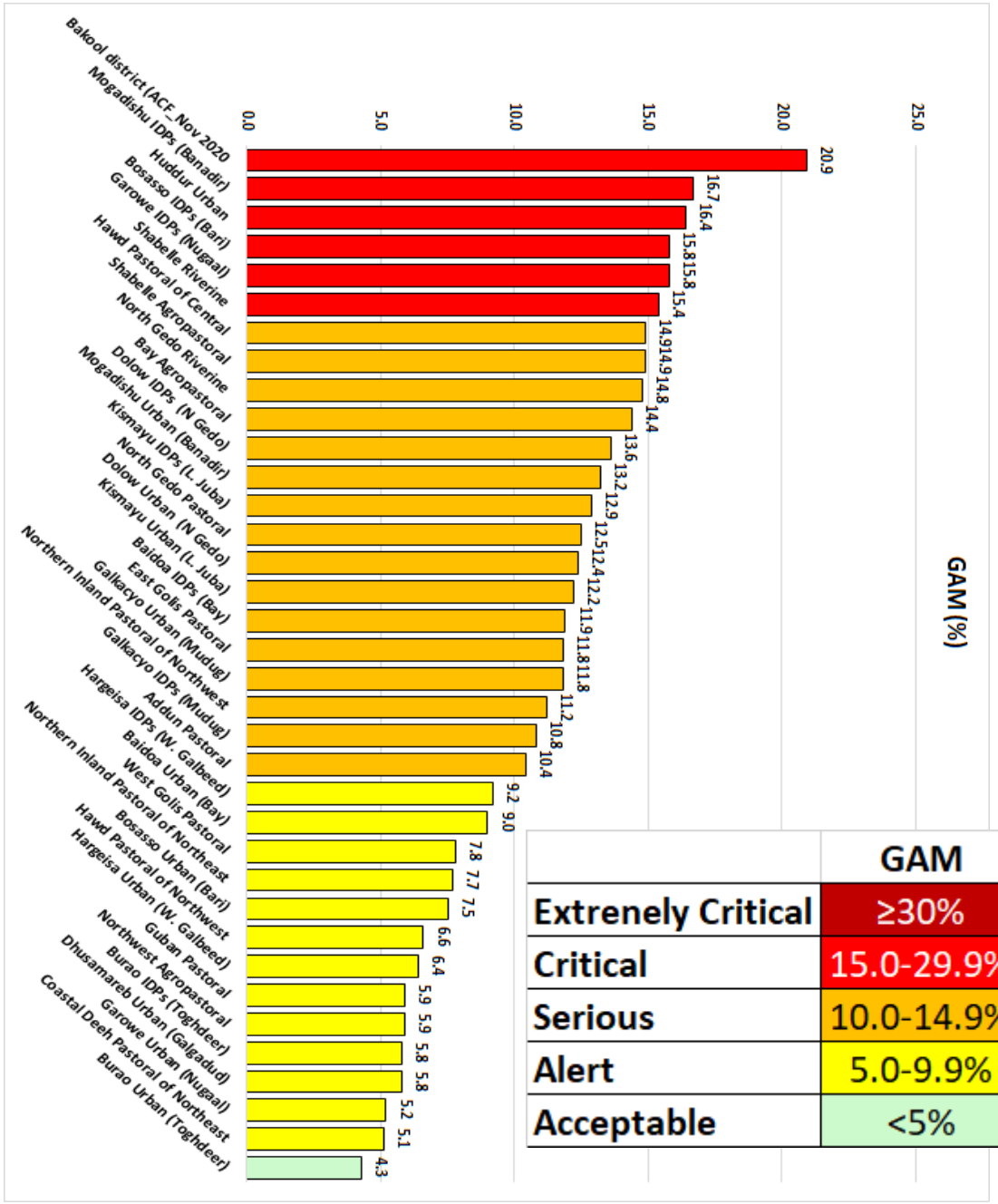






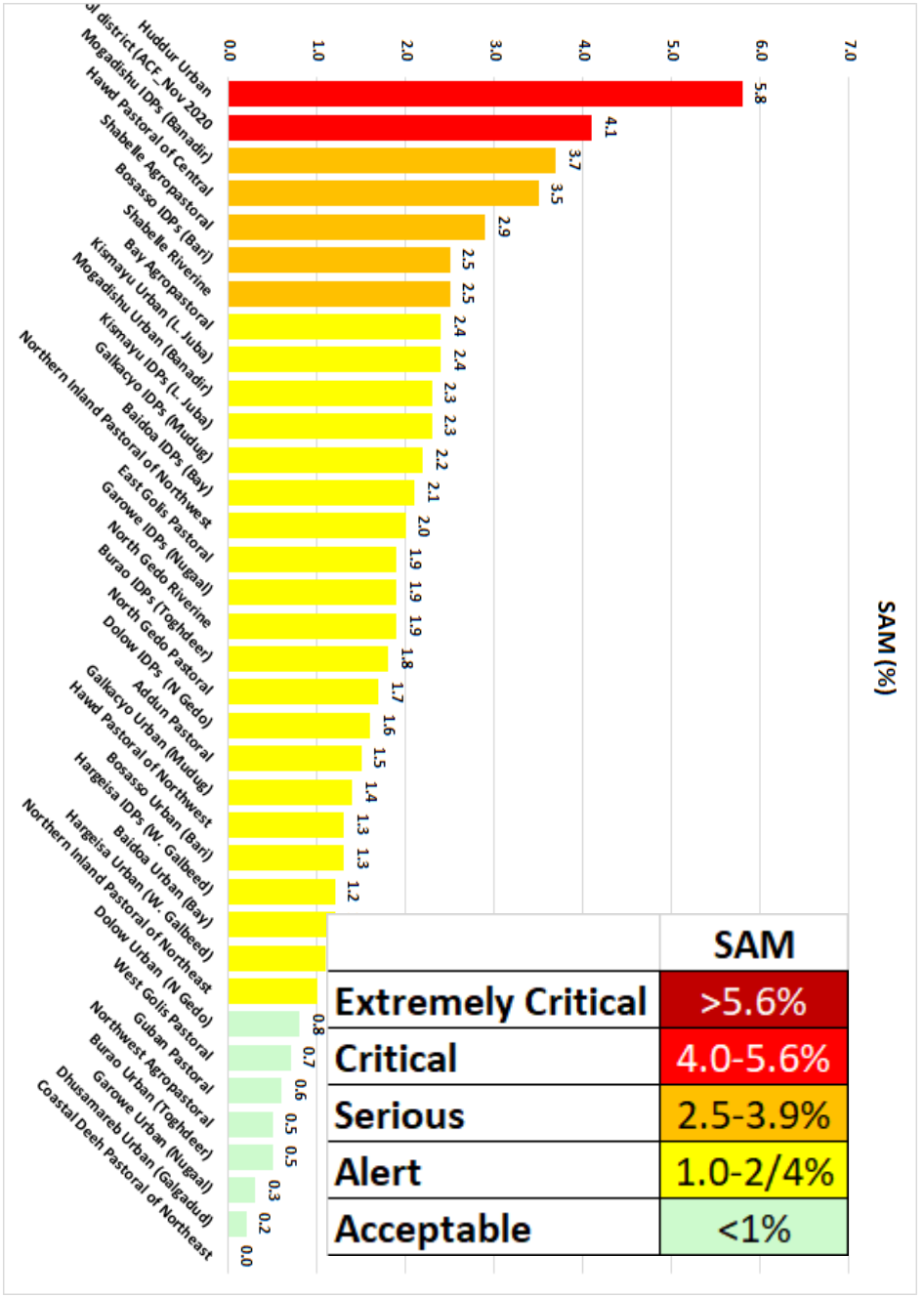
- Up to 22% of urban, 12% of rural and 6% IDPs received remittances between Aug/Sep and Oct/Nov 2020.
- Amount recipients, average amounts are significant in many areas
- A majority of recipients (>50%) reported significant declines in remittances

2020 Post Deyr Nutrition Situation: GAM and SAM



GAM	
Extrenely Critical	≥30%
Critical	15.0-29.9%
Serious	10.0-14.9%
Alert	5.0-9.9%
Acceptable	<5%

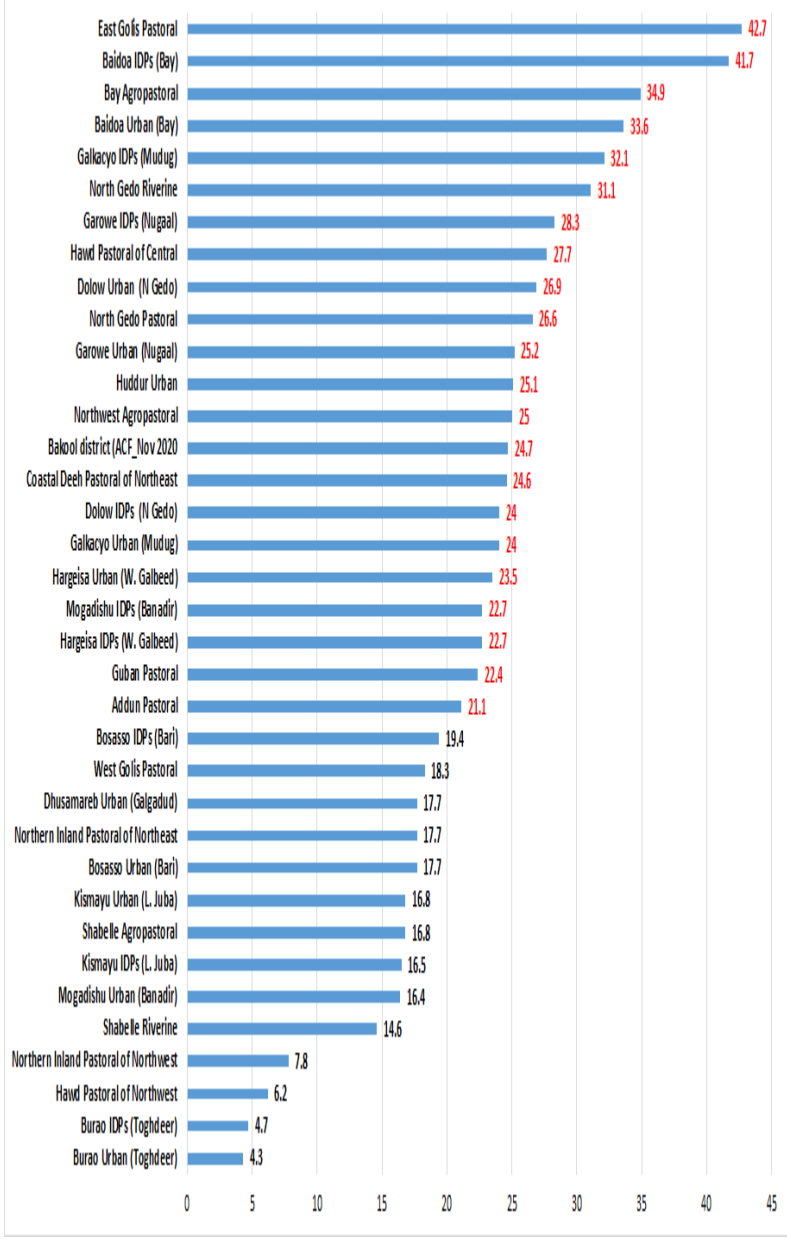
- At the national level, the median prevalence of Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) has remained Serious (10–14.9%) over the past three seasons (11.8% in 2020 Deyr; (11.8% in 2020 *Gu* and 13.1% in 2019 *Deyr*).



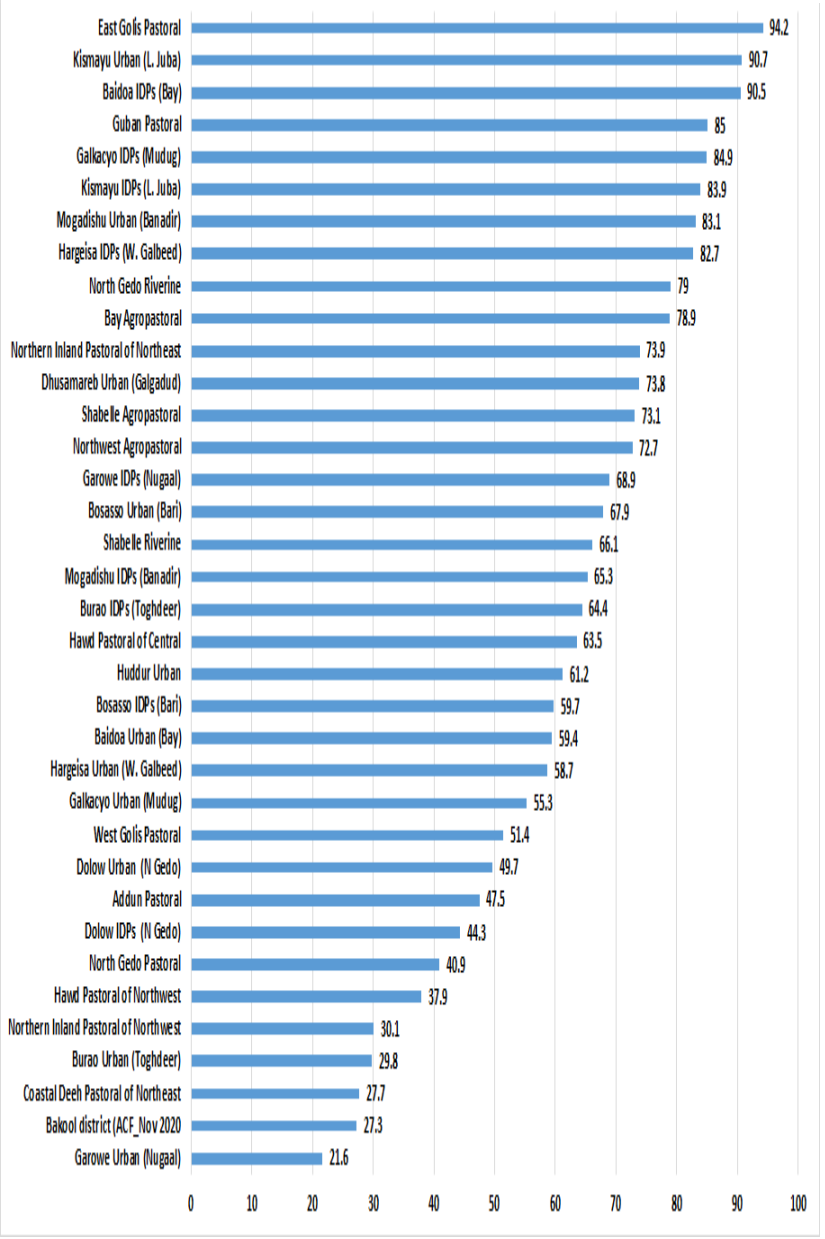
SAM	
Extremely Critical	>5.6%
Critical	4.0-5.6%
Serious	2.5-3.9%
Alert	1.0-2/4%
Acceptable	<1%

Morbidity, Vit A Supplementation and Measles Vaccination among Children Under-Five

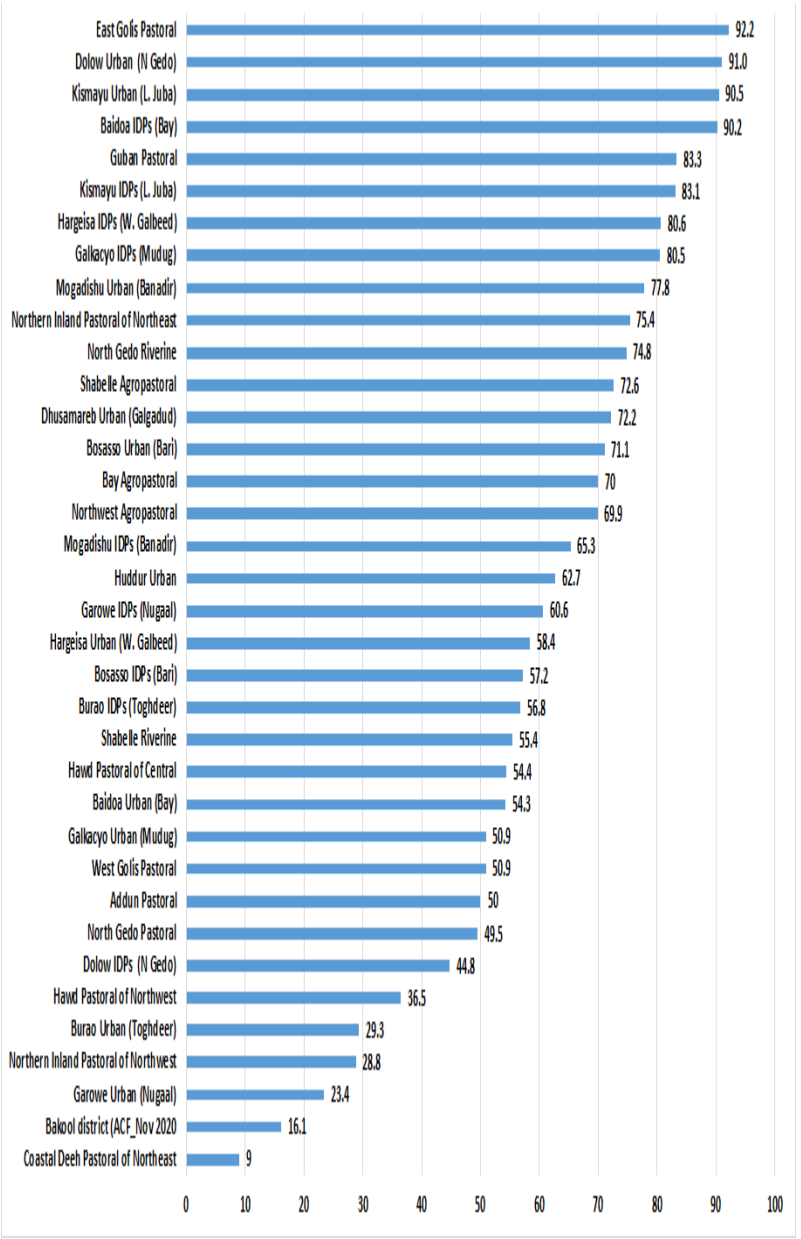
Morbidity (%)



Vitamin A Supplementation (%)

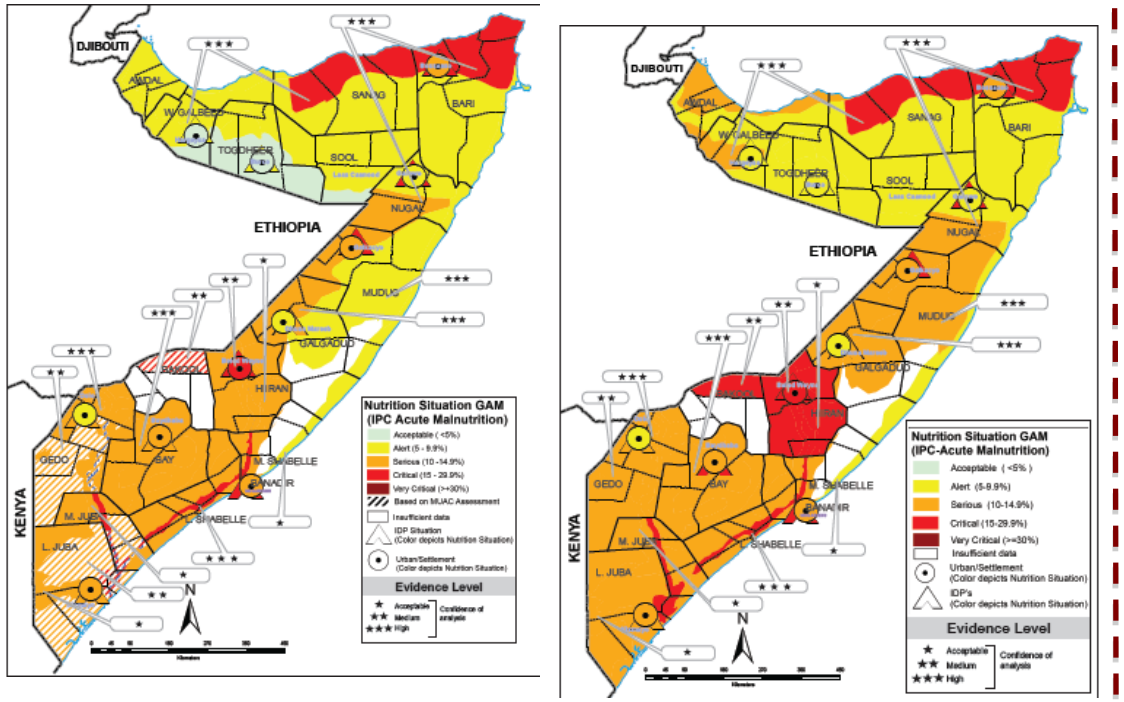


Measles Vaccination (%)



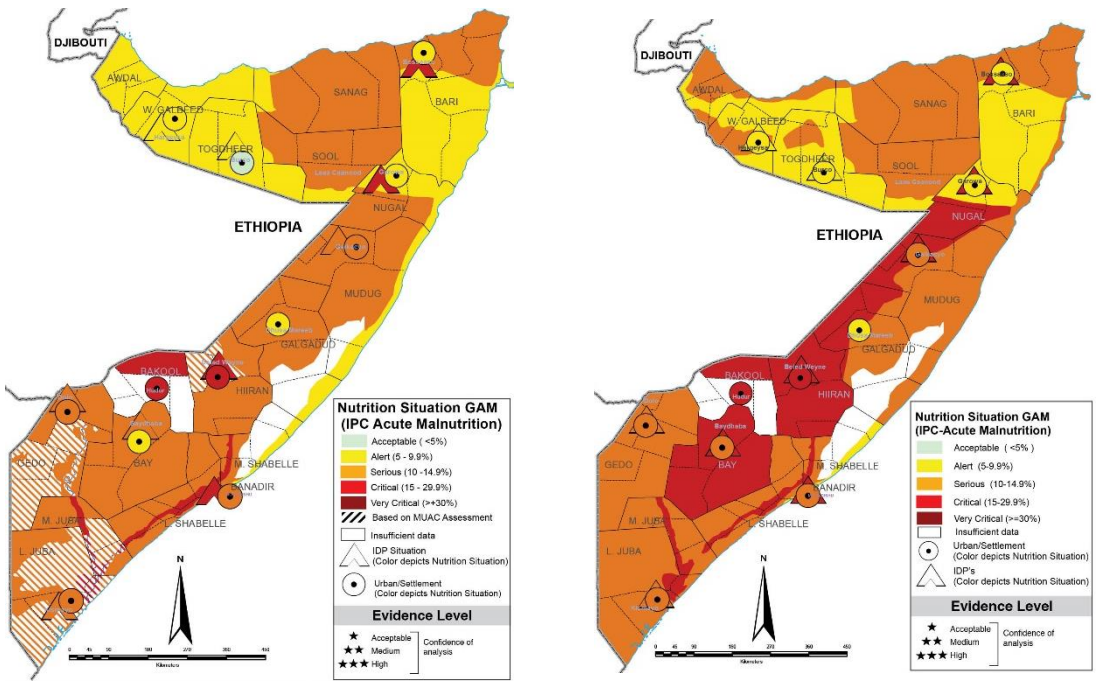
Nutrition Outcomes and Projections: 2020 Post *Gu* and 2020 Post *Deyr*

2020 Gu (Sep 2020) → **2020 Gu (Oct-Dec 2020)**



Total Burden (Sep 2020–Aug 2021): 849 900 acutely malnourished, including 143 400 who are likely to be severely malnourished

2020 Deyr (Jan 2021) → **2020 Deyr (Feb-April 2020)**



Total Burden (Jan 2021–Dec 2021): 838 900 acutely malnourished, including 143 200 who are likely to be severely malnourished

- Based on results of the 2020 Post Deyr assessment, an estimated **838 900** children under the age of five years (total acute malnutrition burden) face acute malnutrition between January and December 2021, including **143 200** likely to be severely malnourished. This reflect a slight improvement in the overall nutrition situation and outlook compared to 2019 *Deyr* and 2020 Post *Gu*.

Key Food Security Related Findings

- The 2020 Deyr season rainfall was characterized by delays and erratic distribution Overall, the 2020 Deyr season rainfall was below average in most parts of the country with adverse impact on replenishment of pasture and water resources and on Deyr season crop production. This in turn has adversely affected food security outcomes among farmers and pastoralists. Humanitarian assistance (food security and nutrition) and government support have prevented the worsening of food security and nutrition outcomes across many parts of Somalia.

- Poor pastoral households in northern and central Somalia continue to face moderate to large food consumption gaps as they have limited number of livestock to help them cope with the various shocks both during the current and projection periods.

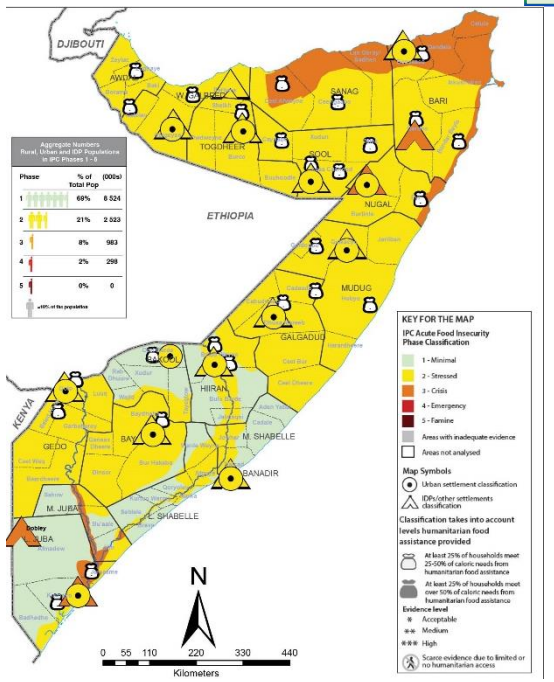
- In agropastoral livelihoods of Somalia that have been affected by erratic rainfall and Desert Locust, the 2020 *Deyr* season cereal harvest and seasonal agricultural employment and incomes have been affected significantly, resulting in moderate to large food consumption gaps both during the current and projection periods.

- In riverine livelihoods of southern Somalia which have been affected by continued flooding both during the 2020 *Gu* and the 2020 Deyr seasons, farmers have experienced significant declines in crop harvest and income from agricultural employment. As a result, a significant proportion of poor households in riverine livelihoods face moderate to large food consumption gaps both during the current and projection periods.

- Poor performance of the 2020 Deyr rain season rainfall and its adverse impact on rural livelihoods has also negatively impacted food security among Internally displaced persons (IDPs) in rural areas. Further more, a majority of IDPs in urban areas are poor and, with limited livelihood assets and options and greater reliance on external humanitarian assistance. As a result, a significant proportion of IDPs (both rural and urban) face moderate to large food consumption gaps. Some of the urban poor across Somalia continue to face moderate to large food consumption gaps. For both groups (i.e. urban IDPs and urban poor), the socio-economic impact of COVID-19 was an additional factor (decline in remittances, increased food prices, decline in employment and income earning opportunities in urban areas).

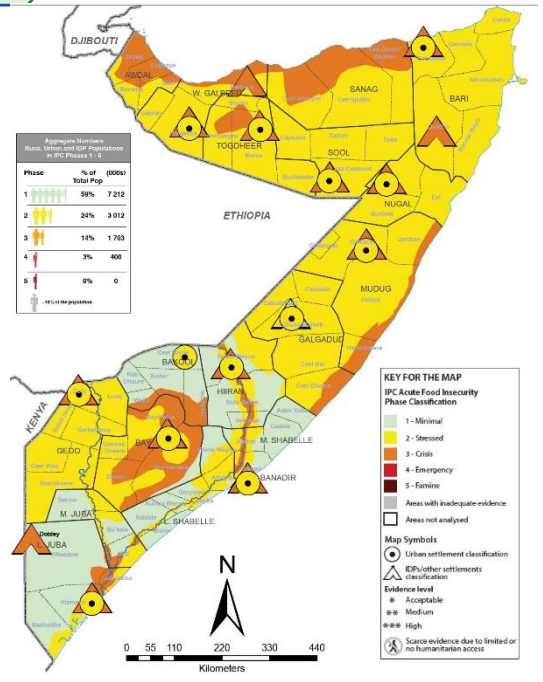
Food Security Outcomes and Projections (Jul 2020-Jun 2021)

2020 Post *Gu* (Jul-Sep 2020)



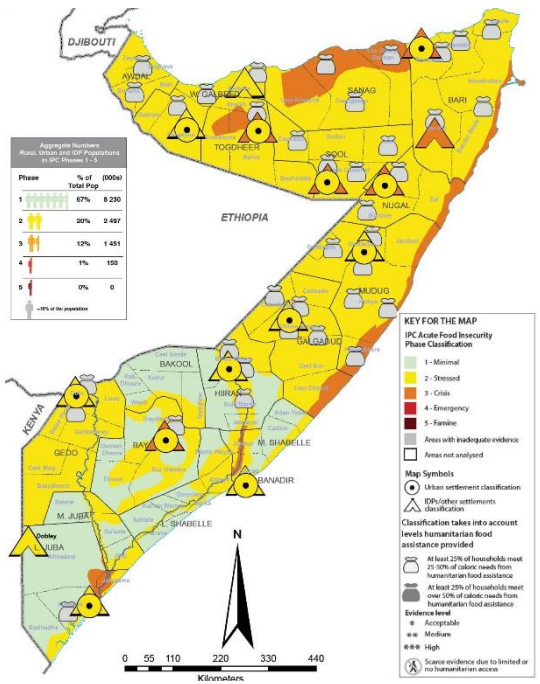
People in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4):
1.3 Million

2020 Post *Gu* (Oct-Dec 2020)



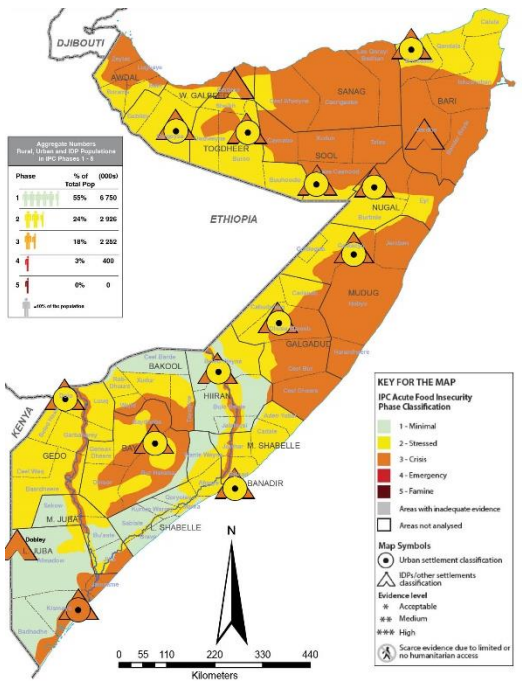
People in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4):
2.1 Million

2020 Post *Deyr* (Jan-Mar 2021)



People in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4):
1.6 Million

2020 Post *Deyr* (Apr-Jun 2021)



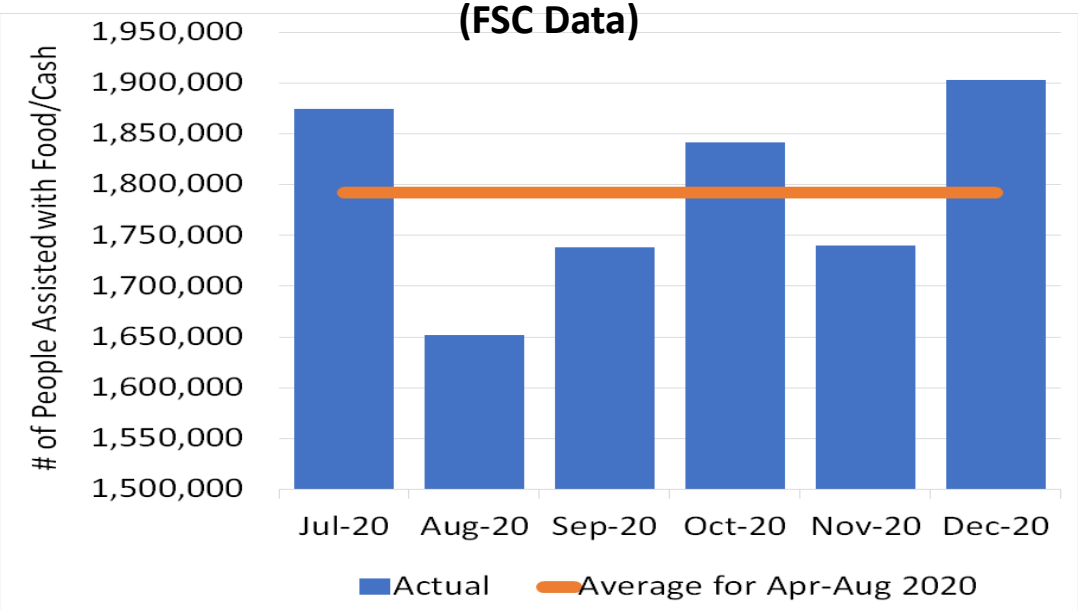
People in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4):
2.65 Million

- Based on results of the 2020 Post *Deyr* assessments, the estimated number of people in urgent need is currently **1.6 million** (Jan-Mar 2021), **even in the presence of humanitarian assistance**. This number would have been higher if there has not been sustained and large scale food assistance.

- Considering various risk factors (likely below average 2021 Gu season rainfall, continued Desert Locust infestation and socio-economic impacts of COVD-19), this number is expected to increase to **2.65 million** (Apr-Jun 2021).

Humanitarian Assistance and Government Support

Food Assistance Coverage: July to December 2020 (FSC Data)



Nutrition Cluster Data: Life-saving preventive nutrition services for vulnerable population (Jan-Dec 2020)	
Number of boys and girls (06-23 months) receiving preventive services through supplementary nutrition products	736 000
Number of pregnant and lactating women and girls (15-49 Years) receiving preventive services through supplementary nutrition products	317 500
Number of pregnant and lactating women receiving first individual counselling on appropriate IYCF/IYCF-E	1 039 600

- Food assistance reached **1.6 million** to **1.9 million** people between July and December or an average of **1.8 million** people per month.
- Government/WFP safety net in urban areas (Banadir) is reaching **125 000 people** every month since July 2018 ($35/month/HH). Government safety net in rural areas (Baxnano/resilience, reached **440 900 people** between July to December 2020 ($20/month/HH) .
- Life-saving curative and preventive services have been implemented at scale throughout 2020.
- Large scale and sustained humanitarian assistance and government support have contributed to preventing the worsening of food security and nutrition outcomes across many parts of Somalia.

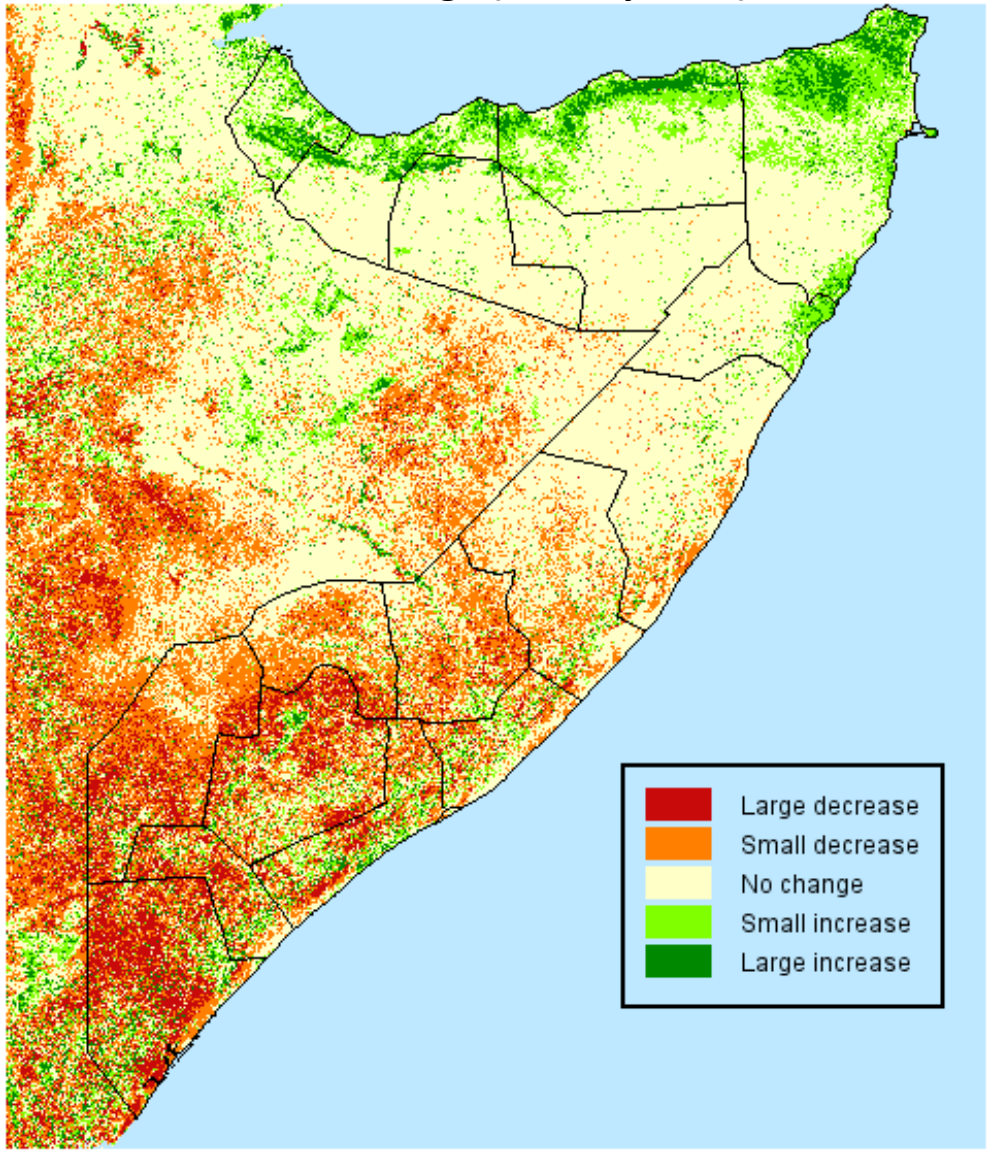
Nutrition Cluster Data: Life-saving curative nutrition services (Jan-Dec 2020)	
Number of boys and girls 6-59 months with Severe Acute Malnutrition	252 800
Number of boys and girls 6-59 months with Moderate Acute Malnutrition	481 700
Number of PLW with Moderate Acute Malnutrition Treated	144 700

Key Messages

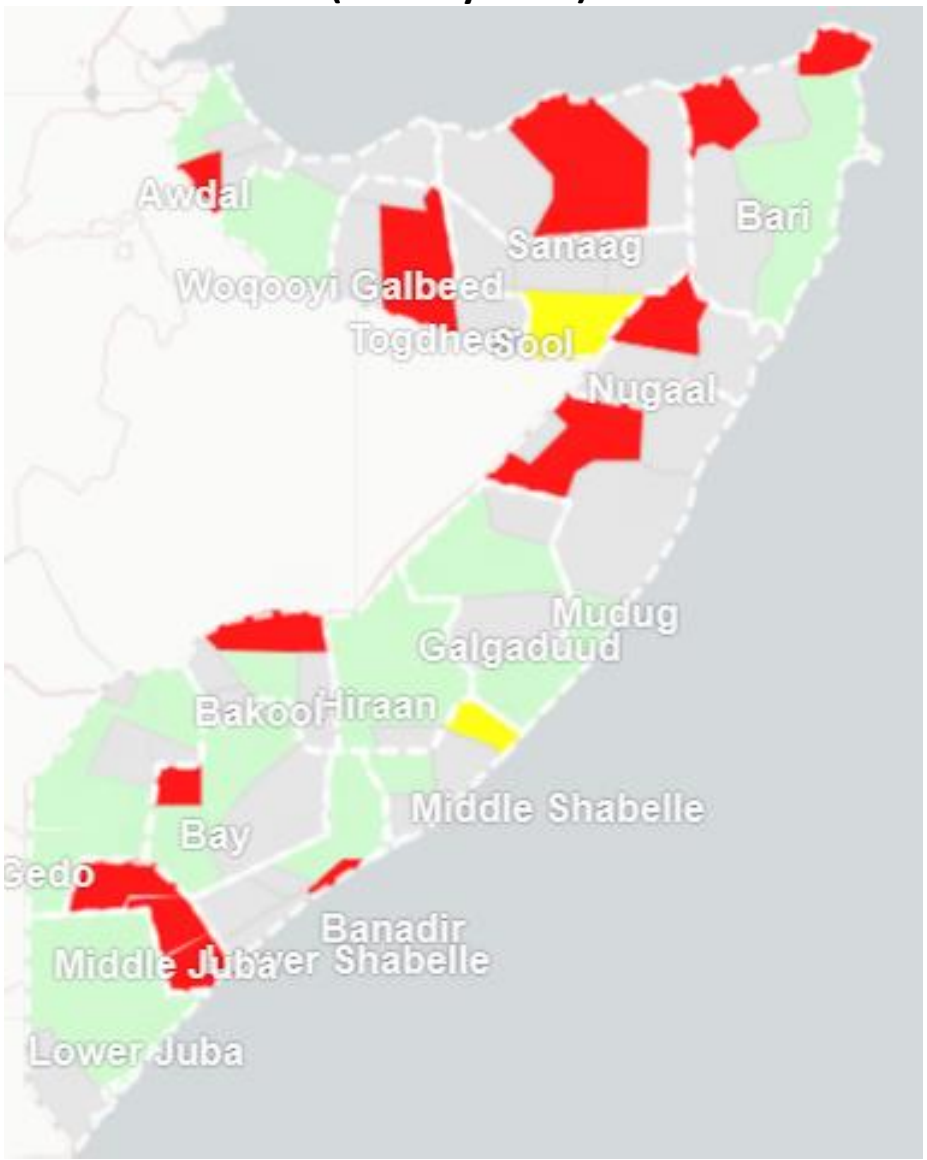
- In conclusion, levels of acute food insecurity and malnutrition in Somalia remain high.
- Large scale and sustained humanitarian assistance and government support are preventing worse food security and nutrition outcomes.
- An estimated **838 900** children under the age of five years (total acute malnutrition burden) face acute malnutrition over the next 12 months (Jan-Dec 2021), including **143 200** likely to be severely malnourished. Urgent nutrition and health support is required to address their needs. Urgent health and nutrition support is also required for areas with high prevalence of acute maternal malnutrition.
- Coverage of health and nutrition services (both treatment and prevention), including vitamin A supplementation and measles vaccination should be expanded, especially in areas where coverage is currently low.
- Currently (January-March 2021), an estimated **1.6 million** people are classified in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) and need urgent humanitarian assistance. This number is expected to increase to **2.65 million** people in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) between April and June 2021 due to multiple risk factors.
- Ongoing humanitarian assistance must be scaled up and sustained through mid-2021 to address urgent needs. Livelihoods support is also required for people that are likely to be Stressed or worse (IPC Phase 2 or higher). Population in Stressed (IPC Phase 2) could slide into Crisis or Emergency when they are unable to cope with shocks.
- Drought conditions are developing in parts of northern and southern regions and these are expected to get worse through the January to March 2021 *Jilaal* season. With likely below average Gu season rainfall, drought conditions could worsen.

Selected Indicators for January 2021

Vegetation Cover (NDVI) Deviation from Average (January 2020)



Districts with Abnormally High Water Prices (January 2020)



Thank you

Somalia IPC Core Team Members: FSNAU/FAO, FEWS NET, WFP/VAM, Food Security Cluster

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

FSNAU Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit - Somalia

Information for Better Livelihoods

FEWS NET FAMINE EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS NETWORK

WFP wfp.org | vam food security analysis

SOMALIA FOOD SECURITY CLUSTER *Strengthening Humanitarian Response*