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FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Agricultural production hampered by civil strife in 2011.
- Humanitarian assistance is still needed despite the improved civil security situation

Civil strife hampered agricultural production

Harvesting of the 2011 second season maize crop is nearly complete in the South. In the North, which has only one rainy season, harvesting of coarse grains was completed in December. In spite of adequate rains during the cropping season, no significant recovery in production is expected due to the impact of last year's political crisis on area planted and yields. Official preliminary estimates indicate that cereal production declined slightly in 2011, over previous year's level of 1.49 million tonnes, to about 1.44 million tonnes.

Agriculture has been seriously damaged in recent years due to the civil strife. The problems are particularly related to the shortage of labour due to population displacements, the lack of agricultural support services in certain parts of the country - mainly in the northern half -, the fragmentation of the markets and other difficulties related to civil security. These problems have been exacerbated by last year's post-election crisis, which has forced over 200 000 people to leave the country and seek refuge, mostly in eastern Liberia while thousands others were internally displaced. Most displaced persons have returned to their areas of origin, following the improvement of the security situation. However, UNHCR estimated that about 250 000 Ivorian remained internally displaced while about 138 000 were still living in Liberia as of October 2011.

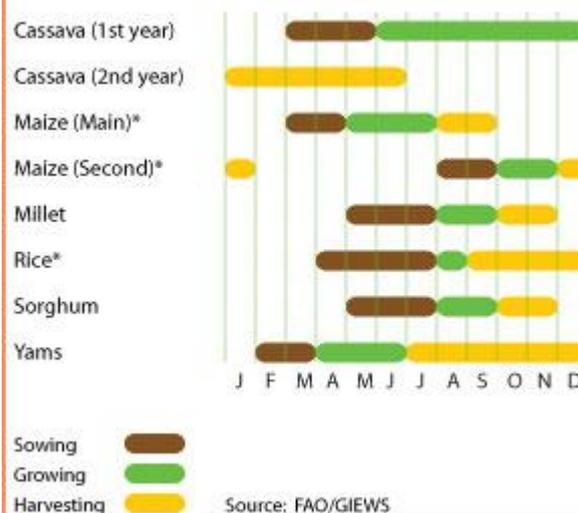
Assistance is still needed

In spite of the improved security situation, food security remains a major concern. Access to food for many households is being constrained by the disruption of their livelihoods.

The Emergency Humanitarian Action Plan (EHAP) launched in April 2011 for Côte d'Ivoire and neighbouring countries (including Liberia) was revised in July 2011, requesting USD 166.6 million in support of humanitarian efforts to cover the most urgent needs of refugees, displaced people and host population. As of late November, 53 percent of the EHAP has been funded. An Emergency Operation (EMOP) is currently underway, distributing food and providing cash assistance to 478 000 beneficiaries until 30 June 2012.

Cote d'Ivoire

Crop calendar (*major foodcrop)



Cote d'Ivoire

Cereal production

	2006-2010 average	2010	2011 estimate	change 2011/2010
	000 tonnes			percent
Rice (paddy)	689	756	702	-7
Maize	608	642	648	1
Millet	44	49	49	0
Others	45	44	46	5
Total	1 387	1 491	1 445	-3

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