In Somalia there are unfavourable prospects for this year’s main Gu crops, after the Gu rains were late and poorly distributed over most areas of the country. In the Lower Shabelle region, the main maize producing area, seasonal rainfall was about 50 per cent below-average with drought conditions currently affecting up to 85 per cent of the cropland.

In Ethiopia, some above-average precipitations in May were not sufficient to completely offset the severe moisture deficits and, according to Agribusiness Systems International (ASI), between 25 and 85 per cent of the cropland is currently affected by drought. Due to late onset of rains, the “belg” harvest, normally gathered in June/July and the “meher” October harvest expected to be below-average.

In Kenya the March to May long rains were late by 10-20 days across the south east with delays of up to 40 days in some parts. Most areas received below-average rainfall, ranging from 50 – 75 per cent of normal, while the northern part of Meru received only 25 – 50 per cent of normal rainfall.

Somalia: 3.2 million people are facing crisis (IPC Phase 3) and emergency levels (IPC Phase 4) of food insecurity. An estimated 2.5 to 3 million people will remain in need of emergency humanitarian assistance though the end 2017. An elevated risk of famine (IPC Phase 5) persists due to severe food consumption gaps, high acute malnutrition and high disease burden. The Gu rains (April-June) provided relief in some areas, but the rainy season was shorter than normal and generally poor, including in areas with high levels of vulnerability such as Bakool and northern Bay regions.

Ethiopia: Following poor performing spring rains, the number of people receiving humanitarian assistance has increased from 5.6 million to 7.8 million in the first quarter of the year and is expected to heighen further in the second half of the year.

Kenya: 2.6 million people are in need of assistance as a result of the drought. Based on the mid season assessment report at the beginning of May, it is forecasted that by August the food insecurity population might increase between 3 and 3.5 million.

Somalia: An estimated 761,000 Somalis have been internally displaced by drought between November 2016 and 5 July 2017.

Ethiopia: According to the National Flood Task Force, 500,000 people are expected to be displaced by flooding during the summer/kiremt season. Out of the one million people displaced, IOM identified some 72,000 households or 400,000 people currently displaced due to the ongoing drought conditions. Since January 2017, 5,163 new Somali refugees arrived in Melkadida, Somali region and 34,958 new South Sudanese refuges arrived in the Gambella region. A number of people have also sought refuge directly within host communities.

Kenya: Kenya continues to receive an increased number of refugees from South Sudan, with 10,772 new arrivals from South Sudan since January 2017. The majority of new arrivals (69.7%) are from Central Equatoria.
Somalia: 53,015 cumulative cases of AWD/cholera and 795 related deaths have been recorded from 52 districts across 16 regions since the beginning of 2017. In addition, an estimated 12,000 suspected measles cases have been reported in 2017; half of these are children under age 5.

Ethiopia: AWD continues to be reported in Amhara, Oromia and Somali regions but with a decreasing incidence rate.

Kenya: There is an active Cholera outbreak in five counties (Garissa, Nairobi, Murang’a, Turkana and Nakuru) with 581 confirmed cases and seven deaths (CFR 1.2 per cent). A dengue fever outbreak also continues in Mombasa and Wajir Counties, with 1,015 cases, and one death (CFR 0.1) reported to date. In addition, 17 cases of Measles were reported in Garissa County’s Dadaab refugee camp with no deaths reported so far.

Somalia: The number of children projected to be acutely malnourished has increased by 50 per cent since the beginning of the year to 1.4 million, including over 275,000 who have or will suffer life-threatening severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in 2017. SAM admissions have increased by more than 50 per cent when compared to 2016, consistent with the planning scenario. The post-Jilaal 2017 FSNAU survey indicates that the prevalence of global acute malnutrition (GAM) in the livelihood zones of Bay, Bakool, Sool, Sanaag, Bari, Nugal regions, as well as in the Baidoa and Mogadishu IDP camps, is critical (15-30 per cent).

Ethiopia: Malnutrition rates are currently high following poor performing spring rains particularly in the south-east. The situation is expected to worsen after end of June when the 7.9 million beneficiaries supported by Ethiopia’s Productive Safety Net Programme receive their last transfer for the year.

Kenya: Nutrition surveys undertaken in June 2017 in Turkana indicate a deepening nutritional crisis compared to 5 months ago, with 3 of the 4 sub counties reporting acute malnutrition of greater than 30 per cent and severe acute malnutrition ranging from 6-12%.

Ethiopia: Fall Armyworm (FAW) is currently present in six regions of Ethiopia: Amhara, Benishangul Gumuz, Gambella, Oromia, SNNPR and Tigray, and a total of 381 woredas across the country are affected by this pest. Up to 2 million hectares of maize crops are at risk. Currently out of the 2,128,057 hectares of maize planted, some 430,181 hectares are infested, accounting for roughly 20 per cent of the total area planted.

In Kenya FAW has affected 27 out of 47 counties, affecting about 200,000 hectares of staple food crops, which represents less than one percent of all areas planted and is quite minimal.

In Uganda more than half the country’s 111 districts are affected.

South Sudan: The Government announced that the crop-eating pest has been reported in the southern region of Equatoria and Bahr el-Ghazal in the north-west. 166,000 hectares (410,195 acres) of South Sudan’s 664,000 hectares of arable land could be affected.

Uganda: In most monitored markets, prices of maize declined in June by more than 10 percent from the record highs in May as the first season harvest, currently underway, began to supply markets.

Access

Somalia: Lack of access continues to affect the drought response in some part of Middle Juba and Lower Shebelle and Bakool. This has contributed to the growing displacements in Baidoa and Mogadishu in search of life-saving assistance.

Ethiopia: According to WFP, Round Three of relief food dispatched and distributions continued to be hindered by insecurity at the Somali and Oromia border.

Kenya: Humanitarian access in East Pokot sub-county (of Baringo County) remains severely constrained due to ongoing inter-communal conflict and security operations by government forces. The humanitarian situation, particularly concerning malnutrition in this sub-county is of great concern. About 15 health facilities in the area remain closed, and the remaining 19 facilities are operating sub-optimally.

Kenya: Prices of maize declined moderately in June, while those of maize remained firm or declined in some markets as a result of the ongoing food assistance operations. However, prices remained up to double what they were at the same time last year, underpinned by reduced supplies from the drought-affected 2016 cereal output and by unfavourable prospects for the main 2017 Gu season harvest.

Somalia: Prices of sorghum generally increased in June, while those of maize remained firm or declined in some markets as a result of the ongoing food assistance operations. However, prices remained up to double what they were at the same time last year, underpinned by reduced supplies from the drought-affected 2016 cereal output and by unfavourable prospects for the main 2017 Gu season harvest.

Ethiopia: Prices of maize continued to increase significantly in June and reached levels well above those at the same time last year due to early season dryness and Fall Army Worm infestations in south-western areas, which affected yield potential.

Kenya: Prices of maize declined moderately in June from the previous month’s record highs mainly as a result of imports from neighbouring Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania. Prices, however, remained up to 80 percent higher than at the same time last year due to reduced supplies from the drought-reduced 2016 short-rains harvest and concerns over the upcoming 2017 long-rains harvest.

Somalia: The revised Somalia Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) seeking $1.5 billion to reach 5.5 million people with lifesaving assistance in 2017 is nearly 38 per cent funded, at $568 million.

Ethiopia: The Ethiopia Humanitarian Requirements Document seeks $949mn, which is 62 per cent funded.

Kenya: The Flash Appeal requesting $166mn is 27 per cent funded and will be revised following the Long Rains Assessment. The Board of Directors of the African Development Bank Group (AfDB) has approved a US$1 million for Emergency Humanitarian Assistance to people affected by drought in Kenya.

Kenya: 4,500 children were unable to access their education after 18 schools closed in the northeastern part of the country due to heightened insecurity. 14,200 children from 38 schools benefitted from the school feeding intervention in Mwatate, Taveta and Illaramatak.

Somalia: 528,000 children are in need of assistance to stay in schools. An estimated 304,000 school-aged children are among the 761,000 drought displaced people.

Ethiopia: Students requiring assistance in the next academic year (Sep 2017-Jun 2018) will increase from the 2 million children estimated in January. 206 primary schools remain closed as of early June 2017 due to lack of water and food and absence of teachers.

Kenya: Funding (as of 14Jul 2017)

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Funding

The joint Government and humanitarian partners’ seasonal belg assessment is completed and reports are being consolidated. The Mid-Year Review of the 2017 Humanitarian Requirements Document that will inform the actual humanitarian needs is expected to be launched in late July. The German government contributed US$17.7 million to the OCHA-managed Ethiopia Humanitarian Fund (EHF), increasing the Fund’s response capacity to the deepening humanitarian emergency in Ethiopia.

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