GIEWS Country Brief
Indonesia

Reference Date: 13-February-2019

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT
- Favourable prospects for 2019 main crops
- Total cereal import requirements in 2018/19 forecast at record levels
- Prices of rice increased moderately, while prices of wheat flour levelled off in January

Favourable prospects for 2019 main crops
Harvesting of the 2019, mostly irrigated, main paddy crop started in early February and will be completed by the end of April. Precipitation since the start of the cropping season in October 2018 has been well distributed in most parts of the country benefiting early crop development. Remote sensing data indicate favourable crop conditions across the country, with the exception of some parts of the Jawa Barat (West Java) Province, where about 20 percent of the paddy production is concentrated (see ASI map). Here, erratic rainfall and below-average irrigation water availabilities were reported between October and December 2018, affecting plantings and crop development. Overall, production prospects for the 2019 main paddy crop are currently favourable.

Harvesting of the 2019 main maize crop has just started and is expected to be completed by March. Production prospects are currently favourable as good crop conditions and adequate rainfall distribution have been registered since the start of the cropping season in the main producing areas Jawa Timur (East Java), Jawa Tengah (Central Java) and Sumatera.

Total cereal import requirements in 2018/19 (April/March) forecast at record levels
The country is one of the largest importers of cereals in Southeast Asia. Total cereal import requirements in the 2018/19 marketing year (April/March) are forecast at a record of 13.1 million tonnes, about 7 percent above the five-year average. Wheat import requirements in the 2018/19 marketing year (April/March) are forecast at 10.2 million tonnes, 13 percent above the five-year average, reflecting sustained demand for human consumption and feed use. Rice imports in 2018/19 are forecast at 2.2 million tonnes, well above the five-year average, following significant purchases on the regional markets by the Government, with the aim to replenish public inventories and control increasing domestic prices that reached all-time high values in February 2018. By contrast, maize import requirements in 2018 are estimated at a low 600 000 tonnes, about 70 percent

Indonesia
Crop Calendar
- Maize (Dry Season)^
- Maize (Rainy Season)^
- Rice (Main)^
- Rice (Off-season)^

Source: FAO/GIEWS.
below the five-year average, reflecting ample market supplies from the 2018 bumper output and large carryover stocks.

**Prices of rice increased moderately, while prices of wheat flour levelled off in January**

Prices of rice increased moderately in the past months in line with seasonal trends and were slightly below their year-earlier values in January.

Similarly, prices of wheat flour levelled off in January after moderate increases in the last quarter of 2018 and were close to their year-earlier values in January.

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**Indonesia**

**Cereals Imports**

000 tonnes

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<tr>
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<th>Average 2012/14-2017/18</th>
<th>2017/18</th>
<th>2018/19 forecast</th>
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<td></td>
<td>16,000</td>
<td>12,500</td>
<td>15,000</td>
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Note: Includes rice in milled terms. Split year refers to individual crop marketing years (for rice, calendar year of second year shown).

**Indonesia**

**Retail prices of rice**

Rupiah per kg

Source: FAO/GIEWS Food Price Monitoring and Analysis Tool.
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