

Region & Country Centers

Agro-climatic Monitoring

Markets & Trade

Livelihoods

Remote Monitoring



West Africa (Remote Monitoring) > Mali

**Current Statement** [Archive](#)



Millet-sorghum harvests currently in process will end early (in December, rather than January, as is typical in West Africa) due not only to rainfall deficits, but also to grasshopper and grain-eating bird attacks on gadiaba sorghum. These late-season attacks further worsened cereal production below the low level predicted in November. In the central Niger Delta, where irrigation of areas of submerged rice was already poor (20-30 percent of area planted), we also expect an early recession of water during while crop development is delayed, due to the late and weak flooding. Submerged rice harvests will only take place in shallow areas, and residents have already started to harvest les rice straw for sale on the market as forage. Revenues from agricultural labor will see a steep decline due to poor harvests that employed households for only a short time. In addition, other opportunities for local labor will also be rare, except for in the sale of plants (hay), which will be intensified and could produce higher than usual revenue. As a coping strategy, workers will travel to cities and gold-mining areas of the country, but the revenues from such labor will be average at best. Starting in January-February, households' own stocks will be mostly depleted, and they will be forced to resort to market purchases to satisfy their consumption needs at high prices that could be in excess of the five-year-average by 50 percent. This is higher than was expected in October and November. Between February and March/April, poor and very poor households will be in Stress, but could face food consumption deficits starting in May 2012 if aid efforts are not undertaken. SAP estimates that 1,699,467 people could be at risk of facing a Crisis level of food insecurity. (December 2011)

**Legend**



Direct measurements of current food security outcomes correspond to "Phase 2 Stressed" on the [IPC Acute Food Insecurity Reference Table](#)

**Most Recent Alerts**

[Archive](#)

None Current

**Price Bulletin**

**Most Recent:** (12/7/2011)

**Previous:** (11/11/2011)

**Previous:** (10/18/2011)

**Other Products**

[Shape Files](#)

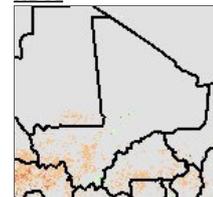
**External Resources**

[IPC: Integrated Food Securiti...](#)

**Agro-Climatic Imagery**

Remote-sensing satellite imagery is sourced from NOAA, NASA, and USGS.

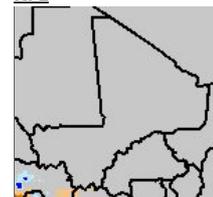
**NDVI**



vs. L/T

Current

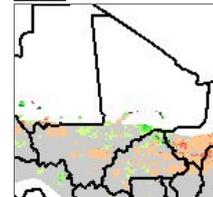
**RFE**



vs. L/T

Current

**WRSI**



Anomaly

Current

Geographic data are partly derived from the UN/FAO GAUL system. [Read Disclaimer](#)

**Current Anomalies**

<b>Zone 3 : Riverine rice and transhumant pastoralism zones of Mopti, Gao; Zone 6: the delta lakes of Mopti</b>			Near-Term Food Insecurity Trend	
<b>Category</b>	Agro-Climatology and Food Production	Markets and Trade	Health and Nutrition	Civil Insecurity
<b>Anomaly</b>	Yes	Yes	No	No

Because of poor flooding, only about 20-30% of flood-recession (submersion) rice fields were cultivable in 2011. Moreover, flood waters have already begun to retreat, earlier than usual, further reducing the cultivable areas. Since only lowland rice is likely to produce grain, many midland and upland rice farmers have already begun to mow their parcels of rice stalks and sell them as fodder on the market. Thus, rice production will be significantly below average, rarely exceeding 1-2 months consumption instead of more than 15 months in an average year (overall estimate). Middle-income and better-off households that typically produce a surplus of rice will be largely dependent on the market this year, similar to the poor and very poor. This will increase demand for cereals in the markets.

Rice sales comprise 15-25% of annual household incomes among the poor very poor and 35% for middle-income and better-off households. All households will see lower revenues from this activity this year. For the poor and very poor, income from agricultural labor will be reduced by a magnitude similar to that of the agricultural production. Self-employment activities (crafts, gardening) and other local labor (construction of houses, assisting fishermen) will generate less revenue than usual given the downturn.

Middle-income and better-off households will compensate for the loss of income from rice through increased livestock sales, though prices will be lower than recent years due to above-average supply. Also, forage biomass is below average this year due to the weakness of the floods on the Niger River. Early transhumant grazing will also accelerate its degradation compared to average.

The migration of able-bodied men and households towards the urban centers and outside (Senegal, Ivory Coast) will intensify among all wealth groups. Remittances are much less significant in this zone 3 than in zone 8. However, these transfers will be above average in response to the significance of below-average rice production. Petty trade will be sluggish due to low local purchasing power correlated with the poor rice production in the area. Poor households sell more small livestock than usual 2-4 months earlier than usual.

Income from these sources will provide poor and very poor households access to food until January. From February to May / June 2012, opportunities for income generation of poor and very poor will be reduced enough to contribute to the deterioration of purchasing power of poor and very poor and non-food deficits (IPC Phase 2: Stressed). As of March / April, rising prices of rice and other grains will contribute to the degradation of the purchasing power of the very poor and poor, leading to food (survival) deficits (IPC Phase 3: Crisis). (December 2011)

<b>Zone 4: Millet and transhumant pastoralism in Kayes, Koulikoro, Ségou, Tombouctou, northwest Mopti regions</b>			Near-Term Food Insecurity Trend	
<b>Category</b>	Agro-Climatology and Food Production	Markets and Trade	Health and Nutrition	Civil Insecurity
<b>Anomaly</b>	Yes	Yes	No	No

<b>Category</b>	Agro-Climatology and Food Production	Markets and Trade	Health and Nutrition	Civil Insecurity
<b>Anomaly</b>	Yes	Yes	No	No

Millet and legume harvests have been very bad in the area. The average production of "gadiaba" sorghum, especially in Nara, did not take place due to significant damage by grain-eating birds and grasshoppers. Thus, the aggregate cereal output is very poor. Average cereal production will cover roughly 1-3 months of consumption instead of 6-9 months in an average year. This decline in agricultural production directly affects the main source of household food for middle-income and better-off households, for whom own production constitutes 60 to 65 percent of annual food consumption and 25-30 percent of annual revenues. They will intensify the migration / transfer of money and the sale of livestock. For the poor and very poor, payments in kind, opportunities for agricultural work, and other local labor will decline as they are strongly correlated with the poor agricultural context. These households will intensify self-employment (selling firewood, crafts and grasses), but the income will not be sufficient to fill the food gap beyond February/March. They will also intensify labor migration to the "Office du Niger" region and to urban centers, but the supply of labor is expected to exceed demand. However, remittances from migrants may be more important than usual. Beginning in January 2012, the main income of poor and very poor will be sufficiently reduced and they will intensify the sale of smallstock at below-average prices given poor pastoral conditions, leading to a livelihood protection deficit among the poor and very poor (IPC Phase 2: Stressed). Without assistance by March, the high, increasing food prices will further limit the purchasing power and lead to food deficits among the poor and very poor not to exceed IPC Phase 3: Crisis. (December 2011)

**Zone 8: Northwest remittances, sorghum and transhumant pastoralism**

Near-Term Food Insecurity Trend 

Category	Agro-Climatology and Food Production	Markets and Trade	Health and Nutrition	Civil Insecurity
Anomaly	Yes	Yes	No	No

Ongoing sorghum harvests in December were as strongly affected by rainfall deficits as by predator attacks (grain-eating birds, grasshoppers, etc.). Prospects for flood recession crops are equally poor, due to water shortages causing the drying-up of many plants. Very poor grain production is expected in this zone, which will satisfy household consumption needs only through December/January, four months shorter than usual. The shortening of this own-consumption period will increase demand on local markets for grains, which are poorly stocked due to poor production outlooks. This will result in a significant rise in sorghum prices. Average and wealthy households that receive income from migrants will begin to organize bulk purchases in the south of the country. Income for poor and very poor households that is strongly linked to the agricultural situation will decrease in proportion with decreases in grain production. These households will increase their sales of hay, which will be more profitable due to forage deficits, and will send more workers to cities and gold-mining areas for the short term. Labor supply will generally be higher than demand, inducing a drop in the value of daily labor. However, this significant increase in work will mean that revenues from such activity will keep rising against the average, but a significant part of these revenues will not be available to households before the return of migrants in June/July 2012. From November to December/January, revenue generated by poor and very poor households, in addition to meager harvests, will permit them access to food without substantial difficulty, but on the condition that grain prices remain reasonable. However, due to high prices and reductions in their main sources of revenue, poor and very poor households will risk facing livelihood protection deficits from February to June 2012. Despite mutual aid and recourse to the sale of small animals, these households could face IPC Phase 2: Stress between January/February and September 2012.

This situation of Stress (IPC Phase 2) could worsen to Crisis (IPC Phase 3) if sorghum prices exceed the 250 XOF/kg threshold. (December 2011)

-  Food security conditions improving or expected to improve in the next 3 to 6 months
-  No significant changes in food security conditions expected in the next 3 to 6 months
-  Food security conditions deteriorating or expected to deteriorate in the next 3 to 6 months

**Core Products Available**

**Products**

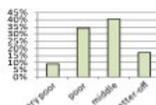
**Description**



**Production and Market Flow Map** Maps illustrating market catchments and flows for commodities important to food security. [Read more](#)



**Livelihood Zone Map** divides the country into homogenous zones within which people share broadly the same pattern of livelihood, including options for obtaining food and income and market opportunities. [Read more](#)



**Livelihood Profiles** provide a brief economic differentiation between groups (wealth groups) and information on the relative importance of different sources of food and income to each. This information provides a basis to begin understanding vulnerability to particular events - i.e., which stresses will impact which populations and how. [Read more](#)

[Mali profile](#)  
[Mali profile](#)



**Livelihood Attribute Maps** combine the livelihoods information contained in the Zone Maps and Profiles to geo-reference where a crisis is likely to have the most significant effect and to provide context to important decision maker questions. [Read more](#)

[Food Sources](#)  
[Income Sources](#)  
[... more](#)

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