The food security situation in Somalia is likely to improve during the first half of 2013. The latest monitoring data by Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU) suggests that the number of people in crisis will likely reduce. However, the nutrition situation in southern Somalia, parts of the north and the central regions will most probably remain critical largely due to lack of health infrastructure, poor feeding practices and possible outbreaks of acute watery diarrhea and measles during the April to June rainy season.

Displacements

December saw the lowest number of displacements in 2012 with 4,500 people displaced during the month. According to UNHCR’s statistics, insecurity accounted for 60 per cent of reported displacements in 2012. In November and December, return trends continued and 2,000 people returned to their original homes in Kismayo.

Insecurity

Despite the reduction of violent incidents within the country, insecurity still persists in large parts of South-Central Somalia, posing challenges to the humanitarian operations and economic activities. Al-Shabaab’s blockade of Xudur since March 2012 continues to restrict movement of both commercial and humanitarian supplies.

Displaced people by region (1 October - 21 December 2012)

- L. Juba: 534,229
- Banadir: 17,003
- Gedo: 215,371
- Bay: 84,000
- L. Shabelle: 129,400
- M. Shabelle: 919,500
- Bakool: 12,900

18 Somalis drowned when their boat capsized near the port city of Bossasso while attempting to flee to Yemen on 18 December.

A tropical Storm hit the coastal areas of Puntland on 25 December, destroying houses and killing animals.

Tropical Storm in December

A bomb explosion in Belet Weyne on 18 December injured a government official. No deaths were reported.

Hundreds of Somali refugees returned home to Somalia due to increased insecurity in Kenya’s Dadaab refugee camp.

Good Deyr seasonal performance; near average harvest in the south and above average in the northwest.