The humanitarian situation in Somalia has deteriorated rapidly. Unless a massive and urgent scale up of humanitarian assistance takes place in the coming weeks, famine could soon be a reality in some of the worst drought-affected areas. The number of people in need has increased to 6.2 million - 50 per cent of the population - up from 5 million six months ago. In the worst drought-affected areas, poor rainfall and lack of water has wiped out crops and killed livestock, while communities are being forced to sell their assets, and borrow food and money to survive. Acute malnutrition remains high and widespread across the country.

**FOOD SECURITY SITUATION**

- **6.2 million** people in need
- **2.9 million** people in stress
- **3.3 million** people in crisis and emergency

The Post Deyr 16/17 assessment results reveal a drastic increase in the number of people in crisis and emergency from 1.1 million six months ago, to a projected 2.9 million between February and June.

**Comparison of people in need for the last two seasons**

- Stress: 1.1 m → 3.3 m
- Crisis: 2.5 m → 0.04 m
- Emergency: 0.44 m → 0.44 m

Preliminary forecasts indicate that below average to near average rainfall is expected to prevail across most parts of Somalia during the 2017 Gu (April-June) season which could exacerbate the situation.

**DROUGHT**

Somalia is in the grip of an intense drought induced by consecutive seasons of poor rainfall. Since mid-2015, drought conditions have been expanding with impact worsening over time. Urgent scale up of humanitarian assistance is required to avert a famine.

**Drought situation as of January 2017**

- Over 100% increase of people in crisis and emergency
- **363,000** acutely malnourished children
- **71,000** severely malnourished under age of 5 years

**NUTRITION SITUATION**

Levels of acute malnutrition have increased since July 2016. An estimated 363,000 children under the age of 5 are acutely malnourished, including 71,000 who are severely malnourished and in need of urgent nutrition support, including life-saving treatment.

**Acute food insecurity phase**

- **Stress (Phase 2)**
- **Crisis (Phase 3)**
- **Emergency (Phase 4)**

Urban settlement color depicts phase
IDP settlement color depicts phase

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The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Creation date: 8 February 2017
Sources: 1. FAO-FSNAU, 2. FAO-SWALIM
Feedback: ochasomalia@un.org
www.unocha.org
www.reliefweb.int