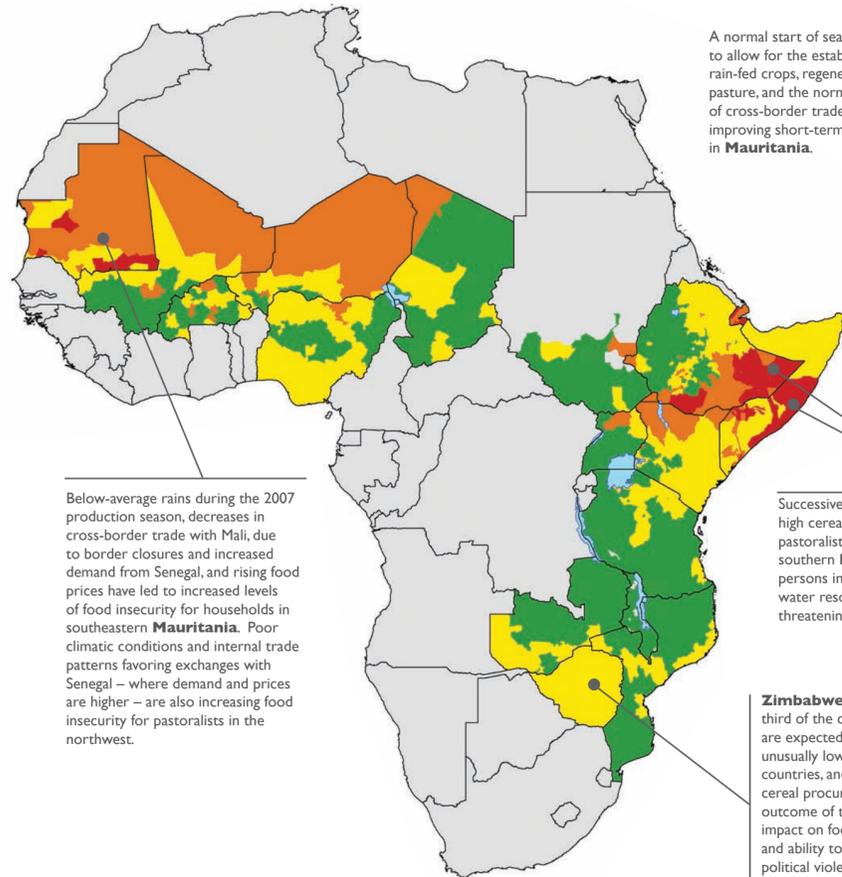


April - September 2008

Current estimated food security conditions

April to June 2008

This map shows estimated food security conditions for the second quarter of 2008 using the FEWS NET food insecurity severity scale.



Below-average rains during the 2007 production season, decreases in cross-border trade with Mali, due to border closures and increased demand from Senegal, and rising food prices have led to increased levels of food insecurity for households in southeastern **Mauritania**. Poor climatic conditions and internal trade patterns favoring exchanges with Senegal – where demand and prices are higher – are also increasing food insecurity for pastoralists in the northwest.

A normal start of season is likely to allow for the establishment of rain-fed crops, regeneration of pasture, and the normalization of cross-border trade with Mali, improving short-term food access in **Mauritania**.

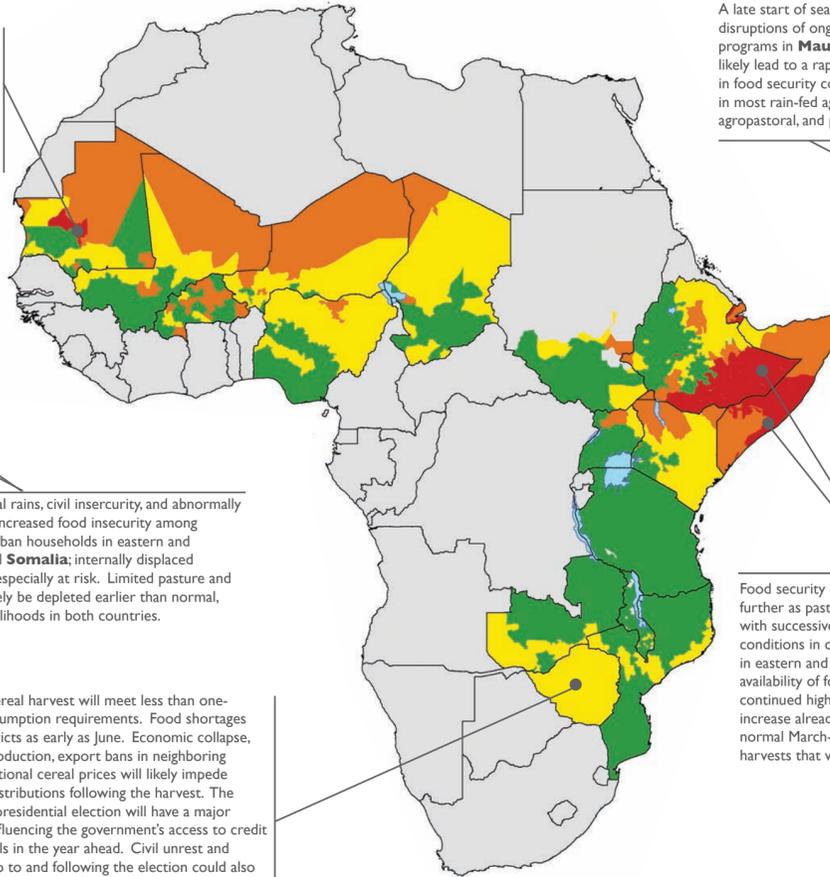
Successive below-normal rains, civil insecurity, and abnormally high cereal prices have increased food insecurity among pastoralists and poor urban households in eastern and southern **Ethiopia** and **Somalia**; internally displaced persons in Somalia are especially at risk. Limited pasture and water resources will likely be depleted earlier than normal, threatening pastoral livelihoods in both countries.

Zimbabwe's 2007/08 cereal harvest will meet less than one-third of the country's consumption requirements. Food shortages are expected in some districts as early as June. Economic collapse, unusually low domestic production, export bans in neighboring countries, and high international cereal prices will likely impede cereal procurement and distributions following the harvest. The outcome of the July 2008 presidential election will have a major impact on food security, influencing the government's access to credit and ability to import cereals in the year ahead. Civil unrest and political violence leading up to and following the election could also disrupt food availability and access.

Most-likely scenarios

July to September 2008

This map shows projected food security conditions for the third quarter of 2008 in the most-likely scenario.



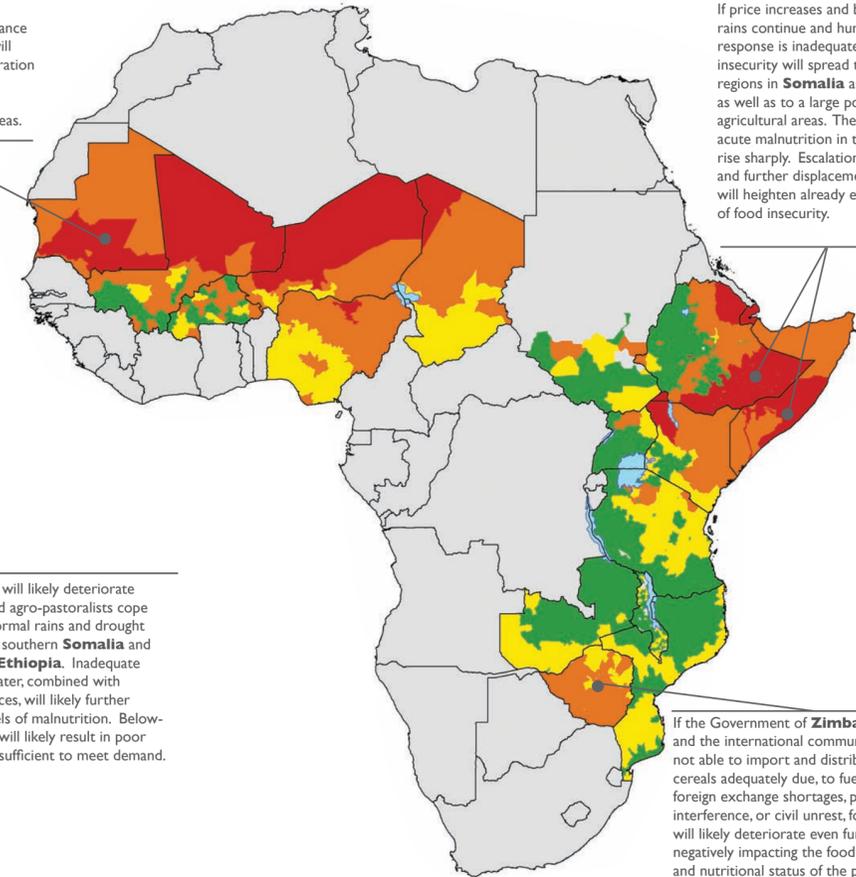
A late start of season and disruptions of ongoing assistance programs in **Mauritania** will likely lead to a rapid deterioration in food security conditions in most rain-fed agricultural, agropastoral, and pastoral areas.

Food security conditions will likely deteriorate further as pastoralists and agro-pastoralists cope with successive below-normal rains and drought conditions in central and southern **Somalia** and in eastern and southern **Ethiopia**. Inadequate availability of food and water, combined with continued high cereal prices, will likely further increase already high levels of malnutrition. Below-normal March-May rains will likely result in poor harvests that will not be sufficient to meet demand.

Worst-case scenarios

July to September 2008

This map shows projected worst-case scenarios of food security conditions for the third quarter of 2008. While these conditions may arise in some areas, it is extremely unlikely that the assumptions underlying these scenarios will occur across the entire continent.



If price increases and below-normal rains continue and humanitarian response is inadequate, food insecurity will spread to all pastoral regions in **Somalia** and **Ethiopia**, as well as to a large portion of agricultural areas. The prevalence of acute malnutrition in the region will rise sharply. Escalation of conflict and further displacement of people will heighten already extreme levels of food insecurity.

If the Government of **Zimbabwe** and the international community are not able to import and distribute cereals adequately due to fuel and foreign exchange shortages, political interference, or civil unrest, food access will likely deteriorate even further, negatively impacting the food security and nutritional status of the population.

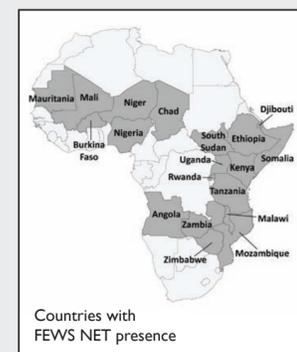
For country and regional outlook reports go to www.fews.net

The Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) is a USAID-funded activity that provides timely and rigorous early warning and vulnerability information about emerging and evolving food security issues. We collaborate with and work through local, regional and international food security networks and partners to build consensus and develop local capacity to manage the risks of food insecurity. FEWS NET currently operates in 17 countries in Africa and Haiti, Guatemala, and Afghanistan.

Food security outlooks are a core component of FEWS NET's work in translating early warning into actionable information. The outlooks include a set of comparable maps of current and projected food security conditions. The maps show the highest level of food insecurity per geographic area; the maps do not indicate the number of food insecure people in a given area.

Current estimated food security conditions are mapped by assigning a level of severity of food insecurity to each area of a country, using the latest monitoring data and the expert judgment of FEWS NET field staff and their partners. Projected most-likely and worst-case food security conditions are mapped by analyzing potential hazards and their potential impact; comparing spatial extents of hazards with data on vulnerability and current estimated food security conditions; and then assigning a level of estimated severity of food insecurity. The FEWS NET Food Insecurity Severity Scale provides a tool to guide expert analysis and judgment so that a core set of reference indicators are interpreted in a consistent manner. These reference indicators have been developed as part of the FAO-led Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) process, in which FEWS NET is a participating member.

FEWS NET Food Insecurity Severity Scale		FAO Integrated Food Security and Humanitarian Classification (IPC) System Reference Indicators													
Summary Description		Crude mortality rate (# deaths per 10,000 people per day)	Acute malnutrition (weight/height <2 z-scores)	Stunting (height/age <2 z-scores)	Disease	Food access/availability	Dietary diversity	Water access/availability	Displacement/structural	Civil security	Coping	Hazard	Structural	Livelihood assets (5 capitals: human, social, financial, natural, physical)	
Green	Generally food secure	Virtually all households in an area are perceived to have adequate access to sufficient food to maintain an active and healthy life. This means that there is adequate food available; that households have adequate resources and/or entitlement to obtain sufficient food; and that they are healthy enough to receive the nutritional value of the food.	CMR <0.5	<3%	<20%	NDC	Usually adequate, stable (2,100 kcal pppd)	Consistent quality and quantity of food	Usually adequate, stable (>15 ltrs pppd)	NDC	Prevailing and structural peace	NDC	Moderate to low probability of, and/or vulnerability	NDC	Generally sustained utilization
Yellow	Moderately food insecure	Some or all households in an area are unable to meet their basic food requirements, resulting in under-nutrition and/or erosion of assets.	CMR <0.5 USMR <=1	>3% but <10%; usual range, stable	20-40%	NDC	Borderline adequate, unstable (2,100 kcal pppd)	Chronic deficit in dietary diversity	Borderline adequate, unstable (>15 ltrs pppd)	NDC	Unstable, disruptive tension	Insurance strategies	Recurrent, with high vulnerability	Pronounced underlying hindrances	Stressed unsustainable utilization
Orange	Highly food insecure	Some or all households in an area face severe shortfalls in meeting their basic food requirements. High rates of acute malnutrition and excess mortality result, combined with significant levels of destitution.	CMR 0.5-1, increasing; USMR 1-2	10-15%; >usual, increasing	NDC	Epidemic outbreak; increasing	Lack of entitlement (2,100 kcal pppd), meeting minimum needs through asset stripping	Acute dietary deficit	7.5-15 ltrs pppd; meeting minimum needs through asset stripping	Emerging/diffuse	Limited spread, low-intensity conflict	Crisis strategies; CSI > reference, increasing	NDC	NDC	Accelerated and critical depletion or loss of access
Red	Extremely food insecure	Some or all households in an area face a significant shortfall in their basic food requirements, resulting in dangerous and irreversible response strategies, such as distress sales of productive assets and reduced food consumption, and high levels of acute malnutrition.	CMR 1-2, increasing, or >2x reference rate	>15%; >usual, increasing	NDC	Pandemic outbreak	Severe entitlement gap, unable to meet minimum needs	Regularly 2 to 3 or fewer main food groups consumed	<7.5 ltrs pppd (human usage only)	Concentrated/increasing	Widespread, high-intensity conflict	Distress strategies; CSI significantly > reference	NDC	NDC	Near complete and irreversible depletion or loss of access
Dark Red	Famine	Populations in an area face mass starvation, and death is widespread due to an extreme lack of access to food and other basic needs.	USMR >4 CMR >2	>30%	NDC	Pandemic outbreak	Extreme entitlement gap; much below 2,100 kcal pppd	NDC	<4 ltrs pppd	Large scale, concentrated	Widespread, high-intensity conflict	NDC	NDC	NDC	Effectively complete loss; collapse



Countries with FEWS NET presence