

# FOOD ASSISTANCE OUTLOOK BRIEF

June 11, 2010

## PROJECTED FOOD ASSISTANCE NEEDS FOR NOVEMBER 2010

This section summarizes FEWS NET's most forward-looking analysis of projected external emergency food assistance needs, six months from now, in countries where FEWS NET has a staff presence. Those needs are compared to typical needs at this time of year during the last five years and categorized as Above-average, Average, and Below-average/No need. For more detail on these projections, please visit [www.fews.net](http://www.fews.net).

### ABOVE-AVERAGE ASSISTANCE NEEDS PROJECTED IN NOVEMBER 2010

#### **\*CHAD: Typical seasonal improvements in food security expected**

Normal main season (June-September) rainfall is currently assumed. Therefore, needs are expected to decline following the onset of full harvests in October and improvements in pasture and water availability in July. But, given household's reliance on sales of livestock and other productive assets to meet basic food needs this year, needs during the 2010/2011 consumption year are likely to be slightly above-normal.

#### **Projected agropastoral hunger season: Ongoing – Sept.**

#### **DJIBOUTI: Heavy livestock losses likely to extend hunger season**

Poor performance of the past two seasons, high unemployment, and declining livestock-to-cereal terms of trade are expected to drive increasing food insecurity. The country's main hunger season began two months early and is expected to last longer than normal. Food security will begin to improve in September when kidding improves milk availability, but assistance needs will remain above-normal through at least the end of the year.

#### **Projected Central/NW hunger season: Ongoing - August**

#### **\*GUATEMALA: TS Agatha damages crops, infrastructure**

Tropical Storm Agatha has damaged infrastructure and crops. This may affect harvests (August-January) and cash crop labor demand. However, planting has just occurred and the seasonal rainfall forecast is positive, so recovery for staple food crops is possible in some areas if inputs are available for replanting. Also, while needs during November may be above normal, they are not expected to be large, as this is the post-harvest period in most areas.

#### **Projected hunger season (W. Highlands): Ongoing – Nov**

#### **HAITI: Needs likely to decline by October, but remain above-normal**

Needs are expected to decline over the coming six months, but remain above normal given the impacts of the January 12 earthquake. The hunger season is expected to start early in the Northwest Department, in March. Long-range forecasts predict above-normal Atlantic hurricane activity.

#### **Projected rural hunger season: Ongoing - June**

#### **\*NIGER: Harvest expected to significantly reduce assistance needs**

Assuming normal main season harvests, external assistance needs are expected to drop significantly by October. However, above-normal needs may reappear, as early as December, given that households will likely sell more of their 2010 harvest than normal to repay debt incurred during the current hunger season and because above-normal labor supply may drive lower wages during the October-December harvest season.

#### **Projected hunger season (cropping areas): April - Sept.**

### AVERAGE ASSISTANCE NEEDS PROJECTED IN NOVEMBER 2010

#### **SUDAN: Normal needs expected post-harvest**

Overall, food assistance needs in Sudan are expected to decline significantly by October, following August/September harvests. However, above-normal needs will persist in areas of southern Sudan where reduced seed/input availability following last year's poor harvests and conflict-related constraints on cultivation will affect production.

#### **Projected hunger season: March/April - August**

#### **\*SOMALIA: High levels of need likely to continue over the next six months**

Needs will slightly decline over the next six months, but will remain above average for IDPs, the urban poor, and drought-affected communities in the central, northeast, and northwest regions due to high cereal prices, ongoing conflict, the suspension of food assistance, and low livestock productivity. Large-scale crop losses due to flooding will affect the *gu* harvest, mainly in the Juba and Hiran riverine agricultural lands and some parts of Hiran rural.

#### **Projected pastoral hunger season: April/May - July**

### BELOW-AVERAGE ASSISTANCE NEEDS OR NO ASSISTANCE NEEDS PROJECTED IN NOVEMBER 2010

**\*AFGHANISTAN, \*BURKINA FASO (none), \*ETHIOPIA, KENYA, MALAWI (none), MALI (none), MAURITANIA (none), MOZAMBIQUE, \*NIGERIA (none), TANZANIA (none), UGANDA, ZAMBIA (none), ZIMBABWE**

## FEWS NET REMOTE MONITORING

Beyond “presence” countries where it maintains offices and staff, FEWS NET also monitors key indicators related to food security in selected “non-presence” countries. The table below summarizes the current monitoring status of each non-presence country. Red flags indicate that anomalies likely to result in food insecurity have been observed. Yellow flags indicate that anomalies of potential concern have been identified and will be evaluated. Remote monitoring began in January 2010 and additional countries will be added over the coming months.

<b>*BURUNDI</b>	-	Improved food security is likely, with the second season harvests in June, although bean production could be slightly below average in the east due to modest rainfall deficits in April and May.
<b>*EL SALVADOR</b>	🚩	Damage to infrastructure and crops from TS Agatha could reduce household food production and affect labor demand in affected areas during the Nov-Feb harvest.
<b>*HONDURAS</b>	🚩	Food availability is good and prices are generally stable. The food security impacts of Tropical Storm Agatha are currently under investigation. Recent political and budgetary changes may inhibit the government’s ability to respond.
<b>NICARAGUA</b>	-	The climate forecast from CRRH indicates that rainfall during May – July will be normal, which will be positive for crop grown during the country’s main season.
<b>*SENEGAL</b>	-	Imports are strong, and cereal prices are declining to levels below those of last year. Meteorological forecasts are generally favorable for agricultural production and labor demand. Conflict may affect food security in Casamance.
<b>*TAJIKISTAN</b>	-	While wheat flour prices have recently decreased and crop prospects are good, road and railcar delays along the Uzbek boarder may threaten food and other commodity imports over the coming months.
<b>*YEMEN</b>	🚩	Increases in fuel prices and ongoing civil insecurity in Yemen are resulting in increased food prices and hindering food access.

- 🚩 Anomalies likely to result in food insecurity have been observed.
- 🚩 Anomalies of potential concern have been identified and will be evaluated.
- No anomalies of concern have been observed

## TYPICAL HUNGER SEASONS IN FEWS NET MONITORED COUNTRIES AND REGIONS

