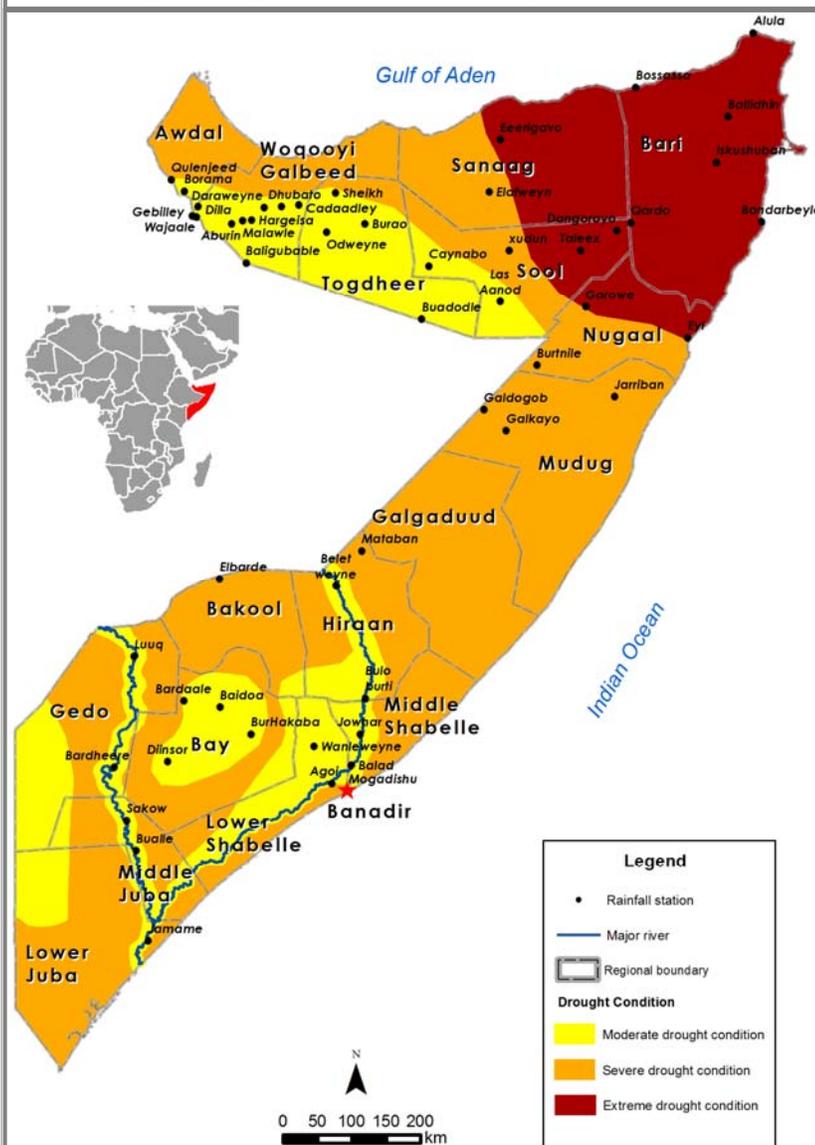


Issued: 16 December 2016

Key messages

- Despite some increase in rainfall in Somalia during the last half of November 2016, drought conditions continue to be experienced in many parts of the country following the poor and erratic rain since late September.
- The 2016 *Deyr* (October-December) rainfall was characterized by a late onset and poor distribution which has led to large rainfall/moisture deficits across the country. The season has come to an end in early to mid-December and was generally very poor with most of the country recording below 50 percent of the normal total rainfall for the season.

Map 1: Drought Conditions in Somalia, December 2016



- As a result of poor *Deyr* season rainfall, drought severity worsened and expanded to more areas, continuing to adversely affect pasture, water, livestock and crops, with large depletion of vegetation cover across the country.
- Drought Impact is worse in northeast Somalia that has suffered from consecutive seasons of poor rainfall. The worst affected areas include Puntland and eastern parts of Somaliland which are experiencing extreme drought conditions.
- Prospects for *Deyr* season cereal production is bleak, with crop failure expected in many areas.
- Juba and Shabelle river levels have been near to below normal during most of the current *Deyr* season; cereal production is also expected to be below average in riverine areas
- Dry weather conditions are expected to continue to worsen across most parts of the country as we enter the hot and dry *Jilaal* (January-March) season.
- The negative trends are not expected to reverse until the arrival of *Gu* (April-June) rains next year.

Drought Conditions Classification

Moderate drought conditions	Some damage to crops, and pastures; some water shortages developing or imminent
Severe drought conditions	Crop or pasture losses is likely; water shortages common and water trucking imminent
Extreme drought conditions	Major crop/pasture and livestock losses; widespread water shortages and water trucking