SWALIM Quarterly Newsletter

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

SWALIM Somali Water and Land Information Management

UPDATE
Jan - March 2026

SWALIM Strengthens Early Warning as Drought Intensifies and Flood Risks Emerge

Somalia experienced worsening drought conditions during the first quarter of 2026 following the poor performance of the 2025 Deyr rains and the continuation of harsh Jilaal conditions. High temperatures, prolonged dry conditions, depleted water sources and deteriorating pasture conditions increased pressure on vulnerable communities, particularly across southern and central Somalia. During the quarter, FAO Somalia Water and Land Information Management (SWALIM) continued to support early warning, preparedness and operational decision-making through drought monitoring, climate analysis, river monitoring and advisories.

During Q1 2026, SWALIM produced monthly Combined Drought Index (CDI) analyses, climate updates, river monitoring products, and the Gu 2026 Seasonal Climate Outlook to support government institutions, humanitarian partners and operational planning processes. The quarter also marked the start of Gu season monitoring, including issuance of the first weekly weather forecast bulletin for Gu onset monitoring and preparedness. The information was disseminated through technical briefings and preparedness discussions with partners including the Somalia Disaster Management Agency (SoDMA), Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG), FAO technical sectors and other humanitarian stakeholders.

The CDI analysis showed severe drought deterioration between January and February 2026. In January, severe to extreme drought conditions were already affecting large parts of Gedo, Bay, Bakool, Middle Juba, Lower Juba, Lower Shabelle and Middle Shabelle, with moderate drought extending into central regions. Conditions worsened further in February, which marked the peak of drought severity during the quarter, as severe and extreme drought expanded across much of southern Somalia and parts of central regions including Nugaal and Mudug. By March, localized improvements were observed in some northern and central areas following isolated early seasonal rainfall associated with the approaching Gu season. However, severe drought conditions persisted across parts of Lower Shabelle, Lower Juba, Middle Juba, Bay and Middle Shabelle.

To strengthen the reliability of these products, SWALIM also relied on field hydrometeorological observers and Radio Ergo caller feedback to ground-truth observed conditions and community-level impacts. These field reports helped validate rainfall performance, water availability, pasture conditions, livestock stress, localized flooding and drought impacts, ensuring that SWALIM's monitoring and forecasting products reflected both technical data and realities reported by communities on the ground. SWALIM's monitoring also highlighted increasing hydrological stress during the quarter. River levels along parts of the Shabelle River remained critically below normal during the dry season, while reduced flows and increasing dependence on groundwater raised concern over water access and irrigation capacity. At the same time, SWALIM intensified monitoring of riverine flood vulnerability ahead of the Gu rains. Analysis of river breakages along the Juba and Shabelle Rivers identified hundreds of open breakages, overflow points and canal flooding locations using Very High Resolution satellite imagery and Digital Elevation Models, supporting preparedness planning for potential localized flooding during the Gu season transition.

The climate and drought products produced by SWALIM during the quarter continued to support ongoing drought response prioritization and operational planning by FAO and humanitarian partners. Earlier anticipatory action initiatives triggered following drought forecasts issued during September and October 2025 remained relevant throughout Q1 2026 as CDI monitoring continued to indicate worsening drought conditions across several districts.

As Somalia transitions from the harsh Jilaal dry season into the Gu 2026 rainfall season, SWALIM will continue to strengthen integrated drought and flood early warning

Contents

SWALIM Portals

- Somalia water sources information management system (SWIMS)
- Flood risk and response information management system (FRRIMS)
- Somalia national river flow archive (NRFA)
- Somalia climate timeseries and ground water data (CTSD)
- Drought monitoring tool for Somalia (CDI)
- Somalia spatial data portal (SDP)

Contacts

Somalia Water and Land Information Management

Address: Thorn Tree Lodge, AAIA, Mogadishu, Somalia;

Website: www.faoswalim.org

Email: swalim@fao.org

To subscribe to SWALIM mail-list: Click here

through climate monitoring, CDI analysis, river monitoring, field observations and impact-based advisories. This will be particularly important during the April–June period, as Gu rainfall performance will determine the extent of drought recovery, water and pasture regeneration, and potential flood risks along the Juba and Shabelle rivers. Continued monitoring of seasonal rainfall, river levels, river breakages and evolving climate signals, including ENSO conditions, will support timely preparedness, response planning and early warning ahead of the Hagaa/Karan period and the Deyr 2026 season.

From Early Warning to Early Action: Empowering National and State Institutions to Strengthen Flood Resilience in Somalia

Across Somalia, recurrent flooding continues to undermine food security, displace families, and erode development gains, particularly in riverine and low-lying areas. While floods are a recurring hazard, their impacts are increasingly predictable. Building resilience therefore depends not only on forecasting floods, but on strengthening national systems that enable early, anticipatory action to protect lives, livelihoods, and essential services before damage occurs.

Practical Session on flood forecasting for anticipatory action

This approach is central to FAO's Country Programming Framework (CPF) for Somalia, which aligns FAO's support with national priorities under the Somalia National Transformation Plan (NTP), including disaster risk reduction, climate resilience, food security, and social protection. By investing in nationally owned early warning and decision-support mechanisms, FAO supports a shift from repeated emergency response toward proactive risk management. Through SWALIM, FAO is advancing impact-based, people-centered early warning systems that translate climate and hydrological forecasts into early action. By linking hazard Information with data on exposure and vulnerability, this approach moves beyond warning that floods may occur to identifying who and what is likely to be affected, where and when.

This enables institutions to prioritize anticipatory measures, strengthens shock-responsive social protection, and contributes to national data ecosystems that reduce reliance on ad-hoc emergency assessments. In doing so, it supports progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs 1, 2, 11 and 13) and delivers on FAO's Four Betters by protecting livelihoods, reducing disaster losses, and strengthening resilient, data-driven institutions.

To operationalize this vision, a national training on Impact-Based Flood Forecasting and Anticipatory Action (IbF-AA) using GIS and Remote Sensing was conducted by the SWALIM Geospatial team in Mogadishu from 11 to 15 January 2026.

The training brought together 22 technical staff from key Somali institutions at both federal and federal member state levels, including ministries responsible for water, environment, agriculture, livestock, planning, disaster management, and national statistics. Line ministries responsible for water, energy, and agriculture from the Federal Member States of Jubbaland, Hirshabelle, Southwest State, and Galmudug, regions highly exposed to flood risk, also participated, reinforcing collaboration across government levels.

Rather than focusing on tools alone, the training emphasized outcomes and decision-making, demonstrating how improved data access and institutional coordination can lead to earlier and more effective action.

As one participant noted, "Flood information is only useful if it helps institutions decide who is at risk and what needs to be protected first." Participants explored how forecasts and national datasets can be combined to identify priority risk areas, safeguard crops and water points, maintain access roads, and prepare social protection responses before floods escalate.

A practical case study in Beledweyne, one of Somalia's most flood-affected cities, illustrated the value of impact-based approaches in real-world conditions. Converting flood forecasts into estimated impacts on homes, roads, agricultural land, irrigation canals, and water infrastructure, participants demonstrated how anticipatory action can be embedded into urban preparedness and local response planning.

"What is changing," observed a participant from a Federal Member State ministry, "is our ability to use data to reduce losses instead of responding after damage has already occurred." Beyond individual capacity development, the initiative strengthened systems and partnerships by enhancing collaboration between federal and federal member state institutions, reinforcing the use of national platforms such as SWALIM, and supported the integration of impact-based forecasting into existing early warning, planning and coordination frameworks.

By prioritizing people, institutions, and nationally led systems, FAO and SWALIM demonstrate their comparative advantage in delivering scalable, high-impact solutions that bridge humanitarian action and long-term development, helping Somalia safeguard livelihoods, protect food security, and build resilience to floods now and into the future.

Strengthening Somaliland's Capacity to Anticipate and Respond to Climate Risks

Across climate-vulnerable regions, timely data alone is not enough to prevent crises. The real challenge lies in ensuring that early warning information is clearly understood, trusted, and used to guide decisions. Many professionals receive climate and hazard data but lack the confidence or skills to translate it into action.

To address this challenge, a SWALIM Early Warning (Digniin) Systems Training was conducted on 14–15 January 2026 for staff from the Ministry of Agriculture Development in Somaliland. The training focused on building practical knowledge of early warning systems (EWS) and strengthening the use of SWALIM platforms to support informed planning and humanitarian decision-making.

Early warning systems are only effective when institutions understand how to interpret and apply them. Gaps in data literacy, limited familiarity with indicators such as NDVI and drought indices, and weak coordination between stakeholders can delay early action and reduce impact. This training was designed to close that gap by strengthening foundational EWS knowledge, clarifying SWALIM's mandate, and emphasizing the practical use of early warning products within government and humanitarian workflows.

Participants were introduced to the core early warning systems concepts, and the four pillars of EWS. The training provided an overview of SWALIM's Early Warning System, including the key hazards monitored and the core components that support monitoring, forecasting, analysis, and dissemination. Strong emphasis was placed on applied learning.

Group Photo: Early warning training participants

Participants explored SWALIM data sources, rainfall monitoring networks, and seasonal forecasting methods, and gained practical skills in climate data interpretation.

Hands-on sessions guided participants through reading and interpreting SWALIM bulletins and discussing how to integrate early warning information into planning and humanitarian decision-making. By the end of the training, participants demonstrated an enhanced understanding of early warning systems, improved confidence in using SWALIM platforms and products, and clearer awareness of how EWS data supports coordinated decision-making. The training strengthened institutional capacity while also providing participants with valuable skills in climate risk analysis and evidence-based planning.

Building National Capacity in Land and Crop Suitability Assessment

Practical training strengthens government capacity for land and crop suitability assessment.

Good agricultural investment starts with a basic question: is this land right for this crop? In Somalia, where climate variability, water scarcity and land degradation shape everyday livelihoods, answering that question with reliable data can make the difference between a productive harvest and a failed one. That is why FAO SWALIM delivered a practical training on soil and land suitability assessment in Nairobi from 1 to 10 February 2026, building on a three-week virtual course held earlier in January.

The training brought together SWALIM technical staff and government participants from the Information Management Centres of Somaliland and Puntland and the Somalia National Bureau of Statistics. Under the guidance of soil scientist Piero Magazzini, participants learned how to evaluate whether a given piece of land is suitable for a specific crop by comparing soil texture, drainage, depth, slope and climate conditions against what each crop actually needs to grow.

This is known as the FAO Land Evaluation Framework, and it gives planners a structured, evidence-based way to assess agricultural potential rather than relying on assumptions.
What made the training distinctive was the combination of classroom analysis and fieldwork. Participants spent time in the field examining real soil profiles, identifying soil layers, measuring depth, and determining soil colour using Munsell charts. That hands-on experience helped connect what they were seeing on screen with what actually exists in the ground, strengthening their ability to interpret spatial datasets with confidence.
By the end of the course, participants had moved from theory to practice. They produced crop-specific suitability maps for twelve priority crops, including a sorghum suitability assessment for Luuq District.

Participants during the field soil profiling exercise, Nairobi

Government technicians left equipped to read soil data, apply the matching-table methodology, and produce spatial products that can directly inform where and how to invest in agriculture.

This national technical capacity is essential for evidence-based agricultural planning in Somalia. When government institutions can assess which land is suitable for which crops, agricultural planning becomes more targeted, investment becomes more efficient, and food security outcomes improve.

Embedding these skills within ministries and agencies is an important step toward ensuring that land suitability assessment is not a one-off exercise but a routine part of how Somalia plans its agricultural future.

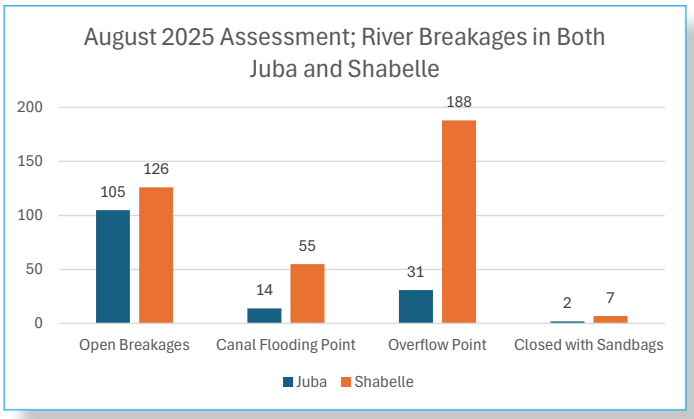
River Breakage Assessment in Somalia (January – March 2026): Evolving Risks and Persistent Vulnerabilities

River breakages along the Juba and Shabelle rivers remain a major concern in Somalia. These rivers are important for farming, water supply, and livelihoods. However, when riverbanks weaken or fail, they can cause flooding that affects nearby communities. Floods damage crops, destroy infrastructure, and force people to leave their homes. Because of this, monitoring riverbank conditions is important to reduce risks and prepare for future flooding.

The latest assessment (January–March 2026) builds on this foundation, offering a clearer and more forward-looking perspective on riverbank conditions by not only tracking active breakages but also identifying emerging risks.

Shabelle River: From High Activity to Systemic Risk

The August 2025 River breakages assessment identified the Shabelle River as the more vulnerable of the two, with a high number of open breakages and overflow points, particularly in districts such as Beledweyne and Jowhar. The 2026 assessment confirms that this trend has not only persisted but intensified.



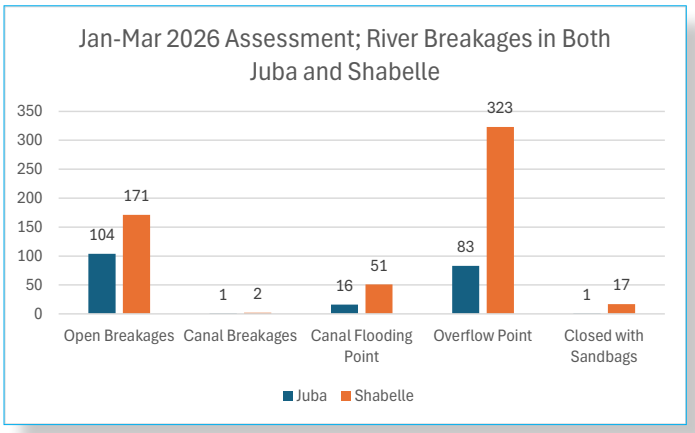
Graph 1: August 2025, River breakages in both Juba and Shabelle

What distinguishes the current findings is the scale of latent risk. Regions such as Hiiraan now record over 400 potential overflow points, a stark contrast to the earlier focus on active breakages alone. Middle and Lower Shabelle also show significant concentrations of weak riverbanks.

This indicates a transition from localized, recurring failures to a more system-wide structural vulnerability, where large sections of the river are at risk even if they are not yet actively flooding. While repair efforts, particularly in Hiiraan, are visible, they remain insufficient relative to the magnitude of exposure.

In contrast, the August 2025 report showed that the Juba River experienced fewer breakages than the Shabelle, though still affected by open breaches and overflows. The 2026 assessment shows that the Shabelle River has 359 breakages more than the Juba River.

The dominant issue along the Juba is now potential overflow risk, particularly in Middle Juba, Gedo, and Lower Juba. Unlike the Shabelle, where active flooding is widespread, the Juba appears relatively stable in the present moment. However, this stability may be misleading, as large stretches of the riverbank remain structurally weak and vulnerable to future high flows.



Graph 2: Jan-March 2026, River breakages in both Juba and Shabelle

Both assessments consistently identify canal systems and human interventions as contributing factors to riverbank stress. The 2026 findings reaffirm that canal-related flooding remains more pronounced along the Shabelle, where unregulated water diversion continues to weaken embankments.

Similarly, while the 2025 report emphasized the need for embankment reinforcement, the 2026 update highlights that rehabilitation efforts have not kept pace with the scale of degradation. Many previously identified weak points remain unaddressed, and new risk areas have emerged.

From Monitoring to Action: A Growing Urgency

A key takeaway from comparing the two assessments is that risk is expanding faster than mitigation efforts. While the 2025 analysis provided a strong baseline of existing breakages, the 2026 assessment signals a more urgent reality:

- The number of at-risk (potential overflow) areas now exceeds active breakages
- Vulnerability is becoming more widespread and systemic, particularly along the Shabelle
- Even relatively stable systems like the Juba are accumulating hidden risks

The progression from the August 2025 to the January - March 2026 assessment underscores a critical shift in Somalia's flood risk landscape. The challenge is no longer limited to responding to visible riverbank failures but now requires anticipating and addressing widespread structural weaknesses.

Without accelerated intervention, particularly in strengthening embankments, regulating canal systems, and prioritizing high-risk zones, both rivers will continue to drive seasonal flooding with increasing severity.

Sustained satellite monitoring, combined with coordinated action among government and partners, remains essential. However, the 2026 findings make one point clear: *the window for preventive action is narrowing, especially along the Shabelle River.*

Map - Status of River Breakages Along The Juba River; Jan-March 2026

Map - Status of River Breakages Along The Shabelle River Jan-March 2026

Legend Of River Breakage Points

August 2025 River Breakages Article

A Common Standard for Mapping Somalia's Land

Why Somalia's new land cover reference system matters

Maps are only as useful as the standard behind them. In Somalia, different projects and institutions have often used different approaches to describe land cover - whether an area is rangeland, cropland, settlement, wetland, bare soil or water, that can make it difficult to compare maps, combine datasets or track change over time. The new Land Cover Reference System for Somalia helps solve that problem by providing one shared national framework for describing the country's landscapes in a clear and consistent way.

A major strength of the publication is that it is not just a local guide; it is built on the FAO Land Cover Meta Language and aligned with ISO 19144-2, the international standard for land cover classification. That is important because it means Somalia now has a system that speaks both to national needs and to global good practice. In simple terms, the country can classify its land in a way that fits Somalia's real landscapes while also using a method that is internationally recognized, comparable and easier for different institutions to use together.

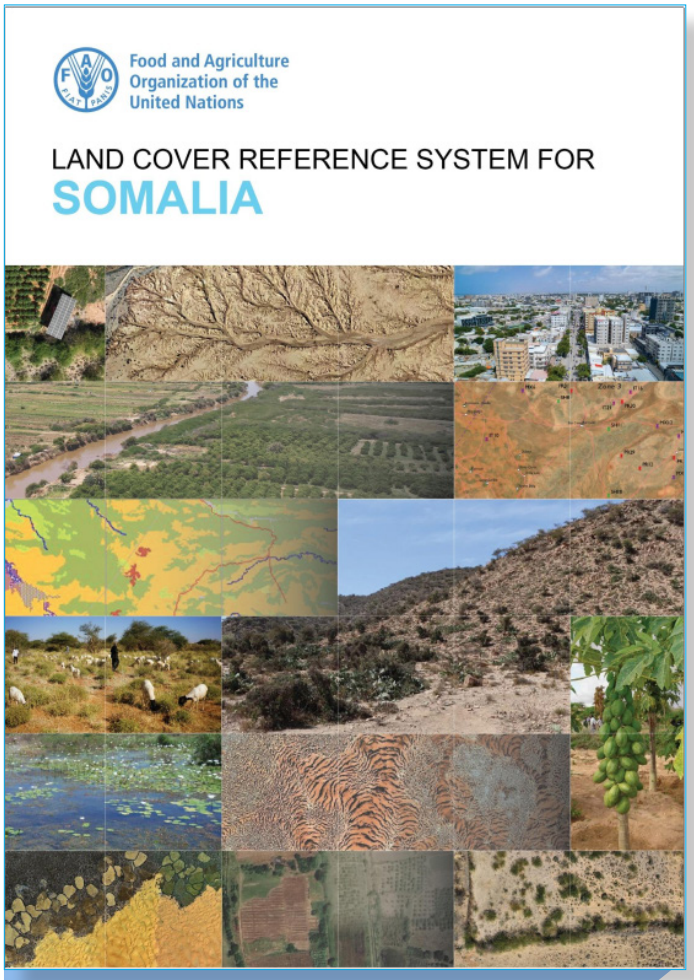
Developed through FAO and SWALIM with contributions from Somali government partners and technical specialists, the system reflects Somalia's diversity, from arid rangelands and coastal plains to riverine farming areas, flooded vegetation, settlements, dams and berkads. Rather than creating one fixed legend for every purpose, it provides a flexible structure that different users can adapt while still staying within the same national reference framework.

This matters because reliable land cover information supports real decisions. In practice, the system has already been applied in land cover mapping of Somalia's riverine areas, covering parts of Hirshabelle, South-West State, Jubaland and Banadir Region, with a total mapped extent of over 10 million hectares.

It can help government and development partners plan agriculture, monitor rangelands, understand land degradation, support climate resilience, and improve drought and flood preparedness. It also reduces duplication by making it easier for institutions to work from the same system.

For SWALIM, the publication represents more than a technical manual. It is an important step toward better coordination, stronger evidence and more consistent land information across Somalia.

By following an ISO-aligned approach, Somalia is strengthening the quality, credibility and long-term usefulness of its land cover data. That lays the groundwork for better planning, better monitoring and better decisions for a more resilient future.



Cover page of the Land Cover Reference System for Somalia, published by FAO in 2026, providing a national framework for land cover classification.

Land cover reference system download link here

Strengthening Prosopis Mapping in Somalia

Prosopis is widely recognized as one of the most aggressive invasive species in arid and semi-arid regions. Over the years, studies and field observations across Somalia have shown that it spreads rapidly along river systems, grazing lands, and agricultural areas, forming dense thickets that outcompete native vegetation. This has led to reduced pasture availability, obstruction of irrigation canals and water access points, loss of biodiversity, and increased pressure on already fragile ecosystems. Despite these impacts, reliable and up-to-date spatial information on its extent has remained limited, making it difficult to plan effective control and management interventions.

This has created a clear need for systematic, data-driven mapping, which SWALIM is currently advancing under the GCF project, focusing on 10 priority districts - Afgooye, Baraawe, Cadale, Eyl, Garoowe, Hobyo, Kismaayo, Kurtunwaarey, Owdweyne, and Qoryooley.

To address this need, SWALIM adopted a stepwise mapping approach, beginning with a preliminary analysis. Previously collected Prosopis field data from earlier years were used as training inputs in a machine learning model, combined with satellite imagery to generate initial distribution maps across the target districts. However, due to the relatively limited number of available reference points, these outputs were considered preliminary. Their primary role was to provide an initial indication of likely Prosopis distribution and to guide targeted field verification. Building on this foundation, FAO, through Letters of Agreement (LOAs) with the Ministries of Environment in Hirshabelle, Jubaland, Puntland, Somaliland, Galmudug, and South-West State, conducted a targeted training for government technical teams.

The training first introduced participants to the preliminary maps - explaining how they were developed, their limitations, and the importance of field validation. This ensured that participants clearly understood the overall mapping workflow before moving into practical data collection.

Participants were then trained on the use of ODK mobile tools to carry out structured field data collection. Each team was tasked with collecting at least 100 sample points per district, including a balanced set of 50 Prosopis presence points and 50 non-Prosopis points, along with accurate GPS coordinates and supporting observations.

This design ensured that the collected data would be robust enough to both validate the preliminary maps and strengthen the machine learning model. The field data collection exercise has now been completed across all target districts. SWALIM is currently analyzing the results to assess the accuracy of the preliminary outputs.

The newly collected dataset, now significantly expanded and more representative will be used first to validate the initial maps and secondly to improve the machine learning model, ensuring that the next set of outputs more accurately capture the true extent of Prosopis on the ground.

These refined maps will provide a more reliable and operational dataset to support targeted interventions, including planning for Prosopis control, restoration of affected areas, and protection of agricultural and grazing lands within the GCF project districts.

Enumerators collecting data on Prosopis from local residents

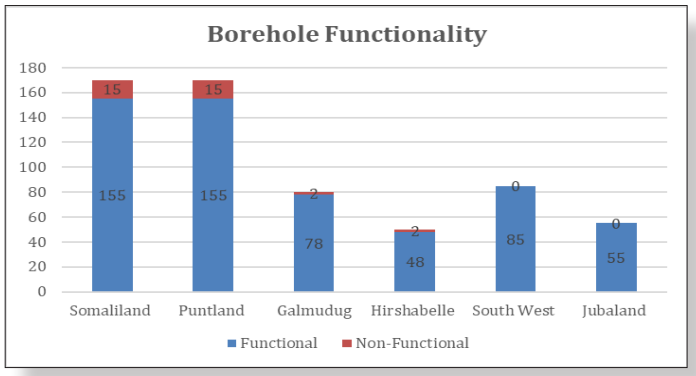
Strategic Borehole Data Supports Early Warning and Drought Preparedness

SWALIM, in collaboration with state water authorities, conducts weekly monitoring of Somalia's strategic boreholes to track water availability, functionality, and community access. This monitoring involves collecting regular information on whether boreholes are operational, how much water they are producing, how much it costs, and how communities are using them.

The data is essential for early warning and drought preparedness, as boreholes serve as the most reliable water sources in many rural and pastoral areas, especially during dry seasons when other sources dry up. A total of 609 strategic boreholes were assessed across the country.

During the last three months (January to March 2026) Somalia was experiencing jilaal dry season, a period when surface water is scarce and communities depend heavily on groundwater. Understanding how boreholes perform during this season is critical for anticipating water shortages and ensuring that authorities and partners can respond quickly if problems arise.

Across all regions, boreholes continued to serve primarily domestic and livestock needs, with only limited use for irrigation, reflecting the priority placed on essential consumption during the dry season. Overall, 96% of monitored boreholes were functional, while 4% were non-functional. This high functionality rate during one of the driest periods of the year represents a positive indication of improved management and maintenance of Somalia's strategic water sources, helping communities withstand seasonal water stress more effectively.



Graph 3: Number of Boreholes per state and their functionalities

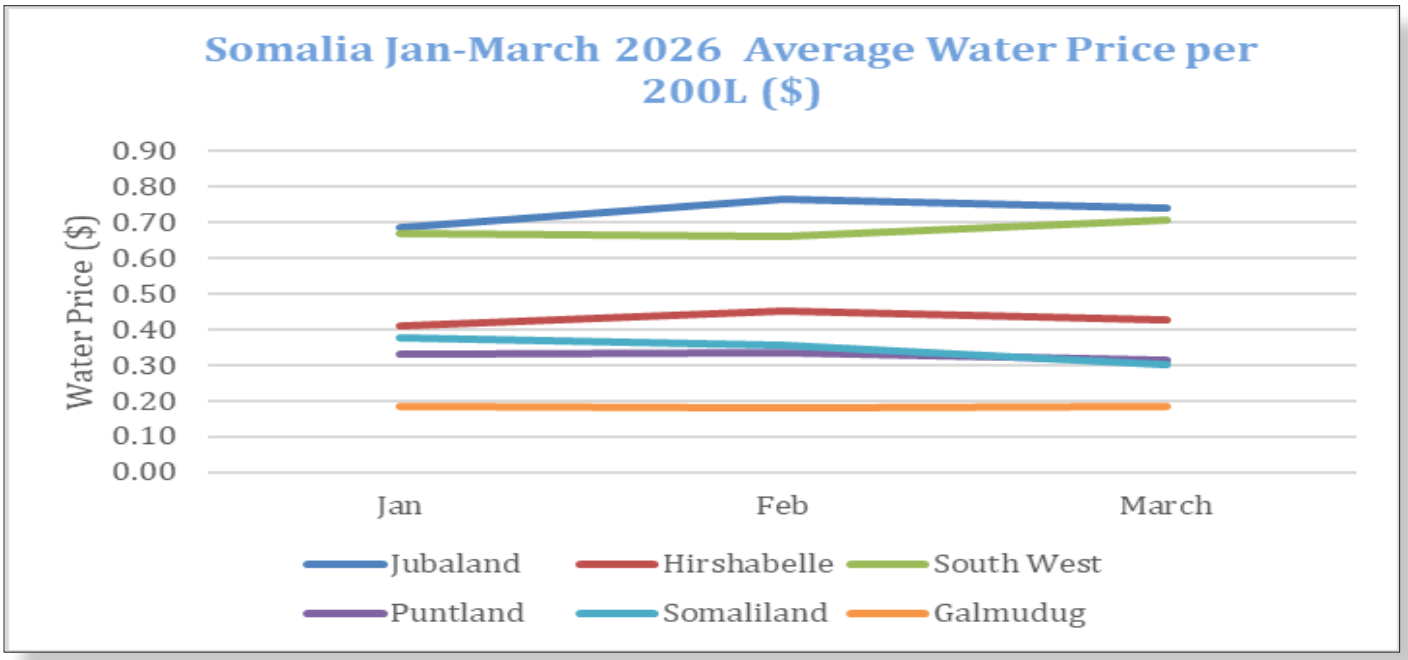
Water Pricing

The monthly average price for 200 liters of water during the reporting period ranged from USD 0.18 to 0.73, reflecting both regional differences and the typical pressures of the Jilaal dry season. Jubaland recorded the highest water prices, peaking at USD 0.77 in February before slightly declining to USD 0.74 in March. This pattern is consistent with seasonal dynamics in southern Somalia and reflects the early onset of Gu' rainfall.

At the other end of the scale, Galmudug maintained the lowest and most stable prices, ranging from USD 0.18 to 0.19 during this reporting period. Stable prices in Galmudug may reflect better access to groundwater, shorter distances to boreholes, or the presence of alternative water sources that ease pressure on the market.

In contrast, Somaliland experienced a slight decrease in water prices, from USD 0.38 to USD 0.30. This reduction is likely attributed to early Gu rainfall in some areas, which helped ease water shortages and stabilize prices. Compared to the previous reporting period, Jubaland recorded the highest water prices, peaking between USD 0.69 and USD 0.77. In contrast, Galmudug maintained the lowest and most stable prices, ranging from USD 0.18 to USD 0.20 during the period of Jan - Mar 2026.

These variations largely mirror the differing levels of water scarcity across Somalia during Jilaal. Regions with limited groundwater recharge or higher transport costs tend to experience elevated prices, while areas with more reliable boreholes or shorter supply chains see greater stability.



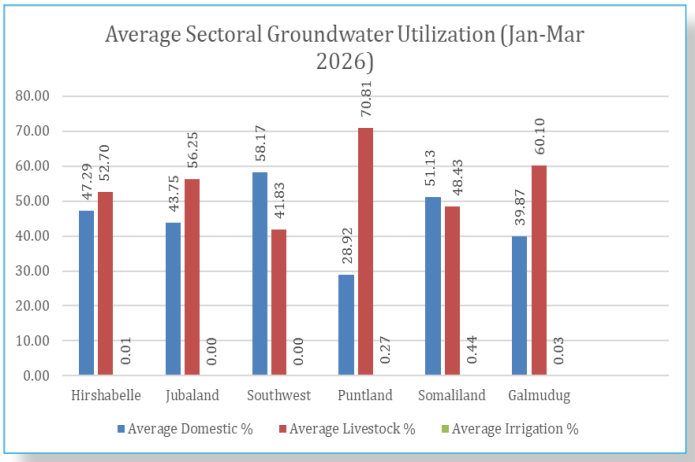
Graph 4: Average water price per 200L ($) Jan-March 2026, Somalia

Sectoral Water Consumption

The three-month average groundwater-utilization analysis demonstrates differences in sectoral water demand across Somalia. Livestock and domestic groundwater use remained the dominant sectors throughout the reporting period, while irrigation utilization remained minimal in all states. These results indicate that groundwater abstraction during the Jilaal dry season was primarily directed toward supporting household consumption and livestock production activities rather than agricultural irrigation.

The average percentage for Somaliland showed slightly higher domestic groundwater utilization during the reporting period, possibly due to seasonal livestock migration patterns and increased dependence on groundwater resources for household water supply. Puntland recorded the highest average livestock groundwater utilization, showing strong dependence on groundwater resources for pastoral and livestock-related activities. Within South-Central Somalia, Hirshabelle, Jubaland, and Galmudug consistently showed stronger livestock groundwater utilization than domestic utilization. Galmudug maintained particularly stable livestock groundwater demand throughout the analysis period, while Hirshabelle and Jubaland also demonstrated sustained livestock dependence. Southwest differed from the other South-Central states, as domestic groundwater utilization remained consistently higher than livestock utilization during the reporting period.

Irrigation groundwater utilization remained negligible across all states, confirming that groundwater resources were largely reserved for essential domestic and livestock needs. Puntland and Somaliland recorded slightly higher irrigation utilization compared to the other regions, although the overall percentages remained very low. The comparative analysis and graph clearly demonstrate strong geographic variation in groundwater-utilization patterns across Somalia, emphasizing the importance of groundwater monitoring, drought preparedness, and sustainable water-resource management interventions.



Graph 5: Sectoral water usage/consumption

Gu 2026 Seasonal Outlook Highlights Stabilization Window Amid Drought Conditions

The Gu 2026 National Climate Outlook Forum (NCOF) was convened on 10-12 February 2026 by the Federal Government of Somalia with technical and financial support from FAO-SWALIM, WMO, and ICPAC culminating in the co-production of the seasonal outlook for March–May 2026. The forum concluded that while rainfall prospects had improved in parts of Jubaland, Gedo, Bakool, Hiiraan and some northern regions, the season should be treated as a stabilization window, not a recovery season, given the severe drought baseline following failed Deyr 2025 rains and the harsh Jilaal period.

The updated outlook indicates above-normal rainfall in parts of Lower Juba, Bakool, Hiiraan, Nugaal, Togdheer, Sool, Sanaag, Dollow and Luuq, and Zeylac, while below-normal rainfall risks persist in Bari, Laasqoray, central Gebiley and Hargeisa, and Dinsoor.

With above-normal temperatures expected across most of the country, the forum emphasized continued drought response, anticipatory action, water-source rehabilitation, and close monitoring, while also preparing for possible localized flooding later in the season, especially in the Juba and Shabelle systems if upstream rains intensify.

Group photo: National climate outlook forum participants

For more information, you may contact: swalim@fao.org

Somali Water and Land Information Management
Thorn Tree Lodge, AAIA, Mogadishu