



## Somali Regional State Disaster Prevention & Preparedness Bureau (DPPB)

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Food Security Update  
April 2012

Pastoralist Livelihood Initiative – Early Warning Project

### HIGHLIGHTS

Overall, the food security condition remain stable in many parts across the Somali region in this month compared to the last months, due to a combination of factors such as onset of *Gu* season improved water availability, regular distribution of relief and PSNP food, good livestock body condition and the existence of internal livestock market demand. In this month, pasture and browse regenerated due to the onset of *Gu* rainfall in majority of districts, except some pocket area. Access to milk from animals slightly improved in some pastoral areas; similarly, livestock body conditions and incomes from sales increased. Furthermore, with improved supply of cereals due to relief and PSNP food distribution, the prices of staples marginally declined, improving pastoralists' terms of trade particularly in Dagahbour, Gode, Korahey, and Fik zones.

Early and mid-April, *Gu* rains have recharged most of the water sources in the region particular Shinile, Dagahbour, part of Jigjiga, Fik, Liban, Gode, Afder, Korahey, and part of Warder zones. Currently shortages of water not expected, except in those areas where the rains have not yet started or were nominal. These include small pocket area of Galadi, part of Harshin, Hartashekh town, and small pocket area of Aware districts. Though vary in intensity and spatial distribution from district to district, the rains have generally brought a much-needed respite from the existing acute water shortage that has affected most parts of the region.

The *Gu* rains started timely in most *Karan* receiving areas and *Dyer* receiving areas of Somali region. The rains started in the last week of March in *Karan* receiving areas of Shinile and Jigjiga zones and *dye*r receiving areas of Afder, Liban and part of Dagahbour, Gode, Warder and Korahey zones; while it started early to mid-April in the other *dye*r receiving zones of the region. The overall performance of this year's *Gu* rains in terms of onset, coverage, distribution and intensity is better in most areas compared to the normal year. Exceptions are Galadi and Bokh districts of Warder zone, Muztahil, and Ferfer districts of Gode zone, Duhun, Sagag, and Garbo districts of Fik zone, Birqod, southeast of Aware, part of Ararso, and Gunagado districts of Dagahbour zone, south east of Jigjiga, majority of Kabribayah, and Harshin districts of Jigjiga zone, Hadagalle, and pocket area of Erer, Ayisha and Shinile districts of Shinile zone. Nevertheless, the intensity and spatial distribution of the rains vary from woreda to woreda.

As a result, most surface water sources recharged to 50-100 percent of their capacity and pasture and browse regenerated. The rains have generally, brought a much-needed respite from the existing acute water shortage that has affected most parts of the region. However, in part of Fik, Warder, Shinile, Gode and Jigjiga zones the rains have not resulted in full regeneration of pasture. On the other hand, the rains have resulted in flash floods in Mara-Ato site of Kabridaher district in Fafan Valley and Shaykosh town, affecting some people. Heavy torrential rain received in Kabridaher town on 20 April 2012; the rain accompanied by heavy wind that caused damaged to property.

### Flooding update and forecasting

Heavy rains in Degahbour, Dagahmadow, Shaykosh and Kabridaher area have resulted in overflow of Fafan and Jerer valleys leading to flooding in Mara-Ato plains of Kabridaher district on April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Adequate Information on the scale of damage caused by the flood is lacking, there is a fear that the flood might have affected some of the household assets. Also on 26<sup>th</sup> April in mid night unexpected heavy floods occurred in Shaykosh town; according to the administration report, the flooding have affected to **335** households living in Shaykosh town, killed one child, **107** shoats, **40** Cattle, **7** Camels and damaged boarding school.

In this month, the water level of Wabishabelle river has reached between 7 and 9 meters, and it will continue to increase, due to heavy rains in Bali Mountain. Similarly, the Web and Dawa rivers' water level have increasing since the last week of this month because of the *Gu* rains, and there will be high risk of flooding, particularly Wabishabelle and Web rivers.

### THE SITUATION OF THE REGION IN DETAIL

This section presents the situation in the Region in detail. The issues covered include situation of rainfall, pasture and water, livestock, crop production, human health and market prices.

## Gu 2012 Weather Forecast

### Rainfall update

The onset of *Gu* season is very useful for long cycle crop producing and pastoral areas. The *Gu* rains has started timely in most *Karan* receiving areas and *dyer* receiving areas of Somali region. The rains started in the last week of March in *Karan* receiving areas of Shinile and Jigjiga zones and *dyer* receiving areas of Afder, Liban and part of Dagahbour, Gode, Warder and Korahey zones; while it started early to mid-April in the other *dyer* receiving zones of the region.

At the beginning of the season moderate to above normal rains were reported in majority districts of Liban and Afder zones, Dagahbour, and Dagahmadow districts of Dagahbour zone, Dembel, Miso, and Afdem districts of Shinile zone, Awbare, Tuli-Guled, Babile, and Gursum districts of Jigjiga zone, part of Shilabo and Shaykosh districts of Korahey zone, Adadley, Gode and part of Danan districts of Gode zone, Fik, Qubi, Mayumuluko, and Salahad districts of Fik zones. While small shower to medium shower, with erratic and less coverage rains were reported in some part of Gode zone particular East –Imay, Ferfer, Muztahil and Kalafo districts, Galadi district of Warder zone, part of Jigjiga, majority of Kabribayah, and Harshin districts of Jigjiga zone, Garbo, Sagag, and Duhun districts of Fik zone, part of kabridaher and Dobeweyn districts of Korahey and majority of Shinile, Erer, Hadagalle and part of Ayisha districts of Shinile zone.

The overall performance of this year's *Gu* rains in terms of onset, coverage, distribution and intensity, compared to the normal year, is better in most areas of Liban, Afder zones, and Dagahbour, Dagahmadow, Daror and majority of Gashamo districts of Dagahbour zones, Fik, Qubi, Mayumuluko and Salahad districts of Fik zone, Afdem, Miso, and Dembel districts of Shinile zone, Awbare, Tuli-Guled, Gursum and Babile districts of Jigjiga zone, Shilabo, Shaykosh and part of Kabridaher districts of Korahey zone. Exceptions are Galadi and Bokh districts of Warder zone, Muztahil, and Ferfer districts of Gode zone, Duhun, Sagag, and Garbo districts of Fik zone, Birqod, southeast of Aware, part of Ararso, and Gunagado districts of Dagahbour zone, south east of Jigjiga, majority of Kabribayah, and Harshin districts of Jigjiga zone, Hadagalle, and pocket area of Erer, Ayisha and Shinile districts of Shinile zone. Nevertheless, the intensity and spatial distribution of the rains vary from woreda to woreda.

The rains have generally brought a needed respite from the existing acute water shortage that has affected most parts of the region. Most surface water sources have recharged to 50-100 percent of their capacity and pasture and browse regenerated. However, in part of Fik, Warder, Shinile, Gode and Jigjiga zones the rains have not resulted in full regeneration of pasture. On the other hand, the rains have resulted in flash floods in Mara-Ato site of Kabridaher district in Fafan Valley and Shaykosh town, affecting some people. Heavy torrential rain received in Kabridaher town on 20 April 2012; the rain accompanied by heavy wind and caused damaged to property.

### Rainfall onset update:

In the last two days of March and first two days of April, two to three days medium rainfalls were received in Meiso, Afdem, and Dembel districts of Shinile zone; Awbare, Gursum and Babile districts of Jigjiga zone. Some pocket areas of Erer, Ayisha, Shinile and Jigjiga districts were also received some showers. Similarly, Filtu town and surrounding areas have received one-day shower to medium rains while small pocket area of Moyale and north of Fik districts reported to received small shower. This was the only rain reported in the whole of the Somali region in the March and the seriously affected Harshin and Kabribayah districts and all Deyr receiving areas remained dry.

**Fik zone:** The rainfall started on time (2<sup>nd</sup> April 2012). On 12-16<sup>th</sup> April sufficient rainfall reported in Fik, Qubi Mayumuluko, and Salahad and some pocket area of Hamero districts. Further medium to normal rains reported on last dekad of April with a better coverage and good distribution in all districts of Fik zone. Exceptions are some part of Sagag, Garbo and Duhun districts where below average *Gu* rains still reported.

**Korahey and Warder zone:** *Gu* rain started with a day normal rains in first dekad of April in small pocket areas of Kabridaher district. Further normal rains with a sufficient distribution reported on April 15<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> in Shaykosh, part of Kabridaher and Dobeweyn districts. Above normal rains with good distribution were reported in north of Shilabo and some part of Shaykosh, while part of Kabridaher, and Mersin districts were received less rainfall compared to the others.

**Warder zone:** *Gu* rain started in second week of April with erratic and poor distribution. Danod, Warder and Bokh districts received normal rains, while Galadi and Daratole districts reported shower to medium shower up to now.

**Gode zone:** Majority of Gode, Adadley, Danan, and East Imey districts of Gode zone reported to have received few near normal-to-normal rains during the second week of April. On 20 April, Gode, part of Adadley, and Kalafo districts

reported sufficient rainfall with good distribution, while normal rains reported in part of East Imey and Danan districts. Muztahil and Ferfer districts reported to have received one to two showers to medium rains.

**Liban and Afder zones:** Moyale, Hudad and Mubarik districts of Liban zone have been receiving normal to above normal rainfalls up to the time of this report writing, while Filtu, Daloado, Dekesuftu districts of Liban zone, Elkare, G/baqaqsa, Guredamole, Hargelle, Charati, Dolobay and majority of Barey districts of Afder zone so far received normal to good rains. Overall, the two zones received normal to heavy rains through 12<sup>th</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup> of April 2012. In particular, more than five heavy rains reported in Moyale and Hudad districts of Liban zone; while three to four normal to above normal rains reported in Dolobay, Gurebaqaqsa, Guredamole, Elkare, Barey and part of Hargelle, Charati districts of Afder zone, and Doloado, Filtu and Dekasuftu districts of Liban zone.

**Dagahbour zone:** On April 9-23<sup>rd</sup> 2012, normal and sufficient rainfall reported in most part of Gashamo, Daror, Dagahbour, Dagahmadow and part of Yocale districts, where as Gunagado, Birqod and Ararso districts received below normal rains up to now. These two to three rainfall improved water availability in all pastoral areas, except southeast of Aware districts.

**Shinile zone:** The rainfall started on time (end of March) with showers to medium of rains in Meiso, Afdem, Dembel districts. Similarly, part of Ayisha, Erer, and Shinile districts have received rains that ranged medium to normal intensity in the first week of April; while North part of Hadagalle district has been reported small shower only. So far, the majority of Afdem, Miso, Dembel, and part of Ayisha, Erer and Shinile districts of Shinile zone received two to three days rainfall that ranged in amount from medium to normal, while Hadagalle district reported small shower. After 11<sup>th</sup> of April, no rainfall reported from majority of Shinile zone except Dembel and some part of Hadagalle districts. Overall, Afdem, Dembel and Miso districts received meduim to normal rainfall up to now, while Ayisha district reported meduim rainfall with good distribution. Whereas pastoral areas of Erer, Shinile and Hadagalle districts received only meduim shower rainfall with poor intensity and erratic.

**Jigjiga zone:** Awbare, Babile, Tuli-Guled and Gursum districts of Jigjiga zone have received four to five medium to normal rains up to now, whereas small pocket area of Harshin, south west of Jigjiga, and south-west of Kabribayah districts has reported one to two slightly shower to medium in second week of April. Apart from these small rains, the majority of the Harshin, Kabribayah and some part of Jigjiga districts remained dry or received small shower.

## WATER, PASTURE AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

The early and mid-April *Gu* rains have recharged most of the water sources in the region particular Shinile, Dagahbour, part of Jigjiga, Fik, Liban, Gode, Afder, Korahey, and Warder zones, most of Dagahbour, Jigjiga, and Shinile zones. For the time being shortages of water is not expected except in those areas where the rains have not yet started or were nominal. These include small pocket area of Galadi, part of Harshin, Hartashekh town, and small pocket area of Aware districts.

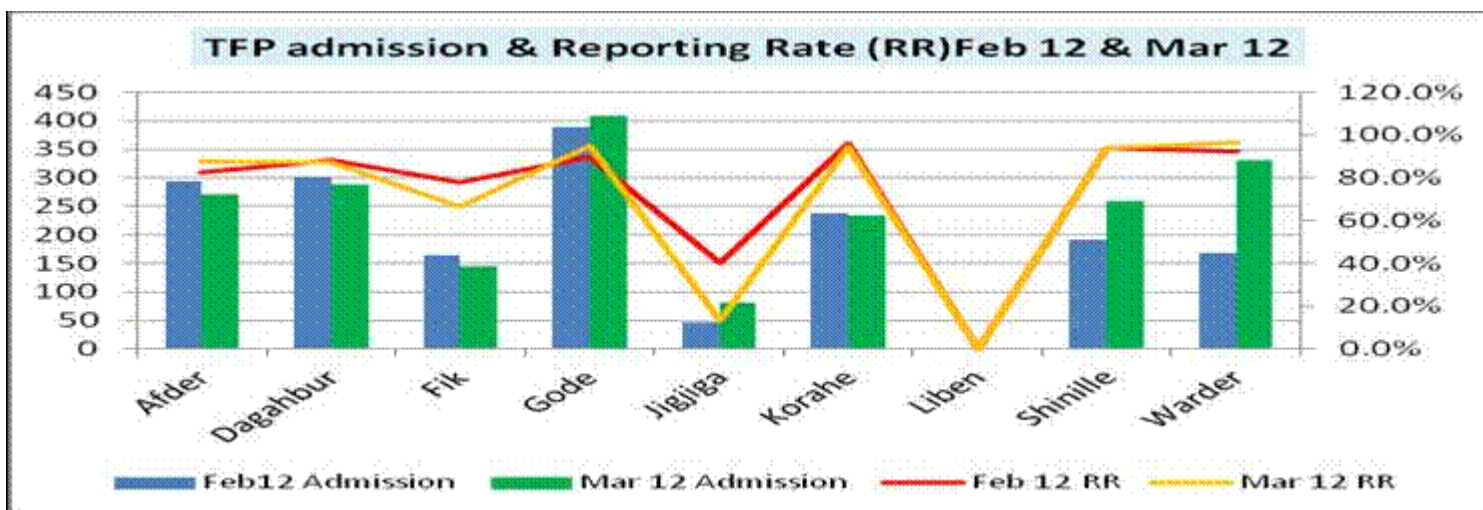
Water availability have increased in all districts of the Somali region, except some pocket area after receiving normal *Gu* rains in this month which significantly filled Birka and ponds. Because of this, majority of the districts where water interventions were ongoing will not require water assistance for the coming few months except small pocket areas, like south east of Galadi. In last dekad of April, water interventions on going in small pocket areas, such as three sites in Galadi and Raso districts. Pasture and browse regeneration improved in all zones due to on time onset of *Gu* rains.

Livestock body condition in all zones Warder, Liban and part of Gode zones remained in better status in this month, while Jigjiga, Dagahbour, and Fik zone slightly improve due to the onset of *Gu* season resulting in better pasture and water availability. There is no livestock outbreak reported in this season.

## Nutrition and Health status

### TFP Admission

Based on the Therapeutic Feeding Program (TFP) monthly reports received from the nine Zones, a total of **2016** severely malnourished children were admitted in 380 reporting TFP sites (out of 461 active sites) in March 2012 with report completion rate of **82.4%**. According to the monthly TFP reports, 85.8%, 7.7% and 0.2% were cure, defaulter and death rates respectively.



**Ongoing response:** With over 461 TFP sites across the region, severe acute malnutrition is effectively being managed; 800 cartons of ready to use therapeutic food (RUTF), 6 cartons of F-75 and 4 cartons of F-100 was provided to the TFP sites (MHNTs and Facility based OTP and TFU/SC). Overall, 11 nutrition partners, led by the RHB, are implementing nutrition responses across the region. There are 51 mobile health and nutrition teams (24 RHB supported by UNICEF and 26 by NGOs) are providing health and nutrition assistance in 54 woredas in Somali region including the new woredas.

**TFP monitoring:** Joint TFP monitoring was conducted in all the 16 woredas planned; 3 woredas each in Shinile, Warder and Degahbour zones, 5 woredas in Afder and 2 woredas in Liban by the ABH TFP monitors in March.

### Health

The AWD outbreak was reported in Degahbour zone (Degahbour town, Bulale kebele of Degahbour woredas and Gunagado town of Gunagado woredas), quickly responded by establishing CTC in all sites by RHB in close collaboration with RWB, UNICEF, WHO and other partners. Now is under controlled with <1% case fatality rate.

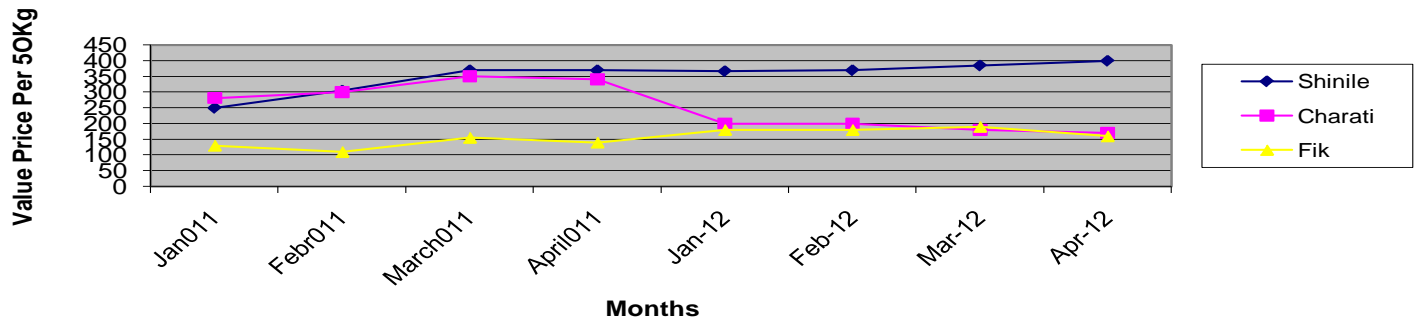
### Food and Livestock Prices

#### Market Trends

##### Staple food:

Overall, prices of staple food commodities slightly decreased in Fik, Dagahbour, Gode, Afder, and Warder markets in this month compared to the last quarter; this is due to the food aid and PSNP food distribution. While in Shinile, Jigjiga and Kabridahe remained stable or little increase due to less supply. Imported food items price remained stable in last two months in main markets, except in Warder and Korrahe where it slightly decline in this month due to the better supply. For instance, in Dagahbour 50 kg of relief, which sold at ETB 170 in March 2012 decreased to ETB 100 in April 2012. In Jigjiga and Shinile, 50kg of maize that sold at ETB 350 in March 2012 increased to ETB 400 in April 2012 due to failure of crops in last two years, delay of food distribution, less supply and high demand.

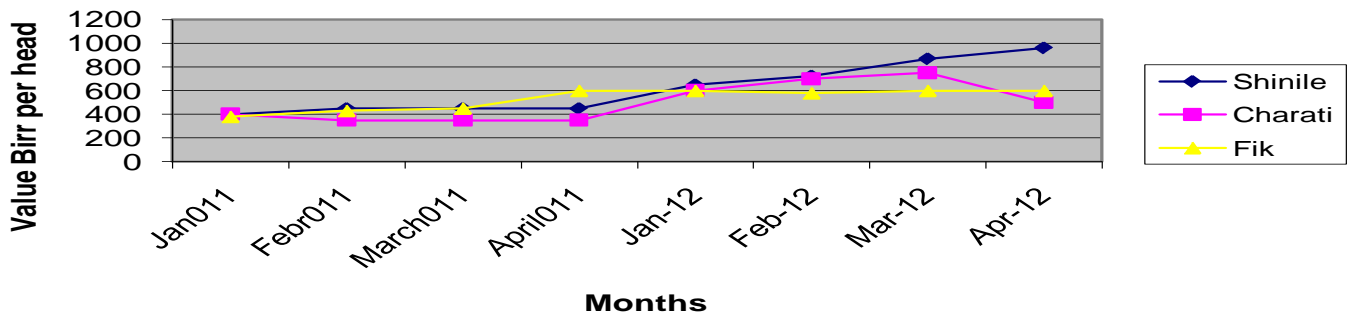
### Cereal Prices in Shinile,Charati,and Fik Markets{Jan-April 2011/2012}



The price of staple food has continued to decline in Charati market since January up to April 2012 compared to same period last year, due to the regular PSNP food distribution and better supply from highland area. While the price of staple food, particular local cereals like maize and sorghum, continue increasing at increased rate in Shinile due to the internal demand and less supply.

**Livestock Price:** In general, livestock price improved in this year compared to the same time last year as livestock body condition remained at good status in this year and better internal and external demand. Prices remained stable or slightly increased in main livestock markets in this month compared to the last months. This is because the pastoralists reduced the number of animals they brought to the market due to the *Gu* rains, better internal demand for shoat and better external demand for camel.

### Local Shoat Prices Analysis in Shinile,Charati,and Fik Markets{Jan-April11/12}



### Terms of Trade

The overall trend in Terms of Trade (ToT) measured in terms of kilogram of staple cereals per shoat shown slight improvement in Shinile and Fik districts markets this month compared to the previous months as a result of decline of relief cereal prices and good livestock prices, while in Charati it slight declined in this month due to less external demand for shoat and high price of cereals. However, compared to April 2011, the ToT has exhibited a slight improvement this year due to improved livestock prices, small crop harvested and regular food aid distribution

### Term of Trade for Local Shoat Vs Cereals in Pastoral Market{Jan-April12}

