

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION, Plans & Activities.

**IN
SOMALIA**

**NASA IDS – Seasonal Prediction of Hydro-Climatic Extremes in the Greater Horn of Africa
(GHA), Second Participatory Workshop**

**Organized by: Ethiopian National Meteorological Agency (NMA); National Aeronautics and
Space Administration of USA (NASA); National Drought Mitigation Center, University of
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Somalia Physical Map



BACKGROUND:

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION INITIATIVES IN SOMALIA

- Somalia has been troubled by **internal conflicts for over two decades**, which has led to enormous development challenges;
- In October 2012, a new provisional constitution was adopted and a new parliament inaugurated, ushering in the **Federal Government of Somalia**, the first permanent central government in the country since the conflict;
- The new government is aware of the **risks that climate change represents to progress on key development indicators and maintaining peace and security** with a commitment of tackling these challenges; there is no agro-meteorological services or seasonal prediction at national level, except some UN and international agencies working weather and flood forecasting; there were 69 weather forecast stations before civil war 1991;
- The **National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA)** is a first step towards articulating and **implementing a nationwide strategy** that addresses the impacts of **climate change across Somalia**;

KEY PLAYERS IN CLIMATE CHANGE INITIATIVES IN SOMALIA

- Ministry of Agriculture, Somalia Federal Government, Somaliland and Puntland
- FEWSNET
- SWALIM: Somalia Water and Land Information Management/FAO, FSNAU
- UNDP: United Nations Development Programme
- UNFCCC: United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
- WCRP: World Climate Research Programme
- UNEP: United Nations Environment Programme
- EU
- ICPAC: IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Center

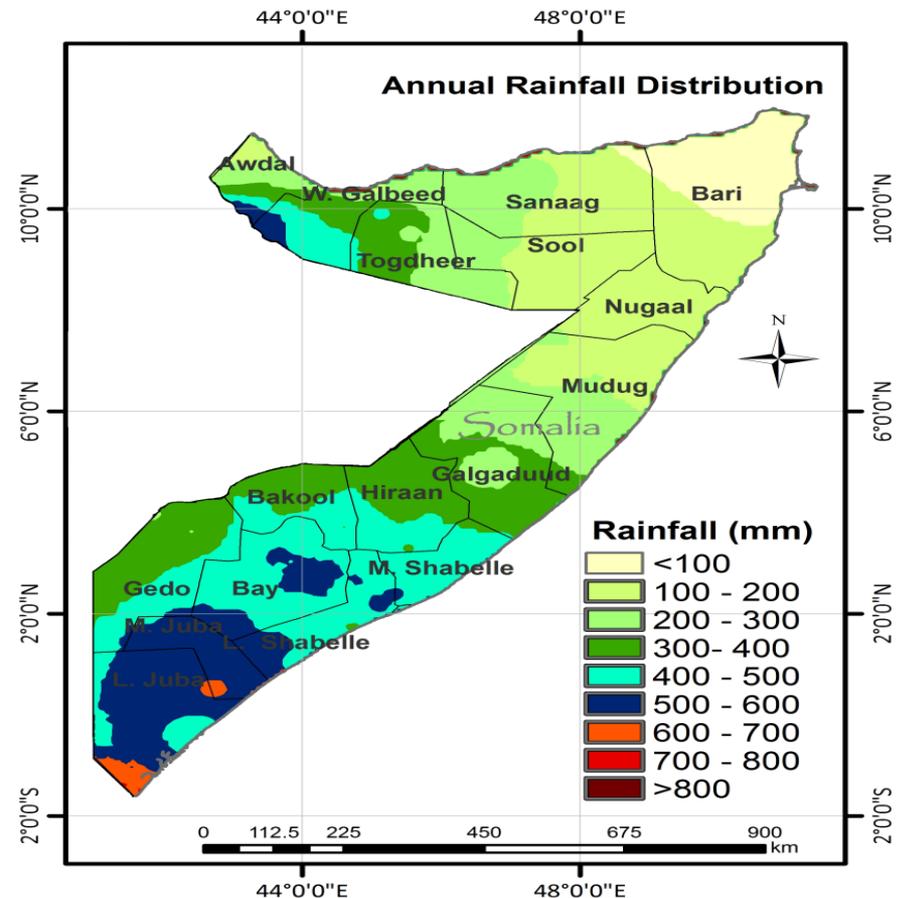
CLIMATE CHANGE HAZARDS & RAINFALL PATTERNS

Hazards

- Drought
- Flooding
- High Temperatures
- Dust Storms & Strong winds

Rainfall in Somalia is generally low and erratic. The country has an average annual rainfall of about 250 mm.

Annual Rainfall distribution in Somalia



KEY SECTORAL AREAS ADAPTIVE TO CLIMATE CHANGE WITH VULNARABILITIES

- **Agriculture & Food Security with Vulnerabilities e.g.**
 - Destruction of standing crops
 - Loss of stored food
 - Soil borne diseases that affect crops
- **Livestock ; e.g.**
 - Loss of animals leading to food insecurity
 - Reduced livestock productivity
- **Water ; e.g.**
 - Declining water found in shallow wells
 - Limited water infiltration to the soil
 - Increased price of water
- **Human Health; e.g.**
 - Increase of mortality of humans and animals
 - Shortage of food leading to malnutrition
 - Increasing psychological disorders due to stress
- **Marine and Coastal Resources; e.g.**
 - Increasing coastal sand dunes
 - Destruction of mangroves
- **Biodiversity; e.g.**
 - Deforestation and cutting down of trees
 - Wildlife hunting increases
 - Wildlife migration
- **Natural Disasters**

MOST VULNERABLE GROUPS

Women:

- Women in rural areas are identified as one of the most vulnerable groups in Somalia;
- The sexual division of labor, unequal access to both material and non-material resources and women's diminished participation in decision-making in both political and private domains generally result in increased vulnerability of women to the impacts of climate change.

Youth:

- Somalia has over 73% of its population below the age of 30 being the highest in the country's history.
- Many young people are trapped in an environment of violence, fear, unemployment and poverty
- Since these young people are jobless and have few opportunities for positive engagement, they become a ready pool of recruits for extremists

EXISTING CHALLENGES

- **Political Disintegration and Poor of Coordination**
 - Particularly the existence of the three distinct regions of Federal Somalia, Puntland and Somaliland make the implementation of national programs challenging
- **Conflict**
 - The African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) peacekeeping force remains active in Somalia in its battle against the Islamic clan based insurgent and terrorist group known as Al Shabaab
- **Climate Data Limitations**
 - Currently, the country lacks the capacity to forecast potential threats of large-scale disasters and has little preparedness to respond and cope with such disastrous events. Lack of data implies that there is no adequate information to develop detailed spatial mapping in planning for risk reduction
- **Human and Financial Capacity Limitations**
 - There is concern that inadequate funding both at the national and international levels may limit the level of implementation of all measures identified in the Somalia NAPA
- **Policy Gaps**
 - There is a lack of approved laws and regulations that are directly linked with climate change including environmental land and maritime laws, regulations and codes of conduct
- **Infrastructure**
 - Poor transportation infrastructure may raise the cost of activities significantly, particularly for the most vulnerable areas

RECOMMENDATIONS

Climate Risk Planning and Management

- Data collection and analysis on incidence of key climate related disaster events (droughts, floods, dusts storms, strong winds).
- Institutional establishment of national early warning system/Agro-Meteorological Service with a focus on climate related risks in areas of high vulnerability.
- Community level mapping of high vulnerability areas to risks of drought and flooding, dusts storms and strong winds, and integration into local disaster risk management plans and responses.

Thank You

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