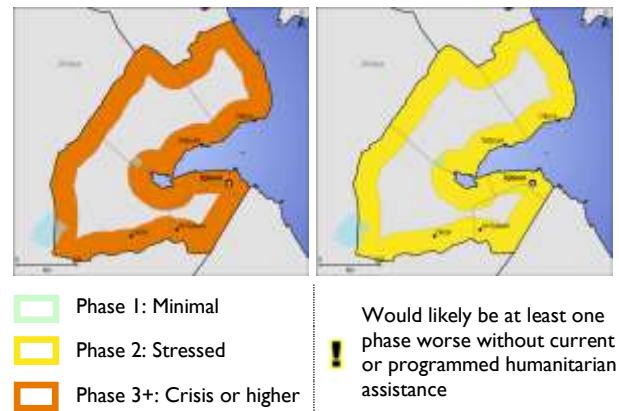


*Improvement in food security expected in late 2017*

**KEY MESSAGES**

- Rainfall during the March to June *Diraac/Sougoum* rainy season has been average to slightly above average, despite minimal rainfall in April. This has restored pasture and water resources in all areas and vegetation conditions are near average. In the Southeast Pastoral Border livelihood zone and areas north of Obock City, though, rangeland conditions are lower than last year.
- Poor pastoralists in the Southeast Pastoral Border livelihood zone are expected to face food consumption gaps and be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) during the ongoing June to September lean season. This is because herd sizes are below average and pastoralists are unable to sell sufficient livestock and milk to purchase adequate food, and other income-earning opportunities are seasonally low. Food security will improve to Stressed (IPC Phase 2) during the October to January period when households have seasonally higher access to milk.
- In early June, Qatar withdrew its peacekeeping forces from the contested border areas between Djibouti and Eritrea. This prompted the Government of Djibouti to send troops to secure the contested territory. Although no food security related impacts have been reported, there is concern that insecurity could further restrict the movement of households towards markets in this area that is already fairly isolated.

Projected food security outcomes, June to September 2017 (left), and October 2017 to January 2018 (right)



Source: FEWS NET

FEWS NET classification is IPC-compatible. IPC-compatible analysis follows key IPC protocols, but does not necessarily reflect the consensus of national food security partners.

FEWS NET Remote Monitoring countries use a colored outline to represent the highest IPC classification in areas of concern.

ZONE	CURRENT ANOMALIES	PROJECTED ANOMALIES
<i>Southeast Pastoral Border Zone and areas north of Obock City</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total cumulative rainfall during the March-June <i>Diraac/Sougoum</i> rainy season was average to above average. Pasture and water resources have improved in most regions of the country. Conditions are lower than last year, but near the short-term mean, in the Southeastern Pastoral Border Zone.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No anomalies are projected</li> </ul>

**PROJECTED OUTLOOK THROUGH JANUARY 2018**

The March to June *Diraac/Sougoum* rainy season has so far been average to slightly above average (Figure 1), despite minimal rainfall in April in some areas. This restored the pasture and water resources in all areas and vegetation conditions are near average. In the Southeast Pastoral Border livelihood zone and areas north of Obock city, though, rangeland conditions are lower than last year (Figure 2).

July to September *Karan/Karma* rainfall is forecast to be average and October to February *Xeys/Dadaa* rains are forecast to be average to above average. With this rainfall, it is expected that pasture and water resources will remain near average throughout the outlook period. In Southeast Pastoral Border livelihood zone, poor households have below average herd sizes. However, some improvements are expected as a result of consecutive seasons of average rainfall, which will support livestock

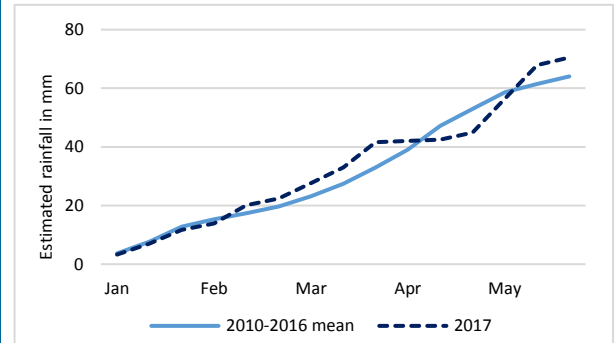
conception and births, and give poor pastoralists fairly good access to milk from October to January.

Food prices on the world market for the 2017/18 marketing season are expected to remain low and stable, according to the [FAO June 2017 outlook](#). Since Djibouti imports the majority of its food from the world market, continued low prices are also expected in Djibouti through at least January 2018. As a result of this and expected normal livestock prices, livestock-to-rice terms of trade are expected to be near average throughout the projection period.

In early June there was some tension along the contested border of Djibouti and Eritrea when Qatar withdrew its peacekeeping forces. This prompted the Government of Djibouti to send troops to secure the contested border territory. Although no food security related impacts have been reported, there is concern that insecurity could restrict the movement of households towards markets in this area that is already considered the most isolated in the country.

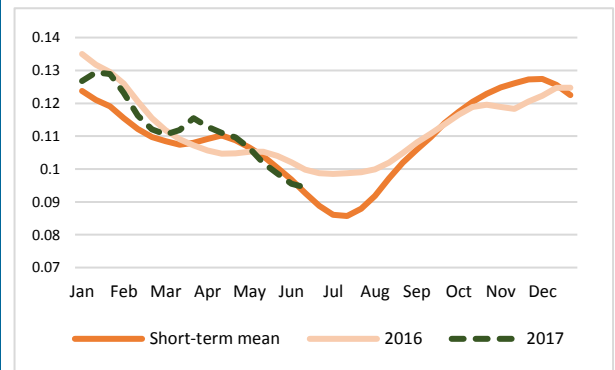
Despite normal access to food on markets due to favorable terms of trade, some poor pastoralists in the Southeast Pastoral-Border livelihood zone are expected to face significant food consumption gaps during the ongoing June to September lean season as herd sizes are below average and households are unable to sell labor and adequate livestock at this time to purchase all food and non-food needs. Food security is expected to improve from Crisis (IPC Phase 3) to Stressed (IPC Phase 2) during the October to January period when job opportunities increase, households have seasonally higher access to milk and livestock conditions improve.

**Figure 1.** Total cumulative rainfall in Ali Sabieh compared to the 2001-2010 mean, CHIRPS



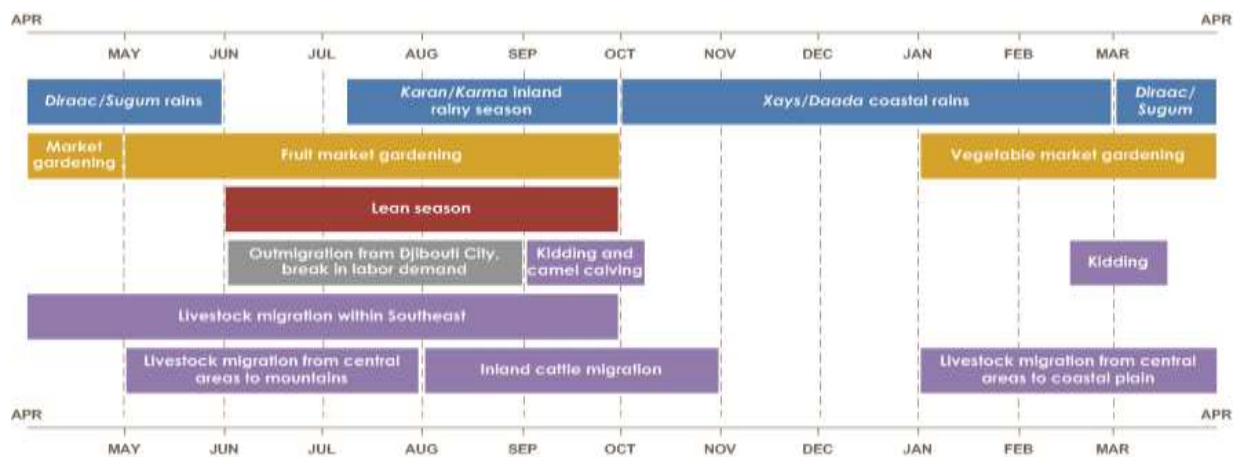
Source: FEWS NET/USGS

**Figure 2.** Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI), Ali Sabieh



Source: FEWS NET/USGS

**SEASONAL CALENDAR FOR A TYPICAL YEAR**



Source: FEWS NET

**ABOUT REMOTE MONITORING**

In remote monitoring, a coordinator typically works from a nearby regional office. Relying on partners for data, the coordinator uses scenario development to conduct analysis and produce monthly reports. As less data may be available, remote monitoring reports may have less detail than those from countries with FEWS NET offices. [Learn more about our work here.](#)