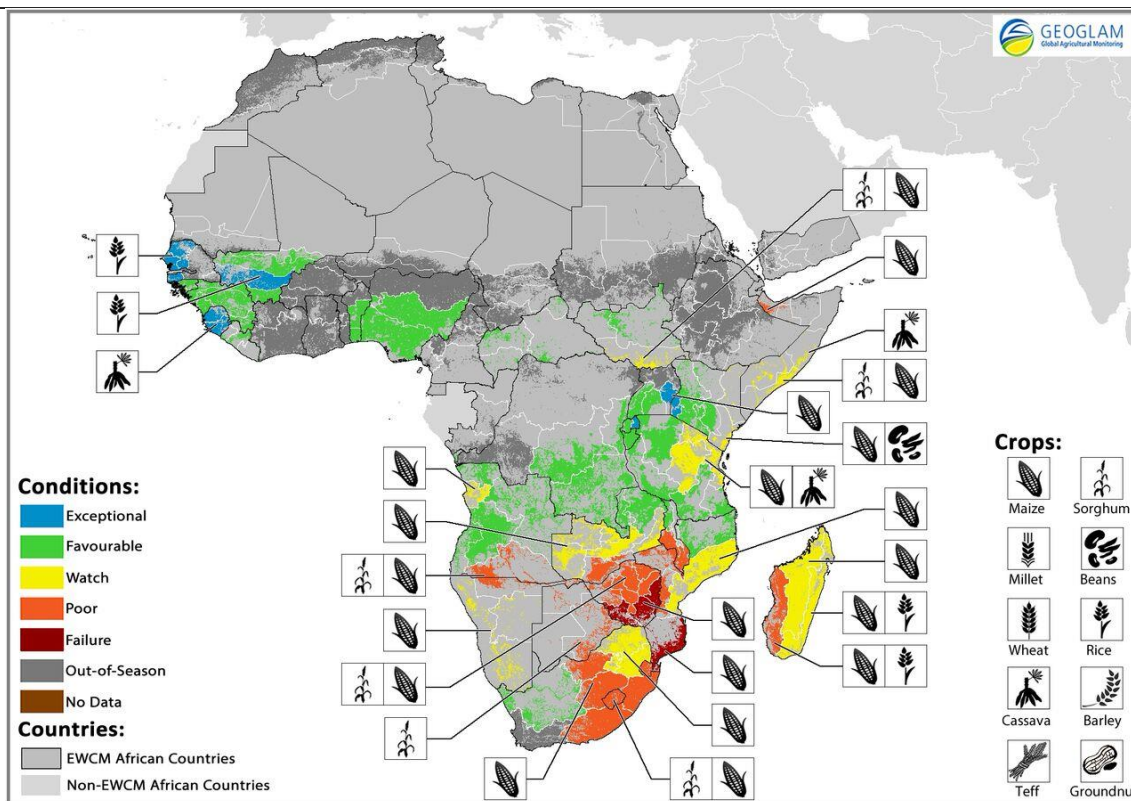


GEOGLAM Early Warning Crop Monitor

Crop Conditions at a glance as of January 28th



Crop condition map synthesizing information for all EWCM crops. Crop conditions over the main growing areas are based on a combination of national and regional crop analyst inputs along with earth observation data. **Crops that are in other than favourable conditions are displayed on the map with their crop symbol**

SOUTHERN AFRICA: A severe drought driven by El Niño is impacting croplands across southern Africa leading to significant reductions in planted area and to poor conditions and failed crops across broad areas.

EAST AFRICA: Current conditions are mostly favourable, however poor rainfall distribution and quantity affected parts of Kenya, Somalia and Tanzania. The recently concluded Meher harvest in Ethiopia was very poor due to the severe drought

conditions that prevailed during the main June-September rainy season of 2015.

WEST AFRICA: Currently the majority of the region is out of season. End of season conditions were largely favourable over the growing regions with the exception of a few areas in Ghana, Cameroon and Chad, which had experienced poor rainfall distribution, towards the end of the season.

El Niño

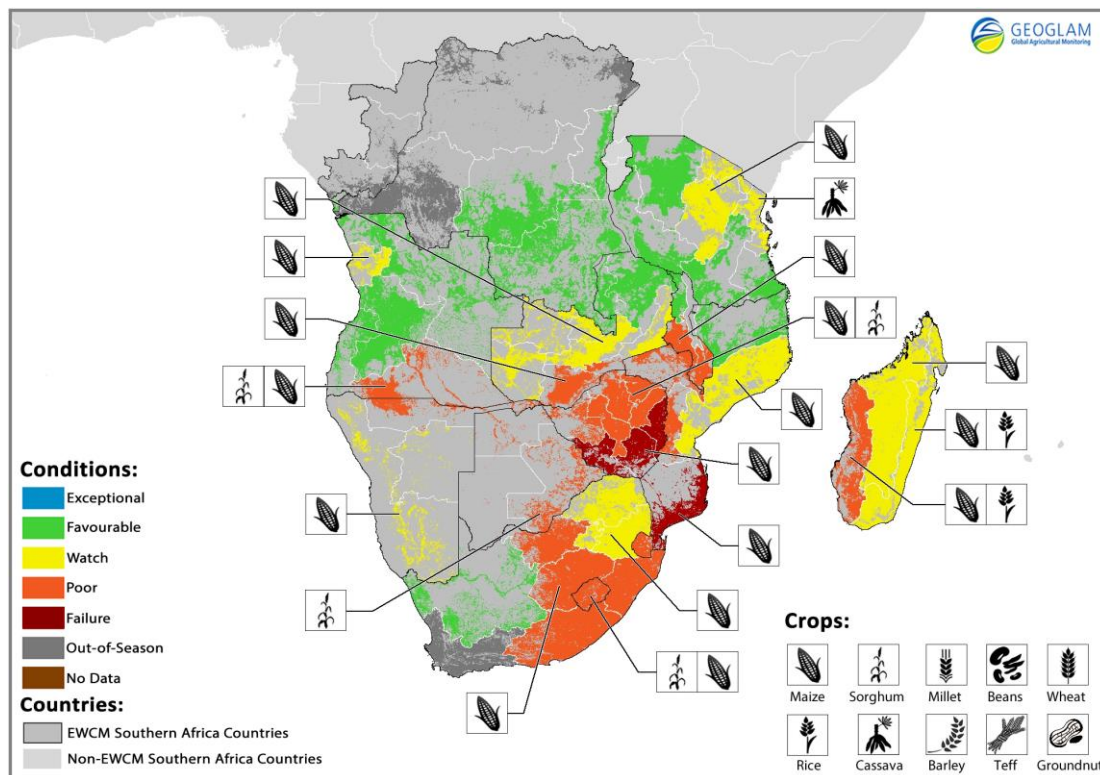
The El Niño of 2015-2016 peaked in late November-early December, but remains strong and will only decline to neutral around June. The growing season in South Africa has been characterized by severe drought, with many crop growing areas having their driest early season since 1981. As a consequence, maize production is projected to be down by 35% compared to average, and imports to the region will be required to meet needs both nationally and in neighbouring countries that are likewise drought stricken. Drought is expected to continue in Southeast Asia and across northern South America.

The GEOGLAM Early Warning Crop Monitor (EWCM):

Brings together the international, regional, and national organizations monitoring crop conditions within countries at risk of food insecurity. The focus is on developing timely consensus assessments of crop conditions, recognizing that reaching a consensus will help to strengthen confidence in decision making. The EWCM grew out of a successful collaborative relationship, the AMIS Crop Monitor, which monitors the main producing countries (<http://www.amis-outlook.org/>). This is the first bulletin but future EWCM assessments will include all countries shown in blue in the adjacent panel.

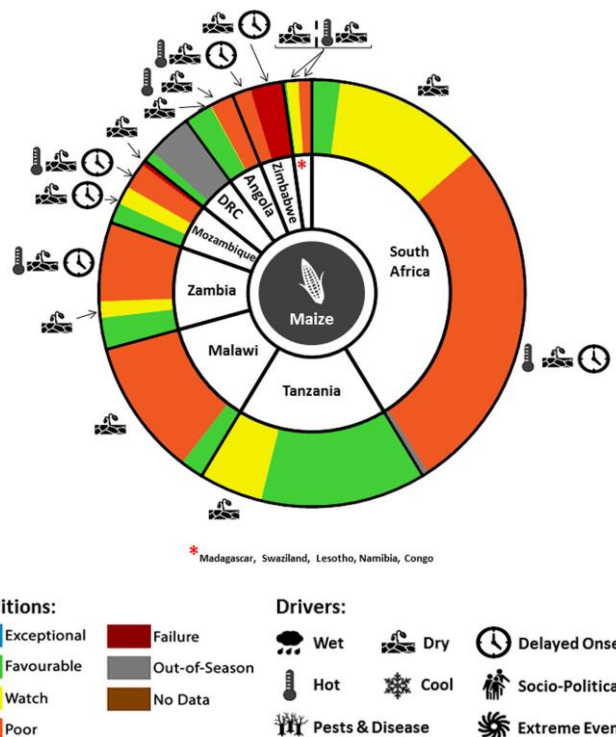


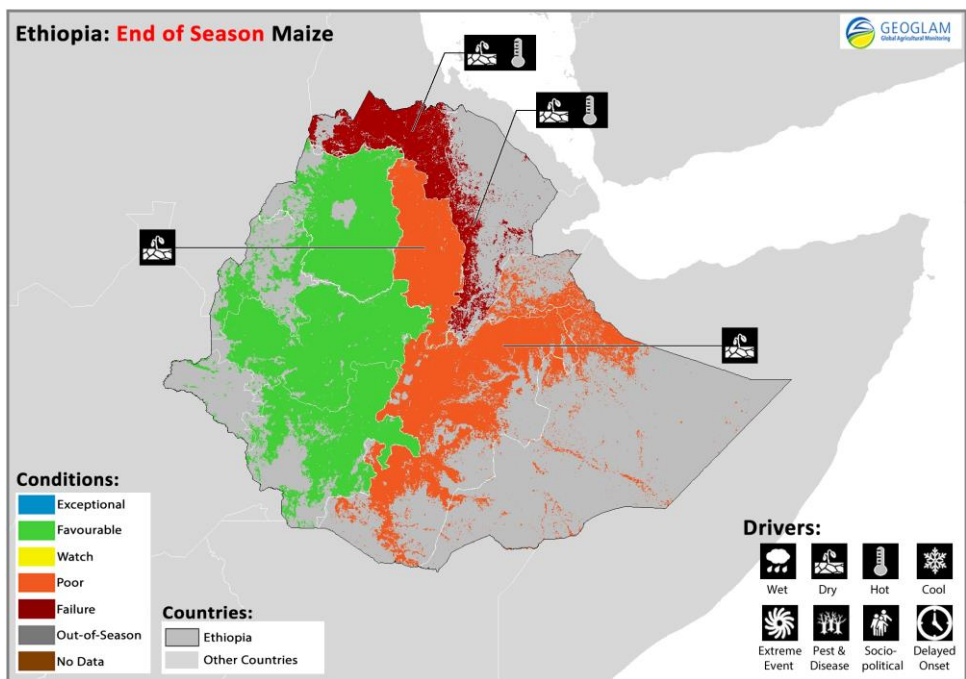
Southern Africa



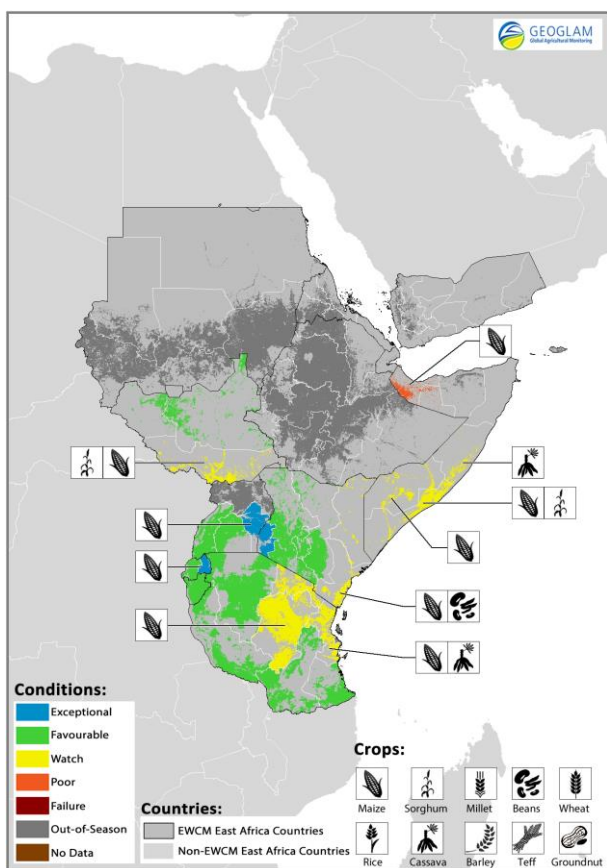
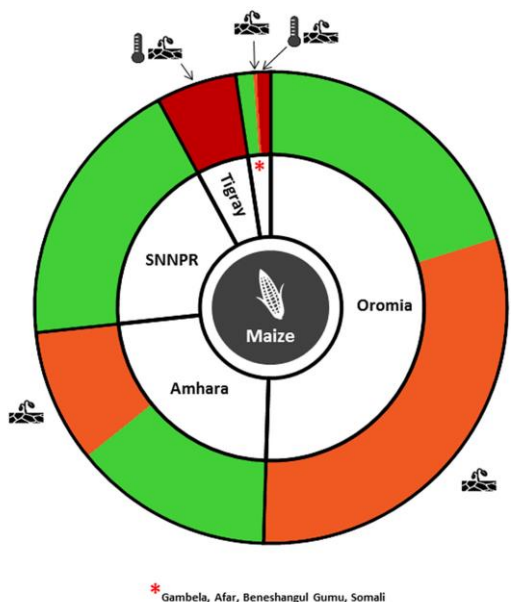
Crop condition map synthesizing information for all EWCM crops. Crop conditions over the main growing areas are based on a combination of national and regional crop analyst inputs along with earth observation data. **Crops that are in other than favourable conditions are displayed on the map with their crop symbol.**

Southern Africa is experiencing an intense drought associated with one of the strongest El Niño events of the past 50 years. The regional maize crop has been impacted by delays in the onset of rains, significant reductions in planted area, and very poor conditions for early crop development over broad areas. Seasonal forecasts indicate that hot and dry conditions will continue through the rest of the season. In South Africa, which is ordinarily an important regional exporter, production is projected to be 35% below average. Millions of people will require humanitarian assistance in 2016-2017, notably in Zimbabwe, Malawi, Mozambique, Lesotho, and Madagascar. Imports from outside the region will be needed to meet these needs. It should be noted that this follows a poor season in 2014-2015 in large parts of the region.



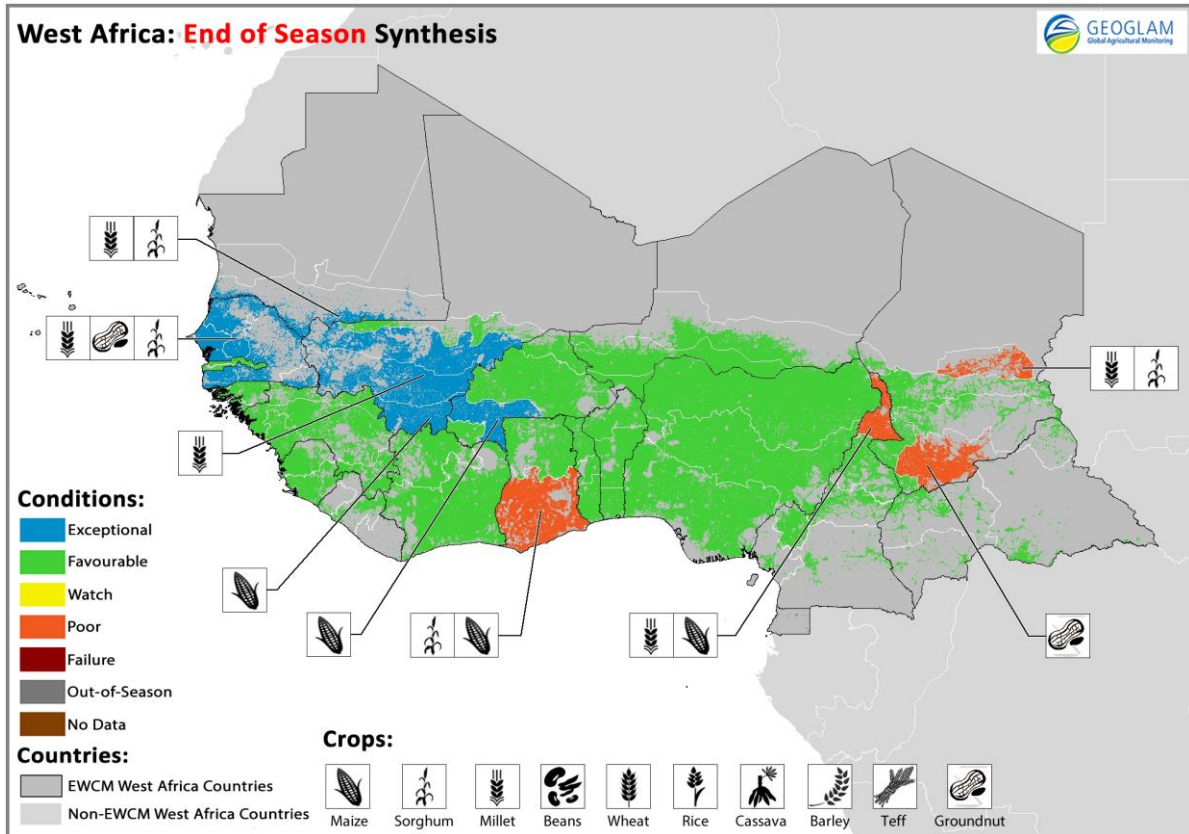


In Ethiopia, the very poor outcome of the recently concluded Meher harvest for the main June-September rainy season of 2015 reflects the impact of the severe drought associated with El Niño. March through September rainfall totals for central/eastern Ethiopia were the lowest in more than 50 years. Crop production in impacted areas is down by 25 to 70% below average. In a region where important parts of the population are chronically food insecure and highly vulnerable to food price increases, this will require additional emergency assistance to meet basic



needs for food and water for millions. By contrast, the October through December rains have been generally favourable for much of the main cropping areas of western and central Kenya, central and western Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, and parts of Somalia. However, there were localized areas where planting was delayed and the quantity and distribution of rainfall was poor. The worst-affected areas are parts of marginal agricultural areas in southeastern Kenya, parts of southern Somalia, and northeastern Tanzania, where crops are showing signs of moisture stress that is likely to result in reduced yields.

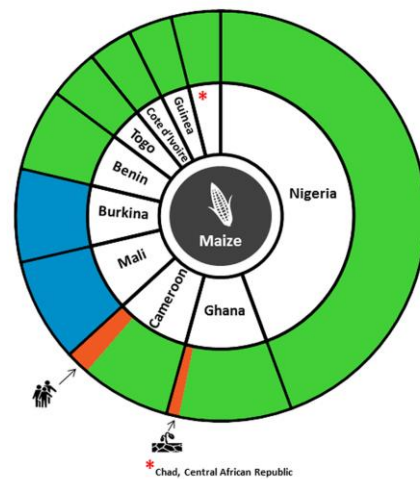
West Africa: End of Season Conditions



Crop condition map synthesizing information for all EWCM crops. Crop conditions over the main growing areas are based on a combination of national and regional crop analyst inputs along with earth observation data. **Crops that are in other than favourable conditions are displayed on the map with their crop symbol**

The majority of the region is out of season and the end of season conditions are largely favourable. In West Africa and part of Central Africa (Chad, Cameroon, CAR), the start and end of season is latitude dependent. The length of the growing period is longer in the south where it starts in March and ends in October-November and shorter in the north where it starts in June and ends in October. The region also includes a bi-modal zone where the long season starts in March and ends in July and the short season starts in September and ends in November, the two are separated by a brief dry season that lasts for about a month and takes place normally in August. In the uni-modal zone, the start of the season was characterized by poor rainfall distribution particularly in the Sahelian and Sudanian-Sahelian zones, where planting was delayed. However, the months of July, August and September were generally characterized by average to above average and well distributed rains except in the eastern part of the Sahel that suffered from poor rainfall distribution toward the end of the season in late September and early October. Growing conditions have been favourable over the three agro-climatological zones. In the bi-modal zone, however, the short dry season started earlier than normal and extended

through mid-September, resulting in a production shortfall, particularly for maize.



i Pie chart description

Each slice represents a country's share of total average regional production, in the case of the regional charts, and total national production in the case of the national charts. Sections within each country are weighted by the average sub-national production statistics of the respective country.

Sources and Disclaimers: The Crop Monitor assessment is conducted by GEOGLAM with inputs from the following partners FEWS NET, JRC, WFP and UMD. The findings and conclusions in this joint multi-agency report are consensual statements from the GEOGLAM experts, and do not necessarily reflect those of the individual agencies represented by these experts. More detailed information on the GEOGLAM crop assessments is available at www.geoglam-crop-monitor.org