

Crop condition map synthesizing information for all Early Warning Crop Monitor crops as of April 28th. Crop conditions over the main growing areas are based on a combination of inputs including remotely sensed data, ground observations, field reports, national, and regional experts. **Regions that are in other than favourable conditions are displayed on the map along with a symbol representing the crops affected.** 

**SOUTHERN AFRICA:** Poor conditions and crop failure across the region continue to impact millions of people as the main growing season draws to a close. Although in most drought affected regions, recent rainfall came too late to improve conditions, some improvements were observed in northern parts of the region including in parts of Zambia and Botswana.

**EAST AFRICA:** The season recently began, and crops are in early stages of development with overall favourable conditions in the main growing areas. Much needed rainfall in April improved conditions in parts of Ethiopia. There is some concern over earlier dry conditions in parts of Somalia, Kenya and Ethiopia, though it is still early in the season and conditions can improve with timely rainfall.

**WEST AFRICA:** West Africa is still mostly out of season. Conditions remain favourable for the crops that are currently in season.

**NORTH AFRICA:** Severe drought conditions across the region is causing crop failure in large parts of Morocco and raising concerns in Western Algeria and South Eastern Tunisia.

**SOUTHEAST ASIA:** El Niño continues to negatively impact large areas of Southeast Asia. Harvest has begun for the dry season crop and conditions are poor in Thailand and Laos. Conditions have improved in Indonesia.

**CENTRAL AMERICA & CARIBBEAN:** Most regions remain out of season

# El Niño declining

The 2015-2016 El Niño moderated in strength in April and is expected be replaced by neutral conditions in the coming months. Consistent with this trend in the Pacific, drought conditions will likely persist through May and June in Southeast Asia and northern South America, accompanied by above average temperatures increasing the impact of the dryness. In the same period, southeast Brazil and Uruguay should see continuation of above average rainfall. Although by July there should be no further effects of El Niño and the event will have come to a close, the impact on food security will only reach its peak in late 2016/early 2017 in East and Southern Africa. Looking beyond the end of the northern hemisphere growing season, there are increasing odds of a transition to La Niña conditions by November. Model projections put the chance of that occurring at about 60 percent, which is double the long-term average probability of La Niña in that month. Such conditions could bring drought to the October-December rainy season in parts of the Greater Horn of Africa, a region already severely impacted by El Niño in 2015.





### Southern Africa:



Crop condition map synthesizing information for maize as of April 28th. Crop conditions over the main growing areas are based on a combination of inputs including remotely sensed data, ground observations, field reports, national and regional experts. **Conditions that are in other than** *favourable conditions are displayed on the map with their driver.* 

Across southern Africa, poor conditions and crop failure persisted throughout large parts of the region due to the severe drought attributed to El Niño. Harvest is ongoing in many areas and the season is expected to draw to a close by next month. Rainfall in March and April was largely too late to significantly improve crop conditions in most regions, although some improvements were observed in parts of Zambia, Botswana and Mozambigue. Serious concerns remain, as humanitarian assistance needs continue to rise across the region and especially in the most food insecure areas such as Zimbabwe and Mozambique. In South Africa, a major regional exporter, maize production is ca. 40% below the 5-year average, due to large reductions in planted area, and major decreases in yield. This is the second consecutive season with significantly reduced production, further fueling food security concerns in the region. Conditions in Tanzania, the second largest producer in the region, continue to be favourable.



### East Africa:



Crop condition map synthesizing information for maize as of April 28th. Crop conditions over the main growing areas are based on a combination of inputs including remotely sensed data, ground observations, field reports, national, and regional experts. Crops that are in other than favourable conditions are displayed on the map.

In East Africa, the growing season has begun across most of the region, and crops are in early development stages. Overall conditions are favourable in the primary growing regions, however there are concerns due to dry conditions and delayed start of season in parts of Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia. Relative to last month, conditions have generally improved owing to timely rainfall, most notably in Ethiopia, where the Belg season, which accounts for ca. 10% of national production, is in progress. Conditions in Kenya are mixed due to earlier dry conditions in the eastern half of the country, however it is still early in the season, and conditions can improve with timely rainfall. The rainy season has begun in Somalia but initial rainfall amounts are low. In Tanzania, and Uganda conditions are generally favourable.



Extreme Event

### Southeast Asia



Crop condition map synthesizing information for rice as of April 28th. Crop conditions over the main growing areas are based on a combination of inputs including remotely sensed data, ground observations, field reports, national, and regional experts. **Conditions that are in other than** *favourable conditions are displayed on the map with their driver* 

The current El Niño continues to influence crop conditions in Southeast Asia. Harvest has begun in most countries for the dry season crop. El Niño impacts are most prominent in Laos and Thailand, where conditions continue to be poor. For Thailand, the yield is forecast to decrease due to insufficient water for cultivation and pest outbreaks throughout the season. Low levels of the Mekong River and saltwater intrusion in Viet Nam are negatively impacting the crop in the southern region; though crop conditions in the northern region continue to be favourable. Conditions for the wet season crop in Indonesia are favourable owing to sufficient irrigation, water and sunlight. Yield this season is estimated to be higher than the last two years. In the Philippines, concerns continue due to insufficient water, intense heat and pest outbreaks.



## North Africa



Crop condition map synthesizing information for all crops as of April 28th. Crop conditions over the main growing areas are based on a combination of inputs including remotely sensed data, ground observations, field reports, national, and regional experts. **Regions that are in other than favourable** conditions are displayed on the map along with a symbol representing the crops affected.

A severe drought is affecting large areas across northern Africa. Morocco has been affected since November by a historical drought leading to crop failure and very low yield expectations for wheat and barley, which are mainly rainfed. The drought also affected parts of western Algeria, while overall mild winter conditions prevailed in the whole Maghreb with very early crop development. Higher rainfall levels were received in eastern Algeria and northern Tunisia which may results in mean production at national level despite critical pockets of crop failure in the centralsouthern growing area in Tunisia.

Information on crop conditions in the main production and export countries can be found in the <u>AMIS Market Monitor</u>, published May 5th 2016.



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.

More detailed information on the GEOGLAM crop assessments is available at <u>www.geoglam-crop-monitor.org</u>

Sources and Disclaimers: The Crop Monitor assessment is conducted by GEOGLAM with inputs from the following partners FEWS NET, JRC, WFP, ARC, Asia RiCE, 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.