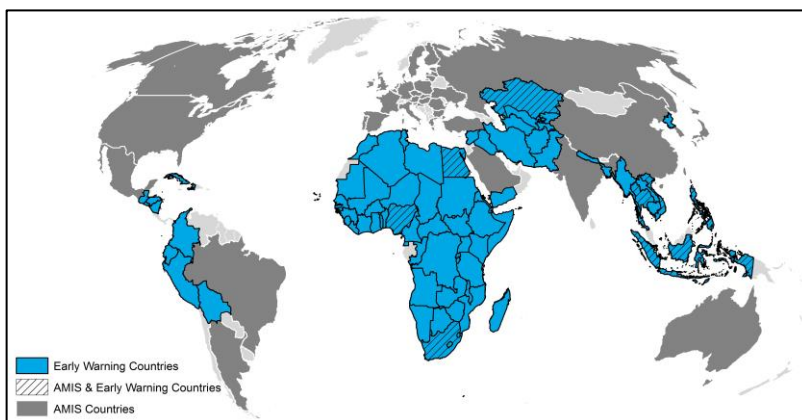


# CROP MONITOR FOR EARLY WARNING

## NO. 20

### September 2017

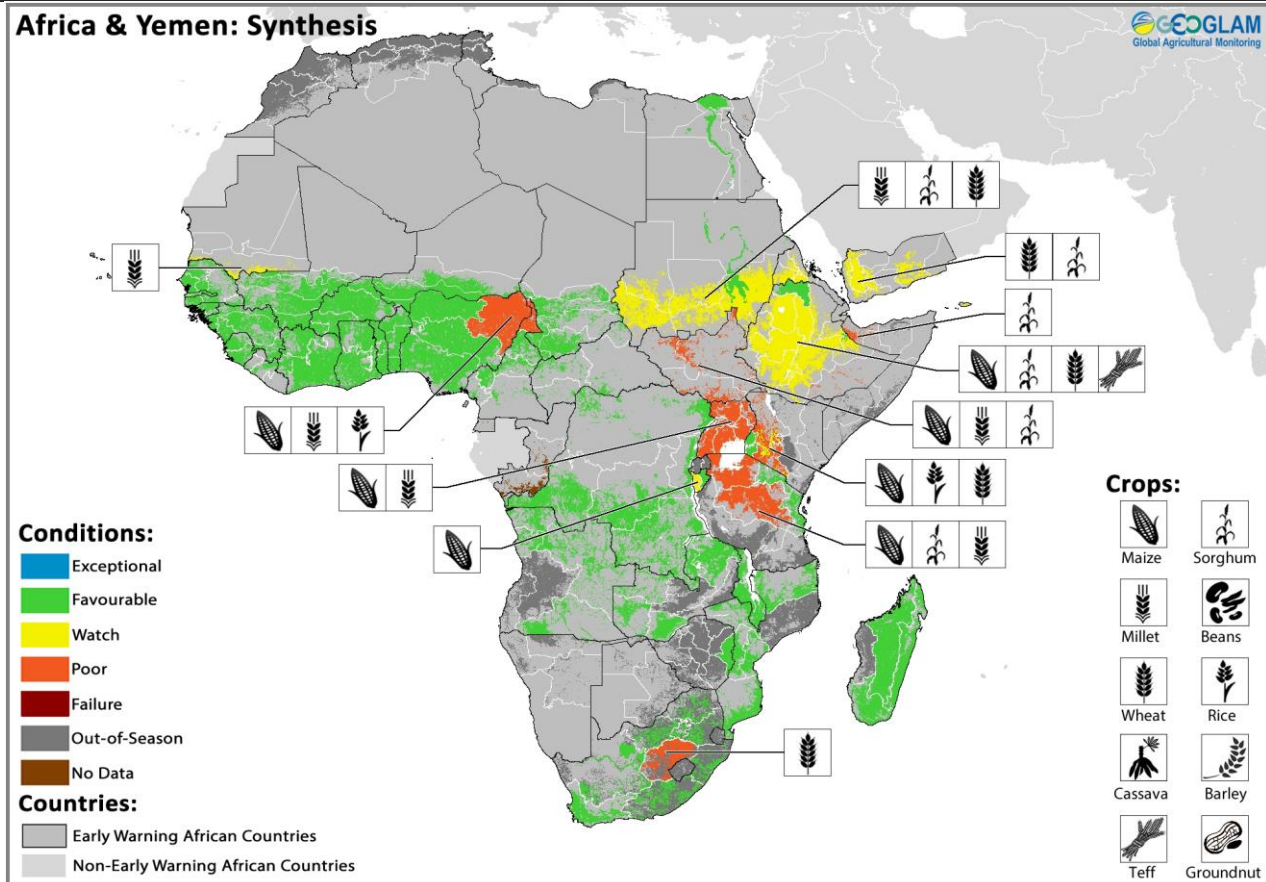
The Crop Monitor for Early Warning brings together international, regional, and national organizations monitoring crop conditions within countries at risk of food insecurity. The focus is on developing timely consensus assessments of crop conditions, recognizing that reaching a consensus will help to strengthen confidence in decision making. The Early Warning Crop Monitor grew out of a successful collaborative relationship, the AMIS Crop Monitor ([www.amis-outlook.org/](http://www.amis-outlook.org/)), which monitors the main producing countries.



# GEOGLAM Crop Monitor for Early Warning

## Crop Conditions at a glance

based on best available information as of August 28<sup>th</sup>



Crop condition map synthesizing information for all Crop Monitor for Early Warning crops as of August 28<sup>th</sup>. 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 labeled on the map with a symbol representing the crop(s) affected.**

**EAST AFRICA:** In the north of the subregion over Sudan, Ethiopia and parts of South Sudan the main season started in June under generally favourable conditions as seasonal rains had an early onset and average to above-average amounts however areas of concern remain in Ethiopia due to ongoing fall armyworm outbreaks and dry conditions and in Sudan due to flood events in August. The main season ended last month across the south of the sub region with poor end of season conditions over most areas and failure conditions over Somalia and Kenya triggering increased food prices and food mobilization efforts for areas most affected.

**WEST AFRICA:** The major season crops have reached complete maturity across the bimodal zone of West Africa and harvest is in progress with favourable production prospects across all areas.

**CENTRAL AND SOUTH ASIA:** Across Central and South Asia spring wheat is underway and conditions are favourable due to good rains and temperatures supporting crop growth.

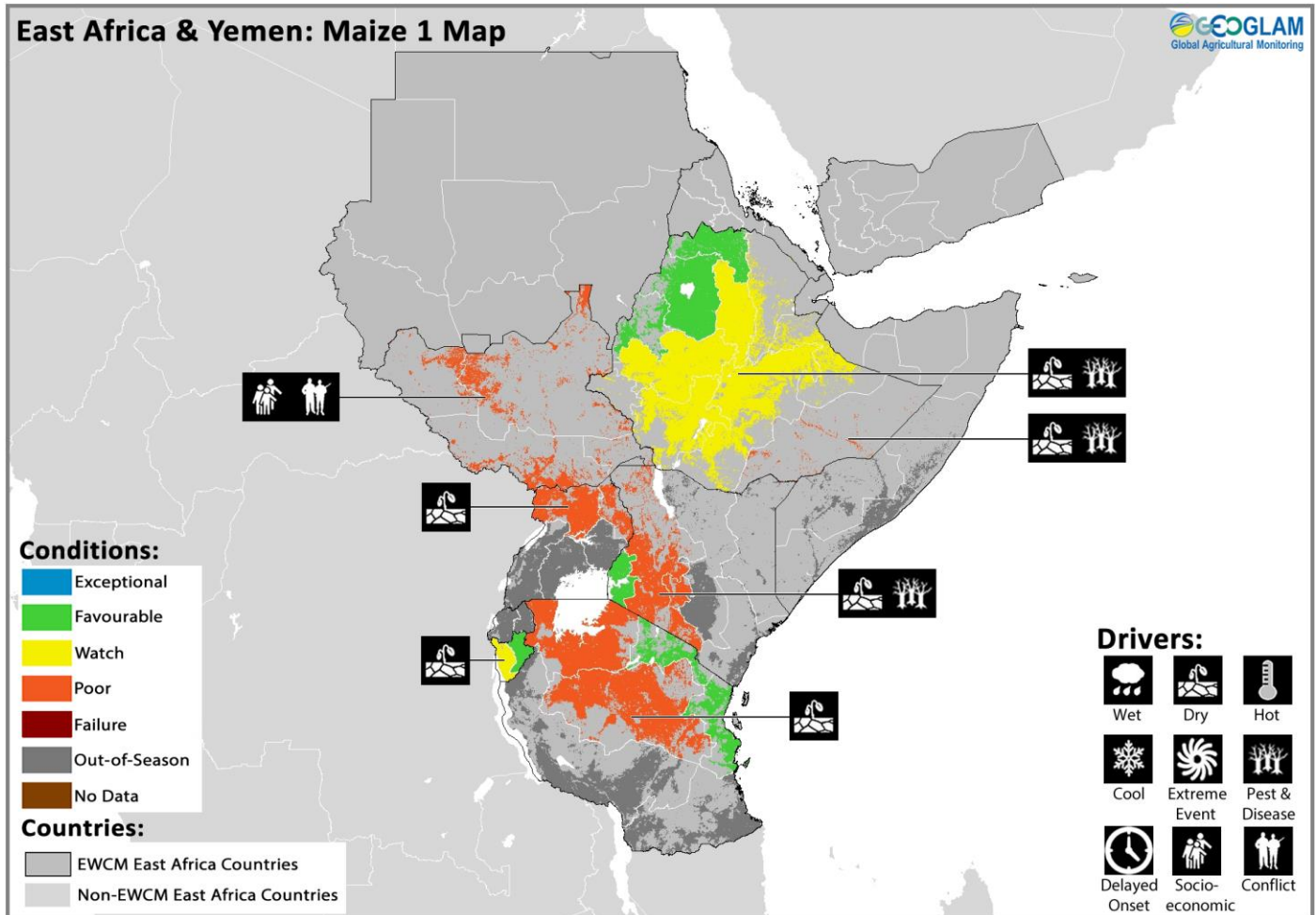
**MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA:** The season is complete across all areas excepting Egypt where harvests will begin in October and main season prospects are favourable.

**SOUTHERN AFRICA:** Across Southern Africa winter crops are developing and conditions are generally favourable however, dry conditions persist over Western Cape and Free State, South Africa.

**SOUTHEAST ASIA:** In northern SE Asia, wet season rice is in vegetative stage and under favourable conditions. Heavy rains continued from late July into early August across Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and North Vietnam with some damage incurred from flood events. In Indonesia, harvesting of dry season rice is now underway and prospects are favourable.

**CENTRAL AMERICA & CARIBBEAN:** The *primera* season is underway across Central America and conditions are generally favourable with good rains received.

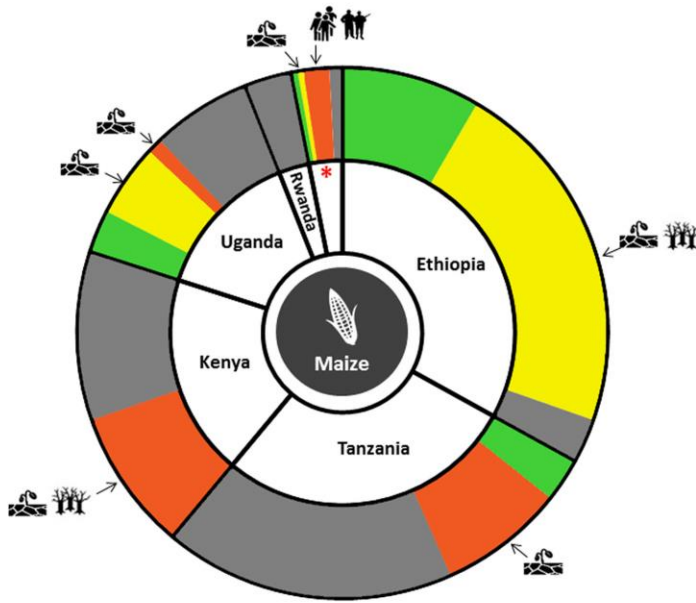
## East Africa and Yemen:



Crop condition map synthesizing conditions as of August 28<sup>th</sup>. 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 other than favourable are labeled on the map with their driver.**

In the north of the subregion over Sudan, Ethiopia and parts of South Sudan the main season is ongoing under generally favourable conditions as seasonal rains had an early onset and average to above-average amounts. The main season ended last month across the south of the sub region and failure conditions over Somalia and Kenya have increased food prices and triggered food mobilization efforts. In **Ethiopia**, early prospects for the *meher* crop planted in June are generally favourable with abundant and well distributed seasonal *kiremt* rains. However, there is concern over central areas of Oromia and SNNPR from ongoing dry conditions and presence of fall armyworm, control operations are underway and the full impact FAW is still unknown. In agro-pastoral areas of southeastern Ethiopia (southern Somali region) the dismal performance of the March-May *gu* rainy season resulted in a sharply reduced sorghum and maize output. In **Eritrea** and **Djibouti**, there is concern across all areas due to dry conditions affecting winter wheat, sorghum, and millet crops. In **Sudan**, sorghum and millet crops are ongoing and conditions are favourable due to above average rainfall. However, despite heavy rainfall in August there is concern over North and West Darfur, northern Gadaref and southern Kassala states from a prolonged dry spell in July followed by heavy rains in August triggering floods and damaging planted crops. In addition, persistent high rainfall has led the government to declare a high level of alert due to potential flood risk along the River Nile. In **South Sudan**, despite favourable weather, conditions are poor for main season crops due to ongoing widespread insecurity disrupting agricultural activities. In **Kenya**, despite improved rainfall in July and August offsetting moisture deficits for late planted crops in the Rift Valley and central areas, overall production is estimated at 20-30% below average due to irreversible drought damage early in the season. Despite generally poor conditions across the West, Bungoma, Trans Nzoia, and upper Kirinyaga counties have favourable crop prospects. In **Uganda**, the 2017 first season harvest was recently concluded in by-modal rainfall areas and is estimated at below-average levels as seasonal rainfall was poor and erratic in several southwestern and northern districts. In the uni-modal rainfall Karamoja Region, where sorghum and millet are predominantly grown, harvesting is expected to start in September with about a one-month delay. Crop production is forecast at below-average levels, as seasonal rains had a delayed onset, an erratic temporal distribution and below-average cumulative amounts despite improved late season rains in July and August.

In the **United Republic of Tanzania**, the harvest of *msimu* crops, was recently completed, as it started in June/July with a delay of more than one month due to early season dryness. Crop production was above-average in most key-growing areas of southern highlands, including Mbeya and Iringa regions, as late season rains offset the moisture deficits due to a late onset of seasonal rains. By contrast, a reduced output was gathered in central Tabora, Singida and Dodoma regions due to persisting dryness. Harvesting of minor *masika* crops has been also recently completed in northeastern bi-modal areas, and the output is estimated at below-average levels due to poor rains in northern Arusha, Mwanza and Shinyanga regions. In **Somalia**, harvest of the *gu* season crop is complete and production was reported at 50% of the average due to failure of seasonal rains. Persistent drought and crop failure has led to large scale population displacement and crisis conditions which are expected to worsen in September as household stocks deplete. In the north west long cycle crops are also performing poorly and farmers atypically planted short cycle sorghum crops in July to be harvested in November to support household consumption. In **Yemen**, concern remains for winter wheat and sorghum crops across all areas due to ongoing conflict impacting agricultural activities.



\* South Sudan, Burundi, Somalia

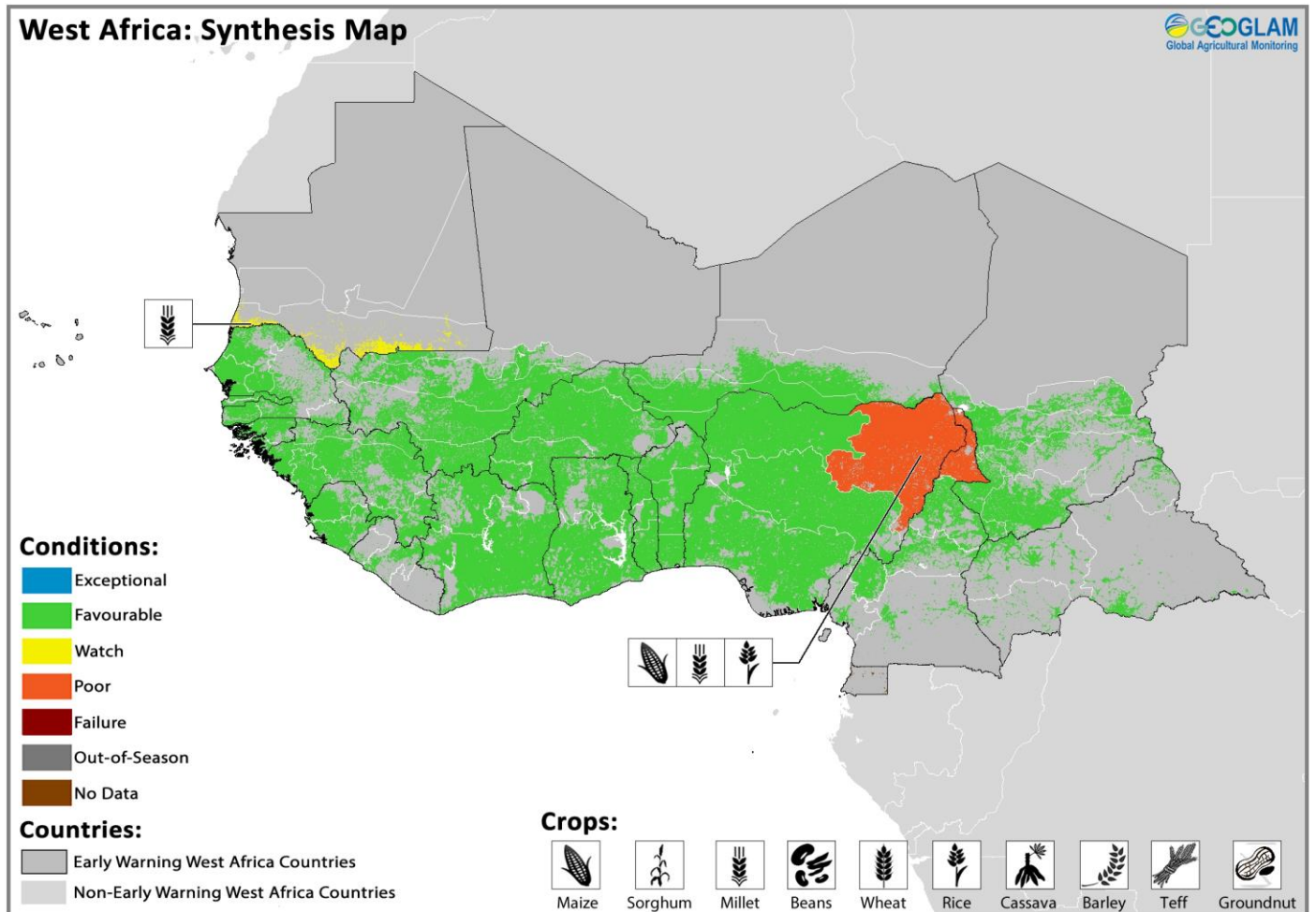
**Conditions:**

- Exceptional
- Favourable
- Watch
- Poor
- Failure
- Out-of-Season
- No Data

**Drivers:**

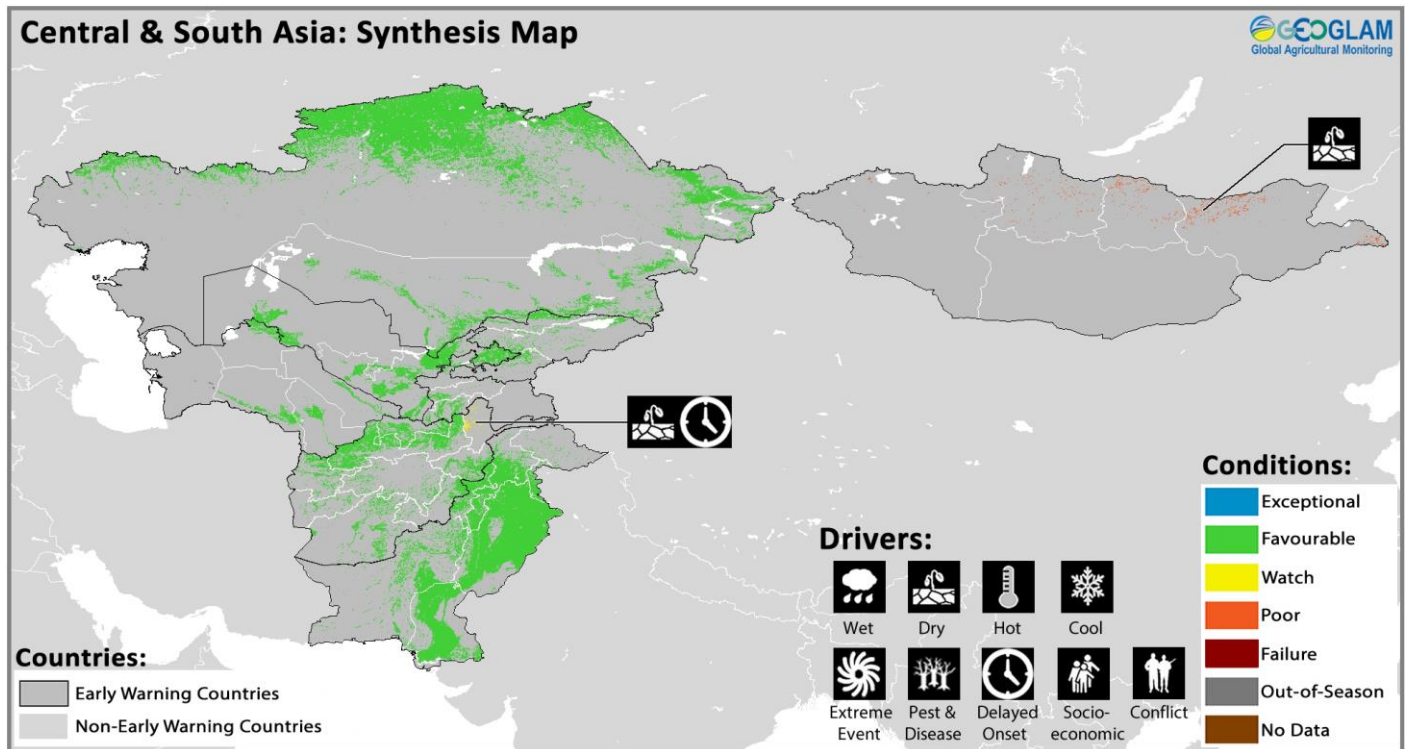
- Wet
- Dry
- Hot
- Cool
- Pests & Disease
- Delayed Onset
- Extreme Event
- Socio-Economic
- Conflict

## West Africa



Across the bimodal zone of West Africa harvest is underway for main season crops with favourable production prospects across all areas. In **Cameroon**, conditions are generally favourable however, concern remains in Extreme Nord from conflict in the northeast of Nigeria over Borno state impacting agricultural practices on both sides of the border. In **Nigeria**, overall conditions are favourable however, concern remains in the northeast Borno state from ongoing conflict impacting agricultural practices.

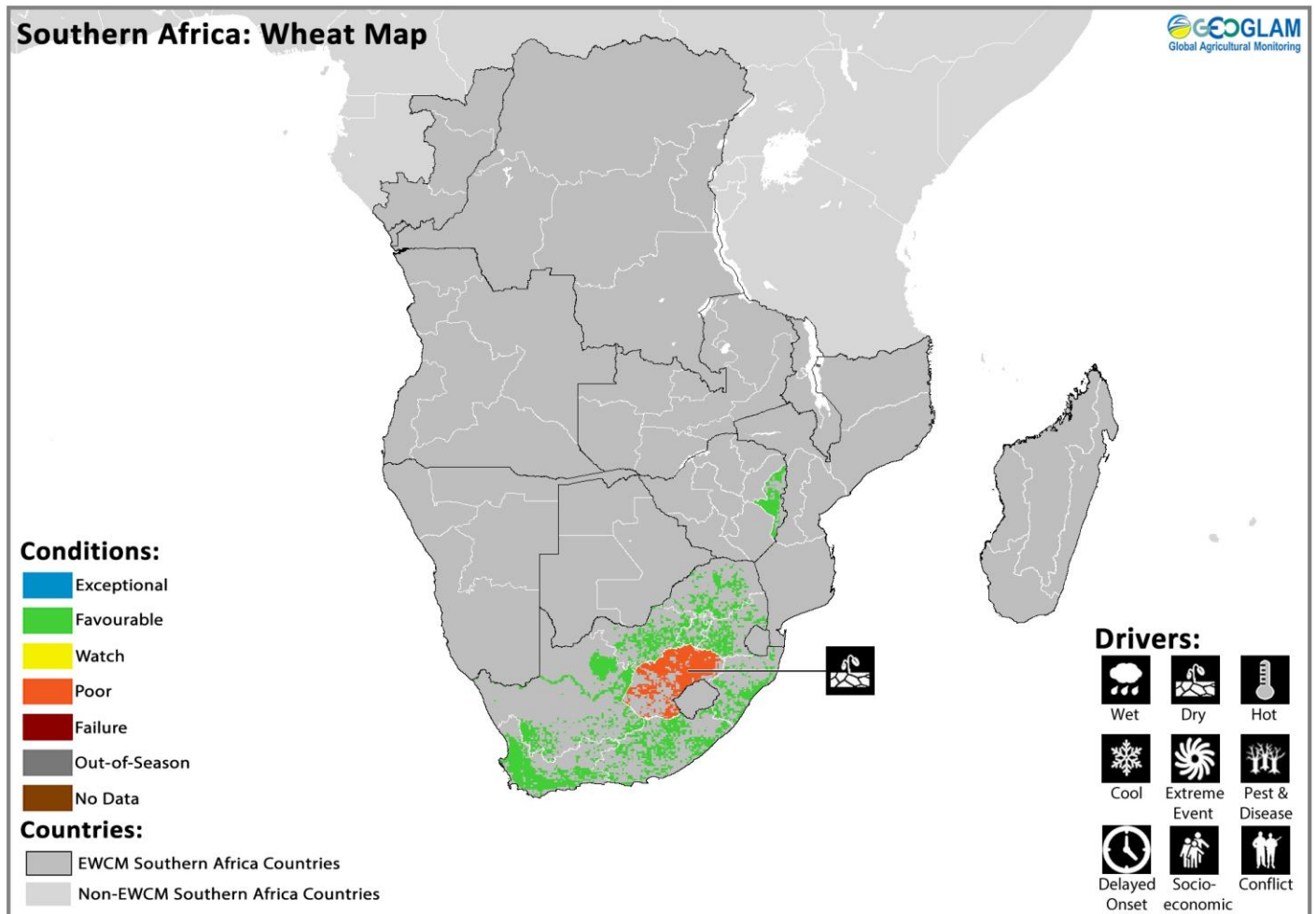
Crop condition map synthesizing information as of August 28<sup>th</sup>. Crop conditions over the main growing areas are based on a combination of inputs including remotely sensed data, ground observations, field reports, national, and regional experts. **Conditions that are other than favourable are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

**Central and South Asia:**

Crop condition map synthesizing information as of August 28<sup>th</sup>. 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 other than favourable are labeled on the map with their driver.**

Across Central and South Asia spring wheat is underway and conditions are favourable due to good rains and temperatures supporting crop growth. In **Kyrgystan, Kazakstan, and Tajikistan**, spring wheat is ongoing under favourable conditions, harvests will continue through October. In **Afghanistan**, spring wheat and second season rainfed crop conditions are generally favourable. However, there is concern in the northeast due to a delayed onset of the season and pro-longed dry periods impacting rainfed cropping areas of Badakhshan province. In addition, Northern Mountain provinces of Samangan, Baghlan, and Takhar, have shown slightly below average vegetation conditions in rainfed areas, due to delayed onset of the season and prolonged dry spells. In **Pakistan**, conditions are favourable for the main season rice crop. In **Mongolia**, the 2017 wheat crop is in grain filling stage and will be harvested in September. Poor rains and hot temperatures in June through August over the main producing provinces impacted crop development at critical development stages and harvest prospects are poor.

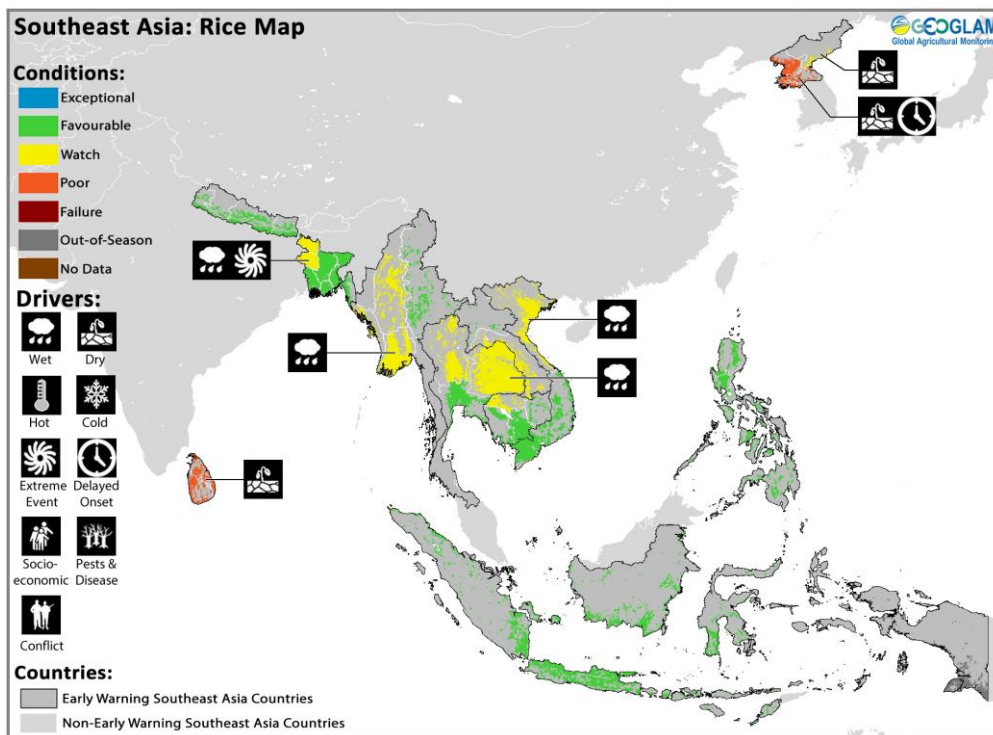
## Southern Africa:



Crop condition map synthesizing information as of August 28<sup>th</sup>. 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 labeled on the map with their driver.**

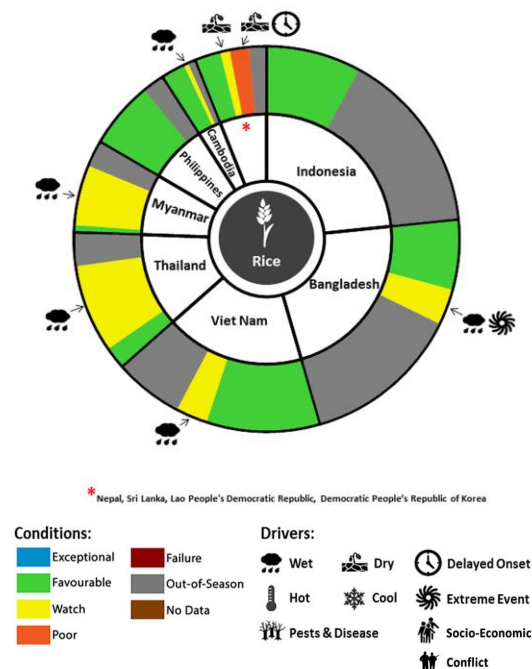
In Southern Africa the winter wheat crop is developing under mostly favourable conditions, however concern remains over parts of South Africa due to dry conditions at the start of the season impacting production prospects. In **Zimbabwe**, conditions are favourable for the winter wheat crop with good rainfall in August supporting crop development. In **South Africa**, although conditions have improved with good rains in August over the main producing Western Cape province, as a result of reduced plantings and dry conditions at the start of the season, production in this province is expected to be around 20% below the 2016 output. In Free State, production prospects are below average due to poor rainfall amounts since the start of the season and persisting dry conditions. Overall, current indications point to a decline in the national output in 2017.

## Southeast Asia:



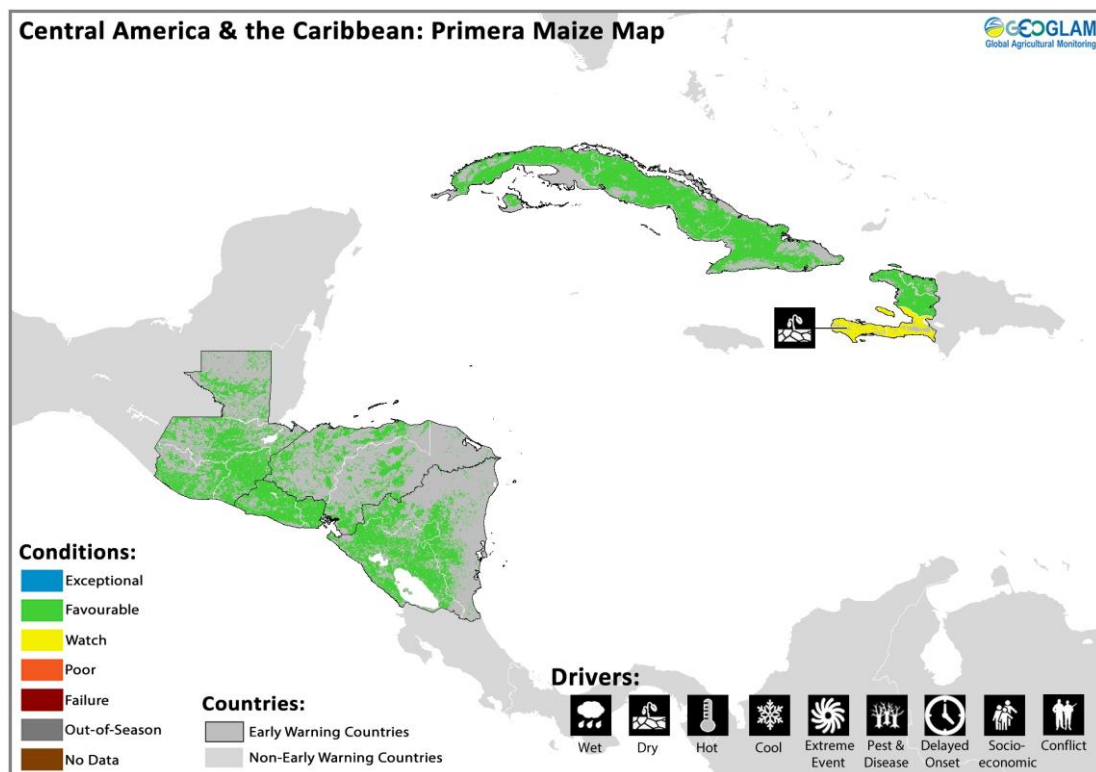
Crop condition map synthesizing information for rice as of August 28<sup>th</sup>. Crop conditions over the main growing areas are based on a combination of inputs, including remotely sensed data, ground observations, field reports, national, and regional experts. **Conditions that are other than favourable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

In northern SE Asia, wet season rice is in vegetative stage and beginning of harvesting stage. Large areas of Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and North Vietnam suffered heavy rains at the end of July and early August due to the southwest monsoon and rice fields were damaged by flash flooding and floods. In Indonesia, harvesting of dry season rice is now underway and prospects are favourable. In **Viet Nam**, conditions in the north are mixed due to heavy rains and flooding as sowing of wet-season rice has completed with an increase in area compared to last year. While in the south, harvesting of wet-season rice continues under favourable conditions with yields similar to last year. In **Laos**, heavy rains at the end of July through the start of August caused flood events in the south damaging wet season rice crops now in tillering stage. Despite heavy rainfall in the North conditions remain favourable. In **Thailand**, conditions are mixed as two tropical storms impacted the northern part of the country, providing ample rainfall though also causing some flood damage. In **Cambodia**, wet season rice planting is nearing completion and there is concern across the region due to heavy rains in August with flood events damaging crops in the northwest. In **Myanmar**, heavy rainfall across the country in August damaged cropped areas however, some of this has been replanted and the government is mobilizing to support farmers affected by the damage. In the **Philippines**, wet-season rice harvest has begun under favourable conditions, despite heavy rainfall in Luzon and western areas from several tropical storms enhancing the southwest monsoon. In **Indonesia**, conditions continue to be favourable for dry-season rice owing to adequate irrigation water and sunlight. Planting continues as the harvest of earlier planted rice enters the second month, with higher yields than last dry-season expected. In the **Democratic People's Republic of Korea**, rainfall deficits persist across the country impacting main season crops to be harvested in October. The main cereal producing areas of the South are most affected with delay onset of rains at the start of the season and ongoing dry conditions. In **Bangladesh**, *aman* rice crop is ongoing under favourable conditions excepting Rajshahi and Rangpur where above average rainfall in August and flood events damaged rice crops. In **Sri Lanka**, harvests are underway and conditions have deteriorated to poor across all *yala* cropped areas due to dry conditions in August.



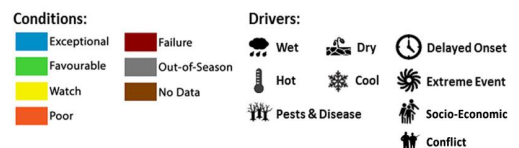
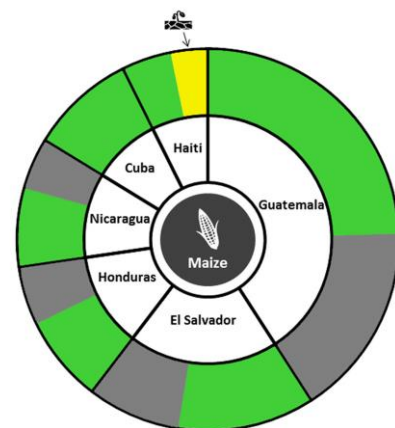


**Central America & Caribbean:**



Crop condition map synthesizing information as of August 28<sup>th</sup>. 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 other than favourable are labeled on the map with their driver.**

The *primera* season is ongoing across Central America and conditions are favourable across all areas with above average production prospects due to good rainfall distribution throughout the season. In **Haiti**, conditions are generally favourable however, there is concern in the South due to irregular rainfall distribution and deficits.



Information on crop conditions in the main production and export countries can be found in the [AMIS Market Monitor](#), published September 7<sup>th</sup> 2017.

**Pie Chart Description:** Each slice represents a country's share of total regional production. The proportion within each national slice is colored according to the crop conditions within a specific growing area; grey indicates that the respective area is out of season. Sections within each slide are weighted by the sub-national production statistics (5-year average) of the respective country. The section within each national slice also accounts for multiple cropping seasons (i.e. spring and winter wheat). When conditions are other than favourable icons are added that provide information on the key climatic drivers affecting conditions.

# Appendix

## Crop Conditions:

**Exceptional:** Conditions are much better than average\* at time of reporting. This label is only used during the grain-filling through harvest stages.

**Favourable:** Conditions range from slightly lower to slightly better than average\* at reporting time.

**Watch:** Conditions are not far from average\* but there is a potential risk to final production. The crop can still recover to average or near average conditions if the ground situation improves. This label is only used during the planting-early vegetative and the vegetative-reproductive stages.

**Poor:** Crop conditions are well below average. Crop yields are likely to be 10-25% below average. This is used when crops are stunted and are not likely to recover, and impact on production is likely.

**Failure:** Crop conditions are extremely poor. Crop yields are likely to be 25% or more below average.

**Out of Season:** Crops are not currently planted or in development during this time.

**No Data:** No reliable source of data is available at this time.

*"Average" refers to the average conditions over the past 5 years.*

## Drivers:

*These represent the key climatic drivers that are having an impact on crop condition status. They result in production impacts and can act as either positive or negative drivers of crop conditions.*

**Wet:** Higher than average wetness.

**Dry:** Drier than average.

**Hot:** Hotter than average.

**Cool:** Cooler than average or risk of frost damage.

**Extreme Events:** This is a catch-all for all other climate risks (i.e. hurricane, typhoon, frost, hail, winterkill, wind damage, etc.)

**Delayed-Onset:** Late start of the season.

**Pest & Disease:** Destructive insects, birds, animals, or plant disease.

**Socio-economic:** Social or economic factors that impact crop conditions (i.e. policy changes, agricultural subsidies, government intervention, etc.)

**Conflict:** Armed conflict or civil unrest that is preventing the planting, working, or harvesting of the fields by the farmers.



Wet



Dry



Hot



Cold

Extreme  
EventDelayed  
OnsetSocio-  
economicPests &  
Disease

Conflict

## Sources and Disclaimers:

The Crop Monitor assessment is conducted by GEOGLAM with inputs from the following partners FEWS NET, JRC, WFP, ARC, Asia RiCE, MESA, ICPAC, FAO GIEWS, Applied Geosolutions 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.cropmonitor.org](http://www.cropmonitor.org)



Prepared by members of the GEOGLAM Community of Practice,  
 Coordinated by the University of Maryland Center for Global  
 Agricultural Research



The Crop Monitor is a part of  
 GEOGLAM, a GEO global initiative.

Cover Photo by: Christina Justice

### Early Warning partners



ICPAC  
 IGAD Climate Prediction  
 & Applications Centre



\*EC contribution is provided by the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission