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In **East Africa**, planting of belg season crops started this month in Ethiopia and conditions are favourable. Harvest is now complete for second season crop in Kenya and Somalia and below average yields resulted due to dry conditions. In West Africa, planting of main season rice started this month in Sierra Leone and second season rice is now in vegetative stage across Mali and Mauritania and conditions are favourable. In the Middle East and North Africa, winter wheat crops are generally favourable due to good rains throughout the season, except in parts of Morocco where rainfall has been below average since December. In Southern Africa, concern has worsened for main season maize across much of the region due a poor start to the season and persisting below average rainfall, recovery in worst affected areas is unlikely. In Central and South Asia, winter wheat is in dormancy phase and conditions are favourable due to sufficient snow cover. In northern **Southeast Asia**, dry season rice conditions are favourable except in Thailand and Philippines due to low rainfall and insufficient irrigation. In Central America and the Caribbean, apante bean harvest is complete or nearing completion and yield prospects are favourable.









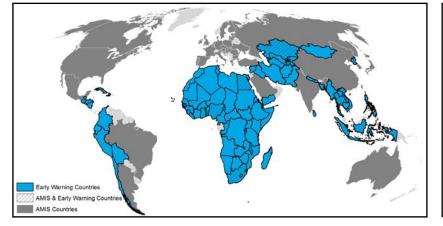












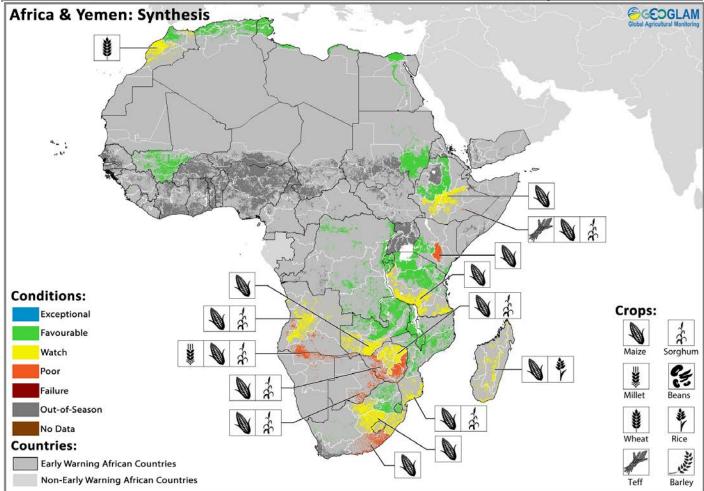
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GEOGLAM Crop Monitor for Early Warning

Crop Conditions at a glance based on best available information as of February 28th



Crop condition map synthesizing information for all Crop Monitor for Early Warning crops as of February 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 labeled on the map with a symbol representing the crop(s) affected.**

EAST AFRICA: Harvest concluded at the start of 2019 for main season cereals in the northern parts of the subregion. *Belg* season planting started this month in Ethiopia and rainfall has been mixed. Harvest of second season crops in the south of the subregion is complete and yields were favourable except in Somalia and Kenya due to insufficient rains throughout the season.

WEST AFRICA: While much of the region remains out of season, sowing of main season rice started this month in Sierra Leone and second season rice is now in vegetative stage across Mali and Mauritania and conditions are favourable.

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA: Weather conditions for the 2018-2019 winter wheat crop have been favourable with abundant rainfall since the start of the season and wet conditions continuing into January and February except in parts of Morocco where dry conditions have been observed in the west and north east.

SOUTHERN AFRICA:

After slight improvement in early January from an initial delayed

start of the rains, a dry spell from late January to early February across the central parts of the region resulted in reports of widespread wilting and below average yield prospects across the worst affected areas of Angola, Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe and southern parts of Zambia, Mozambique, and South Africa.

CENTRAL & SOUTH ASIA: 2018-2019 winter wheat is now in dormancy phase and crops conditions are reported to be generally favourable. In Afghanistan and Pakistan, heavy rains at the start of March led to flooding across worse affected areas.

SOUTHEAST ASIA: In the northern side of Southeast Asia, conditions are favourable for dry season rice across Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam. However, there is concern in Thailand and Philippines due to low rainfall and insufficient irrigation water. In Indonesia, wet season rice harvest is underway and yields are expected to be average.

CENTRAL AMERICA & CARIBBEAN: Harvest is complete and nearing completion for *apante* season bean crops across Nicaragua and Haiti and yields are generally favourable due to good rains during the season.





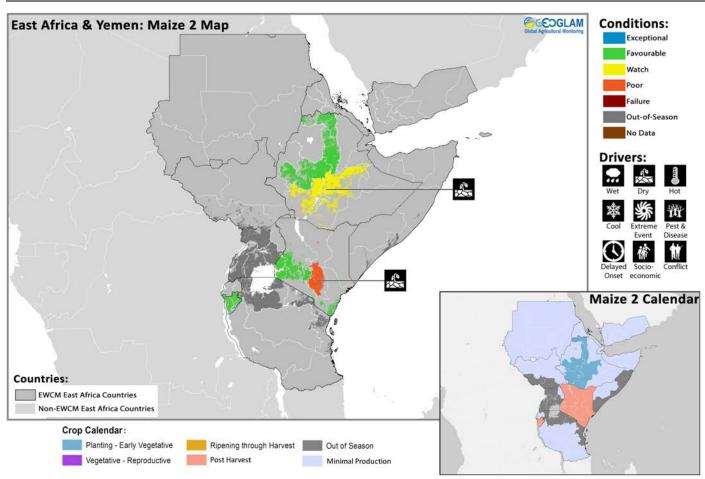
Global Climate Outlook: Weak to moderate El Niño conditions now present

Weak-to-moderate El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) conditions are now present in the central Pacific. These conditions are forecast to continue through the Northern Hemisphere spring (55% chance for March to May). There is around a 50% chance for El Niño to persist into summer.

Major global impacts are not expected because of the weak strength of this El Niño, but some areas may still see El Niño-related impacts in March to May 2019. Associated with this event are increased chances of above normal rainfall in the southeastern United States and in parts of central Asia and southeastern South America. There are increased chances of below normal rainfall in the Philippines and other parts of Southeast Asia, in northern Australia, and in eastern Southern Africa.

Source: UCSB Climate Hazards Center

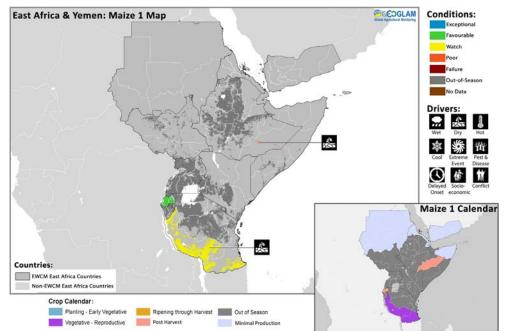
East Africa & Yemen



Crop condition map synthesizing conditions as of February 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 other than favourable are labeled on the map with their driver.**

In northern parts of the subregion, including western Kenya, Ethiopia, Eritrea, the Sudan, and South Sudan, main season cereal harvest concluded in early 2019 and several areas now out of season except for winter wheat in Sudan and *belg* season crops in Ethiopia. In **Ethiopia**, planting of *belg* season crops started on time in February in Eastern Amhara, southern Tigray and eastern SNNPR, where the rainy season had a timely onset in the second dekad of February. By contrast, in Eastern Oromia, early season dryness delayed planting operations and affected crop establishment. In **Sudan**, harvest will start this month for winter wheat and prospects are favourable. According to the preliminary findings of the 2018 FAO Crop and Food Supply Assessment Mission, the wheat output is estimated at well above average levels, mainly due to increased plantings.

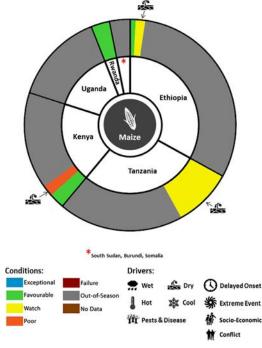
In central and southern parts of the region including Burundi, Rwanda, central and southern Somalia, southeastern and coastal areas of Kenya, northeastern United Republic of Tanzania and Uganda, harvest of second season cereal crops finalized in mid-January to early February and crop prospects were generally favourable except in southeastern Kenya and Somalia, where yields were affected by poor rains. In **Somalia**, the *deyr* rainy season in key maize producing areas of Lower Shabelle Region was characterized by



Crop condition map synthesizing information as of February 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 labeled on the map with their driver.**

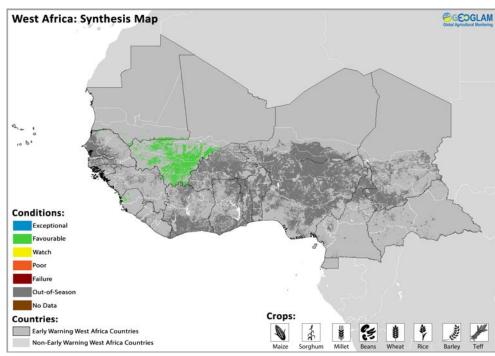
below average rains were received from mid-January through February but current vegetation conditions are still favourable over most cropping areas. In the bimodal northeast, land preparation and dry sowing is underway for second season crops with the full season expected to start with the onset of seasonal rains in March.

significant rainfall deficits in October and November, followed by heavy precipitations in December, which only instigated a partial crop recovery. Although better growing conditions prevailed in sorghum producing areas in Bay Galgaduud and Mudug regions, the aggregate 2018 deyr cereal production is estimated to be below-average and close to the poor 2017 output. A similar rainfall pattern was observed in southeastern and coastal areas of Kenya, where the "short-rains" harvest is forecast at a well belowaverage level. In the United Republic of Tanzania, main season cereals are in vegetative stage across the main producing southern highlands and after below-average early season rains, conditions improved in late December to early January with good rainfall amounts. Subsequently,



For detailed description of the pie chart please see box below.

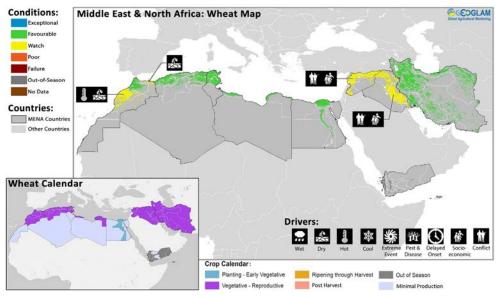
West Africa



While much of the region remains out of season, sowing of main season rice started this month in Sierra Leone and second season rice is now in vegetative stage across Mali and Mauritania. Growing conditions are favourable for all areas due to good moisture supporting crop growth and no major crop infestation. Planting of main season maize crops will start next month across the south of the region.

Crop condition map synthesizing information as of February 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 labeled on the map with their driver.**

Middle East & North Africa



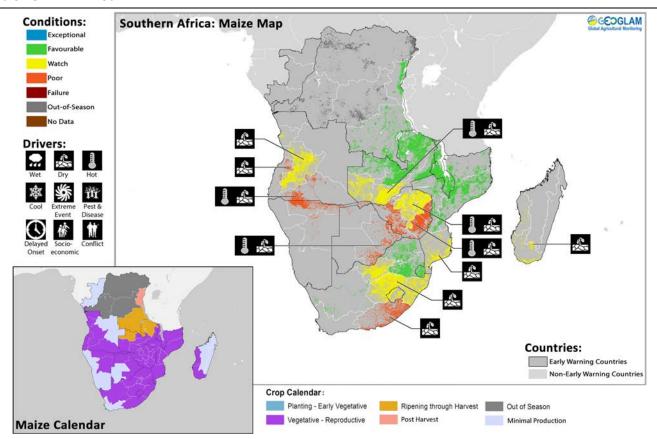
Crop condition map synthesizing information as of February 28th. Crop conditions over the main growing areas are based on a combination of inputs including remotely sensed data, ground observations, field reports, national, and regional experts. **Crops that are in other than favourable conditions are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

the Middle East, weather conditions for the 2018-2019 winter wheat crop have been exceptional with abundant rainfall since the start of the season and wet conditions continuina into January February. In some of the highest rainfall receiving areas, precipitation has been more than double of the average amount and in some cases flooding has resulted. Despite good weather, crop prospects across Syria and Iraq remain below pre-conflict average due to ongoing or recently ceased conflict continuing to impact availability of agricultural inputs and affect agricultural production.

In North Africa, winter wheat conditions are generally favourable due to sufficient precipitation during the Autumn supporting crop establishment. This was followed

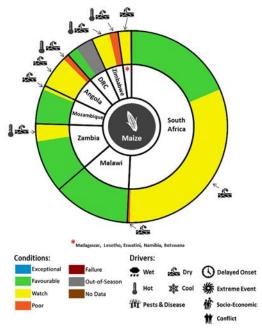
by average rains from January through February except in western and north-eastern (Oriental) parts of **Morocco** where below average rainfall from December through February combined with above average temperatures may impact winter wheat yields and further monitoring is needed.

Southern Africa



Crop condition map synthesizing information as of February 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 labeled on the map with their driver.**

In Southern Africa, after nearly a month delayed start of the rains, some rainfall came in early January giving slight improvement to rainfall deficits in the East. However, this was followed by a dry spell from late January to early February across the central parts of the region resulting in reports of widespread wilting and below average yield prospects across the worst affected areas of Angola, Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe and southern parts of Zambia, Mozambique, and South Africa. Localized rainfall totals have been thirty percent or more below average in some areas. Prospects are poor for the season and below average rainfall is forecast to continue through to the end of the season across much of the region (see Regional Outlook pg. 7) In the Democratic Republic of Congo, conditions are generally favourable for main season cereals and while rainfall in February was erratic with patches of below average rainfall in the central area, cumulative rainfall remains near normal across the country due to significant rainfall at the start of the season. However, ongoing conflict in the east and northern Katanga is expected to have significant impacts on seasonal production. In Angola, rainfall has been erratic since the start of the season with the southern and coastal areas most affected by dry conditions due to a significant delay of onset rains by as much as 4 dekads in some areas resulting in reduced plantings. From this initial delay, rainfall remained below average across much of the country with some improvement towards the end of January however, this was not enough to mitigate previous drought conditions and production



For detailed description of the pie chart please see box below.

prospects are below average. Conditions in the northwest are considerably better than the south however, February rainfall was erratic or scarce and temperatures have been consistently above average exacerbating drought conditions and resulting in wilting. In the north, conditions remain favourable while rainfall in February was erratic and insufficient notably in the central area. In **Zambia**, average to near-average rainfall in December and January improved conditions across most of the country, except in the southwestern portion, including the key maize producing areas in the south. In these areas, below average rainfall and above average temperatures in December caused crop stress and potentially resulted in replanting. This was exacerbated by poor rainfall from late January to early February across the south followed by improved rainfall midmonth. However, this was not enough to mitigate dry conditions and crop wilting has occurred in many areas. In the north,

while rainfall was erratic in February with patches of below average precipitation, conditions are generally favourable. In Malawi, conditions are favourable with abundant rainfall from late December to early January followed by generally average rains in February with some patches of below average rainfall in the central and south. In Zimbabwe, dry conditions have worsened from an initial delayed start in the season due to little to no rainfall in December and high temperatures. Early January rainfall was near normal and above average in some areas which prompted some improvement in vegetation conditions. However, this was shortly followed by a dry spell starting mid-January and the rains received were insufficient to salvage crops that had suffered extreme moisture deficits and wilting occurred. Rains at the start of February and in the last dekad of the month likely had no significant impact in improving conditions over worst affected areas of Matabeleland and Masvingo and production prospects are below average. In Madagascar, rainfall has been erratic and generally below average since December and vegetation conditions are below average. Rainfall improved at the end of February however, it is unlikely that this will significantly improve conditions due to previous dryness and further monitoring is needed in the coming months. In Botswana, poor rainfall since the start of the season has resulted in reported decrease in planted area, decrease in water levels, and deteriorated pastures. While good rains came at the end of February with some improvement in vegetation conditions, many crops were already impacted by extreme moisture deficits and could not be salvaged. In Mozambique, conditions in the north and central areas are favourable due to predominately average rainfall throughout the season with some below average rainfall in mid-February. However, in the south, vegetation conditions are below average due to hot and dry conditions in December followed by heavy rainfall and flood damage in January from Cyclone Desmond. This in turn was followed by below average late January to early February rainfall and vegetation conditions are below average particularly in the western half. In Lesotho, while good rains were received at the end of February, vegetation conditions are yet to improve due to a delayed onset of rains and dry conditions. In South Africa, production is expected to be somewhat lower for both white maize and yellow maize compared to the previous two years. Dry conditions over especially the western production area (white maize) during early summer resulted in a smaller area planted. However, following widespread rain during late January to mid-February, an average production season is expected. Rainfall during the next few days over especially the western production area will be crucial. A continuation of recent warm and dry conditions in the west will result in damage and crop losses.

Regional Outlook: Improvement over the main producing areas of South Africa while rainfall deficits continue across the region

Cumulative rainfall since the beginning of 2019 has been substantially below average for the western and central areas of southern Africa (Figure 1-left). In most of these areas, rainfall was below average in both January and February. The largest deficits, between 100 mm to 200 mm, are in southern Angola, northern Namibia, southern Zambia, northern Botswana, northern Zimbabwe, northeastern Mozambique, and western Madagascar. In some areas of northeastern South Africa, a key maize producing area, a wetter than average February helped to bring cumulative 2019 rainfall to above normal levels. Many of these areas experienced poor growing conditions earlier in the season and seasonal rainfall totals are substantially below normal in the central and western areas.

Drier than normal conditions are expected to continue during March for most of southern Africa (Figure 1-right). This forecast, and the absence of a positive signal in longer term outlooks, may indicate an early end to the main rainfall season.

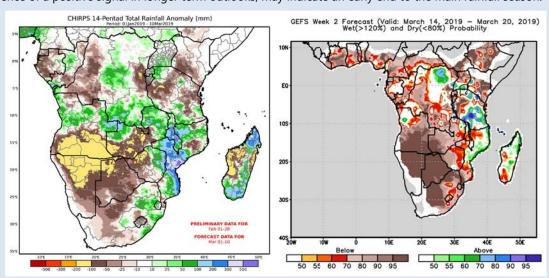
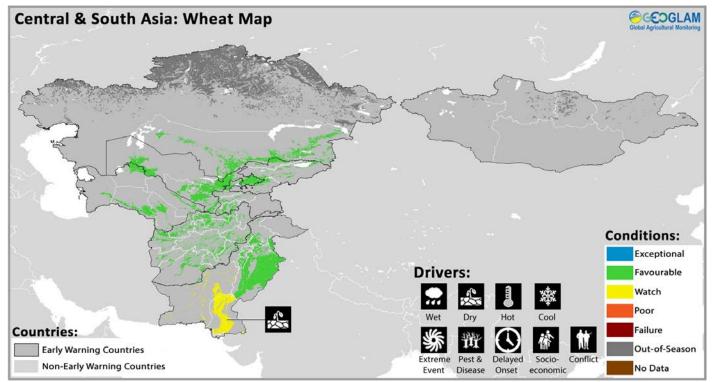


Figure 1. On the left, a preliminary estimate of January 1 through March 10th 2019 rainfall in terms of the difference from the 1981 to 2018 average (Source: UCSB CHC). On the right, GEFS rainfall probability forecast for March 14th to 20th (Source: NOAA/CPC, March 6th). The Climate Hazards Center Early Estimate (left) is a new monitoring resource for sub-seasonal to seasonal rainfall performance. The CHC Early Estimate combines CHIRPS final and preliminary rainfall estimates with an unbiased version of the 10-day GEFS ensemble mean forecast (http://chg.geog.ucsb.edu/forecasts/gefs-chirps/).

Source: UCSB Climate Hazards Center

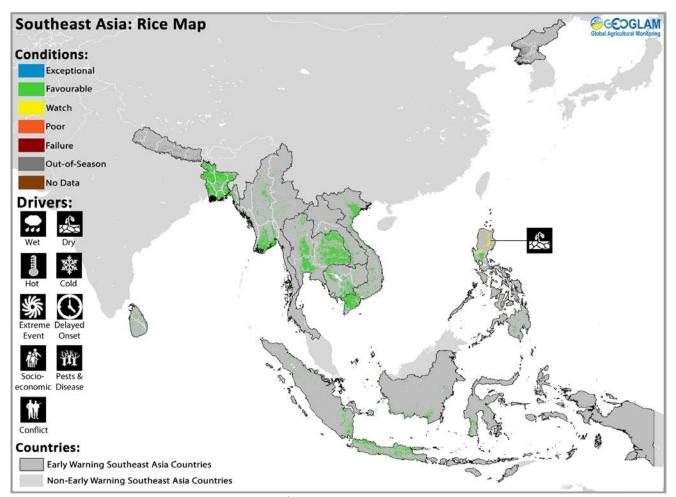
Central & South Asia



Crop condition map synthesizing information as of February 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 labeled on the map with their driver.**

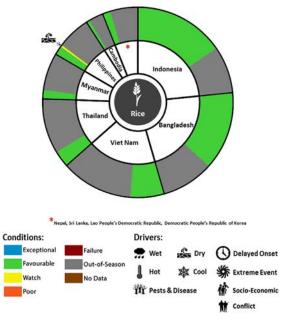
Winter wheat is now in dormancy phase and crops conditions are reported to be generally favourable. In southern and southeastern Kazakhstan, where most of winter wheat is cultivated, land preparation and planting operations, in October, were delayed by above-normal precipitations, low temperatures and frosts. However, regular snowfalls and below-average temperatures between November 2018 and February 2019 ensured sufficient soil moisture and prevented crops from freezing. In Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan, precipitations from December 2018 to February 2019 were poorly distributed and scarce, especially in the southern provinces of Turkmenistan and in the central areas of Uzbekistan. In Kyrgyzstan and in Tajikistan, as of late February, a thick snow cover is present over most cropping areas since late October 2018, providing adequate water reserves for use in the summer period (June-August). Winter snow cover is a fundamental supply source for the Amu Darya River, which provides water for the irrigated fields in Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan. In Afghanistan, abundant snowfall in the central highlands and good seasonal rains at lower elevations have resulted in significant above average snow water storage and moisture throughout the majority of Afghanistan. Heavy rainfall in the first three days of March brought extreme flash flooding to the Kandahar area, causing widespread infrastructure damage and potential loss of life, recovery efforts are underway. In Pakistan, conditions for the rabi wheat crop, planted in November, are generally favorable with improvement over the main producing area of Punjab due to good rains in February. Dry conditions continue across Sindh and Balochistan where below average rainfall in November along with reduced irrigation water amounts impacted planting operations and continue to affect planted crops. However, recent heavy rainfall was received at the start of March in Balochistan province and is expected to improve long term moisture deficits, this also resulted in flash flooding across nine districts, causing infrastructure damage.

Southeast Asia



Crop condition map synthesizing information as of February 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 labeled on the map with their driver.**

In the northern side of Southeast Asia, conditions are favourable for dry season rice across Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam. However, there is concern in Thailand and Philippines due to low rainfall and insufficient irrigation water. In Indonesia, wet season rice harvest is underway and yields are expected to be average. In Viet Nam, sowing of winter-spring rice (dryseason rice) continues in the south and is starting in the north under favourable conditions. Sowing in the north is advancing faster than normal due to warm weather and better irrigation preparation. In **Thailand**, dryseason rice is in the vegetative stages under favourable conditions. A reduction in total sown area is expected compared to last year due to insufficient rainfall and irrigation water, along with incentives to shift away from dry-season rice. In Laos, dry season rice is in tillering to young panicle forming stage and conditions are favourable due to sufficient water supply this month. In **Cambodia**, sowing is complete for dry season rice and early harvests are already underway with slightly higher yields than last year due to sufficient irrigation water. In Myanmar, sowing of dry season rice continues and is complete in the lowlands and delta areas. Sowing has been faster than the previous year due to favourable growing conditions and stable weather. In the **Philippines**, dry-season rice is in the vegetative stage under mixed conditions as dry conditions in Northern Luzon has led to a delay in sowing and a deterioration in conditions. In Indonesia, conditions are favourable as sowing of wet-season rice continues into its

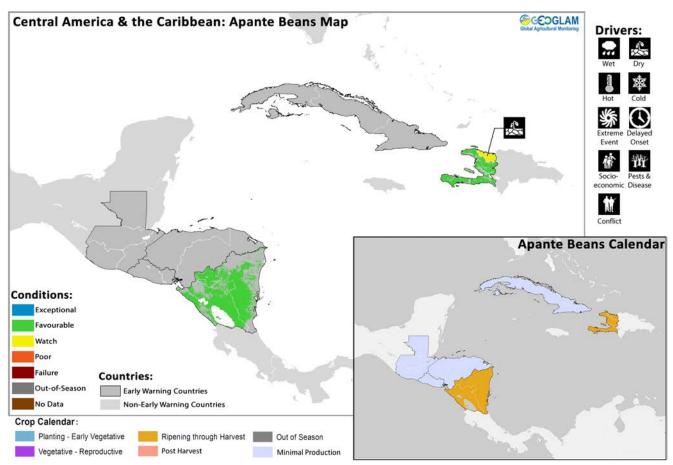


For detailed description of the pie chart please see box below.

fifth month. Harvest of the earlier sown fields continues with yields expected to be close to average owing to sufficient sunlight during the growing season. In **Nepal**, planting of main season maize started in February and conditions are favourable due good weather and sufficient irrigation water. In **Bangladesh**, the *boro* rice crop planted in December is now in vegetative to reproductive stage and

conditions are favourable due to sufficient rainfall and good weather. In **Sri Lanka**, harvest started for the main *maha* rice crop and prospective yields are favourable with above average planting due to good weather offsetting damage from fall armyworm (FAW) outbreaks. Main season maize has been more affected FAW infestation however the full impact on yields is still unknown and production is still expected to be above the 5-year average and well above the 2017 drought- reduced level.

Central America & Caribbean



Crop condition map synthesizing information as of February 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 other than favourable are labeled on the map with their driver.**

Harvest is complete and nearing completion for *apante* season bean crops across Nicaragua and Haiti and yields are generally favourable due to good rains during the season. In **Nicaragua**, *apante* harvest will finish in March and prospective yields are average do to good December to January rainfall and sufficient moisture levels notably over the mountainous areas of Matagalpa and Jinotega and central and southwest over Nueva Guinea and San Carlos. In **Haiti**, *apante* bean crops are favourable with estimated average yields due to improved rainfall in January, except in the north and north east where precipitation remained below average. Main season rice planting started in February and conditions are favourable at the start of the season with sufficient irrigation water. In **Cuba** and **Honduras**, planting is underway for second season rice and conditions are favourable at the start of the season.

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) and are a result of combining totals from multiple seasons to represent the total yearly national production. When conditions are other than favourable icons are added that provide information on the key climatic drivers affecting conditions.

Information on crop conditions in the main production and export countries can be found in the AMIS Market Monitor, published March 7th 2018.

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 paricultural subsidies government intervention etc.)

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.





















Socio- Pests & economic Disease



Crop Season Nomenclature:

In countries that contain multiple cropping seasons for the same crop, the following charts identifies the national season name associated with each crop season within the Crop Monitor for Early Warning.

MENA				
Country	Crop	Season 1 Name	Season 2 Name	Season 3 Name
Egypt	Rice	Summer-planted	Nili season (Nile Flood)	

East Africa				
Country	Crop	Season 1 Name	Season 2 Name	Season 3 Name
Burundi	Maize	Season B	Season A	
Ethiopia	Maize	Meher Season (long rains)	Belg Season (short rains)	
Kenya	Maize	Long Rains	Short Rains	
Somalia	Maize	Gu Season	Deyr Season	
Somalia	Sorghum	Gu Season	Deyr Season	
Uganda	Maize	First Season	Second Season	
United Republic of Tanzania	Maize	Long Rains	Short Rains	
United Republic of Tanzania	Sorghum	Long Rains	Short Rains	

West Africa				
Country	Crop	Season 1 Name	Season 2 Name	Season 3 Name
Benin	Maize	Main season	Second season	
Cameroon	Maize	Main season	Second season	
Cote d'Ivoire	Maize	Main season	Second season	
Ghana	Maize	Main season	Second season	
Mauritania	Rice	Main season	Off-season	
Nigeria	Maize	Main season	Short-season	
Nigeria	Rice	Main season	Off-season	
Togo	Maize	Main season	Second season	

Southern Africa				
Country	Crop	Season 1 Name	Season 2 Name	Season 3 Name
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Maize	Main season	Second season	
Mozambique	Maize	Main season	Second season	

Southeast Asia				
Country	Crop	Season 1 Name	Season 2 Name	Season 3 Name
Bangladesh	Rice	Boro	Aman	
Cambodia	Rice	Wet season	Dry season	
Indonesia	Rice	Main season	Second season	
Lao People's Democratic Republic	Rice	Wet season	Dry season	
Myanmar	Rice	Wet season	Dry season	
Philippines	Rice	Wet season	Dry season	
Sri Lanka	Rice	Maha	Yala	
Thailand	Rice	Wet season	Dry season	
Viet Nam	Rice	Wet season (Autumn)	Dry season (Winter/Spring)	

Central & South Asia				
Country	Crop	Season 1 Name	Season 2 Name	Season 3 Name
Afghanistan	Wheat	Winter-planted	Spring-planted	
Kazakhstan	Wheat	Winter-planted	Spring-planted	
Kyrgyzstan	Wheat	Winter-planted	Spring-planted	
Tajikistan	Wheat	Winter-planted	Spring-planted	

Crop Season Nomenclature:

In countries that contain multiple cropping seasons for the same crop, the following charts identifies the national season name associated with each crop season within the Crop Monitor for Early Warning.

Central America & Carribean				
Country	Crop	Season 1 Name	Season 2 Name	Season 3 Name
Cuba	Rice	Main season	Second season	
El Salvador	Beans	Primera	Postrera	
El Salvador	Maize	Primera	Segunda	
Guatemala	Beans	Primera	Postrera	Apante
Guatemala	Maize	Primera	Segunda	
Haiti	Maize	Main season	Second season	
Honduras	Beans	Primera	Postrera	
Honduras	Maize	Primera	Segunda	
Nicaragua	Beans	Primera	Postrera	Apante





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Cover Photo by: Christina Justice

Early Warning partners





























