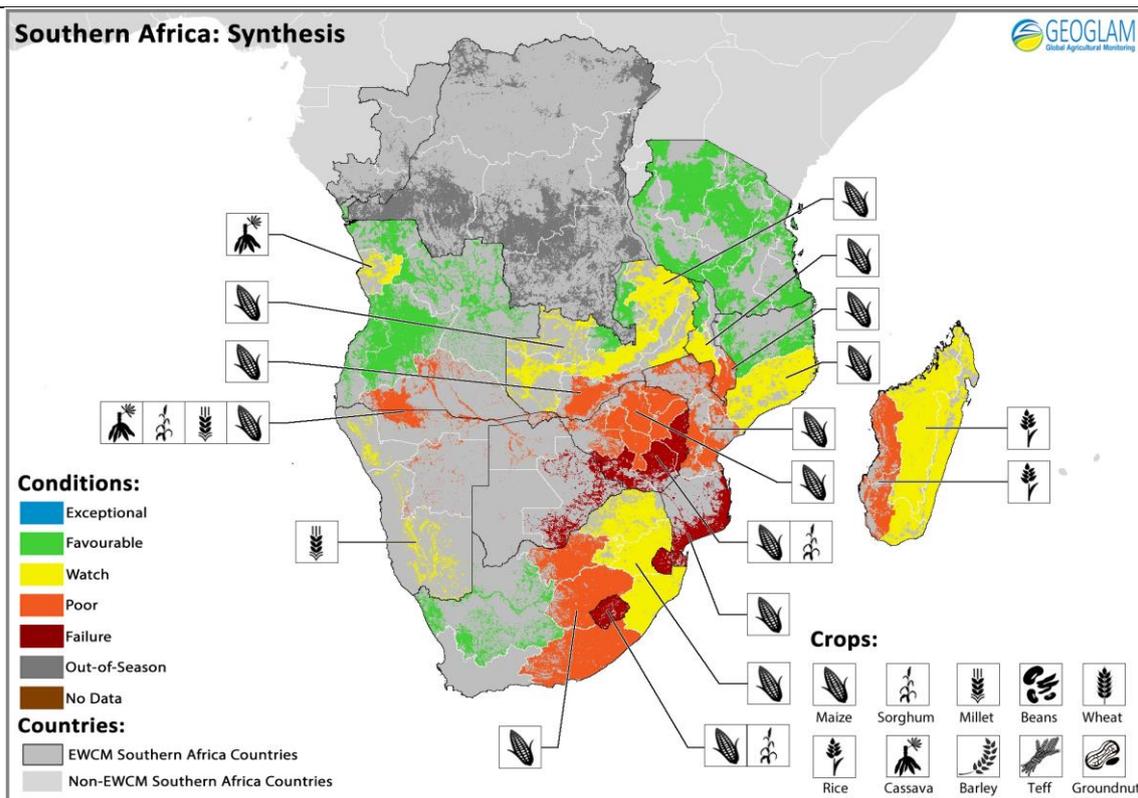


# GEOGLAM Early Warning Crop Monitor

## Crop Conditions at a glance as of February 28th



Crop condition map synthesizing information for all EWCM 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. **Crops that are in other than favourable conditions are displayed on the map.**

**SOUTHERN AFRICA:** The severe drought attributed to El Niño continues to significantly impact croplands across the region, as crops enter the critical growth stages. Planted area is considerably down and poor conditions are affecting broad areas in the region.

**EAST AFRICA:** The majority of the region is currently out of season. However, the recently concluded Meher season in Ethiopia, which was very poor due to dry conditions, continues to have significant implications for the region.

**WEST AFRICA:** Currently the majority of the region is out of season. However, the few areas that are in season are in favourable condition.

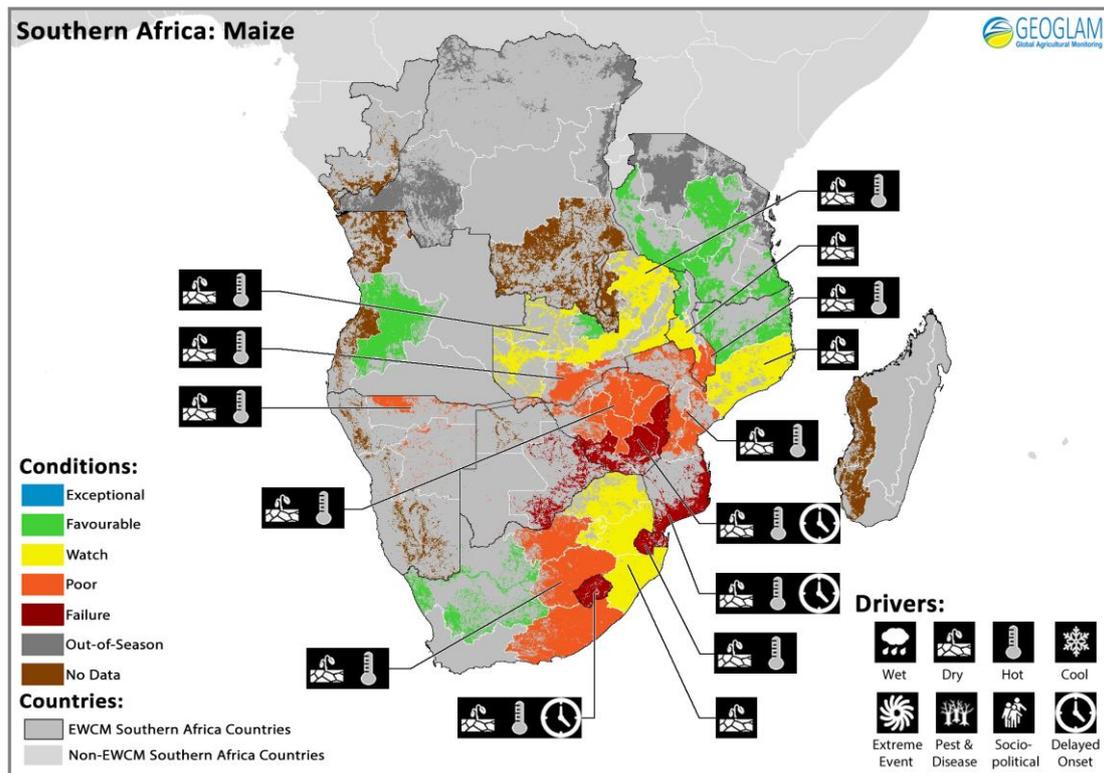
**SOUTHEAST ASIA:** The current El Niño continues to negatively impact large parts of the region, primarily affecting the dry season crop, causing dry conditions and overall reducing planted area. El Niño is also affecting the main wet season crop in Indonesia.

**CENTRAL AMERICA & CARIBBEAN:** Currently the majority of the region is out of season though the few areas that are in season are generally in favourable condition.

### El Niño Update

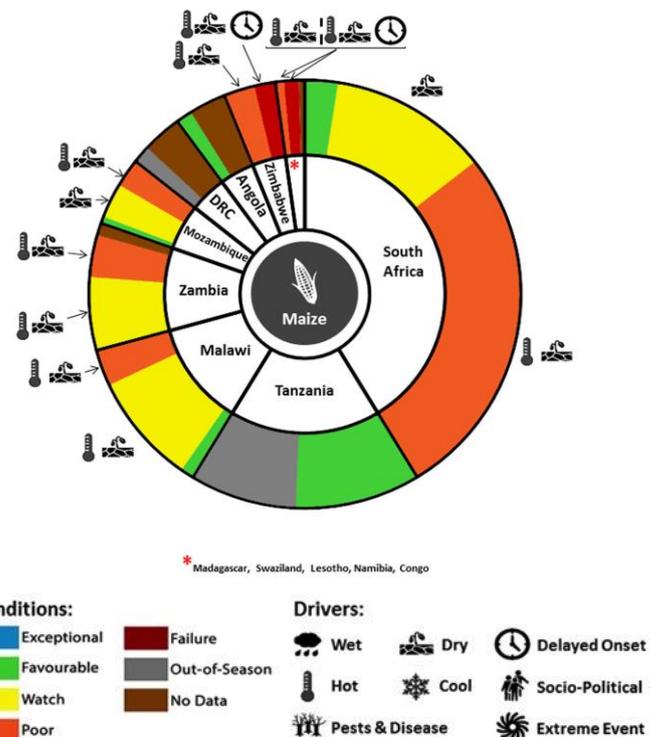
The ongoing El Niño peaked in late 2015 and is now in decline, with forecast models indicating that the transition to neutral conditions will be complete by about June. Drought is expected to continue in Southeast Asia and across northern South America, including northeast Brazil. In Southern Africa, drought impacts on crop production are widespread and severe. This has led to the issuance of a joint statement on regional food insecurity by the World Food Program, FEWS NET, the European Commission, and FAO (<http://www.fews.net/southern-africa/alert/february-2016>). In southeast Brazil and Uruguay, abundant rainfall is expected to continue. In Central Asia, the expected above average precipitation has not materialized, and winter snow pack is now below normal. Neutral conditions could persist through the last quarter of 2016, or we could see transition to La Niña. Odds of reverting to El Niño are low. A review of past El Niño events and model projections for October-December 2016 puts the probabilities at approximately 50 percent for La Niña, 40 percent for neutral, and 10 percent for El Niño.

**Southern Africa:**



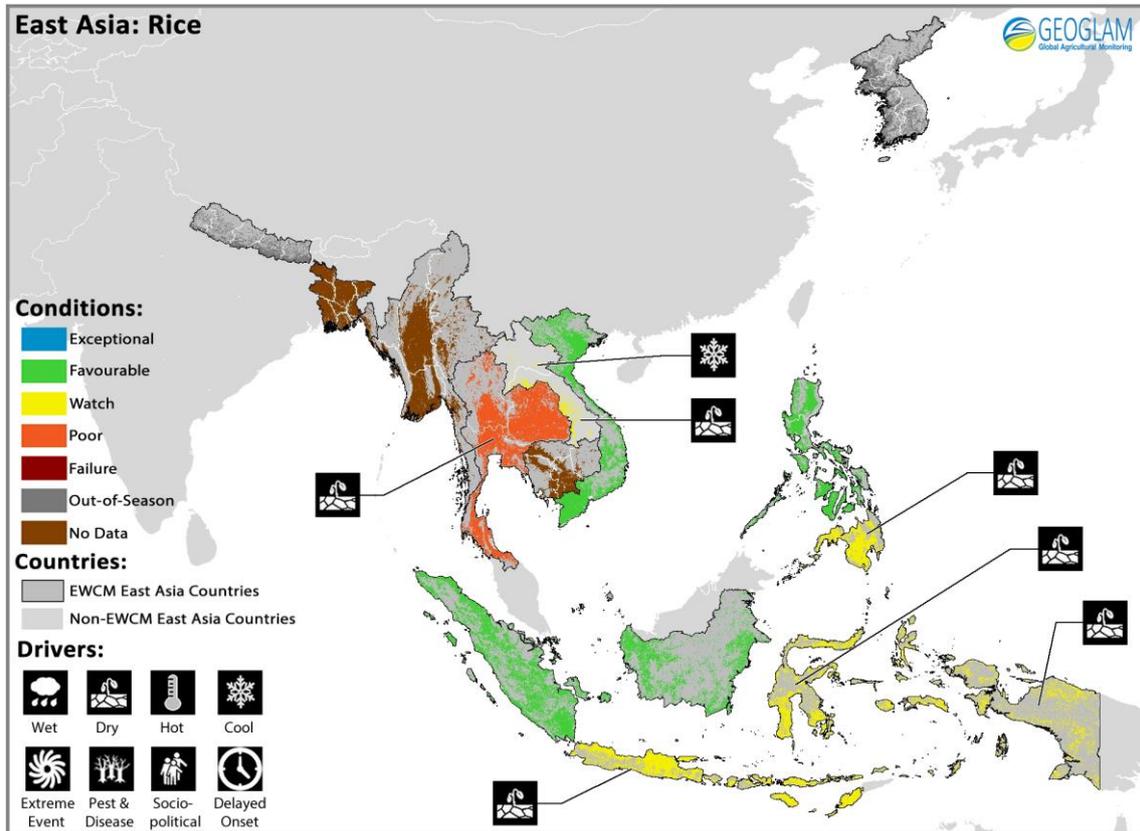
Crop condition map synthesizing information for all EWCM crops as of February 28th. Crop conditions over the main growing areas are based on a combination of inputs including remotely sensed data, ground observations, field reports, national and regional experts. **Conditions that are in other than favourable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

Severe drought, associated with one of the strongest El Niño events in the past 50 years, continues to cause widespread damage to crops across the region, raising significant concerns. As a result of dry and hot conditions, it is expected that regional production of major food crops (maize and sorghum) will be critically down. Planted area is significantly reduced, with very poor conditions, and even crop failure, experienced over broad areas. Crops are now largely in late reproductive to grain filling stages, the most sensitive period for crop development, and thus the window of opportunity for recovery of conditions is coming quickly to a close. Conditions continued to deteriorate in February over most areas in the southern half of the region. Seasonal forecasts indicate that the hot and dry conditions will continue through the rest of the season. Maize production forecasts for South Africa, usually an important regional exporter, are projected to be approximately 35% below average. This is the second consecutive poor season in the region. There is serious concern that many countries will need humanitarian assistance, including Zimbabwe, Malawi, Mozambique,



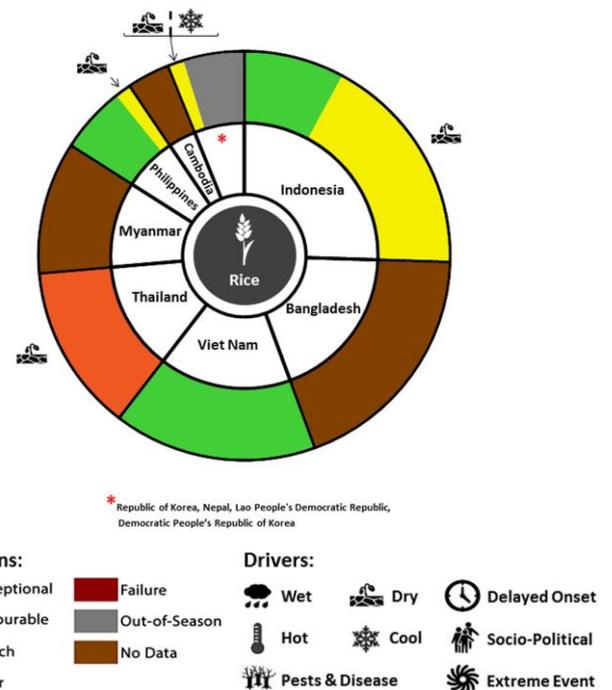
Lesotho, Swaziland, Madagascar, and Angola. Significant imports from outside the region will be needed in 2016-2017.

**Southeast Asia:**



Crop condition map synthesizing information for rice 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 in other than favourable conditions are displayed on the map with their driver.**

Overall crop conditions in Southeast Asia are mixed as a result of El Niño, which is affecting broad areas across the region and is causing delayed rains and dry conditions. Negative impacts are most notable in Thailand where conditions are poor across the country. The dry season rice is the main crop currently in season in the region with the exception of Indonesia, where the wet season (main crop) is currently growing. Planted area in Thailand and the Philippines has decreased due to insufficient water, and concerns over dry conditions and delayed rains are mounting over the main growing regions in Indonesia.



**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, ARC, 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](http://www.geoglam-crop-monitor.org)