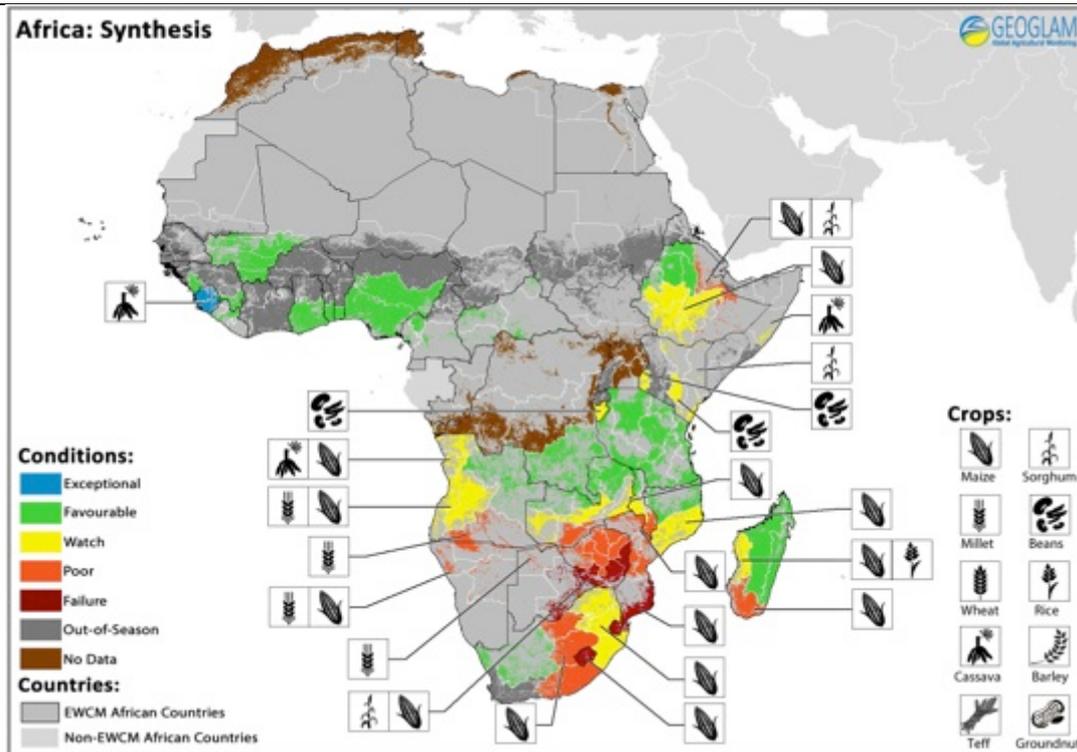


GEOGLAM Early Warning Crop Monitor

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



Crop condition map synthesizing information for all EWCM crops as of March 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. Overall conditions have remained similar to last month, with the exception of northern parts of southern Africa where conditions have improved, and western parts where conditions have deteriorated.**

SOUTHERN AFRICA: The ongoing drought is affecting millions of people across the region. Recent rainfall in March came mostly too late to significantly improve conditions as the season draws to a close, and production is considerably down in most countries.

EAST AFRICA: Where the season has already begun conditions are generally favourable. The notable exception is Ethiopia where concern is mounting over the Belg season due to a delayed start and below average rainfall.

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

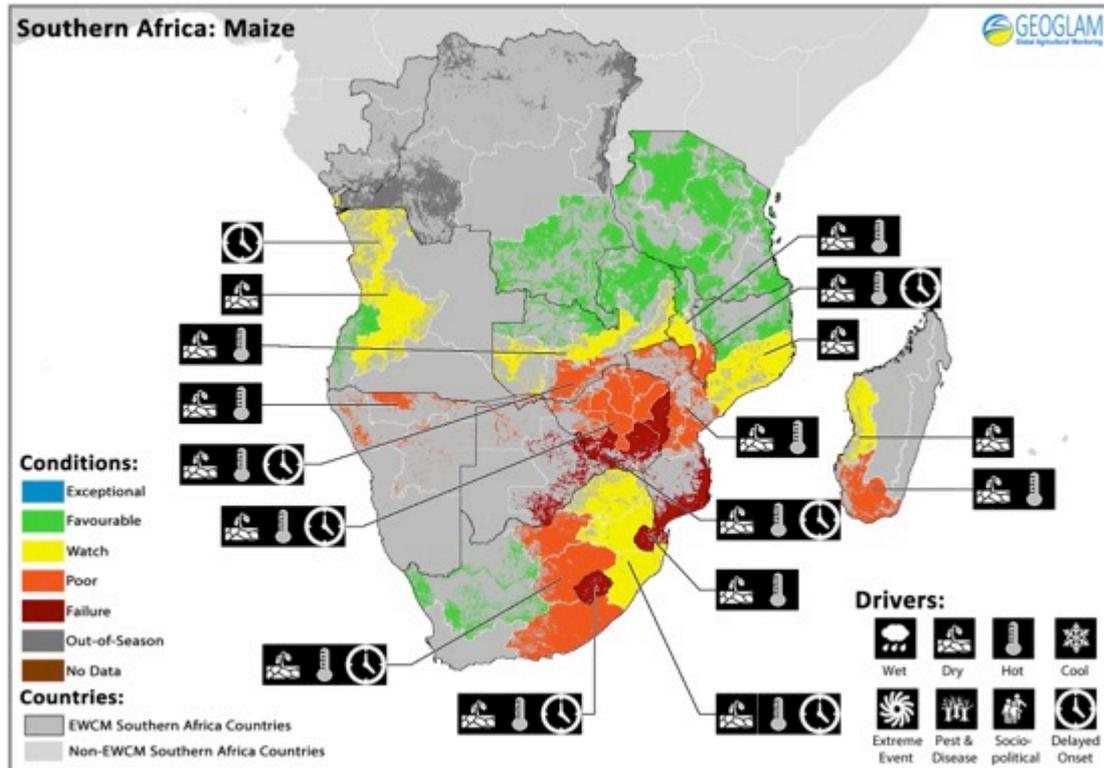
SOUTHEAST ASIA: El Niño continues to negatively impact large areas of Southeast Asia, particularly the dry season crop in Thailand, and Philippines and the wet season crop in Indonesia.

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

Declining El Niño, Impacts on Food Security to Continue

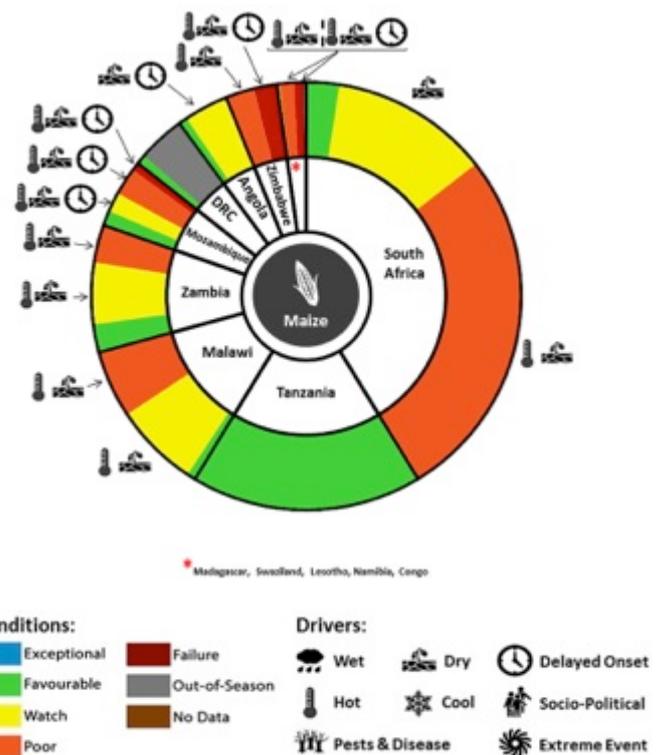
The exceptionally strong "El Niño 2015-16" has already resulted in 60 million people affected by droughts, floods, extreme hot, or cold weather (according to several UN agencies). Although the climatic phenomenon is already declining after reaching its maximum strength in late 2015, the consequences on affected populations have not yet reached their peak and the aftermath will continue during 2016 and far into 2017. In particular the full effects of El Niño on food security are expected at the end of 2016 and at the beginning of 2017. Current data estimated a decrease of crop production compared to average ranging from -50% to -86% in Ethiopia and Honduras with a high range of livestock mortality. Around 40% maize production decline as compared to the 5-year average is expected for South Africa. The food production crisis has short-term impacts such as high prices on local markets, but also long-term effects like increased poverty. The long term damages of increasing malnutrition in children (over 1 million are already suffering the consequences of El Niño) will hamper the affected countries for many years to come. Late arriving rains in Southern Africa in March provided some relief for pastures and water supplies, but were too late to mitigate widespread and severe drought impacts on crop production. Significant precipitation also arrived in March in Central Asia, likewise later than usual, in this case improving summer water supply prospects for important areas of irrigated agriculture in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Tajikistan. Drought is expected to continue through June in Southeast Asia and across northern South America, including northeast Brazil, while in the same period southeast Brazil and Uruguay should see continuation of above average rainfall. El Niño impacts are not anticipated in the main summer growing season (June-July-August) for North America, Europe, Russia, China, and India. Thereafter, neutral conditions could persist through the last quarter of 2016, or a transition to La Niña could develop. Odds of reverting to El Niño are low. A review of past El Niño events and model projections for October-December 2016 put the probabilities at approximately 50% for La Niña, 40% for neutral, and 10% for El Niño.

Southern Africa:

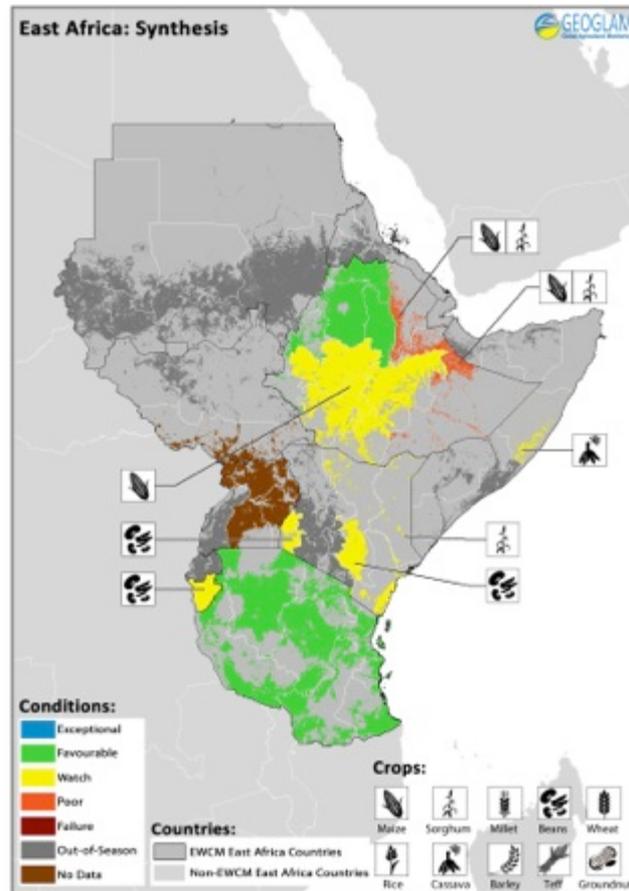


Crop condition map synthesizing information for all EWCM crops as of March 28th. Crop conditions over the main growing areas are based on a combination of inputs including remotely sensed data, ground observations, field reports, national and regional experts. **Conditions that are in other than favourable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

In southern Africa, poor conditions persist across large parts of the region despite recent rainfall. Serious concerns remain and it is expected that humanitarian assistance needs in many countries are still increasing including, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Swaziland, Lesotho, Mozambique, Madagascar, Namibia and Angola. Rains in March arrived largely too late to improve crop conditions, though did provide some relief for pastures and helped to replenish water supplies. Important livestock losses have been reported for the region and restocking and recovery of herd sizes will require long term assistance for pastoralists. In South Africa, a major regional exporter, planted area and yields are critically down in the main maize growing regions, and production is expected to be ca. 40% below the 5-year average. Some improvements have been observed in parts of Madagascar and Zambia as they received much needed rainfall in March, and conditions in Tanzania continue to be favourable.



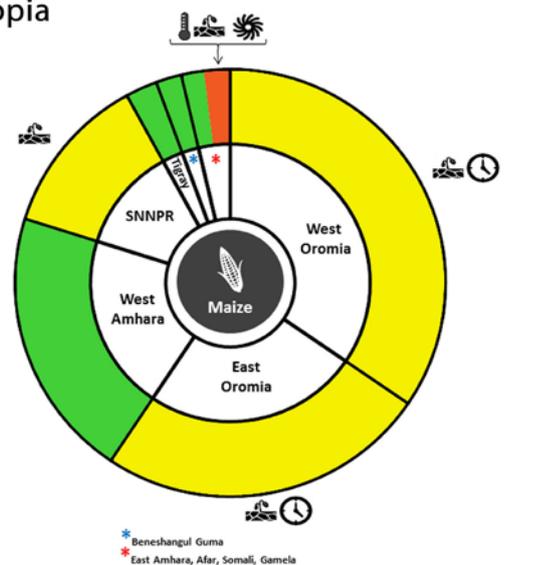
East Africa:



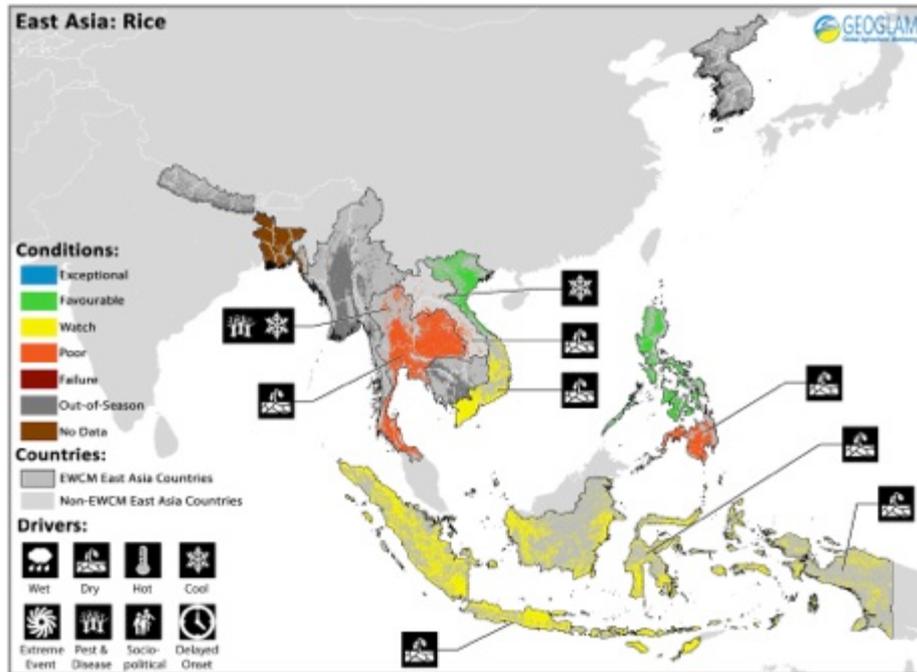
Crop condition map synthesizing information for all EWCM crops as of March 28th. Crop conditions over the main growing areas are based on a combination of inputs including remotely sensed data, ground observations, field reports, national, and regional experts. **Crops that are in other than favourable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

The growing season has begun in parts of East Africa and conditions are generally favourable with the exception of Ethiopia. In Ethiopia, it is currently the Belg season, which is the short rainy season that follows the long dry months of September through February. The Belg rains in Ethiopia started about 2-3 weeks late and are significantly below average in most areas, which is contrary to the seasonal forecasts. Though moisture conditions are not adequate, farmers have started land preparation and planting in most areas. Planting of the Belg crop usually ends around the end of March, though is likely to continue through early April as the season was delayed. This comes following a very poor Meher season, which continues to have significant implications for the region.

Ethiopia

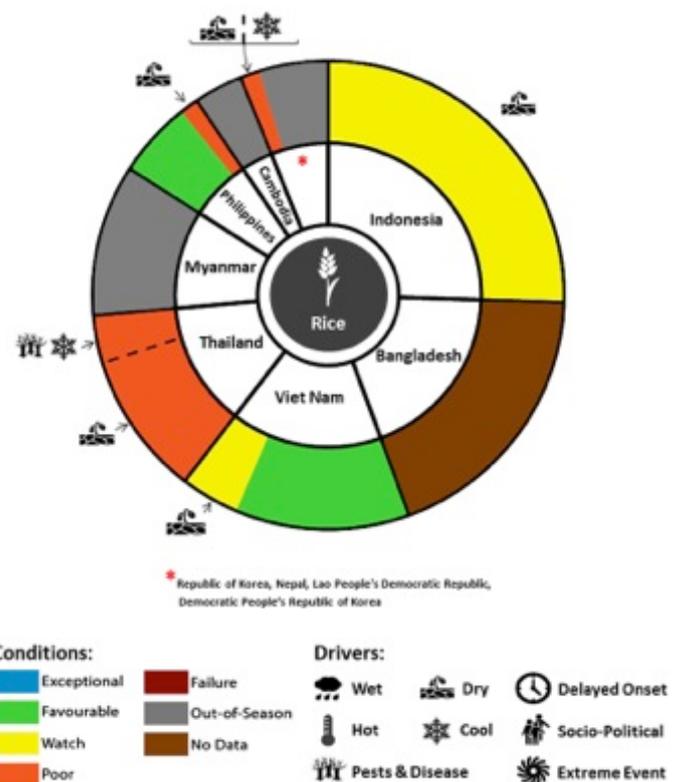


Southeast Asia



Crop condition map synthesizing information for rice as of March 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**

El Niño continues to impact overall crop conditions in Southeast Asia and some deterioration of conditions has been observed due to limited water availability. Harvest will begin for the dry season crop in Thailand, Vietnam, and the Philippines next month. The poor conditions in Thailand are expected to decrease yields and overall production and are as a result of pests, cool temperatures in the northern regions and hot and dry conditions caused by El Niño. In the Philippines, conditions deteriorated due to dry conditions affecting southern areas. Similarly, conditions in Laos deteriorated due to dryness in the southern region and cooler than average conditions in the northern region. In Vietnam concern is mounting over the ongoing drought conditions, attributed to El Niño, and soil salinity due to the dry conditions, particularly affecting the main growing region in the South.



Information on crop conditions in non-EWCM countries can be found in the AMIS Market Monitor, published April 7th 2016.

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