



## OVERVIEW



The humanitarian crisis in the region continues to deepen affecting the lives and livelihoods of millions of people. **Currently, 22.2- 22.7 million people are in highly food insecure (IPC Phase 3+).** In Kenya, northern counties (Turkana, Mandera, Marsabit, Wajir and Garissa) are projected to face **Emergency (IPC Phase 4)** between March and June 2023. For Somalia, **Famine (IPC Phase 5) is no longer considered the most likely scenario**, however, agropastoralist population in **Burkhaba district and IDP settlements in Baidoa and Banadir face a Risk of Famine** if the 2023 Gu rains are worse than forecasted and assistance does not reach the most vulnerable. Although IPC analysis is not possible in Ethiopia at the moment, IPC compatible analysis demonstrates that in **southern Ethiopia some areas are within IPC Phase 3 and 4** between March and June 2023.



The forecast shows improved rainfall during the past weeks and upcoming first weeks of May, however, vegetative conditions remain well below-average. This will **continue to cause flash flooding** and create difficulties for crop farmers to conduct land preparations.



- **Forecast for May rainfall indicate wetter than normal conditions expected in south-eastern Ethiopia and much of Somalia.**
- Cooler than average temperatures expected over cross border areas of Kenya, Ethiopia and Somalia during the month of May.



**The drought has forcibly displaced up to 2.28 million internally displaced across the region.** Highest displacement has been witnessed in Somalia accounting for approximately 1,400,000 IDPs followed by Ethiopia. It is expected for these figures to continue rising throughout the first half of 2023 causing increased congestion rates at IDP sites and tensions between communities.



Water insecurity continues to increase the risks of disease and protection. **Dehydration, water-borne diseases (including Cholera), water-washed diseases (skin infections, trachoma), and malnutrition are present across the three countries.** Number of people with highest deprivation/severity of water cannot be calculated at this time, however, the WASH clusters in all countries are working with partners to sharpen the targeting and figures.



**Staple food prices are beginning to decline from their peak in February/March 2023**, however the are still significantly above average in the region as a result of low national and regional cereal production, high prices for food, fuel and agricultural inputs. The protracted and active armed conflicts will still cause increase in staple food prices in the medium term, increase inflation and cause severe micro-economic challenges to market systems.



The drought has created a **severe protection crisis** with frontline/community-based partners across the three countries reporting the lack of capacity needed to deliver services that meet global standards of care for GBV assistance. **This creates major gaps in service delivery.** It is reported that marginalized communities including those in hard to reach areas across the three countries are not receiving assistance and targeting by humanitarian agencies delivering critical life-saving assistance must ensure targeting is fit for purpose.

## KEY MESSAGES

1

Although surface water resources have been significantly replenished and are nearly reached bank full levels, these surface water resources are subject to siltation due to high run-off resulting in **poor quality of water for human and livestock consumption.** This only further exacerbates the humanitarian situation by increasing the risk of water borne diseases, health risks and contributes to high mortality rates.

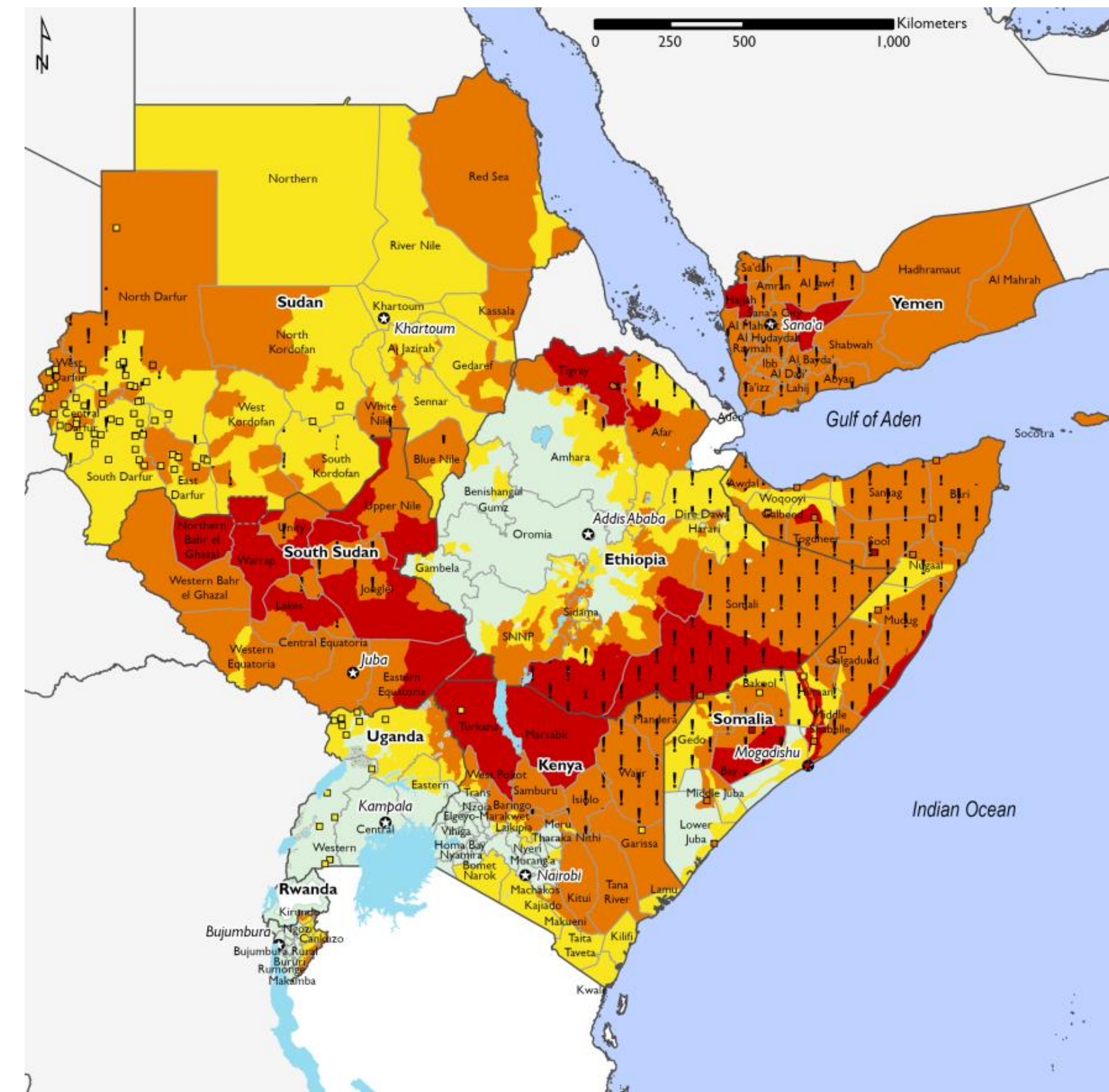
2

Current humanitarian emergency will persist until late 2023, requiring high level of frontline emergency assistance with flexible pivoting from drought to flooding response.

3

The magnitude of impact of the drought on livelihoods will require many years to provide affected populations with the capacity to recover. Humanitarian agencies must therefore act now to mitigate the deepening crisis and start planning for pivoting activities to climate change resilience programming.

## FEWSNET IPC Analysis: Horn of Africa – February to May 2023



## Current Food Security IPC Population Outcomes – April 2023

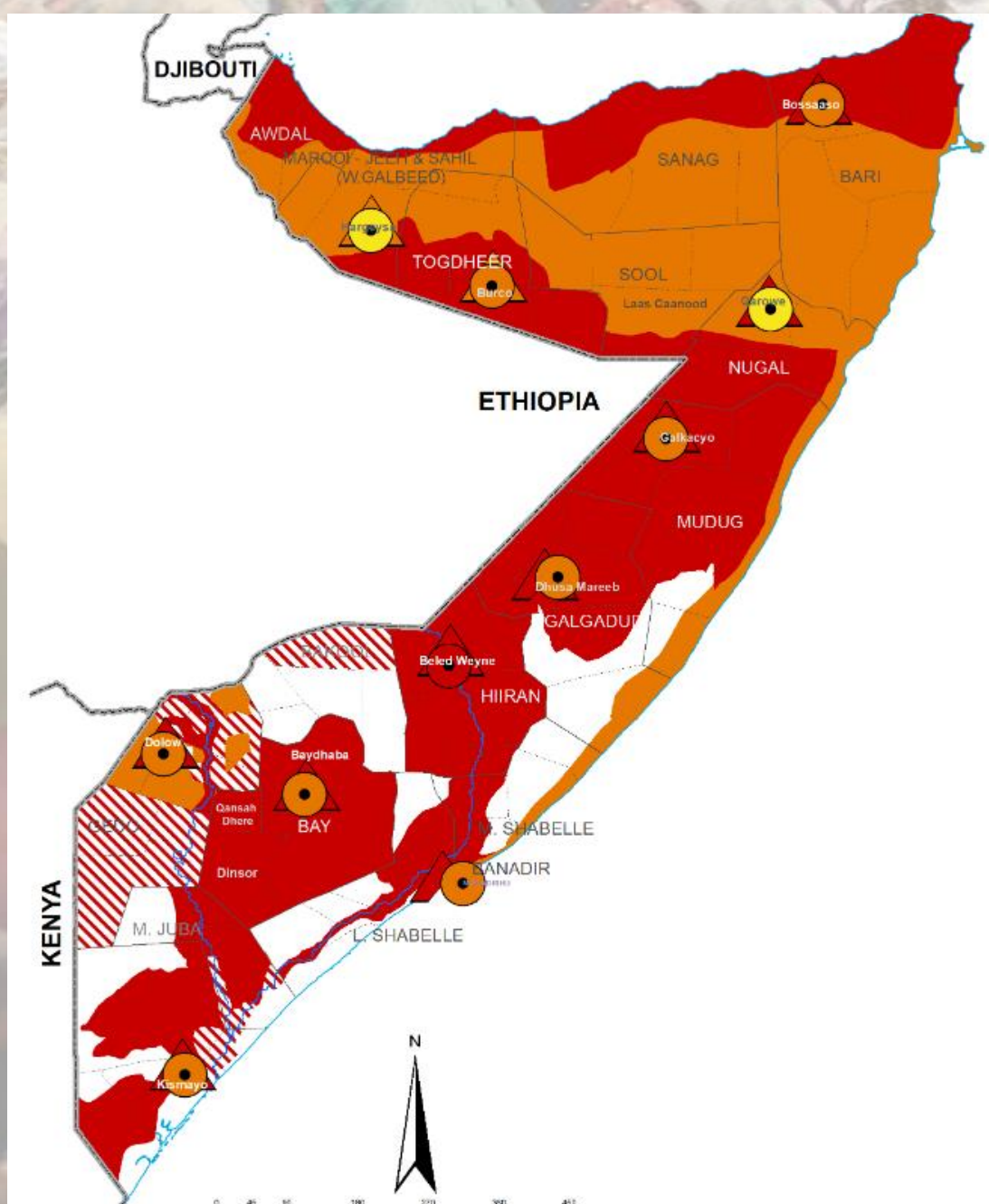
Country	Stressed (IPC Phase 2)	Crisis (IPC Phase 3)	Emergency (IPC Phase 4)	Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5)	Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3+)
Kenya	414,767	179,778	12,390		192,168
Somalia	3,270,560	4,213,529	1,224,686		5,438,215

## SOMALIA

### KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Conflict and insecurity continue to cause forced displacement, disruption to market access and functionality and prevent households from accessing livelihood opportunities. This has also has a direct effect on access to humanitarian assistance of most vulnerable populations.
- Currently **only 22.4%** of the Humanitarian Response Plan for **Somalia is funded for 2023**.
- Based on IPC analysis projections for April to June 2023, **6.6 million people will face acute level of food insecurity (IPC Phase 3+)**. With the recent focus on scaling up frontline emergency assistance since analysis conducted in January 2023, there has been a significant decrease in populations in IPC Phase 5 to IPC Phase 4 in Banadir, Baidoa and Burhakaba agropastoral communities.
- **Approximately 1.8 million children under the age of five in Somalia will most likely suffer from acute malnutrition over the course of 2023**. Of these 478,000 children are likely severely malnourished. In March 2023, there was a round of malnutrition assessment which have demonstrated a decrease in crude mortality rates for children under five. However, the key drivers of malnutrition remain:
  - Household level reductions in food and milk consumption
  - Disease outbreaks (AWD, cholera, measles)
  - Limited health and nutrition services
  - Persistent underlying causes related to poor sanitation and health.
- Despite the recent positive performance of the rainy seasons, the **cumulative impact of protracted drought** has led to loss of life and severe damage to livelihoods. This will continue to deteriorate the food security of livelihoods and increase malnutrition.

**Projected Acute malnutrition situation in Somalia: April – June 2023**



### DRC RESPONSE



SECTOR	UPDATE
<p><b>Camp Coordination and Camp Management</b></p>	<p>Continuous roll-out of the New Arrival Tracking tool for household level registration of new arrivals across different areas in Somalia. During this period, DRC was able to register new arrivals in <b>DRC managed sites in Baidoa, Beletweyne and Banadir</b>. Registration of new arrivals integrates rapid MUAC screening, identification of highly vulnerable individuals and allows for second line responses to be prioritized.</p> <p>Scale up of CCCM coverage in <b>47 IDP sites</b> based on prioritization criteria.</p> <p>In an effort to improve collection and referral management, DRC has implemented Zite Manager initiative developed by the CCCM cluster to ensure accountability to affected populations.</p>
<p><b>Water, Sanitation and Hygiene</b></p>	<p>Following joint technical assessments with the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources of strategic boreholes in Galkayo, Banadir, Baidoa, Belet Weyne and Belet Xaawo, <b>DRC selected 16 strategic boreholes and rehabilitation of these is ongoing</b>.</p> <p>As a result from AWD outbreak in the DRC managed sites in Belet Xaawo, DRC developed and actioned an emergency response plan focused on delivering hygiene awareness campaigns, chlorination of water sources and close coordination with other agencies to provide life saving assistance.</p> <p>DRC WASH teams continue to construct emergency latrines and rehabilitation of key water points in <b>Beletweyne, Baidoa, Banadir, Galkayo and Belet Xaawo</b>.</p>
<p><b>Mobile Response Teams</b></p>	<p>Establishment of DRC's Mobile Response Teams who will focus on accessing hard to reach areas as well as respond to immediate shock/alerts within a quick timeframe. MRT deployments will focus on providing integrated first line response</p>
<p><b>Hard to Reach Programming</b></p>	<p>DRC continues to negotiate access and build community engagement networks with populations in Sulmo and Bukare with the expectation to be able to provide front line assistance in the coming weeks.</p>

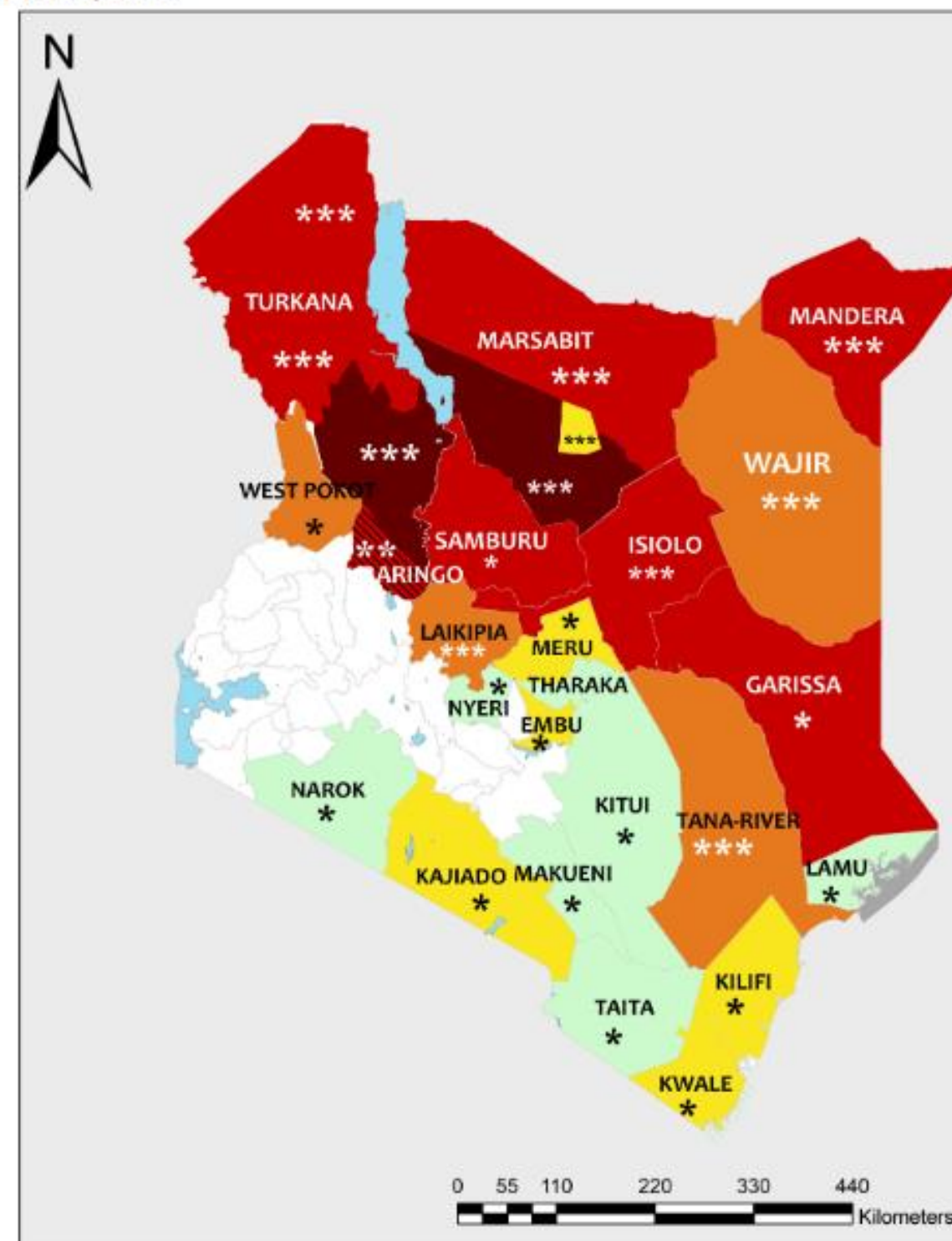
**KENYA**

**KEY DEVELOPMENTS**

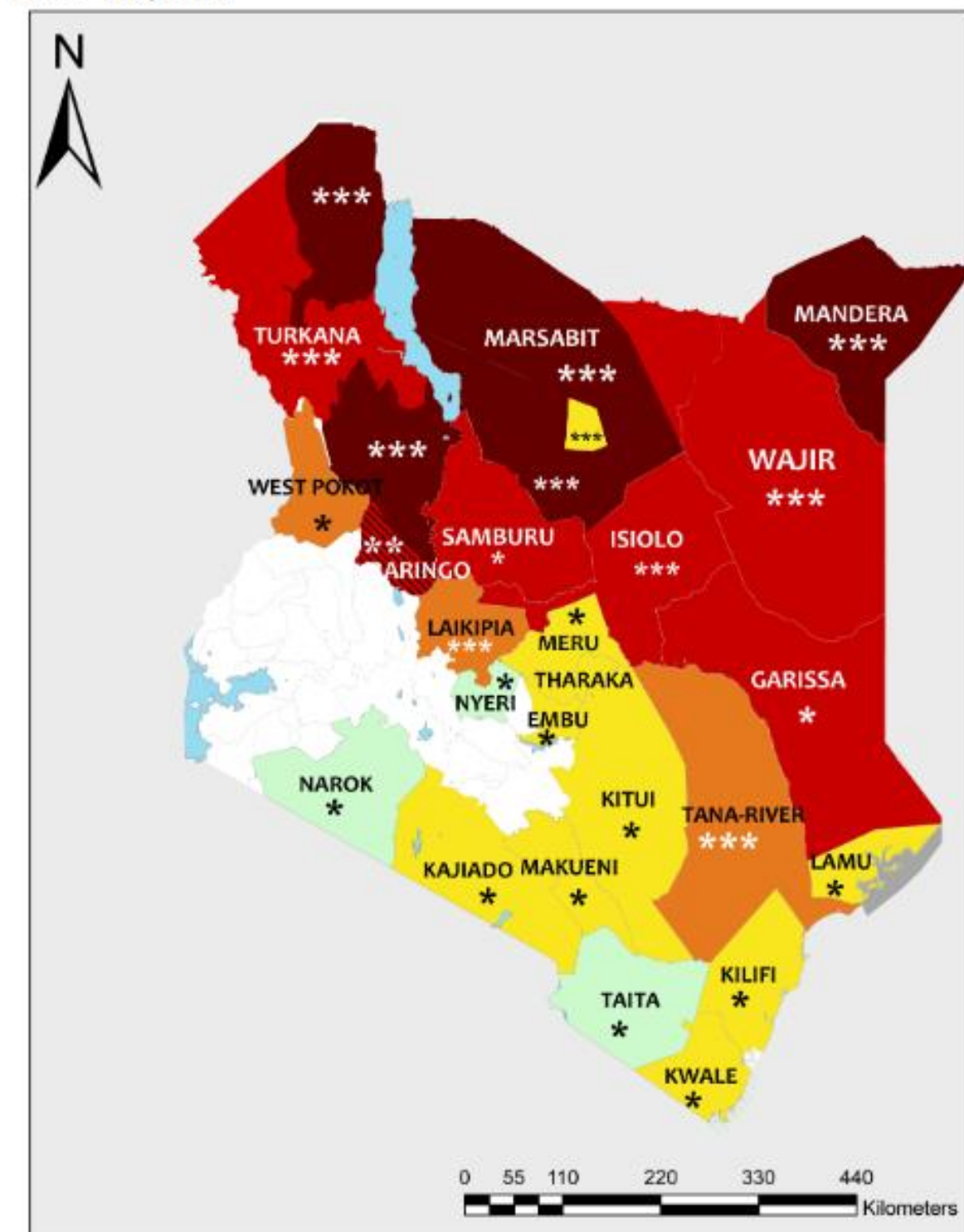
- Latest food insecurity data shows that **over 5.4 million people will experience acute food insecurity between March and June 2023**. Due to the harvesting season in February, there was a slight decrease of food insecurity across Kenya's arid and semi-arid lands (ASAL) areas.
- **Acute malnutrition** remains a critical concern as the majority of ASAL counties have witnessed a significant deterioration. Poor childcare practices contributes to the deterioration especially for those affected by extreme poverty and dry spells. IPC analysis indicates the following:
  - **Laisamis in Marsabit county and Turkana South classified in Extremely Critical levels** of acute malnutrition (IPC AMN Phase 5 – GAM WHZ > 30%).
  - **Samburu, Mandera, Garissa, Isiolo, Turkana West, Turkana Central, Turkana North, Tiaty Subt-County in Baringo, North Horr and Moyala sub-counties in Marsabi county are classified as Critical Situation** (IPC AMN Phase 4 – GAM WHZ 15% to 29.9%).
  - **West Pokot, Laikipia, Tana River and Wajir are in Serious Situation** (IPC AMC Phase 3 – GAM WHZ 10%-14.9%).
- **Current cholera outbreaks are affecting 17/34 counties with 11 counties reporting active transmission rates**. However, challenges and gaps remain with regards to information, funding and risk of continued cross-border transmission.
- **As of April 2023, only 14.6% of the Humanitarian Response Plan** was funded for Kenya. In total a reported **6.4 million people** are in needs of humanitarian assistance which amounts to a funding requirement of US \$451.8 million.
  - The top three sectors requiring funding and in relation to the needs on the ground are WASH, FSL and Protection.
- For rainfall forecast for May, **normal conditions are expected in Western Kenya**. Average temperatures are likely to be recorded in north-eastern Kenya with extension into Somalia areas.
- Since the start of April, there has been an increase in new arrivals into Kakuma refugee camp with a recorded 23,579 refugees. New arrivals are screened for malnutrition with **current GAM rates above 15%**.

**IPC Analysis – Kenya: Acute Malnutrition Situation Projections**

February 2023



March - May 2023



## ETHIOPIA

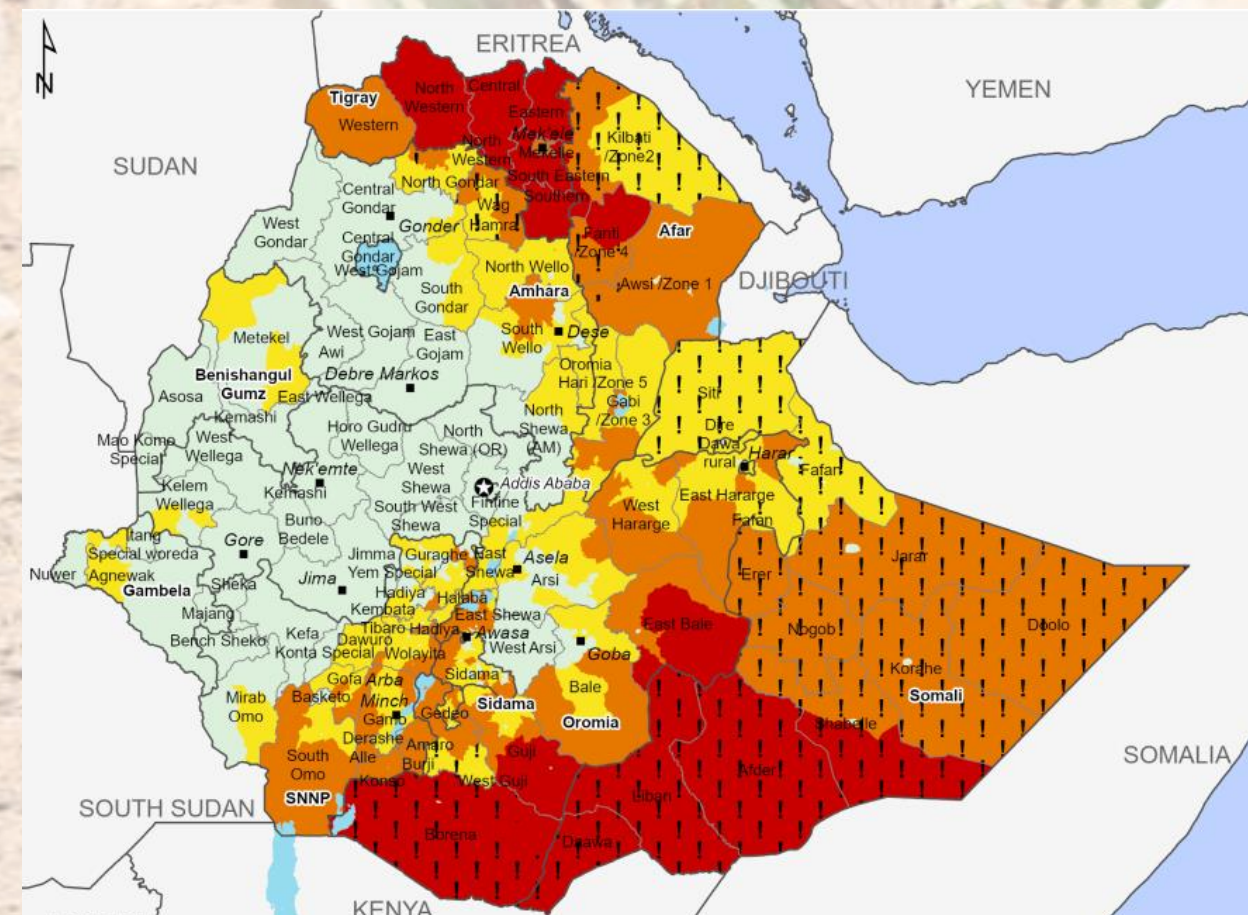
### KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- **Key collective response constraints** reported by UN and INGOs in Ethiopia in response to the drought are:
  - Weak cluster coordination and information management in regions and zones.
  - Shortage of health workers and high staff turnover.
  - Lack of adequate space for SAM admission across the Somali region.
  - Access and security operational constraints including physical road condition due to recent increase in rains.
  - Low nutrition screening coverage linked to logistical and budgetary constrains.
  - Limited technical capacities support across all sectors, notably health, nutrition and WASH.
- **A reported 5.3 million people are living in severely drought affected areas** in Ethiopia with approximately 516,300 displaced by the drought.
- Due to funding shortfalls **food ration cuts** are expected in May and increase from current 16% to 40%.
- **Severe flooding** has affected n Somali and Afdher regions. According to Regional Response Management Bureau forecast, the number of affected households is likely to reach up to **53,870 people** of which 35,850 are already displaced.
  - 34,519 households in 21 woredas in riverine zones like Shebele, Afder, Liban, Dawa, Fafan and Jarar.
  - 26,382 households affected in Dolo Bay and 5,586 in Chereti.
- A total of **16,000 hectares of standing crops (maize and sorghum)** have been washed away by flash flooding. This has had detrimental effects on livestock with approximately the death of 4,62 livestock heads.

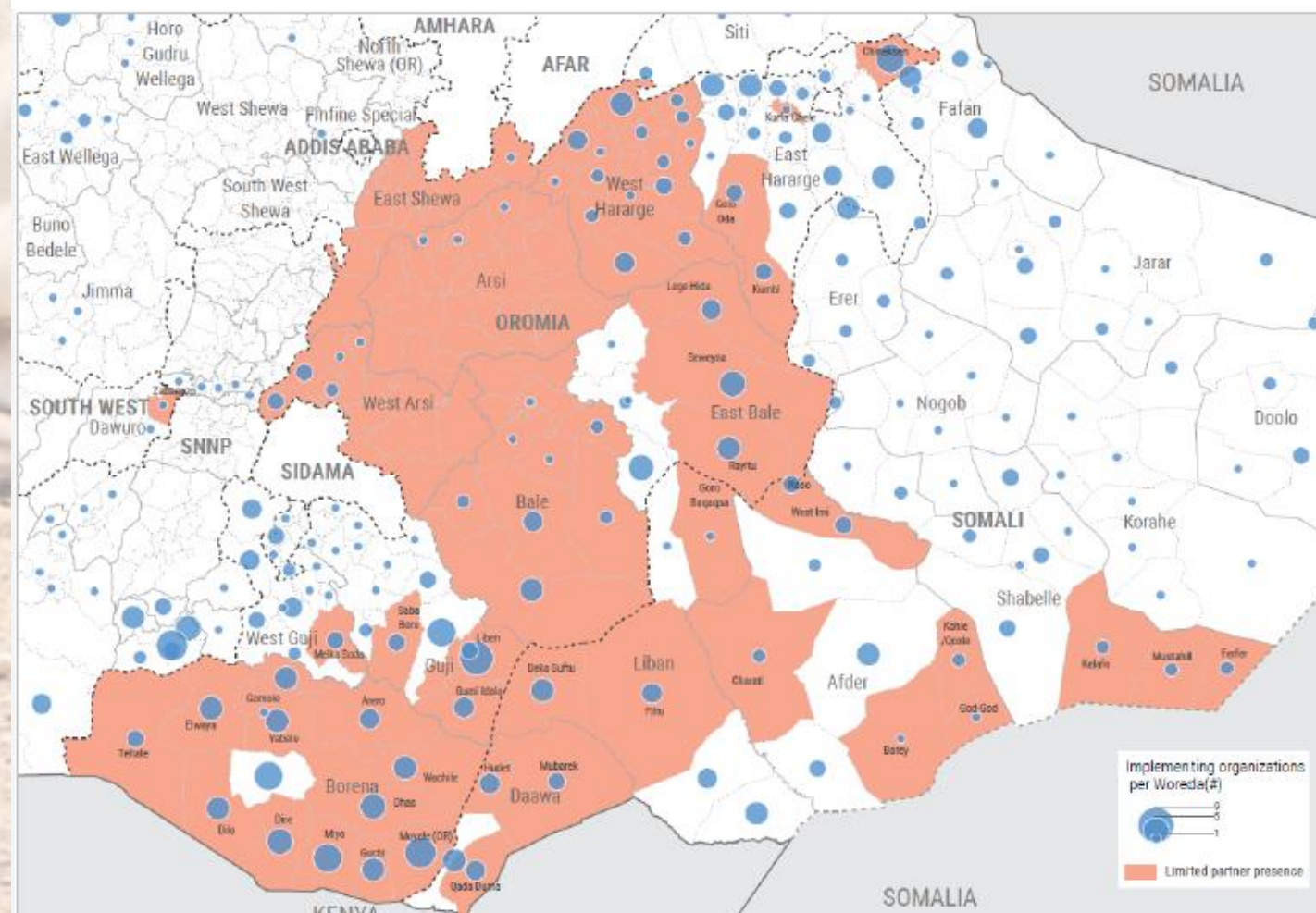
### DRC RESPONSE

SECTOR	UPDATE
<b>Multi Purpose Cash Assistance</b>	Based on rapid market assessment conducted in Chereti, Hagelle and Dollo Bay woredas of Afder zone, <b>DRC is supporting 500 households through MPCA.</b> Complimentary to this response, emergency protection activities will be rolled out and integrated.
<b>PROTECTION</b>	Based on findings from Rapid Protection Assessments conducted in Eldub IDP sites, <b>DRC is responding with Individual Protection Assistance, establish GBV case management and strengthen community-based protection networks.</b>
<b>Water, Sanitation and Hygiene</b>	DRC has pivoted the provision of water provision to increase hygiene and sanitation activities as a key response to the increase in flooding and prevention of water borne diseases.  With recent flash flooding and increase in cholera cases by 50% DRC activated a WASH response complimentary to health services in the areas of operation.

**IPC Analysis – Ethiopia Acute Food Insecurity: February – May 2023 Projections**



**Humanitarian Geographic coverage in Ethiopia: Source OCHA**



## RESOURCES

[DRC Horn of Africa Donate Now](#)

[DRC Joint Statement: NGOs Call for Urgent Funding Surge as Somalia is Expected to Face Famine](#)

[DRC Horn of Africa: Drought Response Appeal](#)

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