



Impact of Intermittent Rainfall on Food Security in Uganda

OVER 1,300,000 PEOPLE IN UGANDA ARE FACING
SEVERE SHORTAGE OF FOOD, SCARCITY OF
WATER AND PASTURE AS A RESULT OF FAILED
RAINFALL

SUMMARY

In general the food security situation in the country is at level 3 (crisis) of the 5 levels of measuring food insecurity. The five phases of food security are; (1) minimal, (2) Stress, (3) crisis, (4) emergency and (5) famine.

The food insecure prone Karamoja (1,000,000 people) is in a precarious state in that it just experienced a little harvest (October – November 2016); after three consecutive years (2013, 2014 & 2015) of massive crop failure. The 2016 harvest can only sustain the Karamoja population for not more than two Months, meaning by January 2016, Karamoja is likely to drop suddenly into a famine state of food insecurity.

The food security situation of Teso subregion (1,600,000 people) another vast area prone to crop failure is fast deteriorating from crisis (level 3) to emergency (level 4) as household stocks from the little harvests run out by end of November 2016.

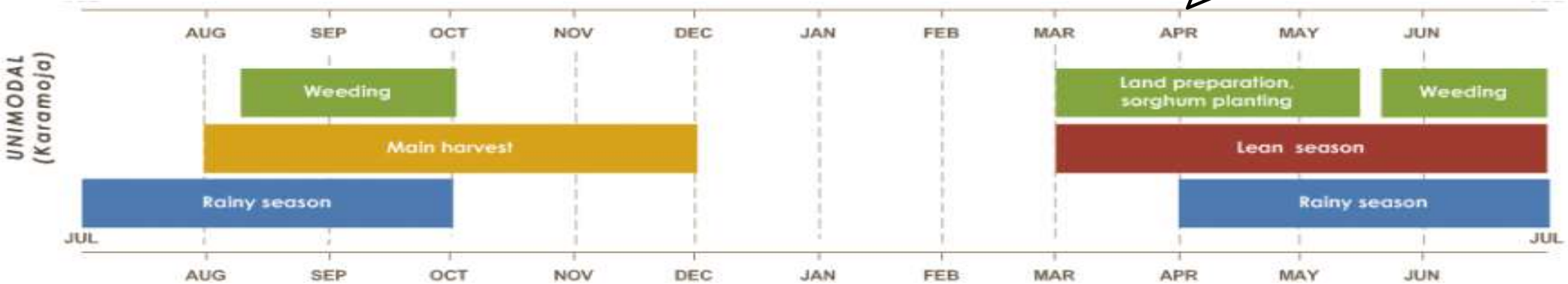
The population along the cattle corridor (3,000,000 people) are living in a crisis (level 3) of food insecurity.

SUMMARY cont...

The next slides show the cropping calendar and the crop conditions in the famine prone Karamoja over the past three years

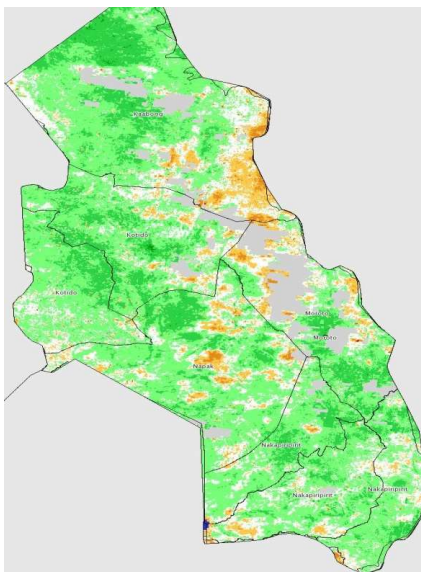
Typical Karamoja Crop Calendar

Typical Land Preparation and Planting Mar-May

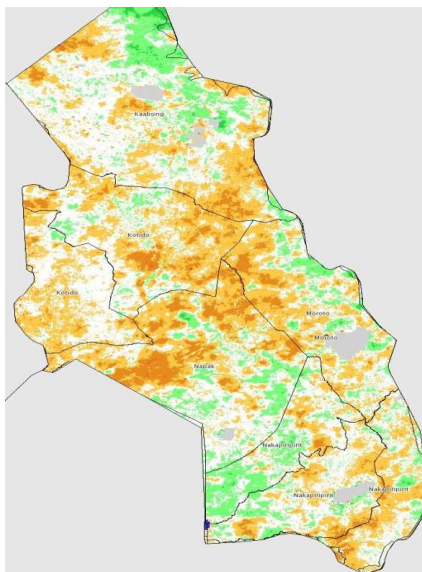


June-September 2015 Summary

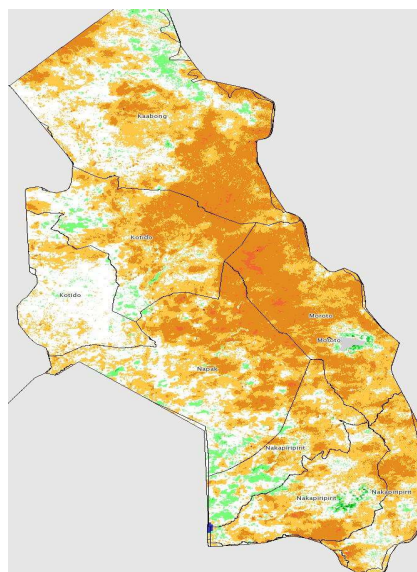
End -June



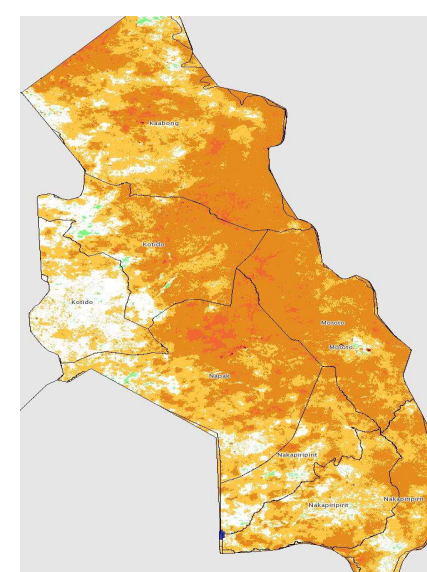
Mid-July



Mid-August



Mid-September



- February 2015: deteriorating food stocks due to poor harvest in 2014
- June to July: Failing Crops
- August 2015: Complete Failure
- September 2015: No Harvest



Crop Conditions in Nadunget Sub-County August 14, 2014



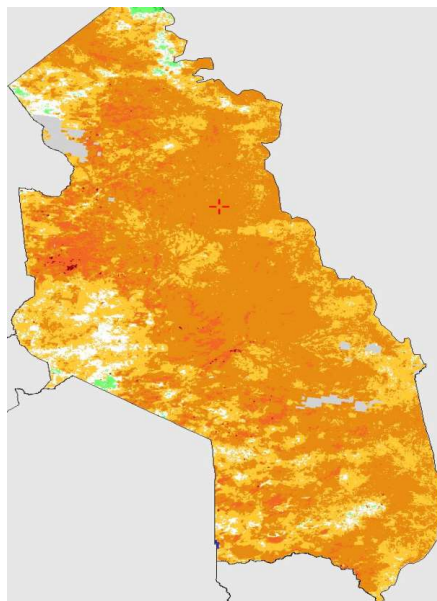
The above photo was taken on Thursday 24, September 2015 in Rupa sub-county, Moroto District. It showed a garden of Sorghum which had totally failed yet it was harvest time



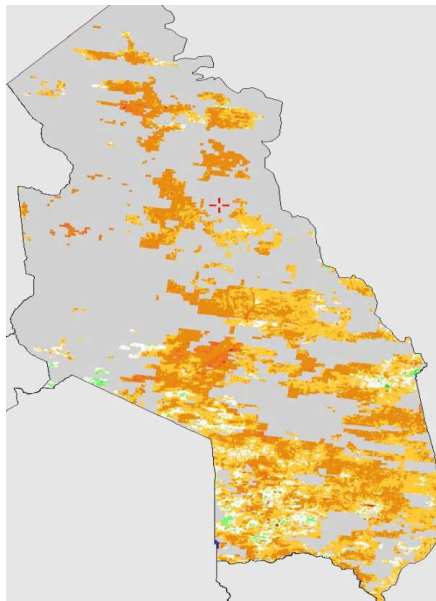
Owners of the above gardens should have been harvesting but there was nothing in the garden. The same situation was experienced last year

September-December 2015 Summary

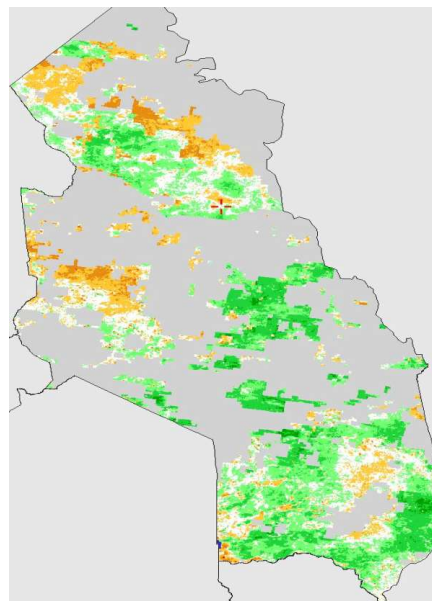
End-September



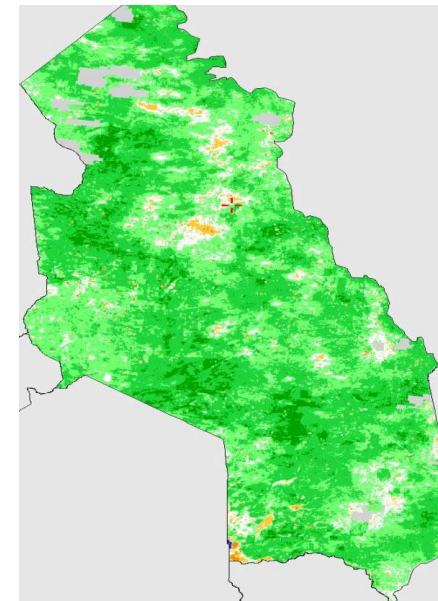
Mid to End October



Mid-November



Early December



- September 2015: No harvest, vegetation conditions (Pasture) very poor
- October 2015: Pasture conditions still very poor
- November 2015: Pasture conditions improve due to rains
- December 2015: Pasture conditions very good- animal body conditions improving
- Food availability extremely low due to no harvest



**Excellent Pasture Conditions,
but no food for households- Dec 17, 2015**

Livestock Conditions

- improving/good



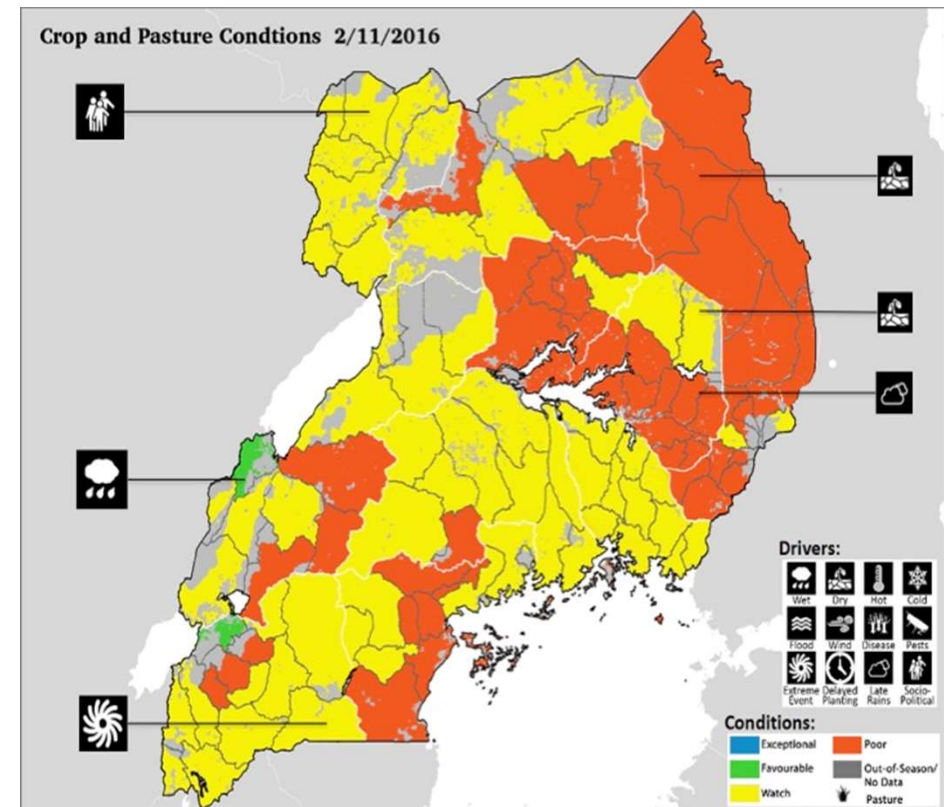


• **Food Security Situation - Countrywide**

- For the other parts of the Country excluding Karamoja, the first season rains for this year 2016, which normally begin during the month of March, were more than three weeks late and below average especially in the North-Western, Central and Eastern parts of the Country.
- Households that had planted crops according to the usual first season calendar of March never witnessed germination.
- Much of the crops planted later after the rains arrived were also scotched by the Sun due to below average rainfall.
- There was also a dry spell during the period May-June which heavily damaged crops in many parts of the country.
- The second season rains (August – October) also came late at what is supposed to be harvest time in most parts of the country.
- This all happened after a very long period of drought in the previous year 2015 in most parts of the country.

Food Security Situation cont.....

- Our biggest fear now is the current la nina conditions (extended-dry-spell) in some parts of the country which is forecasted by the National Meteorological Authority to last between September 2016 and March 2017.
- The sub regions of Karamoja, Teso, Lango, Acholi, Bukedi, West Nile, parts of Busoga and most districts along the Cattle Corridor have witnessed massive crop failure, leading to little or no harvest that has now resulted into the severe food crisis.





Food Security Situation cont.....

- The food security situation in most parts of the country ranges between minimal and crisis. No part of the Country is in a famine phase of food insecurity.
- However, there is fear if individuals and families do not manage the available food stocks at household levels well, the situation can quickly deteriorate to the emergency and famine stages of food insecurity within the next two Months.
- 25% of the population in Isingiro District are in an emergency phase of food insecurity; meaning they access half a meal or nothing at all in a day.
- 65% of the population in Karamoja subregion are in a crisis phase of food insecurity; meaning they access one meal or half a meal in a day.
- 35% of the population in the districts of Katakwi, Amuria, Kumi, Bukedea, parts of Serere and Kaberamaido are in the same phase with Karamoja subregion (crisis); meaning they access one meal or half a meal in a day.



Food Security Situation cont.....

- 50% of the people of Koboko, Yumbe, Moyo, Maracha, Arua, Zombo, Nebbi, Adjumani, Amuru, Nyoya, Gulu, Pader, Lamwo, Kitgum, Agago, Soroti, Ngora, Amolatar, Pallisa, Butaleja, Rakai, Isingiro and Tororo are in a crisis phase of food insecurity; meaning they access one and half meals in a day.
- The districts of Oyam, Apac, Kiryandongo, Masindi, Bulisa, Kyankwanzi, Nakaseke, Kiboga, Mubende, Luwero, Kyegegwa, Sembabule, Kiruhura, Lwengo, Ntugamo, Kamuli and Kibuuku are in a stressed phase of food insecurity, meaning the people can still afford all meals though stocks are running low.
- The following districts are in minimal phase of food insecurity; Kisoro, Kabale, Kanungu, Rukungiri, Mitooma, Bushenyi, Rubirizi, Ibanda, Kasese, Kabarole, Bundibugyo, Kyenjojo, Ntoroko, Kibaale, Hoima, Masaka, Lyantonde, Kalungu, Butambala, Mityana, Wakiso, Gomba, luuka, Iganga, Buikwe, Mukono, Kayunga, Buyende, Kampala, Jinja, Mayuge, Bugiri, Busia, Namayingo, Buvuma and Kalangala.
- The total population in need of **urgent** relief food, as of now stands at about 1,300,000 people (the sub-regions of Karamoja, Teso, Lango, Acholi, Bukedi, West Nile, parts of Busoga and some districts along the Cattle Corridor).

UGANDA REFUGEES & ASYLUM SEEKERS AS AT NOVEMBER 3RD, 2016

□ Grand Total of **898,082**

Refugees. Countries with highest number are listed below;

- DR Congo
224,309

- South Sudan 383,886

- Somalia 38,780

- Rwanda 17,747

- Burundi 43,334

- Eritrea 11,965

- Sudan 3,305

- Ethiopia 2,903

- Others 1,078

Refugees Contd.



- WFP is constrained and is failing to provide refugees with full rations.
- Food rations were cut in August 2016 and are proposing further cuts soon.
- WFP is indicating further cuts in January 2017.
- The coming in of refugee in such large numbers has depleted food stocks in mainly the northern parts of the country as well as West Nile.
- In addition, this has caused stress on water sources, vegetation cover, medical services and education facilities.



2. Water Scarcity Situation

- The following sub-regions and districts are facing severe shortage of water for both domestic use and livestock rearing.
- The sub-regions of Karamoja, Teso, Bukedi, West Nile and most districts along the Cattle Corridor.



3. Pasture situation

- The same districts facing water crisis are also facing pasture shortage. Therefore, the districts mentioned above are all facing pasture shortage



Interventions by Government so far ...

- Awareness creation through both print and broadcast media.
- Providing relief food to the most stressed districts.
- Advisories on the utilization of food.



WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE

- **Immediate:** Activation of the zero budget lines for responding to emergencies under World Bank funded projects, to provide food relief, seeds/planting materials and another joint food security assessment.
 - I.e. Regional pastoral livelihood program (40 million dollar project) for Teso & Karamoja
 - DRF for Karamoja Sub-region
- **Medium term interventions:** Seeds for quick maturing crops, tools, support to vaccination programmes, de-silting water sources, strengthening the early warning system and strengthen extension services (Treating the animals, providing advisory services), promoting climate change adaptation & resilience of communities, etc)
- **Long term strategy;** Provision of water for production & supporting irrigation, enact legislation on food security, .



Government Interventions

- Continuous radio programs on: the situation, community adaptation actions throughout the country every week for the next four months until the coming rains are established
- Capacity building of community/local government based early warning/food security information system for continuous information flow up to national level
- Availing of quick maturing crop varieties to the population as soon as the rains are established
- Availing of emergency food and relief items to the severely affected families

Relief Food Requirements

- Karamoja currently has an estimated 700,000 people who are severely food insecure
- This population requires (700,000 x 0.25 kg) of food per day, i.e 175 tonnes (1,750 bags of 100kgs). In other words 455,000,000 UGX
- In one month, Karamoja food requirement is worth Ug. Shs. 13,650,000,000 (13.65 Billion)
- For the next 12 Months, Karamoja food requirement is worth shs. 163,800,000,000 (163.8 Billion)
- OPM currently does not have any funds to procure and deliver relief food to Karamoja

Relief Food Requirements for the other parts of the country

- **OPM requires shs 105.3 billion to Procure and Supply Relief Food to the 1,300,000 people in need.**
- For Financial year 2016/17, the Ministry of Finance allocated shs 3,000,000,000/= (three billion shillings) for purchase of relief food for the whole Country over a period of 12 Months.
- An additional shs 3,060,000,000/= was released by the Ministry of Finance in October 2016 for Relief food but it is still inadequate.
- To appropriately address the current relief food needs over a six Months period, OPM requires relief food worth shs 105,300,000,000/= (one hundred and five billion, three hundred million shillings). (**Formula:** 1,300,000 pple x 0.25kgs x 30 days x 6 months x 1,800/=).
- There is however a likelihood that the number of people in need of relief food may rise from 1,300,000 to over 5,000,000 should the lanina episode get established



THANK YOU

Christine Guwatudde Kintu

PERMANENT SECRETARY