

GIEWS Country Brief

Chad



Reference Date: 08-October-2013

FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Another above-average cereal harvest is anticipated this year
- Pasture conditions have also improved countrywide
- High food prices persist in spite of last year's good harvests.
- Continued assistance is required to improve access to food and protect the livelihoods of food insecure and vulnerable people

Overall prospects for the 2013 cereal crops are favourable

Harvesting of the 2013 cereal crops has started in the southern parts of the country, and overall prospects are favourable. The late onset of the cropping season was followed by adequate precipitation and soil water reserves from July over the main producing areas. Satellite imagery analysis in early October indicates that good rains continued to fall over most of the country. Pastures have been regenerating countrywide, improving livestock conditions.

In 2012, a record harvest was already gathered owing to favourable climatic conditions in the main cereal growing regions. According to the final estimates, the 2012 cereal output was estimated at about 3.1 million tonnes, 91 percent higher than the 2011 drought-affected output and 55 percent above the average of the past five years.

Cereal markets affected by trade disruption

In spite of the good crop gathered last year, some inter-regional restrictions on commodity movement have reduced the flow between deficit and surplus areas of the country. Moreover, insecurity in Nigeria has affected commodity movement between both countries, contributing to higher prices in parts. For example, millet prices in Abéché and Moundou in August 2013 were, respectively, 38 percent and 25 percent above last year's crisis affected levels. Prices have also remained relatively high in N'djamena.

Continued assistance is still needed for vulnerable people

Chad has been struck by successive severe food crises in recent years that resulted in depletion of household assets and high level of indebtedness. In spite of last year's good harvests, the food security situation remains difficult in parts, due to high food prices and the lingering effects of previous crises. Moreover, over 300 000 people from the Sudan's Darfur region and the Central African Republic are located as refugees in southern and eastern regions of Chad. Safety-net interventions as well as implementation of income generation and asset reconstitution activities for food insecure and vulnerable people should continue.



Chad Cereal production

	2007-2011 average	2011	2012 estimate	change 2012/2011
	000 tonnes		percent	
Sorghum	681	648	1 172	81
Millet	465	319	847	166
Cereals nes	461	217	500	130
Others	438	474	643	36
Total	2 045	1 658	3 162	91

Note: percentage change calculated from unrounded data.
Source: FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance Sheets

