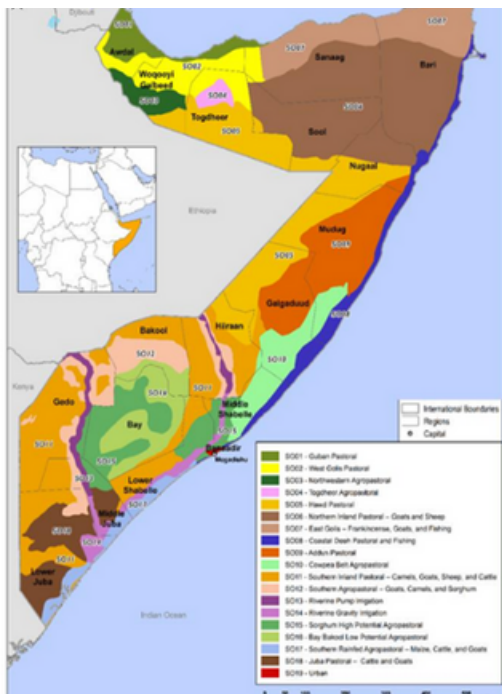




## Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation

### Department of Food Security, Food Systems & Climate change



Somali Rural Livelihood Zones

## ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY TRENDS IN SOMALIA

increasing the number of people experiencing acute food insecurity Somalia. From 2017 to 2024, as reflected in the figure 1, this can be attributed to a combination of several complex and interrelated factors:

- 1. Droughts and Climate Change:** Somalia is highly vulnerable to climate variability, with recurrent droughts leading to crop failure, loss of livestock, and water scarcity. These conditions severely affect food production and availability.
- 2. Conflict and Insecurity:** Ongoing political instability and conflict, particularly with extremist group Al-Shabaab, have disrupted access to food leading to shortage in some regions.
- 3. Economic Decline:** The Somali economy, heavily reliant on agriculture and livestock, those are fragile and susceptible to shocks. When these sectors fail due to climate or conflict, the overall economy suffers, leading to higher levels of poverty and food insecurity.

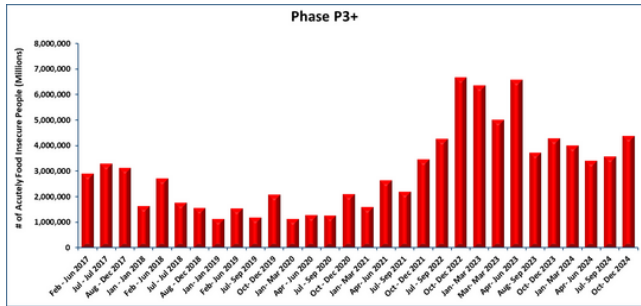
**4. Inflation and Market Disruptions:** Inflation, especially in food prices, combined with disruptions in local markets due to conflict or environmental factors, makes food unaffordable for many. This leads to an increase in the number of people unable to meet their daily food needs.

**5. Limited Investment in Long-term Development and Infrastructure:** lack of investment in long-term solutions, such as infrastructure development. Instead of focusing solely on immediate food aid, there is a critical need for funding and support for infrastructure projects like roads, water systems, and agricultural development. Without these long-term investments, it becomes much harder to improve food security in a sustainable way.

Together, these factors create a situation that could improve food security in Somalia. Additionally, the government is working on creating sustainable programs and plans aimed at reducing poverty and addressing the impacts of natural and human-made disasters. By encouraging investment in agriculture, improving livelihoods of vulnerable population, boost local food production and reduce reliance

on external aid. These efforts are essential for increasing the resilience of communities against food insecurity and recurring droughts and floods.

**Fig:1. Number of People Acute Food Insecurity Phase 3 and Worst (2017 -2024)**



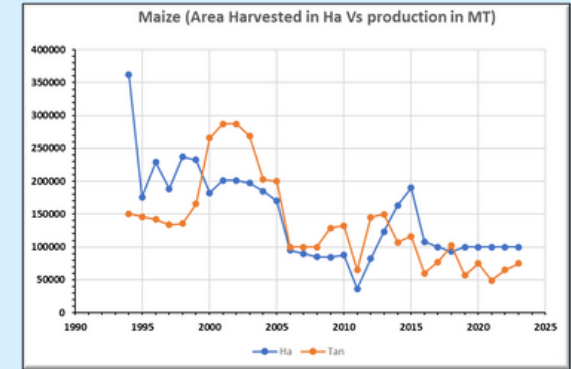
## CURRENT STATE OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

Somalia has a rich history of agriculture traditions, with crop cultivation and livestock farming those are the backbone of the country's economy and providing livelihoods for the majority of the population. Maize, Cowpea and sorghum are the primary crops grown, although crop yields tend to be low due to limited access to modern agricultural practices, irrigation, and improved seeds. The livestock sector, which includes camels, goats and sheep

is also a vital part of Somalia's economy and culture, with significant exports to Middle Eastern markets.

However, the agricultural sector faces several challenges, including frequent droughts, the impacts of climate change, political instability, conflict-induced displacement, and limited access to modern farming technologies. These issues have contributed to ongoing food insecurity and malnutrition in the country. Factors such as droughts, conflicts, and economic instability have made it difficult for Somalia to achieve long-term food security. The state of agriculture in Somalia reflects a sector with immense potential, but it is hindered by numerous challenges. Addressing issues such as climate change adaptation, conflict resolution, and infrastructure development is crucial to unlocking the full potential of agriculture in the country and ensuring long-term food security and economic stability.

**fig: 2. Maize (Area Harvested in ha vs Production in MT)**



In recent years, the Somali government, particularly the Ministry of Agriculture, has been working to improve the agricultural sector, which is crucial for achieving both food security and economic stability in Somalia. These efforts are vital for the country's overall development and governance, but remain insufficient to fully address these challenges.

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