

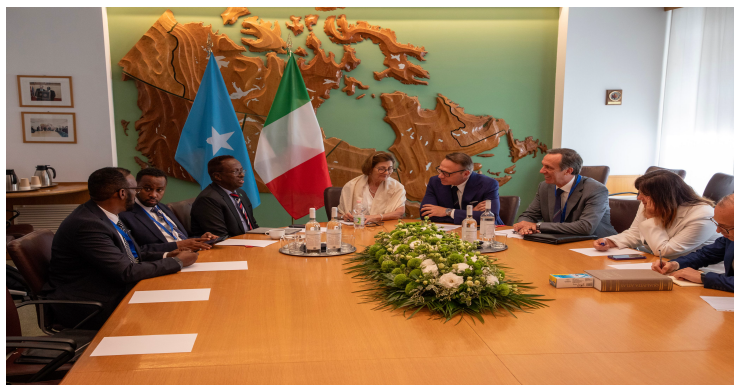


## The H.E. Hon Mohamed Abdi Hayir Maareeye had a meeting with Mr. George Conway & H.E. Francesco Lollobrigida

H.E. Hon\_Maareeye had a meeting with H.E. Francesco Lollobrigida, the Italian Minister of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty, and Forestry, to strengthen the longstanding agricultural ties between Italy and Somalia. They discussed opportunities to deepen the bilateral cooperation and build a strategic partnership, focusing on sustainable agricultural development.

H.E Hon\_Maareeye had a meet with Mr. George Conway United Nations, Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Resident Coordinator, and Humanitarian Coordinator (DSRSG/RC/HC) for Somalia, at the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation Head Quarters in Mogadishu today. The discussions underscored a mutual commitment to enhancing collaboration in the advancement of Somalia's agriculture sector as a vital driver of national economic growth. They also agreed to reengage on the Jowhar Offstream Storage Programme (JOSP), with a focus on addressing current funding gaps to accelerate its implementation.





*H.E. Hon\_ Mohamed Abdi Xayr Maareeye  
H.E. Francesco Lollobrigida, the Italian  
Minister of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty,  
and Forestry*



*H.E. Hon\_ Mohamed Abdi Xayr Maareeye  
Mr. George Conway United Nations Deputy  
Special Representative of the Secretary-General,  
Resident Coordinator, and Humanitarian  
Coordinator*



Somalia National Pesticide Laboratory,

H.E. Hon\_ Maareeye officially inaugurated the Somalia National Pesticide Laboratory, established under the Somali Agricultural Regulation and Inspection Service (SARIS) at the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation (MoAI) headquarters in Mogadishu. This milestone marks a significant advancement in safeguarding public health while enhancing Somali farmers' access to international markets.

Through rigorous quality assurance and certification of seeds, fertilizers, and pesticides—facilitated by three specialized laboratory systems at MoAI, ensuring the safety and compliance of agricultural imports and exports. From this day forward, this facility will play a vital role in strengthening Somalia's agricultural sector, fostering growth, and promoting global trade opportunities.



## Training of Trainers Workshop for National CAADP Focal Points and BR Experts on the Fifth BR Data Collection and Reporting Tools May 27th to 29th, 2025

### Convening of the Workshop

The EAC Secretariat, in collaboration with the African Union Commission (AUC) and COMESA, and with financial support from AGRA, convened a Training of Trainers (TOT) workshop for national CAADP focal points and biennial review (BR) experts on the fifth CAADP BR Data Collection and Reporting Tools. The workshop was held at the Four Points by Sheraton Hotel in Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania, from May 27 to 29, 2025.

The main objective of the workshop was to train and familiarize the EAC Partner States national CAADP focal points and experts with the fifth CAADP BR process and tools. Additionally, the training workshop was to foster the exchange of lessons learned and best practices among national CAADP focal points and experts in the EAC region. The specific objectives were to: Familiarize EAC Partner States CAADP experts with the 5th CAADP BR tools (country reporting template and technical guidelines), commitments, and targets. Train national CAADP teams in data collection, compilation, and the eBR data system to ensure data quality. Discuss how the national CAADP teams can be strengthened to ensure proper communication on the BR process and timely submission of quality data..

### BR THEMATIC AREAS AND OTHER ASPECTS COVERED DURING THE TRAINING

The CAADP BR experts trained the country BR experts on the CAADP BR thematic areas and eBR system. Partner States also presented their roadmaps for the upcoming BR data compilation and validation.

a) CAADP Thematic Areas

- Commitment to the CAADP process
- Investment Finance in Agriculture
- Ending Hunger
- Eradicating Poverty through Agriculture
- Intra-African Trade in Agriculture Commodities and services
- Resilience to Climate Variability
- Mutual Accountability for Actions and Results

b) other aspects of training

- Ebr
- CAADP BR Data quality
- Domestication of the Kampala Declaration

c) Partner States Roadmaps



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## Validation Workshop for the Agricultural Cooperatives Strategy and Action Plan Department of Agribusiness and Cooperative Development Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Federal Government of Somalia



### Highlights of Workshop Proceedings

**Opening Session-** Director Sowda Mire officially opened the workshop, underscoring its purpose as a final checkpoint to affirm the cooperative strategy's alignment with grassroots realities. She emphasized the critical role of cooperatives in national development and the importance of validation by the primary stakeholders—the cooperative members themselves.

**Stakeholder Feedback and Corrections-** Participants actively engaged in validating content accuracy. Notable feedback included corrections from the Galmudug representative regarding financial support figures—highlighting the need to revise statements to reflect intent rather than misinterpreted commitments. Additional remarks called for deeper inclusion of youth participation, regional disparities, and cooperative diversity.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, through its Department of Agribusiness and Cooperative Development, convened a national validation workshop on 17 June 2025 in Mogadishu to finalize the Agricultural Cooperatives Strategy and Action Plan. This workshop marked the culmination of an extensive participatory process aimed at strengthening cooperative institutions across Somalia.

The event brought together cooperative leaders, federal and state officials, technical experts, and development partners to critically review, validate, and endorse the draft strategy.

**Presentation of the Draft Strategy-** Mr. Sultan Amri, the lead consultant, provided a section-by-section presentation of the strategy, covering the vision, policy priorities, and implementation approach. Emphasis was placed on stakeholder contributions from previous consultations and regional context.

Mr. Sultan acknowledged the feedback and assured participants that all corrections would be incorporated into the final document, with an additional round of review by Federal Member States before publishing.



## Strategic Mindset & Leadership Development

## Reflections & Way Forward

In a special address, Mr. John Mwaka delivered a motivational talk encouraging participants to adopt visionary leadership and adaptive governance. Through the metaphor of the lion vs. elephant mindset, he challenged cooperative leaders to embrace bold, proactive approaches. He also highlighted the need to balance institutional planning with field-level realities—what he called “the boardroom and the farmgate.”

The validation workshop successfully fulfilled its mandate by strengthening the strategy through constructive feedback and shared ownership. The process demonstrated the government’s commitment to participatory policy-making and laid a solid foundation for cooperative development across Somalia.

To ensure inclusive finalization, participants were invited to write down priority actions for the Ministry. The most common suggestions were:

- Establishing local cooperative support centers in each district
  - Providing startup tools and foundational training for cooperative leaders
  - Facilitating fair market access to reduce reliance on intermediaries
- These suggestions will be reflected in the final version of the strategy.

The event concluded with official remarks by Director General Prof. Mahmoud M. Mahmoud, who reaffirmed the Ministry’s commitment to implement the strategy in partnership with cooperatives as active drivers—not just beneficiaries.





# Desert Locust Situation

Danger	Threat	Caution	Calm
			✓



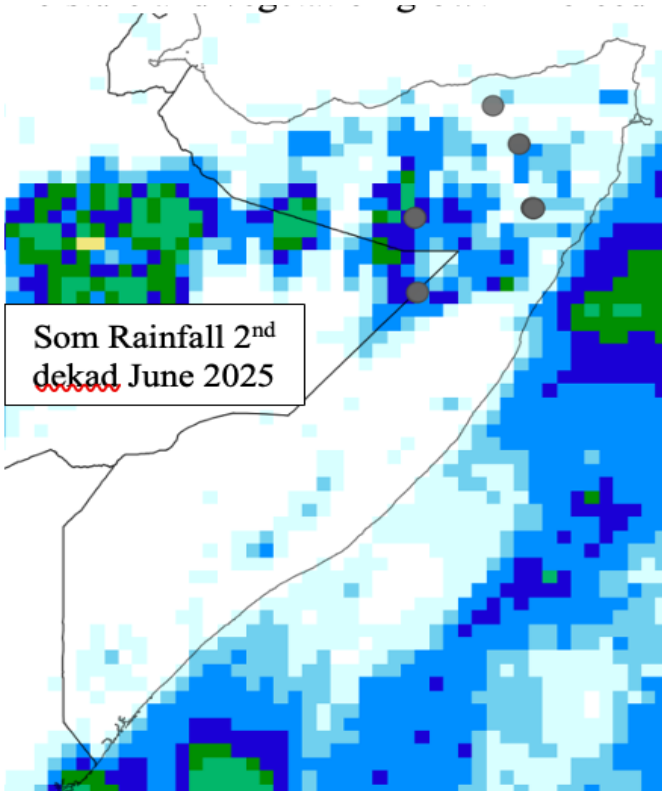
Figure 1: Desert Locust situation during June 2025

## Desert Locust Situation

The Desert Locust (DL) situation remained calm during June 2025. Surveys conducted in the coastal, sub-coastal, and inland areas of the locust breeding areas in the northwest regions indicated that no locusts were seen. Light to moderate rains that fell during the last dekad of the month in the breeding areas may create favorable ecological conditions. Surveys conducted at the end of the month in the Sool and Sanag regions of the DL breeding areas in the northeast confirmed that no locusts were seen.

## Forecasting

Ecological conditions may become favorable for locust breeding in some areas if abundant rainfall continues during July, especially in coastal areas like Zaila, Lughaya, and Berbera districts in the Northwest, which are primary Desert Locust breeding areas. This could lead to the creation of favorable conditions for locust breeding.



## Advancing Agricultural Knowledge Dissemination and Extension Strategy in Somalia

Mogadishu, Somalia – The Department of Research and Extension, under the Federal Republic of Somalia's Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, demonstrated significant progress in May 2024 through three pivotal initiatives. These efforts underscore a strong commitment to strengthening agricultural knowledge, refining extension strategy frameworks, and leveraging technology to enhance food security and support farming communities across Somalia.

### **"Ask the Expert Initiative" (Weydii Khabiirka) – May 19, 2025**

On May 19, at the Jazeera Hotel, our "Ask the Expert Program" brought together senior and junior agricultural experts for a vital dialogue. The primary goal was to document the rich history of agricultural research in Somalia, learning from past successes and failures, and to collectively chart future directions for agricultural extension services.



This event successfully achieved several key outcomes: it strengthened collaborative networks among various agricultural research institutions and experts; it initiated historical documentation and analysis to inform future policy; and ultimately

## Consultation Workshops on National Agricultural Extension Strategy and Action Plan Consultation Workshops (April 28 - May 27, 2025)

Throughout April and May, the department conducted a series of crucial consultation workshops dedicated to developing a comprehensive National Agricultural Extension Strategy and Action Plan for 2025-2028. These workshops were instrumental in engaging key stakeholders at the Federal Member State level.

Our approach involved assessing the current status of agricultural extension services, gathering direct insights from State Ministries, identifying the specific needs of farmers on the ground, and fostering robust collaboration between the Federal Government and Member States. Discussions focused on crucial tools like internal capability assessment, challenge identification, and external factor analysis to build a resilient and effective strategy.





## E-Fidiye Platform Training – June 1, 2025

On June 1, in collaboration with SOMBIZ Limited, the department organized training sessions to familiarize stakeholders with the new e-Fidiye app. The primary objectives were to introduce the app's features, gather crucial feedback, document user requirements, and promote its wider adoption among target users.



Participants gained a foundational understanding of the app, providing extensive feedback and specific requirements that have been meticulously documented for future development. The training significantly raised awareness and is expected to drive the adoption of e-Fidiye among its target users, including farmers, extension officers, private sector actors, cooperatives, universities, and research institutions.

## National Seed Stakeholder Workshop

A National Seed Stakeholder Workshop was convened in Mogadishu (15–16 May 2025) with participation from federal and state agriculture ministries, seed producers, researchers, and development partners. Highlights of the workshop included:

- Reviewed achievements of the Seed Systems Recovery Initiative, including improved seed multiplication and private sector partnerships.
- Identified gaps in seed certification and quality control, and drafted recommendations for streamlining regulatory processes.
- Facilitated links between research institutes and five leading seed companies, agreeing on demonstration trials for new drought-tolerant varieties.

In conclusion, the Department of Research and Extension has demonstrated significant commitment and achieved substantial progress this month. The "Ask the Expert" initiative has laid a strong foundation for historical documentation and knowledge transfer. The comprehensive consultation workshops have brought Somalia closer to finalizing a vital National Agricultural Extension Strategy, promising a more resilient and sustainable agricultural future. Lastly, the e-Fidiye Platform Training represents a proactive step towards leveraging technology to improve agricultural communication and services.

## METHANE EMISSIONS AND RICE FARMING

**RICE FARMING RELEASES METHANE EMISSIONS PRIMARILY DUE TO THE ANAEROBIC (OXYGEN-FREE) CONDITIONS CREATED IN FLOODED PADDY FIELDS. HERE'S HOW THE PROCESS WORKS:**

### 1. Flooded Fields Create Anaerobic Conditions

- Rice is typically grown in flooded paddies, which cut off oxygen from the soil.
- This lack of oxygen creates the ideal environment for anaerobic microbes to thrive.

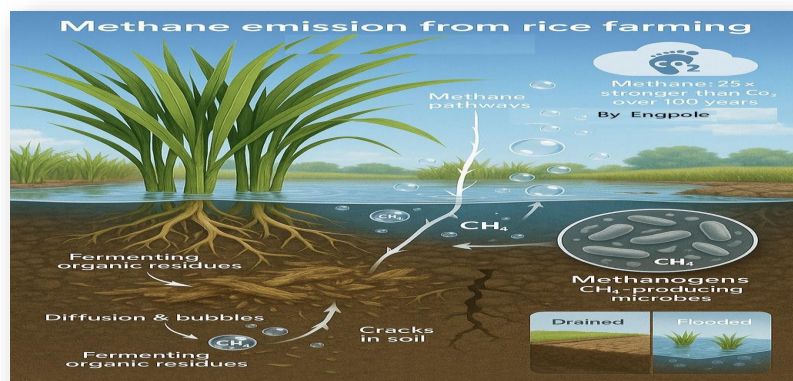
### 2. Organic Matter Feeds Microbes

- Plant residues, such as rice straw, root exudates, and soil organic carbon, begin to decompose in the water-logged soil.

As this organic matter breaks down, it becomes food for methanogenic archaea — microorganisms that produce methane.

### 3. Methanogenesis Begins

- Methanogens convert the decomposed organic matter into methane ( $\text{CH}_4$ ) via biochemical processes, such as:
- Acetoclastic methanogenesis ( $\text{acetate} \rightarrow \text{CH}_4 + \text{CO}_2$ )
- Hydrogenotrophic methanogenesis ( $\text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2 \rightarrow \text{CH}_4$ )



### 4. Methane Rises and Escapes

- Methane produced in the soil escapes into the atmosphere through three primary pathways:
- Diffusion and bubbling through the water column.
- Cracks in the soil, especially if it dries and re-floods.
- Through the rice plant itself, via hollow stem channels called aerenchyma, which act as natural pipes for methane to travel from roots to the air.

### 5. Global Impact

Methane is a potent greenhouse gas, with 25 times the warming potential of  $\text{CO}_2$  over a 100- year period.

- Rice farming contributes significantly to global methane emissions, accounting for about 10% of agricultural  $\text{CH}_4$  emissions worldwide.

### Mitigation Options

- Alternate wetting and drying (AWD): periodically draining paddies to allow oxygen into the soil.
- Straw management: removing or composting plant residues instead of incorporating them into the soil.
- Improved rice varieties and nutrient management can also reduce emissions

Prepared by: Senior Expert Advisor of Meteorologist

Seasonal forecasting and climate change) Eng Mohamoud Mohamed Ali