Drought in Eastern Africa, current situation and livelihoods implications

A discussion with the 'Economic Inclusion Exchange Working Group'
The New Normal

- **Poor rains**: 5 out of 6 below average rainfall seasons since 2016
- **Conflict**: Somalia, South Sudan

**2018**
- **Cyclone**: Somalia

**2019**
- **Cyclone**: Somalia

**2020**
- **Covid-19**: Global
- **Desert Locust**: Regional
- **Conflict**: Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan
- **Floods**: Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan

**2021**
- **Cyclone**: Somalia
- **Conflict**: Somalia, South Sudan

**2022**
- **Covid-19**: Global
- **Desert Locust**: Regional
- **Conflict**: Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan
- **Floods**: South Sudan
- **Drought**: Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia
- **Price increase**: Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia

EIEWG | 31 April 2022
The unfolding drought (2020-2021)

From below average rainfall to drought

Source of data: USGS/FEWS NET; Source of graphic: FAO
The unfolding drought (2022)

Rainfall anomalies (mm): 1 to 25 March 2022

Source: UCSB

Source: FEWS NET/USGS
The unfolding drought (2022)

Short-term forecast suggests below average conditions.
The unfolding drought (2022)

Probabilistic Multi-Model Ensemble Forecast
Beijing, CMCC, CPTEC, ECMWF, Essen, Melbourne, Montreal, Moscow, Offenbach, Seoul, Tokyo, Toulouse, Washington

Precipitation: AMJ2022

IRI Multi-Model Probability Forecast for Precipitation for April–May–June 2022, issued March 2022

below normal precipitation

Long-rains seasonal forecast

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The unfolding drought (2022)

Water points monitoring

Implication on pastoral communities
“A 1% increase in the area affected by drought can slow a country’s gross domestic product (GDP) growth by 2.7% per year”

EU, Science for environment policy

Over 34 percent of crop and livestock production loss in LDCs and LMICs is traced to drought, costing the sector $37 billion overall. Drought impacts agriculture almost exclusively. The sector sustains 82 percent of all drought impact, compared to 18 percent in all other sectors.

FAO, The impact of disasters and crises on agriculture and food security: 2021
Driven out by drought
Addressing displacement, durable solutions

- Global Refugee Forum pledges
- Global FAO-UNHCR MoU