
WFP preparedness actions to the Sahel drought and food security situation

Presentation to the

WFP Executive Board

2011 **Fourth** Quarter
Operational Briefing



Sahel Agricultural Season 2011/2012

- Significant food production deficits reported in Mali, Niger, Chad, Mauritania and Burkina Faso following late and erratic rains during the past rainy season
- To a lesser extent other countries such as Senegal and the Gambia reported various levels of reduced production
- Caveats with official estimates on regional cereal production showing an average situation (4 percent higher than the past 5 years average and 8 percent lower compared to last year)

Per capita gross grain production, provisional 2011 vs. the 5-year average

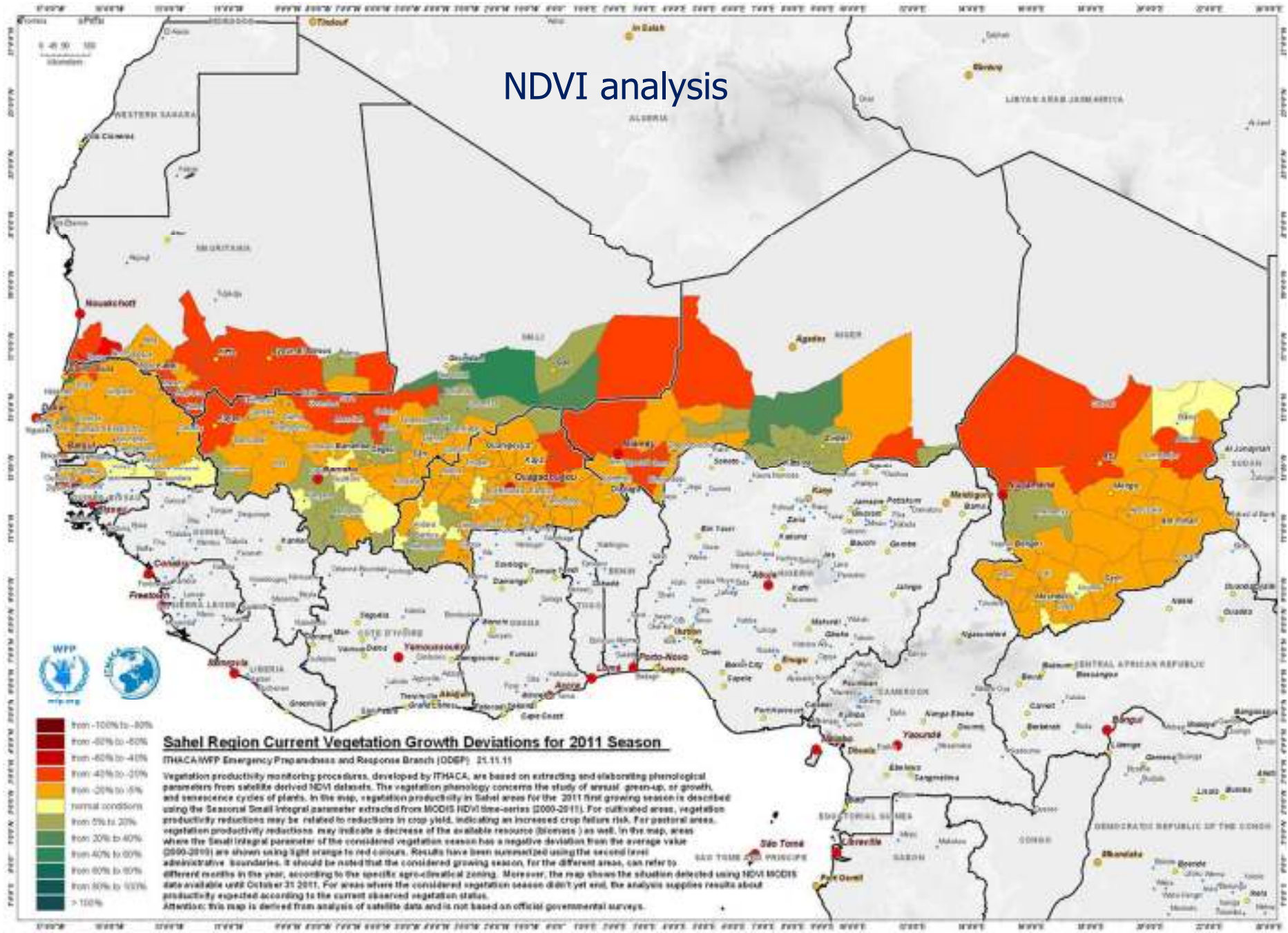
Country	5 year average	2011/2012 (provisional)	2011/12 vs. 5yr avg
Burkina Faso	263	227	-14 %
Chad	219	137	-37 %
Niger	307	235	-23 %
Mauritania	66	35	-46 %

Important disparities: Millet and Sorghum being mostly affected

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- Pasture conditions and water levels are also reported to be significantly lower than normal across the Sahel, with Mauritania and the inland delta of the Niger River in Mali being of concern
 - Regional coarse grain markets are showing abnormal price rises. Similarly prices for imported goods are high. A dash for maize by wholesalers is observed in parts of the region
 - Aggravating factors (lower remittances in 2011, little time to recover from drought episode in 2010)
 - High level of chronic food insecurity and restricted livelihood options
 - Nutrition being a late indicator, need to act before deterioration of the situation
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NDVI analysis



Niger

- The national cereal deficit is estimated at 519 639 mt (i.e. 13.9% of national consumption requirements). 6 regions out of 8 and 20 departments out of 38 report food deficits.
 - Coarse grain prices are on the increase and reflect tighter grain market conditions.
 - Fodder deficit is estimated at 10 222 308 mt (50% shortfall on national fodder needs).
 - The government released in October an Intermediate Support Plan for vulnerable households 2011-2012.
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WFP Preparedness actions - Niger

- Preparations to scale up WFP preparedness;
 - Submission of a Budget Revision of the current PRRO;
 - Current estimation of the total resourcing gap for the period November 2011 through April 2012 is USD 96 million
 - An EMOP will be prepared in case of a worsening situation
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Mauritania

- Nearly 800,000 people are expected to be food insecure by January 2012, according to the mid-October FEWSNET/WFP scenario
 - Agricultural and pastoral production have been significantly below average, especially in the rainfed agriculture and agro-pastoral zones, and grain prices are higher than normal
 - Low coping capacity will result in progressively worsening livelihood, especially during the lean season between March/April and August/September 2012
 - The government released a Plan EMEL (Espoir) for 2012. The plan focus is on livestock fodder and subsidized cereal sales through government shops.
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WFP Preparedness actions - Mauritania

- An IR-Preparedness to implement a food security assessment and to update the LCA has been approved
 - The CO is currently drafting an EMOP proposal, covering 400,000 people through Cash Transfers, Food For Asset, Nutrition and cereal banks support.
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Mali

- The National Early Warning System has identified 159 communes at risk. Among those an estimated 1.7 million people are likely to be at risk of food insecurity in the coming months.
 - Governmental response: The government response plan has just been released and includes Food Distributions, Nutrition, FFW...
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WFP Preparedness actions - Mali

- An IR-Preparedness of USD 147,202 to undertake urgent preparatory activities in response to the crisis expected during the 2012 lean season has been approved.
- The CO is currently preparing an EMOP proposal to mainly include Nutrition, Food For Asset and support to National Food Reserve...

Burkina Faso

- The government estimates that some 146 out of 351 communes across 10 of Burkina Faso's 13 regions were affected by low grain outputs
 - The areas mainly affected are reportedly the northern millet-producing zone, the Sahel, the Centre north, the Centre west, the East and the Centre east regions
 - To minimize the risk of food insecurity in the 2012 lean season the government is expected to initially invest CFA 1.2 billion (USD 2.4 million) to distribute high-yield seeds and give a stipend to each farmer who participates in the dry-season campaign. A more robust response plan is being prepared.
 - **WFP response will be in line with the government plan.**
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Chad

- Significant crop production deficit (-50% compared to 2010-2011 and -23% compared to 5-year average)
 - 1.5 million persons in the Sahel strip still recovering from 2009-2010 food and nutrition crisis considered at risk as their coping capacities are already stretched
 - A government response is being prepared.
 - **WFP response will be primarily under the current PRRO (includes provision for recurrent drought related needs)**
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Residual risks

- **Timeliness of response:** important lead time in mostly landlocked countries
 - **More complex regional and local procurement**
 - **Inadequate available/prepositioned stock of special nutritional products** for children and other vulnerable categories
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Questions?



Thank You
