





# GEOGLAM Crop Monitor for Early Warning

Strengthening agricultural decisions in countries at risk of food insecurity

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# GEOGLAM: The GEO Global Agricultural Monitoring Initiative

(Adopted alongside AMIS by G20 in France in 2011, reaffirmed in China in 2016)



#### **G20 Final Declaration**

- 44. We commit to improve market information and transparency in order to make international markets for agricultural commodities more effective. To that end, we launched:
- The "Agricultural Market Information System" (AMIS) in Rome on September 15, 2011, to improve information on markets ...;
- The "Global Agricultural Geo-monitoring Initiative" (GEO-GLAM)
  in Geneva on September 22-23, 2011. This initiative will coordinate
  satellite monitoring observation systems in different regions of the
  world in order to enhance crop production projections and weather
  forecasting data.



implementation of the concrete initiatives of the 2011 G20 Action Plan on Food Price Volatility and Agriculture in dedicated forums: Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS) and the Rapid Response Forum, GEO Global Agricultural Monitoring Initiative (GEOGLAM) for market and production international monitoring, and risk management tools, such as the Platform for

#### Vision:

Strengthen international community's capacity to provide actionable, science-driven, open, information at sub-national to global scales, in support of policies, investments and decisions, in food security, & ag. Markets

- Through use of coordinated Earth Observations (EO)
- Building on existing systems







# The GEOGLAM Components

. Global / Regional **Monitoring Systems** 

International/Global

2. National Monitoring Systems

National / Subnational

3. Monitoring Countries at Risk

Food Insecure and Most Vulnerable

4. EO Data Acquisition & Dissemination Coordination C E



5. Research & Development toward Operations

Capacity Development for EO



# AMIS: Agricultural Market Information System

Improve market information and transparency





inter-Agency Platform to enhance food market transparency and encourage coordination of policy action in response to market uncertainty <a href="https://www.amis-outlook.org">www.amis-outlook.org</a>



# Launch of Global Operational Crop Assessments: AMIS Request to GEOGLAM

- Provision of timely and transparent monthly <u>crop condition assessments</u> in primary agricultural production areas
- Reflecting an <u>international consensus</u>, building on existing systems
- Four Major Crops: Wheat, maize, soybean, rice
- Focus: main production/export countries (AMIS Countries), stabilizing/ calming markets, avoid unexpected food price shocks
- Output: Crop Monitor for AMIS, published in the AMIS Market Monitor











## Operational Monthly Bulletin Since 2013

> 40 contributing organizations



rop Season Specific Maps Wheat Conditions for AMIS Countries ition as of January 28th. Where crops are in less than favourable conditions the climatic Wheat Conditions for AMIS Countries nal crop analyst inputs along with earth to provide information on what part of

GEOGLAM Crop Monito

operational crop assessments

Bridging the gap between the EO, Policy and Economics communities



soybeans, giving a synopsis of major i

## **GEOGLAM AMIS Crop Monitor Partners**





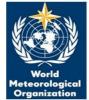


















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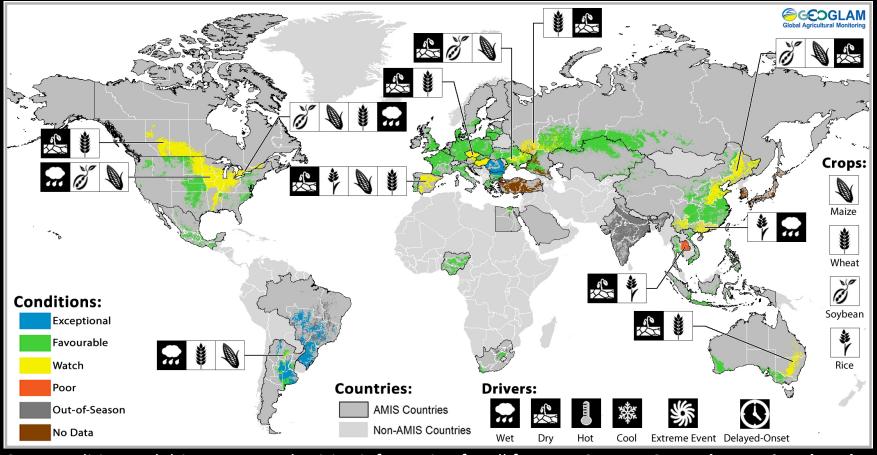
RCMRD



43 partners and 16 inter-governmental organizations over 28 countries actively participating in the GEOGLAM community



### Crop Monitor: an international consensus assessment – June 28<sup>th</sup>



Crop condition and driver map synthesizing information for all four AMIS crops. **Crops that are in other than favorable conditions are displayed on the map with their crop symbol.** (Cropland area shown is an aggregation of all cropland areas)

Becker-Reshef et al.

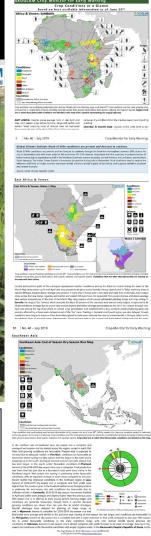


# Crop Monitor for Early Warning

- Grew out of the success of the AMIS Crop Monitor
- Recognition even more pressing need for enhanced, reliable, vetted information on crop conditions within countries at risk
- Response to the Early Warning Community's request



Appendix - Terminology & Definitions.....





# Objective and Partners

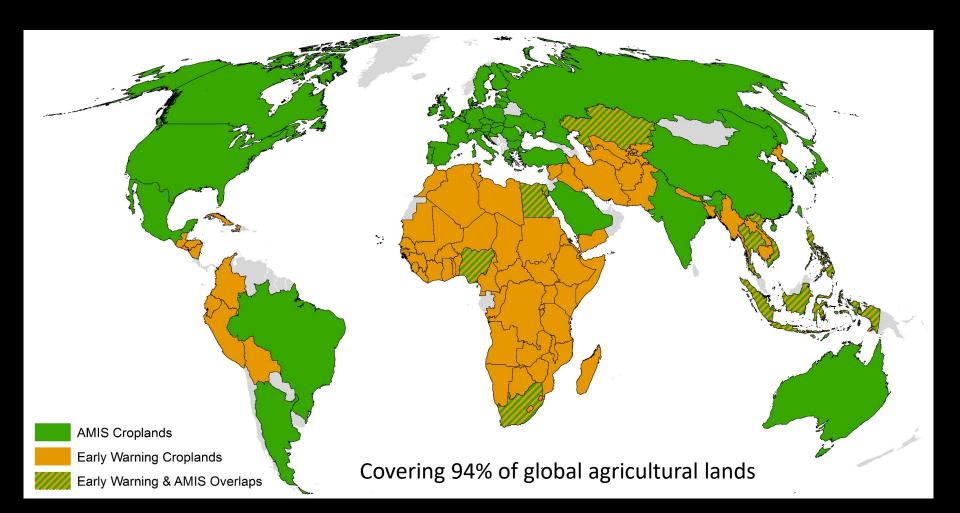
- Exchange information, build consensus and reduce uncertainty in countries most vulnerable to food insecurity, to strengthen agricultural decision making
- Monthly publication, first bulletin published Feb 2016
  - Building on C4AMIS bulletin
  - 8 crops: main food security crops for each region
- Strong focus on continued expansion to regional networks, and national partners

Quality of the product depends on the inputs and commitment of the contributors





# Countries Covered: AMIS vs. EW









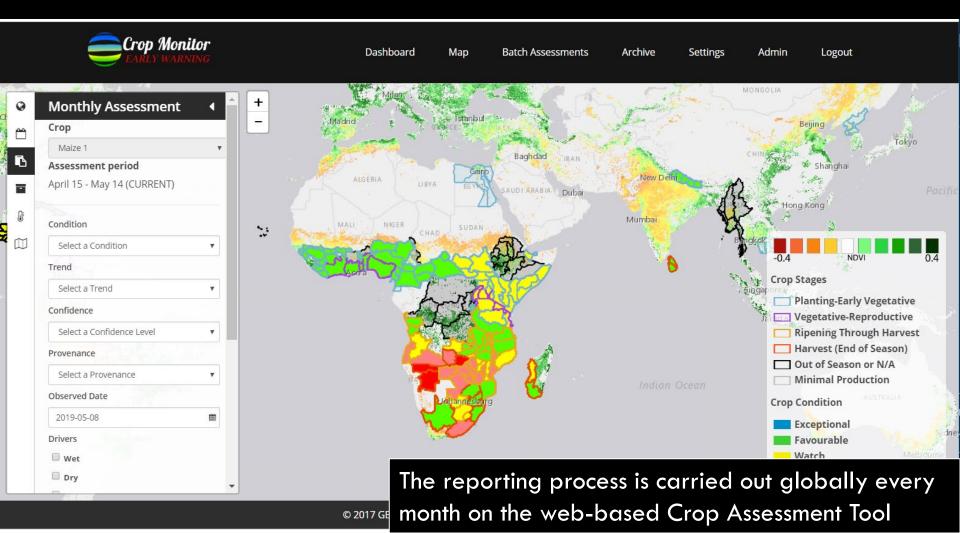
# Monthly Crop Monitor Process

- Partners submit crop condition information, data through Crop Assessment Tool
- Submitted crop conditions are compiled into summary and discrepancy maps and sent out for review
- Telecon held with all partners to discuss assessment and review discrepancies
- Bulletin compiled, reviewed and published on first Thursday of month
  - Released at same time as AMIS Market Monitor

Total process is about 10 days long



# **Crop Condition Reporting Interface**





Africa & Yemen: Synthesis

Non-Early Warning African Countries

Conditions:





Conditions as of June 28th 2018

## **CM4EW Products**

Crop specific & regional synthesis maps & pie charts

- Synthesis maps provide an overview of regional conditions
- Crop specific maps convey the drivers behind those conditions

Southeast Asia: End of Season Dry-Season Rice Map Conditions: Drivers: Quick and easy to interpret crop conditions oriented for policy communities



## **CM4EW Climate Forecasts and Outlook**



- Collaboration with <u>UCSB Climate</u>
   <u>Hazards Center</u> to produce:
  - Global Climate Outlooks (El Nino/La Nina)
  - Regional Short and Longterm Forecasts for at risk areas

#### Global Climate Outlook: Weak El Niño conditions are present and forecast to continue.

Weak El Niño conditions are present and are forecast to continue through the Northern Hemisphere summer (58% chair from the July to September) and with lower odds for fall and winter (51-55% chance). Associated with this event are increased chair below normal July to September rainfall in the Maritime Continent, eastern Australia, Central America, the Caribbean, and northern South America. The Indian Ocean Dipole is forecast to be positive during July to November. Such conditions tend to reduce the influence of El Niño on Indian summer monsoon rainfall, enhance rainfall in parts of East Africa, and suppress rainfall in southern and central Australia.

#### Regional Outlook: Mixed rainfall across the Horn of Africa in July

For the first half of July, higher than normal rainfall is forecast for large areas of the region including in eastern Chad, western Sudan, South Sudan, some of Ethiopia's highland areas, Uganda, western Kenya, and northern DRC. Most of the western sector received highly above-average rainfall in June. Heavy rains and saturated soils could increase flooding and landslide risks. If the current two-week forecast were to materialize, season-to-date (from July 1st to July 1st) rainfall totals could be higher than average by 50 mm to 200+ mm in Uganda, South Sudan, and western Kenya, southwestern Ethiopia, and parts of southern Sudan (Figure 1-left). Surpluses like these would rank this period in 2019 as being one of the wettest of 1981-2018 in southern South Sudan, Uganda, and western Kenya.

In some northeastern areas of East Africa and in Yemen, models are indicating the potential for below-normal rainfall in July. The CFSv2 model forecast for July 2019 shows rainfall deficits in eastern Sudan, northern Ethiopia (excluding highland areas), Eritrea, and also western Yemen (Figure 1-right). The GEFS forecast for the first two weeks of July, released July 2<sup>nd</sup>, also indicates potential for below-normal July rainfall in this general area. These forecasts diverge to some extent on specific locations and intensity. From July 3<sup>nd</sup> to July 9<sup>th</sup> is a high likelihood of below-normal rainfall in parts of eastern Sudan, in Ethiopia near the Sudan border, and northeastern Ethiopia. At present, the forecast for July 10<sup>th</sup> to July 16<sup>th</sup> is comparatively less pessimistic.

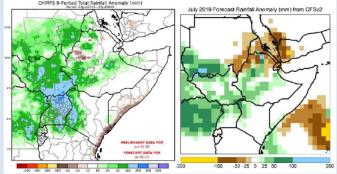


Figure 1. On the left, a preliminary estimate of June 1st through July 15th, 2019 rainfall in terms of the difference from the 1981 to 2018 average (Source: UCSB CHC). This Climate Hazards Center Early Estimate combines CHIRPS preliminary rainfall with an unbiased version of the 15-day GEFS ensemble mean forecast from July 1st. On the right, the July 2019 rainfall forecast issued on June 30th from the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) coupled forecast system model version 2 (Source: NWS/NOAA/CPC). It shows the forecast monthly total in terms of the difference from the 1982 to 2010 average.

urce: UCSB Climate Hazards Center

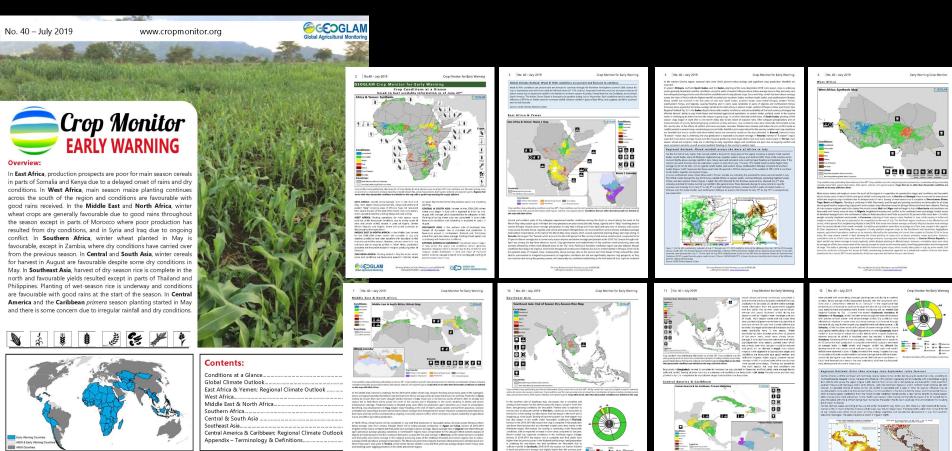
CM4EW Bulletin, June 2019

Source: UCSB Climate Hazards Center



# Crop Monitor for Early Warning Bulletin

www.cropmonitor.org



GEO GROUP ON EARTH OBSERV





# Crop Monitor Impact – Southern Africa 2018



#### **Urgent Actions:**

"There is urgent need for members states and development partners to determine the scale and extent of the possible impact of the prolonged dry spell on the agricultural season (crop and livestock) to inform appropriate response actions for food security and nutrition and build the resilience of vulnerable populations in the region. Recommended actions **include increased monitoring of the situation**, ascertaining available cereal stocks, fast-tracking of planned crop assessments and annua off season production **UNOCHA Request: Rapid Response mechanism** where possible."

- These conditions are likely t These conditions are likely t produce in the 2018/19 cons for more detailed and frequent assessments
- Urgent action is required by

production, ascertain the available cereal stocks and implications on food security and nutrition and livelihoods.

lication Date:



## CM4EW Rapid Response Reporting

- In-depth mid month updates on crop condition and impacts on agriculture
  - Updated forecast, remote sensing analysis, market and price information, field reports

### March

 Southern Africa summer cropping season forecast and updates

### April

- Zambia crop failure and production highlight
- US Spring/Summer flooding
- Cyclone Idai flood extent and impact
- Flooding in Iran and Iraq and agricultural impact

#### June

• East Africa 2019 cropping concerns

- uding north and the south of Iran, eastern Iraq and to a lesser extent par

ercent of average annual rain in the first 24 hours of the downoour. Across



#### Production Highlight: Crop failure over the high

CHIRPS rainfall dataset indicates that several districts in southern districts in the country (out of 75 districts). Southern Zambia as a re verage NDVI, cumulative precipitation, and soil moisture through xpected to be significantly below average across these areas representatives from IAPRI, Zambia Ministry of Fisheries and Live districts in southern and central Zambia. The team observed that southern Zambia, many seasoned farmers who had planted severa

Preliminary estimates for 2019 maize production are between 2oduction is associated with declines in southern, western and t nalysis (FPMA) report, prices of maize in March were 60 percent h situation, together with a currency depreciation, corroborate the pr conditions and below average production prospects across the re-



Start of U.S. 2019 Spring/Summer Season

- many rivers and across frozen ground
- Minnesota experienced temporary field saturat
- Sowing of maize, soybeans, and spring wheat have not yet begun or entered thei
- in most of the main producing states, where the majority of fields are sown around late April and Ma
- High soil moisture levels in many areas will benefit early development of spring/summer crops

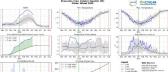
a slight probability of increased rains in the U.S. Great Plains and Great Lakes region, benefiting early

omb cyclone, struck the central plains and the U.S. Great Plains and Great Lakes region.





received from Idai resulted in riverine floods, flash floods and landslides over the worst affected districts of Chimanimani and Chiplinge, An estimated 270,000 people are in need of humanitarian assistance (UNOCHA) Prices of maize meal products, which rose steeply in February, were around 50 percent higher on a yearly and weaker currency (which negatively impacted production and transportation costs) and crop situation





# CM4EW Next Steps

- Continue Rapid Response reporting for more detailed and frequent updates
- Development of Rangelands component to CM4EW reporting
- Continued focus on strengthening regional & national partnerships & expanding participation
- Develop/enhance best available baseline products
  - Currently updating global crop masks
- R&D on crop condition indicators
- Expand stakeholder dialogue to enhance products and their utility







# The GEOGLAIVI Components

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3. Monitoring Countries at Risk

Food Insecure and Most Vulnerable

4. EO Data Acquisition & Dissemination Coordination C E 🚳 S

5. Research & Development toward Operations

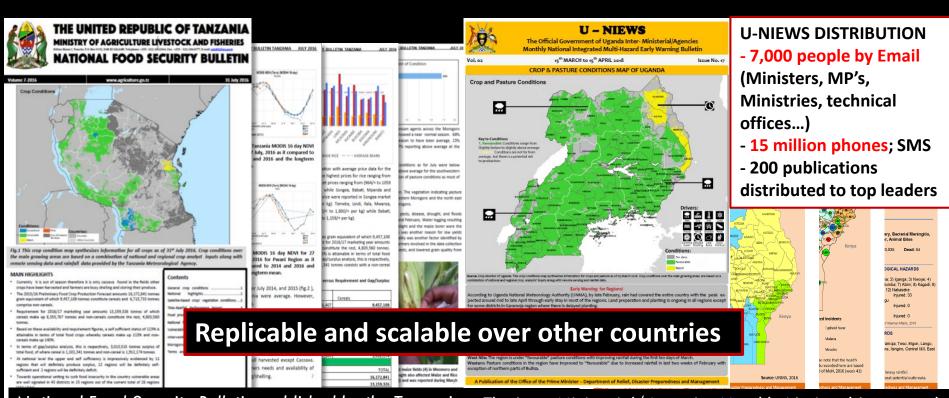
6. Capacity Development for EO



# Development of National Crop Monitors, Facilitating National Food Security Reports

Operational: Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya

In development: Rwanda, Mali, Vietnam



National Food Security Bulletin, published by the Tanzania Ministry of Agriculture Food Security, National Food Security Division The Inter-Ministerial/Agencies Monthly National Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning Bulletin, published by the Uganda Office of the Prime Minister



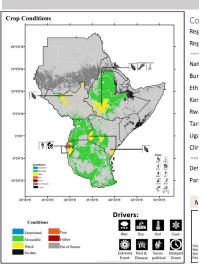
## The Eastern Africa Crop Monitor, launched May 2018

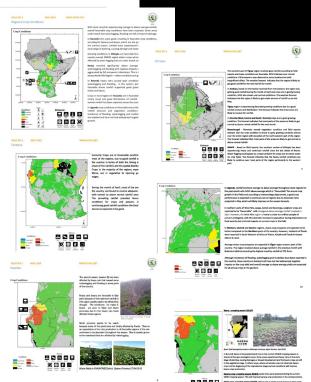
### Replicable and adaptable at the regional scale

#### EASTERN AFRICA CROP MONITOR BULLETIN

#### Overview

- Eastern Africa has been experiencing average to above a favorable crop conditions.
- Watch conditions prevailed in Rwanda, Burundi for rice a season maize mostly due to water logging and flooding
- Poor conditions have been reported in Rwanda due to ex
- Prices of grain staples in the region were below the 5-yes of adequate stocks. With inbound stocks from Tanzania a expected to decrease towards the end of guarter-2 of 20





- IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC)
   East Africa Crop Monitor
  - Launched in Djibouti May 2018
  - Published in The Greater
     Horn of Africa Climate
     Outlook Forum (GHACOF)
     Bulletin
- 19 analysts trained and 11 national focal points
- Strong regional support
- Eastern Africa Grain Council
  - key contributor



What is the real need?

# Actions in <u>advance</u> of crisis

### $\blacksquare$

# Kenya Example: better information informing decisions - 2019 main cropping season

#### Kenya National Crop Monitor

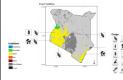
National crop conditions bulletin-March 2019

April 10, 2019 / in Uncategorized / by Charles Njehu

Late onset of the 2019 long rains and prevailing dry conditions affected the early planted crop resulting in water stress and wilting being observed in most parts of the country

Planting in the Central , coastal , lower eastern region is expected to commence once the long rains commence in April
Fall army Worm infestation were observed in Kisii and Nyamira. In West Pokot infestation of the Fall Army Worm in the
kiraland agree, which wave observed in Escharian Na be one constant.

Prices of maize, beans and wheat remained stable, with a slight increase observed in selected markets



May 8, 2019 / in Uncategorized / by Charles Njehu

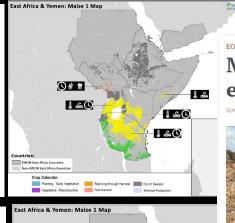
Key messages

March

National Crop Conditions Bulletin -April 2019

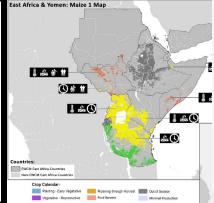
CM4EW

Release of emergency grains <u>early</u> in the season by the Min. of Ag



Maize prices fall after release of emergency grains





Notable increase in the prices of maize, beans and wheat was observed in selected markets

Planting was delayed in some parts of the country and this is expected to cause a reduction in total production.

With the onset of the rains late in April, planting and replanting is expected to begin and continue in May.

Fall army Worm infestation were observed Narok, Laikipia, West Pokot, Trans Nzoia and Elgeyo Marakwet



water stress, wilting and poor germinatio in most parts of the country

**April** 

y in

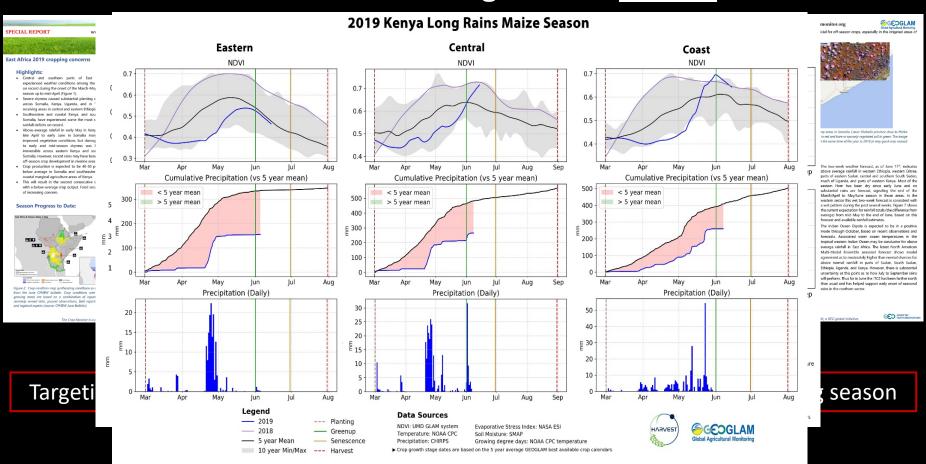
Maize prices have started declining following the government decision to release three million bags from the strategic food reserves to ease the grains shortage and curb rising flour prices.

https://cropmonitor.org

Early in the season is key!

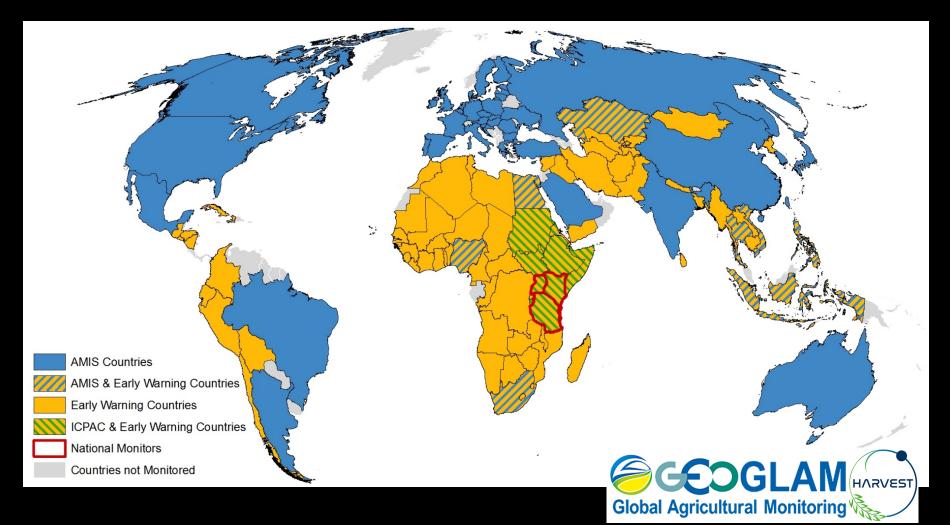


# June Special Report: East Africa main season cropping concerns – summarizing season <u>before</u> harvest





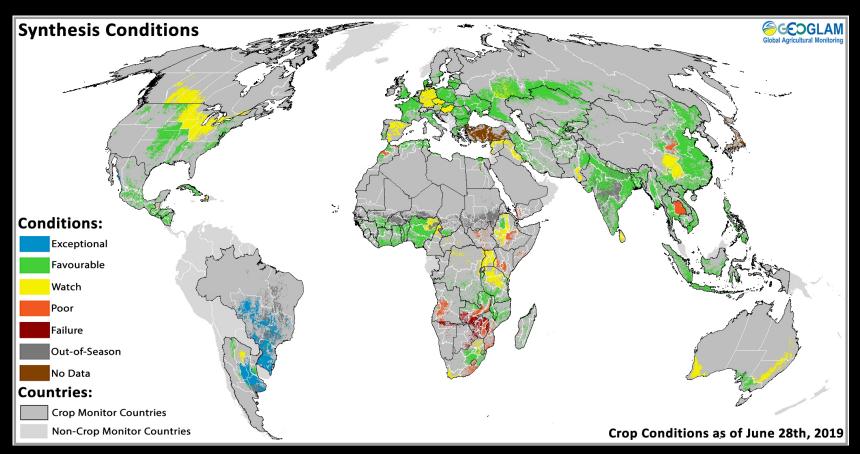
# Crop Monitor coverage





## GEOGLAM Global Crop Monitor – June 2019

Consensus crop conditions covering 94% of all global agricultural lands



Crop condition map synthesizing information over all Crop Monitor for AMIS and Crop Monitor for Early Warning crops as of June 28<sup>th</sup> 2019 (Cropland area shown is an aggregation of all cropland areas).



# GEOGLAM Crop Monitor

- GEOGLAM Crop Monitor provides a public good: open, timely, science-driven, actionable information on crop conditions
- Proven effective & scalable mechanism for coordination of crop assessments
- First time the International and Early Warning communities have come together on a monthly basis
  - to produce joint assessments that reflect a consensus
- End user driven with strong community & high level support
  - Bridging the gap between the policy and EO communities
- <u>Increasing communication and knowledge transfer</u> amongst national, regional & international organizations
  - Thereby strengthening national monitoring systems
- Internationally recognized as a highly valuable source of information
  - Already informing decisions

