

INTRODUCTION

Cash-based interventions have been used by humanitarian organisations in Somalia since 2003<sup>1</sup>. Initially, significant variations in transfer values were implemented by different organisations, occasionally leading to different transfer values in the same locations. It was against this backdrop, and as a response to the increasing number of agencies using cash-based interventions to respond to the 2016-2017 drought, that the Somalia Cash Working Group (CWG) started convening in February 2017. The aim of the CWG is to streamline the design, development, and implementation of cash-based interventions in Somalia.

Pursuant to these aims, the CWG provides quarterly transfer value recommendations, based on Somalia's standard minimum expenditure basket (MEB), to humanitarian organisations implementing cash-based interventions in Somalia.

This dashboard presents the CWG's transfer value recommendations for populations classified in the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) phases 3 ('acute') and 4 ('emergency'), in addition to an overview of market performance for the period of October -December 2021. The primary data sources used are datasets and briefs from the Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU), which provides price data, and the World Food Programme (WFP), which provides supply chain and port data. When available, data from other CWG partners is also used.

ASSESSMENT COVERAGE

55

assessed districts

71

assessed markets (46 main, 25 rural)

44

assessed items

EXCHANGE RATES<sup>3</sup>

42,333

25,399

8,500

USD/SoSh

USD/SoSh

USD/SiSh

-4%

1%

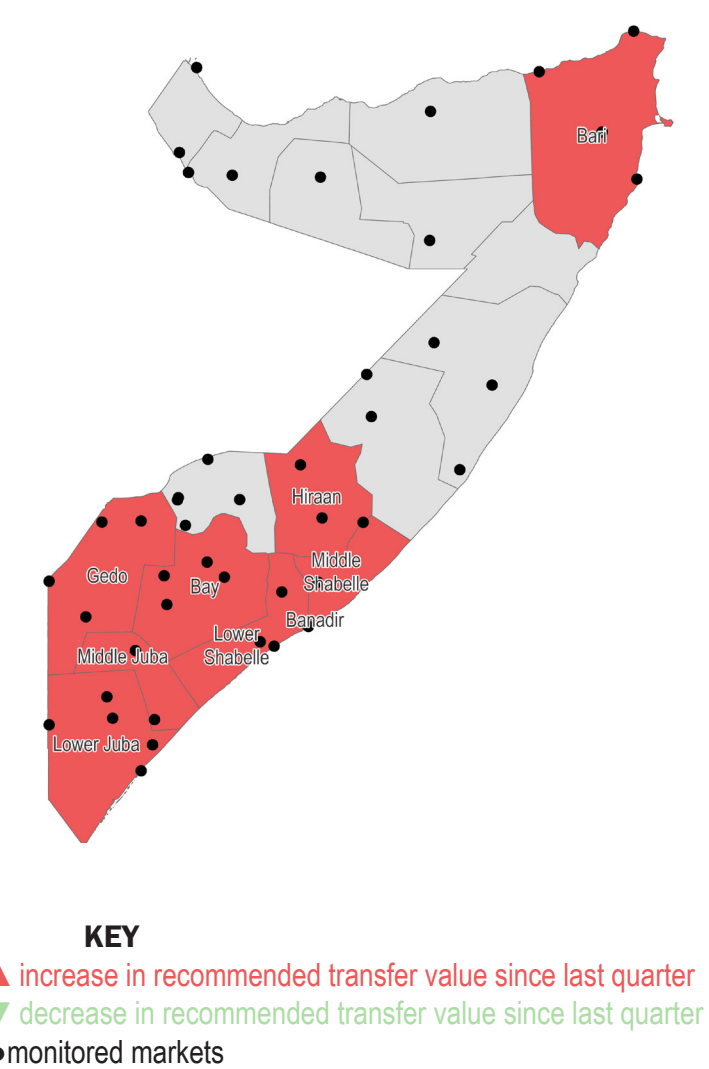
0%

Bossaso

Mogadishu

Hargeisa

Regions with positive and negative changes in the recommended transfer values for either multi-purpose and/or food assistance



SUPPLY CHAINS<sup>2</sup>

Water scarcity, due to delayed Deyr rains, was observed in the Southwest and Central parts of the country since the last week of September and throughout the fourth quarter of 2021, leading to a deterioration of livestock body conditions in Xudur, Qansaxdheere, Rabdhure, Hobyo, and Cadado. In the first week of October, water trucking was reportedly ongoing in rural villages of Adado. In addition, in Hobyo water prices increased from \$1.30 to \$1.40 per 20 liters container in the second week of October.

Towards the end of the second week of October, moderate to heavy rains were reported in most regions of Puntland and Somaliland, such as Bari, Nugaal, Sanaag, Hargeisa, Gebiley, Borama, and Erigavo districts. Improved water availability was observed in areas that received rainfall, while prices appeared to be decreasing in these regions, which might related to the increased water availability. Heavy Deyr rains were also reported in Jowhar town to have affected roads cutting off access to the main villages in the outskirts of Jowhar town and leading to deteriorating conditions of the supply roads from Jowhar to Mogadishu. Consequently, commodities supplied from Mogadishu were offloaded at Congo Village in Jowhar and transported by donkey carts to the markets.

In addition to water scarcity and heavy rains, insecurity continued to create transportation barriers in some locations. In the first week of October and continuing into November, road blockades by insurgents restricted movement from rural farms into Xudur town, causing scarcity and high prices of fresh fruits and vegetables in markets throughout town. In Qansaxdheere, insurgents intensified their activities and closed all roads into the town. This created scarcity of food items and non-food commodities, with many items reportedly out of stock.

In the last week of October, a new checkpoint was reportedly built between Guricel and Matalan by the Hirshabelle authorities, where additional taxes were imposed on trucks coming from Bossaso that resulted in the truck drivers parking their vehicles at the main checkpoint in Beletweyne until the issue of double taxation is rectified. In addition to this, Erigavo traders were reported to be facing double taxation on supplies from Bossaso port after the Somaliland administration introduced a new tax policy on goods from Bossaso port.

RECOMMENDED TRANSFER VALUES (USD)

Region	Multi-purpose	Food
Awdal	95	80
Bakool	95	90
Banaadir	80	65
Bari	105 ▲	100 ▲
Bay	85 ▲	75 ▲
Galgaduud	110	100
Gedo	95 ▲	85 ▲
Hiraan	85 ▲	80 ▲
Lower Juba	90	85
Lower Shabelle	75 ▲	65 ▲
Middle Juba	85 ▲	75 ▲
Middle Shabelle	80	75 ▲
Mudug	85	85
Nugaal	125	80
Sanaag	85	60
Sool	115	85
Togdheer	90	75
W. Galbeed	110	95

- NOTES
- C.M. Daniels and G. Anderson, [Evaluation of the 2017 Somalia Humanitarian Cash-Based Response](#), 1 August 2018.
  - Import/export data and supply chain analysis provided by WFP on a weekly basis, July through September 2021.
  - Reported exchange rates are averages for this quarter and are derived from monthly FSNAU exchange rate data. The percentage change in exchange rates is based on the average for this quarter compared to the average for the previous quarter.
  - MEB calculations performed by FSNAU
  - Difference is calculated with the month before previous. Eg. September 2021 prices are compared with July 2021 prices
  - Price data is collected by FSNAU. Price changes represent the percentage change in the average price of a commodity this quarter compared to the previous quarter. Following consensus by CWG members, trend analysis has focused on Baidoa, Bossaso, Hargeisa, Jowhar, Kismayo, and Mogadishu districts given their regional significance when it comes to markets and trade.
  - Import/export data and supply chain analysis provided by WFP on a weekly basis, July through September 2021.

FULL MEB FOR THE QUARTER (USD)<sup>4</sup>

Region	Oct 21	Nov 21	Dec 21
Awdal	109	109	114
Bakool	124	125	125
Banadir	103	103	106
Bari	117	127	128
Bay	88	96	108
Galgaduud	140	140	141
Gedo	109	113	117
Hiraan	99	104	107
Lower Juba	118	122	119
Lower Shabelle	76	84	91
Middle Juba	102	105	107
Middle Shabelle	107	105	106
Mudug	111	110	113
Nugaal	145	147	149
Sanaag	110	111	118
Sool	149	154	143
Togdheer	118	119	123
W. Galbeed	131	131	131

## TRANSFER VALUES CHANGES (USD)

Region	Type of transfer	Current value	Previous value
Bari	Multi	105 ▲	85
Bari	Food	100 ▲	85
Bay	Multi	85 ▲	65
Bay	Food	75 ▲	50
Gedo	Multi	95 ▲	85
Gedo	Food	85 ▲	75
Hiraan	Multi	85 ▲	75
Hiraan	Food	80 ▲	70
Lower Shabelle	Multi	75 ▲	60
Lower Shabelle	Food	65 ▲	50
Middle Juba	Multi	85 ▲	75
Middle Juba	Food	75 ▲	60
Middle Shabelle	Food	75 ▲	65

## METHODOLOGY

The MEB represents the minimum culturally adjusted set of basic food items (comprising 2,100 kilocalories per person per day of basic energy) and non-food items (NFIs) required to support an average-sized household of 6-7 members in Somalia for one month.

The CWG uses FSNAU's MEB values as the basis for determining transfer value recommendations. These recommendations focus on the needs of populations in IPC Phase 3 and Phase 4.

As per the decision of the CWG, transfer values should be based on urban MEB rates only. This is because:

- Rural MEB rates are not available in all regions;
- In some regions, large differences between the rural and urban rates have been difficult for partners to explain;
- The thresholds of 'rural' and 'urban' are not always clear to partners, which would open the possibility that different transfer values may be applied in the same location.

Further, the food transfer value recommendations should

correspond to 100% of the food MEB, while the multi-purpose transfer value recommendations should correspond to 80% of the full MEB, both rounded to the nearest 5 USD to ease implementation at the field level.

The CWG also determined that transfer value recommendations should remain fixed for three months at a time, and should only be subject to change if the value of either the full or the food MEB in any particular region changes by more than 10%.

This dashboard considers the transfer value recommendations from July 2021 and compares them to the full and food MEB values of September 2021. In accordance with the methodology above, only when a 10% change in either value is observed will the transfer value change.

On this account, in regions where more than a 10% change in either the food or full MEB was recorded, an updated recommendation is provided in the 'Recommended Transfer Values' table. Note that the previous recommendations are provided only for comparative purposes and should not be applied in implementation.

CHANGES TO THE COST OF THE FULL MEB OVER TIME<sup>5</sup>

Region	Jan 21	Feb 21	Mar 21	Apr 21	May 21	Jun	Jul 21	Aug 21	Sep 21	Oct 21	Nov 21	Dec 21
Awdal	0%	+1%	-1%	+2%	+13%	+5%	-2%	-9%	-8%	0%	+1%	+5%
Bakool	+7%	+2%	-2%	+13%	+11%		+15%	+5%	0%	+2%	0%	+2%
Banadir	+1%	0%	+6%	+6%	-3%	-2%	+9%	+1%	+1%	+3%	+3%	+4%
Bari	+1%	-12%	+5%	+7%	-3%	-3%	+4%	+5%	-2%	+8%	+13%	+5%
Bay	+4%	+4%	-1%	+2%	+5%	+8%	+12%	+3%	+3%	+11%	+11%	+22%
Galgaduud	-3%	-5%	+1%	+5%	+3%	0%	-3%	+3%	-6%	+2%	+2%	+1%
Gedo	-2%	0%	+2%	+3%	+3%	+3%	+4%	+3%	0%	+5%	+5%	+8%
Hiraan	-1%	-1%	+6%	+11%	+4%	+3%	+3%	+1%	0%	+6%	+5%	+7%
Lower Juba	0%	+1%	+5%	+6%	0%	0%	+1%	+5%	-6%	+8%	+7%	+1%
Lower Shabelle	+3%	+7%	+8%	+1%	+1%	+5%	+13%	+8%	+8%	+8%	+8%	+19%
Middle Juba	+20%	+23%	+18%	+16%	+8%	+6%	+8%	+6%	-3%	+7%	+7%	+5%
Middle Shabelle	0%	+4%	+6%	+2%	0%	+3%	+9%	+5%	+6%	+5%	+5%	-1%
Mudug	-5%	+4%	+14%	+18%	+12%	+1%	0%	+1%	-2%	-1%	-1%	+2%
Nugaal	+24%	-10%	-8%	+8%	-1%	-3%	-1%	-2%	+3%	+4%	+4%	+3%
Sanaag	+7%	-14%	-4%	+15%	0%	-3%	-2%	+5%	-5%	-6%	-6%	+7%
Sool	-2%	+14%	+9%	+2%	-8%	-4%	+7%	+2%	-3%	+4%	+4%	+1%
Togdheer	+1%	0%	+1%	+2%	+1%	+3%	+5%	0%	+2%	-1%	-1%	+4%
Woqooyi Galbeed	+3%	0%	+1%	+5%	+4%	+3%	+2%	+7%	0%	-2%	-3%	+1%

## MAIN CHANGES IN MEB PRICES

In the fourth quarter of 2021, prices in Bari, Bay, Gedo, Hiraan, Lower Shabelle, Middle Juba and Middle Shabelle were relatively higher than observed in the previous quarter, leading to an adjustment of the recommended transfer value in those regions. In Sool, a slight decrease in prices, particularly for food items, was also noted compared to the previous quarter, but this was not reflected in a different recommendation of transfer values.

## KEY

- Large increase (> 20%)
- Medium increase (11% to 20%)
- Small increase (1% to 10%)
- No change
- Small decrease (-1% to -10%)
- Medium decrease (-11% to -20%)
- Large decrease (< -20%)

## MEB CONTENTS

Below are the basic food and non-food items taken into account as part of the MEB in urban Somalia:

Food items	Quantity
Cereal	90 kg
Sugar	3 kg
Vegetable oil	6 L
Cowpeas	6 kg
Non-food items	Quantity
Kerosene	1.5 L
Soap (laundry)	4 pcs
Firewood (bundle)	30 pcs
Water (200-L drums)	9 drums
Human drugs	SoSh. 20,000
School fees	SoSh. 90,000
Grinding cost	30 kg of grain
Clothes	SoSh. 30,000
Social tax	SoSh. 12,500
Other core NFIs	SoSh. 30,000

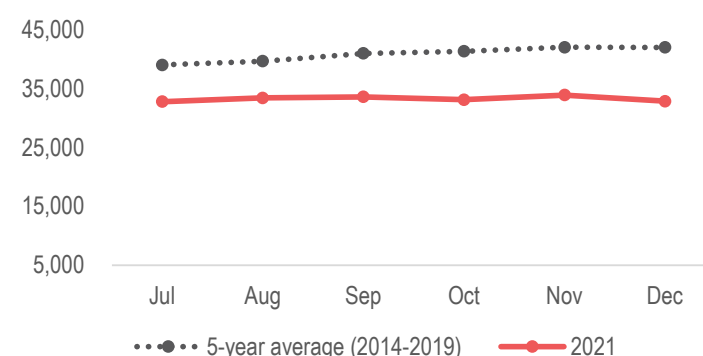


### AVERAGE COMMODITY PRICES AND CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER<sup>6</sup>

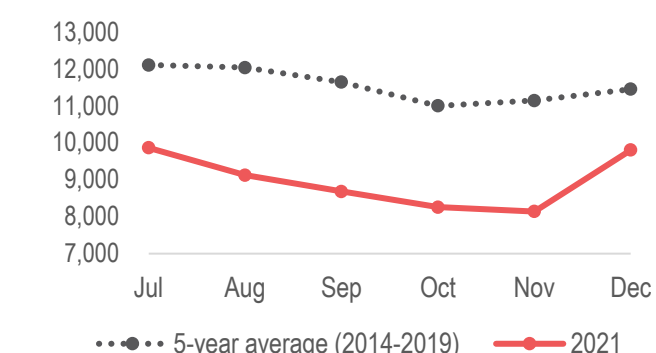
	Baidoa		Bossaso		Hargeysa		Jowhar		Kismayo		Mogadishu	
	Oct-Dec (SoSh)	Change (%)	Oct-Dec (SoSh)	Change (%)	Oct-Dec (SISh)	Change (%)	Oct-Dec (SoSh)	Change (%)	Oct-Dec (SoSh)	Change (%)	Oct-Dec (SoSh)	Change (%)
<b>Local crops</b>												
Cowpeas (1 kg)	32,667	+27%	71,833	+15%	15,143	+1%	29,750	+16%	18,333	+22%	36,303	+14%
White maize (1 kg)	13,687	+27%	-	-	6,000	0%	9,383	-10%	17,167	+5%	13,654	+12%
White sorghum (1 kg)	13,640	+33%	-	-	5,040	-3%	-	-	-	-	15,901	+31%
Red sorghum (1 kg)	11,813	+26%	43,000	+14%	3,500	-5%	10,867	+21%	11,000	+10%	11,267	+9%
<b>Imported food commodities</b>												
Vegetable oil (1 L)	51,067	+1%	80,400	+10%	17,750	+24%	45,700	+2%	36,000	0%	32,094	-13%
Wheat flour (1 kg)	17,083	+3%	28,400	+11%	6,000	0%	16,717	-7%	17,867	+18%	13,956	+2%
Red rice (1 kg)	16,783	+5%	28,400	+5%	6,917	-1%	16,550	-2%	17,867	+18%	13,311	+2%
Sugar (1 kg)	20,267	+17%	30,400	+7%	6,000	+6%	19,667	+10%	20,000	0%	16,733	+15%

### NOTABLE SIX-MONTH TRENDS IN AVERAGE COMMODITY PRICES

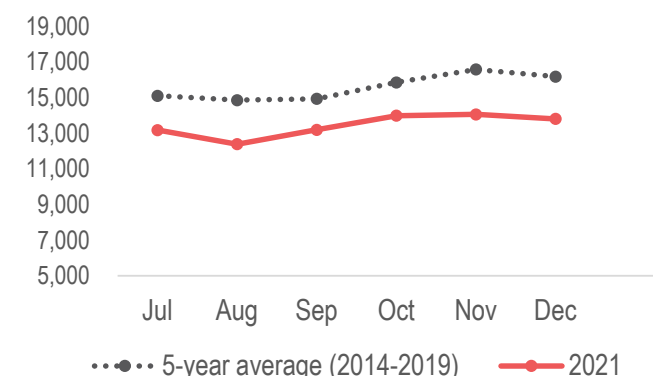
#### VEGETABLE OIL, BOSSASO



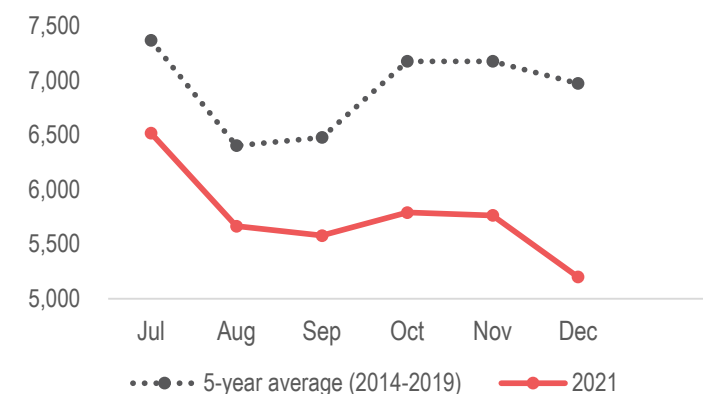
#### WHITE MAIZE, KISMAYO



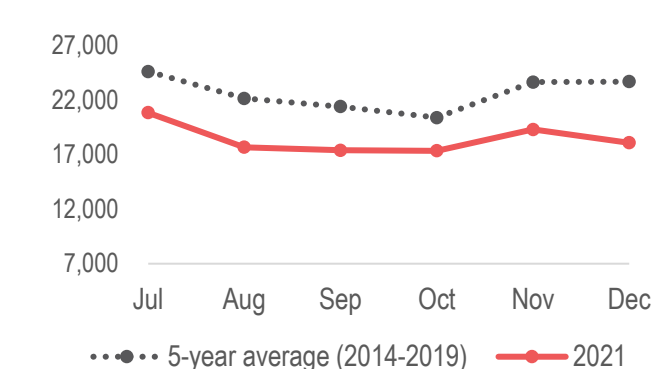
#### SUGAR, BAIDOA



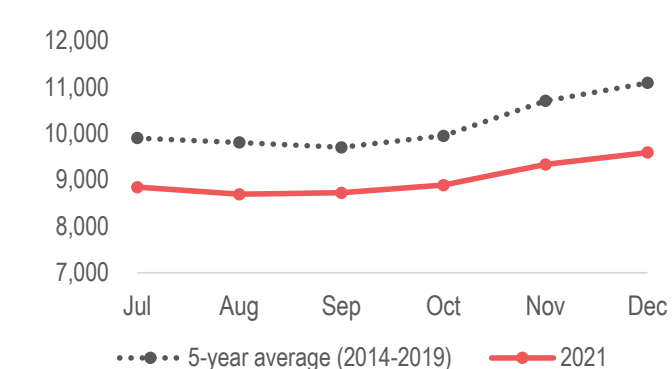
#### RED SORGHUM, JOWHAR



#### COWPEAS, KISMAYO



#### WHITE SORGHUM, MOGADISHU



### MAIN CEREALS

In this quarter, cereal prices increased in 29 out of 42 assessed districts, and the average country-wide cereal prices decreased by 5%. In 13 districts, the October–December 2021 average price of the main cereal consumed (red sorghum, white maize, or red rice depending on location) was at least 10% cheaper than the July–September 2021 average. The largest price increases were found in Qansadheere (42%), Buale and Kismayo (18%), Bandar Beyla and Cabdudwaaq (17%). A price decrease of 17% was observed in Zeylac and 10% in Gebiley and Jowhar.

### KEY LOCAL CROPS AND IMPORTED FOOD

In Baidoa and Mogadishu, prices for white sorghum increased (+33%) and (31%) respectively. In Baidoa, the price of white maize increased by 27% and red sorghum increased by 26%. The price of cowpeas also increased by 27% in Baidoa, but remained within ±20% in all other assessed districts.

Looking at imported food commodities, the price of vegetable oil increased in most of assessed districts. The largest increase in vegetable oil prices took place in Hargeisa (24%). In Baidoa, Hargeysa, Bosasso, Jowhar and Mogadishu, price changes of wheat flour and sugar remained smaller than 20%. The price of red rice increased by 18% in Kismayo, but remained relatively stable in all other assessed districts (all reported and prices fell within ±5%).

Breakdowns of the six-month trends of key commodity prices are displayed on the left.

### PORT DATA<sup>7</sup>

A steady increase was observed in the total food imports in Bossaso port between August and September of 2021. Food imports increased again in October 2021, and declined throughout December. However, total food imports during the fourth quarter of 2021 remained considerably higher than the 5 year average and last year's imports for this quarter.

#### BOSSASO TOTAL FOOD IMPORTS

