

Price Monitoring and Analysis Country Brief

Cambodia

June-August 2010

Key Messages

- Prices of rice have generally been stable since the beginning of 2010, but are higher than the pre-high food crises period.
- Political tensions with Thailand continue. Moreover Cambodia's paddy crop was adversely affected by late rains and this could result in higher levels of food insecurity.
- GIEWS assessed that there is generally satisfactory food security throughout the country while other agencies agree that in the long term hunger will increase.
- The Government has implemented the Rectangular Strategy-Phase II to scale up rice production and has expanded social protection programmes to support vulnerable people.

Background

Total population of Cambodia was 14,699 million, with a population growth rate of 1% per annum; the undernourished population was estimated to be 26%.

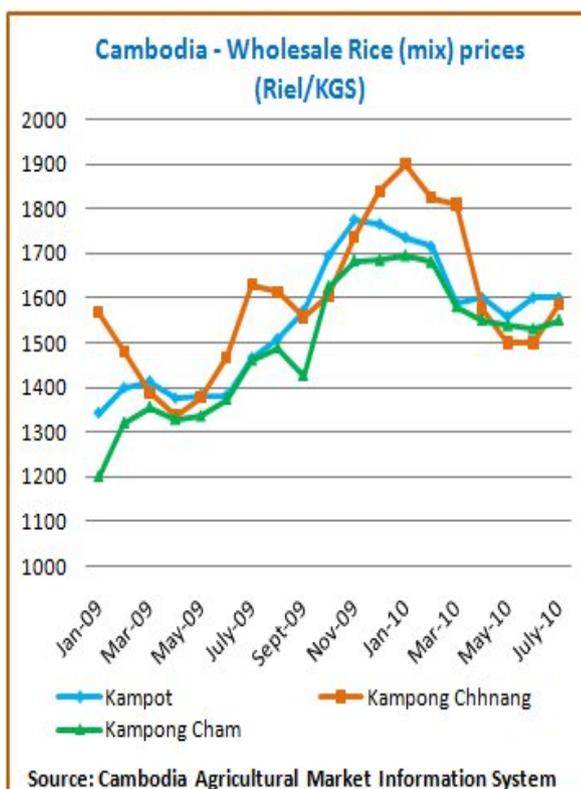
Economic Indicators	View Data
Total Population (millions) - 2008 (WB)	14.562
Population growth rate - 2008 (WB)	1%
GNI per capita, \$ PPP - 2008 (WB)	1870
Population below 1\$ PPP per day - 2007 (MDGI)	25%
Rural population - 2008 (WB)	78%
Agriculture, value added (% of GDP) - 2008 (WB)	34%

Food Consumption	
Undernourished Population - 2005/2007 (FAO)	22%
Cereal share in total dietary energy consumption - 2007 (FAO)	72%
Meat share in total dietary energy consumption - 2007 (FAO)	5%

Health Indicators	
Pop. with sustainable access to improved sanitation - 2008 (WHO)	29%
Life expectancy at birth (years) both sexes - 2008 (WHO)	62
Pop. with access to improved drinking water sources - 2008 (WHO)	61%
Prevalence of HIV among adults aged >= 15 years - 2007 (WHO)	0%

Prices

Rice prices in Cambodia have remained generally stable in recent months. In south western province of Kampot, prices were stable at 1600 Riel/Kg in June and July; in Kampong Cham province rice was traded at 1500 Riel/Kg in the same months.



Source: [GIEWS Country Briefs](#)

Natural Disasters, Drought and Conflicts

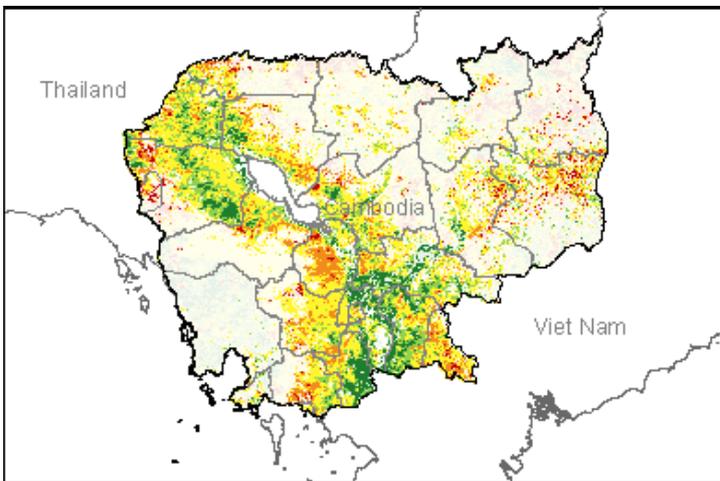
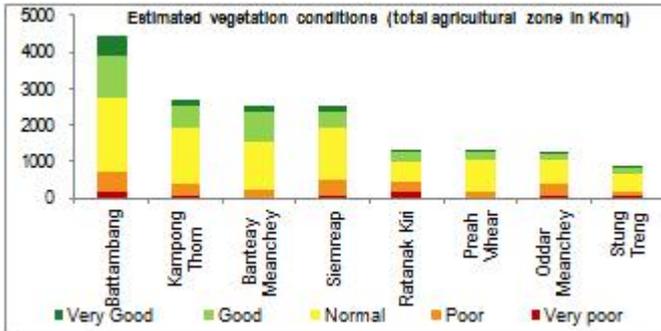
Late and insufficient rains and record low water levels in Cambodia will affect food security and the livelihoods of millions of people. The main wet season paddy crop has been severely affected and the late rains which picked up in the last two months are not likely to have reversed the situation. As tensions over the border dispute between Cambodia and Thailand continue, Cambodia appealed to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) for help in order to avoid any large scale armed conflict.

Refugees and IDPs	2007	2008	2009
Total in the country	418	225	164
Total outside the country	18128	17471	17248

Source: [UNHCR](#) Statistical Online Population Database, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Data extracted on 22/09/2010.

Vegetation Condition

At the middle of the rainy season, normal conditions are observed for the major part of the country with some concerns in the provinces of Battambang and Ratanak Kiri. The indicator of vegetation condition provided below is the relative difference between the NDVI for Aug. 2010 and the average of the last 10 years, calculated on the agricultural zones derived from the GLOBCOVER database.



Source: JRC MARS – FoodSec

Food Security Situation Assessment

In the short term GIEWS indicates generally satisfactory food security situation. WFP reports moderately high hunger while IFPRI describes an alarming hunger problem.

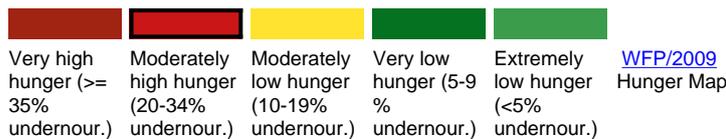
CURRENT EMERGENCY ASSESMENT



Cambodia is not covered by FEWSNET.

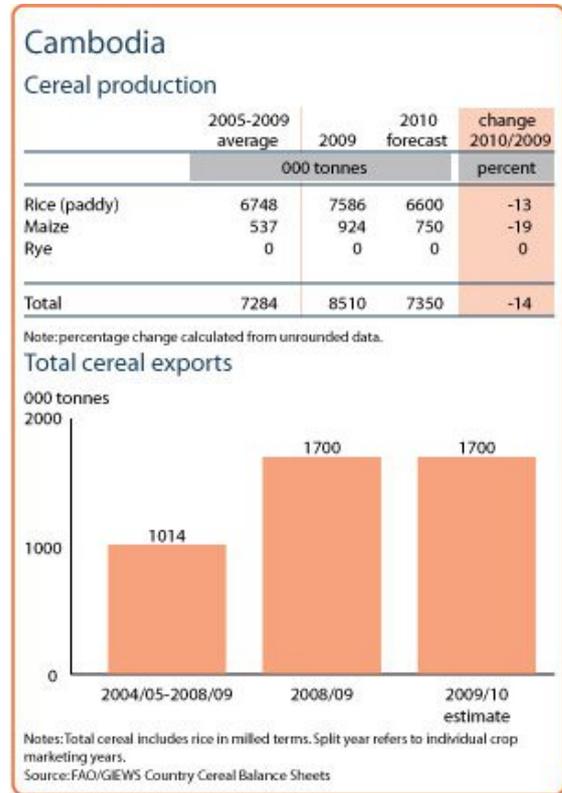
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SCALE OF HUNGER



Food Balance Sheet

The 2010 paddy rice production was preliminary forecasted at 6.6 million tonnes, which is almost 13% lower than the previous year paddy production. However the decline is not expected to affect export: 1 million tonne of paddy is expected to be exported, while total cereal exports are estimated at 1.7 million tonnes.



Source: GIEWS Country Briefs

Government Policies

The government aims at improving agricultural productivity in order to increase rice exports. The Rectangular Strategy-Phase II promotes productivity through infrastructure and inputs, diversification and commercialization. The Gvmt will also guarantee 50% of bank lending to rice producers. It also plans to expand targeted conditional cash transfers and labour intensive public work programmes.

Consumer and market oriented measures	n.a.
Producer oriented measures	Support to inputs for crop production; infrastructures and commercialization.
Trade policy measures	n.a.
Safety net (increased or introduced)	Cash/food transfers/work programmes.

Different sources

Current events to watch (Click to see the full report)

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For more information, contact: Information-for-action@fao.org
Website: www.foodsec.org

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