



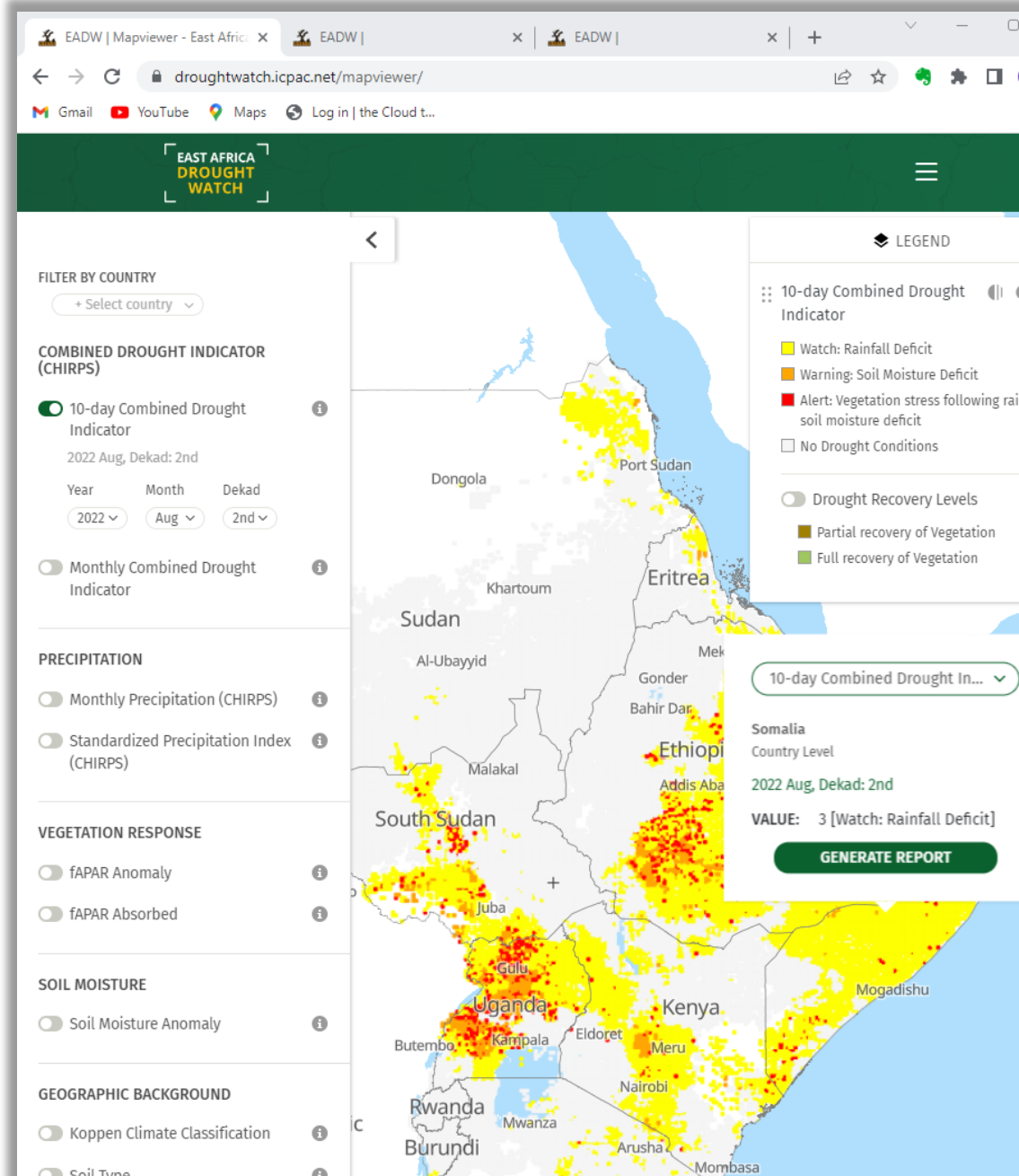
# East Africa Drought Watch

Regional Drought Monitoring  
& Early Warning System

*By Jason Kinyua*

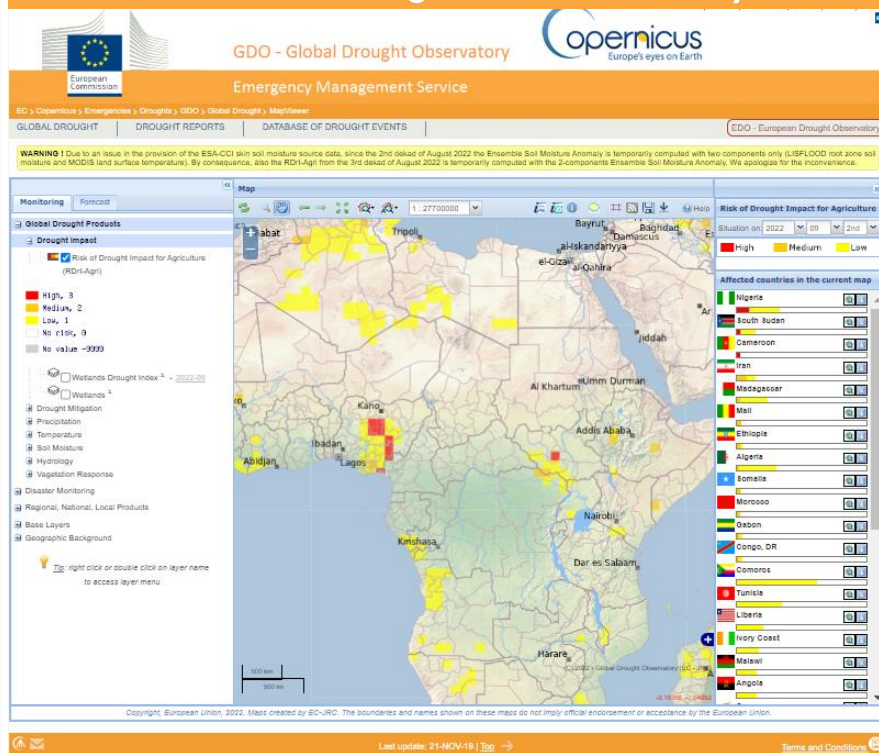


- Public online system for drought monitoring and early warning
- Provides **automatic 10-day warnings** for:
  - Developing and actual drought events
  - Recovery from drought conditions
- Developed jointly by **ICPAC** and the **Joint Research Centre (JRC)** of the European Commission.
- Hosted at the IGAD Disaster Operations Centre
  - IDOC: A state-of-the-art situation room tasked with providing regional multi-hazard monitoring and early warning



<https://droughtwatch.icpac.net/>

## Global Drought Observatory



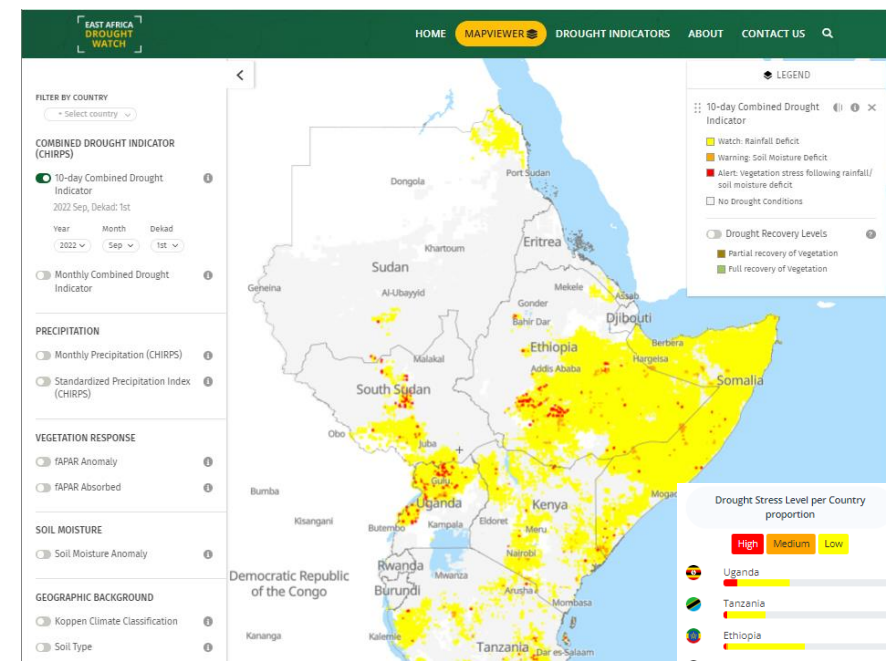
Global

Regional

## System Adaptation

- Interface
- Data
  - Rainfall data
  - Higher spatial resolution
- New products
  - Forecast
  - Monthly & seasonal
- New methodology
  - Drought events
  - Drought hotspots (long-term drought analysis)
- Integration of socio-economic indicators
- Analysis on user-defined boundaries

## East Africa Drought Watch



- Stakeholder engagement & capacity building
- Closely working with national institutions
  - Drought management authorities, Disaster coordination agencies
- Validation & user requirements
- Support institution workflows
  - Automation of processes
- Harmonization of Early Warning messaging

# Combined Drought Indicator - CDI

## COMBINED DROUGHT INDICATOR

Combined Drought Indicator (CDI)  
for Agricultural Drought

Time = Current dekad

=

1

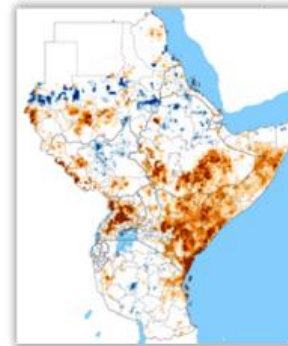
Precipitation  
Anomalies (SPI)



Time = Previous month

2

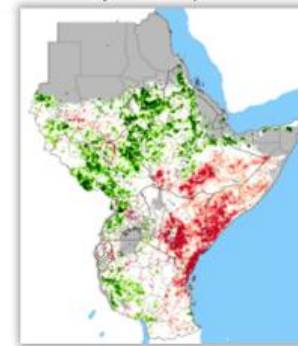
Soil Moisture  
Anomalies



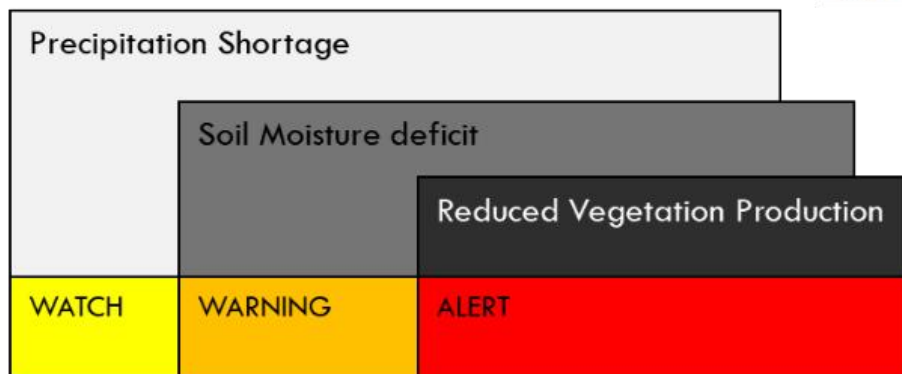
Time = Previous dekad

3

Vegetation Anomalies  
(fAPAR)

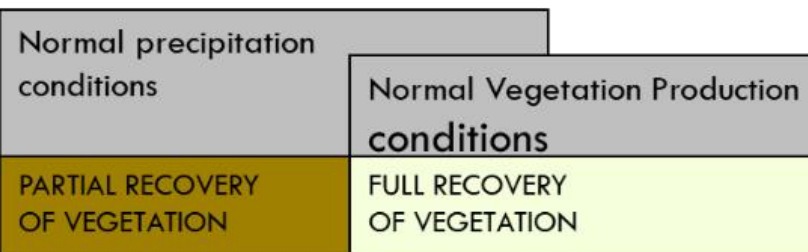


Time = Current dekad



- ✓ 3 levels of Drought categories:  
Watch, Warning, Alert
- ✓ 2 levels of Recovery categories:  
Partial Recovery, Full Recovery

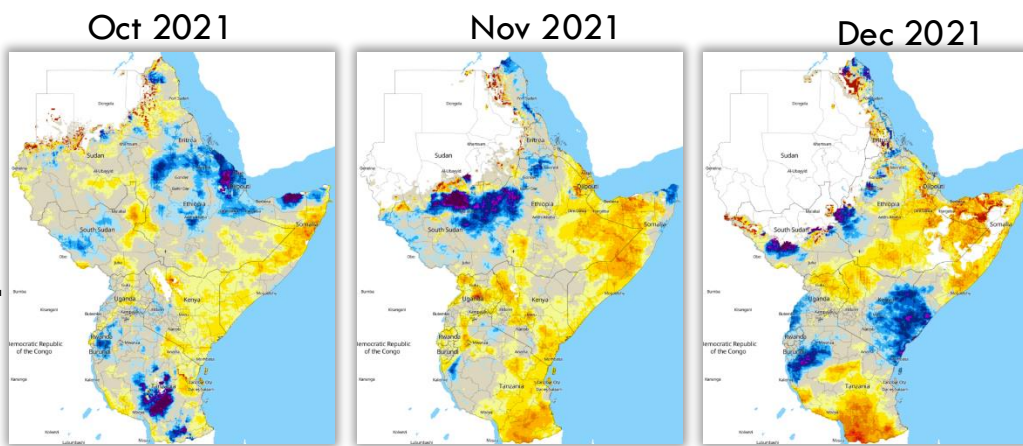
Time



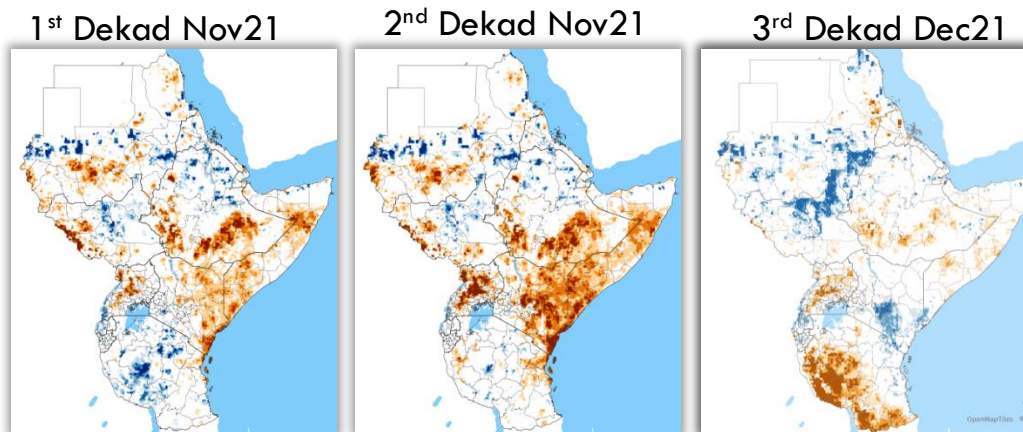


# Convergence of Evidence

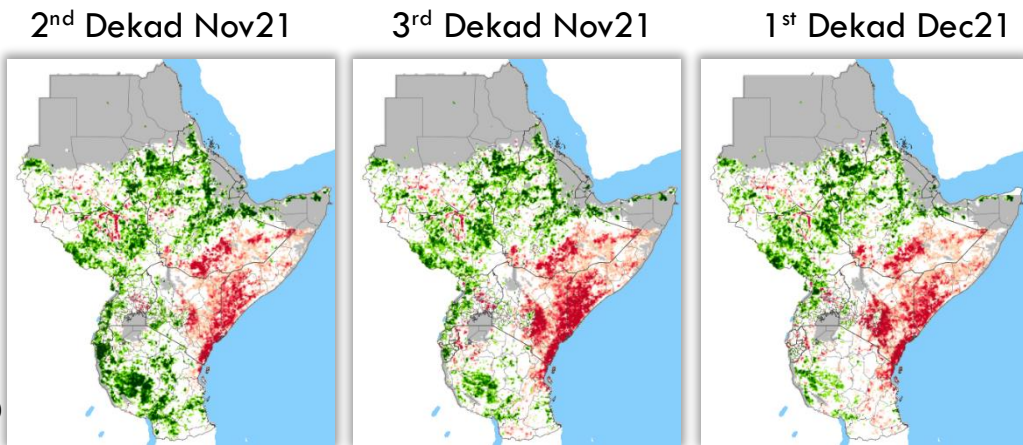
## Precipitation



## Soil Moisture



## Vegetation Condition

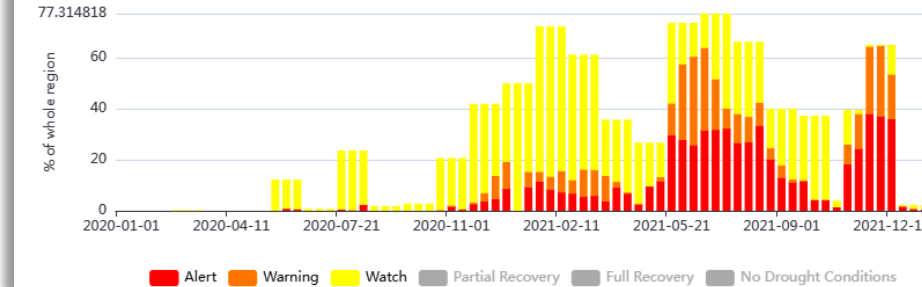


Rainfall, soil moisture and vegetation anomalies showing dry conditions.

Source: EADW

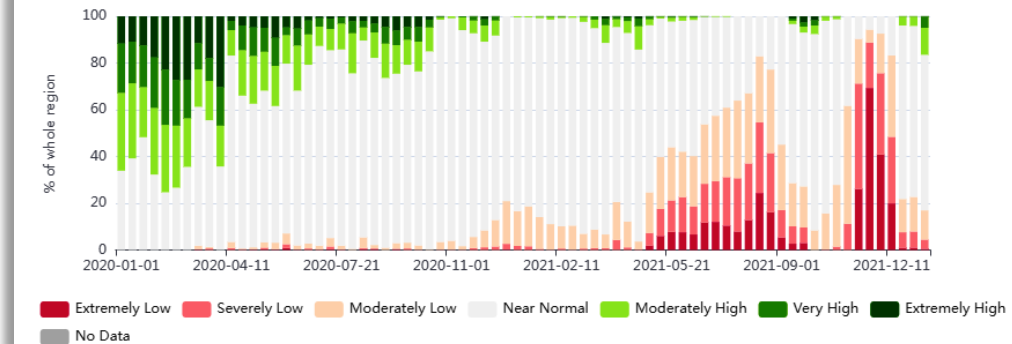
### Ten day CDI Timeseries

Jubbada Hoose, Somalia

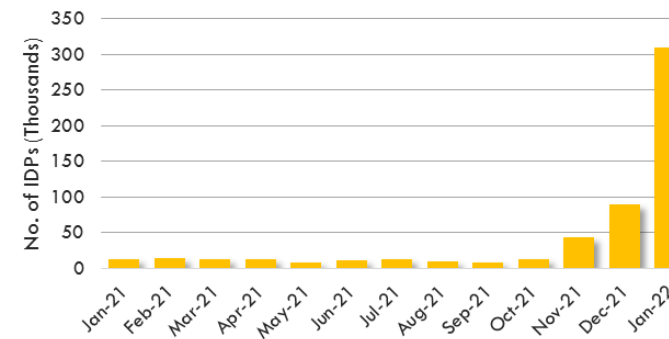


### Ten day fAPAR Anomaly Timeseries

Jubbada Hoose, Somalia



### Somalia Internal Displacement 2021-2022 Drought Related



14:30

←      Tweets



Severe droughts and food insecurity reported from the most regions of Somalia. Somalia Government convened humanitarian meeting to discuss collective efforts on responding to the crises for both immediate action and longer term solutions. @SC\_Somalia

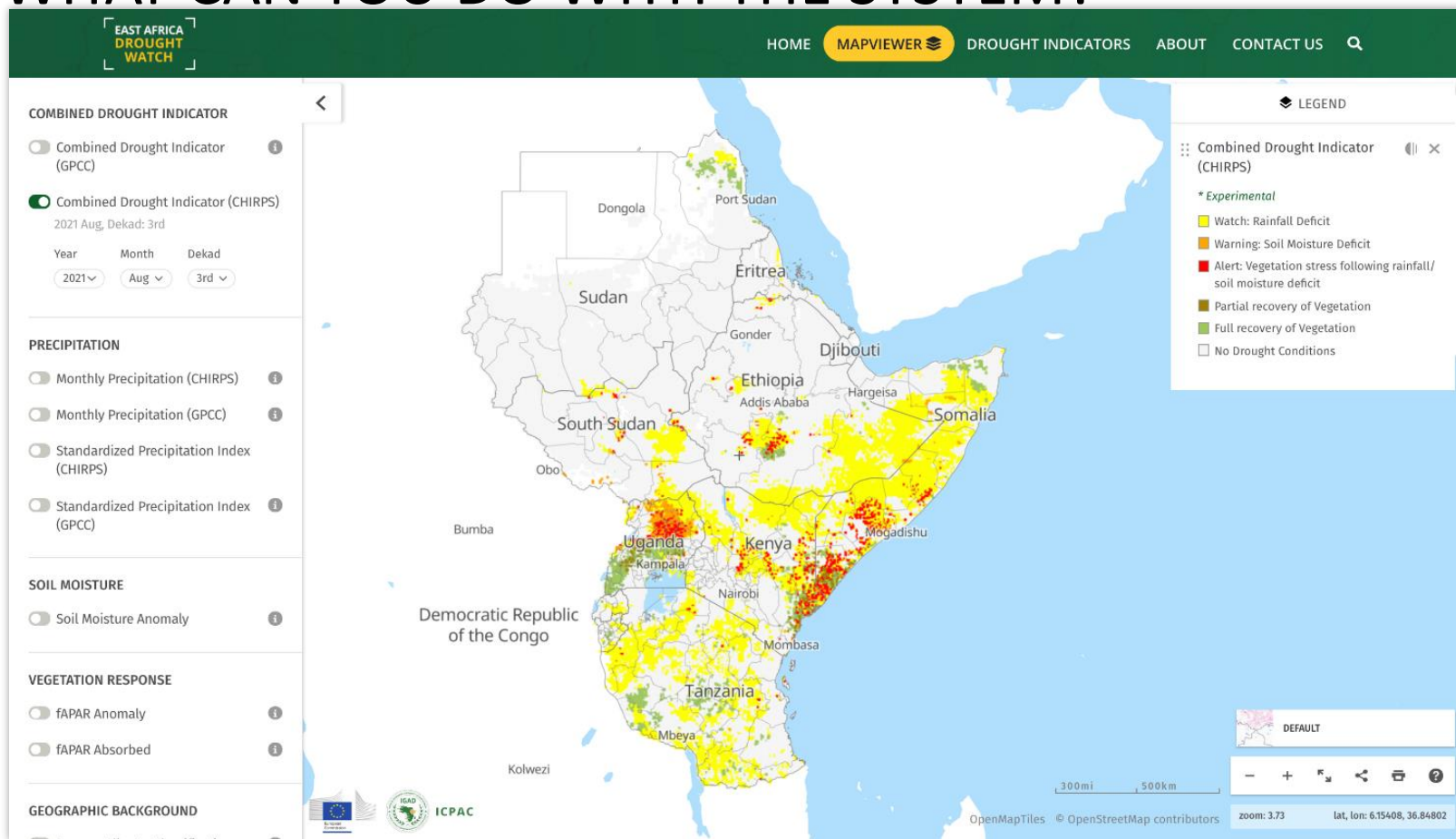


National Drought Management Authority  
KILIFI COUNTY  
DROUGHT EARLY WARNING BULLETIN FOR DECEMBER 2021



DROUGHT STATUS: <b>ALARM</b>	LIVELIHOOD ZONE	EW PHASE	TRENDS
Severe Drought	Severe Drought	Severe Drought	Improving
			Worsening

## WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH THE SYSTEM?



- Automatic report generation
- Visualization of raster layers for selected weather and biophysical indicators and anomalies
- Downloadable maps and graphs (png)
- Background layers and opacity bars facilitate image interpretation
- Use Political, Hydroshed, protected area or user defined boundary for analysis
- All time series is available

### Combined Drought Index (CDI) -

10day CDI

### SPI (CHIRPS)

1 month 12 month

3 month 24 month

6 month 48 month

9 month

Vegetation indicators  
**VIIRS/MODIS**

Soil Moist. Indicators  
**LISFlood model**

10day fAPAR

10d SM anomaly

10d fAPAR Anomaly

Modis/VIIRS, CHIRPS, LISflood model

## Lessons learnt

- User engagement is key
- Workflow integration
- Need for capacity enhancement
  - Technical
  - Infrastructure
- National regulatory frameworks
- Harmonised EW messaging

## Future developments

- Downscaling to the national level
- Continuous scientific research
  - Regional drought characterization
  - Improve forecast (lead-time, skill)
- Improved system functionality and analysis (user needs assessments)
- Early Warning to actions
  - Anticipatory action (mainstreaming & scaling) \*cash transfer
  - Integrate thresholds and triggers
- Leverage emerging technologies

## Partnerships & Collaboration



# Thank You



## ICPAC