



Acronym: FEWS NET
Full Name: Famine Early Warning Systems Network
Website: www.fews.net
Established: 1985
Location: East Africa, Southern Africa, West Africa and Central America

Areas of expertise: Monitoring and analysis relevant data and information in terms of its impacts on livelihoods and markets to identify potential threats to food security.

Main Partners and collaborations: United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Chemonics International, Inc., United States Geological Survey (USGS), National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Short Description:

The Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) was established in 1985 by the USAID to improve the emergency response capability in Africa, disseminate information and increase food security. One of its main objectives is to provide timely and rigorous early warning and vulnerability information on emerging and evolving food security issues.

The FEWS NET has acquired during the years a vast experience by providing timely, reliable and accurate early warning and vulnerability information. Its tradition and credibility have been achieved by the ability and knowledge its qualified professional staff, its field-based operations and the use of networking and coordination as a means to effectively use its resources and those of its partners in order to build consensus on responses to emerging or threatening crises and disasters.

Main activities:

FEWS NET uses a suite of communications and decision support products to help decision makers act to mitigate food insecurity. These products include monthly food security updates for 25 countries, regular food security outlooks, and alerts, as well as briefings and support to contingency and response planning efforts. More in-depth studies in areas such as livelihoods and markets provide additional information to support analysis as well as program and policy development. Some of its information products, tools and services are: World Wide Web, Vulnerability and food security assessments, Food security alerts, updates and briefings, Data dissemination and analysis, Cooperation and methodology improvement.

FEWS NET also focuses its efforts on strengthening early warning and food security networks. Activities in this area include developing capacity, building and strengthening networks, developing policy-useful information, and building consensus around food security problems and solutions. In addition, FEWS NET through the African Data Dissemination Service (ADDS) and the Mesoamerican Food Security Early Warning System provides internet access to the data collected by the FEWS NET, for example the Rainfall Estimate RFE.

Contact:

East Africa	Southern Africa	West Africa	Central America
<i>Regional Representative</i>	<i>Regional Representative</i>	<i>Regional Representative</i>	<i>USGS Regional Scientist</i>
Tel1: +254 20 3861475	Tel 1: +27 12 362-6494	Tel1: +226 50 37 47 06	Tel: +502 22 61-32-61
Tel2: +254 20 3861476/9	Tel2: +27 12 362-5650	Tel2: +226 50 37 41 25	
Fax: +254 20 3861480	Fax: +27 12 362-5651	Fax: +226 50 33 54 81	Fax: +502 23 33-72-16
Email: GHA@fews.net	Email: SouthernAfrica@fews.net	Email: WestAfrica@fews.net	Email: MFEWS-USGS@fews.net

Source:

- Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET)
- http://www.iop.org/EJ/article/1748-9326/4/2/024009/erl9_2_024009.pdf?request-id=21ff5ed7-30a2-4f14-a356-b134fa9c57a2