reported in some areas (FEWS NET June 2019, FAO-GIEWS, December 2019). In western key-producing areas, the June–September Kiremt rains were up to 30 percent above average and aggregate cereal production is estimated at above-average levels. However, unseasonal heavy rains during the October/November harvest resulted in localized crop production shortfalls (FAO-GIEWS, December 2019). Crops were attacked by desert locusts at the end of the year in northern and south-eastern Tigray, north-eastern Amhara and Eastern Oromiya regions. While coordinated control measures implemented by farmers, local communities and the Government have contained crop losses, substantial localized losses were reported in parts of Oromiya zone (FEWS NET December 2019, FAO-GIEWS).

Households in pastoral and agro pastoral areas of southern SNNP, southern and eastern Oromiya and southern Somali regions, faced an extended dry and hotter-than-average period through April 2019. The Gu/Genna (March–May) rains were delayed, erratically distributed and below normal, resulting in poor regeneration of pasture and water resources and poor livestock body conditions and little to no milk production (FEWS NET, June 2019). Subsequently, abundant October–December 2019 Deyr-Hageya rains regenerated rangeland resources and improved vegetation conditions, livestock body conditions and conception rates. However, pastoralists’ recovery was curbed by widespread floods that killed livestock and increased waterborne animal diseases, as well as by locust infestations damaging pasture (FAO-GIEWS, December 2019).

**Conflict/insecurity**

Continued intercommunal violence as well as clashes between Government forces and unidentified armed groups (UAG) in rural areas persisted, driving internal displacement, disrupting livelihood activities and distorting food market systems and prices (OCHA, 2020). While violent events occurred in all regions, most were in western and southern Oromia. Violence in Gambella affected local communities and refugees, while ethnic tensions in Amhara and areas bordering Benishangul Gumuz and Tigray displaced thousands. Many communities continued to be affected by unresolved historical tensions and grievances over resources, mainly land and water, as well as political, administrative and social rights (OCHA, 2020).

Of the 1.6 million IDPs, about two thirds were displaced by intercommunal violence. At the peak of the displacement crisis from January–April 2019, conflict and climate shocks brought the number of IDPs to 3.2 million (OCHA, 2020). IDPs in collective sites experience deplorable conditions and limited access to basic services (OCHA, January 2020).

**Economic shocks**

Prices of maize increased by 30–65 percent from January–October in several markets, including the capital, Addis Ababa, as seasonal upward trends were amplified by reduced supplies from the secondary Belg harvest, and by depreciation of the local currency that increased the prices of fuel and agricultural...