



REGIONAL FOCUS ON THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY ON DEVELOPMENT (IGAD) MEMBER STATES

2020 GLOBAL REPORT ON FOOD CRISES

JOINT ANALYSIS FOR BETTER DECISIONS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This IGAD regional report is a by-product of the annual *Global Report on Food Crises* (GRFC 2020), which results from a complex, multi-partner process involving commitment and contributions from a multitude of agencies and individuals and is facilitated by the Food Security Information Network (FSIN).

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FOREWORD

This second annual regional report on food crises for the IGAD region serves as a key reference document and a vital instrument for informing food and nutrition security programming for our humanitarian and development partners.

It provides a comprehensive analysis of the magnitude and severity of acute food insecurity and malnutrition and their key drivers in 2019 and articulates the key factors that drive food and nutrition crises across the IGAD region. The information and insights in this report are vital in guiding member states and partners to develop sustainable solutions.

The IGAD region still has one of the highest levels of food and nutrition insecurity in the world. Its acutely food-insecure population represents 20 percent of the 135 million global total highlighted in the *Global Report on Food Crises 2020*. This is because of the multiple threats to food security that are present in the region. The year 2019 was particularly challenging with severe drought across the region in the first half of the year, followed by widespread floods that affected more than three million people at the tail end of the year.

In late 2019, the IGAD region began experiencing the worst invasion of desert locusts in 25 years. A second wave of locusts, 20 times bigger than the first, threatens the region in 2020 further endangering the food security situation. At the same time, the governments and people of the region are grappling with the severe challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and widespread flooding of arable lands, which further threaten food security and nutrition outcomes across the board.

High levels of conflict and insecurity persist in the region, compelling millions of people to abandon their homes and livelihoods, and compromising their ability to meet their basic needs. In addition, political tensions and underlying vulnerabilities continue to affect our economies, driving high levels of unemployment, particularly among the youth, and forcing our people to migrate out of the region in search of better opportunities.



To combat the food crises that occur as a result of conflict and insecurity, IGAD has stepped up its efforts to coordinate regional and national peace-building and development efforts and has recorded monumental achievements on this front including the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS); post conflict reconstruction in Somalia; political reforms in the Sudan and the rapprochement between Ethiopia and Eritrea.

We hope that the momentum from these achievements will continue to be sustained and efforts to bolster peace and stability will be scaled up in 2020 and beyond. These positive peace-building initiatives will strengthen regional integration and it is our hope that this will reduce the high levels of displacement that are currently observed across the region.

Along the humanitarian-development-peace nexus, IGAD is spearheading resilience-building activities under the IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI), supported by a broad spectrum of our partners in the international community. We believe that this initiative will reduce the vulnerability of households that are disproportionately exposed to the increasing effects of extreme weather variability and climate change.

These achievements, including the development of this important report, would not have been possible without the support of our IGAD member state governments and humanitarian and development partners.

On behalf of IGAD I would like to acknowledge the efforts of all agencies and their staff who provided invaluable contributions to this report, and I am confident that this will go a long way in strengthening coordinated efforts to combat food crises in the region.

Workneh Gebeyehu (Ph.D)

IGAD Executive Secretary

IGAD regional report 2020 in brief

The data and the analyses in this report were prepared before the global crisis of the COVID-19 pandemic and do not account for its impact on vulnerable people in food-crisis situations.

In 2019, 135 million people faced acute food insecurity that required urgent action (IPC/CH Phase 3 or above) in 55 countries and territories analysed across the world, according to the *Global Report on Food Crises (GRFC) 2020*. Of this population, 20 percent, or 27.6 million people, resided in the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) region in East Africa.

Worst-affected countries in the IGAD region

Three major crises in the IGAD region were among the 10 worst food crises in the world, namely Ethiopia (8 million), South Sudan (7 million), and the Sudan (5.9 million). In terms of prevalence of acute food insecurity, the highest shares were found in South Sudan, where 61 percent of the analysed population was in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above), followed by Ethiopia (27 percent), Kenya (22 percent), Somalia (17 percent) and the Sudan (14 percent).

Acute food insecurity levels across the IGAD region have steadily increased since the GRFC was launched in 2016. Between 2018 and 2019, the number of people in need of urgent food assistance (IPC Phase 3 or above) increased by 2 percent, or about 650 000 people, largely driven by rising numbers of acutely food-insecure people in South Sudan, Kenya and Uganda. The numbers were stable in Ethiopia (though the method of analysis changed) and decreased in the Sudan and Somalia.

Primary drivers of acute food insecurity

Weather extremes, conflict/insecurity and economic shocks continued to be the main drivers of acute food insecurity across the region in 2019. Most countries faced all three challenges, with negative impacts reinforcing each other, adding to the complexity of the acute food insecurity situation.

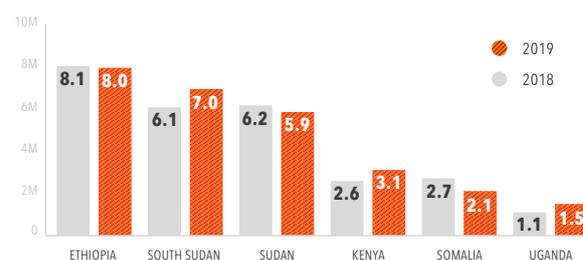
In 2019, weather extremes constituted the primary driver of acute food insecurity and malnutrition in Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia, where collectively 13.2 million acutely food-insecure people were in need of urgent food assistance – around half of the region's total. These extremes included drought during the first half of the year and flooding during the second half.

Armed conflicts, communal violence and other localized tensions continued to disrupt peace and security in the region, and

 **28M people**
in 6 IGAD member states were in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above)
2019

Note: Excluding Djibouti and Eritrea

Figure 1
Total number of people (millions) in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above), 2018 vs 2019



Source: FSIN, GRFC 2020

2018-2019

Rising numbers of acutely food-insecure people in Kenya, South Sudan and Uganda increased the aggregate figure

formed the primary driver for 8.5 million people facing acute food insecurity (31 percent of the region's total). The number derives from 7 million people in South Sudan mainly facing intercommunal tensions and violence, and 1.5 million in Uganda, the majority of them refugees fleeing armed conflict and war in their home countries.

Economic shocks formed the primary driver of acute food insecurity for 5.9 million people in the Sudan, where the ongoing macroeconomic crisis caused staple food prices to spike, with serious implications for food access since a large share of the population buys rather than produces their food.

Acute food insecurity among refugee populations

As of December 2019, there were 4.04 million refugees in the IGAD region, a slight increase since December 2018 when

4.02 million were displaced (UNHCR, December 2019). Uganda continued to host the highest numbers with 1.38 million, followed by the Sudan (1.1 million), Ethiopia (0.73 million), Kenya (0.48 million), South Sudan (0.32 million), Somalia (36 000) and Djibouti (30 000).

Having abandoned their livelihoods and assets, and settled in areas or camps with limited access to basic services, land, education, work and in some contexts, even facing movement restrictions, refugees tend to face heightened levels of food insecurity. They are heavily dependent on humanitarian food assistance to meet their minimum food and nutrition needs, but funding shortfalls have forced ration cuts in food and non-food assistance to refugee populations, including in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya and the Sudan.

Populations in Stressed (IPC Phase 2)

In 2019, 35.2 million people faced Stressed (IPC Phase 2) levels of acute food insecurity in five of the IGAD countries (excluding Djibouti, Eritrea and Uganda), representing 19 percent of the total global population facing Stressed (IPC Phase 2) food insecurity outcomes. These populations require livelihood support and/or disaster risk reduction programming to protect their livelihoods and prevent their future food security status from deteriorating.

Overview of nutrition

Approximately 13.6 million children under the age of 5 years are stunted (short for their age, an indicator of chronic undernutrition), with the highest numbers in Ethiopia, the Sudan and Uganda. These children will likely not reach their full growth and developmental potential because of the irreversible physical and cognitive damage caused by persistent nutritional deprivations at an early age.

At the national level, the prevalence of global acute malnutrition (GAM) is above the 'very high' threshold of 15 percent in Djibouti, the Sudan and South Sudan. At the sub-national level, there are areas in Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, the Sudan, South Sudan and Uganda that frequently record 'very high' levels of GAM.

The key contributing factors to the high rates of malnutrition include sub-optimal infant and young child-feeding practices – in particular the low proportion of children who receive a diverse diet from 6–23 months – food insecurity, lack of access to adequate safe water and sanitation facilities, and disease.

Outlook for 2020

Without taking into account the effects of COVID-19, projections indicate that 24–25.4 million people will face acute food insecurity requiring urgent action (IPC Phase 3 or above) in 2020, largely as a result of weather extremes, conflict/insecurity and economic shocks. The region has already experienced widespread flooding following heavy rains in March–May. Above-average rainfall is forecast for June–September over western Kenya,

 **35M people**
in 5 IGAD member states were in Stressed (IPC Phase 2) in 2019

Note: No estimates for Uganda

 **13.6M** children under 5 years old are stunted in the IGAD region
Source: UNICEF 2020

northern Somalia, Uganda, the Sudan, most of South Sudan and Ethiopia (ICPAC, 2020).

These rains created ideal breeding conditions for the most severe desert locust infestation in decades. Despite control measures, swarms pose a dangerous threat to agricultural production in Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia, and to rural livelihoods in Eritrea, Djibouti, South Sudan, the Sudan and Uganda (FAO, May 2020). The second and third waves of breeding are expected to cause destruction on a wider scale than the earlier invasion (IPC, May 2020).

Though not yet factored into most of the region's food security analyses, as of mid-May, the COVID-19 crisis and its impacts on global and regional economies and food systems could drive significantly higher numbers of food insecure people within East Africa. FEWS NET estimates the total number of acutely food-insecure people in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) to reach between 28.1 and 33.5 million people. WFP projects an increase of up to 100 percent from 25.8 million people requiring urgent humanitarian assistance. In both agencies' analyses, the largest number of food-insecure people is expected to remain in rural areas, though the majority of the population increases due to COVID-19 impacts will likely be among urban poor households.

The impact will be high for informal sector workers, casual labourers and the self-employed, as well as humanitarian aid-dependent displaced people living in overcrowded camps, people in slums and low-income workers.

Border closures and restricted movement are hindering the global supply chain, disrupting the availability of food as well as people's access to it and affecting agricultural labour and the supply of inputs to affected populations (IPC, May 2020). While partners are exploring new ways of adapting to humanitarian access challenges aggravated by the pandemic, movement restrictions are still likely to affect the implementation of food security and nutrition activities.

The region is preparing for a significant increase in the number of acutely malnourished children by pre-positioning supplies of specialised nutrition foods in case of supply chain disruption.

While all partners are in broad agreement with the data and information presented in this report, FEWS NET's analyses suggest that the population requiring emergency food assistance in 2019 was lower than the IPC estimates for Ethiopia.

ACRONYMS

ACAPS	Assessment Capacities Project	gNC	Global Nutrition Cluster
ACLED	Armed Conflict Location and Event Data Project	GoK	Government of Kenya
ALPS	Alert for Price Spikes indicator	GRFC	Global Report on Food Crises
AMISOM	African Union Mission in Somalia	HAZ	Height for age z score
ASAL	Arid and semi-arid lands	HDDS	Household Dietary Diversity Score
CARI	Consolidated Approach to Reporting Indicators of Food Security	HDP	Humanitarian – Development – Peace nexus
COVID-19	Corona virus disease 2019	HNO	Humanitarian Needs Overview
DEVCO	International Cooperation and Development of the European Commission	HRP	Humanitarian Response Plan
DHS	Demographic and Health Survey	ICPAC	IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Centre
DTM	Displacement Tracking Matrix	IDMC	Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre
ECHO	European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations of the European Commission	IDP	Internally Displaced People
EC-JRC	European Commission – Joint Research Centre	IFPRI	International Food Policy Research Institute
ECDC	European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control	IFRC	International Federation of the Red Cross
EmDHS	Ethiopia Mini Demographic and Health Survey	IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development (in Eastern Africa)
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	IMF	International Monetary Fund
FAO-GIEWS	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations - Global Information and Early Warning System	IOM	International Organization for Migration
FCS	Food Consumption Score	IPC	Integrated Food Security Phase Classification
FEWS NET	Famine Early Warning Systems Network	IPC AMN	Integrated Food Security Phase Classification Acute Malnutrition
FSIN	Food Security Information Network	IYCF	Infant and Young Child Feeding
FSNA	Food Security and Nutrition Assessment	JME	Joint Malnutrition Estimates
FSNAU	Food Security and Nutrition Assessment Unit	JMP	Joint Monitoring Programme
FSNMS	Food Security and Nutrition Monitoring System	KAP	Knowledge Attitude and Practices
FSNWG	Food Security and Nutrition Working Group	MAD	Minimum Acceptable Diet
GAM	Global Acute Malnutrition	MAM	Moderate Acute Malnutrition
GDP	Gross Domestic Product	MDD	Minimum Dietary Diversity
gFSC	Global Food Security Cluster	MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey or Ministry and National Institute for Health
GNAFC	Global Network Against Food Crises	MoH	Ministry of Health
		MPI	Multi-dimensional poverty index
		MUAC	Mid-Upper Arm Circumference
		(WFP's)	World Food Programme's mobile Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping
		mVAM	

NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OPHI	Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative
R-ARCSS	Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan
S3M-II	Simple Spatial Surveying Method survey
SAM	Severe Acute Malnutrition
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SENS	Standardised Expanded Nutrition Survey
SMART	Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions
SNNPR	Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' Region
SOFI	The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World
SPLM-N	Sudan People's Liberation Movement – North
SSP	South Sudanese Pound
UAG	Unidentified Armed Groups
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNMISS	United Nations Mission in South Sudan
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USD	United States Dollar
VAM	Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WB	World Bank
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization
WHS	World Humanitarian Summit
WHZ	Weight for height z score

ICONOGRAPHY

Drivers of acute food insecurity

-  Conflict/insecurity
-  Weather extremes
-  Economic shocks
-  Pests
-  Health shocks
-  COVID-19

Nutrition

-  Acute malnutrition (wasting)
-  Chronic malnutrition (stunting)
-  Dietary diversity
-  Breastfeeding
-  Anaemia
-  Access to safe drinking water

Displacement

-  Internally displaced people (IDPs)
-  Refugees/asylum-seekers
-  Returnees

Maps

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on all the maps in this document do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined.

Final status of the Abyei area is not yet determined.

Introduction and methods

WHY THIS REPORT?

Reliable, collective data and analysis provide vital evidence to inform coherent, coordinated and cost-efficient strategic humanitarian and development investments to tackle the root causes of food crises. Agencies, governments and other key stakeholders can use the information to bolster the case for changing food systems, building resilience to extreme weather events, resolving conflict, promoting durable peace and upholding international humanitarian law.

Most of the food security analyses conducted in East Africa are country-specific rather than providing a comprehensive

regional context. This report provides a regional baseline of the number of acutely food-insecure people in need of urgent food and livelihood assistance across member countries of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), a regional economic organization that brings together member states to address issues that affect the lives and livelihoods of people in the East and Horn of Africa region. The figures refer to the point in 2019 at which the numbers of acutely food-insecure people were highest.

Every year, weather extremes, conflict/insecurity and economic shocks, compounded by various vulnerabilities, such as protracted impacts of previous shocks, high levels of poverty and inequality, low resilience capacities, high level of displacement etc., are responsible for pushing millions of people into acute food insecurity in the IGAD region. In addition to being one of the most food-insecure regions in the world, malnutrition levels are among the highest, despite large-scale nutrition interventions. These high levels of acute food insecurity and malnutrition cannot be addressed by humanitarian interventions alone.

As the leading regional organization for achieving peace, prosperity and regional integration, since the mid-1990s IGAD's mandate has been expanded to address the range of threats facing the region. Food security, natural resource management, agriculture and environment, trade and climate are key pillars of its mandate. It collaborates with multiple partners in the development, humanitarian, peace and resilience-building spheres to provide evidence that informs decision making, including policy recommendations that, once evaluated by the heads of state and government, are adopted as new IGAD policies.

This report fills an information gap and monitors regional trends relating to acute food insecurity, which can be used by governments and decision makers in their design of policies to address the root causes of acute food insecurity and malnutrition.

It serves as an important reminder that the IGAD region requires continued support in development and resilience-building interventions, in addition to humanitarian response during crisis situations. It justifies the need for continued joint

IGAD at a glance

Member states: Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, the Sudan and Uganda

Headquarters: Djibouti

Created: 1986 as Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Desertification (IGADD).

Original mission: Address drought and desertification in response to widespread famine, environmental degradation and economic hardship across the region.

Expanded mission in 1996:

- Food security and environmental protection
- Promotion and maintenance of peace and security and humanitarian affairs
- Economic cooperation and integration

Leadership: An assembly of heads of state and government, informed by a council of ministers and committee of ambassadors. The secretariat is headed by the executive secretary.

For more information go to www.igad.int



efforts among governments, development and humanitarian partners to address the needs of vulnerable populations and the actions required to protect and build their resilience.

WHAT IS FOOD INSECURITY?

Food insecurity refers to the lack of secure access to sufficient amounts of safe and nutritious food for normal human growth and development and an active and healthy life. For people to be food secure, food must be both **consistently available** and **accessible** in sufficient quantities and diversity and households must be able to **utilize** (store, cook, prepare and share) the food in a way that has a positive nutritional impact.

Acute food insecurity

Acute food insecurity is any manifestation of food insecurity at a specific point in time of a severity that threatens lives, livelihoods or both, regardless of the causes, context or duration. These acute states are highly susceptible to change and can manifest in a population within a short time, as a result of sudden changes or shocks that negatively impact on the determinants of food insecurity and malnutrition (IPC, 2019). Transitory food insecurity is a short-term or temporary inability to meet food consumption requirements related to sporadic crises, indicating a capacity to recover.

Chronic food insecurity

Chronic food insecurity is a long-term or persistent inability to meet dietary energy requirements (lasting for a significant period of time during the year). FAO defines this as 'undernourishment' and it is the basis for the SDG indicator 2.1.1 published in *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World* (SOFI).

People experiencing moderate food insecurity face uncertainties about their ability to obtain food and have been forced to reduce, at times during the year, the quality and/or quantity of food they consume due to lack of money or other resources. It thus refers to a lack of consistent access to food, which diminishes dietary quality, disrupts normal eating patterns, and can have negative consequences for nutrition, health and well-being.

People facing severe food insecurity, on the other hand, have likely run out of food, experienced hunger and, at the most extreme, gone for days without eating, putting their health and well-being at grave risk (FAO et al., 2019). In 2018, more than 820 million people in the world were undernourished; more than 700 million people were exposed to severe levels of food insecurity and an additional 1.3 billion people experienced food insecurity at moderate levels (SOFI, 2019).



The *Global Report on Food Crises* (GRFC) is the flagship publication of the Food Security Information Network (FSIN), which produces a series of analytical products under the initiative of the Global Network Against Food Crises (Global Network). It results from a joint, consensus-based assessment of acute food insecurity situations around the world by 16 partner organizations.

The GRFC 2020, which was released in April 2020 (www.fsinplatform.org), reported that in 2019, 135 million people were acutely food-insecure and in need of urgent humanitarian food and livelihood assistance across 55 countries and territories analysed, including six IGAD countries. This marked the highest number in the four years of the GRFC's existence, reflecting worsening conflict/insecurity, weather extremes and economic-related crises in several countries/territories as well as the inclusion of additional countries and areas. The data and the analyses were prepared before the global crisis of the COVID-19 pandemic and did not account for its impact.

The Global Network was co-founded by the European Union, FAO and WFP at the 2016 World Humanitarian Summit in response to the call for new approaches to tackle protracted crises and recurrent disasters, reduce vulnerability and better manage risks by bridging the divide between development, humanitarian and conflict-preventing action. Partners in the Global Network work together to address the multiple facets of food crises and achieve results at national, regional and global level in three key areas:

- Evidence-based analyses of food crisis risks and of people's resilience to various shocks; knowledge management and communication monitoring, evaluation and learning.
- Strategic investments for addressing and preventing food crises.
- Synergies and coordination with other sectors to address the full spectrum of humanitarian, development and peace-building needs.

Country selection process



8 All IGAD countries satisfied the following criteria for inclusion in this report

They requested external assistance for food and/or faced shocks as assessed by FAO-GIEWS

- ▶ in 2019 or
- ▶ at least once in the past 3 years or
- ▶ at least 3 years in the past 10 years



However, Eritrea was omitted due to insufficient data on acute food insecurity

6 IGAD countries were identified as major crises in 2019 based on the following non-mutually exclusive criteria

- ▶ at least 20% of the population analysed in IPC Phase 3 or above
- ▶ at least 1 million people in IPC Phase 3 or above
- ▶ any area in IPC Phase 4 or above



Djibouti was not included as a 2019 major food crisis as no food security assessment was conducted that year, but is reported in the 2020 forecast

Drivers of acute food insecurity

The drivers of acute food insecurity are often interlinked and mutually reinforcing, making it difficult to pinpoint the specific trigger or driver of each food crisis. As in the GRFC 2020, this report takes a practical approach, by estimating which drivers are the most salient for each country out of the broad categories explained below.

Conflict/insecurity

This includes interstate conflicts, internal violence, regional or global instability, civil unrest or political crises leading to displacements.

In conflict, civilians are frequently deprived of their income sources and pushed into acute food insecurity. Food systems and markets are disrupted, pushing up food prices and sometimes leading to scarcities of water and fuel, or of food itself. Landmines, explosive remnants of war and improvised explosive devices often destroy agricultural land, mills, storage facilities, machinery etc.

Conflict prevents businesses from operating and weakens the national economy, reducing employment opportunities,

increasing poverty levels and diverting government spending towards military expenditure. Health systems are usually damaged or destroyed, leaving people reliant on humanitarian support – yet increasingly insecurity and roadblocks prevent humanitarian convoys from reaching the most vulnerable. Or aid agencies face lengthy delays, restrictions on personnel or the type or quantity of aid supplies, or insufficient security guarantees. Parties to conflict can deny people access to food as a weapon of war, especially in areas under blockade/embargo. Food insecurity itself can become a trigger for violence and instability, particularly in contexts marked by pervasive inequalities and fragile institutions. Sudden spikes in food prices tend to exacerbate the risk of political unrest and conflict (FAO et al., 2017).

Weather extremes

These include droughts, floods and delayed onsets of rainy seasons. Weather-related events can directly affect crops and/or livestock, cut off roads and prevent markets from being stocked. Poor seasonal rains push up food prices and diminish agricultural employment opportunities, lowering income at a time when households are more market-reliant because of reduced food stocks. Adverse weather events are particularly

grave for smallholder farmers who cannot afford to invest in the systems and inputs required to withstand and recover from the impacts of such shocks, and for pastoralists who are vulnerable because they rely on rain-fed rangeland for grazing livestock and have very few fixed assets.

People's vulnerability to weather shocks rests on their capacity to adapt, the scale and frequency of shocks and their dependence on the affected sector. Repeated events further erode capacity to withstand future shocks. Weather events and changes in climate can often lead to an intensification of conflict between pastoralists and farmers over access to water and grazing. There is ample evidence suggesting that natural disasters – particularly droughts – contribute to aggravating existing civil conflicts.

Economic shocks

Economic shocks can affect the food security of households or individuals through various channels. Macroeconomic shocks, characterized by contraction of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), high inflation or hyperinflation, currency depreciation, worsening terms of trade, high unemployment, contraction in exports and decrease in investments and other capital inflows tend to coincide with increases in acute food insecurity. Increases in prices of oil or agricultural inputs can affect food availability, food prices and incomes. Microeconomic shocks are characterized by rising food prices, lack of income sources and reduction in purchasing power, which directly affect households' food security.

Countries with weak governance and institutions, or facing armed conflict, civil unrest or instability, are particularly vulnerable to the impact of economic decline. High debt constrains economic growth, increases vulnerability to economic shocks and detracts from development spending.

Other drivers

Other drivers, such as health shocks, crop pests and animal diseases and non-weather related natural disasters are not recorded as primary drivers in any of the countries analysed, but they are included as secondary drivers. Disease outbreaks (occurrence of disease cases in excess of normal expectancy) are usually caused by an infection, transmitted through person-to-person contact, animal-to-person contact, or from the environment or other media. Water, sanitation, food and air quality are vital elements in the transmission of communicable diseases and in the spread of diseases prone to cause epidemics. Displaced populations – particularly in overcrowded camps – are more susceptible to disease outbreaks which strained health systems cannot prevent or control (WHO).

Epidemics and pandemics can affect the ability of people to carry on their activities and livelihoods and, in the worst cases when widespread, may also affect markets and supply chains.

Crop pests, such as fall armyworms, desert locusts, etc damage crops and may lead to severe production shortfalls. Animal diseases including peste des petits ruminants (PPR), foot-and-mouth disease (FMD), or Rift Valley fever (RVF) often affect livestock and pastoralists' livelihoods in food-crisis contexts.

Displacement

Displacement is often a side-effect of conflict, food insecurity and/or weather shocks. Displaced people are often more vulnerable to food insecurity and malnutrition having had to abandon their livelihoods and assets, undertake arduous journeys and settle in areas or camps with limited access to basic services or former social support networks. Their rights are often restricted due to host country legal frameworks, resulting in a lack of access to land, employment and freedom of movement. They are often dependent on humanitarian assistance to meet their food needs.

Forced displacement is the movement of people who have been compelled to leave their homes, particularly to avoid the effects of armed conflict, generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters.

A refugee is someone who has been forced to flee his or her country because of persecution, war or violence. Refugees are recognized under various international agreements. Some are recognized as a group or on a 'prima facie' basis while others undergo an individual investigation before being given refugee status. The 1951 Convention and 1967 Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees provide the full legal definition of a refugee.

An asylum-seeker is a person seeking sanctuary in a country other than their own and waiting for a decision about their status. The legal processes related to asylum are complex and variable, which is a challenge when it comes to counting, measuring and understanding the asylum-seeking population. When an asylum application is successful, the person is awarded refugee status.

Internally displaced people (IDPs) are those forced to flee their homes as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights, or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an international border.

A stateless person is someone who does not have a nationality of any country. Some people are born stateless, but others become stateless due to a variety of reasons, including sovereign, legal, technical or administrative decisions or oversights. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights underlines that 'everyone has the right to a nationality' (UNGA, 1948, article 15).

Acute food insecurity data sources

IPC analyses for the peak number of acutely food-insecure people in 2019

In countries where the government and food security stakeholders have adopted the IPC as the protocols for classifying the severity and magnitude of acute food insecurity and conducted at least one analysis covering 2019, the number of people in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) corresponds to the highest estimates registered for the calendar year, independent of seasonality. All IGAD member states, except Eritrea, have adopted IPC protocols. In 2019, the IPC analysis was the source for only five countries (Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan and the Sudan) as Djibouti did not conduct an analysis and a FEWS NET IPC-compatible analysis was used for Uganda because of its wider coverage.¹

For a summary of the IPC classification system refer to table 1, and for the full version of the IPC acute food insecurity reference table, see annex 1 on page 62. The 2019 acute food insecurity estimates are reported in table 5 on page 17, and the latest updates of acute food insecurity estimates available in 2019 are in table 9, annex 64.

Populations in Crisis (IPC Phase 3), Emergency (IPC Phase 4) and Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) are deemed to be those in need of urgent food, livelihood and nutrition assistance. Populations in Stressed (IPC Phase 2) require a different

set of actions, ideally disaster risk reduction and livelihood protection, and are also indicated in chapter 2. A wide range of sources are used to examine the drivers of acute food insecurity and complement the analysis.

Sources for the 2020 forecasts

The sources for the outlook and projected trends for 2020 vary. Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and South Sudan forecasts are based on IPC projections, which are estimated by outlining the main assumptions driving the evolution of food security in the projected period. The focus is on the 'most likely scenario,' which helps to devise the potential changes on population distribution across IPC phases. Also, it takes into account the potential effects of planned, funded and likely-to-occur humanitarian assistance in the area of analysis.²

The Sudan and Uganda forecasts are based on FEWS NET food assistance outlook briefs, which provide information on the projected severity and magnitude of acute food insecurity (using ranges) and indicate each country's acutely food-insecure population in need of urgent humanitarian food assistance (IPC Phase 3 or above). FEWS NET projections are based on a scenario development approach where a set of assumptions regarding the evolution of food security drivers is made and impacts on food security outcomes are assessed in the absence of humanitarian food assistance. The report presents projections considered to be the most-likely scenario.

1 IPC-compatible products are generated using key IPC protocols but are not built on multi-partner technical consensus

2 For more details on forecasting methods, see : http://www.ipcinfo.org/fileadmin/user_upload/ipcinfo/manual/IPC_Technical_Manual_3_Final.pdf; <https://fews.net/sectors-topics/approach/fews-net-guidance-document-series>

Table 1

IPC acute food insecurity phase description and response objectives

Phase	Technical description	Priority response objective
1 None/Minimal	Households are able to meet essential food and non-food needs without engaging in atypical and unsustainable strategies to access food and income.	Resilience building and disaster risk reduction.
2 Stressed	Households have minimally adequate food consumption but are unable to afford some essential non-food expenditures without engaging in stress coping strategies.	Disaster risk reduction and protection of livelihoods.
3 Crisis	Households either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have food consumption gaps that are reflected by high or above-usual acute malnutrition; <i>OR</i> • Are marginally able to meet minimum food needs but only by depleting essential livelihood assets or through crisis coping strategies. 	URGENT ACTION REQUIRED to protect livelihoods and reduce food consumption gaps.
4 Emergency	Households either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have large food consumption gaps, which are reflected in very high acute malnutrition and excess mortality; <i>OR</i> • Are able to mitigate large food consumption gaps but only by employing emergency livelihood strategies and asset liquidation. 	URGENT ACTION REQUIRED to save lives and livelihoods.
5 Catastrophe/Famine	Households have an extreme lack of food and/or other basic needs even after full employment of coping strategies. Starvation, death, destitution and extremely critical acute malnutrition levels are evident. (For Famine classification, area needs to have extreme critical levels of acute malnutrition and mortality.)	URGENT ACTION REQUIRED to revert/prevent widespread death and total collapse of livelihoods.

The Djibouti forecast is based on a WFP assessment using the Consolidated Approach for Reporting Indicators of Food Security (CARI) methodology.³

WHAT IS MALNUTRITION?

Malnutrition exists in different forms and includes undernutrition and overnutrition. Undernutrition is more than a lack of food – it is a combination of factors: insufficient energy, protein and micronutrients exacerbated by frequent infections or disease. Malnutrition stunts children's growth, deprives them of essential vitamins and minerals, and makes them more susceptible to frequent and severe disease and infections (UNICEF).

There are also other forms of malnutrition. While not a focus of this report, it may also refer to overnutrition leading to obesity. This form of malnutrition is on the rise in almost every country in the world. Undernutrition and overnutrition frequently coexist within the same country, community, and even within the same individual. Stunted children, for example, face a greater risk of becoming overweight as adults (UNICEF).

Acute malnutrition

A child being too thin for his or her height as a result of rapid weight loss or the failure to gain weight is a sign of acute malnutrition (wasting) which, although treatable, can lead to illness, disability or death. Moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) using the weight for height indicator is identified by weight for height z scores (WHZ) below -2 and above -3 of the reference population, and severe acute malnutrition (SAM) by WHZ below -3. Global acute malnutrition (GAM) reflects both

Table 2

Severity index for prevalence of wasting in children aged 6–59 months

Prevalence ranges	Label	
< 2.5%	Very low	
2.5–< 5%	Low	
5–< 10%	Medium	
10–< 15%	High	
≥ 15%	Very high	

De Onis et al. Public Health Nutrition, 2018. Available at: <https://www.who.int/nutrition/team/prevalence-thresholds-wasting-overweight-stunting-children-paper.pdf>

MAM and SAM in a population. Acute malnutrition can also be defined by Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) measurements ≤ 12.5 cm, with severe acute malnutrition defined with a measurement of ≤ 11.5 cm. Children affected require urgent feeding, treatment and care to survive. Acute malnutrition rates depict the nutrition situation in the general population at a specific time: they can show marked seasonal patterns and can change quickly over time. See table 2.

Chronic malnutrition

A child being too short for his or her age (stunting) is considered chronically malnourished. This condition is preventable from the 1 000 days between a woman's pregnancy and the time her child turns two. The physical and cognitive damage caused by stunting can be irreversible and has far-reaching consequences, from diminished learning and school performance to lower future earnings, and can affect the next generation. Stunted children under 5 years old are identified by a height for age z score (HAZ) below -2 of the reference population. Severe stunting is defined as HAZ below -3. See table 3.

Micronutrient deficiencies

Deficiencies of vitamin A, iron and zinc are often referred to as 'hidden' hunger because it develops gradually over time, and a large percentage of the population may be deficient without showing any clinical symptoms or signs of deficiency.

Table 3

Severity index for prevalence of stunting in children aged 0–59 months

Prevalence ranges	Label	
< 2.5%	Very low	
2.5–10%	Low	
10–< 20%	Medium	
20–< 30%	High	
≥ 30%	Very high	

De Onis et al. Public Health Nutrition, 2018. Available at: <https://www.who.int/nutrition/team/prevalence-thresholds-wasting-overweight-stunting-children-paper.pdf>

Drivers of malnutrition in food crises

The immediate cause of acute malnutrition is a severe nutritional restriction either as a result of inadequate food intake, or a recent bout of illness, such as diarrhoea, that hinders appropriate intake and absorption of nutrients. The determinants of malnutrition also include inadequate access to healthcare, water and sanitation services, inappropriate child feeding and care practices, as described in the UNICEF framework.

³ All five indicators included within the CARI approach can be incorporated within IPC analysis. The IPC technical manual provides guidance on where each indicator sits within the IPC analytical framework. For details see <https://resources.vam.wfp.org/data-analysis/quantitative/food-security/cari-the-consolidated-approach-for-reporting-indicators-of-food-security>

Additional nutrition indicators used in this report



Minimum dietary diversity for children aged 6–23 months

This indicator refers to the percentage of children aged 6–23 months who receive foods from more than five out of eight food groups a day. The eight food groups are: i. breastmilk; ii. grains, roots and tubers; iii. legumes and nuts; iv. dairy products (infant formula, milk, yogurt, cheese); v. flesh foods (meat, fish, poultry and liver/organ meats); vi. eggs; vii. vitamin-A rich fruits and vegetables; viii. other fruits and vegetables.

In some surveys, minimum dietary diversity is calculated based on seven food groups, excluding breastmilk. In these cases, the indicator refers to the percentage of children aged 6–23 months who receive foods from more than four out of seven food groups a day.

Minimum meal frequency

The indicator refers to the proportion of breastfed and non-breastfed children aged 6–23 months who receive solid, semi-solid or soft foods at least the minimum number of recommended times a day.

Minimum acceptable diet

This composite indicator combines meal frequency and dietary diversity to assess the proportion of children aged 6–23 months consuming a diet that meets the minimum requirements for growth and development.

Percentage of households not consuming micronutrient-rich food in refugee populations

This refers to the proportion of households with no member consuming any vegetables, fruits, meat, eggs, fish/seafood, and milk/milk products over a reference period of 24 hours using the 12 food groups defined by FAO (2011).



Exclusive breastfeeding

This indicator refers to the percentage of infants fed exclusively with breast milk up to six months of age, as recommended by WHO.



Prevalence of anaemia

This indicator refers to the proportion of children aged 6–59 months and women of reproductive age (15–49 years) who are anaemic.

Anaemia is a condition in which the number of red blood cells or their oxygen-carrying capacity is insufficient to meet physiological needs, which varies by age, sex, altitude, smoking and pregnancy status. Iron deficiency is thought to be the most common cause of anaemia globally, although other conditions, such as folate, vitamin B12 and vitamin A deficiencies, chronic inflammation, parasitic infections and inherited disorders can all cause anaemia. In its severe form, it is associated with fatigue, weakness, dizziness and drowsiness. Pregnant women and children are particularly vulnerable (WHO).



Access to basic drinking water services

Improved drinking water sources are those which, by nature of their design and construction, have the potential to deliver safe water. The WHO and UNICEF Joint Monitoring Program for Water Supply Sanitation and Hygiene (JMP) subdivides the population using improved sources into three groups (safely managed, basic and limited) according to the level of service provided. In order to meet the criteria for a safely managed drinking water service, people must use an improved source meeting three criteria: accessible on premises; available when needed; free from contamination.

If the improved source does not meet any one of these criteria but a round trip to collect water takes 30 minutes or less, then it is classified as a basic drinking water service. If water collection from an improved source exceeds 30 minutes, it is categorized as a limited service (WHO and UNICEF).

For refugees, the indicator refers to the type of drinking water source used by the household and serves to indicate whether their drinking water is of a suitable quality or not.

Table 4

IPC acute malnutrition technical descriptions and response objectives

Phase	Technical description	Priority response objectives
1 Acceptable	Less than 5% of children are acutely malnourished.	Maintain the low prevalence of acute malnutrition.
2 Alert	5–9.9% of children are acutely malnourished.	Strengthen existing response capacity and resilience. Address contributing factors to acute malnutrition. Monitor conditions.
3 Serious	10–14.9% of children are acutely malnourished.	Scaling up of treatment and prevention of affected populations.
4 Critical	15–29.9% children are acutely malnourished. The mortality and morbidity levels are elevated or increasing. Individual food consumption is likely to be compromised.	Significant scale up and intensification of treatment and protection activities to reach additional population affected.
5 Extremely Critical	30% of children are acutely malnourished widespread morbidity and/or very large individual food consumption gaps are likely evident.	Addressing widespread acute malnutrition and disease epidemics by all means.

Children require an adequate amount of nutrient-dense foods for their optimum growth and development, to build immunity to infections and protect against disease. Exclusive breastfeeding in the first six months of life followed by the timely introduction of safe and nutritionally adequate complementary foods with continued breastfeeding until 2 years of age or beyond, ensures children receive all the nutrients they need. Pregnant and lactating women also need to consume foods from a variety of food groups, with adequate and appropriate nutrients and energy to meet the increased physiological requirements, to sustain healthy fetal growth and development, and support lactation.

During humanitarian crises, access to nutritious foods may be limited by food shortages or disrupted food systems, compromising the availability of adequate and safe complementary foods for vulnerable children. When food production is limited, and/or markets and infrastructure are functioning poorly the cost of food increases and vulnerable households with limited purchasing power struggle to provide children with the nutritious diet they require.

In addition, caregivers during emergencies may have reduced time to prepare nutritious meals and care for children because they may, for instance, have to take on additional agricultural tasks, care for other vulnerable family members or take longer to access services and water. In some contexts – such as during displacements – the precarious living conditions may also hinder the hygienic preparation of meals.

Displaced populations often face severely compromised access to safe water and improved sanitation and are at increased risk of frequent outbreaks of infectious disease, which weakened health systems cannot treat, prevent or control. Measles, cholera, Ebola and dengue fever outbreaks are illnesses that have a negative impact on the overall health and nutritional status of individuals, especially young children. In crises

children are often not able to access other preventive services such as micronutrient supplementation and immunization, further increasing the risk of malnutrition. Displacement can also result in the break-down of familial and community networks that provide the necessary support and guidance needed for looking after young children.

Nutrition data sources

The report reviews and analyses most recent available country data on anthropometry, dietary intake, infant and young child feeding (IYCF) practices, health and WASH indicators from national and sub-national nutrition surveys. These include representative SMART (Standardized Monitoring and Assessment for Relief and Transitions) surveys, Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS), Multiple Indicators Cluster Surveys (MICS), National Vulnerability Assessments and Analysis, and Infant and Young Child Feeding – Knowledge Attitude and Practices Assessments (IYCF KAP). For refugee populations, nutrition data comes from UNHCR Standardized Expanded Nutrition Surveys (SENS).

The report uses in-country calculations approved by the nutrition clusters/sectors and shared in key planning documents, such as Humanitarian Needs Overviews (HNO) and Humanitarian Response Plans (HRP) including projections. For the drivers, it consults the above surveys and WHO, UNICEF, OCHA, ACAPS, UNHCR and other sources.

The results of the IPC acute malnutrition analyses conducted in 2019 in Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan and Uganda in areas known to have high rates of acute malnutrition are shared in this report.

The IPC analysis process reviews all contributing factors affecting acute malnutrition in the area of analysis and classifies the severity of a nutrition situation in a population,

using defined indicators. See table 4 on page 13. The level of GAM is used to classify the severity of acute malnutrition and key factors, such as dietary intake, disease, feeding and care practices, health and WASH environment, and contextual information, such as access to services, etc are all included in the analysis.

LIMITATIONS OF THE REPORT

Consensus

Generally, all partners are in agreement with the degree of magnitude and severity of acute food insecurity and malnutrition indicated in this report, except for Ethiopia, where FEWS NET analyses suggest a lower degree than the IPC results due to differences in interpretation of factors contributing to acute food insecurity.

Data gaps and challenges

Eritrea was omitted from the report due to insufficient evidence to produce estimates of the numbers of people in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above). There was no IPC analysis conducted in Djibouti in 2019. The analysis from Uganda, provided by FEWS NET, does not include Stressed (IPC Phase 2) populations.

The prevalence of acute food insecurity is likely to be underestimated as data collection and analyses are not always at a national level but may be focused on particular areas of interest. For instance, in Ethiopia and Kenya, just 26 percent of the population was analysed. In the IGAD region, IPC analyses tend to be biased towards rural areas and leave out urban food insecurity. The IGAD region has a high level of urban poor living in slums where they are vulnerable to food insecurity. Also, it must be kept in mind that the numbers reflect a situation with an already high level of humanitarian assistance where continued action is needed for figures not to increase significantly.

Four of the six selected countries had an updated IPC acute malnutrition analysis for 2019.

Data can be missing because it is



not collected/
area is inaccessible



not disaggregated by age,
gender or IPC phases



scattered across
various sources



not comparable across time
or geographical areas



incomplete

How to use this report

Chapter 2



Chapter 2 provides a graphical and textual summary of the food crises in IGAD countries for 2019.

It examines the main drivers and provides overviews of displacement and malnutrition across the region. It supplies the peak number of acutely food-insecure people in 2019 by country.

Chapter 3



Chapter 3 covers the six IGAD countries identified as major food crises in 2019 in alphabetical order from Ethiopia to Uganda. There is a graphical overview page for each country crisis providing the key relevant food security and nutrition data; a summary of the main drivers in order of their relevance to the country's food crisis, and displacement data.

The rest of each country profile provides a more granular analysis of the acute food insecurity and nutrition situation in 2019 and explains the drivers. Each profile is illustrated with maps that give a sense of severity by region and, where possible, graphs that convey changes over time.

Chapter 4



Chapter 4 provides a table with pre-COVID-19 pandemic estimates of the number of acutely food-insecure people in need of urgent action in 2020.

It further provides an analysis of expected trends by country in 2020. It explains the assumptions underlying the acute food insecurity forecasts for 2020. A regional map indicates the projected ranges of the numbers of people in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) as well as primary drivers and risks by country.

Overview of food crises in the IGAD region in 2019

In 2019, an estimated 27.6 million people across the IGAD region were classified in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) levels of acute food insecurity. This translates into 1 in 10 people across the six analysed countries (Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, the Sudan and Uganda) being in need of urgent food and livelihood assistance. These six countries accounted for roughly 20 percent of the GRFC 2020's global number of acutely food-insecure people in need of urgent humanitarian food and livelihood assistance in 2019.

Of the 10 worst food crises in the world, three were in the IGAD region. As in 2018, these were Ethiopia with 8 million people in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above), South Sudan with 7 million and the Sudan with 5.9 million. Out of the six analysed countries South Sudan had by far the highest share of the analysed population in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) at 61 percent, followed by Ethiopia (27 percent), Kenya (22 percent), Somalia (17 percent) and the Sudan (14 percent).

The number of acutely food-insecure people in need of urgent food assistance in the IGAD region has been gradually rising since 2016 (see figure 2 and 3). The total was up by 650 000 or 2 percent in 2019 by comparison with 2018 as a result of rising numbers of acutely food-insecure people in South Sudan (up by 900 000 people or 15 percent in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above)), Kenya (up by 500 000 people or 19 percent) and Uganda (up by 400 000 or 36 percent).

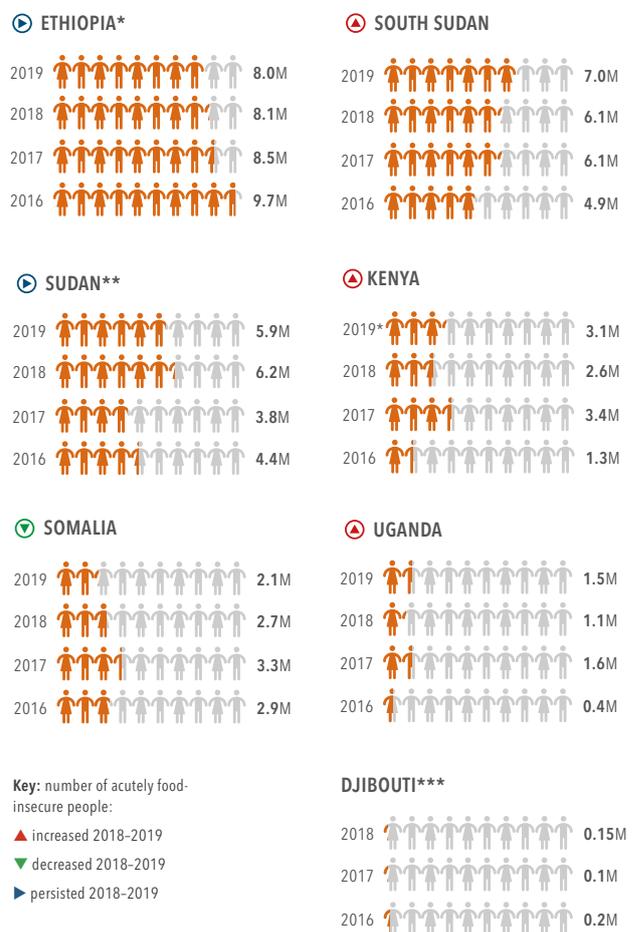
In Ethiopia, the number of acutely food-insecure people in need of urgent assistance was almost as high as in 2018, although it

Figure 2
Acutely food-insecure people in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) in the IGAD region, 2016-2019



* 2019 figure does not include Djibouti
Source: FSIN, GRFC 2020

Figure 3
Acutely food-insecure people in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) by country, 2016-2019



* Please note that in 2019 the methodology changed for Ethiopia.

** For the Sudan, the 2019 estimates excluded West Darfur.

*** There are no 2019 figures for Djibouti.

Source: FSIN, GRFC 2020

must be noted that the method of analysis changed. There was a 5 percent decrease in the number of people in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) in the Sudan (down by 300 000), but it should be noted that the 2019 analysis excluded West Darfur region. Despite poor rains, floods and insecurity, Somalia saw a more significant decrease with 300 000 fewer people facing Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) compared to 2018 when households were still recovering from the 2016/17 drought. This represents a 22 percent decrease.

Country snapshots

Below-average and erratic 2019 Belg and Gu/Sugum rainfall in parts of **Ethiopia** (including Afar, eastern Oromia (western Oromia receives Meher rains), Somali and Tigray regions) diminished crop and livestock production, while pastoralists' recovery was later curbed by floods, which killed livestock and increased animal diseases. In addition to recurrent conflict and internal displacement, high food prices also drove acute food insecurity with cereal prices up to 70 percent higher than year-earlier levels in October.

The record-low 2018 harvest following poor rains and multiple reinforcing factors relating to the six-year conflict pushed up acute food insecurity to record levels in **South Sudan**. Despite a reduction in hostilities, inter- and intracommunal violence continued to displace people, and the macroeconomic crisis and extremely high food prices weakened households' access to food. Delayed rainfall pushed back the green harvest and limited the availability of wild foods, fish and livestock products. By October, 908 000 people had been affected by flooding (OCHA, November 2019) and over 750 000 needed food and nutrition assistance as a result (WFP, November 2109).

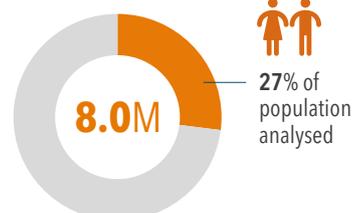


of the global number of people in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) were in the IGAD region

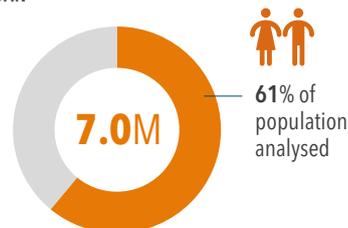
Figure 4

Numbers and percentages (of population analysed) in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above), in 2019

ETHIOPIA



SOUTH SUDAN



21 000 people

people in South Sudan were in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5).

Table 5

Peak numbers of acutely food-insecure people in countries with food crises, 2019

For the most recent analysis for the numbers of acutely food-insecure people in 2019, see annex 3.

COUNTRIES OR TERRITORIES	TOTAL POPULATION ANALYSED (MILLIONS)	PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION ANALYSED OUT OF TOTAL POPULATION OF REFERENCE	POPULATION IN STRESSED (IPC PHASE 2)		POPULATION IN CRISIS OR WORSE (IPC PHASE 3 OR ABOVE)	
			NUMBER (MILLIONS)	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION ANALYSED	NUMBER (MILLIONS)	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION ANALYSED
Ethiopia (selected areas in 6 regions) ¹	28.7	26%	10.0	34%	8.0	27%
Kenya (Arid and Semi-Arid Lands) ¹	13.9	26%	6.0	43%	3.1	22%
Somalia ¹	12.3	100%	4.2	34%	2.1	17%
South Sudan ²	11.4	100%	3.2	28%	7.0	61%
Sudan (excluding West Darfur) ¹	41.9	98%	11.8	28%	5.9	14%
Uganda ³	40.0	100%	N/A	N/A	1.5	4%

¹ The estimates for this country contain populations classified in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) or equivalent

² The estimates for this country contain populations classified in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) and in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5)

³ The estimates for this country are from FEWS NET's outlook report

All partners are in agreement with the general magnitude and severity of acute food insecurity indicated for the countries included in this report, except Ethiopia, for which FEWS NET analyses of available evidence suggest the population requiring emergency food assistance in 2019 was lower than IPC estimates, because of different interpretation of data released to factors contributing to food insecurity.

In the **Sudan**, the marginal decrease in numbers of people in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) can be attributed to security improvements and a bumper 2018 harvest in Greater Darfur. However, the worsening economic crisis resulted in currency depreciation and fewer work opportunities, while reduced imports of fuel and agricultural inputs pushed up food prices to exceptionally high levels. Extremely erratic weather (dry conditions, torrential rains and floods) as well as pest infestations, damaged livelihoods and destroyed crops. Civil unrest and security measures imposed by the Government disrupted livelihood activities for several months.

In **Kenya**, acute food insecurity levels spiked towards the end of the year primarily as a result of falling agriculture and livestock production following two poor rainfall seasons in late 2018 and early 2019. Exceptionally abundant October–December short rains resulted in above-average harvests and improved livestock production. However, flash floods and landslides disrupted livelihoods, displaced thousands, destroyed farmlands and crops, and swept away livestock and irrigation systems, mainly in north-eastern, central and coastal regions. Insecurity, resource-based conflict and cattle rustling limited access to markets while high food prices curtailed the purchasing power of low-income households.

In **Somalia**, acute food insecurity was primarily driven by two consecutive below-average rainy seasons resulting in the lowest cereal harvest since 1995 in southern Somalia, and protracted conflict/insecurity disrupting livelihoods, markets, trade flows and humanitarian access. Many pastoral households, yet to recover from the 2016/17 drought, experienced reduced milk availability and took on large debts to cover basic needs. The country's 2.6 million IDPs – driven from their homes by drought, conflict/insecurity and flooding – lacked livelihood opportunities.

The majority of **Uganda's** acutely food-insecure population in need of urgent assistance were refugees and asylum-seekers fleeing conflict/insecurity, ethnic clashes and lack of basic social services in South Sudan, followed by the Democratic Republic of the Congo. A failed sorghum harvest in 2018 and late onset of early 2019 rains in Karamoja resulted in an early, severe lean season in February–July 2019, significantly constraining poor and very poor households' food access. Production was around 30 percent below average in bimodal areas due to drought conditions during March and most of April.

Additionally, 35.2 million people faced Stressed (IPC Phase 2) levels of acute food insecurity in five of the IGAD countries, representing 19 percent of the total global population classified in Stressed (IPC Phase 2). These populations have minimal adequate food consumption and have to use food-related coping strategies. They mainly require livelihood support and/or disaster risk reduction programming to protect their livelihoods and prevent them from slipping into worse levels of acute food insecurity.

Figure 4 cont'd.
Numbers and percentages (of population analysed) in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above), in 2019

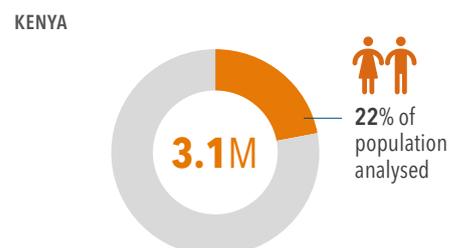
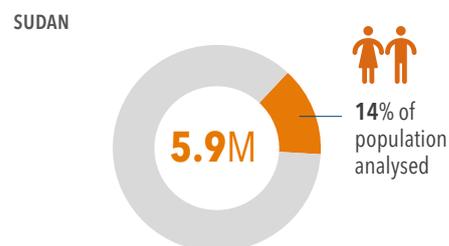
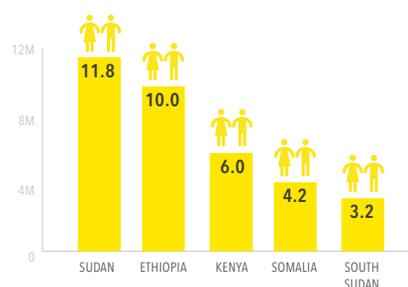


Figure 5
Populations in Stressed (IPC Phase 2) in 2019, millions



● Stressed (IPC/CH Phase 2)

MAIN DRIVERS OF ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY IN 2019

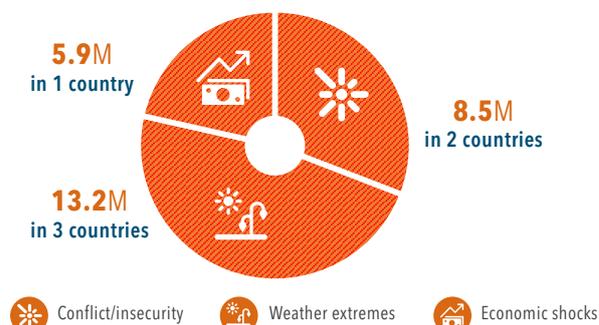
Across the IGAD region, the main drivers of acute food insecurity in 2019 were weather extremes, conflict/insecurity, and economic shocks. Most of the countries faced all three challenges, with negative impacts reinforcing each other, adding to the complexity of the situation.

Weather extremes

Throughout the region, climatic shocks are common in the arid and semi-arid areas, which cover 60-70 percent of the region and host 30 percent of the total population of over 250 million people (IGAD, 2019). In 2019, weather extremes were the primary driver of acute food insecurity for 13.2 million people across the six analysed countries, and accounted for about half of their total number of acutely food-insecure people in need of urgent assistance.

Across many agricultural and pastoral areas of the region, drought conditions prevailed during the first half of the March-May rainy season. As of mid-May, cumulative rainfall totals were less than 50 percent of normal across much of the Horn of Africa (Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia and Somalia) according to remote sensing data (FEWS NET, May 2019). These dry conditions were

Figure 6
Numbers of acutely food-insecure people in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) by key driver



Source: FSIN, GRFC 2020

attributed to the effects of tropical cyclone Idai, which developed in March 2019 along the Mozambique Channel in the south-western Indian Ocean and redirected precipitation away from East Africa (FSNWG, April-May 2019).

The effects of this drought on the livelihoods of rural households were magnified by the fact that this marked the second consecutive poor season in many places, following below-average October-December 2018 short rains. In early 2019, household resilience, particularly among pastoralists, was extremely low as

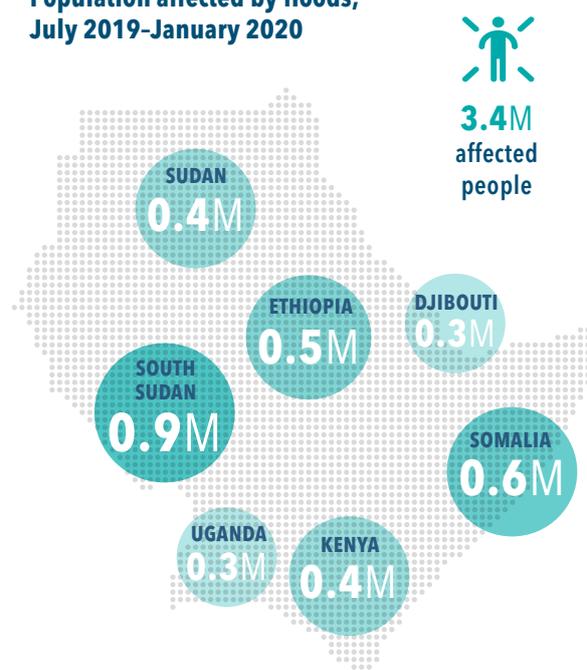
Severe regional floods in 2019

Well above-average rainfall at the end of the June-September rainy season in Ethiopia, South Sudan and the Sudan and during the October-December second/short rains in Kenya, Somalia and Uganda were generally good for agricultural and livestock production, improving food security outcomes near the end of 2019 or early 2020. However, the excessive rainfall, driven by a strongly positive Indian Ocean Dipole, brought widespread flooding to all countries of the region, affecting nearly 3.4 million people from July 2019-January 2020 (OCHA, January 2020).

Though in most cases not factored into the 2019 food security estimates given the timing of the IPC analyses, the floods aggravated the effects of the recurrent drought and instability by displacing people from their homes, disrupting livelihoods, increasing water-borne diseases among both humans and livestock, destroying crops, damaging infrastructure, cutting communities off from markets and vital services and increasing humanitarian needs across the affected areas. These multiple layered shocks further weakened already strained, fragile livelihoods.

South Sudan and Somalia were most severely affected by the floods. Kenya and Uganda were affected by landslides.

Figure 7
Population affected by floods, July 2019-January 2020



Source: OCHA, January 2020

many were still recovering from the severe livelihood asset losses – mainly animal herds – incurred during the devastating 2016/17 drought.

Above-average rainfall did eventually come late in the season (starting late May and early June), and partially offset precipitation deficits. However, the rainy season was, in many cases, too late and too short for the agriculture and livestock sectors. In southern Somalia, for example, Gu harvests were the lowest since 1995 and 60 percent below the average of the previous five years. Below-average harvests were also recorded in Uganda, Ethiopia's Belg/Gu/Genna-receiving areas, and Kenya's south-eastern and coastal marginal agricultural zones. An early depletion of household food stocks, coupled with rising market prices due to limited market supplies, restricted food access for many vulnerable households.

In pastoral areas, late season rains helped improve pastoral conditions. However, in many areas rangeland conditions remained below-average, resulting in poor livestock body conditions, atypical livestock movements and related resource-based conflicts, and limited milk availability for pastoral families and children.

Conflict/insecurity

Armed conflicts, violent extremism, communal violence and other localized tensions continued to destabilize the region. Conflict/insecurity constituted the primary driver of acute food insecurity for an estimated 8.5 million people (31 percent of the region's total number of acutely food-insecure people). This stems from 7 million people in South Sudan mainly facing intercommunal tensions and violence and 1.5 million people in Uganda – the majority of them refugees fleeing armed conflict and violence in South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

The security situation across IGAD is defined by the proliferation of small arms and light weapons, inter-state border disputes and terrorism. There are about 7.8 million illegal arms in the region, a factor that poses major security concerns (Small Arms Survey and the African Union (AU) Commission, January 2019). Peacekeeping missions remain in Somalia, South Sudan and the Sudan to protect civilians. The African Union's Silencing the Guns initiative that aimed to end all wars, civil conflicts, gender-based violence and violent conflicts in the continent by 2020 is yet to be realized (African Union Commission, 2015).

Al-Shabaab still posed a threat to peace and stability in Somalia and the wider region (FAO and Interpeace, July 2019). Cross-border conflicts continued to manifest in Mandera, where Kenya, Ethiopia and Somalia meet (UNDP, July 2019), and Karamoja (Ethiopia, Kenya, South Sudan and Uganda), mainly driven by cattle rustling and disputes over access to water and pasture.

Efforts have been made to promote peace and security in the region and the UN Secretary General approved a Comprehensive

Regional Prevention Strategy for the Horn of Africa in May 2019 (Office of the Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa, July 2019). The implementation of the peace agreement between Ethiopia and Eritrea has taken a positive trend and ushered in a new era of peace and cooperation between the two countries. According to ACLED data, the number of battles across the IGAD region fell from 3 500 to 1 500 and fatalities fell from 7 700 to 3 600 in 2019, primarily driven by a significant decline in conflict events in Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and South Sudan in 2019. The number of civilian fatalities remained the same at 2 200 (ACLED, accessed April, 2020).

In South Sudan, the number of security incidents declined from 780 in 2018 to about 500 in 2019 following the 2018 ceasefire and Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan (R-ARCSS). However, progress towards implementation of the peace agreement remained slow and the situation was still volatile, with frequent episodes of intercommunal violence.

Conflict and insecurity in the region have reduced local communities' resilience capacities, disrupted food value chains, led to loss of human and animal lives, increased dependency on aid, and forced some sections of the affected population to move to safer locations, abandoning their livelihoods and social ties.

Economic shocks

Economic shocks formed the primary driver of acute food insecurity for 5.9 million people in the Sudan, where the macroeconomic crisis worsened. High inflation and exceptionally high food prices stretched the ability of IDPs, refugees and residents to cope. Overall, 77 percent of households spent more than 65 percent of their total expenditure on food (OCHA, January 2020). Some 58 percent of households were estimated to be unable to afford the local food basket (WFP, 2019).

Macroeconomic challenges also beset Ethiopia and South Sudan, resulting in extremely high food prices, limiting economic access to food, especially for poor households, causing significant food and nutrition gaps. For example, in Ethiopia's capital Addis Ababa, maize prices were 66 percent higher in October 2019 than the previous year 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 inputs, inflating transport and production costs. Prices of other cereals, including teff, wheat and white sorghum were up to 40 percent above their year-earlier levels (FAO-GIEWS, December 2019).

The below-average 2019 cereal production in many countries across the region also contributed to a tightening of market supply levels, an increase in market demand as household stocks depleted earlier than normal, and an atypical rise in local food prices. For example, October 2019 maize prices in Kampala (Uganda) were 115 percent higher than the previous year while

in Nairobi (Kenya) they were 82 percent higher and Mogadishu (Somalia) they were 50 percent higher (FAO-GIEWS, December 2019 and March 2020).

OVERVIEW OF DISPLACEMENT

As of December 2019, there were 4.04 million refugees in the IGAD region, which marked a slight increase since the end of 2018 when 4.02 million were displaced (UNHCR, December 2019). Close to 300 000 of the region’s refugees arrived to seek protection during 2019.

In terms of country of origin, around 50 percent of the region’s refugees (2.04 million) were from South Sudan. The remainder were from Somalia (508 400 or 13 percent of the total), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (459 300 or 11 percent), the Sudan (330 600), Eritrea (300 800), Ethiopia (82 000), Burundi (61 805) and Rwanda (18 900) (UNHCR, December 2019).

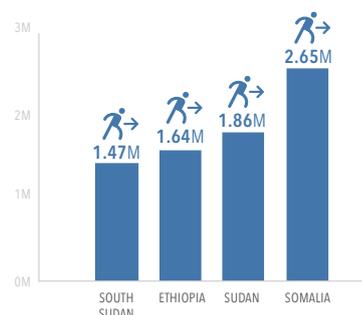
Uganda continued to host the highest number of refugees in the region with 1.38 million, followed by the Sudan (1.1 million), Ethiopia (0.73 million), Kenya (0.48 million), South Sudan (0.32 million), Somalia (36 000), Djibouti (30 000) and Eritrea (198). Around 81 percent of refugees were women and children, considered the most vulnerable to protection-related risks (UNHCR, December 2019).

Close to 127 000 refugees voluntarily returned to their countries of origin in 2019, mainly to South Sudan, Burundi, the Sudan and Somalia. Additionally, the region hosted around 7.7 million IDPs including 2.65 million in Somalia, 1.86 million in the Sudan, 1.64 million in Ethiopia and 1.47 million in South Sudan (UNHCR, OCHA, and IOM, December 2019).

The refugee population remained heavily dependent on humanitarian food assistance to meet its minimum food and nutrition needs. However, funding shortfalls forced ration cuts in food and non-food assistance to refugee populations in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya and the Sudan. Rations did not always cover the recommended 2 100 kilocalories per person per day. In addition, as a result of limited funding, UNHCR was unable to provide adequate supplies of non-food assistance, which resulted in shortfalls in firewood supplies for cooking, water containers, soap and adequate shelters in some of the refugee sites in the region.

As evidenced in UNHCR’s SENS surveys, the food cuts negatively affected the food security and nutrition situation of refugees. Food assistance for a month reportedly lasted between 14 and 24 days, and the household dietary diversity score (HDDS) ranged between 3.6 and 8.9 out of 12 food groups in the refugee sites in the region. These factors increased the risk of protection-related issues among refugee women and children and forced some refugees to use one or more negative coping strategies including skipping or reducing meals, selling assets, begging, child labour or engaging in risky and harmful activities (SENS, 2019).

Figure 8
Numbers of IDPs in IGAD member states



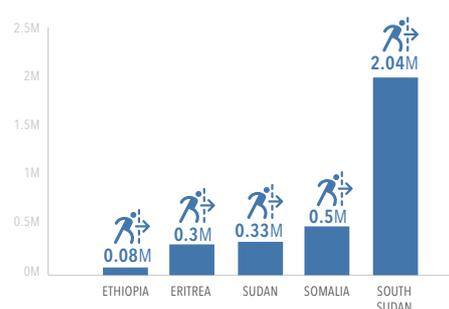
Source: UNHCR, OCHA, IOM, December 2019

Figure 9
Numbers of refugees by country of asylum in the IGAD region



Source: UNHCR December 2019

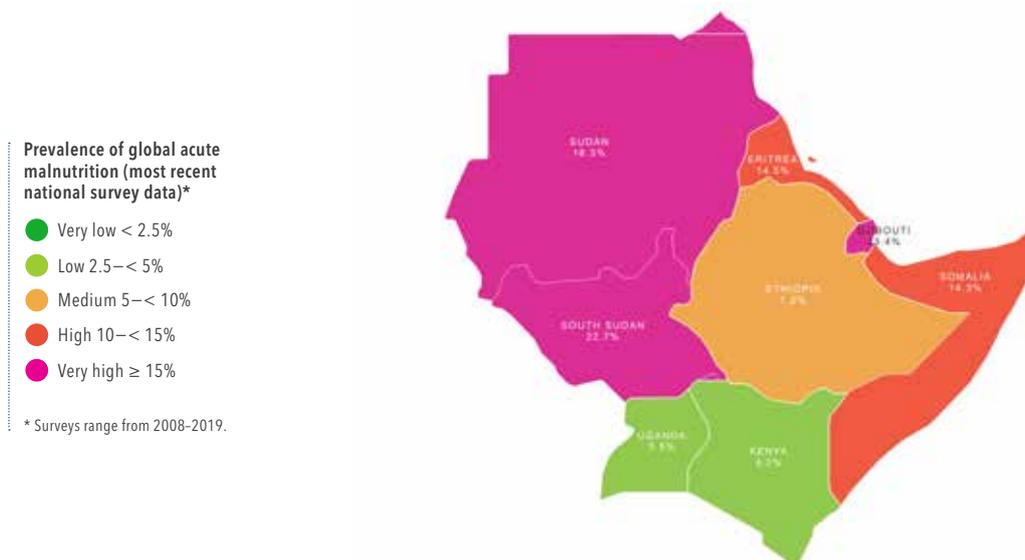
Figure 10
Numbers of refugees from the IGAD region by country of origin



Source: UNHCR December 2019

Map 1

Prevalence of acute malnutrition



Source: UNICEF/WHO/The World Bank JME Data.

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

OVERVIEW OF NUTRITION

Good nutrition is the foundation of child survival, health and development. Well-nourished children are better able to grow and learn, to participate in and contribute to their communities. Undernutrition increases healthcare costs and social safety net expenditures, lowers the efficiency of investments in education, and decreases lifelong income-earning potential and labour force productivity, resulting in a vicious cycle of poverty, ill health and poor nutrition, which is transmitted across generations.

Malnutrition is the result of a complex set of interacting factors that are multisectoral, related to health, sanitation and care practices as well as consumption and access to food. Further factors influence these, including education, gender, social equity, and the local social and environmental context. Combating malnutrition in all its forms is one of the greatest global development challenges – particularly for the IGAD region.

UNICEF estimates that across the eight IGAD countries, approximately 9 million children are acutely malnourished, 2.3 million of them severely so. At the national level, the prevalence of global acute malnutrition (GAM) is above the 'very high' threshold of 15 percent in Djibouti, the Sudan and South Sudan (UNICEF, WHO, World Bank, April 2020). At sub-national levels, there are parts of Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, the Sudan, South Sudan and Uganda that frequently record 'very high' (>15 percent) levels of GAM. Lean season increases in life-threatening severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in children under 5 years persist in parts of these countries.

Some 13.6 million children – or 1 in every 3 – are stunted (UNICEF, WHO, World Bank, April 2020), with the highest numbers in Ethiopia, the Sudan and Uganda, while the highest prevalence is in Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, the Sudan and South Sudan, where more than 30 percent of children are stunted, indicating 'very high' levels. Chronically malnourished children will likely not reach their full growth and developmental potential because of the irreversible physical and cognitive damage caused by persistent nutritional deprivations at an early age.

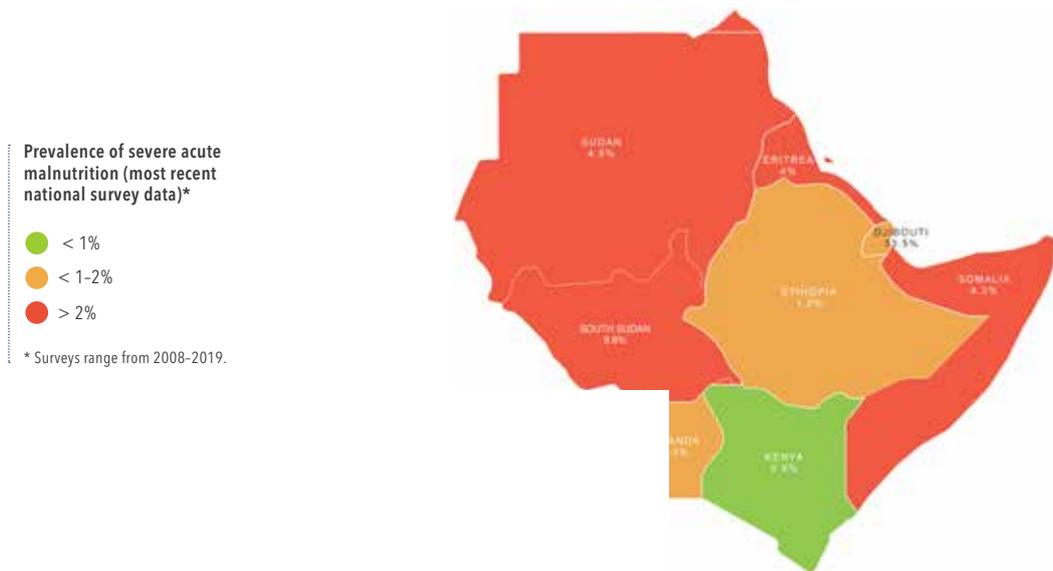
However, it should be noted that nutrition data in some countries is old and needs to be updated with a national survey. For instance, in Eritrea, the most recent Eritrea Population and Health Survey (EPHS) 2010 data indicates that half of all children under-5 years are stunted and 15 percent are wasted.

In every country of the region, different forms of malnutrition coexist, even within the same children. Children who are both wasted and stunted – even moderately – have the highest hazard of mortality and are 12.3 times more likely to die than their well-nourished counterparts, which is even higher than the mortality hazard associated with severe wasting alone (11.6 times more likely to die).

The key contributing factors to the high rates of malnutrition included sub-optimal infant and young childfeeding practices – in particular the low proportion of children who received a diverse diet from 6–23 months (ranging from 12 percent in Ethiopia to 36 percent in Kenya). Other factors included acute food insecurity, lack of access to adequate safe water and sanitation facilities, and disease, which were exacerbated by the widespread flooding.

Map 2

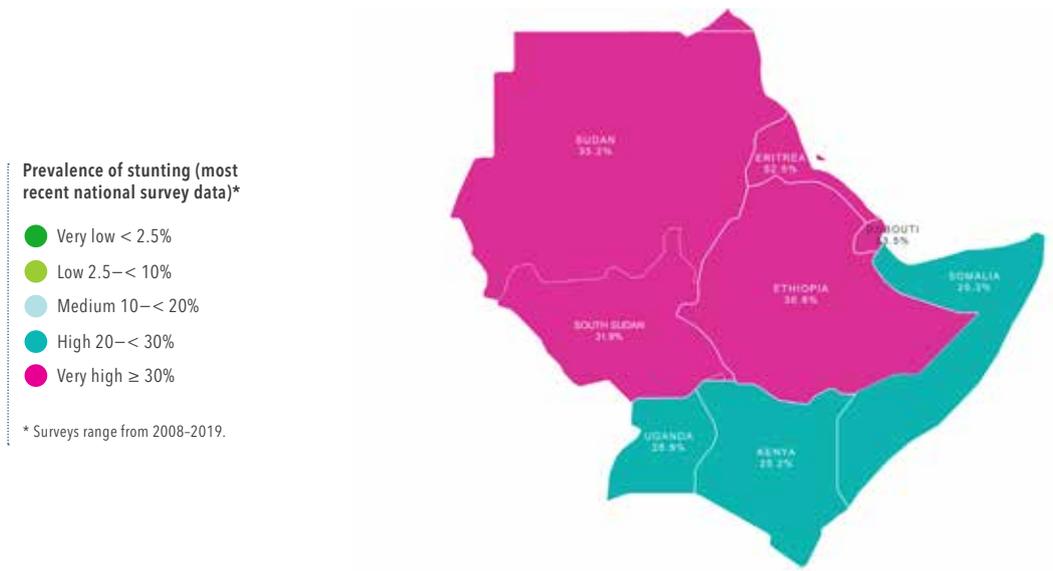
Prevalence of severe acute malnutrition



Source: UNICEF/WHO/The World Bank JME Data.
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Map 3

Prevalence of stunting



Source: UNICEF/WHO/The World Bank JME Data.
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Major food crises in 2019

This chapter covers six selected countries that were identified as major crises in 2019 based on the following non-mutually exclusive criteria:

- ▶ At least 20% of the population analysed was classified in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above)
- ▶ At least 1 million people were classified in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above)
- ▶ Any area was classified in Emergency or worse (IPC Phase 4 or above)

Djibouti was not included as a 2019 major food crisis as it had no estimates for that year, but is reported on regarding the 2020 forecast

Ethiopia	28
Kenya	32
Somalia	36
South Sudan	42
Sudan	48
Uganda	52

Country profile

Ethiopia



ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY 2019

Total population of country **112.1M**



Population analysed **28.7M** (26% of total population, including displaced populations)

8M IPC Phase 3 or above in July–September 2019



10M IPC Phase 2 **Stressed**

2018-19 Change

The number of food-insecure people in need of urgent assistance was almost as high as in 2018, despite difference in population coverage of analyses.

2020 Forecast (pre-COVID-19)

Numbers forecast to **increase** from February–June 2020 (to 8.5 million). Food access will be constrained due to declining stocks and above-average food prices in pastoral zones and Belg dependent areas.

NUTRITION INDICATORS

Host population

4.5M children under 5 years are **acutely malnourished**, of whom **0.6M** are affected by SAM.

36.8% of children under 5 years are **stunted**.

13.8% of children 6–23 months meet the **minimum dietary diversity** requirement.

58.6% of children under 6 months are **exclusively breastfed**.

56.9% of children under 5 years and **24.3%** of women 15–49 years are **anaemic**.

41% of households have access to at least basic **drinking water** services.

Refugee population

38 900 children under 5 years are **acutely malnourished**, of whom **7 400** are affected by SAM.

4.0–51.0% of children under 5 years in 24 camps are **stunted**.

23.0–90.6% households in 11 camps do not consume micronutrient-rich food.

56.5–98.4% of children under 6 months in 24 camps are **exclusively breastfed**.

12.0–60.3% of children under 5 years and **3.3–44.7%** of women 15–49 years in 24 camps are **anaemic**.

97.5–100% have access to improved **drinking water** sources.

ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY AND MALNUTRITION DRIVERS

Weather extremes **Conflict/insecurity** **Economic shocks**

- ▶ Below-average and erratic seasonal rains diminished crop and livestock production.
- ▶ Pastoralists' recovery was later curbed by floods, which killed livestock and increased animal diseases.
- ▶ As a result of an intense period of conflict and climate shocks between January and April, the number of IDPs reached 3.2 million.
- ▶ IDPs experienced deplorable conditions in camps, and limited access to basic services and livelihoods.

- ▶ By October cereal prices were up to 70% higher than year earlier levels as a result of reduced crop production, local currency depreciation and increased prices of fuel and agricultural inputs.
- ▶ Drought, displacement, poor sanitation and low access to health care contribute to disease outbreaks and deteriorating malnutrition.

DISPLACEMENT

1.64M Ethiopians were **internally displaced**.

There were around **735 200 refugees and asylum seekers** from South Sudan (45%), Somalia (26%), Eritrea (21%), and the Sudan (7%).

There were **1.1M** Ethiopian **returnees**.



Following years of drought and poor rainy seasons in the Somali region pastoralists faced another extended dry and hotter-than-average period in 2019.

BACKGROUND

While Ethiopia has made development gains over the last two decades (WFP, January 2020), 27 percent of the population, or 30.2 million people, were still living below the poverty line (USD 1.90 a day). Over 70 percent of rural Ethiopians are severely poor according to the Multidimensional Poverty Index (OPHI, September 2019). Frequent and severe droughts have eroded resilience for rural households that have lost productive assets and have had little time for recovery between drought events (WFP, January 2020).

ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY OVERVIEW

About 8 million people were in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) across Afar, Amhara, Oromiya, Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' region (SNNPR), Somali and Tigray from July–September 2019, despite receiving humanitarian food assistance.¹ This includes about 1.9 million in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) of whom over 1 million were in Oromiya. Around a third of the populations in Somali and Oromiya faced Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above). An additional 10 million people were classified in Stressed (IPC Phase 2) (IPC, November 2019).

¹ FEWS NET's analysis of available evidence suggests the population requiring emergency food assistance in 2019 was lower than the IPC estimate. For more information, see <https://fews.net/east-africa/ethiopia>

The population in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) was similar to that of 2018, when the HNO estimated that 8.1 million people were food insecure and in need of assistance (OCHA, February 2019). At the start of Meher harvests in October 2019, food security improved, but about 6.7 million people remained in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) (IPC, November 2019).

Ethiopia is the second largest host of refugees in Africa (UNHCR, December 2019). The result of the annual SENS report indicated that monthly food assistance for refugees lasted from 14–25 days, creating food gaps for up to 17 days a month. Dietary diversity was often poor mainly due to lack of access to fresh fruits and vegetables (UNHCR/WFP, 2016).

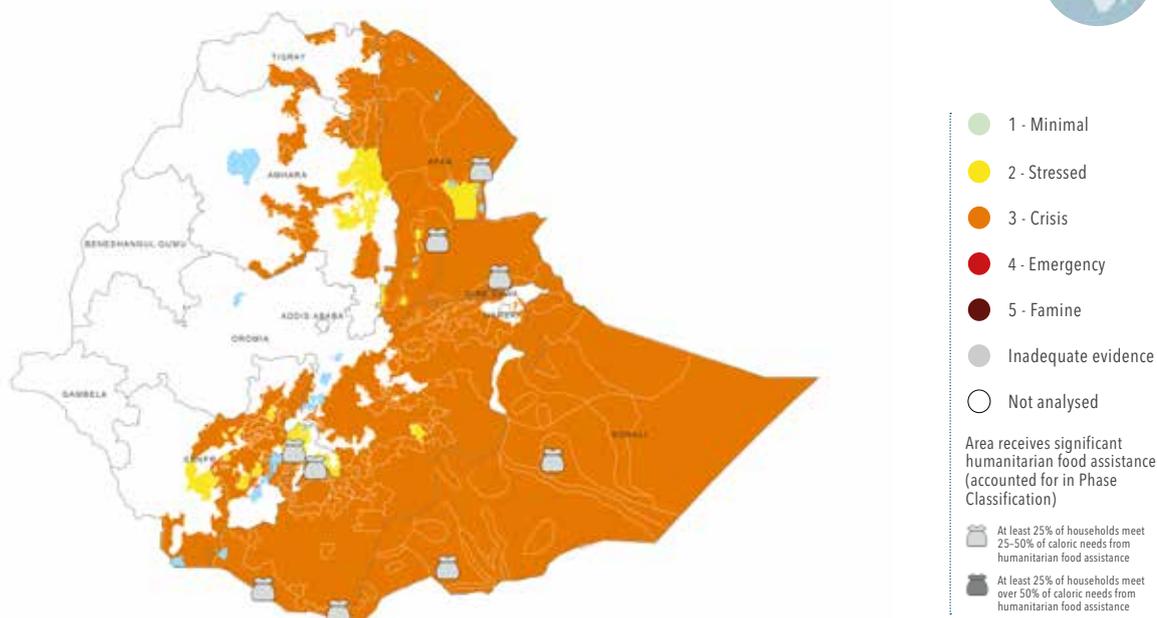
FACTORS DRIVING ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY

Weather extremes and crop pests

The February–May Belg rainy season was characterized by late onset, erratic distribution and below-average rains. A below-average secondary Belg season harvest in eastern Amhara, eastern Oromiya and north-eastern SNNP regions was expected. In East and West Harerghe zones, where no significant rains were received until April and seasonal cumulative precipitations were up to 60 percent below average, the cereal output was very poor, with crop failures

Map 4

Ethiopia, IPC Acute food insecurity situation, July–September 2019



Source: Ethiopia IPC Technical Working Group, November 2019.

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

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 December 2019).

Households in pastoral and agroastoral 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. 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, January 2020).

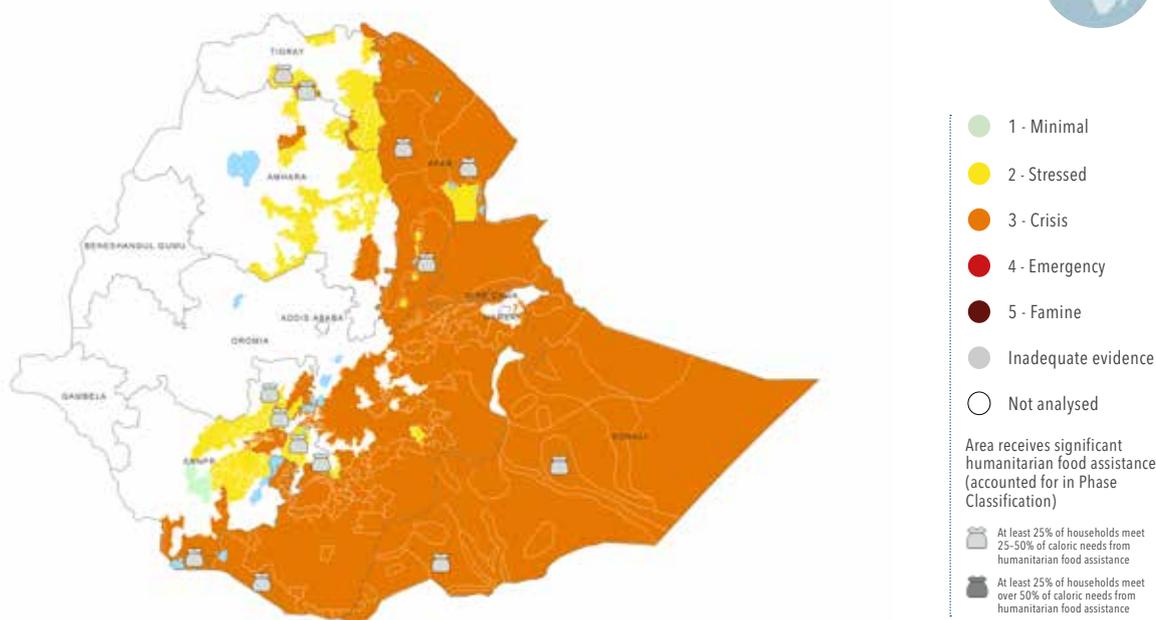
Of the 1.6 million IDPs, about two thirds were displaced by intercommunal violence (IOM, December 2019). At the peak of the displacement crisis from January–April 2019, conflict and climate shocks brought the number of IDPs to 3.2 million. IDPs in collective sites experience deplorable conditions and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

Map 5

Ethiopia, IPC Acute food insecurity situation, October 2019–January 2020



Source: Ethiopia IPC Technical Working Group, November 2019. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

inputs, inflating transport and production costs. Prices of other cereals, including teff, wheat and white sorghum were up to 40 percent above their year-earlier levels in Addis Ababa by October (FAO-GIEWS, December 2019). Although prices of livestock increased through 2019 in the southern Somali region due to lower supplies, staple food prices increased at faster rates. The deterioration of terms of trade created severe food access constraints for pastoralist households, at a time when they were trying to repopulate their herds and had few animals to sell (FAO-GIEWS, December 2019).

High youth unemployment (64 percent of the population is under 25) was identified by the Government as a key contributor to political fragility and increased migration (internationally and rural to urban). As a result of sluggish export performance and a foreign exchange crunch purchases of food for humanitarian relief were constrained (OCHA, January 2020).

NUTRITION OVERVIEW

Nationally acute malnutrition rates are classified as ‘medium’ at 7.2 percent (Ministry of Finance and UNICEF, October 2019). Almost 1 million children have severe acute malnutrition annually (EmDHS, 2019). Malnutrition rates are highest in rural, hard-to-reach areas where people face difficulties and/or discriminations in accessing health and nutrition services and among pastoralist populations (OCHA, January 2020).

Although stunting decreased significantly among children under 5 from 58 percent in 2000 to 36.8 percent in 2019, it is still classified as ‘very high’ (DHS, 2000–2019). In Afar, Amhara and Tigray regions stunting levels exceeded 40 percent, and only 7.3 percent of children received a minimum acceptable diet (OCHA, January 2020).

Food insecurity along with water shortages, poor sanitation facilities and lack of access to quality healthcare contributed to deteriorating child nutrition. Nationally sanitation coverage was only 57 percent – in other words more than 45 million people lack access to improved sanitation (IFRC, July 2019). As of 8 December 2019 and since the beginning of the outbreak in April 2019, 2 089 cases of cholera had been reported (ECDC, December 2019). There were 9 672 cases of measles in Amhara, Afar, Oromiya and Somali and five cases of vaccine-derived polio reported in 2019 (WHO, December 2019).

Nutrition status of refugees

Refugee nutrition was concerning in the 21 camps assessed by the 2019 SENS: 33 percent of camps had GAM rates above the ‘very high’ threshold, while 48 percent had ‘high’ levels. In over 60 percent of camps child anaemia levels were of ‘high’ public health significance. Nursing mothers may stop breastfeeding due to psychological distress and insufficient access to food and water. Unsolicited donations of breast milk substitutes and milk products risked adequate young child feeding (IYCF) practices (OCHA, January 2020).

Country profile

Kenya



ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY 2019

Total population of country **52.6M**



Population analysed **13.9M** (26% of total population, including IDPs, returnees and refugees)

3.1M IPC Phase 3 or above in August-October 2019

2.7M IPC Phase 3 Crisis
357 000 IPC Phase 4 Emergency

6M IPC Phase 2 Stressed

2018-19 Change

The acute food insecurity situation **deteriorated** mainly as a result of very late and erratic long rains as well as flash floods and landslides.



2020 Forecast (pre-COVID-19)

Conditions are expected to **improve** due to short rains boosting livestock conditions and productivity, although desert locust swarms are expected to expand further into the north-eastern areas of the country.



NUTRITION INDICATORS

Host population

4% of children under 5 years are **acutely malnourished**, of whom **0.9%** are affected by SAM.

26% of children under 5 years are **stunted**.

40.9% of children 6-23 months meet the **minimum dietary diversity** requirement.

61.4% of children under 6 months are **exclusively breastfed**.

41.1% of children under 5 years and **27.2%** of women 15-49 years are **anaemic**.

59% of households have access to at least basic **drinking water** services.

Refugee population

14 600 children under 5 years are **acutely malnourished**, of whom **2 400** are affected by SAM.

18-27.3% of children under 5 years in 5 camps are **stunted**.

10.5% of households in Kakuma camp and **10.7%** in Dagahaley camp do not consume micronutrient rich food.

62.5-91.2% of children under 6 months in 5 camps are **exclusively breastfed**.

46.7-60.7% of children under 5 years and **27.5-53%** of women 15-49 years in 5 camps are **anaemic**.

99.7-100% of households in 5 camps have access to improved **drinking water** sources.

ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY AND MALNUTRITION DRIVERS

Weather extremes **Economic shocks** **Conflict/insecurity**

- ▶ Late onset of rains, dry spells and erratic rainfall caused cereal production shortfalls.
- ▶ Pastoral and marginal agricultural areas faced high prevalence of human/animal diseases.
- ▶ Flash floods and landslides disrupted livelihoods, displaced thousands, destroyed farmlands and crops, and swept away livestock and irrigation systems, mainly in north-eastern, central and coastal regions.

- ▶ Insecurity, resource-based conflict and cattle rustling limited access to markets and resulted in loss of livestock.
- ▶ High food prices limited purchasing power of low-income households.
- ▶ The drought-related food crisis has lowered milk consumption and increased WASH-related illnesses, contributing to higher child malnutrition rates.

DISPLACEMENT

There were nearly **490 000** refugees and asylum seekers from Somalia (54%), South Sudan (24%), the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Burundi and the Sudan.

UNHCR DEC 2019



© FAO/UIS/AFD

Young Pokot pastoralists milk a cow in the early morning. Years of inter ethnic strife, including armed cattle raids, and the effects of a rapidly changing climate have strained the tradition of resource and knowledge sharing between cross-border tribal groups in West Pokot and Turkana in Kenya and Karamoja in Uganda.

BACKGROUND

Though down from 47 percent in 2005/06, more than one in three (36 percent) Kenyans were still living on under the international poverty line¹ in 2015/16 (WB, October 2018). The most severe conditions exist in the arid and semi-arid drought-prone north, which accounts for 80 percent of the country's land-mass and is often affected by local conflicts. Rapid population growth, climate change, stagnating agricultural production, gender inequalities and underperforming food systems pose significant challenges to food and nutrition security (WFP, August 2019).

ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY OVERVIEW

Almost 3.1 million people, representing 22 percent of the population analysed in arid and semi-arid lands (ASALs), were facing Crisis conditions or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) from August–October 2019. This included over 2.7 million in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and 357 000 in Emergency (IPC Phase 4). Some 43 percent of the population analysed had minimal adequate food consumption and were classified in Stressed (IPC Phase 2) (IPC, October 2019).

The number of acutely food-insecure people in need of emergency food assistance increased throughout 2019 from an estimated 1.1 million in February to 1.6 million in May and 2.6 million by July (GoK, 2018 and 2019).

In July 2019, most of those in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) were pastoralist households in Turkana, Mandera, Baringo Wajir, Garissa, Marsabit and Tana River or marginal agricultural and agro-pastoral households in Kitui, Makueni, Kilifi and Meru North. From August–October these were still the main areas of concern, but with additional acutely food-insecure populations in Isiolo, Tharaka and Samburu (IPC, October 2019).

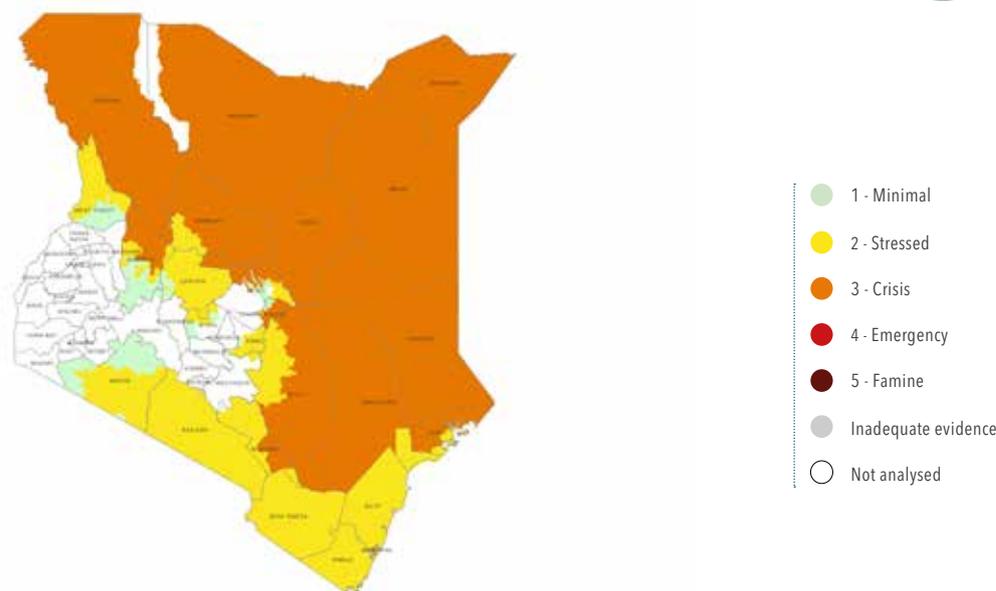
Acute food insecurity among refugees

Refugees in Dadaab and Kakuma camps and Kalobeyei settlement have not been able to diversify their incomes enough to meet their basic needs because of restrictions on animal ownership, movement and formal employment. Refugees in the camps have faced ration cuts of 15–30 percent. The results of SENS 2018 indicated that their monthly food assistance lasted from 14–19 days. Between 44 percent and 84 percent of refugees in the camps used one or more negative coping strategies.

¹ USD 1.90 per day in 2011 PPP

Map 6

Kenya, IPC Acute food insecurity situation, August–October 2019



Source: Kenya IPC Technical Working Group, October 2019.

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

FACTORS DRIVING ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY

Weather extremes

The March–April 'long rains' were generally very poor. In south-eastern and coastal marginal agriculture livelihood zones maize production was an estimated 50–60 percent below average, with near failure of the harvest reported in several south-eastern areas (FAO-GIEWS, September 2019). However, in the Rift Valley and Western provinces improved rains from May resulted in average maize production (FAO-GIEWS, December 2019). Drought conditions in March and April in northern pastoral areas and prevailing moisture deficits resulted in poor livestock conditions and limited milk production, atypical migration patterns and competition over natural resources (FAO-GIEWS, June 2019).

Exceptionally abundant October–December 'short-rains' benefitted yields and induced farmers to increase areas planted, resulting in an estimated above-average cereal production (FAO-GIEWS, March 2020). These rains regenerated pasture and rangelands and improved livestock body conditions, allowing many to recover from the 2018/2019 drought (FEWS NET, NDMA and WFP, 2019).

However, these rains also caused devastating flash floods and landslides disrupted livelihoods, destroyed crops and swept away livestock, irrigation systems, roads, houses, health clinics

and sanitation services, mainly in north-eastern, central and coastal regions. Up to 160 000 people in 31 counties were affected and 18 000 displaced (OCHA, November 2019).

Conflict/insecurity

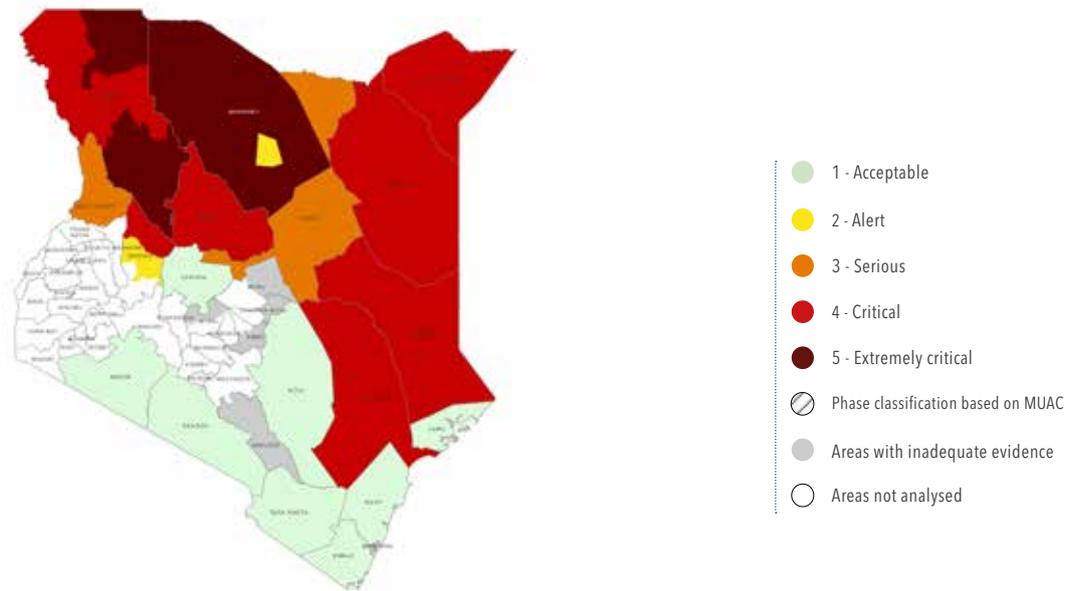
Deteriorated forage and water resources during the first half of 2019 led to atypical livestock migration resulting in increased resource-based conflicts over grazing rights and access to water resources in Meru North, Kitui, Samburu, Turkana, West Pokot, Marsabit, Tana River, Garissa, Isiolo and Nyeri counties. This subsided with the October–December rains when livestock returned to their traditional grazing lands (FEWS NET, NDMA and WFP, August 2019). Periodic cattle rustling led to increased tensions, loss of livestock and limited access to markets. Sporadic terrorist attacks against civilians and state security forces by Al Shabaab affected trade and commodity movements in counties bordering Somalia (RoK, 2019).

Economic shocks

Maize prices, mostly stable at low levels in the first quarter of 2019, surged by 60–85 percent from March–June in markets located in main urban centres and in western key growing areas, as seasonal patterns were compounded by concerns over the impact of the severe dry conditions on 'long rains' crops. Subsequently, prices declined by about 30 percent from August–December, as local harvests increased supplies. However, prices in December remained 40–70 percent

Map 7

Kenya, IPC Acute malnutrition situation, August–October 2019



Source: Kenya IPC Technical Working Group, October 2019.

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

higher than 12 months earlier (FAO-GIEWS, December 2019), supported by crop production shortfalls, lower imports from Uganda and disruptions to transport infrastructure. Trade disruptions due to heavy rainfall contributed to sustain the high level of prices, although the Government's stock release prevented further spikes (FAO-GIEWS, February 2020).

Livestock prices increased in late 2019 as animal body conditions improved, ranging from average to 42 percent above average in most pastoral key reference markets. These increases outpaced those of cereal prices, and the goat-to-maize terms of trade were 6–23 percent above average in December, thus supporting gains in household purchasing power (FEWS NET, NDMA and WFP, December 2019).

NUTRITION OVERVIEW

The nutrition situation deteriorated in several counties from February–July 2019. Laisamis, Turkana South and North were classified in Extremely Critical (IPC Phase 5). North Horr, Turkana Central and West, Mandera, Wajir, Garissa and Tiati in Baringo county were in Critical (IPC Phase 4); Isiolo and West Pokot were in Serious (IPC Phase 3) (IPC, July 2019). See map 31. In ASAL counties over 541 300 children (6–59 months) required treatment for GAM in 2019, including 113 941 for SAM (UNICEF, March 2019).

Poor food availability (including of milk) and increasing food prices are among the drivers of this high prevalence of acute

malnutrition. Limited access to health and nutrition services following a scale-down of integrated outreaches in some areas, such as Laisamis in Marsabit, are also contributory factors. High morbidity, poor child-feeding practices, poverty, high illiteracy and poor infrastructure aggravate the problem (IPC, October 2019).

In 2014, the national prevalence of stunting was 26 percent, ranging from 'medium' in Nairobi and Central region to 'very high' in Coast and Eastern regions (DHS 2014).

By the end of the year 5 150 cholera cases had been reported with the outbreak still active in Garissa, Wajir, Turkana and Kirinyaga counties (ECDC, accessed 27 January 2019). In the first half of the year, 418 measles cases were reported across Wajir, Tana River, Kilifi and Kwale counties. In September, 425 suspected cases were reported in Kajiado county and in December, a new outbreak was reported in Pokot North (WHO, January 2020).

Nutrition status of refugees in camps

The prevalence of GAM was 12.7 percent in Kakuma, 9.3 percent in Kalobeyei and 8 percent in Dadaab camps in December 2018. The prevalence of stunting averaged 22.6 percent in Kakuma and Dadaab, where a high prevalence of anaemia (>40 percent among 6–59 month-olds and non-pregnant women aged 15–49 years) was concerning. Nearly 11 percent of households were not consuming micronutrient-rich foods in Kakuma and Dagahaley (SENS, 2018).

Country profile

Somalia



ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY 2019

Total population of country **12.3M**



Population analysed **12.3M** (100% of total population, including IDPs, but NOT refugees)

2.1M IPC Phase 3 or above in October–December 2019

1.7M IPC Phase 3 **Crisis** **439 000** IPC Phase 4 **Emergency**

4.2M IPC Phase 2 **Stressed**

2018–19 Change

Despite poor rains, floods and insecurity the number of people in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) **decreased** since 2018 when households were still recovering from the 2016/17 drought.

2020 Forecast (pre-COVID-19)

Improving food security conditions are forecast due to the favourable impact of rains on crop and livestock production, although desert locust infestations are likely to have a negative impact on crop production.

NUTRITION INDICATORS

Host population

1.1M children under 5 years are **acutely malnourished**, of whom **178 000** are affected by SAM.
25.3% of children under 5 years are **stunted**.

15% of children 6–23 months meet the **minimum dietary diversity** requirement.
62.7% of children under 6 months are **exclusively breastfed**.

55.8% of children under 5 years and **44.4%** of women 15–49 years are **anaemic**.
52% of households have access to at least basic **drinking water** services.

Refugee population

18% of children under 5 years are **acutely malnourished**, of whom **3.5%** are affected by SAM.

ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY AND MALNUTRITION DRIVERS

Weather extremes Conflict/insecurity

- ▶ Drought conditions prevailing during the first half of the April–June rainy season resulted in the lowest main cereal harvest since 1995 in southern Somalia.
- ▶ Many pastoral households, yet to recover from the 2016/17 drought, experienced reduced milk availability and took on large debts to cover basic needs.
- ▶ Poor harvests inflated the price of locally produced staples, while low demand for labour depressed household income.
- ▶ Widespread flooding from October–December displaced 370 000 people.

- ▶ Continued conflict and insecurity disrupted livelihoods, markets, trade flows and humanitarian access.
- ▶ The country's 2.6 million IDPs lacked livelihood opportunities and those in settlements with poor sanitation were vulnerable.
- ▶ Lack of nutritious diets and waterborne diseases—worsened by the floods—underlie alarming acute malnutrition rates, especially among displaced households.

DISPLACEMENT

- ▶ Over **2.65M** Somalis were **internally displaced**.
- ▶ There were around **35 700 refugees and asylum-seekers**, mainly from Ethiopia (60%) and Yemen (37%). The population increased by 8% compared to December 2018.
- ▶ There were **91 200 Somali IDP returnees** since December 2014.



© MAFIKENI OUMA

Fatuma Abdulah sits in the shade with her children in El Jalle village, Belet Weyne district, where devastating flooding by the Shabelle river prompted an estimated 273 000 people to flee their homes in October–November 2019.

BACKGROUND

Over 20 years of conflict and political instability, coupled with consecutive droughts, have driven widespread poverty, food insecurity and malnutrition. Around 69 percent of the population lives in poverty, with higher rates among rural and IDP populations (WB, April 2019). Severe drought in 2010/11 resulted in a Famine (IPC Phase 5) in parts of southern Somalia (FSNAU and FEWS NET, September 2011). The 2016/17 drought created an increased risk of Famine (IPC Phase 5) that was only brought under control by sustained, large-scale humanitarian assistance and improvements in weather conditions in 2017 (FSNAU, August 2017).

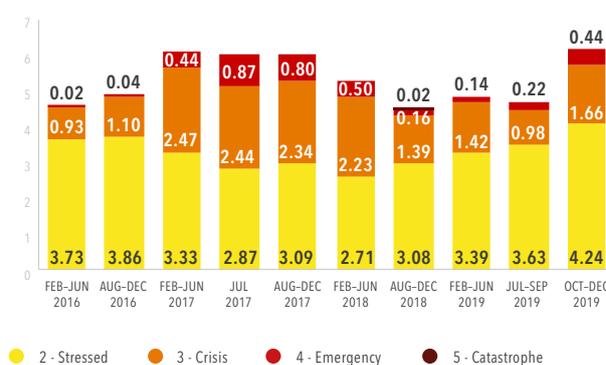
ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY OVERVIEW

An estimated 2.1 million people faced Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) during October–December 2019 in the absence of humanitarian assistance. This included 439 000 people in Emergency (IPC Phase 4). Areas of major concern included the Guban pastoral and Bay-Bakool low potential agropastoral livelihood zones in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) and central and northern pastoral and agropastoral zones in Crisis (IPC Phase 3). An additional 4.2 million people were classified in Stressed (IPC Phase 2).

Most urban centres faced Stressed (IPC Phase 2) or Minimal (IPC Phase 1) acute food insecurity due to stable food prices and employment opportunities. However, Crisis (IPC Phase 3) conditions were observed in Awdal, Hiraan, Sanaag and Sool regions (IPC, February 2019 and September 2019).

Acute food insecurity deteriorated over the course of 2019, reaching its peak in October–December. However, that number was lower than the 2018 peak (2.7 million people in February–June) when households were still recovering from the 2016/17 severe drought (IPC, February 2018 and 2019).

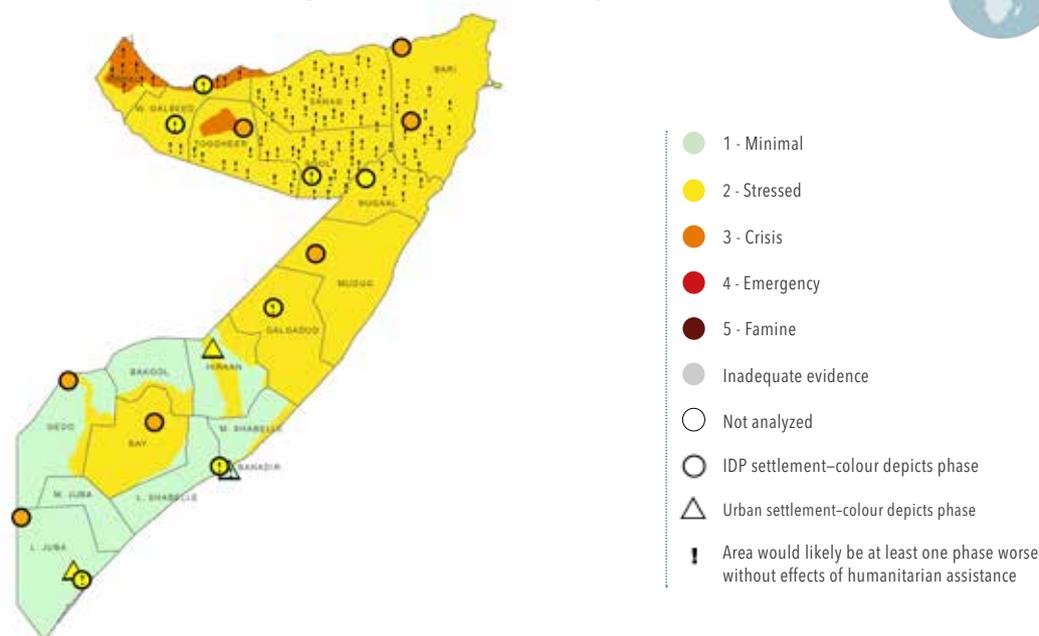
Figure 11
Number of people (millions) in IPC Phase 2 or above in 2016–2019



Source: Somalia IPC Technical Working Group

Map 8

Somalia, IPC Acute food insecurity situation, January 2019



Source: Somalia IPC Technical Working Group, February 2019.

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Acute food insecurity among displaced people

The IDP population remained relatively stable compared to 2018 at 2.65 million while the refugee population (from Ethiopia followed by Yemen) increased by 8 percent to 35 600. Returnee flows slowed significantly from 10 800 in 2018 and 36 700 in 2017 to 3 700 in 2019, mainly from Kenya and Yemen (UNHCR, December 2018 & 2019). Displaced people encounter difficulties in accessing labour opportunities and the poverty rate is high among them (WB, 2019). They face vulnerability to illness due to inadequate sanitation in IDP settlements (FEWS NET, October 2019). In 14 key IDP sites assessed, households in receipt of humanitarian assistance faced Stressed (IPC Phase 2) or Crisis (IPC Phase 3) conditions (IPC, September 2019).

FACTORS DRIVING ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY

Weather extremes

In late 2018, the October–December Deyr rains were late and below average with much of central Somalia, as well as parts of the north, receiving rainfall that was only 25–50 percent of average (IPC, February 2019). Subsequently, Gu (April–June) rains started in late April, after almost a month

characterized by drought conditions, which severely affected crop germination and establishment in southern key cereal-producing areas.

Abundant precipitation in May did not significantly improve crop prospects as it occurred too late during the growing season (FAO-GIEWS, July 2019) and the Gu harvest in central and southern Somalia was estimated at 60 percent below-average, the lowest since 1995 and even lower than the pre-famine Gu harvest of 2011 (FSNAU and FEWS NET, September 2019).

The Gu-Karan April–September rains in north-western Somalia were also characterized by early season dryness, but heavy late season rains in August and September boosted yields, and cereal production was above the average of the previous five years (FSNAU and FEWS NET, February 2020).

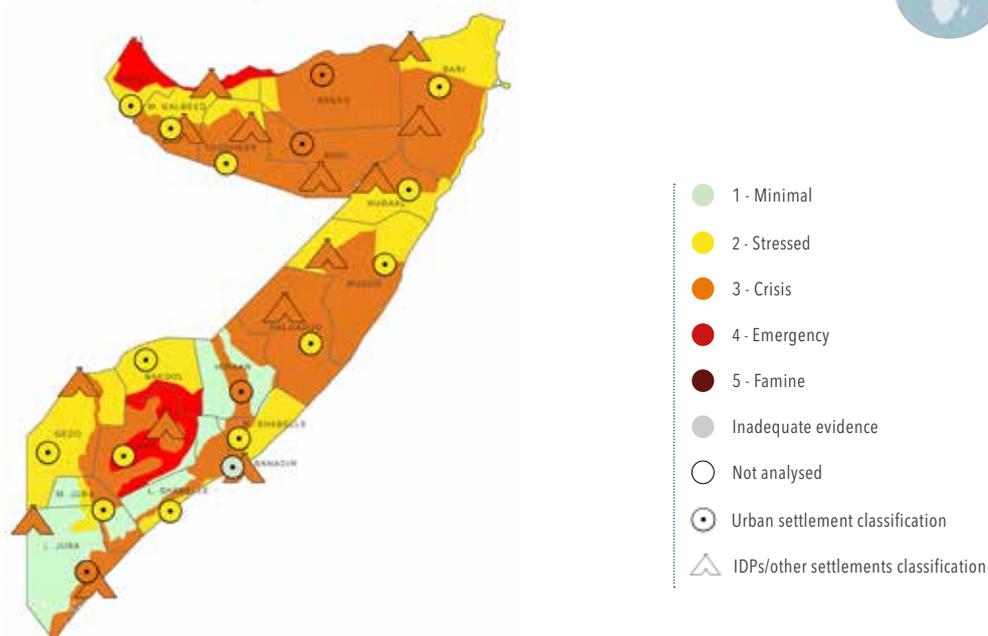
Subsequently, central and southern Somalia received well above average 2019 October–December Deyr rains, with many areas experiencing rainfall that was more than three times the average (NOAA, October 2019).

The abundant precipitation was generally beneficial for agricultural production, and the output of the secondary Deyr harvest was nearly 30 percent above the average of the previous five years (FAO-GIEWS, May 2020).

However, the torrential rains also caused widespread flooding, affecting 547 000 people and displacing 370 000 (OCHA,

Map 9

Somalia, IPC Acute food insecurity situation, October–December 2019



Source: Somalia IPC Technical Working Group, September 2019.

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

November 2019). Substantial flood-induced crop losses were recorded in riverine main maize-growing areas along the Shabelle and Juba rivers, infrastructure and roads were destroyed, and livelihoods disrupted in some of the worst-hit areas (WFP, October 2019).

Overall, the aggregate 2019 cereal production was estimated at 185 000 tonnes, about 22 percent below the 2018 bumper output and 12 percent below the average of the previous five years (FAO-GIEWS, May 2020).

Pastoral areas were also affected by a poor performance of the Gu rains, with drought conditions prevailing in April. Late season rains in May helped to partially, but not fully, replenish pastoral resources.

However, many pastoral households that had already lost much of their herds during the 2016/17 drought, faced reduced milk availability from their remaining stock and took on large debts to cover basic food and non-food needs (FSNAU and FEWS NET, September 2019). Pasture, browse and water availability markedly improved with the abundant October–December Deyr rains.

The availability of saleable animals as well as milk availability for household consumption continued to gradually improve. However, many poor households were still unable to meet their minimum food needs without selling their animals to the point of endangering the sustainability of their herds and their livelihoods (FSNAU and FEWS NET, February 2020).

Prices of sorghum declined in December in southern key markets, including the capital Mogadishu, by 5–15 percent in anticipation of the Deyr harvest, while prices of maize followed mixed trends, increasing in some markets due to the expected crop losses in main maize growing areas. Prices of coarse grains in December 2019 were about 30 percent higher than in the same month of the previous year, mainly due to a tight supply situation following the drought-reduced 2019 Gu main season harvest (FAO-GIEWS, March 2020). As of November 2019, the cost of a minimum basket (CMB) was above the five-year average in the Banadir, Juba, North-east, North-west and Sorghum Belt regions (FSNAU, November 2019).

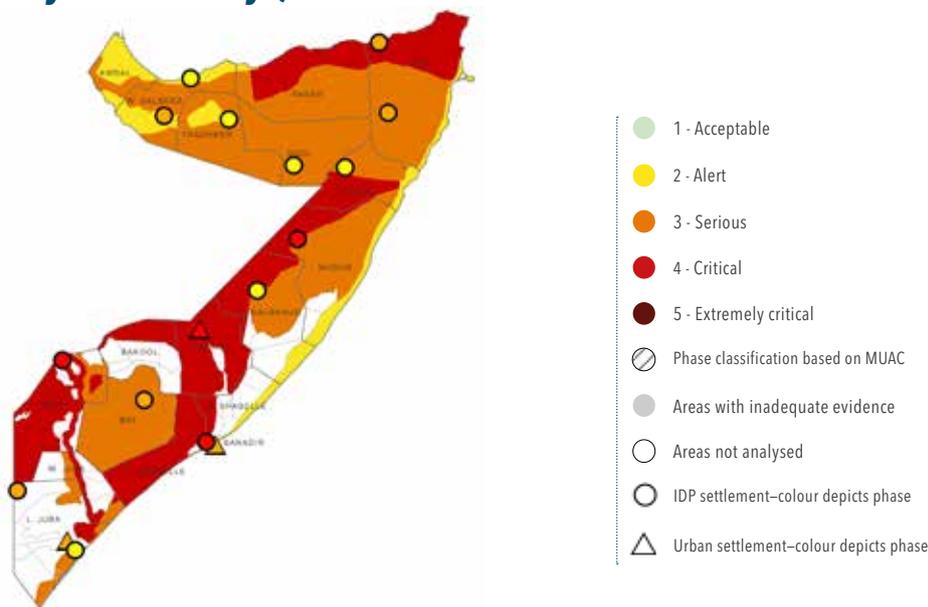
Conflict/insecurity

Clan disputes, protests, the weakness of the national forces, the gradual withdrawal of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), Islamic State and continuing Al Shabaab attacks continued to cause insecurity and instability, disrupting livelihoods, markets, trade flows and humanitarian access and forcing Somalis to abandon fields and productive assets (ACAPS, June 2019 and FSNAU, October 2019).

ACLED data indicated that there were approximately 2 400 conflict events in Somalia in 2019, resulting in 3 800 fatalities. Though still very high, this data indicates a slight decline compared to 2018 levels with conflict events down by 15 percent and fatalities down by 26 percent (ACLED, 2019).

Map 10

Somalia, IPC Acute malnutrition situation, August 2019 (based on June–July 2019 surveys)



Source: Somalia IPC Technical Working Group, August 2019.

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

NUTRITION OVERVIEW

About 1.3 million boys, girls, pregnant and lactating women suffer from acute malnutrition, with 180 000 children under 5 years suffering from life-threatening severe malnutrition (OCHA, January 2020).

The 2019 post-Gu season nutrition assessment, conducted in June–July, showed a similar median GAM estimate (14 percent) to that of 2018 (13.8 percent), and a non-statistically significant decrease when compared to Gu 2017 (17.4 percent) (FSNAU/FEWS NET, September 2019).

The percentage of children with SAM was 2.3 percent – up from 2 percent in Gu 2018, but better than 3.2 percent in Gu 2017, which was an exceptionally difficult year characterized by severe drought in some parts of the country, particularly in the central south regions, leading to high levels of acute malnutrition. In Gu 2019 the average SAM rate was higher in rural areas (3 percent) compared to urban (2.1 percent). For IDPs the mean estimates were higher at 18 percent for GAM and 3.5 percent for SAM (FSNAU/FEWS NET, September 2019).

In the post-Deyr assessment conducted in November 2019, preliminary results of surveys conducted among IDPs and urban populations indicated a GAM prevalence of 13.1 percent, reflecting a slight increase since the 2018 Deyr (11.7 percent) and 2019 Gu (12.9 percent) for these populations. Furthermore, the acute malnutrition situation in 4 out of the 22 IDP or urban population groups surveyed

showed 'very high' levels with GAM above 15 percent, in Mogadishu, Galkayo, Boosaaso and Baidoa. This may reflect widening food consumption gaps, in light of low income and declining humanitarian food assistance levels in some settlements, as well as increased morbidity. In November, morbidity among children was 'high' (≥ 20 percent) in 13 out of 22 population groups surveyed, with five IDP settlements showing a prevalence above 30 percent (FSNAU/FEWS NET, February 2020).

A publication analysing data from 2007–2016 showed that IDP households were consistently more likely to suffer from malnutrition and morbidity than non-displaced populations (Martin-Canavate et al, 2020). In the post-Gu analysis, the average GAM rate for IDPs was 18 percent and the SAM rate was 3.5 percent (FSNAU/FEWS NET, September 2019).

The 2019 floods raised the risk of AWD/cholera outbreaks especially in central-south Somalia. Episodes of prolonged diarrhoea are also associated with increased morbidity and mortality from other diseases, adverse neuro-development and growth stunting. The incidence of measles in this period was also very high. According to joint WHO and Somalia Federal Ministry of Health reports, nearly 1 257 measles cases were reported from January–August 2019, keeping the outbreak at epidemic levels. In the same period, 1 909 cases of AWD/cholera were reported, an increase of 48 percent since June–August 2018 (FSNAU/FEWS NET, October 2019).

“ The droughts that kept on coming and killing whatever I planted killed my hope of raising my young family by farming. ”

Ahmed, a 48-year-old farmer. He fled to Mogadishu after persistent droughts struck his village. The influx of migrants from rural areas, particularly those displaced by conflict and drought, strains services and makes urban living difficult.

Country profile **South Sudan**

ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY 2019

Total population of country **11.4M**



Population analysed **11.4M** (100% of total population, including IDPs, returnees and refugees)

7M IPC Phase 3 or above in May–July 2019



3.2M IPC Phase 2 Stressed

2018–19 Change

Despite lower levels of conflict, the number in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) increased to record levels.

2020 Forecast (pre-COVID-19)

Food security levels are forecast to improve, but the lingering impact of the prolonged conflict, volatile security, poorly functioning markets, limited crop production, severe floods in eastern areas, and potential impact of desert locust infestations are expected to continue driving high levels of acute food insecurity.

NUTRITION INDICATORS

Host population

860 000 children under 5 years are **acutely malnourished**, of whom **290 000** are affected by SAM.
15.6% of children under 5 years are **stunted**.

12.8% of children 6–23 months meet the **minimum dietary diversity** requirement.
69.4% of children under 6 months are **exclusively breastfed**.

58% of children under 5 years and **34%** of women 15–49 years are **anaemic**.
38% of households have access to at least basic **drinking water** services.

Refugee population

8 400 children under 5 years are **acutely malnourished**, of whom **1 000** are affected by SAM.
17.1–47.2% of children under 5 years in 8 camps are **stunted**.

41.5% of households in Ajuong Thok camp, **7.4%** in Gorum camp and **45%** in Pamir camp do not consume micronutrient-rich food.
88.1–94.4% of children under 6 months in 6 camps are **exclusively breastfed**.

38–55.2% of children under 5 years and **12.9–56.9%** of women 15–49 years are **anaemic**.

ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY AND MALNUTRITION DRIVERS

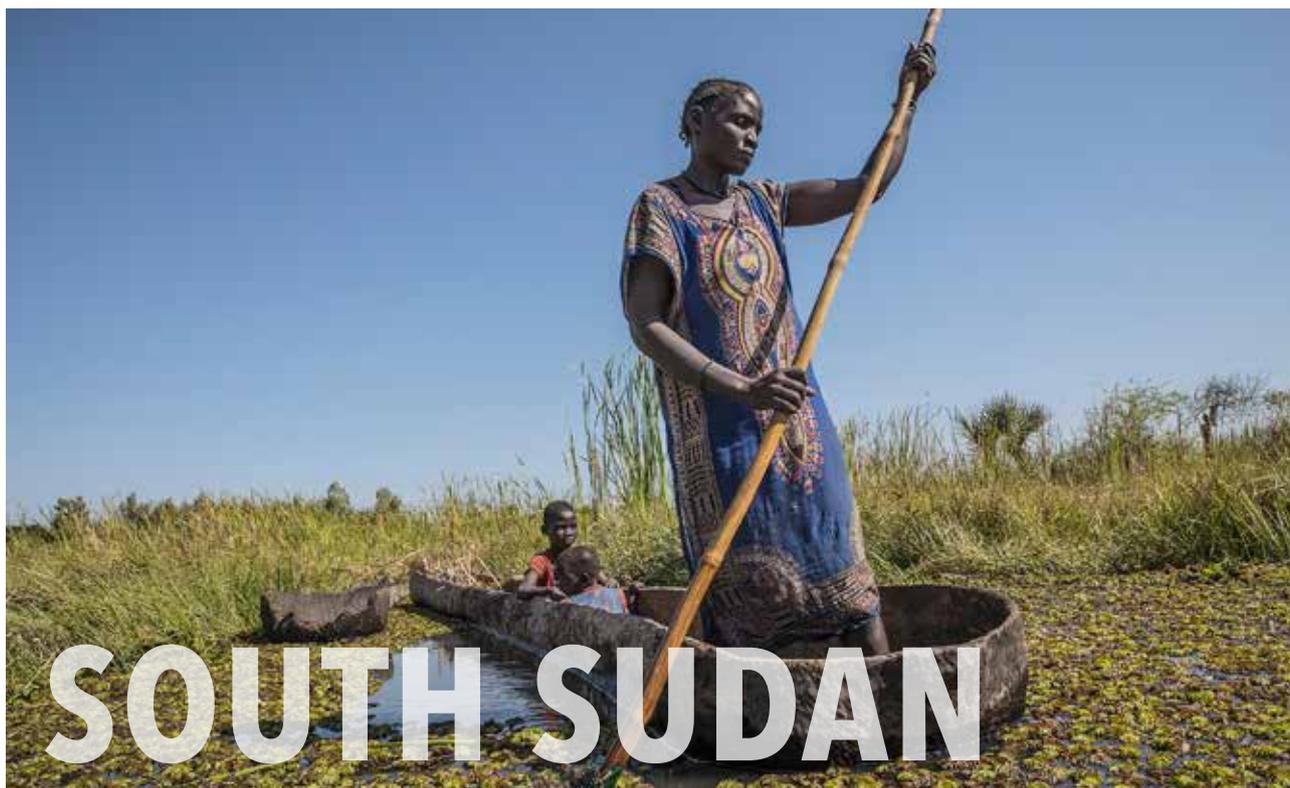
Conflict/insecurity **Economic shocks** **Weather extremes**

- ▶ Despite reduced hostilities, effects of the prolonged conflict and the early exhaustion of stocks from the record low 2018 harvest pushed up acute food insecurity levels.
- ▶ An increase in inter- and intracommunal violence continued to displace people.
- ▶ The macroeconomic crisis and extremely high food prices weakened households' purchasing power and access to food.
- ▶ Delayed rainfall pushed back the green harvest and limited the availability of wild foods, fish and livestock products.
- ▶ Over 750 000 people needed food and nutrition assistance as a result of end-of-year floods.
- ▶ Returnees, host communities and displaced populations faced particularly high levels of food insecurity.

DISPLACEMENT

- 1.47M** South Sudanese were **internally displaced**.
- There were around **298 000 refugees** and **3 700 asylum seekers** from the Sudan (92%) and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (6%).
- There were **1.2M** South Sudanese **returnees** from abroad since 2016, including **534 100** between September 2018 and March 2019.

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Deborah Nyakueth and her children escaped their home in Leer county across a wild wetland area for the safety of Nyal village in Unity state, where thousands of other displaced people are seeking refuge from conflict.

BACKGROUND

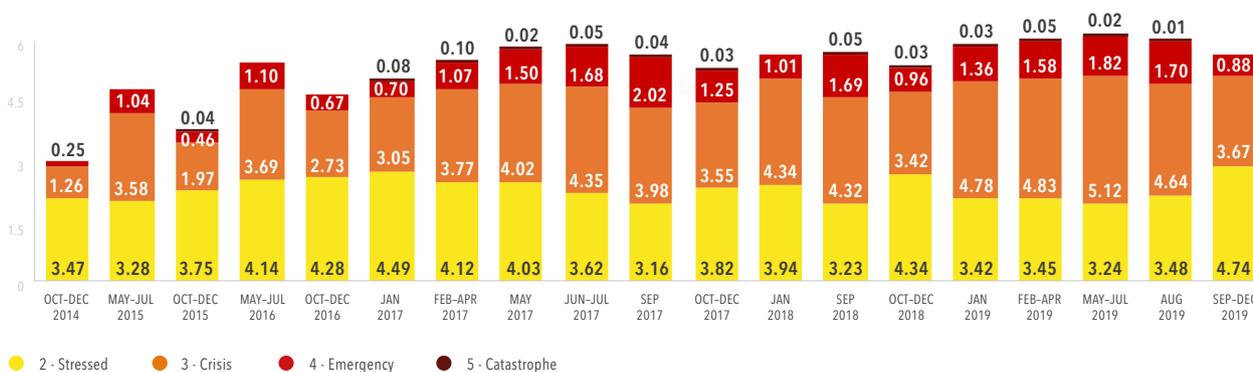
In the six years since the start of the civil war, an estimated 382 000 people have died, 2.5 million people have fled the country and 2 million have been internally displaced. The country remains in a serious humanitarian crisis due to the cumulative effects of years of conflict, which has destroyed people's livelihoods and led to alarmingly high levels of acute food insecurity and malnutrition.

In early 2017, two counties were pushed into Famine (IPC Phase 5). The percentage of the population under the national

poverty line rose from 55 percent in 2014 to 82 percent by 2016 (WB). After the signing of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS) in September 2018, the country started to show tentative signs of recovery, but gains were outpaced by factors relating to severe and persisting macroeconomic crisis, the lingering impact of prolonged conflict and weather extremes so the situation remains extremely fragile. After many delays, political rivals President Salva Kiir and former Vice President Riek Machar formed a transitional unity Government on 22 February 2020.

Figure 12

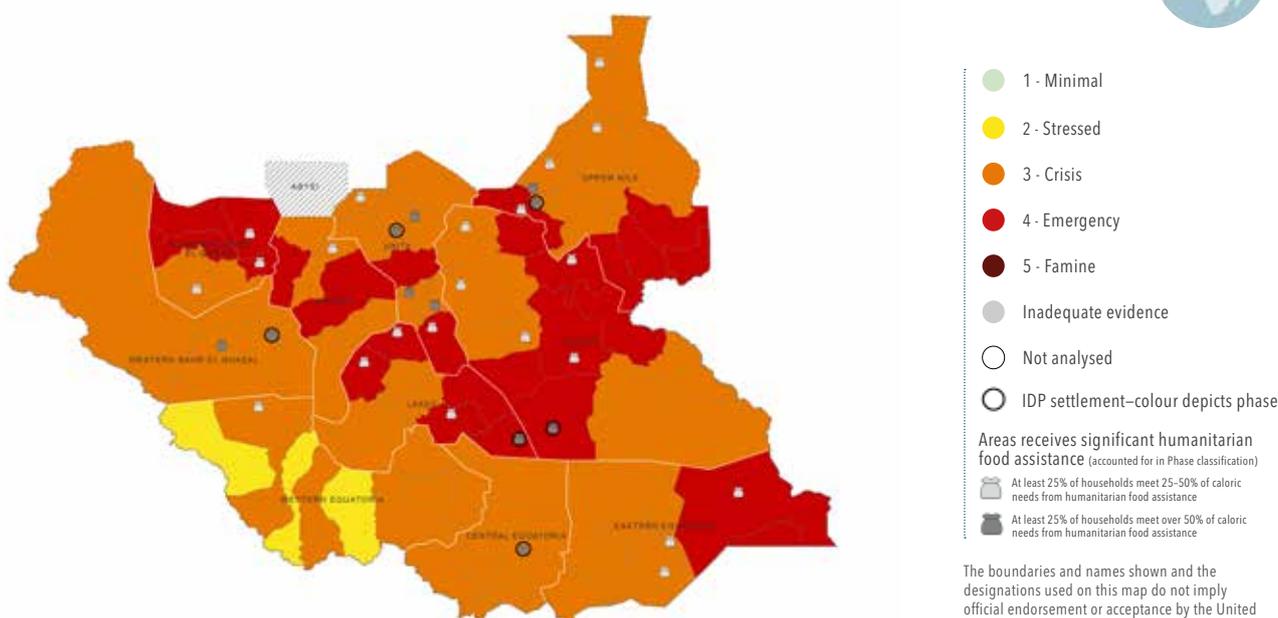
Number of people (millions) in IPC Phase 2 or above in 2014-2019



Source: South Sudan IPC Technical Working Group

Map 11

South Sudan, IPC Acute food insecurity situation, May–July 2019



Source: South Sudan IPC Technical Working Group, June 2019.

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined. Final status of the Abyei area is not yet determined.

ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY OVERVIEW

In May–July 2019, almost 7 million people – representing 61 percent of the population – were facing Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above), the highest number ever recorded in South Sudan. Of these, 21 000 were facing Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) and 1.8 million Emergency (IPC Phase 4). Additionally, 3.2 million were classified in Stressed (IPC Phase 2) and at risk of falling into worse levels of acute food insecurity classification (IPC, June 2019).

The 21 000 people facing Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) were located in Canal/Pigi (former Jonglei state), Cueibet (former Lakes state), and Panyikang (former Upper Nile State) and were the greatest source of concern in 2019 (IPC, June 2019).

According to the August 2019 IPC analysis conducted before the floods, the acute food insecurity situation was expected to improve in the course of the year as farmers began to harvest, with 6.35 million people in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) in August, reducing to 4.54 million (39 percent of the population) in September–December (IPC, September 2019).

Compared with 2018 (IPC, September 2018), the 2019 acute food insecurity peak increased by 15 percent with 894 000 more people classified in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) in 2019 (IPC, June 2019).

South Sudan has 1.47 million IDPs, 13 percent of them living in six UNMISS Protection of Civilians sites (UNHCR, December 2019). It also hosts 290 000 refugees and asylum seekers, chiefly from the Sudan (92 percent) followed by the Democratic Republic of the Congo (6 percent).

Poor dietary diversity and a high prevalence of negative coping strategies have been observed among refugee populations. Some 71–80 percent of refugee households reported using one or more negative coping strategies¹ to fulfil their food needs. Most of the refugees rely on food assistance and approximately 60 percent of refugee households employ emergency livelihood coping strategies (FSNMS Round 24, September 2019).

FACTORS DRIVING ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY

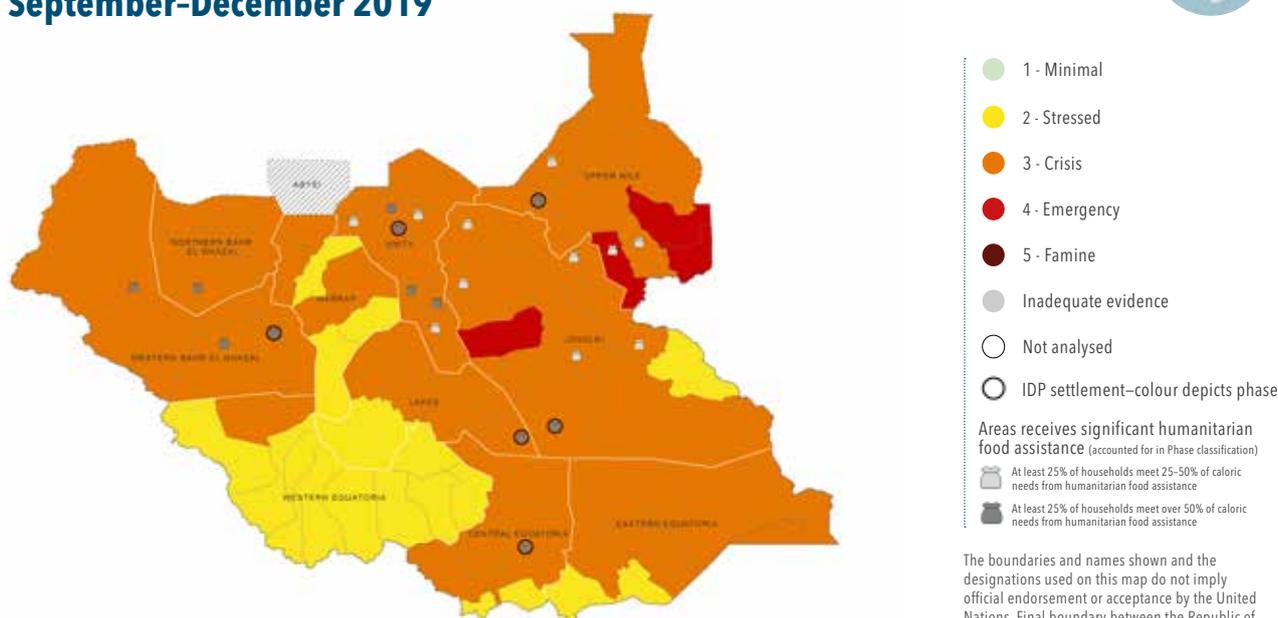
Conflict/insecurity

Following the beginning of peace talks in mid-2018, and the signing in September 2018 of the R-ARCSS, the number of security incidents, which had already declined by about 30 percent in 2018, further decreased by about 40 percent in 2019 (ACLED, accessed February 2020). Improvements were

¹ Negative coping strategies (missing or reducing meals; selling assets; taking loans with interest; begging, child labour; and involvement in risky and harmful activities).

Map 12

South Sudan, IPC Acute food insecurity situation, September–December 2019



Source: South Sudan IPC Technical Working Group, September 2019.
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

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notable in areas of Greater Upper Nile, Greater Bahr el Ghazal and some parts of Greater Equatoria (FEWS NET, June 2019).

Despite UNHCR's non-return advisory, in the first 11 months over 92 000 refugees and IDPs returned home (UNHCR, November 2019), encouraged by the perception of improved security, to cultivate their land and increase food production.

However, poor rule of law and easy access to arms resulted in an increase in violence that continued to displace people (UNHCR, September 2019). In the first six months of 2019, 135 000 people were newly displaced as a result of conflict (IDMC, September 2019).

Cattle raids were a common source of tension, particularly between agropastoralist communities (ACAPS, December 2019). Intercommunal conflict in former Lakes state as well as Kapoeta East, Pibor, Twic and Yei counties, resulted in loss of lives, displacement, disruptions to livelihoods and trade routes (IPC, FEWS NET June 2019). Cattle raiding in Tonj North county in former Warrap and between communities of Rumbek East and Yirol East counties in former Lakes State also led to the loss of lives and livestock (FEWS NET, April 2019).

While a more stable political environment allowed for improved delivery of humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable populations in 2019 (WFP, UNICEF, FAO, September 2019), movement restrictions, bureaucratic impediments and security threats to humanitarian workers persisted (ACAPS, May 2019).

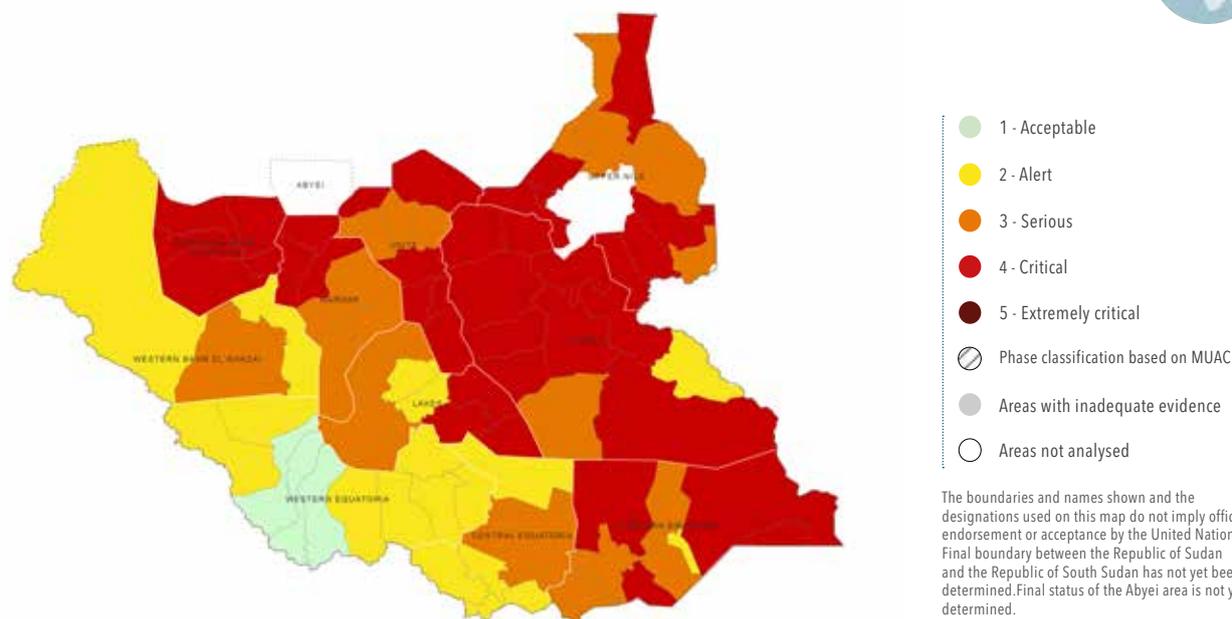
Economic shocks

The country is facing a protracted macroeconomic crisis. Gross Domestic Product increased in 2019 for the first time since 2014, mainly due to increased oil revenues, but the South Sudanese pound continued to depreciate on the parallel market, and by December the average exchange rate was about 315 SSP/USD, compared to about 240 SSP/USD in December 2018. The difference between the official and the parallel market exchange rates further widened, increasing from about 60 percent in December 2018 to almost 100 percent in December 2019. Inflation, already at high levels owing to insufficient food supplies, high fuel costs and a weak local currency, surged from August–October mainly as a result of trade and market disruptions caused by the widespread floods, and the year-on-year inflation rate was estimated in October 2019 at 170 percent (FAO and WFP, May 2020).

Real income declined by 70 percent between 2011 and 2019 and food prices have been soaring since 2015, leaving large segments of the population with daunting constraints in accessing food and other basic services. Limited cereal supplies and the lingering impact of conflict on trade and agricultural activities contributed to sorghum, maize and wheat prices being 45-90 percent higher in December 2019 than 2018 in Juba (FAO & WFP, 2020). Based on The Alert for Price Spikes (ALPS) indicator, 4 out of the 12 monitored markets reached crisis level in Q3 2019 (WFP, October 2019).

Map 13

South Sudan, IPC Acute malnutrition situation, May–August 2019



Source: South Sudan IPC Technical Working Group, June 2019.

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Weather extremes

Abnormally heavy seasonal rains since July caused severe flooding in large parts of the country, including areas already experiencing high levels of conflict-related vulnerability.

In late October, the Government of South Sudan declared a state of emergency in 30 counties after the flooding submerged entire communities and destroyed livelihoods or rendered them inaccessible, and cut off basic services and markets (OCHA, November 2019). By early November, an estimated 908 000 people had been affected, of whom around 420 000 were displaced (OCHA, November 2019).

Humanitarian needs were very high in the east and north-east, especially in the counties of Pibor and Maban, home to over 150 000 refugees (OCHA, October 2019). According to WFP, 755 500 people were in need of food and nutrition assistance as a result of the floods (WFP, November 2019).

According to the 2019 FAO/WFP Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission, 2019 aggregate cereal production was estimated at about 818 500 tonnes, 10 percent above the record low 2018 output and 4 percent below the average of the previous five years. Cereal production benefitted from a bigger harvested area than 2018 due to security improvements and from abundant seasonal rains, but the widespread floods resulted in significant crop losses, especially in former Jonglei, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Unity, Upper Nile and Warrap states (FAO-GIEWS, March 2020).

NUTRITION OVERVIEW

The national prevalence of GAM increased from 13.3 percent in 2018 to 16.2 percent in 2019, which is considered 'very high' (FSNMS, July 2019).

Based on IPC acute malnutrition protocols, 58 counties had a GAM of 10 percent and above. Some 43 counties were classified as Critical (GAM of 15.0–29.9 percent, IPC Phase 4) and 14 counties as Serious (GAM of 10.0–14.9 percent, IPC Phase 3). Most counties in Unity, Upper Nile, Jonglei and Warrap and parts of Eastern Equatoria and Lakes had Critical levels (IPC Phase 4) (IPC, September 2019).

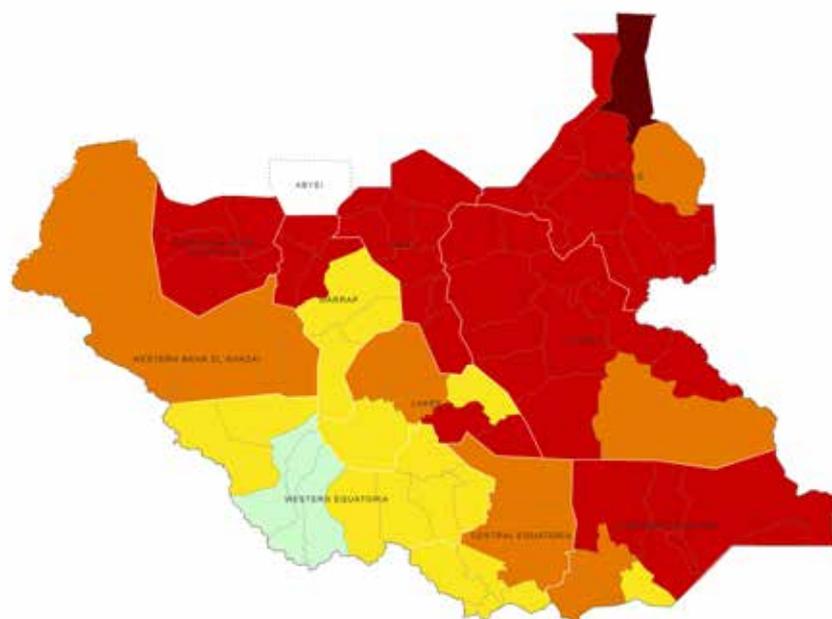
The drivers of malnutrition are mainly sub-optimal childcare and feeding practices, food insecurity, illness, poor water quality and sanitation practices. Just 6.9 percent of children aged 6–23 months received minimally adequate diets.

The prevalence of GAM in seven of the eight refugee camps in South Sudan was serious (5–9 percent), while the remaining camp faced acceptable levels (GAM <5 percent). The prevalence of stunting was 'very high' in four camps and 'high' in three camps.

Anaemia among children aged 6–59 months was at severe levels (≥ 40 percent) in six of the camps. The prevalence of anaemia among non-pregnant women aged 15–49 years was severe (≥ 40 percent) in one camp and of 'medium' public health significance (20–39 percent) in four camps.

Map 14

South Sudan, IPC Acute malnutrition situation, August 2019



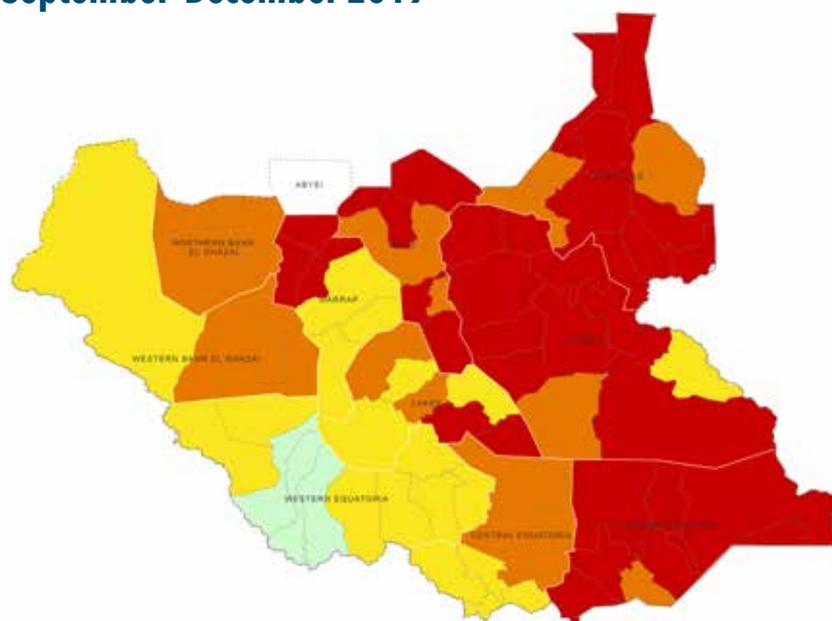
- 1 - Acceptable
- 2 - Alert
- 3 - Serious
- 4 - Critical
- 5 - Extremely critical
- ⊗ Phase classification based on MUAC
- Areas with inadequate evidence
- Areas not analysed

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined. Final status of the Abyei area is not yet determined.

Source: South Sudan IPC Technical Working Group, September 2019. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Map 15

South Sudan, IPC Acute malnutrition situation, September-December 2019



- 1 - Acceptable
- 2 - Alert
- 3 - Serious
- 4 - Critical
- 5 - Extremely critical
- ⊗ Phase classification based on MUAC
- Areas with inadequate evidence
- Areas not analysed

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined. Final status of the Abyei area is not yet determined.

Source: South Sudan IPC Technical Working Group, September 2019. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

The remaining camps had acceptable levels (SENS, 2018). Rates of early initiation of breastfeeding (84–93 percent), exclusive breastfeeding (88–94 percent), and continuing breastfeeding at one year (94–100 percent) were encouraging.

Timely introduction of solid foods was less encouraging at 66–75 percent. Around 7–32 percent of children aged 6–59 months reportedly had diarrhoea. Younger children were more likely to be acutely malnourished and anaemic (SENS, 2018).

Country profile

Sudan



ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY 2019

Total population of country **42.8M**



Population analysed **41.9M** (98% of total population, including IDPs, returnees and refugees)

5.85M IPC Phase 3 or above in June–August 2019

4.8M IPC Phase 3 **Crisis** **1.0M** IPC Phase 4 **Emergency**

11.8M IPC Phase 2 **Stressed**

2018–19 Change

A marginal **decrease** in numbers of people in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) can be attributed to security improvements and a bumper 2018 harvest in Greater Darfur. The 2019 analysis excluded West Darfur region.

2020 Forecast (pre-COVID-19)

A bleak macro-economic outlook, high food prices, reduced 2019 harvest and potential impact of desert locusts will maintain high levels of acute food insecurity.

UN DESA WB 2018
SUDAN IPC TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP JULY 2019

NUTRITION INDICATORS

Host population

2.7M children under 5 years are **acutely malnourished**, of whom **522 000** are affected by SAM.

36.8% of children under 5 years are **stunted**.

24.1% of children 6–23 months meet the **minimum dietary diversity** requirement.

61.5% of children under 6 months are **exclusively breastfed**.

38.8% of children under 5 years and **30.7%** of women 15–49 years are **anaemic**.

65.6% of households have access to at least basic **drinking water** services.

Refugee population

23 000 children under 5 years are **acutely malnourished** in 16 camps, of whom **4 500** are affected by SAM.

4.6–58.8% of children under 5 years in 15 camps are **stunted**.

24.8% of households in Kharasan camp and **36.5%** in Meiram camp do not consume micro-nutrient rich food.

29.4–90.9% of children under 6 months in 15 camps are **exclusively breastfed**.

23–56.8% of children under 5 years and **17.4–42.1%** of women 15–49 years in 15 camps are **anaemic**.

68.8–100% of households in 15 camps have access to improved **drinking water** sources.

ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY AND MALNUTRITION DRIVERS

Economic shocks **Weather extremes** **Conflict/insecurity**

- ▶ The economic crisis worsened. Contracting output and currency depreciation lowered work opportunities, while reduced imports of fuel and agricultural inputs pushed up food prices to exceptionally high levels.
- ▶ Extremely erratic weather (dry conditions followed by torrential rains and floods) damaged livelihoods and destroyed crops.
- ▶ Pest infestations further constrained the 2019 cereal output, which was well below average.

- ▶ Civil unrest and ensuing security measures by the Government disrupted livelihood activities for several months.
- ▶ While conflict has declined considerably in recent years in Greater Darfur, South Kordofan and Blue Nile, the country still hosts 2.1 million IDPs and 1.1 million refugees and asylum seekers requiring humanitarian assistance.

DISPLACEMENT

1.86M Sudanese were **internally displaced**.

There were **1.07M refugees** and **asylum-seekers** mainly from South Sudan (78%).

There were **543 000 IDP returnees**.

20 000 Sudanese refugees from neighbouring countries voluntarily **returned** from January–September 2019.

IOIM/DEC 2019
UNHCR/DEC 2019
UNHCR/2019/OCT



In the Nuba mountain region of South Kordofan, vulnerable populations in non-government controlled areas have faced severely limited access to humanitarian assistance in recent years. Ongoing conflict is continuing to cause some new population displacements to government-controlled areas.

BACKGROUND

Since late 2017, the Sudan's severe economic crisis has degraded already-weak basic services. The country has experienced civil unrest since December 2018 when then President Bashir's government imposed emergency austerity measures to try to stave off economic collapse. The Sudan has external debt of over USD 50 billion, estimated at 88 percent of GDP, and has limited access to debt relief.

With close to 50 percent of the population estimated to be living below the poverty line, persisting macroeconomic challenges are resulting in daunting food access constraints for large segments of the population (OCHA, January 2020).

ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY OVERVIEW

From June–August 2019, over 5.85 million individuals were estimated to be in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) and in need of urgent humanitarian assistance to mitigate acute food insecurity. This figure included around 1 million people in Emergency (IPC Phase 4). Nearly 11.8 million people were classified in Stressed (IPC Phase 2) (IPC, September 2019).

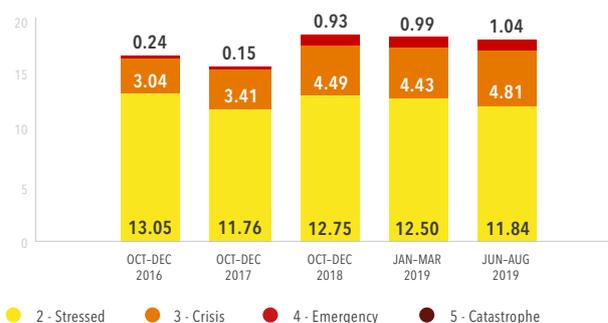
Key areas of concern included Halaieb, East Jebel Marra and Bileil with area classifications in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) and

South Kordofan, Red Sea and the three Darfur States (Central, North and South) classified in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) (IPC, September 2019).

Compared to the peak of 6.2 million in May–July 2018 (IPC, April 2019), the acutely food-insecure population (IPC Phase 3 and above) in the Sudan was relatively stable in 2019 mainly due to lower numbers in the Greater Darfur region. However, this improvement was mostly offset by a sharp deterioration in the acute food insecurity situation in Khartoum state, where

Figure 13

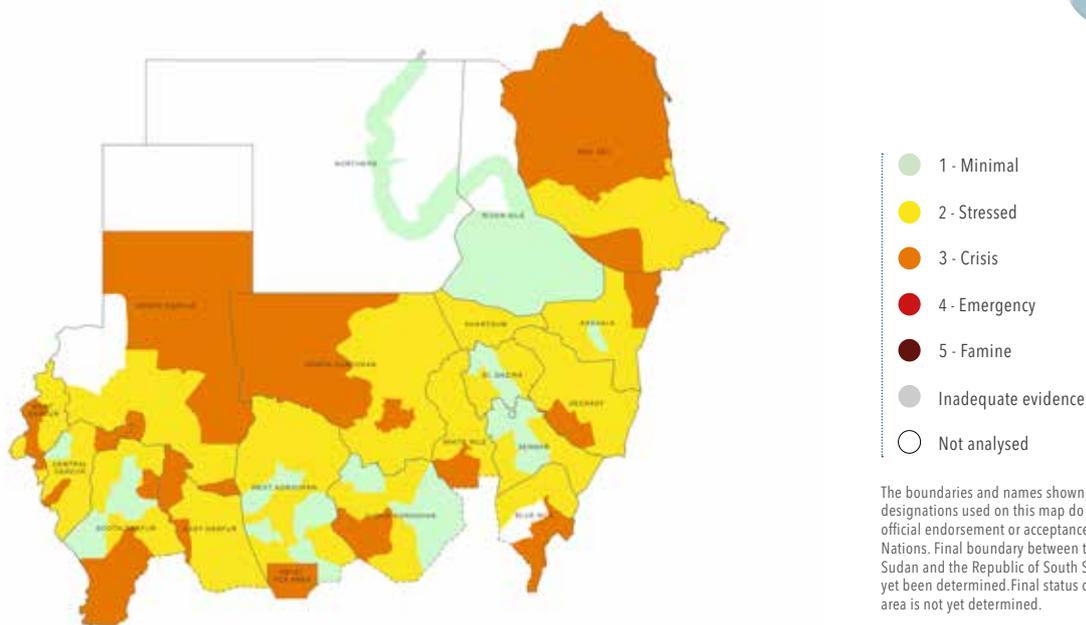
Number of people (millions) in IPC Phase 2 or above in 2016–2019



Note: For comparability purposes, all numbers presented exclude West Darfur since it was not included in the 2019 IPC exercise.
Source: Sudan IPC Technical Working Group

Map 16

Sudan, IPC Acute food insecurity situation, January–March 2019



Source: Sudan IPC Technical Working Group, January 2019.
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

the number facing acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) almost doubled, indicating increasingly severe food access constraints for market-dependent urban households.

FACTORS DRIVING ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY

Economic shocks

The economic crisis worsened in 2019 despite the efforts of the transitional government and its cooperation with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in implementing reforms to foster a recovery.

With expenditure remaining high on social and military spending, and oil export earnings stagnating, the Government had limited scope for new borrowing, so monetized the deficit by printing money (EIU, January 2020). Year-on-year inflation increased from 43.6 percent in January to 60.7 percent in November (Central Bank of Sudan, November 2019).

As a result of these macroeconomic factors, and with traders reportedly hoarding their agricultural produce, regarded as a more reliable form of savings compared to the weakening local currency, food prices reached exceptionally high levels (IPC, September 2019 and OCHA, January 2020).

Some 58 percent of households were estimated to be unable

to afford the local food basket (WFP, 2019). Increasing food prices were the immediate cause of demonstrations that started in December 2018 (WB, April 2019).

Weather extremes

The June–September rains were erratically distributed with early onset of seasonal rains in May and adequate precipitation in June benefitting planting, but prolonged dry spells in July resulted in crop wilting, requiring multiple replanting (Government of Sudan and FAO, February 2020). Exceptionally abundant late season rains from August–October, benefitted crop development, but triggered floods in 15 out of 18 states (OCHA, January 2020), affecting about 420 000 people (OCHA, November 2019), increasing the prevalence of human and livestock waterborne diseases and causing substantial crop losses.

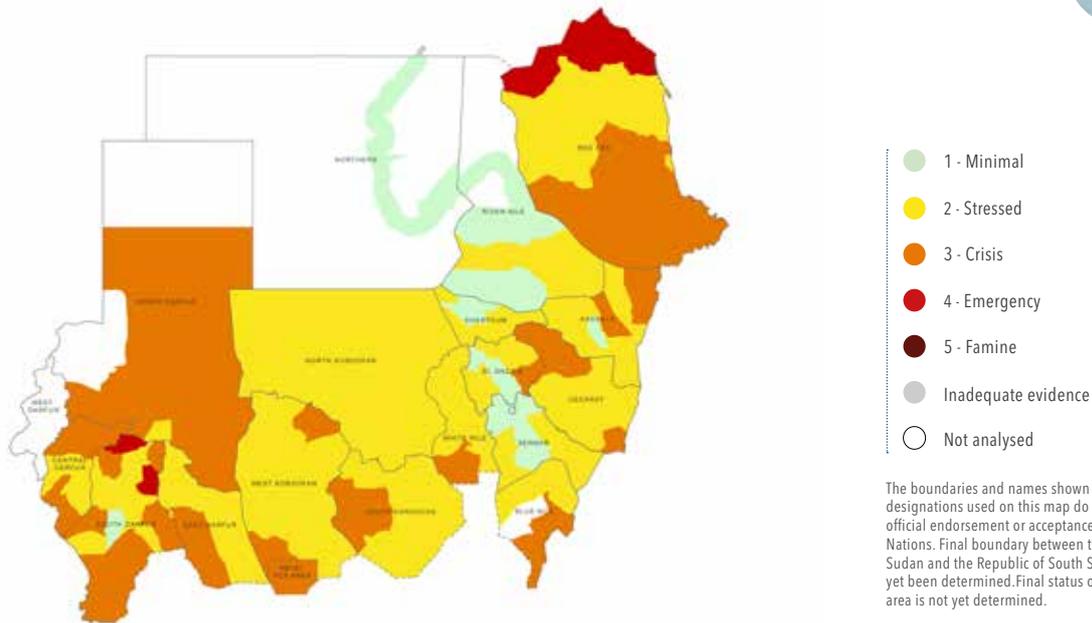
Severe infestations of birds, rodents and insects (sorghum midge and locusts) further affected crop yields. Production of cereals in 2019 is estimated at about 5.9 million tons, 33 percent down from the 2018 bumper output and 14 percent below the average of the previous five years (Government of Sudan and FAO, February 2020).

Conflict/insecurity

Security forces attempted to repress widespread protests that resulted in more than 100 people killed, and several hundred

Map 17

Sudan, IPC Acute food insecurity situation, June–August 2019



Source: Sudan IPC Technical Working Group, September 2019.
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

injured (OCHA, January 2020). The Government declared a state of emergency in several areas, restricting movement, access to markets and livelihood activities (IPC, June 2019).

In the Greater Darfur region, security improvements in 2018 allowed substantial numbers of IDPs to return home and engage in agricultural activities, pushing up millet production in this key producing area to record levels (FAO-GIEWS, March 2019) and lowering household market dependence. This lessened the impact of soaring food prices during the 2019 lean season. Incidents of fighting had also declined in South Kordofan and Blue Nile States. However, 1.9 million IDPs who could not afford the basic food basket and 1.1 million refugees and asylum seekers displaced by conflict continued to need humanitarian assistance, both in camps and within host communities. Intercommunal tensions escalated in some areas in Darfur, Abyei and eastern Sudan, with about 12 700 people newly displaced, mainly due to conflict in areas of Jebel Marra (Darfur) (OCHA, January 2020).

NUTRITION OVERVIEW

The Sudan has the fourth highest GAM rates in the world (UNICEF, 2019) with 14.1 percent of children under 5 years acutely malnourished. Eight of the country's 18 states recorded 'very high' GAM rates, peaking at 19.5 percent in North Darfur (S3M-II, 2019). Around 2.7 million children under 5 years were acutely malnourished, 522 000 severely so.

Increasing food prices, deteriorating health care, poor sanitation and water (with sources contaminated by flooding) and food insecurity aggravate persistently high levels of malnutrition (OCHA 2020). Just 24.1 percent of children receive an adequately diverse diet. One third of the population continues to practise open defecation (S3M-II 2019).

The Sudan experienced increased morbidity with disease outbreaks including cholera, chikungunya, dengue, malaria, measles and Rift Valley fever in 2019. Malaria cases were at epidemic levels in several states, with the Ministry of Health (MoH) recording over 1.7 million cases, the majority in North Darfur, double the number of 2018. There were 3 813 cases of measles as of August 2019 (OCHA, January 2020).

Nutrition status of refugees

GAM among refugee populations was also above the 'very high' threshold in 13 of the 23 camps and was 'high' in seven camps. The prevalence of stunting was greater than the 30 percent 'very high' threshold in 10 out of 23 camps, 'high' in 2 camps, and 'medium' in 11 camps.

In more than half of the camps anaemia prevalence among children aged 6–59 months was at critical levels (≥ 40 percent). The prevalence of anaemia among non-pregnant women aged 15–49 years was at critical levels (≥ 40 percent) in four camps and acceptable in only one (SENS, 2018).

Country profile **Uganda**

ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY 2019

Total population of country **40.0M**



Population analysed **40.0M** (100% of total population, including displaced people)

1.5M IPC Phase 3 or above in April–July 2020

IPC Phase 2 data not available

2018–19 Change

The food-insecure population increased by 27 percent due to continued arrivals of refugees and asylum seekers from neighbouring countries and a particularly severe February–July 2019 lean season in Karamoja.

2020 Forecast (pre-COVID-19)

Food security conditions are expected to remain precarious due to floods, severe crop damage, and below-average crop production, as well as the potential impact of desert locust infestations on food security.

NUTRITION INDICATORS

Host population

3.5% children under 5 years are **acutely malnourished**, of whom **1.3%** are affected by SAM.

28.9% of children under 5 years are **stunted**.

30.3% of children 6–23 months meet the **minimum dietary diversity** requirement.

65.5% of children under 6 months are **exclusively breastfed**.

52.8% of children under 5 years and **31.7%** of women 15–49 years are **anaemic**.

49% of households have access to at least basic **drinking water** services.

Refugee population

50 800 children under 5 years in 12 camps are **acutely malnourished**, of whom **1 800** are affected by SAM.

8.4–32.6% of children under 5 years in 12 camps are **stunted**.

21.7–70.1% of households in 12 camps did not consume micronutrient-rich food.

55.6–87.5% of children under 6 months in 12 camps are **exclusively breastfed**.

24.7–56.6% of children under 5 years and **24.5–38.8%** of women 15–49 years in 12 camps are **anaemic**.

61.0–100% have access to protected **drinking water**.

ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY AND MALNUTRITION DRIVERS

- Conflict/insecurity**
- Weather extremes**
- Economic shocks**

- ▶ The majority of food-insecure populations were refugees and asylum-seekers fleeing conflict and insecurity, ethnic clashes and lack of basic social services in their countries of origin.
- ▶ A failed sorghum harvest in 2018 in Karamoja resulted in an early, severe lean season in February–July 2019, significantly constraining poor and very poor households' food access.

- ▶ Staple food scarcity, late onset of early 2019 rains and poor terms of trade further constrained food access in Karamoja and parts of Teso.
- ▶ Production was around 30% below average in bimodal areas due to severe early season dryness.

DISPLACEMENT

There were **1.38M** refugees and asylum seekers from South Sudan (62%), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (29%) and Burundi (3%).

190 200 refugees and asylum seekers arrived in the year to December 2019.



Clashes in north-eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo forced thousands into Uganda in 2019, fleeing extreme brutality. Nearly two in three were children.

BACKGROUND

In 2019, Uganda hosted the third largest number of refugees globally, and the highest number in the Greater Horn of Africa (UNHCR, accessed January 2020). Agriculture provides 70 percent of employment and 25 percent of GDP (WB, November 2018). With favourable year-round climatic conditions, it is self-sufficient in staple food production and plays a major role in regional food supply, though most production takes place at the smallholder level, under rainfed conditions. Many of the northern districts are prone to drought and rely on supplies from surplus-producing areas (FEWS NET, January 2017). Around 8 million Ugandans (21.4 percent of the population) live in poverty (Uganda Bureau of Statistics, 2019).

ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY OVERVIEW

FEWS NET estimates that 1.5 million people were in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) in April–July in the absence of food assistance. Most of them were refugees and asylum seekers, as well as poor households in Karamoja affected by a poor 2018 rainy season severely constraining crop and livestock production. Acute food insecurity deteriorated from early 2019 in the Eastern region and parts of Northern and Central regions, resulting in Stressed (IPC Phase 2) conditions

(FEWS NET, April 2019). Refugee populations in Uganda rely heavily on food assistance to meet their needs. According to WFP, approximately 62 percent of refugees experienced borderline or poor food consumption scores in May 2019, up from 28 percent at the same time in 2018 (WFP, May 2019).

During an atypically severe 2019 lean season (FEWS NET, December 2018), many households in Karamoja were consuming one meal per day, instead of a typical three (FEWS NET, June 2019), and in May 2019, 85 percent of households in the region had poor and borderline food consumption scores (WFP, May 2019).

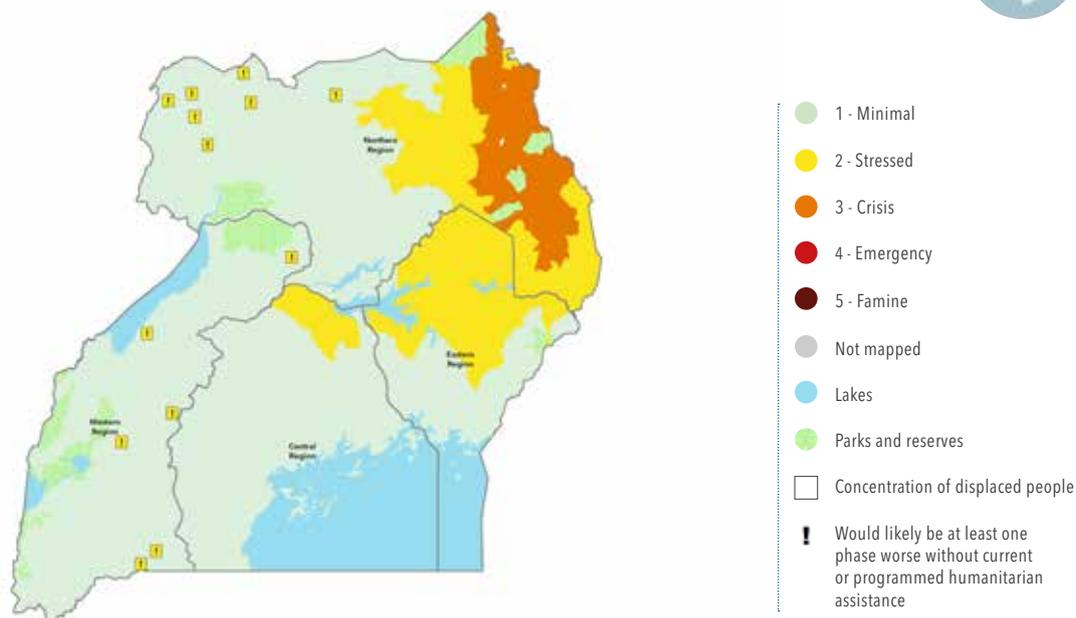
FACTORS DRIVING ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY

Conflict/insecurity

In 2019, persistent armed conflict, inter-ethnic violence and limited access to basic social services drove over 190 000 additional refugees and asylum seekers to seek refuge in Uganda, mainly from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, South Sudan and Burundi, increasing the overall refugee population to 1.38 million by the end of December 2019 (UNHCR, accessed January 2020). Though Uganda has one of the most progressive refugee management policies in the world (WB, 2016 and Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, 2017),

Map 18

Uganda, Acute food insecurity situation, April–June 2019



Source: FEWS NET, April 2019.
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

refugees in the settlements experience a number of obstacles that hinder their efforts to attain self-reliance and food security (FSNA, 2018). For example, despite WFP reaching approximately 85 percent of refugees with food or cash assistance, their typical monthly food ration sometimes only lasts 13–23 days, leaving a 7–18 days food gap (FSNA, 2018).

Additionally, refugee households assessed by UNHCR reported a reliance on a variety of negative consumption and livelihood-based coping strategies (e.g. reliance on less preferred or less expensive food, reduced number of meals consumed per day, reduced portion size, reduced consumption among adults to prioritize children, borrowing and begging). On a more positive note, however, a very low proportion of households across the settlements reported engaging in potentially risky or harmful coping strategies (SENS, 2017).

Weather extremes

In the north-eastern Karamoja region, the 2019 April–September rainy season did not fully establish until mid-May, substantially delaying planting. Torrential rains in June offset the moisture deficits, but hindered ploughing and sowing activities in some areas. Households were only able to retain limited amounts of cereal seeds from the poor 2018 harvest, which contributed to a decline in planted areas to below average levels. Average to above-average rains from June–September 2019 benefitted yields, but unseasonal

precipitations in October and November disrupted cereal harvesting, drying and storage (FAO-GIEWS, January 2020). The harvest of sorghum, the main cereal grown in the area, was concluded in several areas in December with about two months of delay and production was estimated by FEWS NET at 20–30 percent below average. Late harvests, as well as a scarcity of seasonal income-generating opportunities, caused the lean season to be prolonged and more severe than usual, worsening food insecurity (FEWS NET, October 2019).

In bi-modal rainfall areas covering most of the country, the first half of the March–June rainy season was characterized by exceptional dryness, among the worst on record since 1982. The drought conditions, with cumulative rains between early March and the second dekad of April estimated at up to 80 percent below average, delayed planting and resulted in widespread germination failures and crop wilting.

Improved rains in late April allowed replanting of failed crops, but the planted area was below average as several farmers did not have enough seeds for replanting or opted to not plant as the rainy season was already too advanced. Above-average rains in May and June benefitted the establishment and development of late-planted and re-planted crops and allowed a partial crop recovery (FAO-GIEWS, August 2019).

The output of the first season harvest was 10–15 percent below average, according to FEWS NET. Subsequently, the October–December rainy season was characterized by abundant precipitations throughout the cropping period, with

cumulative seasonal rains estimated at 40–80 percent above the long-term average over most cropping areas.

The heavy rains had a positive impact on crop establishment and development, and an above-average second season harvest was forecast. However, the torrential rains triggered flooding and landslides in eastern Mount Elgon subregion and in south-western Bundibugyo, Kalungu, Kisoro and Ntoroko districts, affecting about 300 000 people and causing localized crop losses and damage to infrastructure (FAO-GIEWS, January 2020).

Economic shocks

High and volatile food prices during 2019 severely constrained food access for poor households. According to FAO-GIEWS, prices of maize started to increase from early 2019 in several markets including the capital Kampala, with seasonal patterns compounded by an earlier-than-usual depletion of stocks from the below-average 2018 second harvest.

Prices accelerated sharply due to concerns over the impact of early season dryness on the performance of the 2019 first season harvest, surging by almost 50 percent between March–June.

After having declined by about 30 percent from June–September as the first season harvest increased market availabilities, maize prices surged again by up to 50 percent from September–December, with seasonal patterns compounded by increased transport costs and trade disruptions caused by torrential rains. December prices were at very high levels, up to twice their year-earlier values, mainly due to a tight domestic supply situation following the below-average first season harvest coupled with sustained export demand from Kenya and South Sudan (FAO-GIEWS, December 2019).

In the Karamoja region, according to WFP's mVAM, prices of beans, maize grain and sorghum slightly began to decline in September with the start of the 2019 harvest, but remained 38–71 percent above the 2018 average levels due to an early depletion of stocks of the poor 2018 harvest and unfavourable prospects for 2019 crops (WFP, September 2019).

NUTRITION OVERVIEW

National prevalence of stunting among children under 5 years slightly reduced from 33 percent in 2011 to 28.9 percent in 2016 (DHS, 2016). However, the absolute number of stunted children has stagnated at about 2.1 million because of rapid population growth. A relatively low prevalence of wasting in children under 5 years (4 percent in 2016) masks significant regional inequities with Karamoja and West Nile recording particularly high wasting levels (≥ 10 percent) (DHS, 2016).

Nationally only 14.6 percent of children aged 6–23 months received a minimum acceptable diet (in the Acholi region this percentage fell to 2.8 percent), and just 30.3 percent received the minimum recommended dietary diversity (dropping to 7.3 percent in Acholi region) (DHS, 2016).

Following national reductions in anaemia in children under 5 years and women of reproductive age between 2006 and 2011, there was an increase between 2011 and 2016. Anaemia remained a 'severe' public health issue for children under 5 years (52.8 percent) and a 'moderate' public health issue for adolescent girls and women; 72 percent of children aged 6–8 months were anaemic, indicating insufficient iron stores at birth as a result of poor maternal nutrition (DHS, 2016).

Nutrition status of refugees

According to the 2017 food security and nutrition assessment in West Nile settlements, refugee populations in Palabek had the highest GAM prevalence at 12.3 percent (FSNA, 2018). Other settlements with concerning GAM were Adjumani (11.8 percent), Bidibidi (11.8 percent), Palorinya (11.1 percent) and Arua (10.3 percent). In South West settlements, the GAM rate was below 5 percent. The prevalence of SAM was below 1 percent in the refugee settlements (SENS, 2017).

Recent improvements in food security among the refugees following the resumption of full rations since 2018, coupled with increased income opportunities in most settlements, have significantly improved nutrition outcomes of refugees. However, nutritional vulnerability remained in refugee-hosting districts and in Karamoja in northern Uganda where 56 percent of refugees reportedly had poor and/or borderline food consumption (WFP, 2018 and 2019).

Acute food insecurity and malnutrition forecasts for 2020

Without taking into account the effects of COVID-19, projections indicate that 24–25.4 million people will face acute food insecurity requiring urgent action (IPC Phase 3 or above) in 2020, largely as a result of weather extremes, conflict/insecurity and economic shocks.

Abundant rains throughout the region during the 2019 short rains, followed by above-average rains in the March–May 2020 rainy season, benefitted crops and rangelands and improved the food security status of farming and pastoralist households.

However, they also brought severe flooding across the region towards the end of 2019 and during March–May 2020 when over 1.3 million people were affected, mainly in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and Uganda (OCHA, May 2020). The wet conditions fostered optimal conditions for the most severe desert locust infestation in decades, which could aggravate acute food insecurity across the region.

Though it had not yet been factored into most of the region's food security analyses by mid-May, the unprecedented COVID-19 crisis and its impacts on global and regional economies and food systems could drive significantly higher numbers of acutely food-insecure people in East Africa. FEWS NET estimates the total number of acutely food-insecure people in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) in the IGAD region to reach between 28.1 and 33.5 million. In addition, WFP projects an increase of up to 100 percent from 25.8 million people requiring urgent humanitarian assistance. In both agencies' analyses, the majority of food-insecure people are expected to remain in rural areas, though the majority of increases due to COVID-19 impacts will likely be among urban poor households.

▶ Djibouti

Before COVID-19 became a pandemic, in January 2020, 175 000 people were acutely food insecure, representing 27 percent of the rural population and 23 percent of urban dwellers in the five regions. The most-affected regions were Dikhil and Obock where 44–49 percent of the population was acutely food insecure, compared to 13 percent in Tadjourah, Ali Sabieh and Arta (WFP, 2020). Since late 2019, average to above-average

rainfall, pasture and water availability improved livestock body conditions and benefitted pastoralist households through normal livestock production and sales (USAID, February 2020). However, the situation of some rural populations could deteriorate since around 27 000 people, who are largely reliant on agropastoralism, are living in areas affected by desert locust infestations (FAO and Government of Djibouti, January 2020).

▲ Ethiopia

Even before the impact of COVID-19 had been assessed, acute food insecurity levels were projected to increase from 6.7 million people in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) in October 2019 to 8.5 million people in February–June 2020. This is mainly due to the depletion of stocks from the 2019 harvest, while the Meher season is expected to be insufficient to sustain acceptable food consumption from own production throughout the lean season in Belg-reliant areas. In addition, higher-than-average food prices are expected to negatively affect food access at a time when households are more market reliant (IPC, November 2019).

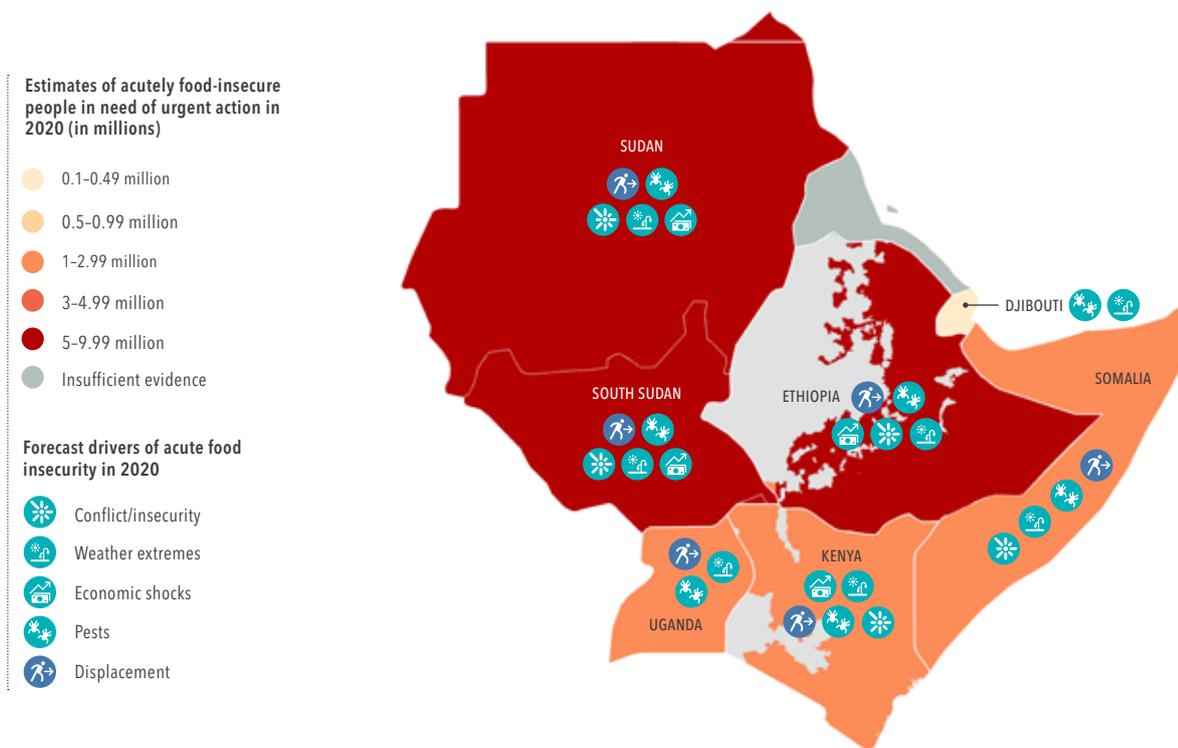
Having experienced several consecutive poor rainy seasons, the pastoral regions of Somali and Afar are expected to face the highest prevalence of acute food insecurity as they have had significant livestock losses, while large parts of their remaining herds are in poor condition. Similar food security outcomes are expected in the agropastoral areas of eastern Oromiya due to a reduced 2019 Belg harvest and below-average herd sizes. Until mid-May, the Belg rains, which are critical for improving the situation in Somali, Afar, SNNPR, eastern areas of Amhara and Tigray as well as in southern and eastern areas of Oromiya, were timely and above average, leading to improved vegetation across most of south-west Ethiopia.

However, the severe desert locust infestation that continues to form, especially in the south, including SNNPR, Oromiya and northern and southern areas of Somali, is threatening crop and livestock production. A recent joint assessment in Ethiopia found that by April 2020, desert locusts had affected 806 400 agricultural households, 197 163 hectares of cropland and over 1.3 million hectares of rangeland, and resulted in 356 286 metric tonnes (MT) of lost cereals (Ethiopia MoA et al, April

Pre-COVID-19 number of acutely food-insecure people forecast to: ▲ increase in 2020; ▼ decrease in 2020; ▶ persist in 2020 at 2019 levels

Map 19

Pre-COVID-19 estimates of people in IPC Phase 3 or above, drivers and risks in East Africa in 2020



Source: FSIN GRFC March 2020.
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
This map reflects analyses produced before COVID-19 became a pandemic and does not account for its direct and/or indirect impact on acute food insecurity.

Table 6

Pre-COVID-19 acute food insecurity forecast for 2020

COUNTRIES	PERIOD	2019 PEAK NUMBER		ESTIMATES FOR 2020 PEAK NUMBER			MAIN DRIVERS
		POPULATION IN IPC PHASE 3 OR ABOVE (MILLIONS)	ANTICIPATED PEAK PERIOD	POPULATION IN IPC PHASE 3 OR ABOVE (MILLIONS)	HIGHEST EXPECTED AREA CLASSIFICATION	TREND IN 2020 PEAK NUMBER COMPARED TO 2019 PEAK NUMBER	
Djibouti	N/A	N/A	Jan 2020	0.2	N/A	▶ Stable	Weather extremes – floods; pests – desert locusts
Ethiopia (selected areas in 6 regions)	Jul–Sep 2019	8.0	Feb–Jun 2020	8.5	Phase 3 Crisis	▲ Increase	Weather extremes – floods, dry spells and related production shortfalls; conflict/insecurity, and related displacements; pests – desert locusts; economic shocks – reduced purchasing power
Kenya	Aug–Oct 2019	3.1	Jan–Mar 2020	1.3	Phase 2 Stressed	▼ Decrease	Weather extremes – floods, dry spells and related production shortfalls; pests – desert locusts; economic shocks – reduced purchasing power; conflict/insecurity and related displacement
Somalia	Oct–Dec 2019	2.1	Apr–Jun 2020	1.3	Phase 3 Crisis	▼ Decrease	Weather extremes – floods, dry spells and related production shortfalls; conflict/insecurity and related displacement; pests – desert locusts
South Sudan	May–Jul 2019	7.0	May–Jul 2020	6.5	Phase 4 Emergency	▼ Decrease	Conflict/insecurity and related displacement; weather extremes – floods and related production shortfalls; economic shocks – downturn; pests – desert locusts
Sudan*	Jun–Aug 2019	5.9	Jun–Sep 2020	5.0–6.0	Phase 4 Emergency	▶ Stable	Weather extremes – dry spells and floods; economic shocks – downturn and reduced purchasing power; conflict/insecurity and displacement; pests – desert locusts
Uganda	Apr–Jul 2019	1.5	May–Jun 2020	1.2–1.6	Phase 3 Crisis	▶ Stable	Refugee influx from conflict-affected countries; weather extremes – dry spells, floods and related production shortfalls; pests – desert locusts

* Due to different data sources, the 2019 peak and 2020 anticipated peak numbers are not directly comparable
The forecast 2020 estimates provided in this table for Djibouti and Ethiopia reflects only the highest forecast available for 2020 – not the anticipated peak period, for which no estimates are available.

2020). Looking forward, FAO is indicating that desert locusts pose a 'dangerous' threat to agricultural production in 2020 (FAO, May 2020). In pastoral areas, desert locust losses could drive early outmigration for pastoralists and an earlier need for humanitarian assistance. If the desert locusts spread to western agricultural areas, the Meher seasonal production (June–September) could be severely affected (WFP, April 2020).

Macroeconomic challenges including high and increasing inflation and a severe lack of foreign currency continue to limit import opportunities and lead to economic stagnation (WFP, March 2020).

Inadequate shelter, hygiene and sanitation facilities also remain a challenge to ensure proper conditions for the large displaced populations (OCHA, December 2019). Flooding during the 2020 Belg season has also affected 219 000 people, including 107 000 displaced, as of May 2020 (OCHA, May 2020).

▼ Kenya

According to a pre-COVID-19 analysis, the number of acutely food-insecure people in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) is expected to fall from 1.3 million from February–March 2020 to nearly 1 million during the harvest period from April–July 2020. This corresponds to six percent of the population living in ASAL regions and is lower than the same period in 2019, largely thanks to the abundant short rains (October–December) that improved vegetation and provided favourable conditions for livestock productivity. In addition, 3.5 million people are expected to face Stressed (IPC Phase 2) conditions, hence vulnerable to further shocks, such as desert locusts and the impact of COVID-19 (IPC, April 2020).

By mid-May, most of the country had received above-average rains including in the ASALs and heavy rains in the central highlands and north-western region. Though proving favourable for crop development, this caused flooding in low-lying areas of Lake Victoria and landslides in Kericho and West Pokot counties, causing destruction of property, displacement and casualties (WFP, April 2020). According to OCHA, 233 000 people had been affected by flooding, including 116 000 displaced persons, as of mid-May (OCHA, May 2020).

FAO estimates that locusts pose a 'dangerous' threat level to agricultural production (FAO, May 2020). In the worst-case scenario where operations fail to control the locusts, massive crop damage and pasture and browse destruction is expected (IPC, April 2020).

▼ Somalia

Through mid-2020, acute food insecurity levels were expected to decrease to 1.3 million people in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) due to the favourable Deyr rainy season (October–December) that enabled above-average cereal production and improved livestock production. However, considering

COVID-19 impacts, along with recent flooding and desert locusts, FSNAU and FEWS NET estimates that the acutely food-insecure population in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) will rise from about 2.7 million in April–June 2020 to 3.5 million in July–September, representing almost 30 percent of the total population (FSNAU and FEWS NET, May 2020).

Despite the expected formation of new desert locust swarms in mid-2020 following heavy Gu rains, pasture and crop losses are expected to be localized thanks to large-scale control operations (FAO-GIEWS, May 2020).

Although early onset and exceptionally abundant April–June Gu rains benefitted crop germination and regenerated pasture and browse they triggered widespread flash floods and the overflow of the Juba and Shabelle rivers (FAO-GIEWS, May 2020). By May, flooding had affected 919 000 people, including 412 000 displaced people (OCHA, May 2020). Gu crop production will likely be 15–25 percent below average as a result of the combined effects of floods and desert locusts (FSNAU and FEWS NET, May 2020).

COVID-19 is expected to have a significant impact on food security, including a sharp decline in livestock exports and remittance flows, rising food prices, and a decline in household income, particularly for the urban poor and IDP populations.

Conflict also continues to drive acute food insecurity with approximately 126 000 people displaced during the first quarter of 2020, primarily due to insecurity and mostly in Lower Shabelle, Bay, Galgaduud, and Gedo regions (FSNAU and FEWS NET, May 2020).

▼ South Sudan

After facing the highest ever registered peak of acute food insecurity in 2019, the situation is expected to improve slightly from 7 million people in need of humanitarian food assistance to cover their basic food needs (IPC Phase 3 or above), to 6.5 million people as the lean season peaks in around May–July. It must be noted that these estimates were produced before the impact of COVID-19 was assessed.

The main drivers keeping 55 percent of the population acutely food insecure continue to include localized intercommunal violence, asset depletion caused by years of conflict, continuous macroeconomic challenges, very high reliance on global crude oil prices, low market functionality and lack of infrastructure. This is further exacerbated by the negative consequences of the late-2019 floods that affected more than 900 000 people and caused severe livelihood losses. Low foreign currency reserves, low domestic production and high dependency on importing basic food commodities with high transaction costs continue to push up food prices while lack of formal labour opportunities and stagnant public salaries diminish households' purchasing power. The situation is expected to be worst in Jonglei state where the prevalence of people facing acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3

Weather extremes

Impact of 2020 flooding on food security

Heavy rainfall across East Africa from April has caused severe flooding and landslides, displacing people, damaging homes, property, crops, pastures and public infrastructure, further disrupting livelihoods and in some cases leading to death. By mid-May, many weather stations had recorded their highest amounts of rainfall in over 40 years, flooding areas that were still recovering from the October–December 2019 floods (ICPAC, 2020).

According to OCHA, floods have affected over 1.3 million people across the East Africa region between March and mid-May 2020, with Somalia, Kenya, Ethiopia, Djibouti and Uganda the most affected (OCHA, May 2020). The ongoing floods are coming at a time when the region is facing multiple hazards and shocks including an unpredicted desert locust invasion, COVID-19 pandemic, economic slowdowns and conflict/insecurity among others, and protracted impact of past shocks – each compounding the impacts of the other.

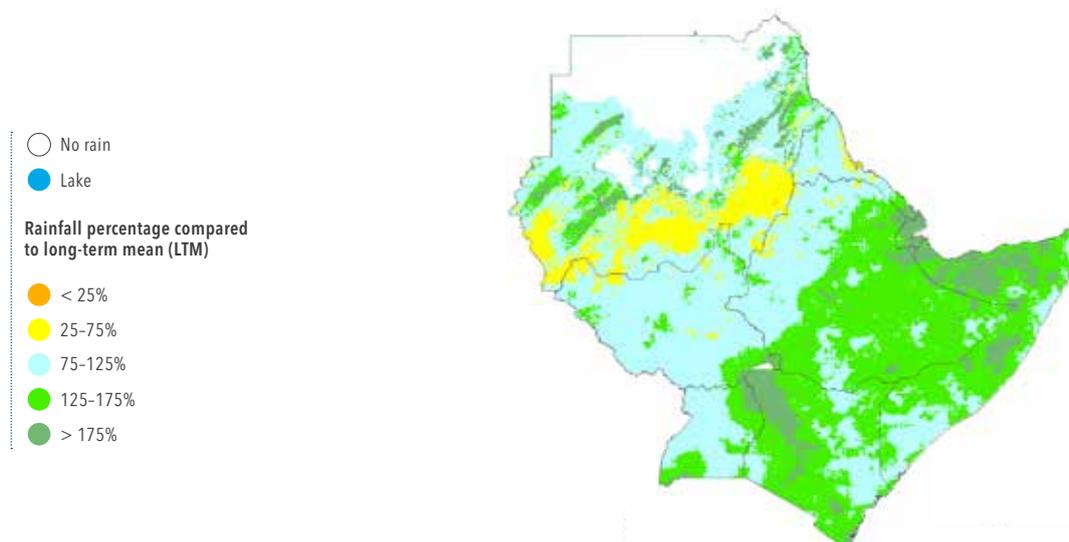
Over 702 km² of cropland had been washed or buried by floods across the affected countries in East Africa by early May, and floods were already disrupting the supply of, and/or access to food and essential non-food commodities/ services by the affected households (WFP, May 2020).

Above-average rains have also raised water levels in rivers and lakes, with rivers in several places bursting their banks, while lake levels in Uganda (Victoria, Albert and Kyoga) have surpassed their previous record highs, according to authorities, thereby displacing communities close to shorelines and river banks. In Somalia, torrential rains and riverine floods have inundated at least 29 districts (OCHA, May 2020), with Belet Weyne in Hiran region worst hit. In western Kenya, water levels have risen in the rivers Nzoia, Lusumu, Yala, Kipsangui, Malakisi, Sio and Malaba and Lake Naivasha, causing displacement and loss of life. Seasonal flooding in South Sudan is likely to be above average for the second consecutive year given the forecast for heavy rains and increased flow of River Nile waters from over-filled Lake Victoria, disrupting movement of both people and humanitarians, further threatening the livelihoods and food and nutrition status across vulnerable populations.

As well as providing ideal breeding conditions for desert locusts, the bad weather continues to disrupt locust surveillance and control operations in parts of Kenya, Ethiopia and Somalia (FAO, May 2020). Prolonged flooding also raises the risk of outbreaks of livestock diseases, such as Rift Valley fever, and human water-borne diseases, such as malaria.

Map 20

Rainfall anomaly situation, March–early May, 2020



Source: CHIRPS @ ICPAC.

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

and 4) is expected to reach 73 percent in May–July 2020 (IPC, February 2020).

The COVID-19 pandemic threatens to aggravate these high levels of acute food insecurity by further enfeebling household incomes and market functioning, while pushing up food prices, particularly of imported food. As a net exporter with nearly 100% of export earnings coming from sale of crude oil, the sharp decline in global oil prices will also contribute to continued economic challenges and reduced imports during the 2020 year (FAO, April 2020).

▶ Sudan

According to pre-COVID-19 estimates, the acute food security situation in the Sudan in 2020 is expected to remain dire with a peak of 5–6 million people acutely food-insecure people in need of humanitarian assistance (FEWS NET, April 2020).

There was a marginal improvement in acute food insecurity levels in late 2019 and early 2020 by comparison with the 2019 peak of 5.8 million people in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) in June–August, thanks to increased availabilities following the 2019 harvest (FAO-GIEWS, April 2020). However, this was mostly offset by severe constraints to food access due to exceptionally high food prices and the situation was expected to deteriorate from June–September as food stocks from the 2019 harvest deplete and the lean season takes hold (FEWS NET, April 2020).

The populations facing the worst situation of Crisis (IPC Phase 3) are IDPs in the conflict-affected areas in the Jebel Marra region of Darfur, the SPLM-N-controlled areas of South Kordofan and Blue Nile, as well as the poor households in chronically food-insecure areas (FEWS NET, April 2020). Humanitarian needs are particularly high for IDPs, estimated in April at 1.87 million people and for refugees from South Sudan, estimated in late February at about 818 000 people (FAO-GIEWS, April 2020).

The main driver is expected to continue to be high prices of staple foods in combination with limited income as a consequence of the increasingly severe macroeconomic situation (FEWS NET, April 2020). Price increases accelerated in March 2020 after the Central Bank of Sudan decided to devalue the Sudanese pound against the US dollar. In March, prices of sorghum, millet and wheat grain were at record levels and 2–3 times above the already high levels of a year earlier, mainly due to a weak local currency and tight supplies, coupled with fuel shortages and high prices of agricultural inputs that increased production and transportation costs (FAO-GIEWS, April 2020).

Staple food prices continued to increase more rapidly than normal in May driven by a combination of the continued macroeconomic crisis as well as strict COVID-19 control measures limiting market supply. These high prices, in combination with significant reductions in labour income, are likely to continue driving well above average humanitarian assistance needs through at least September 2020 (FEWS NET, May 2020).

▶ Uganda

Pre-COVID-19 estimates indicate that for most Ugandan households minimal acute food insecurity levels (IPC Phase 1) are expected until September 2020. This is due to an anticipation of average harvests in May–June 2020 from the average to above-average March–May rains that supported normal seasonal activities, average cereal and legume growth, and normal livestock productivity. However, an estimated 1.2–1.6 million people, primarily among the refugee population, and the poor and very poor households in Karamoja are likely to face Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) conditions at the peak of the lean season in May–June 2020 (FEWS NET, February 2020).

From March–May flooding affected hundreds of thousands of people with exact figures, as of May 2020, still not determined (OCHA, May 2020). Though the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries generally views the hatching of locust eggs as unsuccessful and there was minimal damage by May, there is still a risk of additional swarms migrating to Uganda from Kenya. FAO estimates that desert locusts pose a ‘threatened’ level of risk to agricultural production in Uganda (FAO, May 2020).

In Karamoja, below-average seasonal incomes and increasing prices of staples (of more than 50 percent for beans and maize) as the March–June lean season progresses, are negatively affecting households’ food access. Furthermore, the terms of trade between main income sources such as labour and the sale of firewood, charcoal and goats has declined in relation to sorghum, which is contributing to a further decline in food access.

For the refugee population consisting of 1.4 million people and making up most of the acutely food-insecure people in Uganda, food insecurity could deteriorate if adequate levels of humanitarian assistance are not maintained. As of April 2020, WFP began implementing 30 percent ration cuts due to funding shortfalls announced earlier by the agency, leading to severe shortages of life-saving food assistance, despite food relief being the main source of food for refugees (FEWS NET, May 2020). This is likely to drive up acute food insecurity significantly, with Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes expected to emerge unless full funding is restored.

Many poor urban households that rely on daily wages are facing difficulty purchasing their minimum food needs due to a reduction or loss of income as a result of movement restrictions to curb the spread of COVID-19. With limited coping strategies available to expand their food or income sources, many are reducing the quantity and dietary quality of daily meals (FEWS NET, May 2020).



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Pests

East Africa desert locust upsurge

The worst desert locust upsurge in decades is spreading across East Africa, threatening the livelihoods and food security of the region's rural population. It is the worst upsurge Eritrea, Ethiopia and Somalia have experienced in the last 25 years, Uganda in 60 years and in Kenya in 70 years (FAO).

The upsurge began in the Arabian Peninsula in 2018 after successive cyclones led to favourable breeding conditions, and ongoing conflict in Yemen limited pest control operations. By mid-2019, swarms had reached the Horn of Africa (northern Somalia, southern Eritrea and northern and eastern Ethiopia).

Exceptionally heavy rains across East Africa exacerbated locust reproduction, and by late 2019 and early 2020, the pests had also spread to coastal areas of the Sudan and Eritrea, central and southern Somalia, southern Ethiopia, Kenya, eastern Uganda and south-eastern South Sudan. New hopper bands and swarms are expected to form in Kenya, Ethiopia and Somalia during May and June, and new swarms are expected to reach Eritrea and the Sudan in June (FAO, May 2020).

Though control operations are underway, they have been hampered by limited resources, conflict/insecurity in Somalia and north-eastern Kenya as well as bad weather and COVID-19 impacts on population movements and supply chains.

The impact on future food security will be highly dependent on the magnitude of production losses, both in marginal agricultural zones and in key surplus production areas, as well as for rangeland resources. In this context, the Greater Horn of Africa Food Security and Nutrition Working Group (FSNWG) has developed two scenarios based on the likelihood of infestations and expected impacts on crops, rangelands and

ultimately the food security of local populations.

In the most likely scenario, households in areas where swarms have caused damages – particularly those relying on cropping activities that are already Stressed (IPC Phase 2) or worse – will experience a significant impact on food security. Given the average to above-average rainfall during the first half of 2020, the main assumption rests on significant crop losses for affected households, resulting in below-average production in some areas at a sub-national level, but the impact on national production and agricultural labour wages will be minimal. Vulnerable populations already affected by recent shocks and facing elevated levels of acute food insecurity are likely to face further deterioration, particularly in late 2020 and peaking during the 2021 lean season.

In the worst-case scenario, desert locust infestations would 1) cause significant losses during the 2020 main and secondary seasons, resulting in below-average harvests, and 2) cause major pasture and browse losses in arid and semi-arid regions, resulting in a more dire food security outlook. Food access, availability and stocks would be reduced. Pastoralists who face reduced rangeland availability would likely resort to atypical migration, thus accelerating the depletion of scarce rangeland resources and increasing the risks of livestock diseases and the likelihood of resource-based conflicts. Migration options would remain limited for the poorest pastoralists and for those living in conflict-affected areas. Under this scenario, a deterioration in food security outcomes would likely begin in mid-2020.

Source: FSNWG. 2020. Special Report – East Africa desert locust and Food Security Update: Current Upsurge Threatens Upcoming 2020 Agricultural Season. 17 February.

NUTRITION FORECAST EARLY 2020

A combination of factors, including poverty, food insecurity, disease outbreaks, poor healthcare, sub optimal child-feeding practices, poor hygiene and sanitation, will continue to drive high levels of acute malnutrition across the IGAD region.

In Ethiopia, 224 woredas out of 983 were identified as priority areas as per the January 2020 hotspot classification. A total of 443 565 children are expected to need treatment for SAM in 2020 and over 3.1 million children and pregnant and lactating women are expected to have MAM. Oromia, Somali and SNNPR regions have the highest numbers (HNO, January 2020).

In Kenya, the situation improved in most counties in early 2020 compared to the 2019 long rains season, mainly thanks to the good performance of the 2019 short rains and improved food security. From February–May 2020, around 370 000 children are expected to need treatment for acute malnutrition. Acute malnutrition remains critical (IPC AMN Phase 4) in Garissa, Wajir, Mandera, Turkana and Isiolo counties, North Horr and Laisamis sub-counties in Marsabit and Tiaty sub-county in Baringo (IPC, April 2020). There has been a notable improvement in Turkana North, Turkana South and Laisamis sub-counties, which were classified in Extremely Critical (IPC AMN Phase 5) during the July 2019 long rains assessment (KFSSG, 2019).

In South Sudan, the number of acutely malnourished children

and pregnant and lactating women is expected to increase by 0.6 million in 2020. According to the IPC AMN analysis, the highest prevalence of GAM is in Jonglei state at 23.8 percent, Upper Nile at 16.4 percent and Central Equatoria at 15.3 percent. Overall, 28 counties are classified in IPC AMN Phase 3 (Serious) and 20 in IPC AMN Phase 4 (Critical) (IPC, February 2020).

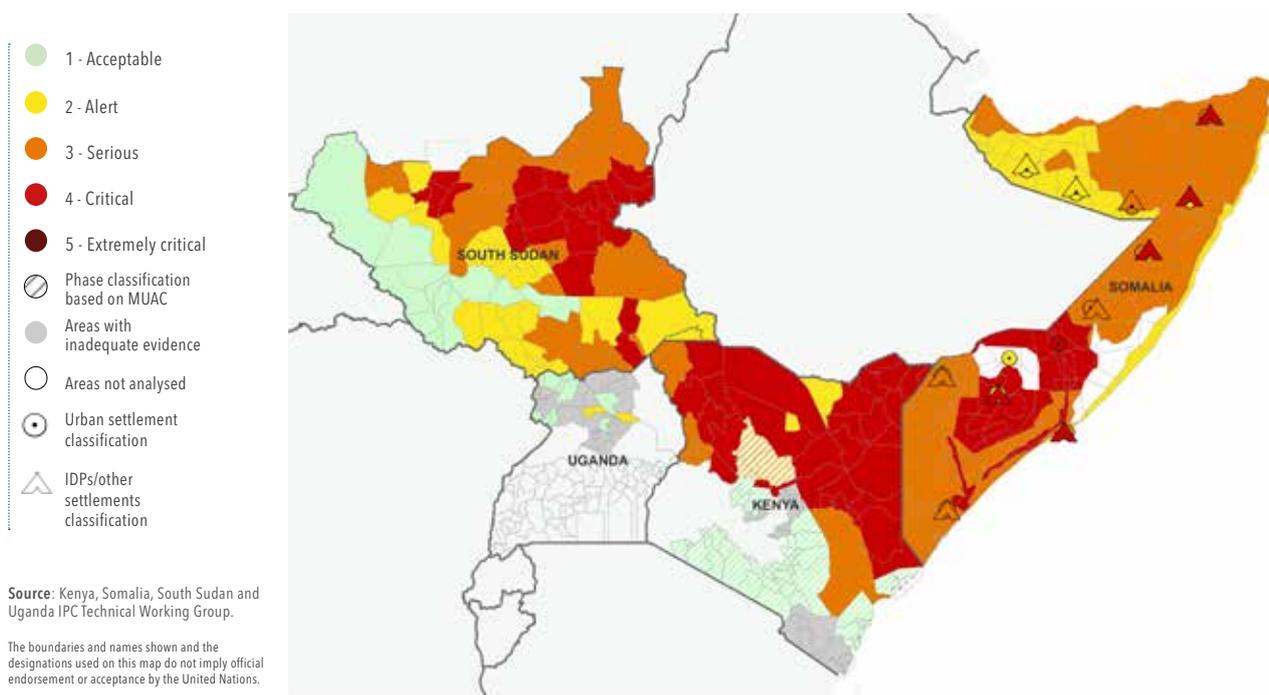
In Somalia, national GAM prevalence stands at 13.1 percent based on the 2019 post-Deyr assessment, with 13 out of 48 areas projected to be in IPC AMN Phase 4 (Critical). The analysis showed a slight deterioration in southern and north-western Somalia while the acute malnutrition situation in north-western, north-eastern and central areas remains serious. Of further concern is an even higher GAM prevalence (>15 percent) predominantly in areas hosting large IDP populations and riverine areas affected by flooding during the Deyr season (FSNAU, February 2020).

In Uganda, the nutrition situation in the analysed 10 districts is expected to remain stable until April 2020, with Otuke and Omoro districts classified in Alert (IPC AMN Phase 2) where 1 in 20 children are acutely malnourished. Of the overall total of nearly 48 000 acutely malnourished children and in need of treatment, the highest numbers are in Yumbe district followed by Adjumani district (IPC, March 2020).

Child malnutrition levels are expected to rise throughout 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and its long-term socioeconomic effects on food access and disruptions to basic health services, including treatment for acute malnutrition, with the youngest children most at risk.

Map 21

Horn of Africa, pre-COVID-19 IPC acute malnutrition projections for 2020



Pandemic effect

COVID-19 in East Africa and impact on household food security and nutrition

Though not yet factored into most of the region's food security analyses by mid-May, the COVID-19 crisis and its impacts on economies and food systems could significantly drive up the numbers of food-insecure people in East Africa. FEWS NET estimates the total number of acutely food-insecure people (IPC Phase 3 and above) in the IGAD region to reach between 28.1 and 33.5 million. WFP projects an increase of up to 100 percent from 25.8 million people requiring urgent humanitarian assistance. In both agencies' analyses, the majority of food-insecure people are expected to remain in rural areas, though the majority of increases due to COVID-19 impacts will likely be among urban poor households.

With the first cases detected in Ethiopia and Kenya in mid-March, all eight IGAD member states had cases by May although the number of cases has grown at a relatively modest pace (WHO, May 2020). There are varying explanations for these comparably low numbers. They include differences in population pyramids, climate, level of globalisation, testing rates and the degree and timing of the implementation of preventive measures.

Quarantine measures, curfews and lockdowns are expected to severely affect the urban poor in particular, who are not included in some IPC peak figures. The abrupt loss of livelihoods following the lockdowns has caused a severe deterioration in households' incomes and purchasing power. As many of these people rely on daily, physical labour as their only productive asset and have very limited savings, lockdowns will quickly drive them into extreme poverty with very limited opportunities to cover the minimum food requirements of all household members (IFPRI, April 2020).

The households already facing the highest levels of vulnerability will be hit the hardest, as they have limited coping capacity. At the national level, the countries are experiencing challenges to food availability and food access, which is leading to bottlenecks, unavailability of essential food items and price increases (IFPRI, April 2020 & WFP, May 2020).

Estimations of the global increase in people being pushed into extreme poverty in the coming months due to COVID-19 range from 40–60 million people (WB, April 2020) to 84–132 million (UN, April 2020). A disproportionately high share of these are expected to come from the IGAD region due to the high dependency of the countries on labour intensive and informal

sectors combined with a very high level of vulnerable people already living close to extreme poverty (WB, April 2020).

The region has a high level of dependency on remittances, which is important for ensuring income at the individual level and foreign currency at the national level. As the global economic situation worsens, the level of remittances is expected to go down (WFP, May 2020).

Additionally, the direct and indirect impacts of COVID-19 could increase resource-based conflicts, and aggravate food insecurity situations in fragile and conflict-affected contexts.

The already high levels of malnutrition in the region are also expected to increase, as reduced income is likely to lead to households being forced to shift to more nutrient-poor diets. A study on the early effects of COVID-19 on nutrition outcomes in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, showed that income losses due to travel restrictions and loss of livelihood opportunities led households to cut their spending on nutritious food items (IFPRI, May 2020).

Increased checking measures at border crossings may affect supply chains and limit the availability of perishable foods. WFP has found that the availability of specialized nutritious food items has been limited by reduced production capacity following the lockdown measures, a drop in available raw materials as well as supply chain challenges (WFP, May 2020).

Despite favourable climatic forecasts for regional harvests, COVID-19 could decrease food availability across the region if restrictions prevent people from travelling from urban areas to their farms during the planting season. If the supply chain for agricultural inputs is disrupted, delayed or if prices increase, farmers will likely see their yields drop.

Although the global cereal market is adequate and not expected to face shortages during the COVID-19 shock (FAO, May 2020), the nominal purchase prices for imported foods on local markets are likely to rise (most countries in the region are net importers of cereal) as local currencies depreciate and foreign currency is in short supply following the abrupt halt of tourism and remittance income (WFP, May 2020).

To facilitate a regional, coordinated response by the IGAD member states, IGAD has initiated a regional response strategy for the COVID-19 pandemic.

Table 7

IPC Acute food insecurity reference table

Phase name and description	Phase 1 None/Minimal	Phase 2 Stressed	Phase 3 Crisis	Phase 4 Emergency	Phase 5 Catastrophe/Famine
	Households are able to meet essential food and non-food needs without engaging in atypical and unsustainable strategies to access food and income.	Households have minimally adequate food consumption but are unable to afford some essential non-food expenditures without engaging in stress-coping strategies.	Households either have food consumption gaps that are reflected by high or above-usual acute malnutrition; or are marginally able to meet minimum food needs but only by depleting essential livelihood assets or through crisis-coping strategies.	Households either have large food consumption gaps which are reflected in very high acute malnutrition and excess mortality; or are able to mitigate large food consumption gaps but only by employing emergency livelihood strategies and asset liquidation.	Households have an extreme lack of food and/or other basic needs even after full employment of coping strategies. Starvation, death, destitution and extremely critical acute malnutrition levels are evident. (For Famine Classification, area needs to have extreme critical levels of acute malnutrition and mortality.)
Priority response objective	Action required to build resilience and for disaster risk reduction.	Action required for disaster risk reduction and to protect livelihoods.	URGENT ACTION required to protect livelihoods and reduce food consumption gaps.	URGENT ACTION required to save lives and livelihoods.	URGENT ACTION required to revert/prevent widespread death and total collapse of livelihoods
ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY FIRST-LEVEL OUTCOMES First-level outcomes refer to characteristics of food consumption and livelihood change. Thresholds that correspond as closely as possible to the Phase descriptions are included for each indicator. Although cut-offs are based on applied research and presented as global reference, correlation between indicators is often somewhat limited and findings need to be contextualized. The area is classified in the most severe Phase that affects at least 20% of the population.					
Food consumption (focus on energy intake)	Quantity: Adequate energy intake Dietary energy intake: Adequate (avg. 2 350 kcal pp/day) and stable Household Dietary Diversity Score: 5–12 food groups and stable Food Consumption Score: Acceptable and stable Household Hunger Scale: 0 (none) Reduced Coping Strategies Index: 0–3 Household Economy Analysis: No livelihood protection deficit	Quantity: Minimally Adequate Dietary energy intake: Minimally adequate (avg. 2 100 kcal pp/day) Household Dietary Diversity Score: 5 FG but deterioration ≥1 FG from typical Food Consumption Score: Acceptable but deterioration from typical Household Hunger Scale: 1 (slight) Reduced Coping Strategies Index: 4–18 Household Economy Analysis: Small or moderate livelihood protection deficit <80%	Quantity: Moderately Inadequate – Moderate deficits Dietary energy intake: Food gap (below avg. 2 100 kcal pp/day) Household Dietary Diversity Score: 3–4 FG Food Consumption Score: Borderline Household Hunger Scale: 2–3 (moderate) Reduced Coping Strategies Index: ≥19 (non-defining characteristics (NDC) to differentiate P3, 4 and 5) Household Economy Analysis: Livelihood protection deficit ≥80%; or survival deficit <20%	Quantity: Very Inadequate – Large deficits Dietary energy intake: Large food gap; much below 2 100 kcal pp/day Household Dietary Diversity Score: 0–2 FG (NDC to differentiate P4 and 5) Food Consumption Score: Poor (NDC to differentiate P4 and 5) Household Hunger Scale: 4 (severe) Reduced Coping Strategies Index: ≥19 (NDC to differentiate P3, 4 and 5) Household Economy Analysis: Survival deficit ≥20% but <50%	Quantity: Extremely Inadequate – Very large deficits Dietary energy intake: Extreme food gap Household Dietary Diversity Score: 0–2 FG Food Consumption Score: Poor (NDC to differentiate P4 and 5) Household Hunger Scale: 5–6 (severe) Reduced Coping Strategies Index: ≥19 (NDC to differentiate P3, 4 and 5) Household Economy Analysis: Survival deficit ≥50%
Livelihood change (assets and strategies)	Livelihood change: Sustainable livelihood strategies and assets Livelihood coping strategies: No stress, crisis or emergency coping observed	Livelihood change: Stressed strategies and/or assets; reduced ability to invest in livelihoods Livelihood coping strategies: Stress strategies are the most severe strategies used by the household in the past 30 days	Livelihood change: Accelerated depletion/erosion of strategies and/or assets Livelihood coping strategies: Crisis strategies are the most severe strategies used by the household in the past 30 days	Livelihood change: Extreme depletion/liquidation of strategies and assets Livelihood coping strategies: Emergency strategies are the most severe strategies used by the household in the past 30 days	Livelihood change: Near complete collapse of strategies and assets Livelihood coping strategies: Near exhaustion of coping capacity
FOOD SECURITY SECOND-LEVEL OUTCOMES Second-level outcomes refer to area-level estimations of nutritional status and mortality that are especially useful for identification of more severe phases when food gaps are expected to impact malnutrition and mortality. For both nutrition and mortality area outcomes, household food consumption deficits should be an explanatory factor in order for that evidence to be used in support of the classification.					
Nutritional status*					
Global Acute Malnutrition based on Weight-for-Height Z-score	Acceptable <5%	Alert 5–9.9%	Serious 10–14.9% or > than usual	Critical 15–29.9% or > much greater than average	Extremely Critical ≥30%
Global Acute Malnutrition based on Mid-Upper Arm Circumference		5%	5–9.9%	10–14.9%	≥15%
Body Mass Index <18.5	<5%	5–9.9%	10–19.9%, 1.5 x greater than baseline	20–39.9%	≥40%
Mortality*	Crude Death Rate <0.5/10,000/day Under-five Death Rate <1/10,000/day	Crude Death Rate <0.5/10,000/day Under-five Death Rate <1/10,000/day	Crude Death Rate 0.5–0.99/10,000/day Under-five Death Rate 1–2/10 000/day	Crude Death Rate 1–1.99/10,000/day or <2x reference Under-five Death Rate 2–3.99/10,000/day	Crude Death Rate ≥2/10,000/day Under-five Death Rate ≥4/10,000/day
FOOD SECURITY CONTRIBUTING FACTORS For contributing factors, specific indicators and thresholds for different phases need to be determined and analysed according to the livelihood context; nevertheless, general descriptions for contributing factors are provided below.					
Food availability, access, utilization, and stability	Adequate to meet short-term food consumption requirements Safe water ≥15 litres pp/day	Borderline adequate to meet food consumption requirements Safe water marginally ≥15 litres pp/day	Inadequate to meet food consumption requirements Safe water >7.5 to 15 litres pp/day	Very inadequate to meet food consumption requirements Safe water >3 to <7.5 litres pp/day	Extremely inadequate to meet food consumption requirements Safe water ≤3 litres pp/day
Hazards and vulnerability	None or minimal effects of hazards and vulnerability on livelihoods and food consumption	Effects of hazards and vulnerability stress livelihoods and food consumption	Effects of hazards and vulnerability result in loss of assets and/or significant food consumption deficits	Effects of hazards and vulnerability result in large loss of livelihood assets and/or extreme food consumption deficits	Effects of hazards and vulnerability result in near complete collapse of livelihood assets and/or near complete food consumption deficits

Table 8

IPC Acute malnutrition (AMN) reference table

Phase name and description	Phase 1 Acceptable	Phase 2 Alert	Phase 3 Serious	Phase 4 Critical	Phase 5 Extremely critical
	Less than 5% of children are acutely malnourished.	5-9.9% of children are acutely malnourished.	10-14.9% of children are acutely malnourished.	15-29.9% of children are acutely malnourished. The mortality and morbidity levels are elevated or increasing. Individual food consumption is likely to be compromised.	30% or more children are acutely malnourished. Widespread morbidity and/or very large individual food consumption gaps are likely evident.
	The situation is progressively deteriorating, with increasing levels of Acute Malnutrition. Morbidity levels and/or individual food consumption gaps are likely to increase with increasing levels of Acute Malnutrition.				
Priority response objective to decrease Acute Malnutrition and to prevent related mortality.	Maintain the low prevalence of Acute Malnutrition.	Strengthen existing response capacity and resilience. Address contributing factors to Acute Malnutrition. Monitor conditions and plan response as required.	Urgently reduce Acute Malnutrition levels by: scaling up treatment and prevention of affected populations.	Urgently reduce Acute Malnutrition levels by: significantly scaling up and intensifying treatment and protection activities to reach additional population affected.	Urgently reduce Acute Malnutrition levels by: addressing widespread Acute Malnutrition and disease epidemics by all means.
Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) based on weight for height Z-score (WHZ)	<5%	5.0 to 9.9%	10.0 to 14.9%	15.0 to 29.9%	≥30%
Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) based on Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC)		5%	5-9.9%	10-14.9%	≥15%
*GAM based on MUAC must only be used in the absence of GAM based on WHZ; the final IPC Acute Malnutrition phase with GAM based on MUAC should be supported by the analysis of the relationship between WHZ and MUAC in the area of analysis and also by using convergence of evidence with contributing factors. In exceptional conditions where GAM based on MUAC is significantly higher than GAM based on WHZ (i.e. two or more phases), both GAM based on WHZ, and GAM based on MUAC should be considered, and the final phase should be determined with convergence of evidence.					

- 1 The mortality mentioned above refers to the increased risk of mortality with the increased levels of Acute Malnutrition.
- 2 Priority response objectives recommended by the IPC Acute Malnutrition Reference Table focus on decreasing Acute Malnutrition levels; specific actions should be informed through a response analysis based on the information provided by analyses of contributing factors to Acute Malnutrition as well as delivery-related issues, such as government and agencies' capacity, funding and insecurity in the area.
- 3 GAM based on WHZ is defined as WHZ < -2 or presence of oedema; GAM based on MUAC is defined as MUAC < 125mm or presence of oedema

Table 9

Estimates of acutely food-insecure people in 2019–2020

COUNTRIES	TOTAL POPULATION OF REFERENCE (MILLIONS)	HIGHEST NUMBER OF ACUTELY FOOD-INSECURE PEOPLE IN 2019						LATEST UPDATE IN 2019				ESTIMATES FOR 2020 PEAK NEEDS			
		SOURCES ¹	PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION ANALYSED OUT OF TOTAL POPULATION OF REFERENCE	POPULATION IN STRESSED (IPC PHASE 2)		POPULATION IN CRISIS OR WORSE (IPC PHASE 3 OR ABOVE)		SOURCES ¹	POPULATION IN STRESSED (IPC PHASE 2)		POPULATION IN CRISIS OR WORSE (IPC PHASE 3 OR ABOVE)		ANTICIPATED PEAK PERIOD	POPULATION IN CRISIS OR WORSE (IPC PHASE 3 OR ABOVE) (MILLIONS)	SOURCE
				(MILLIONS)	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION ANALYSED	(MILLIONS)	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION ANALYSED		(MILLIONS)	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION ANALYSED	(MILLIONS)	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION ANALYSED			
Djibouti	1.1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Jan 2020	0.2	WFP	
Ethiopia*	112.1	IPC analysis Sep 2019, covering Jul-Sep 2019	26%	10.0	34%	8.0	27%	IPC analysis Sep 2019, Oct 2019-Jan 2020	10.5	36%	6.7	24%	Feb-Jun 2020	8.5	IPC
Kenya	52.6	IPC analysis Jul 2019, covering Aug-Oct 2019	26%	6.0	43%	3.1	22%	No further update					Jan-Mar 2020	1.3	IPC
Somalia	12.3	IPC analysis Aug 2019, covering Oct-Dec 2019	80%	4.2	34%	2.1	17%	No further update					Apr-Jun 2020	1.3	IPC
South Sudan	11.4	IPC analysis May 2019, covering May-Jul 2019	100%	3.2	28%	7.0	61%	IPC analysis Aug 2019, Sep-Dec 2019	4.7	40%	4.5	39%	May-Jul 2020	6.5	IPC
Sudan**	42.8	IPC analysis Jul 2019, covering Jun-Aug 2019	98%	11.8	28%	5.9	14%	No further update					Jun-Sep 2020	5.0-6.0	FEWS NET
Uganda	40.0	FEWS NET internal figures covering Apr-Jul 2019	100%	N/A	N/A	1.5	4%	FEWS NET internal figures	N/A	N/A	0.5-0.99		May-Jun 2020	1.2-1.6	FEWS NET

* selected areas in 6 regions

** Due to different data sources, the 2019 peak and 2020 anticipated peak numbers are not directly comparable.

¹ The month for IPC source is the month of the analysis, followed by the analysis period. For HNO, date refers to report release date

The forecast 2020 estimates in this table for Djibouti and Ethiopia reflect only the furthest forecast available for 2020 – not the anticipated peak period, for which no estimates are available.

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**Global Network
Against Food Crises**



The FSIN, founded by FAO, IFPRI and WFP, is a technical global platform for the exchange of expertise, knowledge and best practice among a network of food security and nutrition practitioners.

FSIN provides the core coordination and technical support to the Global Network Against Food Crises analytical pillar 1 which focuses on evidence to better understand food crises. Its purpose is to promote timely, independent and consensus-based information while also highlighting and addressing critical data and information gaps.