

FOOD ASSISTANCE OUTLOOK BRIEF

February 2014

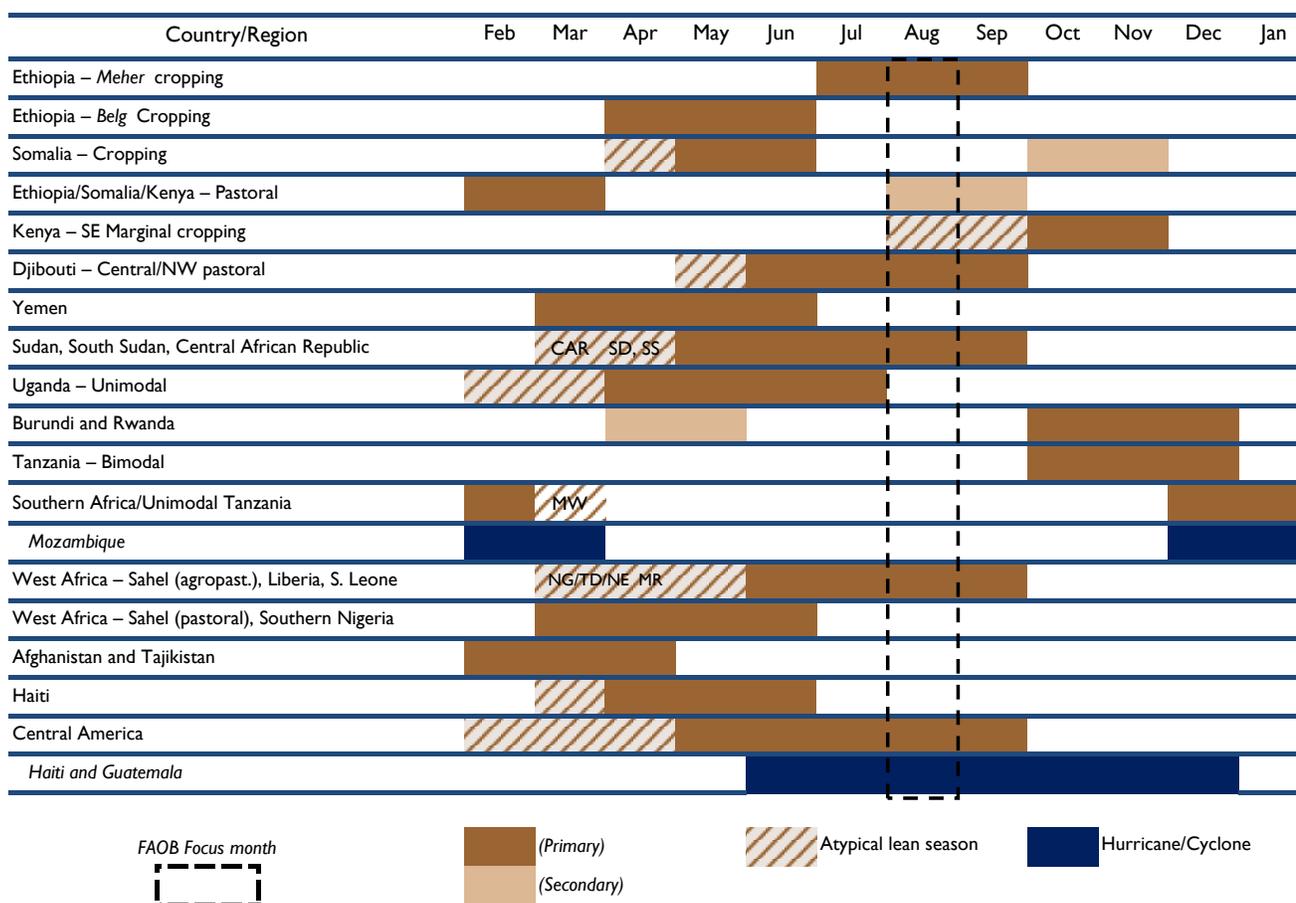
PROJECTED FOOD ASSISTANCE NEEDS FOR AUGUST 2014

This brief summarizes FEWS NET's most forward-looking analysis of projected emergency food assistance needs in FEWS NET coverage countries. The projected size of each country's acutely food insecure population is compared to last year and the recent five-year average and categorized as Higher (▲), Similar (▶), or Lower (▼). Countries where external emergency food assistance needs are anticipated are identified. Projected lean season months highlighted in red indicate either an early start or an extension to the typical lean season. Additional information is provided for countries with large food insecure populations, an expectation of high severity, or where other key issues warrant additional discussion. Analytical confidence is lower in remote monitoring countries, denoted by "RM". Visit www.fews.net for detailed country reports.

Country (In order of estimated food insecure population, AUG.)	External needs in AUG. ?	AUG. versus last year	AUG. versus 5-year avg.	Highest likely severity in AUGUST	Key upcoming lean season
2.5 – 4.9 million	SUDAN	Yes ▲	▼	PHASE 4: Emergency	Agricultural: April – August Conflict is expected to continue and intensify in 2014 in Darfur, South Kordofan, and Blue Nile states, causing additional displacement and disrupting market access. The 2013/2014 harvest is estimated to be 65-75 percent of the five-year average and 45-50 percent of 2012/2013 production. Conflict in South Sudan may generate a major influx of refugees into Sudan, and could reduce oil exports to Sudan, increasing Sudan's budget deficit.
	SOUTH SUDAN	Yes ▲	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency	March/April – August Above-average assistance needs in many parts of the country are likely due to intense and widespread conflict since mid-December, which has caused massive displacement, deaths of thousands, and interruptions to trade. An average to below-average 2013/2014 harvest is expected due to the impacts of conflict on the harvest and flooding. An effective ceasefire and successful negotiations would result in better food security outcomes than projected.
	NIGERIA	No ▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	Northeast: March – September Population displacement continues as the Boko Haram conflict persists in northeast Nigeria. Households remaining in the area depend mostly on market purchase in an attempt to meet food needs during the height of the lean season, though seasonal incomes will be significantly below average due to the disruption of conflict on typical livelihoods.
	ETHIOPIA	Yes ▼	▼	PHASE 3: Crisis	Belg areas NE Highlands: Apr – Jun Needs during the lean season are expected to be higher than usual in the Belg-producing areas in the northeastern highlands, in northeastern Afar, in the Tekeze River catchment in Tigray and Amhara, and in East and West Hararghe Zones in Oromia due, primarily, to below average Meher production from October to January.
	Yemen (RM)	Yes ▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	March/April – June An ongoing locust outbreak on the Red Sea coast and western highlands has damaged crops. Conflict-related acute food insecurity remains in the South, and chronic food insecurity is high among the poor, and displaced populations.
	KENYA	Yes ▲	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	SE Marginal: Aug – Nov Well below average short rains maize production in February will lead to increasing needs by an early lean season in the southeastern and coastal marginal mixed farming livelihood zones.
	1.0 – 2.49 million	NIGER	Yes ▲	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis
CHAD		Yes ▲	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	Sahelian zone: April – September Localized areas of Wadi-Fira and Bahr-El Ghazel saw 2013/14 crop production shortfalls of nearly 50 percent compared to average. Below-average household food stocks, along with atypically high food prices and a deterioration of livestock-to-cereal terms of trade, will cause consumption gaps for the poor during the 2014 lean season.

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SOMALIA	Yes	▲	▼	PHASE 3: Crisis	Southern Agropastoral: Apr - Jun Agropastoral areas that had poorer production during the February/March Deyr harvest will likely have an early start to the lean season in April instead of May. However, conditions should improve with the Gu harvest in June/July.	
	Central African Rep (RM)	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	Conflict areas: March – August Conflict continues, particularly in the northwest and west-central regions and in Bangui, with approximately 18 percent of the country's population currently displaced. Poor households are currently reducing their food consumption levels and are selling assets to purchase food. Well-targeted emergency interventions are needed.
0.5 – 0.99 million	AFGHANISTAN	Yes	▶	▼	PHASE 2: Stressed (!)	February – April Rural needs will be concentrated in the Western Central Highlands Agropastoral livelihood zone, where stocks from own production in 2013 are minimal. IDPs will continue to require assistance.
	MALI	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	North riverine area: June – August Rainfall anomalies caused significant production shortfalls in northern, rice-producing areas along the Niger River, as well as in the Dogon Plateau. Without humanitarian assistance, these areas, as well as northern areas where livelihoods have not fully recovered from last year's conflict, will face Crisis outcomes during the 2014 lean season
	HAITI	Yes	▼	▼	PHASE 2: Stressed	February – July The 2014 lean season will be extended 1-2 months due to fewer reserves from 2013 and an expected late start to the spring season. Spring harvests (Jun-Aug) will lessen food insecurity throughout the country.
	UGANDA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 2: Stressed	Unimodal: Karamoja Ongoing – July By August, green harvests will improve food security in Karamoja. Refugees from South Sudan will need assistance.
	Tanzania (RM)	No	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	Bimodal: September – December
	MAURITANIA	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	March – September Pest infestation of off-season, flood recession crops in the agropastoral south has reduced production prospects. Increased efforts to augment seasonal incomes will not offset the elevated dependence on market purchase to meet consumption needs. Highest assistance needs are expected in northern Guidimaka.
0.1 – 0.49 million	Burundi (RM)	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 2: Stressed	September – December
	Angola (RM)	No	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	December – February
	Senegal (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	June – September
	RWANDA	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	April – May
	GUATEMALA	Yes	▼	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	W. Highlands / East: February – August
	Honduras (RM)	Yes	▲	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	February – August
<0.1 million	DJIBOUTI	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	Obock, SE Pastoral: May - August
	El Salvador (RM)	Yes	▲	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	February – August
	Nicaragua (RM)	Yes	▲	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	February – August
	MOZAMBIQUE	No	▶	▼	PHASE 1: Minimal	December – February
	BURKINA FASO	No	▶	▼	PHASE 2: Stressed	July – September
	Liberia (RM)	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 1: Minimal	April – July
	ZAMBIA	No	▶	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	December – February
	ZIMBABWE	No	▼	▼	PHASE 1: Minimal	December – February
	Lesotho (RM)	No	▼	▼	PHASE 1: Minimal	December – February
	MALAWI	No	▶	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	December – March
	Tajikistan (RM)	No	▼	▼	PHASE 1: Minimal	February – April
	Guinea (RM)	No	▶	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	June – September
	Sierra Leone (RM)	No	▶	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	June – September
Madagascar (RM)	No	▼	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	October – December	

LEAN SEASONS IN FEWS NET MONITORED COUNTRIES AND REGIONS



IPC ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY PHASE DESCRIPTIONS (AREA)

PHASE 1 Minimal	Households are able to meet basic food needs and afford essential non-food expenditure without a reliance on coping strategies or humanitarian assistance.
PHASE 2 Stressed	For at least 1 in 5 households, food consumption is reduced but minimally adequate without having to engage in unsustainable coping strategies. However, these households are unable to afford some essential non-food
PHASE 3 Crisis	At least 1 in 5 households face significant food consumption gaps with high or above usual acute malnutrition, or is marginally able to meet minimum food needs only with unsustainable coping strategies such as liquidating livelihood
PHASE 4 Emergency	At least 1 in 5 households face extreme food consumption gaps resulting in very high acute malnutrition or excess mortality, or faces extreme loss of livelihood assets that will likely lead to food consumption gaps.
PHASE 5 Famine	At least 1 in 5 households have a near complete lack of food and/or other basic needs. Starvation, death, and destitution are evident.
!	Phase classification would likely be worse without current or programmed humanitarian assistance.