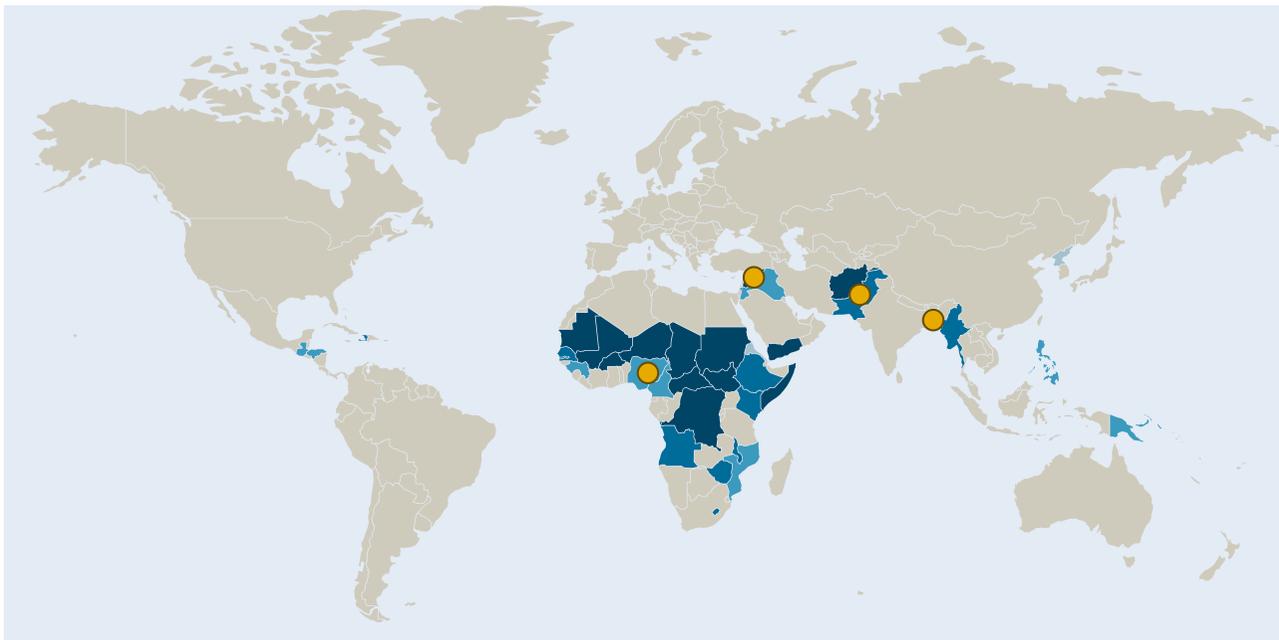




GLOBAL EMERGENCY OVERVIEW

October 2012



Snapshot

8 to 15 October

This week, flooding caused by heavy rains affected more than 1.3 million people in **Nigeria**. Flooding also affected more than five million people in Sindh, Balochistan and Punjab in **Pakistan** and around 226,000 in Bogra State in **Bangladesh**. A heavy tropical cyclone hit the south-west coast of Bangladesh on 11th October 2012 displacing 20,000 people and affecting more than 100,000. Armed violence continued to escalate in **Syria** with heavy fighting occurring in Homs, Daraa, Deir Ezzor, Idlib, Latakia, Aleppo and Damascus.

Most recent update: 15/10/2012

Next update: 22/10/2012

Severe humanitarian crisis

Afghanistan	Niger
Burkina Faso	oPt
CAR	Somalia
Chad	South Sudan
DRC	Sudan
Gambia	● Syria
Mali	Yemen
Mauritania	

Humanitarian crisis

Angola	Malawi
Ethiopia	Myanmar
Haiti	● Pakistan
Kenya	Senegal
Lesotho	Zimbabwe

Situation of concern

● Bangladesh	Jordan
Cameroon	Mozambique
Guatemala	● Nigeria
Guinea	PNG
Honduras	Philippines
Iraq	

Watch list

DPRK	Eritrea
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AFRICA

BURKINA FASO FLOODS, FOOD INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT

Burkina Faso is currently facing a food and nutrition crisis as a result of crop failures in about 40 % of the country, with a 16% decline in grain production compared to last year. Close to 2.8 million people are estimated to be at risk of going hungry. Food prices are high. According to UNICEF, in 2012 Burkina Faso also has an estimated caseload of 100,000 children <5 with severe acute malnutrition. The country has additionally been affected by the insecurity and ensuing displacement in Mali: as of 10 October, Burkina Faso received around 108,000 Malian refugees at seven official sites (Mentao, Damba, Fereiro, Goudebo, Gandafabou, BoboDioulasso, Ouagadougou) which are recognized as refugee camps by the Government of Burkina Faso. There are also several spontaneously settled sites. The GoBF has further ordered 1,000 combat troops to the border region with Mali to secure the border and prevent kidnappings. Heavy seasonal rains in the Sahel region have caused flooding and have affected approximately 21,000 people throughout Burkina Faso.

Updated: 15/10/2012

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC FOOD INSECURITY, INSECURITY

The Central African Republic continues to face a severe and protracted humanitarian crisis. UN OCHA reports that an estimated 1.9 million people, half of the country's population, are in need of humanitarian assistance. An estimated 65,000 Central Africans are displaced within the country. Flooding following torrential rains in September, has affected more than 13,000 people. At the same time, around 30% of the population will likely be affected by low crop yields caused by erratic and insufficient rainfall. The security situation improved in 2012, following cease-fire agreements between the Government and two main rebel groups, as well as amongst different rebel groups. However, the security situation has deteriorated in the north-centre (due to a military operation from the Chadian and Central African army against the rebel group Front Populaire pour le Redressement) and south east (due to attacks from the Lord's Resistance Army).

Updated: 15/10/2012

CHAD FLOODS, FOOD INSECURITY, EPIDEMIC

Chad continues to face a severe food and nutrition crisis with the Sahel belt in the west and centre of the country being most affected. Two years of continued climatic shocks, including erratic rainfall in 2011, have caused significant food security concerns in 2012 with an estimated 3.6 million people food insecure. The rate of acute malnutrition rose from 14.5% (August 2011) to 18.9% (July 2012) surpassing the WHO emergency threshold of 15%. Due to heavy rains in early August, Chad has experienced floods in many parts of the country, affecting more than 460,000 people and impacting crops. The floods further increase the risk of a locust infestation, which could negatively impact the upcoming harvest. The rainy season severely hampers humanitarian access.

Updated: 15/10/2012

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO CONFLICT, FOOD INSECURITY, EPIDEMIC

DRC continues to be affected by conflict in the east, large scale displacement, food insecurity and disease outbreaks. The number of people displaced by violence has risen by more than 25% to 2.24 million people since the beginning of 2012. Large scale displacement has taken place in eastern Congo in recent months as new conflicts have resurfaced and old ones have re-ignited. In the provinces of North and South Kivu, clashes between armed groups, including the rebel group M23, and the regular Congolese army, have displaced more than 260,000 people and an estimated 60,000 have fled to Uganda and Rwanda. Armed groups are involved in massacres of entire villages, mass rape, abductions, and child recruitment. An Ebola outbreak was reported by WHO in Province Orientale in eastern Congo, with 49 cases noted, including 24 deaths. In addition, an estimated 5.4 million people are at IPC crisis and emergency levels of food insecurity nationwide.

Humanitarian access has been limited due to mountainous and volcanic terrain, coupled with widespread and shifting insecurity. The onset of the rainy season has made many roads impassable, cutting off large populations from assistance. There is a lack of information on the number of people affected in the eastern provinces, their location and their needs.

Updated: 15/10/2012

GAMBIA FOOD INSECURITY

Gambia continues to be affected by the Sahel food crisis and around 600,000 people have been directly affected by crop failure, resulting from poor rains. In March, the Gambian government asked for international assistance to deal with the crisis. The rising food prices further affect household food security. In May, an assessment found that families in some areas of the country had depleted their household food stocks, triggering the start of the lean season two to three months earlier than normal. There is a lack of updated information on the situation in Gambia.

Updated: 15/10/2012

MALI CONFLICT, FLOODS, FOOD INSECURITY

The conflict in northern Mali and a nationwide food crisis continue to affect a large part of the population. The lean season is currently at its height and the severe food and nutrition crisis is affecting 4.6 million people. Estimates predict 175,000 cases of severe acute malnutrition in children <5 year in 2012, with 87% of cases expected in the south. The insecurity in the north has led to large scale displacement with around 118,000 people displaced internally and more than 274,000 fleeing to neighbouring countries (108,000 refugees in Burkina Faso, 107,000 in Mauritania, 59,000 in Niger). The situation was further aggravated in the beginning of the year by a cholera outbreak in the north. In addition, heavy flooding affected close to 12,000 people in Ségou and Kayes regions in the centre. As a result of above, average rains and ecological conditions, a second generation of desert locust breeding started in September in northeast Mali, which could impact the upcoming harvest.

Humanitarian access is extremely limited in the northern provinces of Gao, Kidal and Tombouctou due to insecurity and restrictions posed on operations by rebel groups. On 19 October ECOWAS, the United Nations and other actors are due to meet in Bamako to discuss the way forward after the interim Malian President Traoré, requested military assistance from ECOWAS and the UN to support a government offensive to regain control of the northern regions held by the Islamist rebels.

Updated: 15/10/2012

MAURITANIA FOOD INSECURITY

FAO reports that about 700,000 people, almost one fourth of the households in rural areas, have been affected by food insecurity as a result of last year's drop in production. Global Acute Malnutrition rates for children <5 years stand at 12.1%. The highest malnutrition rates have been recorded in Hodh Ech Chargui, Guidimaka, Gorgol and Assaba regions in the South-East of the country. As of 27 of September, around 107,000 Malians have crossed the border into Mauritania, fleeing armed conflict in northern Mali. Mauritania President Mohamed Ould Abdel Aziz was injured after a military patrol accidentally fired on his convoy.

Updated: 15/10/2012

NIGER FLOODS, FOOD INSECURITY, EPIDEMIC, DISPLACEMENT

Niger is currently coping with four simultaneous disasters: the Sahel food crisis, the Malian refugee crisis, flooding and a cholera outbreak. Currently 6.4 million people (38% of the population) are estimated to be food insecure, due to poor harvests, drought and rising food prices. The crisis is compounded by the arrival of more than 59,000 Malian refugees since January 2012, who have settled in the regions hardest hit by the nutrition and food security crisis. The Government issued an appeal for international aid on 27 August due to the flooding which has displaced more than 527,000 people since mid-July. The southern Dosso region, an area already affected by the Sahel food crisis, has been hardest hit by the floods. A surge in malaria and cholera was reported in most of the affected areas. In

Tillabéri which hosts an estimated 36,000 Malian refugees, the floods rendered the refugee camps inaccessible. As of 4 October, the number of cholera cases has risen to 4,375 and 80 deaths have been reported, of which more than half (2662) are reported from Tillabéri.

Updated: 15/10/2012

SOMALIA CONFLICT, FOOD INSECURITY

Although there is no longer a famine, an estimated 2.12 million people will remain in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) levels of food insecurity up until December 2012. While conditions have improved considerably compared to 2011, 236,000 children remain severely malnourished. The epicentre of the crisis remains in the south, largely due to the long-term effects of drought and famine, and the short-term effects of this year's poor Gu rainy season. In contrast, central Somalia was hit by floods, affecting 60,000 in Beletweyn-Hiiraan.

Suspected cholera cases continue to be reported in Badade district, with 107 suspected cases and 12 deaths. Military operations by Somali forces, supported by African Union peacekeepers, against militants resulted in an increase in displacement. Humanitarian access remains highly restricted in south and central Somalia due to insecurity and the ban imposed by Somali militants on humanitarian organisations. According to UNHCR, there are currently some 1.36 million people displaced within Somalia. Over the past weeks, some 10,000 civilians fled the port city of Kismayo in the run up to the African Union military operation to dislodge Al-Shabaab militants from their last stronghold. Al Shabaab rebels retreated from the southern port of Kismayo on 29 September, abandoning the last major bastion of their revolt to an offensive by African Union and Somali government troops. Overall, the political situation in Somalia is improving, with the recent establishment of a new parliament and election of a new President defining the end of an eight-year transition period.

Updated: 15/10/2012

SOUTH SUDAN CONFLICT, FLOODS, FOOD INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT

South Sudan continues to face a severe food security crisis, flooding and large scale displacement from Sudan. According to UN OCHA, an estimated 2.4 million people require food assistance. However, the food security situation has improved, with the northern border areas moving from 'Emergency' IPC phase to 'Crisis' and 'Stressed' phases. The food security situation is expected to improve further following harvests in October. Food insecurity is caused by a series of factors including diminished cross border trade with the Sudan, inter-communal clashes, increasing number of IDPs, returnees and refugees, fuel scarcity and high food prices. The influx of Sudanese refugees from North Kordofan and Blue Nile state continues, with over 206,000 Sudanese refugees currently present in South Sudan, primarily in Upper Nile and Unity state. In the beginning of October, the Ministry of Health declared an outbreak of Hepatitis E in Upper Nile state. Some 43 out of 79 counties have been hit by flooding, with Jonglei, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Unity, Upper Nile and Warrap the most heavily hit areas. At least 260,000 people have been affected. In addition, cattle-raiding and (inter-ethnic) conflict remains widespread in Jonglei state. Insecurity, poor infrastructure and seasonal rains severely hamper humanitarian access.

On 25 September, after negotiating for more than fourteen months, several agreements between

Sudan and South Sudan were signed on a number of issues, including border security and oil profits.

Updated: 15/10/2012

SUDAN CONFLICT, FOOD INSECURITY

Sudan faces widespread food insecurity and multiple conflicts. According to FAO, about 4.3 million people in Sudan are food insecure. FEWSNET reported that 200,000-250,000 people in areas of southern Blue Nile and South Kordofan are facing crisis and emergency levels of food insecurity due to severe insecurity. In the rest of the country, food security conditions are expected to improve in the coming weeks with the beginning of the new harvest. Since June, Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) and Sudan People Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-N) forces have been fighting in parts of Blue Nile and South Kordofan states. As a result, more than 210,000 refugees have crossed into South Sudan and Ethiopia and an unknown number are internally displaced. In Darfur, new civilian displacements have been reported following inter-tribal clashes. Above-average rains have triggered widespread flash floods in August and September, affecting more than 146,000 people nationwide. Humanitarian access is severely limited nationwide and fully restricted in the provinces of South Kordofan and Blue Nile. On 17 September, the Commissioner of Humanitarian Aid stated that he would not allow foreign aid organisations to operate in Sudan without a national partner from 2013 onwards. As of next year, the provision of relief via air or across borders will be restricted and all relief operations will have to come from inside the Sudanese territory.

Updated: 15/10/2012

ANGOLA FOOD INSECURITY

UN OCHA reports that more than 1.8 million people in Angola are affected by a food security crisis. In addition, an estimated 533,000 children suffer varying levels of malnutrition. The primary cause of the current conditions stem from the poor agricultural production in 2012, limiting the availability of food from own production. The worst affected provinces are Bengo, Kwanza Sul, Benguela, Huila, Namibe, Cunene, Moxico, Bie, Huambo and Zaire. At the same time, the country is still recovering from a decades long civil war which latest until 2002.

Updated: 15/10/2012

ETHIOPIA FOOD INSECURITY

The Ethiopian Government announced that 3.7 million of its citizens will require humanitarian assistance between August and December, up from 3.2 million in January. At the end of September, some 65,000 people required water trucking in parts of Oromia and Somali regions due to drought conditions. In Amhara region, prolonged heavy rainfall has resulted in flash floods that affected around 136,000 people. The number of refugees within Ethiopia, mainly from Somalia, remains at a record level of 372,000 people.

Updated: 15/10/2012

KENYA FOOD INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT, INSECURITY

In the beginning of October, FAO estimated the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance at about 2.1 million. This is 43% less than in August 2012, following the start of the harvest. However, the pastoral and agropastoral parts of north eastern Kenya are in the peak of their lean season and crisis (IPC Phase 3) levels of food insecurity persist. Malnutrition rates have significantly improved compared to 2011 drought levels. For instance, Global Acute Malnutrition rates in Turkana North in May 2012 were 15.3% compared to 37.4% in May 2011. Around 470,000 refugees in Dadaab camps, mostly from Somalia, have limited access to basic necessities such as food, shelter, water and sanitation.

At the end of August, riots affected the city of Mombasa, after the killing of a radical Islamist cleric. In addition, at least 12,000 people were displaced in separate clashes in Tana Delta, Mandera and Wajir districts, caused by conflict over resources and political disagreements over administrative boundaries.

Updated: 15/10/2012

LESOTHO FOOD INSECURITY

Lesotho's food security has deteriorated significantly for the second year in a row. As a result of the impact of consecutive droughts and late rains in the cropping season 2011/12, 725,000 people are food insecure (40% of the population). The price of staple food has increased by 60% compared to 2009/10. On 9 August the Government declared a food crisis situation and called on development partners to assist. Lesotho's population is extremely vulnerable - the country has the world's third highest prevalence of HIV (23.5%) and 39% of children <5 are stunted. Lesotho suffers from widespread poverty with the proportion of households living below the poverty line exceeding 55%, out of which about 40% are extremely poor.

Updated: 15/10/2012

MALAWI FOOD INSECURITY

Prolonged dry spells have led to a deteriorating food security crisis in Malawi, with an estimated 1.76 million Malawians in need of food assistance between October 2012 and March 2013 (eight times as many as during the last lean season). High food prices and an inflation rate of more than 21% have reduced the ability of households to access sufficient food from markets. As many as 15 out of 28 districts are affected by the crisis, with the southern and central parts of the country most severely affected. Without a sufficient response, FEWSNET reports that emergency food security conditions (IPC 4) are likely by December 2012.

Updated: 15/10/2012

SENEGAL FLOODS, FOOD INSECURITY

Around 1.5 million people are affected by a nutrition crisis due to low cereal production and high prices. The lean season typically starts in July in most parts of the country, but this year it started as early as March in some areas due to below average rains in the Sahel. The vast majority of households do not currently have any local cereal stocks due to the early depletion of stocks starting in April/May. Flooding triggered by severe rainfall since mid-August has affected more than 300,000 people throughout the country.

Updated: 15/10/2012

ZIMBABWE FOOD INSECURITY

Late and erratic rains, poor agricultural practices, limited access to agricultural inputs, and a reduction in planted area have all contributed to a 33% decrease in the harvest in Zimbabwe compared to last year. As a result, the food security situation is deteriorating. In the most affected areas maize prices are reported to be between 12 and 47% higher when compared to prices in maize surplus areas. In Zimbabwe 4 million (33% of the population) are already chronically food insecure. During the peak hunger period of January to March 2013, over 1.6 million people are expected to be in need of food assistance, 19% of which are rural households. The food security crisis is exacerbated by the high HIV-prevalence rate, which is 14% compared to 5% for the rest of the southern Africa region (as % of the total population aged 15-49).

Updated: 15/10/2012

CAMEROON FOOD INSECURITY

Since 15 August 2012, areas in the north and far north regions of Cameroon have been affected by extreme rainfall causing the rupture of the Maga dam which has resulted in flooding of the downstream areas. At least 25,000 people are affected across the regions. In contrast, Cameroon has also been affected by the overall drought in the Sahel region. The country has faced consecutive droughts in the years of 2009 and 2011 and floods in 2010. The cereal harvest in the north and far north regions is reported to be 50% lower compared to the previous year. High prevalence of chronic and a significant increase in severe acute malnutrition admittances have been reported. More than 20% of households are food insecure with 400,000 severely affected by the production shortfalls.

Updated: 15/10/2012

GUINEA FOOD INSECURITY

As of 16 September, the Guinea Ministry of Health has confirmed 6,599 cases of cholera, with 121 deaths. The fall in the reported new weekly cases is 70% when compared to the peak in week 34 (ending 26 August). However, the case fatality rate remains higher than in Sierra Leone: 1.44 per cent in week 37 and 1.83 per cent since January. While the number of affected prefectures remains the same (10 out of 33), new communities within affected prefectures are reporting cases. The worst affected areas are the regions of Conakry and Forecariah.

Updated: 15/10/2012

MOZAMBIQUE FLOODS, FOOD INSECURITY

Cereal production losses amounting to 21% caused by climatic shocks (dry spell and cyclone damage) in late 2011 and early 2012 have aggravated food insecurity conditions in the central and southern areas of Mozambique. The country already suffers from high chronic food insecurity affecting 9 million people (39% of the population). According to the 2012 vulnerability assessment in the Limpopo and Zambezi river basins, more than 255,000 persons are estimated to be food insecure in 11 districts. Of those, nearly 140,000 persons require urgent assistance to bridge their food deficits. Overall, the majority of rural households throughout the country are experiencing minimal (IPC Phase 1) food insecurity conditions. Maize prices in August generally remained above the five-year average.

Updated: 15/10/2012

NIGERIA FLOODS, INSECURITY

Some 1.3 million Nigerians have been displaced by flooding, with 30 out of 36 states affected since July, according to the Government. Kogi state is most affected where approximately 624,000 people were displaced. Suspected cholera cases have been reported and the ongoing flooding has increased the risk of cholera outbreaks. In addition, violence is on the rise in Nigeria's north and central regions, due to sectarian violence, armed bandits and attacks by the Boko Haram Islamist sect. The sect has allegedly caused more 1,000 deaths since its insurgency intensified in 2010. Sectarian violence continues in Plateau state between Christian communities, Berom, and a group of Muslim pastoralists, Fulani.

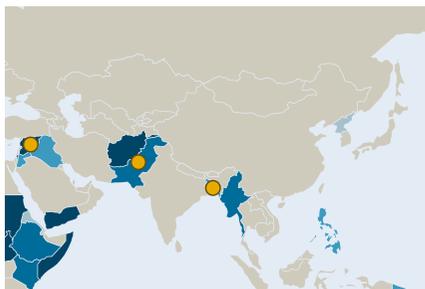
Updated: 15/10/2012

ERITREA FOOD INSECURITY

An estimated 6 million people in Eritrea are food insecure (98% of the population). Local food and fuel prices are likely to remain high, putting severe pressure on vulnerable groups' coping mechanisms. The Government of Eritrea officially denies any food shortages within its borders and refuses food aid. There is a lack of updated and reliable data on the humanitarian situation due to limited humanitarian access and a ban on humanitarian organisations assessing needs. No confirmed data on the food security situation or food price levels is available. Therefore, **Eritrea is not included within the Global Overview prioritisation.**

Updated: 15/10/2012

ASIA



AFGHANISTAN CONFLICT, FLOODS, LANDSLIDES, DISPLACEMENT

Some 7.6 million people are currently food insecure in Afghanistan and 5.4 million people are affected by the on-going conflict, according to reports from the UN. Since the beginning of 2012, more than 1,100 civilians were killed, of which the large majority by insurgent activities. About 300 natural disaster incidents, including floods, extreme weather and landslides, have affected over 250,000 people in 2012. 18% of children suffer from malnutrition while in the south acute malnutrition affects 29.5% of children <5. Insecurity has hampered humanitarian access throughout the country, particularly in the south. Around 85,000 international troops are currently supporting the Government in its fight against the Taliban but all international combat troops are preparing to withdraw by the end of 2014.

Updated: 15/10/2012

OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES COMPLEX

Palestinians in the oPt continue to face regular threats to personal security as a result of conflict-related and settler-related violence. Inflation and exceptionally high food and input prices further impact the humanitarian situation. According to UN OCHA, 1.8 million Palestinians are in need of humanitarian assistance.

Updated: 15/10/2012

SYRIA CIVIL WAR

The situation in Syria continues to deteriorate as violence spread to Aleppo and Damascus in July and August. Syria began a crackdown on anti-government protesters in March 2011. In July 2012, the ICRC stated that fighting had reached civil war status. Ten out of 14 governorates are affected by conflict. Neighbourhoods in Aleppo, Deraa, Hama, Qusayr, Homs and Idlib are under siege, with Government forces cutting off electricity, water and food supplies. Both Government forces and armed opposition groups have been accused of committing grave human rights violations. Suicide attacks have been on the increase. UN OCHA reports that three million Syrians are at imminent risk of food insecurity, including 1.5 million who need food assistance over the next 3-6 months. More than 1.2 million Syrians are internally displaced and over 285,000 refugees are registered or assisted by UNHCR in Turkey (96,397), Jordan (57,379), Lebanon (93,980) and Iraq (39,036). The large refugee influx risks destabilisation of the host countries. The border region currently hosts an estimated 16,000 Syrians waiting to cross the

border into Turkey. After Turkish civilians have been killed by Syrian mortar fire in the beginning of October, there have been sporadic confrontations between Turkey and Syria.

Update: 15/10/2012

YEMEN CONFLICT, FOOD INSECURITY

Violence and insecurity continues in Yemen with inter-tribal fighting in the north, fighting between the Government and armed groups in the southern governorates and civil unrest in urban centres of the west and central governorates. More than 616,000 people are displaced. 4.4 million people are severely food insecure and approximately 970,000 people suffer from Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM). A recent SMART nutrition survey in Lahj estimated a GAM rate of 23% and 32% in Hudaydah, significantly surpassing the WHO emergency threshold of 15%. A collapse of public services following the civil unrest in 2011, has severely disrupted access to health services, clean water and basic sanitation. In addition, the flow of refugees and migrants from the Horn of Africa has seen a 30% increase compared to the same period last year. Information about humanitarian needs remains difficult to ascertain due to insecurity.

Updated: 15/10/2012

MYANMAR INTERNAL UNREST, FLOODS

In August, an estimated 70,000 people were driven from their homes by heavy flooding. The Irrawaddy Delta - where 130,000 people died due to cyclone Nargis in 2008 - has been the hardest-hit region. Next year's rice harvest is expected to be significantly affected as the rains have inundated around 250,000 hectares of crops. Hostilities have been escalating in Myanmar's northern Kachin State since August due to an offensive between Government troops and the ethnic rebel Kachin Independence Organization. Around 75,000 people have fled since the fighting resumed after a 17-year ceasefire between the Government and rebels collapsed. Unrest in Rahkin state left an estimated 75,000 people, the majority of them Rohingya, displaced in government-run camps and shelters.

Updated: 15/10/2012

PAKISTAN CONFLICT, FLOODS

Flash floods triggered by heavy rains in September have caused destruction across Pakistan. According to the Government of Pakistan, the flooding has affected more than 5 million people in Balochistan, Punjab and Sindh provinces and around 270,000 people have been displaced to relief camps. Many of the affected districts, particularly in Balochistan and Sindh, were already struggling to recover from the floods of 2010 and 2011. WFP reports that, although fewer districts were affected by flooding this year than in 2011, the districts are more severely affected, with large areas still submerged one month after the flooding. Malnutrition rates in some of the flood-affected districts were beyond emergency thresholds before the current floods and are predicted to worsen. Assessments are hampered by difficult access due to standing flood waters.

Since July 2008, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) and the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) have experienced significant population movement as a result of Government operations

against non-state armed groups as well as sectarian violence. Currently, a total of more than 741,000 people are displaced in the north.

Update: 15/10/2012

BANGLADESH FLOODS

The Government reports that more than 226,000 people have been affected by flooding as a result of greater than usual inflows into the Jamuna River in Bogra district. Accessibility to the area has been affected as a result of the flooding, with bridges damaged and roads impassable. In addition, a heavy tropical storm hit several remote islands in the districts of Noakhali, Bhola and Chittagong on 11 October. More than 100,000 people are affected, according to initial estimations by IFRC. Access to remote affected islands and chars is limited. Chittagong was also hit by flooding in July affecting 1.3 million people. Bangladesh is considered one of the world's most hazard prone countries and is often subject to floods. 40% of the population is food insecure and this is aggravated by rising food prices and disasters destroying infrastructure and inundating land.

Updated: 15/10/2012

IRAQ DISPLACEMENT, INSECURITY

While violence in Iraq has declined dramatically since its peak in 2006-2007, violent attacks remain common. According to AFP, at least 173 people have been killed and 670 wounded in September 2012. An estimated 1.2 million were still displaced inside Iraq by 11 June. As of 12 October, the number of Syrian registered refugees in Iraq stands at 39,036 with Kurdistan now hosting some 28,000 Syrians. Although humanitarian access has become less restricted, security threats for international staff remain high, particularly in Baghdad, north/central governorates and the Disputed Territories. Some 37,000 Iraqi refugees have returned from Syria since 19 September.

Updated: 15/10/2012

PHILIPPINES CONFLICT, FLOODS, TYPHOON

The Philippines frequently experiences natural disasters, particularly typhoons. By the end of September around 8,000 persons were affected by typhoon Lawin, primarily on Zamboanga peninsula. Over 945,000 people are still displaced by floods triggered by Tropical Storm "Haikui" which hit the Philippines at the beginning of August. In addition, some 47,000 people are still believed to be displaced in Mindanao, after attacks by the Muslim rebel group BIFF on the Philippines Armed Forces (AFP) in Maguindanao and North Cotabato province. On Monday 15 October, Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) leaders have signed a preliminary peace pact with the Government that will aim to end a decade long rebellion in the southern part of the country by 2016.

Updated: 15/10/2012

DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA FLOODS, FOOD

INSECURITY

Since July, most parts of DPRK were hit by consecutive floods caused by torrential rains. The impact of these floods was exacerbated when typhoon Bolaven hit the country on 28 August. An estimated 700,000 people are affected and, due to the large number of damaged health facilities, an equal number of people are left without access to primary and secondary health care. The floods are expected to further aggravate the impact of a severe dry spell in southwest and central provinces threatening the 2012 crop production, which has already been reported to be 40% down compared to 2011. More than three million people are estimated to face food deficits. Chronic food insecurity in DPRK continues to affect two-thirds of the country's 24 million people. Humanitarian access is limited. No current data on child mortality, the food security situation, food price levels and general magnitude of humanitarian needs is available. Therefore, DPRK is not included within the Global Overview prioritisation.

Updated: 15/10/2012



NORTH AMERICA

HAITI FLOODS, EPIDEMIC

On the 25th of August, Haiti was hit by tropical storm Isaac, which caused flash flooding, landslides and severe damage to buildings, predominately in the metropolitan area of the capital Port au Prince. Two years after the earthquake, more than 370,000 people remain displaced, living in camps. The tropical storm affected around 105,000 people. On average 201 new cholera cases per day have been reported in August 2012 against 213 in July.

Updated: 15/10/2012

GUATEMALA FOOD INSECURITY

An extended drought has affected more than 260,000 people in Guatemala with an estimated 100,000 people in need of food assistance. Poverty and malnutrition are widespread and 51% of the population lives below the poverty line. Illiteracy, infant mortality and malnutrition are among the highest in the region and the country is frequently affected by disasters, including flooding, drought and recently a volcano outbreak.

Updated: 15/10/2012

HONDURAS FOOD INSECURITY, EPIDEMIC

An estimated 1.5 million Hondurans are food insecure, and recurrent natural disasters continue to threaten the most vulnerable people. According to UN OCHA, 25,000 people have lost up to 70% of their crops in September due to a recent drought. Central and southern Honduras have been worst affected by below-average July-August rainfall. A dengue outbreak has been reported, with around 7,000 cases recorded in September. Military rule, corruption, and natural disasters have rendered Honduras one of the least developed countries in Central America.

Updated: 15/10/2012



OCEANIA

PAPUA NEW GUINEA FLOODS

At the beginning of September, heavy rains in the in the Southern Highlands of Papua New Guinea caused flooding and landslides. According to the PNG National Disaster Centre, more than 200,000 people have been affected. However, due to the remoteness of the area, and the impact of the floods on the infrastructure the full extent of the impact is not yet known.

Updated: 15/10/2012

Introduction to the Global Overview

The Global Overview is a weekly update that provides a snapshot of current humanitarian priorities and recent events. The Global Overview collates information from a wide range of sources, including Reliefweb and media sources, and displays this information in a manner that allows for quick comparison of different humanitarian crises. The primary objective of the Global Overview is to rapidly inform humanitarian decision makers by presenting a summary of major humanitarian crises, both recent and protracted. It is designed to provide answers to four questions;

1. Which humanitarian crises currently exist? (World map)
2. What has happened in the last seven days? (Highlights and snapshot)
3. What is the situation in the country affected by a crisis? (Narrative)
4. Which countries could be prioritised in terms of humanitarian response? (Prioritisation)

The Global Overview consists of three main sections:

Firstly, the **world map** provides an overview of how the countries are prioritised, indicated by different shades of blue. The countries are subdivided by four **priority levels**: "on watch", "situation of concern", "humanitarian crisis", and "severe humanitarian crisis".

The priority levels are assigned on the basis of:

- the number of people affected by recent disasters
- the level of access to the affected population
- the <5 mortality rate
- the level of development of the country
- the number of protracted IDPs and refugees.

If a country experienced a disaster in the seven days prior to an update, or witnessed an escalation of an on-going crisis, a country is **highlighted** by a yellow dot on the map.

Secondly, the **snapshot** briefly describes what has happened in the last seven days from the date of publication, by outlining the crises that have occurred in the different highlighted countries.

Thirdly, **narratives** for each country included in the Global Overview reflect recent major developments and underlying vulnerabilities of a country. Narratives are written based on secondary data.

Update

The Global Overview will be updated once a week and the results will be available every Monday before midday (Central European Time/Central European Summer Time). In case of major new humanitarian events or an escalation of an on-going crisis which triggers a change of prioritisation, the Global Overview will be updated on an ad-hoc basis.

More information on the *Global Overview Methodology* can be found in the [Global Overview Methodology Brief](#) and the [Frequently Asked Questions](#).