UGANDA – Current Acute Food Insecurity Situation

Phase | Aggregate Numbers (000s) | WORST AFFECTED REGIONS | SUMMARY OF CAUSES, CONTEXT AND KEY ISSUES
--- | --- | --- | ---
Acholi | 30,834 | Food consumption: over 10% consume 1 meal a day, 6% poor FCS | The proportion of food secure population (phase 1) has increased from 69% in January 2017 to 86% in November 2017. An estimated 5.3 million people are experiencing acute food insecurity (phase 2 and 3), of which 0.44 million (1%) are in a crisis situation (Phase 3). Those in phase 3 are found in Acholi (0.13 million); Karamoja (0.11 million), Teso (0.06 million), and West Nile (0.14 million) regions. All regions in the country have a combined food security stressed population of 4.8 million (13%).

Karamoja | 4,816 | Food consumption: 5 - 10% poor FCS, 40 - 55% low dietary diversity | The improving food security situation is attributed to the above average rainfall, increased acreage planted, more seed distributed to households through the OWC programme and a decline in cross-border trade. There have also been recommendable efforts by government in containing pests & diseases.

Teso | 441 | Food consumption: Poor FCS 3%, Low dietary intake 30%, BMI less than 18.5 prevalence 5% | Low production in some areas was due to the FAW, long dry spell in the rain-shadow areas and livestock diseases.

West Nile |  | Food consumption: Poor FCS 5%, Low dietary diversity 18% |-)

All regions in the country have a combined food security stressed population of 4.8 million (13%).

WORST AFFECTED REGIONS

Acholi
Food consumption: over 10% consume 1 meal a day, 6% poor FCS
Livelihood change: 69% have experienced worsening living conditions in the past 1 year
Diseases: Nodding disease still a big problem
GAM: 6.1%

Karamoja
Food consumption: 5 - 10% poor FCS, 40 - 55% low dietary diversity
GAM: 13.8%
CRI: 0.86-10,000/day

Teso
Food consumption: Poor FCS 3%. Low dietary intake 30%
BMI less than 18.5 prevalence 5%
GAM: 2%

West Nile
Food consumption: Poor FCS 5%. Low dietary diversity 18%
GAM: 7%

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MAAIF, OPM, MOH, NPA, FAO, WFP, UNICEF, FEWSNET, MUK, UBOS, DISTRICT LOCAL GOVTS

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IPC Global Partners

*The EC is the global partnership represented by the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission
Key Findings and Issues

- **86% of the total population in the country is minimally food insecure (IPC Phase 1).** The households in this phase have access to a variety of adequate and nutritious food both from household stocks carried forward from first season 2017 and the on-going harvests from the second season, which are good in most areas of the country because of favourable rains received. Food in markets is easily accessed and affordable because prices have declined and the households have adequate purchasing power. They have good nutrition levels because they are able to eat two or more times a day with a good dietary diversity. With the on-going good harvests, expected to end in January, the proportion of national population in phase 1 is likely to increase in the next two months apart from Karamoja and South Western regions. Currently access to livestock products is good because of the available pasture and water. However, livestock production is expected to decline due to expected dry conditions which will intensify in January and February 2018.

- **13% of the total population in the country is stressed (IPC Phase 2).** This population has minimum adequate food consumption, are employing insurance strategies and are unable to afford some essential non-food expenditures. All regions in the country have a stressed population, the highest being in Karamoja (35%), East Central (17%), Acholi (16%) and Central 2 (16%). The households in these regions all suffered the effects of prolonged dry spells that stressed most of the crops and reduced yields from both the first season and second season. The prolonged dry spells also enhanced the spread of Fall Army Worm which affected cereals mainly maize, sorghum and rice, yet some areas also suffered livestock disease outbreaks. The food stocks for households in this phase will last a short time in the future (about 1 month) forcing the population to depend on piece-meal harvests from second season. However, as the production in the second season is anticipated to be normal and above normal for some areas, the effect of depletion of food stocks will be so much; except for South-Western and Karamoja regions. Households in this phase will therefore most likely not drop into phase 3 (Crisis). The situation is likely to improve in the next two months as harvesting will continue until end of January 2018. For those whose livelihood depends mainly on livestock, the situation may not improve due to the expected dry spell in January and February, which is likely to reduce the availability of water and pasture. The influx of refugees from South Sudan has also increased demand for food and services in West Nile region.

- **1% of the total population in the country is in Crisis (IPC Phase 3).** This population has widening food consumption gaps with deteriorating dietary diversity and high malnutrition rates. They are found in Karamoja (10%), Teso (3%), Acholi (8%) and West Nile (5%) regions. The affected population includes the poorest households with poor food consumption score, low meal frequencies of up to 1 meal a day and low dietary diversity of less than 3 food groups. They have poor purchasing power as their incomes are low and no food stocks at household level. They are mainly coping through food assistance, remittances from relatives, begging, stealing food, wild food gathering and irreversible sale of productive assets to buy food. This population currently needs assistance to bridge the widening food consumption gaps and avert the worsening malnutrition.

### Limiting Factors to Food Security

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regions</th>
<th>Limiting Factors to Food Security</th>
<th>Availability</th>
<th>Access</th>
<th>Utilization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acholi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lango</td>
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<td>West Nile</td>
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<td>Karamoja</td>
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<td>East central</td>
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<td>Elgon</td>
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<td>Western</td>
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<td>S. Western</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central 2</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The factors constraining households from being food secure are:

**Food Availability:** Poor crop harvests and low food stocks at household level due to the effects of prolonged dry spells and crop and livestock diseases

**Food Access:** High food prices coupled with low household incomes are reducing purchasing power thus limiting access to food.

**Food Utilization:** Poor food preparation practices, food preferences based on Culture and poor hygiene practices are constraining physical and biological utilization.

Key

- Major Limiting Factor
- Minor Limiting Factor
- Not a limiting Factor

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## Uganda Population Table: IPC Acute Food Insecurity November 2017 – February 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistical / IPC Region</th>
<th>Population (UBOS projections 2017)</th>
<th>Phase 1</th>
<th>Phase 2</th>
<th>Phase 3</th>
<th>Chronic level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>% of pop’n</td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>% of pop’n</td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>% of pop’n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acholi</td>
<td>1,624,900</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>1,234,924</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>259,984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central 1</td>
<td>4,527,300</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>3,893,478</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>633,822</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central 2</td>
<td>4,298,400</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>3,610,656</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>687,744</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Central</td>
<td>3,866,900</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>3,209,527</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>657,373</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elgon</td>
<td>3,966,000</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>3,371,100</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>594,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karamoja</td>
<td>1,059,300</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>582,615</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>370,755</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lango</td>
<td>2,235,500</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>1,944,885</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>290,615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Western</td>
<td>4,499,300</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>4,184,349</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>314,951</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teso</td>
<td>1,999,800</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>1,719,828</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>219,978</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western</td>
<td>5,115,300</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>4,706,076</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>409,224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Nile</td>
<td>2,898,100</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>2,376,442</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>376,753</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda (less: Kampala)</td>
<td>36,090,800</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>30,833,880</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>4,816,099</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Recommendations and Response options

#### Overall Phase 2 – with population in phase 3

**Karamoja**
- Prolonged dry spells
- Low agricultural production due to soil degradation
- Reduced purchasing power due to food price increases
- Reduced water access for humans and livestock
- Poor hygiene and sanitation
- Limited diversification of livelihoods
- Crop & livestock diseases
- Human diseases especially malaria

**Acholi**
- Food assistance (in kind/ cash transfers) for population in crisis
- Facilitate access to planting materials and seed for next planting season
- Construct water infrastructure and rehabilitate water sources.
- Promote water conservation and irrigation
- Scale-up ongoing nutritional initiatives
- Promote livelihood diversification programs
- Promote risk transferring mechanisms
- Food security and nutrition surveillance

#### Overall Phase 1 – with pop’n in phase 3

**West Nile**
- Prolonged dry spells
- Low agricultural production
- Refugee influx constraining access to food and services
- Human disease especially malaria
- Reduced purchasing power due to food price increases
- Water shortage

**Teso**
- Facilitate access to planting materials and seed for next planting season
- Construct water infrastructure and rehabilitate water sources.
- Promote water conservation and irrigation
- Promote drought and disease tolerant high yielding crop varieties
- Food security, nutrition and disease surveillance
- Safety nets to include host communities
- Continuous monitoring of vulnerable population

#### Phase 1

**Central 1**
- Crop and livestock pests and diseases
- Lack of inputs and tools
- Inadequate extension services
- Reduced soil fertility
- High food prices
- Excessive sale of food
- Poor post-harvest handling practices

**Central 2**: Similar to **Central 1**

**East Central**: Similar to **Central 1**

**Elgon**: Similar to **Central 1**

**Lango**: Similar to **Central 1**

**South Western**: Similar to **Central 1**

**Western**: Similar to **Central 1**

**West Nile**: Similar to **Central 1**

**Uganda**: Similar to **Central 1**

- Facilitate access to planting materials and seed for next planting season
- Construct water infrastructure and rehabilitate water sources.
- Initiate community by laws to compel households store sufficient food
- Sensitise population on better post-harvest storage & handling