FOOD ASSISTANCE OUTLOOK BRIEF

August 2018
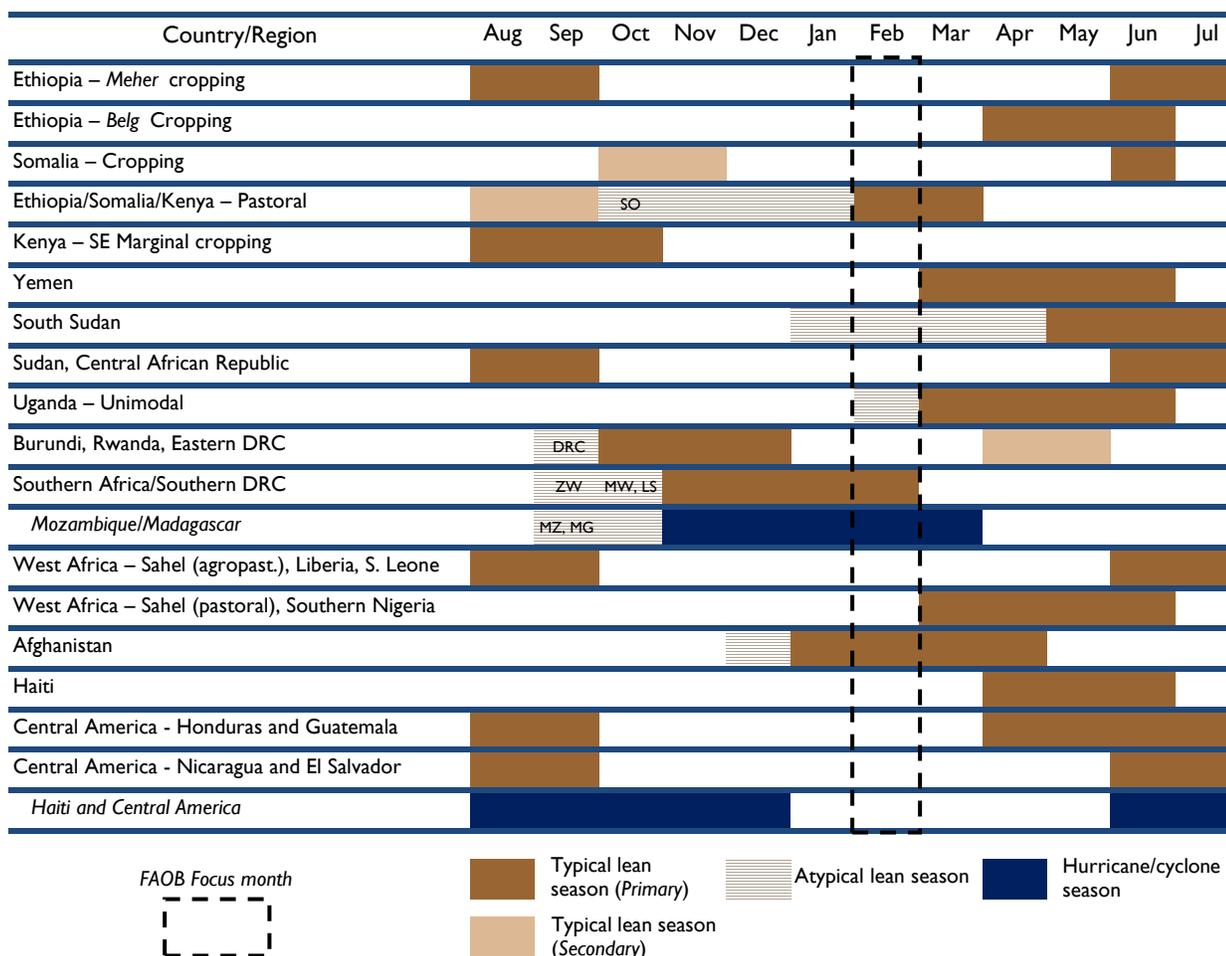
PROJECTED FOOD ASSISTANCE NEEDS FOR FEBRUARY 2019

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 (IPC Phase 3 and higher) 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, FEB.)	External needs in FEB. ?	FEB. versus last year	FEB. versus 5-year avg.	Highest likely severity (area) in FEBRUARY	Key upcoming lean season
10+ million					
YEMEN	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency & risk of Famine	March - June 2019
The Red Sea ports of Al Hudaydah and Salif remain open in mid-August, following the coalition offensive to regain control of Al Hudaydah City. Given Yemen's high reliance on maritime imports for supply of essential commodities, including food and fuel, conflict that could significantly disrupt port operations or destroy port facilities at Al Hudaydah and Salif risks driving Yemen into Famine (IPC Phase 5) in a worst-case scenario.					
5.0 – 9.9 million					
SOUTH SUDAN	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency & risk of Famine	January - July 2019
Through February 2019, with an early start to the 2019 lean season, Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes are expected. Many households who harvested will have depleted stocks, and food security will further deteriorate relative to late 2018. Assistance is not yet planned and funded for 2019; in the prolonged absence of humanitarian assistance, or in the event conflict disrupts the delivery of assistance for an extended period, Famine (IPC Phase 5) would be likely.					
2.5 – 4.9 million					
AFGHANISTAN	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency	December 2018 - April 2019
Significantly below-average rainfall has led to drought conditions in northern parts of Afghanistan. In addition, as insecurity and conflict continues and expands, Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are expected across large areas in the country. The worst-affected households in parts of the north are expected to face Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes through at least February 2019. However, humanitarian assistance is expected to mitigate the most severe outcomes.					
SUDAN	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	April - September 2018
Continued macroeconomic challenges, including sharp increases in staple food prices and the continued fuel shortage, drives low purchasing power for poor households. With the onset of the harvests in October, poor household food access is likely to increase, and humanitarian assistance needs will decrease; although needs are expected to remain above average.					
NIGERIA	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency & risk of Famine	March - September 2018
Main season agricultural production will again be very limited in the northeast due to the ongoing Boko Haram conflict. Many of the nearly two million displaced people are heavily dependent on assistance for food access. It is likely that outcomes in inaccessible areas are similar or worse than adjoining areas with a humanitarian presence. There also remains a risk that a shift in conflict could cut-off some populations from assistance deliveries.					
DRC	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	NE: July - September 2018
Conflict-related population movements continue to affect agricultural production, leading to below-average harvests. Season A harvests will be ongoing in February 2019, but due to expected low production, there will be food assistance needs in the greater Kasai Region, and Ituri, Tanganyika, South Kivu, and North Kivu provinces.					
ETHIOPIA	Yes	▼	▼	PHASE 3: Crisis	SE Pastoral: July - Sept 2018
The likely favorable *Deyr* rains are expected to lead to higher camel milk production, despite remaining below normal, improving outcomes in Somali Region. By February 2019, due to two consecutive poor rainy seasons in eastern Amhara and southern Tigray, negatively affecting *Belg* and *Meher* production, household food stocks are likely to be depleted early.					

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Country (In order of estimated food insecure population, FEB.)		External needs in FEB. ?	FEB. versus last year	FEB. versus 5-year avg.	Highest likely severity (area) in FEBRUARY	Key upcoming lean season
1.0 – 2.49 million	ZIMBABWE	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	Sept 2018 - March 2019
					Needs in southern and northern districts will be above average during the February 2019 peak of the lean season, following below-average 2018 cereal production and lower than normal labor opportunities.	
	MALAWI	Yes	▲	▼	PHASE 3: Crisis	October 2018 - March 2019
					Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes will persist in February 2019 at the peak of the lean season, driven by below-average income from poor 2018 cereal production and below-average casual labor opportunities. Above-average cereal prices are expected through March 2019, constraining purchasing power and leaving households unable to meet their minimum food needs.	
	SOMALIA	Yes	▼	▼	PHASE 4: Emergency	Guban: Oct. 2018 - March 2019
					Guban Pastoral livelihood zone is likely to sustain Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes in the absence of assistance, as herd recovery following the drought and Cyclone Sagar will take several consecutive seasons. Most agropastoral and pastoral areas will be in Stressed (IPC Phase 2), benefitting from bumper *Gu* and strong *Deyr* harvests and average pasture conditions.	
	UGANDA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	Karamoja: February - June 2019
					Following a below-average unimodal harvest, poor households in Karamoja will deplete their stocks by February 2019, moving to Stressed (IPC Phase 2). Refugee populations are likely to be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) in the absence of assistance.	
	MADAGASCAR	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	Sept 2018 - March 2019
					Consecutive years of below-average rainfall in the south have reduced agricultural production and household incomes.	
0.5 – 0.99 million	GUATEMALA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	April - September 2018
					Poor households from western and eastern areas, who report partial or total loss of their harvest and will not have the chance to plant a full *Postrera* cycle given the debts they have incurred, are expected to face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes. Also small coffee producers, who have lower incomes from coffee sales due to low prices, are expected to be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3).	
	MOZAMBIQUE	Yes	▲	►	PHASE 3: Crisis	Sept. 2018 - March 2019
					Even though staple food prices remain stable, with atypically low income and 2017/18 production levels, and ongoing livelihood recovery from the 2015/16 drought, Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are anticipated to continue. More poor households are expected to face food gaps through the peak of lean season due to below-average food access.	
	Central African Rep (RM)	Yes	►	►	PHASE 3: Crisis	South/North: April - Sept. 2019
					Although agricultural labor demand typically peaks in February, insecurity will likely prevent many households from preparing land for planting. Reduced income for market purchases, combined with poor humanitarian access, are expected to drive Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes for both IDP and poor host community populations.	
	NIGER	Yes	►	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	Agropastoral: May - Sept 2018
					Although agricultural and pastoral prospects for much of the country are generally favorable during the ongoing rainy season, access to livelihoods in the Diffa Region remains impacted by conflict and displacement.	
0.1 – 0.49 million	KENYA	Yes	▼	▼	PHASE 2: Stressed	August - September 2018
	Cameroon (RM)	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 2: Stressed	April - September 2018
	Burundi (RM)	Yes	►	►	PHASE 2: Stressed	October - December 2018
	Lesotho (RM)	Yes	▲	►	PHASE 3: Crisis	October 2018 - March 2019
					Below-average remittances, labor income, and production are driving Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes through February 2019.	
	CHAD	Yes	►	►	PHASE 2: Stressed (!)	Agropastoral: May - Sept 2018
	Rwanda (RM)	Yes	►	▲	PHASE 1: Minimal	October - December 2018
	Honduras (RM)	No	►	►	PHASE 2: Stressed	April - September 2018
<0.1 million	HAITI	Yes	▼	▼	PHASE 2: Stressed	April - June 2019
	MAURITANIA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	Agricultural: June - Sept 2018
	MALI	No	►	►	PHASE 1: Minimal	April - October 2018
No projected Phase 3+	*Nicaragua (RM)*	No	►	►	PHASE 1: Minimal	June - September 2018
	Burkina Faso (RM)	No	►	►	PHASE 1: Minimal	June - September 2018
	El Salvador (RM)	No	►	►	PHASE 1: Minimal	June - September 2018

LEAN SEASONS IN FEWS NET MONITORED COUNTRIES AND REGIONS

Country/Region	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
Ethiopia – *Meher* cropping												
Ethiopia – *Belg* Cropping												
Somalia – Cropping												
Ethiopia/Somalia/Kenya – Pastoral		SO										
Kenya – SE Marginal cropping												
Yemen												
South Sudan												
Sudan, Central African Republic												
Uganda – Unimodal												
Burundi, Rwanda, Eastern DRC	DRC											
Southern Africa/Southern DRC	ZW	MW, LS										
Mozambique/Madagascar	MZ, MG											
West Africa – Sahel (agropast.), Liberia, S. Leone												
West Africa – Sahel (pastoral), Southern Nigeria												
Afghanistan												
Haiti												
Central America - Honduras and Guatemala												
Central America - Nicaragua and El Salvador												
Haiti and Central America												

FAOB Focus month ⬚

🟫 Typical lean season (*Primary*)

🟫 Typical lean season (*Secondary*)

▤ Atypical lean season

🟦 Hurricane/cyclone season

IPC ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY PHASE DESCRIPTIONS (AREA)

PHASE 1 Minimal	Households are able to meet basic food needs and afford essential non-food expenditures without engaging in atypical, unsustainable coping strategies.
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 expenditures.
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 assets.
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.

ESTIMATED ACUTELY FOOD INSECURE POPULATIONS   February 2019

Country	Pop. in IPC Phase 2		Pop. in IPC Phase 3 or higher		Total Acutely food insecure population	
	#	% of pop.	#	% of pop.	#	% of pop.
Yemen	5.0 - 9.99 million	20-40%	>10.0 million	>60%	>10.0 million	>60%
South Sudan	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%	5.0 - 9.99 million	40-60%	5.0 - 9.99 million	>60%
Afghanistan	5.0 - 9.99 million	20-40%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%	>10.0 million	40-60%
Sudan	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%
Nigeria	>10.0 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	<5%	>10.0 million	5-20%
DRC	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	<5%	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%
Ethiopia	2.5 - 4.99 million	<5%	2.5 - 4.99 million	<5%	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%
Zimbabwe	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%
Malawi	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%
Somalia	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	5.0 - 9.99 million	40-60%
Uganda	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Madagascar	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Guatemala	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%
Mozambique	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
CAR RM	1.0 - 2.49 million	20-40%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	20-40%
Niger	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Kenya	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%
Cameroon RM	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%
Burundi RM	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%
Lesotho RM	0.1 - 0.49 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	20-40%
Chad	<0.1 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Rwanda RM	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Honduras RM	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Haiti	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	<0.1 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Mauritania	0.1 - 0.49 million	5-20%	<0.1 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	5-20%
Mali	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	<0.1 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Nicaragua RM	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	None	0	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Burkina Faso RM	<0.1 million	<5%	None	0	<0.1 million	<5%
El Salvador RM	<0.1 million	<5%	None	0	<0.1 million	<5%