

FOOD ASSISTANCE OUTLOOK BRIEF

March 2015

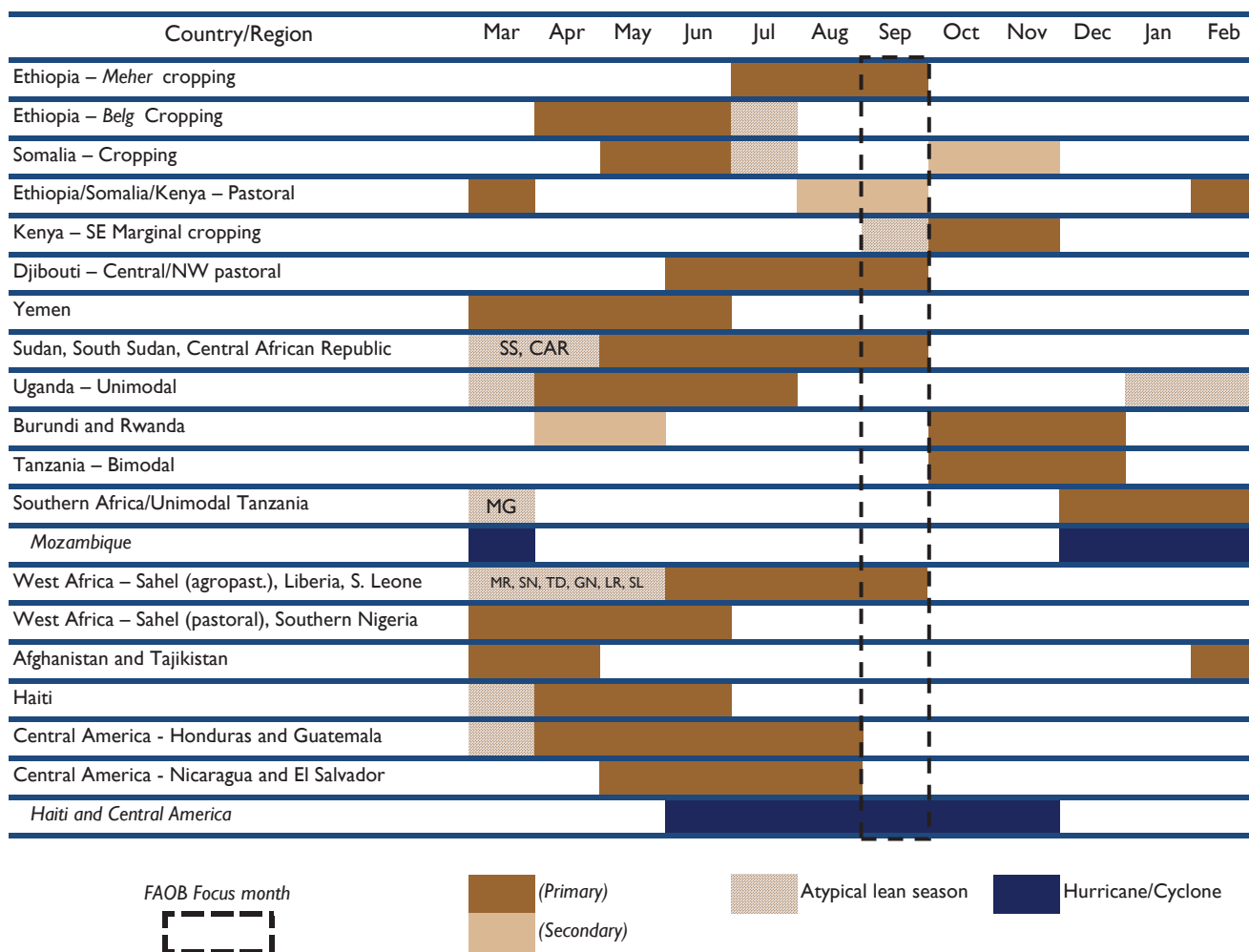
PROJECTED FOOD ASSISTANCE NEEDS FOR SEPTEMBER 2015

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, SEPT)	External needs in SEPT. ?	SEPT. versus last year	SEPT. versus 5-year avg.	Highest likely severity (area) in SEPTEMBER	Key upcoming lean season	
2.5 – 4.9 million	YEMEN	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis (!)	January - June
	The ongoing political crisis may worsen conflict in the country. Reduced government revenue, due to the suspension of some international financial assistance and reduced oil revenue, may limit the ability of the government to maintain fuel subsidies and social spending.					
	NIGERIA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	Northeast: March - September
	Strained livelihoods, continued population displacements, and limited market functioning are contributing to increased food assistance needs as access to IDPs and local populations remains limited. Unless access to assistance increases, Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes are possible by August for some affected poor households.					
1.0 - 2.49 million	SOUTH SUDAN	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency	March - September
	Food consumption is expected to improve in September as green harvests and other seasonal food sources become available. However, area planted is expected to remain well below average in Greater Upper Nile in 2015, and above-average food prices across the country will limit food access, particularly for poor and IDP households. Emergency (IPC Phase 4) will persist in areas worst affected by conflict.					
	SUDAN	Yes	▼	▼	PHASE 3: Crisis	May/June - September
Humanitarian assistance needs will be lower than last year due to surplus production in 2014/15. However, the combination of well above-average food prices and ongoing conflict and displacement in parts of Darfur, South Kordofan, and Blue Nile will continue to reduce food access for poor and IDP households in these areas.						
0.5 – 0.99 million	ETHIOPIA	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	Northern Belg -areas: April - July
	The delayed start of the Belg rains will delay the harvest, extending the lean season in Belg -growing areas. During the July to September lean season, some people in the Tekeze River catchment and parts of eastern Oromia will need assistance due to early exhaustion of household stocks and limited labor opportunities.					
	SOMALIA	Yes	▶	▼	PHASE 4: Emergency	Hiraan Agropastoral: May - July
	Hiraan Agropastoral and Southern Agropastoral livelihood zone in Middle and Lower Juba may enter Emergency (IPC Phase 4) due to the likely late start of the April to June Gu rains, especially if these rains are below average in amount. Reduced planting and low demand for agricultural labor would reduce households' income.					
0.5 – 0.99 million	MAURITANIA	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	South/central: March - September 2015
	Below-average seasonal incomes in central Mauritania will contribute to limited market access. These households, market-dependent for much longer this year than typical, will continue to face difficulty meeting their basic food needs. Some affected poor households are expected to face large food consumption gaps by August.					
AFGHANISTAN	Yes	▲	▼	PHASE 2: Stressed (!)	Badghis Province: February - May	
Conflict is likely to escalate during the spring and summer, leading to new displacements. Many households displaced by conflict or natural disasters (avalanches and flooding) will likely face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) in the absence of assistance.						

Country (In order of estimated food insecure population, SEPT)	External needs in SEPT. ?	SEPT. versus last year	SEPT. versus 5-year avg.	Highest likely severity (area) in SEPTEMBER	Key upcoming lean season	
0.5 - 0.99 million	Central African Rep (RM)	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	March - August
	Ongoing harvests will improve food availability for poor agricultural households in September 2015. However, populations unable to cultivate during the current agricultural season, due to either displacement or a depletion of agricultural assets/inputs, will continue to have difficulty accessing food in the absence of humanitarian assistance.					
	Senegal (RM)	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	April - September
Early depletion of stocks will likely lead households to intensify agricultural labor and increase borrowing in an attempt to meet food needs. Most affected poor households are expected to be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) through October.						
0.1 - 0.49 million	MALI	Yes	▼	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	North riverine areas: May - Aug.
	Low household stocks brought on by the below-average main season harvests in Gao, Bourem, Niafunké, and the lakes region of Goundam will lead to an early return to market purchase. Households will face difficulty meeting their food needs as limited incomes in these areas will make the prolonged market purchase difficult.					
	CHAD	Yes	▼	▼	PHASE 2: Stressed (!)	BEG/Kanem/LAC: April - September
	Severely limited trade in livestock due to conflict, and significantly below-average 2014/15 crop production and labor income in Bahr El Ghazal and Kanem will lead poor households to face Stressed (IPC Phase 2!) during the lean season.					
	MALAWI	No	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	September - February
	Flooding and continuously heavy rainfall will likely reduced yields for the next harvest in affected areas. Households impacted directly by the flooding (i.e. damaged crops, loss of home) will rely heavily on income from labor for food purchases, but below-average agricultural labor income in flood-affected areas will limit food access.					
	NIGER	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	Diffa: April - September
Pastoralists in northern Diffa Region will continue to experience low terms of trade for their livestock, facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes. In southern Diffa Region, populations displaced by the Boko Haram conflict will continue to need additional assistance in order to meet their essential food and non-food needs.						
KENYA	Yes	▼	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	SE Marginal: Sep. - Nov.	
Following below-average October to December 2014 short rains, the very small harvest in the Southeast will lead to more severe food insecurity during the lean season, which will start a month early in September and run until November 2015. Some pastoralists will need assistance during their August to September lean season.						
	Sierra Leone (RM)	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 2: Stressed	April - September
	Honduras (RM)	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	March - August
	UGANDA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	January - June Karamoja
	Liberia (RM)	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 2: Stressed	April - September
	Guinea (RM)	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 2: Stressed	Forest Zone: April - September
<0.1 million	HAITI	Yes	▼	▼	PHASE 2: Stressed	March - June
	GUATEMALA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	February - August
	BURKINA FASO	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	Seno/Soum: March - September
	DJIBOUTI	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	June - September
	Tajikistan (RM)	No	▶	▼	PHASE 1: Minimal	February - April
	Rwanda (RM)	No	▶	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	April - May
	Tanzania (RM)	No	▼	▼	PHASE 2: Stressed	October - December
	Nicaragua (RM)	No	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	May - August
	Burundi (RM)	No	▼	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	March - May
	El Salvador (RM)	No	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	May - August
No populations projected at IPC Phase 3 or higher	MOZAMBIQUE	No	▶	▼	PHASE 1: Minimal	December - February
	Angola (RM)	No	▼	▼	PHASE 1: Minimal	December - February
	Lesotho (RM)	No	▶	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	December - February
	Madagascar (RM)	No	▶	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	December - February
	ZAMBIA	No	▶	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	December - February
	ZIMBABWE	No	▶	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	December - February

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.
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: September 2015

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 RM	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%	5.0 - 9.99 million	20-40%
Nigeria	2.5 - 4.99 million	<5%	2.5 - 4.99 million	<5%	5.0 - 9.99 million	<5%
South Sudan	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%
Sudan	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%
Ethiopia	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%	2.5 - 4.99 million	<5%
Somalia	1.0 - 2.49 million	20-40%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%
Mauritania	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	20-40%	0.5 - 0.99 million	20-40%
Afghanistan	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
CAR RM	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	20-40%
Senegal RM	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Mali	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Chad	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Malawi	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Niger	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%
Kenya	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%
Sierra Leone RM	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%
Honduras RM	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%
Uganda	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Liberia RM	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%
Guinea RM	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Haiti	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	<0.1 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%
Guatemala	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	<0.1 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Burkina Faso	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	<0.1 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%
Djibouti	<0.1 million	5-20%	<0.1 million	<5%	<0.1 million	5-20%
Tajikistan RM	<0.1 million	<5%	<0.1 million	<5%	<0.1 million	<5%
Rwanda RM	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	None	0	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Tanzania RM	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	None	0	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Nicaragua RM	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	None	0	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Burundi RM	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	None	0	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
El Salvador RM	<0.1 million	<5%	None	0	<0.1 million	<5%
Mozambique	<0.1 million	<5%	None	0	<0.1 million	<5%
Angola RM	None	0	None	0	None	0
Lesotho RM	None	0	None	0	None	0
Madagascar RM	None	0	None	0	None	0
Zambia	None	0	None	0	None	0
Zimbabwe	None	0	None	0	None	0