

# FOOD ASSISTANCE OUTLOOK BRIEF

November 2017

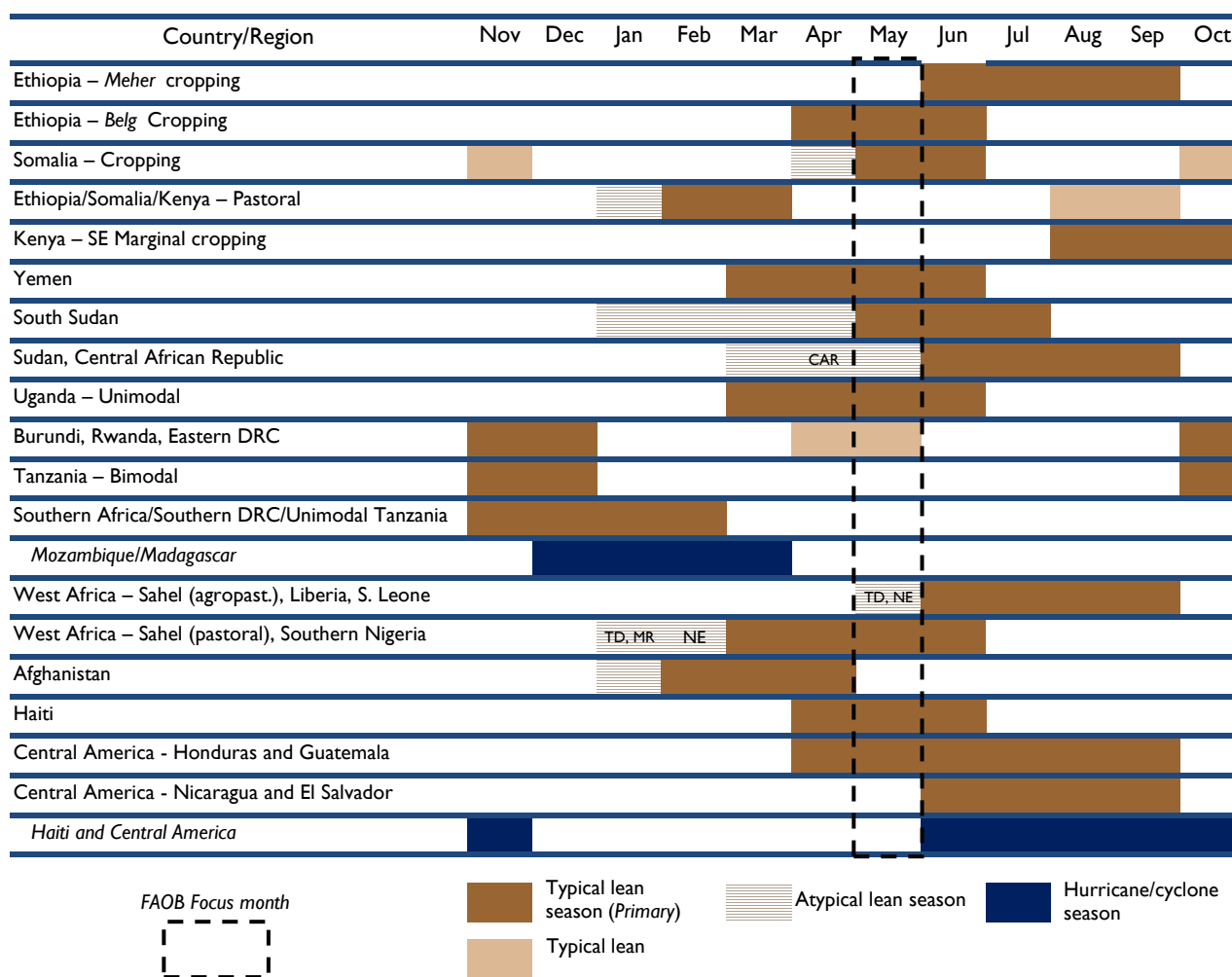
## PROJECTED FOOD ASSISTANCE NEEDS FOR MAY 2018

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](http://www.fews.net) for detailed country reports.

Country (In order of estimated food insecure population, MAY)	External needs in MAY ?	MAY versus last year	MAY versus 5-year avg.	Highest likely severity (area) in MAY	Key upcoming lean season	
10+ million	YEMEN	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency & elevated risk of Famine	Mar. - Jun. 2018
	<p>The continued limitation of commercial imports into Yemen is highly concerning. Yemen faces a risk of Famine (IPC Phase 5) in a worst-case scenario in which there is a prolonged, significant disruption to imports through the ports of Al Hudaydah and Salif. Although some humanitarian imports have been permitted, the resumption of uninhibited imports is critically needed to avert a severe deterioration of food security and the potential for loss of life.</p>					
5.0 – 9.9 million	ETHIOPIA	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency	SE pastoral: Jan. - Mar. 2018
	<p>High levels of acute malnutrition and ongoing disease outbreaks in the southeast remain concerning. Large areas of Somali Region will remain in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) and Crisis (IPC Phase 3!) as livelihoods have become severely weakened due to the multi-season drought. Although Deyr 2017 rains have performed well in some areas, significant improvements in food security are unlikely until households begin to reconstitute their livestock herds.</p>					
	SOUTH SUDAN	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency & elevated risk of Famine	Jan. - Jul. 2018
<p>Data from the 2017 lean season suggests some households could be in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) throughout the country, and there is an elevated risk that Famine (IPC Phase 5) is occurring in Greater Baggari of Wau. In a worst-case scenario of an extended absence of assistance from January onwards and severe restrictions to household movement towards alternative sources of food, Famine (IPC Phase 5) is likely.</p>						
2.5 – 4.9 million	AFGHANISTAN	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	Jan. - Apr. 2018
	<p>Widespread conflict, weak labor opportunities, and poor staple production in many rainfed areas will lead to an increase in the number of people facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse outcomes in early 2018 as compared to early 2017. Spring labor opportunities may be low due to anticipated below-average precipitation for the 2017/2018 wet season.</p>					
	SOMALIA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency & elevated risk of Famine	Pastoral: Jan. - Mar. 2018
	<p>Many households are already engaging in irreversible coping strategies and have depleted livelihood assets, and two additional below-average seasons are likely through mid-2018. Given the number of households who still face large food consumption gaps while relying on humanitarian assistance as a key food source, there is an elevated risk of Famine (IPC Phase 5) between February and May in the absence of assistance.</p>					
	SUDAN	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	Apr. - Sep. 2018
<p>The main June to September 2017 rainy season was above average in most areas. Kassala and parts of northern Gadaref, North Darfur, and North Kordofan may face an early start to the 2018 lean season, as below-average rainfall has led to below-normal crop production and poor regeneration of pasture and water resources.</p>						
	NIGERIA	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency & elevated risk of Famine	Mar. - Sep. 2018
<p>There is an ongoing risk of Famine (IPC Phase 5) in inaccessible areas of the northeast, where Boko Haram conflict has caused major disruptions to livelihoods during the course of several years. Most poor households in Borno State and parts of Adamawa and Yobe States are expected to remain heavily dependent on humanitarian assistance for food access, after very limited main season staple harvests and continued high prices for staple foods.</p>						

	Country (In order of estimated food insecure population, MAY)	External needs in MAY ?	MAY versus last year	MAY versus 5-year avg.	Highest likely severity (area) in MAY	Key upcoming lean season				
2.5 – 4.9 million	DRC	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	Tanganyika: Oct. - Dec. 2017				
	Conflict-related population movements, as well as damage from pests, will affect Season A cultivation. This, coupled with below-average harvests during Season B, will create food assistance needs through at least the end of the lean season in April 2018, particularly for rural poor and conflict-affected populations in the greater Kasai region and Tanganyika.									
1.0 – 2.49 million	UGANDA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	Karamoja: Mar. - Jun. 2018				
	According to WFP, available funding will allow for continued assistance for South Sudanese refugees at current levels through December 2017. However, WFP indicates a funding gap of USD 43 million to meet assistance needs through March 2018. Food security for refugees would likely deteriorate to Crisis (IPC Phase 3) after December in the absence of assistance.									
	KENYA	Yes	▼	▲	PHASE 2: Stressed	Aug. - Oct. 2018				
Higher livestock productivity is likely following the March to May 2018 long rains across many areas, which is expected to improve food consumption and incomes. However, poor households in Tana River, Garissa, Mandera, Isiolo, and Wajir that experienced consecutive poor seasons are likely to still face Crisis (IPC Phase 3).										
0.5 – 0.99 million	NIGER	Yes	▲	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	Pastoral: Feb. - Jun. 2018				
	The security crisis linked to the Boko Haram insurgency maintains Crisis (IPC Phase 3) in the Diffa Region. Additionally, poor performance of the rainfall season again in 2017 in some pastoral areas will contribute to an early start to the lean season.									
	Central African Rep (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	Mar. - Sep. 2018				
	Recent attacks on humanitarian workers and UN staff have hindered humanitarian assistance delivery. The conflict continues to significantly disrupt livelihood activities, and the lean season is expected to begin early in March 2018.									
Burundi (RM)						Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	Apr. - May 2018
0.1 – 0.49 million	MADAGASCAR	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	South: Oct. 2017 - Mar. 2018				
	CHAD	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	Pastoral: Jan. - Jun. 2018				
	Dry spells in certain regions of the Sahelian zone, as well as Lac, Kanem, BEG, Batha Est, Nord Ouaddai, and Wadi Fira, have affected agricultural and pastoral activities. The persistence of conflict is expected to lead to an early start of the lean season.									
	Tanzania (RM)	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	Bimodal: Oct. - Dec. 2017				
	Due to funding constraints, food rations to Burundian refugees have been consistently reduced in 2017. Although the number of daily arrivals has slowed, influxes continue. Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are expected in the absence of									
	HAITI	Yes	▼	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	Apr. - Jun. 2018				
	Certain areas impacted by Hurricane Irma, as well as the southwestern parts of the country affected by drought during the last season, are likely to still be recovering from these shocks in May 2018.									
	Rwanda (RM)	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 1: Minimal	Apr. - May 2018				
GUATEMALA	No	▼	▼	PHASE 2: Stressed	Apr. - Sep. 2018					
Very poor households, who are indebted after years of poor staple production, may remain in Crisis (IPC Phase 3).										
<0.1 million	MAURITANIA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	Agropastoral: Jan. - Jun. 2018				
	Poor rainfall and limited livelihood opportunities contribute to Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes in western agropastoral areas.									
No projected Phase 3+	MALI	Yes	▼	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	Pastoral: Apr. - Jul. 2018				
	MOZAMBIQUE	No	▼	▼	PHASE 2: Stressed	Central: Oct. 2017 - Mar. 2018				
	ZIMBABWE	No	▼	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	Nov. 2017 - Feb. 2018				
	BURKINA FASO	No	▶	▼	PHASE 2: Stressed	Jun. - Sep. 2018				
	Honduras (RM)	No	▼	▼	PHASE 2: Stressed	Apr. - Sep. 2018				
	El Salvador (RM)	No	▼	▼	PHASE 1: Minimal	Jun. - Sep. 2018				
	Nicaragua (RM)	No	▼	▼	PHASE 1: Minimal	Jun. - Sep. 2018				
	Lesotho (RM)	No	▶	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	Dec. 2017 - Feb. 2018				
	MALAWI	No	▼	▼	PHASE 1: Minimal	South: Sep. 2017 - Feb. 2018				
	ZAMBIA	No	▶	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	Nov. 2017 - Feb. 2018				

### 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 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

May 2018

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%
Ethiopia	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%
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	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%	5.0 - 9.99 million	20-40%
Somalia	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%	5.0 - 9.99 million	>60%
Sudan	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%
Nigeria	2.5 - 4.99 million	<5%	2.5 - 4.99 million	<5%	5.0 - 9.99 million	<5%
DRC	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	<5%	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%
Uganda	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Kenya	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%
Niger	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	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	40-60%
Burundi RM	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Madagascar	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Chad	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%
Tanzania RM	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%
Haiti	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Rwanda RM	<0.1 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Guatemala	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Mauritania	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%
Mali	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	<0.1 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%
Mozambique	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	<0.1 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Zimbabwe	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	None	0	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%
Burkina Faso	0.1 - 0.49 million	0	None	0	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Honduras 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%
Nicaragua RM	<0.1 million	<5%	None	0	<0.1 million	<5%
Lesotho RM	None	0	None	0	None	0
Malawi	None	0	None	0	None	0
Zambia	None	0	None	0	None	0