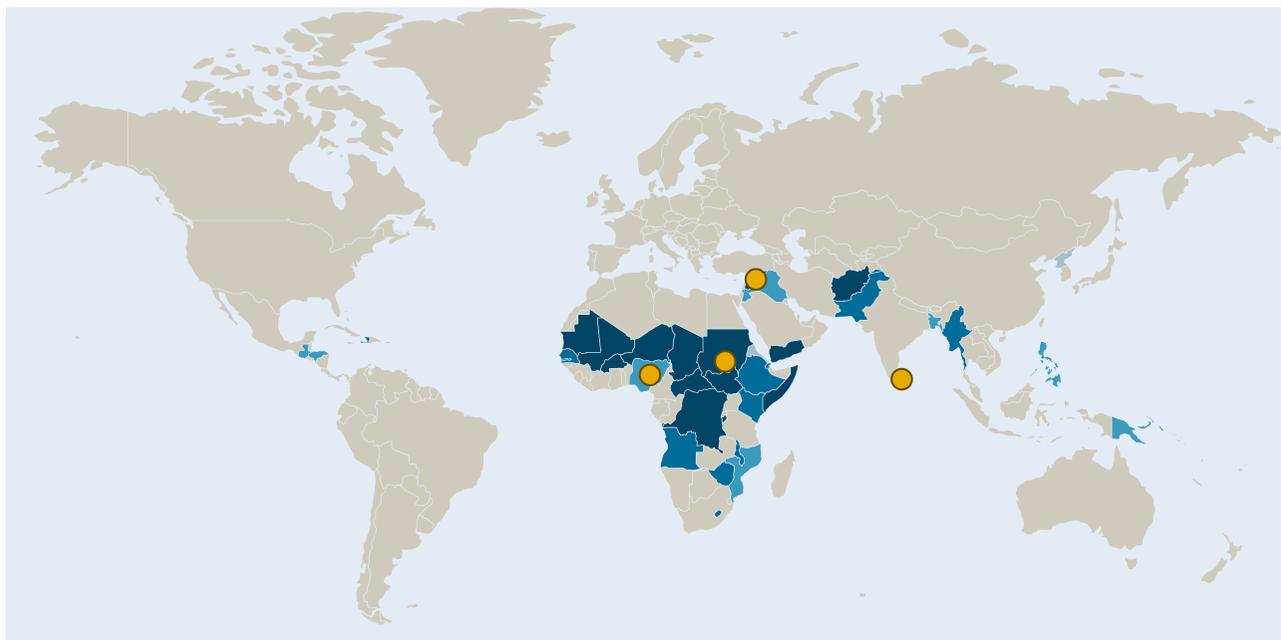




GLOBAL EMERGENCY OVERVIEW

October 2012



Snapshot - 15 to 22 October

This week, armed violence continued to escalate in **Syria** with heavy fighting occurring in Homs, Daraa, Deir Ezzor, Idlib, Latakia, Aleppo and Damascus. The Government has been accused of using cluster munitions in populated areas. There is an increasing risk of regional spill over, the most recent event being the assassination of a senior intelligence official leading to unrest in Lebanon. Recent reports indicate that more than 900,000 people have been affected by conflict in South Kordofan and Blue Nile state in **Sudan**. There is no humanitarian access to more than 320,000 affected people in the two provinces. **Nigeria** has recently witnessed large scale flooding, affecting 1.3 million people, and an increase of violence by extremists in the north and central regions. A drought in the north of **Sri Lanka** has affected 1.3 million people.

Most recent update: 22/10/2012

Next update: 29/10/2012

Severe humanitarian crisis

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

Humanitarian crisis

Angola	Malawi
Djibouti	Myanmar
Ethiopia	Pakistan
Haiti	Senegal
Kenya	Zimbabwe
Lesotho	

Situation of concern

Bangladesh	Mozambique
Guatemala	● Nigeria
Honduras	PNG
Iraq	Philippines
Jordan	● Sri Lanka

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. FAO reports that close to 2.8 million people are estimated to be at risk of going hungry due to high food prices, displacement and chronic poverty. According to UNICEF, in 2012 Burkina Faso also has an estimated caseload of 100,000 children <5 with severe acute malnutrition. Heavy seasonal rains in the Sahel region have caused flooding and have affected approximately 21,000 people throughout Burkina Faso. The country has additionally been affected by the insecurity and ensuing displacement in Mali. Revalidation of refugee statistics published on 16 October by UNHCR revealed that Burkina Faso received around 35,000 Malian refugees, instead of the previously estimated figure of 108,000. The refugees are residing at seven official sites (Mentao, Damba, Fereiro, Goudebo, Gandafabou, Bobo Dioulasso, 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.

Updated: 22/10/2012

BURUNDI FOOD INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT

An estimated 1.5 million people are food insecure as a result of two consecutive poor harvests due to erratic and below average rain fall. The recent drought is exacerbated by the already weakened purchasing power for many households as a result of high prices of staple foods. The on-going lean season (October to December) has increased food insecurity among poorer households and is expected to continue until the start of the 2013. In addition, the provinces bordering Tanzania will be further affected by the anticipated return of more than 32,000 Burundian refugees in Tanzania by the end of the year, putting additional pressure on basic social services and food availability. The fragile peace after a 12 year civil war that ended in 2005 is being threatened by violent repression of political opposition and retaliatory attacks by anti-government groups.

Updated: 22/10/2012

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC FOOD INSECURITY, INSECURITY

The Central African Republic continues to face a severe and protracted humanitarian crisis. UN OCHA reported in July that an estimated 1.9 million people, half of the country's population, are in need of humanitarian assistance. There is no recently updated data available on the number of people food insecure. An estimated 65,000 Central Africans are displaced within the country. According to the UN, around 20,000 have been affected by flooding following torrential rains in September. 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. Despite this, 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: 22/10/2012

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 June, Chad has experienced floods in many parts of the country. By 15 of October, more than 520,000 people were affected. The floods further increase locust breeding, which could negatively impact the upcoming harvest. The rainy season severely hampers humanitarian access.

Updated: 22/10/2012

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. By the end of September, the number of people displaced by violence had 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 550,000 people and an estimated 70,000 have fled to Uganda and Rwanda. According to a recent UN report, the two neighbouring countries are allegedly providing support to rebel group M23.

An Ebola outbreak was reported by WHO in Haut-Uélé district in Province Orientale in eastern Congo, with 75 cases noted, including 36 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. In addition, humanitarian personnel are increasingly targeted. There is a lack of information on the number of people affected in the eastern provinces, their location and their needs.

Updated: 22/10/2012

GAMBIA FOOD INSECURITY

Gambia continues to be affected by the Sahel food crisis and after crop failure, resulting from poor rains, 206,000 people are receiving emergency relief. In March, the Gambian Government asked for international assistance to deal with the crisis. Retail food and fuel prices are at an all-time high. 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 data on the number of food insecure in Gambia.

Updated: 22/10/2012

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 severe food and nutrition crisis is affecting 4.6 million people with 560,000 children >5 at risk of acute malnutrition in 2012. The insecurity in the north has led to large scale displacement with around 118,000 people displaced internally and, according to UNHCR, more than 208,000 people fleeing to neighbouring countries (35,000 refugees in Burkina Faso, 109,000 in Mauritania, 64,000 in Niger). Since 1 January, 170 cases of cholera, including 13 deaths, have been reported in the Gao and Ansongo districts of northern Mali. In addition, heavy flooding affected close to 9,000 people in October 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 have met 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. European Union leaders vowed to help Mali by backing up an international military force and training Malian defence forces.

Updated: 22/10/2012

MAURITANIA FOOD INSECURITY

WFP reports that about 800,000 people, almost one fourth of the households in rural areas, and 200,000 in urban 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 25 of September, around 109,000 Malians have crossed the border into Mauritania, fleeing armed conflict in northern Mali. On 13 October, Mauritania President Mohamed Ould Abdel Aziz was injured after a military patrol accidentally fired on his convoy.

Updated: 22/10/2012

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 64,000 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 520,000 people since mid-July. The regions of Tillabéri and Dosso, an area already affected by the Sahel food crisis, have been hardest hit. 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: 22/10/2012

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 180 suspected cases and 18 deaths between 5 and 21 September. Military operations by Somali forces, supported by African Union peacekeepers, against militants resulted in an increase in displacement. 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. Humanitarian access remains highly restricted in south and central Somalia due to insecurity and the ban imposed by Somali militants on humanitarian organisations.

Updated: 22/10/2012

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 Lakes the most heavily hit areas. At least 260,000 people have been affected. In addition, since late August, there has been an intensification of hostilities between the South Sudan Army and non-state armed actors in Jonglei. Insecurity, poor infrastructure and seasonal rains severely hamper humanitarian access.

On 25 September, after negotiating for more than fourteen months, agreements between Sudan and South Sudan were signed on a number of issues, including border security and oil profits. Southern officials say it will take three to 12 months to get oil exports flowing again after the country shut down its oil production following a row over transit fees.

Updated: 22/10/2012

SUDAN CONFLICT, FOOD INSECURITY

Sudan faces widespread food insecurity and multiple conflicts. According to the 'the State of Food Insecurity in the World 2012', 18 million people (around 40%) in Sudan are undernourished. 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. 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. UN OCHA recently revised upwards its estimation of number of people affected in the two regions to 908,000 people. There is no humanitarian access to 350,000 people affected in rebel held areas in South Kordofan and 70,000 affected in Blue Nile state. More than 210,000 refugees have crossed into South Sudan and Ethiopia. In Darfur, new civilian displacements have been reported following inter-tribal clashes. Above-average rains have triggered widespread flash floods in August and September, and an estimated 146,000 people were affected at the start of September.

Updated: 22/10/2012

ANGOLA FOOD INSECURITY

In the beginning of September, UN OCHA reported 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 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. There is a lack of updated information on the food security situation in-country.

Updated: 22/10/2012

DJIBOUTI FOOD INSECURITY

Several consecutive years of drought have led to a critical food security situation in Djibouti with some 67,000 people food insecure. In most of the country's pastoral areas, food security conditions are improving due to the arrival of good Karan/Karma rains. However, conditions for urban poor households are expected to remain critical during the coming months due to on-going increases in food prices. The continued influx of refugees from Somalia is leading to an increase of humanitarian needs in both rural and urban areas. Some 200 refugees are arriving in Djibouti every day.

Updated: 22/10/2012

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. The UN expects an overall improvement in food security across the country between October and December 2012 as the meher harvest will replenish household stocks and decrease food prices. 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. The population of the Dollo Ado refugee complex in the southeast passed the 170,000-mark last week.

Updated: 22/10/2012

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 agro pastoral 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. 35 people have died while 117 others are admitted to hospital following a cholera outbreak in villages on the Kenya-Somalia border. Around 470,000 refugees in Dadaab camps, mostly from Somalia, have limited access to basic necessities such as food, shelter, water and sanitation. 5,640 refugee families in the camps have been affected by floods in the beginning of October. The Kenyan Government has issued an alert over more flash floods in parts of the country following the start of the country's October -December short rains. Flooding and land/mudslides are likely to occur

in areas of Western, Lower Tana and Central Kenya. Political violence continues, with four people killed at a political rally in Coast Province on 4 October.

Updated: 22/10/2012

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) according to the Government. 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: 22/10/2012

MALAWI FOOD INSECURITY

Prolonged dry spells have led to a deteriorating food security crisis in Malawi. A June 2012 Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee report highlights that 1.63 million people (11% of total population) are at risk of food insecurity for a period ranging between three to eight months. 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: 22/10/2012

SENEGAL FLOODS, FOOD INSECURITY

Over 1 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 have any local cereal stocks due to the early depletion of stocks starting in April/May. GAM rates are above the 15% critical threshold in Podor, Ranerou and Kanel departments. Flooding triggered by severe rainfall since mid-August has affected more than 260,000 people throughout the country. UN OCHA reports that, as of 15 October, the large majority of the displaced people were able to return to their homes.

Updated: 22/10/2012

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. An estimated 1.2 million people are currently food insecure with projections indicating a rise to 1.67 during the peak hunger period. 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). In addition, waterborne diseases continue to be reported namely typhoid and dysentery, which could increase with the onset of the rains.

Updated: 22/10/2012

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.

Updated: 22/10/2012

NIGERIA FLOODS, INSECURITY

By the 15 of October, some 1.4 million Nigerians were 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 on-going flooding has increased the risk of cholera outbreaks. Outbreaks of violence have taken place in Nigeria's north and central regions, including sectarian violence and attacks by armed bandits and the Boko Haram Islamist sect. More than 50 people were killed between 16 and 20 October after extremists launched attacks in the cities of Potiskum and Maiduguri, the base of Boko Haram. More than 2,800 people have been killed in the conflict since 2009.

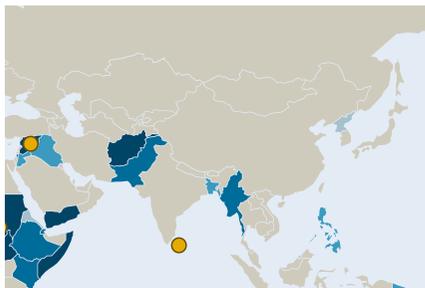
Updated: 22/10/2012

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: 22/10/2012



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. In the first nine months 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: 22/10/2012

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. Due to increasing consumer prices the number of food insecure people could increase from 1.3 million to 1.9 million by the end of 2012 according to a recent WFP/FAO/UNRWA Food Security Watch.

Updated: 22/10/2012

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. The regime has been accused of dropping cluster bombs on civilian areas. Suicide attacks have been on the increase.

UN OCHA reports that 3 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. For instance in Lebanon, where unrest erupted last weekend after a security chief who expressed anti President al-Assad sentiments was assassinated. The border region currently hosts an estimated 14,000 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. UN-Arab League envoy Lakhdar Bahrimi is aiming to secure a ceasefire within Syria from October 26 during the four-day Muslim holiday of Eid al-Adha.

Updated: 22/10/2012

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 500,000 people are displaced according to UN OCHA. 5.5 million people are in IPC phase four ('Emergency' acutely malnourished. A recent SMART nutrition survey in the beginning of September in Lahj) and about one million children <5 are 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: 22/10/2012

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.

President Thein Sein recently announced he will not allow the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) to open an office in the country, following a week of protests against the move by Buddhist monks and their supporters.

Updated: 22/10/2012

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 265,000 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. 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. Seven districts are classified as facing IPC phases three ('Crisis') and four ('Emergency'). 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: 22/10/2012

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: 22/10/2012

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 14 October, the number of Syrian registered refugees in Iraq stands at 41,955 with the majority residing in Kurdistan. Although humanitarian access has become less restricted, security threats for international staff remain high, particularly in Baghdad, north/central governorates and the Disputed Territories. More than 37,000 Iraqis have

returned from Syria since June 2012.

Updated: 22/10/2012

JORDAN DISPLACEMENT

As of 21 October there were around 60,000 registered Syrian refugees and 30,000 Syrians awaiting registration in Jordan. As a result, Jordan's economy, as well as water and energy resources are strained. The prices of commodities are higher in Jordan compared to Syria and the purchasing power of the refugees to cover basic needs is rapidly decreasing. On 2 October, the Jordanian police used tear gas to disperse some 500 Syrian refugees at Zaatari camp in the north of the country who were protesting against their living conditions. On 10 October, Jordan's King Abdullah initiated preparations for elections, due by early next year, following the decision to dissolve the parliament earlier. The elections will be the first step towards constitutional reforms in the aftermath of the Arab spring.

Updated: 22/10/2012

PHILIPPINES CONFLICT, FLOODS, TYPHOON

The Philippines frequently experiences natural disasters, particularly typhoons. Over 945,000 people are still displaced by floods triggered by Tropical Storm "Haikui" which hit the Philippines at the beginning of August. By the end of September around 8,000 persons were affected by typhoon Lawin, primarily on Zamboanga peninsula. In addition, some 47,000 people were believed to be displaced in Mindanao at the end of September, 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: 22/10/2012

SRI LANKA DROUGHT

1.3 million people face (severe) drought conditions in the north of Sri Lanka. UN OCHA reports a 23% production loss which could increase to a 60% loss of the rice harvest if dry weather conditions continue. The affected area is recovering from a civil war which lasted until 2009 and left more than one million people food insecure. Menik Farm, once the world's largest camp for IDPs, closed at the end of September. Currently around 3,000 IDPs remaining in the camp are awaiting return to their areas of origin.

Updated: 22/10/2012

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 and according to WFP, 57% of households have 'borderline' food consumption. 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: 22/10/2012



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. WFP reports that some 4 million people in Haiti are food insecure and there is a high risk of a worsening food security situation due to the increase in cost of basic commodities, destruction of crops by Tropical Storm Isaac and drought.

Updated: 22/10/2012

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: 22/10/2012

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 drought conditions. 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: 22/10/2012



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: 22/10/2012

The Global Emergency Overview is a mobile application.

To download the mobile application for Android phones [click here](#).

Or go here: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=org.acaps.acaps>

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](#).