Severe humanitarian crisis
Afghanistan
Nigeria
CAR
Somalia
DRC
South Sudan
Eritrea
Iraq
Syria
Niger
Yemen

Humanitarian crisis
Cameroon
Libya
Chad
Malawi
Colombia
Mali
DPRK
Mauritania
Djibouti
Nepal
Ethiopia
oPt
Gambia
Pakistan
Guinea
Senegal
Haiti
Sierra Leone
Kenya
Ukraine
Lebanon
Liberia

Situation of concern
Angola
Jordan
Burkina Faso
Madagascar
Burundi
Myanmar
Guatemala
PNG
Guinea
Philippines
Honduras
India

Snapshot 25 August–1 September 2015
Papua New Guinea: 1.8 million people have been affected by prolonged dry spell and frost in the Highlands region; 1.3 million are reported to be most at risk. Crops have been destroyed, and several schools and health facilities have been closed due to water shortages. The affected population is reported to be resorting to less reliable sources of drinking water.

Guatemala: Ongoing drought caused by El Niño had led to a deterioration of food security. Nearly one million people are facing acute food insecurity, mainly due to decreased harvest. 900,000 people have no food stocks left.

CAR: Clashes between anti-balaka and ex-Seleka in Bambari, Ouaka, have displaced at least 4,250 people. A spontaneous IDP site has been set up inside the MINUSCA compound, and conditions are dire, with no sanitation facilities and limited access to water and shelter.

**AFRICA**

**CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC** CONFLICT, FOOD INSECURITY, INSECURITY

For more information on CAR, visit the ACAPS country analysis page.

**LATEST DEVELOPMENTS**

30 August: The transitional government adopted a new constitution. The presidency is limited to two terms. Members and former members of the transitional government will not be allowed to run for election in October (AFP).

28 August: More than 12,000 severely malnourished children under five need treatment. SAM prevalence stands at 1.9%, and beyond the 2% emergency threshold in some prefectures (UNICEF).

20–27 August: Clashes between anti-balaka and ex-Seleka in Bambari, Ouaka prefecture, have displaced at least 4,250 people. A spontaneous IDP site was also formed inside the MINUSCA compound, hosting 3,000 additional people as of 25 August. Conditions are dire, with no sanitation facilities and limited access to water and shelter (UNHCR).

**KEY CONCERNS**

- More than 6,000 people thought to have died in violence between December 2013 and March 2015 (The Guardian, 21/07/2015; Government, 16/09/2014; BBC, 07/01/2015).
- 2.7 million of 4.6 million people needed immediate assistance, half of them children (OCHA, 06/06/2015).

**OVERVIEW**

Health, protection, food, and WASH are priority needs, as continued violence, looting, and displacement cause further deterioration of an already dire humanitarian situation across the country. Conflict has resulted in displacement, targeted killings along communal lines, and human rights abuses.

Humanitarian needs in CAR continue to exceed available resources and delivery of aid is expected to decline because funding remains low. However, on 13 May, CAR was deactivated as a Level 3 emergency response.

**Politics and Security**

The transitional government’s term has been extended until 30 December 2015; it had been due to end 17 August (AFP, 12/08/2015). The government was formed in August 2014, but was rejected by the ex-Seleka, which had proclaimed a de facto, independent, secular state in northeastern CAR in July (IRIN 23/09/2014; Government, 24/07/2014).

The 585 participants in the Bangui Peace Forum agreed on a Republican Pact for Peace in May. The pact sets a calendar for elections and revision of the constitution; a consensual disarmament model; the establishment of a criminal court; and an agenda of humanitarian and development priorities (BBC, 03/05/2015; Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, 12/05/2015). On 30 August, the transitional government adopted a new constitution limiting future presidents to two terms in office (AFP, 31/08/2015). Members and former members of the transition government will not be allowed to run for legislative and presidential elections in October (Mediapart, 30/08/2015).

A constitutional referendum will be held on 4 October. The first round of presidential and legislative elections will take place on 18 October, and the second round on 22 November (AFP, 19/06/2015). Many are concerned that CAR is not ready for elections, considering authorities have not created a representative voter roll: voter registration took place 26 June–27 July, but thousands of people lost identity documents during the conflict, which complicated the process (AFP, 29/07/2015; UNHCR, 24/07/2015). Moreover, the National
Transitional Council did not authorise refugees to vote until August (AFP, 20/08/2015).

**Stakeholders**

**Ex-Seleka:** Seleka was an alliance of factions created in 2012 and dissolved by President Djotodia in late 2013. However, many fighters remained active, and were dubbed ‘ex-Seleka’. With the exception of 17,114 confined to three military camps in Bangui, most moved out of the capital and by January 2014 controlled much of central and northern CAR (IRIN, 17/09/2014). Bambari, Ouaka, reportedly became the ex-Seleka headquarters in May 2014. Between 10 and 15 commanders oversee 1,500–3,750 soldiers each, including Muslims from the northeast, and Sudanese and Chadians (IRIN, 12/01/2015; international media, 30/09/2014; Enough, 17/06/2015). FDPC was formed around a decade ago and became part of Seleka in 2012. However it has since come into conflict with other Seleka members.

**Anti-balaka:** Anti-balaka formed in order to counter the Seleka; there are around 75,000 militants, though the numbers are contested, and their main leaders and political programme remain unknown (IRIN, 12/01/2015). After the coup and Djotodia’s resignation, many members of the former government army, the FACA, joined the anti-balaka. It is suspected that up to ten anti-balaka factions function in the vicinity of Bangui (IRIN, 12/02/2014).

**UN peacekeeping mission (MINUSCA):** MINUSCA officially took over operations on 14 September 2014, under a one-year mandate. In March 2015, the number of peacekeepers was increased by 1,000, to better protect infrastructure and senior officials in Bangui, bringing the total to 13,000 uniformed personnel (Reuters, 26/03/2015). The UN Security Council has extended MINUSCA’s mandate by one year (UN, 28/04/2015). An international NGO reported that UN peacekeepers in Bangui’s PK-5 were responsible for the death of two civilians, as well as the rape of a 12-year-old girl, in August. The head of international NGO reported that UN peacekeepers in Bangui’s PK-5 were responsible for the death of two civilians, as well as the rape of a 12-year-old girl, in August. The head of the former government army, the FACA, joined the anti-balaka. It is suspected that up to ten anti-balaka factions function in the vicinity of Bangui (IRIN, 12/02/2014).

**Bangui:** MINUSCA started a military operation in PK5 district of Bangui to arrest a former ex-Seleka leader in August. The violence caused an unknown number of casualties and displacement (ECHO, 03/08/2015). A UN peacekeeper was killed north of Bangui during clashes with armed groups on 2 August (OCHA, 04/08/2015).

**Basse-Kotto:** Fighting in Malegbassa over 2–4 August left up to 12 dead and several wounded. The first attack was against Fulani herders with the aim of stealing cattle. Fulani and ex-Seleka fighters retaliated (Reuters, 06/08/2015).

**Nana-Mambere:** On the border with Cameroon, an increase in violence has been associated with the Front Démocratique du Peuple Centrafricain (Democratic Front of the Central African People, or FDPC), a member of Seleka (Reuters, 21/07/2015).

**Ouaka:** On 20 August, renewed clashes in Bambari between anti-balaka and ex-Seleka left 20 people dead and 10 injured, including two humanitarian workers (Enough project, 27/08/2015; ECHO, 24/08/2015). Tensions remain high as negotiations are underway (ECHO, 24/08/2015). Humanitarian organisations fear the situation could deteriorate further (UNHCR, 27/08/2015).

**Conflict developments**

Ceasefires have been agreed by the warring parties, but never accepted by the transitional government nor fully enacted (USAID, 10/04/2015). More than 2,054 security incidents have been recorded since January 2014 (OCHA, 10/08/2015), with more than 96% of security incidents reported from January to end of July 2015 (OCHA, 24/07/2015). However, the number of reported incidents has decreased from 198 in February 2015 to 73 in July 2015 (OCHA, 10/08/2015). Attacks against civilians have been reported in Ouandogo (Nana-Grebizi), Kabo (Ouham), Batangafo (Ouham) and the Boua–Batangafo route (UNHCR, 25/06/2015). More than 6,000 people were killed between December 2013 and March 2014 (The Guardian, 21/07/2015; BBC, 07/01/2015).

Conflict began in late 2012, when Seleka fighters advanced from the north, taking control of territory on their way to the capital Bangui, where they held power until December 2013. Seleka committed numerous abuses during their advance and rule, and self-defence militias composed of mainly non-Muslims, ‘anti-balaka’, began revenge attacks in late 2013. Most ex-Seleka members withdrew to the north at the end of 2013, but fighting persisted between ex-Seleka and anti-balaka, Muslim and Christian communities, and pastoralists and farmers.

African Union forces, MISCA, backed by France, were deployed in December 2013, authorised by the UN. The African Union had already deployed troops to CAR prior to Seleka’s assumption of power, but they had been overwhelmed by the severity and scope of the conflict. In mid-September 2014, the UN peacekeeping force took over.

French forces: On 19 May, the French peacekeeping operation was formally handed over to MINUSCA (French Ministry of Defence, 22/05/2015). As of 21 May, 1,700 of 2,000 French troops were left in CAR (UN, 21/05/2015).

EU advisory mission: The EU launched its Military Advisory mission (EUMAM RCA) on 19 January, with the objective of reforming the security sector (Government, 16/03/2015).

US military assistance: The US is providing logistical support, special forces, and advisers to African troops operating against the LRA in eastern and southeastern CAR.
**Ouham:** On 28 July, 26 people were killed as armed groups clashed over control of Markounda (03/08/2015).

**Displacement**

About 370,000 IDPs have been reported in CAR as of late August (UNHCR, 21/08/2015). Improved security and consistent MINUSCA presence have reduced IDP numbers. 8,260 refugees and asylum seekers from DRC, Chad, and Sudan are living in camps in Bangui, Bambari, and Zemio (UNHCR, 30/07/2015; OCHA; 29/04/2015).

**IDPs**

The number of displaced decreased from 399,270 in May to 369,490 in late August (UNHCR, 21/08/2015). 111,266 IDPs live in 72 sites outside Bangui, the rest are either in the capital or with host families (UNHCR, 29/07/2015). There are approximately 131,000 IDP returnees, mainly in Ouham-Pende, Ouham, Kemo and Nana-Grebizi (OCHA, 28/05/2015).

**Bangui:** Relative improvements in security in some neighbourhoods outside Bangui have reduced IDP numbers in Bangui to 30,150 in 32 sites, from 33,070 in May (UNHCR, 21/08/2015). However, displacement has increased in the 2nd and 4th districts, with people arriving from Ouaka and Kemo (UNHCR, 29/07/2015). As of 29 July, the voluntary return and reintegration of people from Mpoko site was ongoing (UNHCR, 29/07/2015; UNICEF, 09/07/2015). 93% of households have been de-registered from the site and 90% registered to return to neighbourhoods in Bangui (UNICEF, 11/08/2015). 6,658 IDPs have left so far and 13,515 remain at Mpoko (UNHCR, 29/07/2015). 1,173 households have been registered in the 5th district of Bangui (OCHA, 28/05/2015).

**Nana-Grebizi:** Increased displacement has been recorded throughout the prefecture, with informal IDP sites being set up (UNHCR, 26/06/2015). Herding and farming communities are clashing over natural resources, causing displacement (FEWSNET, 31/07/2015; OCHA, 21/06/2015).

**Mambere-Kadei:** IDPs are beginning to return to Berberati. 92 have returned and received one month’s assistance (OCHA, 15/07/2015).

**Ouaka:** Clashes in Bambari since 20 August between anti-balaka and ex-Seleka have caused 4,250 IDPs previously hosted in Notre-Dame-de-la-Victoire to flee to three other sites – Sangaris, Aviation and Site Alternatif. A spontaneous IDP site has formed inside MINUSCA’s Bambari compound, hosting about 3,000 people as of 25 August. Conditions are dire at the site, with no sanitation facilities and limited access to water and shelter (UNHCR, 27/08/2015).

**Ouham:** Herding and farming communities are clashing over natural resources, causing displacement (FEWSNET, 31/07/2015; OCHA, 21/06/2015). Increased displacement has been recorded throughout the prefecture with informal IDP sites being set up (UNHCR, 26/06/2015). On 16 July, 2,253 people arrived in Markounda and are in need of WASH facilities, NFIs, health and food assistance (UNICEF, 11/08/2015).

**Refugees and asylum seekers**

8,260 refugees and asylum seekers from DRC, Chad, and Sudan are living in camps in Bangui, Bambari, and Zemio (UNHCR, 30/07/2015; OCHA; 29/04/2015).

**1,859 Sudanese in Pladama Ouaka refugee camp are at risk of violence, being located 12 kilometres away from Bambari where renewed clashes have been taking place since the last week of August (UNHCR, 27/08/2015).**

**Refugee returnees**

Local sources report a return rate of 1,000 people per week from DRC to Kouango, Ouaka prefecture (OCHA, 08/07/2015).

**CAR refugees in neighbouring countries**

As of end July, there are 466,113 CAR refugees in neighbouring countries (UNHCR, 17/08/2015). 251,232 have been registered in Cameroon, 92,830 in Chad, 91,195 in DRC, and 24,866 in Congo (UNHCR, 17/08/2015; 31/07/2015; 20/05/2015; 31/03/2015).

**Humanitarian access**

Crime hinders the supply of humanitarian assistance outside Bangui. The total number of access incidents reported decreased from 96 in May to 68 in June; they were mainly violence against personnel, assets, and facilities (OCHA, 14/07/2015). 259 acts of violence have been recorded against humanitarian organisations since January 2015 (OCHA, 14/07/2015). They include theft of humanitarian assets and facilities as well as threats to staff (USAID, 27/04/2015). UN, NGO, and private vehicles are becoming regular targets on main roads (IOM, 02/02/2015). 18 humanitarian workers were killed and six wounded in 142 incidents in 2014 (OCHA, 04/12/2014; USAID, 19/12/2014).

**Truck drivers delivering food and supplies from Douala in Cameroon to Bangui are protesting the killing of 18 of their colleagues and refusing to work, amid increasing banditry on the Cameroon–CAR border (VoA, 21/08/2015).**

**Ouaka:** On 20 August, two humanitarian workers were injured in Bambari during ex-Seleka and anti-balaka clashes (AFP, 22/08/2015). **All humanitarian activities in Bambari have**
been temporarily suspended (OCHA, 25/08/2015). Some roads inside the city are closed, as well as the road to the airstrip. Negotiations with armed groups are underway (ECHO, 24/08/2015).

Access of affected populations to assistance

As of 15 May, more than 36,000 people are trapped and at risk of violence and abuse in seven enclaves countrywide: in Bangui’s PK5 (24,000), Boda (9,000), Bouar (1,600), Carnot (522), Berberati (456), Yaloke (316), and Dekoa (105). Most belong to religious and ethnic minorities and have limited access to basic services (OCHA, 28/05/2015; USAID, 12/06/2015). The trapped Fulani population of Yaloke is being relocated to a new site – dozens have already left for Cameroon.

Food security and livelihoods

The lean season is ongoing and the food security crisis is expected to last until September 2015, in particular for IDPs and some host communities. 1,280,000 people will continue facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) food security outcomes through December 2015 (FEWSNET, 31/07/2015). Mbres and Bambari prefectures are facing Emergency food security outcomes, while 11 other prefectures are facing Crisis (IPC, 15/07/2015). Food assistance needs remain the same as last year, and are higher than the five-year average (FEWSNET, 22/07/2015).

Food availability

An assessment of Ndoukou, Kemo prefecture, indicated that 97% of households have less than a week of food stocks (FEWSNET, 31/07/2015). About 19% of people in rural areas are in Crisis and 12% in Emergency (OCHA, 28/05/2015). Food stocks in rural areas are 40–50% below average due to recurring raids. The most insecure are households headed by women, displaced people or returnees, and those without financial resources (FEWSNET, 01/04/2015).

75% of Central Africans rely on agriculture for their food and income, and food crop production in 2014 was 58% below pre-crisis levels in 2012, as a result of insecurity, looting, and the killing of livestock, but 11% higher than 2013 (FAO, 29/07/2015; OCHA, 04/03/2015). The supply on grain markets is in decline. Local rice is unavailable due to low production and imports from Cameroon are affected by insecurity (FEWSNET, 31/07/2015). Fish supply has fallen by 40% and cattle-breeding by 77% compared to pre-crisis levels, and insecurity and poor road conditions have disrupted market linkages and led to significant increases in food prices in 2014 (FAO, 26/01/2015; OCHA, 18/12/2014).

Food access

Markets are expected to stay below-average for the remainder of 2015 (FEWSNET, 31/07/2015).

Health

As of December 2014, two million people need access to health services (OCHA, 22/12/2014). 55% of health facilities are functioning (WHO, 27/04/2015). Only 25% of those offering services have functioning sources of energy, and 21% have access to water (WHO, 31/12/2014).

Healthcare availability and access

Nationwide, 28% of health centres are completely or partially destroyed (UNICEF, 28/08/2015). Deficiency in antiretroviral treatment is reported in Ouaka due to lack of access (OCHA, 28/05/2015).

Malaria

Malaria remains the primary cause of mortality. 19,890 cases were reported between 4 May and 7 June (WHO, 30/04/2015; 30/06/2015).

Nutrition

As of 28 August, more than 12,000 children under five need treatment for severe acute malnutrition (SAM). SAM prevalence stands at 1.9%, and beyond the 2% emergency threshold in some prefectures (UNICEF, 28/08/2015).

Based on a national survey, severe acute malnutrition (SAM) was at 6.5% at the beginning of the year (UNICEF, 08/01/2015). In 2014, 28,000 children were severely malnourished and 75,500 moderately malnourished (OCHA, 04/12/2014; 18/12/2014).

WASH

2.3 million people do not have access to improved safe water or improved sanitation (OCHA, 23/09/2014; 22/12/2014). 1.4 million people are targeted for WASH assistance in 2015 but lack of funding is a constraint on WASH infrastructure support (OCHA, 29/04/2015; 28/05/2015).

Shelter

Muslim IDPs face limited movement due to tensions with surrounding communities. IDPs with host families face lack of space and tensions.

IDPs tend to move to rental housing after being in IDP sites or with host families but struggle to keep up with rent. Abandoned housing taken up by IDPs is mostly shelter left by Muslims, but only provides minimal protection after having been burned or pillaged (NRC, 12/2014). Some returning IDPs find their homes destroyed or occupied. Disputes and tensions when IDPs relocate are a concern (NRC, 12/2014).
Education

Over 1.4 million children are in need of education (OCHA, 22/12/2014), and two out of three children in the county have never attended primary school (IRC, 17/07/2015).

Access and learning environment

An assessment of schools noted that as of end April 2015, 78–88% are open (UNICEF, 30/04/2015). However, four months later, only 50% of schools are believed to be open (UNICEF, 28/08/2015). The situation varies across the country: 25% were functioning in Nana-Grebizi in April, 50% in Ouaka, 63% in Sangha-Mbaere, 67% in Vakaga, and 71% in Ouham. Classes, however, are not regular due to insecurity and absence of teachers (UNICEF, 30/04/2015).

Protection

Crimes against humanity and war crimes have been reported. Ex-Seleka are listed for child recruitment, killing, rape and other forms of sexual violence, and attacks on schools and/or hospitals. Anti-balaka are listed for child recruitment, and killing and maiming (Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict, 04/11/2014). On 8 January, the UN Commission of Inquiry into human rights concluded that violence towards Muslims by anti-balaka in 2014 constitutes ethnic cleansing (Government, 20/01/2015).

20 peacekeepers were sent home following an event 10 July involving excessive use of force on four people, killing two (Reuters, 09/07/2015).

Gender

The risks of sexual violence, early and forced marriage, and insufficient gender-based violence (GBV) response are highest in Bambari, Ouaka; Mbres and Kaga-Bandoro, Nana-Grebizi; Kabo and some villages in Nana-Mambere (OCHA, 28/05/2015). An increase in GBV has been reported in conflict-afflicted areas, with 45 cases of rape reported in Kaga Bandoro alone between 4 May and 7 June. Between January and June, 280 rape cases were recorded – an average of 46 per month (UNICEF, 09/07/2015).

On 3 August, a 12-year-old girl was raped by a UN peacekeeper in Bangui’s PK-5 district. There have been 11 cases of possible sexual assault by MINUSCA since the mission began in April 2014 (Reuters, 12/08/2015). New allegations of sexual misconduct by MINUSCA were reported on 12 August by three women, including one minor (UN, 19/08/2015).

Children

The number of children recruited into armed groups has risen to 6,000–10,000, from 2,500 at the beginning of the crisis (UNICEF, 28/08/2015). Eight major militia groups have agreed to free child soldiers and children used as cooks, messengers, or for sexual purposes (Reuters, 05/05/2015). As of 30 August, 1,832 children have been released from armed groups, including 163 in Batangafo on 30 August (UNICEF, 11/08/2015; UN, 20/08/2015; UNICEF, 28/08/2015).

There has been an increase in marriage of 12-year old girls (IRC, 17/07/2015).

Documentation

Refugees are at risk of statelessness because access to birth certificates is limited (OCHA, 28/05/2015).

Updated: 31/08/2015

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO CONFLICT, FOOD INSECURITY, EPIDEMIC, DISPLACEMENT

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

28 August: 50,000 people are affected by forest fires in Maniema province. At least 6,000 people are homeless and in churches, schools or with host families. The fires also affected existing IDP shelters (AFP; Caritas).

KEY CONCERNS

- 7 million people need humanitarian assistance (OCHA, 30/04/2015).

- 2.6 million IDPs (OCHA, 01/06/2015; 17/06/2015).

- Over 2 million children under five are suffering from acute malnutrition (Radio Okapi, 04/11/2014).

- 7.3 million school-aged children are not attending school (Radio Okapi, 10/03/2015).

OVERVIEW

Needs are highest in the conflict-affected regions of North Kivu, South Kivu, Katanga, and Orientale, where there is large-scale, repeated displacement. IDPs, host
populations, and those unable to flee are all vulnerable, as insecurity poses multiple protection risks and prevents access to basic services.

Political violence and inter-communal strife have persisted for decades, influenced by longstanding tensions with DRC’s eastern neighbours. Operations by DRC armed forces and UN peacekeepers and infighting between armed groups disrupt security and stability.

Politics and security

President Kabila’s second full term ends in November 2016, and attempts to prolong his presidency beyond the two-term limit were met with violent protests in September 2014 and then January. The ruling party is thought to be using the scheduling of elections to extend Kabila’s time in office. In January, Parliament voted against a draft electoral law requiring that a census take place before elections (AFP, 27/09/2014; 25/01/2015). The majority is now pushing for local elections – which have never been held in DRC – to take place before the presidential poll, and decisions regarding the organisation of elections are being delayed. Parliament held a special session adopting a law on the allocation of seats in local elections in August – four months later than scheduled by the Independent National Electoral Commission (RFI, 10/08/2015). Local elections should take place on 25 October 2015 (local media, 11/08/2015).

In addition, the government has begun to accelerate the decentralisation process – the 2006 constitution provides for 26 provinces, as opposed to the current division into 11 (ICG, 05/05/2015). This is expected to aggravate ethnic and political tensions (UNICEF, 30/06/2015).

Stakeholders

At least 40 armed groups are operating in the east of the country (ECHO, 13/08/2015). They range from local militias set up initially as self-defence groups (among them many Mayi-Mayi groups), to secessionist groups, and forces first set up by fighters from Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi. The UN has a peacekeeping mission (MONUSCO), and an EU mission providing assistance to security sector reform has been in the country since 2005 (EU, 25/09/2014). Efforts to demobilise armed groups are ongoing. The UN and the Government have been discussing withdrawal of the UN mission (Radio Okapi, 06/04/2015).

Front of Patriotic Resistance in Ituri (FRPI) was set up in November 2002 from among the Ngiti ethnic group (TRAC). Attacks increased in Irumu territory, Orientale, in 2015, after a failed disarmament programme at the end of 2014 (OCHA, 19/04/2015). The FRPI was reportedly neutralised by the FARDC and MONUSCO in late June (AFP, 24/06/2015).

Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) are mainly Hutu Rwandans who were allegedly linked to the genocide. An estimated 1,400 fighters are active, primarily in the Kivu regions (Reuters, 22/03/2015).

Mayi-Mayi: At least 20 Mayi-Mayi groups, formed by local leaders along ethnic lines, are active in North Kivu, South Kivu, and Katanga. The number of fighters can range from 100 to 1,000 (AFP 2013).

Allied Democratic Forces/National Army for the Liberation of Uganda (ADF/NALU) is a Muslim militant group founded in the 1990s. MONUSCO and FARDC launched an operation in North Kivu to neutralise the group in January 2015 (Radio Okapi, 07/01/2015). ADF activity decreased in January, but by early February attacks against villages in Beni territory had increased (AFP, 04/02/2015; 20/03/2015).

Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA) was founded by Joseph Kony in Uganda in 1987 and spread to South Sudan, then to DRC and CAR (IRIN).

National Liberation Forces (FNL) are Burundian militants based in South Kivu (AFP 2013).

The armed forces of the DRC (FARDC) comprise 120,000–130,000 fighters (Defence Web, 2013). Seven army and police officers were banned from receiving MONUSCO support in March 2015 because they pose a risk of committing human rights violations (Reuters, 11/03/2015).

The UN Stabilization Mission in DRC (MONUSCO) is made up of almost 18,000 troops, as well as military observers and police units (OCHA, 19/04/2015). The initial mission, MONUC, was established after the 1999 peace agreement between DRC and five regional states. In March 2014 its mandate was expanded, with the creation of an Intervention Brigade, charged with neutralising armed groups (RFI, 20/10/2014). MONUSCO’s mandate was extended for another year in March 2015, although its force was cut by 2,000 troops (Reuters, 26/03/2015; AFP, 26/03/2015).

Conflict developments

North Kivu

2.29 million people in North Kivu are affected by armed conflict (OCHA, 02/06/2015). FARDC began an offensive against the FDLR in February, and renewed its offensive against the ADF on 19 July (Radio Okapi, 20/07/2015; AFP, 26/02/2015). 2,960 incidents were recorded in the first half of 2015, including 519 incidents in June (International NGO Safety Organization, 20/07/2015).

Beni territory: 300 people were killed by ADF militants in Beni territory between March and July (Radio Okapi, 16/07/2015). An ADF attack on the night of 23 July left several buildings burned and three women dead (AFP, 24/07/2015). Another ADF attack was recorded in Beni on FARDC positions. On 20 July, FARDC soldiers took control of the
Mutara valley (ACLED, 27/07/2015). ADF attacked Kaluka village on 15 July: seven people were killed (Radio Okapi, 16/07/2015).

Walikale: Over 5-8 August, Raiya Mutomboki attacked villages in Walikale, trying to take back territory from the Kifuafua Delphin armed group. MONUSCO deployed a temporary base of peacekeepers on 8 August (Radio Okapi, 10/08/2015).

South Kivu

In Lulingu, Shabunda territory, clashes between FARDC and Raiya Mutomboki have been ongoing since mid-May. An unknown number of people have left the town, and flights to the region have been suspended (OCHA, 27/05/2015). On 15 June, Raiya Mutomboki kidnapped 28 people, including 11 women (OCHA, 09/07/2015). As of 29 July, approximately 10,000 people from Shabunda territory were displaced to localities in Walunga (Radio Okapi, 29/07/2015).

Orientale

On 16 July, FRPI attacked an IDP camp in Katorogo, Bunia. This was the ninth attack on an IDP site in 2015 and the second in one week (OCHA, 22/07/2015). 35 people died, 52 were wounded and 36 captured alive in three weeks of FARDC–MONUSCO operations in June (AFP, 24/06/2015). On 8 June, 30 people were abducted in Dungu-centre, reportedly by LRA. 12 were released after FARDC intervention (local media, 12/06/2015).

Katanga

Since early 2015, Katanga’s triangle of death (Pweto, Manono, and Moba territories) has experienced a decrease in Mayi-Mayi attacks (Radio Okapi, 17/03/2015), but Luba (Bantus) and pygmies (Batwa) have frequently clashed in Kalemie, Manono, and Nyunzu territories, Tanganyika district (OCHA, 08/04/2015). In Nyunzu territory, conflict between Luba and pygmies has killed 200 people since January 2015; 60 women have been raped; 113 villages have been burned (Radio Okapi, 03/06/2015).

Natural disasters

Floods

9,000 people were affected by flooding in Orientale prefecture during 12 August. Four died and more than 1,200 homes were damaged or destroyed (OCHA, 20/08/2015).

Forest fire

50,000 people are affected by forest fires in Kabambare territory in Maniema province. At least 6,000 people are homeless and in churches, schools, or with host families. The fires also affected IDP shelters (AFP, 28/08/2015; Caritas, 26/08/2015).

Displacement

As of end of June, 1.5 million IDPs were reported in DRC (OCHA, 20/07/2015). More than half of them are in North Kivu province and the rest are mainly in South Kivu and Katanga provinces. In addition, DRC hosts more than 225,020 refugees (OCHA, 30/04/2015).

At 30 June, there were 1.5 million IDPs in DRC, a decrease of one million due to data cleaning (OCHA, 20/07/2015). Displacement can be short-term, but repetitive, depending on the security threats in the regions.

From March to June, 220,000 people were displaced due to insecurity in Beni, Rutshuru and Walikale territories (North Kivu), southern Irumu (Orientale), Kalehe (South Kivu), and Kalemie, Manono, and Pweto (Katanga) (OCHA, 20/07/2015).

121,000 were displaced between January and March 2015 (OCHA, 30/04/2015). 80% of IDPs are hosted by families and communities who are already facing chronic food insecurity and limited access to services and livelihood opportunities (FAO, 20/11/2014).

North Kivu

North Kivu hosts 604,560 IDPs as of 25 June (UNHCR, 14/07/2015). 26,880 were newly displaced in June due to violence in Beni, Rutshuru, and Walikale territories (UNHCR, 14/07/2015). 67% live with host families (OCHA, 15/07/2015). 192,000 live in 57 sites (IOM, 14/07/2015). Near Goma, four sites host more than 16,000 IDPs: Most people have relocated to Masisi, Nyirangongo, and Rutshuru territories (ECHO, 29/05/2015; OCHA, 31/05/2015). 32,000 IDPs in Tongu (Rutshuru) and Bukombo (Masisi) are in need of WASH, health, NFIs, and shelter assistance. They were displaced due to clashes between the FARDC and the FDLR/Nyatura FPC coalition (OCHA, 21/07/2015). 275,360 IDPs returned home over the last 18 months (UNHCR, 14/07/2015).

Beni: 14,000 IDPs, primarily Pygmies, are in need of urgent humanitarian assistance; medical assistance has been limited (Radio Okapi, 21/08/2015). There were 152,270 displaced people in Beni as of 25 June (OCHA, 15/07/2015).

Lubero: 127,630 people were displaced in Lubero as of 24 June (UNHCR, 15/07/2015).

Rutshuru: On 13 July, the Bwaland/Katwe IDP site was set on fire by an armed group, causing the 800 IDPs residing there to take refuge in nearby community buildings (OCHA, 21/07/2015).

Walikale: There are 76,030 IDPs in Walikale as of 25 June (UNCHR, 15/07/2015). Hundreds of households are seeking refuge with host families, and lack food, clothes, and access to healthcare (Radio Okapi, 10/08/2015; 06/06/2015). 1,500 people returned to Ntoto after fleeing Mayi-Mayi clashes in December 2014 and are in need of assistance...
At 30 June, 317,960 IDPs were in South Kivu, a 53% decrease since end March due to a purging of data that is awaiting verification (OCHA, 10/07/2015). 11,150 people were displaced between April and June, most by clashes between the FARDC and armed groups in Kalehe territory (OCHA, 10/07/2015). More than 64,000 IDPs and former IDPs need assistance in northern Shunda territory but insecurity limits access (OCHA, 21/08/2015). After returning to their homes on 15 August, 1,960 inhabitants of Mutarule, north Uvira territory, were re-displaced on 19 August due to a Mayi-Mayi attack (OCHA, 21/08/2015). In western Walungu territory, approximately 8,500 people fleeing Raïya Mutomboki attacks were registered from 6-15 July (local media, 06/08/2015).

Orientale

As of end June, there were 130,850 IDPs in Orientale province (OCHA, 20/07/2015).

Since 11 August, violence has displaced some 6,000 people from Djugu to Libi, north of Bunia, Ituri district (OCHA, 20/08/2015). During the week of 13 July, clashes over land displaced 3,000 people from the villages of Musekere and Linga in Djugu territory to Mokambo, Ituri district (OCHA, 22/07/2015).

1,375 people who returned to four villages in Walendu Bindi after fleeing FARDC and FRPI clashes in April 2014 are in urgent need of shelter, education and NFI assistance (Caritas, 21/08/2015).

An ADF attack on 14–15 July displaced 11,000 people from Kakuku, Beni territory, North Kivu, to Tchabi, Irumu territory (OCHA, 22/07/2015).

Katanga

Katanga hosts 316,875 IDPs as of end June (OCHA, 20/07/2015). 45,130 IDPs were displaced between April and June 2015 due to clashes between Luba and pygmies in Tanganyika district (OCHA, 29/07/2015). This is a decrease from the January–April figure of 79,770. 73% of IDPs are living with host families and 27% in sites (OCHA, 21/04/2015).

17,800 former IDPs returning to Nyunzu territory do not have shelter: 43 of 50 villages that were evaluated had been burned (OCHA, 24/07/2015). More than 74,000 former IDPs are in need of reintegration assistance (OCHA, 02/07/2015).

Maniema

Maniema hosts 121,525 IDPs as of 24 June (UNHCR, 20/07/2015). 24,950 of these are from South Kivu, and fled violence between April and June (OCHA, 20/07/2015). More than 6,000 IDPs, including 2,000 children under five, have arrived in Pangui territory in 2015, fleeing conflict in Shabunda, South Kivu. They are not currently receiving humanitarian assistance. Pangui territory also hosts approximately 25,000 former who need access to land and household items, as well as support to develop livelihoods (OCHA, 18/08/2015). 5,000 people displaced in Kasongo territory following intercommunal violence are staying with host families in villages near Mungomba need assistance (OCHA, 22/07/2015; Caritas, 03/08/2015).

Refugees and asylum seekers

DRC hosts more than 225,020 refugees (OCHA, 30/04/2015). DRC provincial authorities insist that assistance should only be delivered within camps, making it difficult to support refugees in host communities.

From CAR: As of early, there were 97,000 CAR refugees in DRC (WFP, 06/08/2015; UNHCR, 24/07/2015). Approximately 3,000 are in four camps in Equateur and Orientale provinces. The newest camp, Bili, in Bosobolo territory, Equateur province, hosts 7,000 refugees and expects to receive 10,000 refugees (WFP, 06/08/2015).

From Rwanda: 117,300 refugees (UNHCR, 28/02/2015; UN 30/12/2014).

From Burundi: As of 14 August, 14,508 new Burundian refugees have arrived in DRC (UNHCR, 14/08/2015). The majority are in South Kivu, 507 are in Katanga and 248 are in Maniema (UNICEF, 03/08/2015; WFP, 15/07/2015). More than 50% are living with host families and 7,332 have been transferred to Lusenda site in Fizi territory (UNICEF, 03/08/2015; UNHCR, 22/07/2015; 08/07/2015; WFP, 19/06/2015). FDLR presence in hosting areas is a concern (UNHCR, 05/06/2015; OCHA, 27/05/2015). Prior to the recent influx, there were 9,000 Burundian refugees in DRC (OCHA, 27/05/2015).

From Angola: 560 Angolan refugees are registered in DRC. Another 28,000 are undergoing voluntary repatriation: as of 23 April, at least 15,520 Angolan refugees had returned from DRC (UNHCR, 28/02/2015; Government, 30/04/2015).

Refugee returnees

Angola: Between 1 January and May, 29,881 DRC citizens were deported from Angola (Soyo and Cabinda provinces) (OCHA, 04/06/2015). Over 16-30 May, about 14,000 DRC nationals were expelled from Angola (Radio Okapi, 17/06/2015).

Central African Republic: The repatriation of 600 returnees who were in CAR began on 3 August. They had fled LRA violence six years ago and are being taken to Ango, Bas-Uele district in Orientale (OCHA, 20/08/2015; Reuters, 03/08/2015).

DRC refugees in neighbouring countries

There are around 442,440 DRC refugees in neighbouring countries, mainly in Uganda (178,220), Rwanda (73,560), Burundi (53,860), Tanzania (55,870), Congo (23,450), Kenya...
(15,630), South Sudan (14,630), and CAR (5,340) (UNHCR, 31/03/2015; 17/02/2015; 01/01/2015; 31/12/2014).

Since January, more than 4,500 people have fled to Uganda from eastern DRC (ACT Alliance, 05/06/2015).

Humanitarian access

The mountainous and volcanic terrain, and lack of tarred roads, limit access across DRC, and access worsens during the rainy season. Insecurity is a major constraint in the east.

Access of relief actors to affected population

**North Kivu:** There were two attacks on humanitarian organisations in Rutshuru and Walikale territories between 18 and 21 June (OCHA, 23/06/2015). Some 275,000 IDPs are hard to access due to insecurity (OCHA, 30/04/2015). Commercial flights are not serving the area (local media, 09/06/2015).

**South Kivu:** An increasing number of security incidents have been reported on the route between Bitale and Hombo (Kalehe territory) (OCHA, 10/06/2015). Two NGOs have temporarily suspended activities (OCHA, 10/06/2015). Insecurity has prevented humanitarian actors from accessing Lulingu (OCHA, 10/06/2015). At the end of July, Mayi-Mayi attacks were reported (Local media, 29/07/2015).

**Orientale:** Humanitarian activities have slowed in the south of Irumu territory (Bunia, Gety, Aveba and Bukiring) due to insecurity (OCHA, 03/06/2015). Since 16 May, five NGOs have suspended activities (OCHA, 10/06/2015). An INGO vehicle was attacked south of Bunia on 13 July (USAID, 21/07/2015).

Access of affected populations to assistance

**North Kivu:** In Lulingu, movement restrictions due to armed activity are preventing women from accessing their crops (OCHA, 09/07/2015).

**North Kivu:** Roads are inaccessible (local media, 09/06/2015).

**South Kivu:** 40% of the roads in South Kivu are impassable (OCHA, 29/05/2015). Traffic has been suspended on the Bukavu–Goma road since 7 June, after a bridge collapsed (local media, 09/06/2015).

**Food security and livelihoods**

**Food access**

6.6 million people are facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or Emergency (IPC Phase 4) food security outcomes as a result of armed group activity, inter-communal violence, and displacement (OCHA, 30/04/2015; Integrated Food Security Phase Classification, 28/01/2015; USAID, 15/04/2015). Ituri (Orientale), Boende (Equateur), Punia (Maniema), Shabunda (South Kivu), Manono, Mitwaba, and Pweto (Katanga) are all in Emergency phase (Food Security and Nutrition Working Group, 22/05/2015).

**Food availability**

It is estimated that food production is currently 20–40% below national consumption (USAID, 21/07/2015).

**Health**

A lack of health services have been mainly reported in the Kivus. Twice as many malaria cases have been reported in Katanga in 2015, compared to 2014 (OCHA, 24/07/2015). Katanga also reported more than 20,000 measles cases during the first eight months of 2015.

**Healthcare availability and access**

**North Kivu:** 23,000 people in Masisi territory do not have access to health services (OCHA, 11/02/2015). More than 17,500 IDPs and their hosts in north Beni need health assistance (OCHA, 14/04/2015).

**South Kivu:** 60% of the population in Uvira, Fizi, and Walungu territories do not have healthcare (OCHA, 29/06/2015). There is a lack of medical supplies in all five health zones (Lulingu, Tchonka, Milenda, Tchampundu, Lolo), especially rape kits (OCHA, 09/07/2015).

**Orientale:** The health situation in Dungu, Haut-Uele, has worsened since Medair and MSF left in 2014. Since May 2015, routine vaccination is not on schedule in ten health facilities, due to a lack of fuel for the cold chain (OCHA, 22/07/2015). 140 health facilities in Bunia are functioning, but without trained health personnel and without adequate medicine (Radio Okapi, 30/06/2015).

**Cholera**

7,160 cases of cholera, including 69 deaths, were recorded from January to 19 July, compared to 10,217 for the same period in 2014 (UNICEF, 18/08/2015). Katanga and South Kivu are most affected: 35% of all cases (2,170) had been recorded in Katanga as of 17 May, including 38 deaths (OCHA, 25/05/2015).

In 2014, there were 22,200 cases of cholera and 372 deaths (WHO, 31/12/2014; UNICEF, 24/12/2014).

**Malaria**
North Kivu: A malaria outbreak has been reported in areas of Lubero territory without established humanitarian assistance (OCHA, 21/07/2015).

Katanga: 1.2 million cases of malaria reported so far in 2015, including 1,500 deaths; twice more than in 2014 (OCHA, 24/07/2015).

Measles

In Katanga, more than 20,000 measles cases were reported between 1 January and 14 August, 50% more than the same period in 2014; 320 people have died (OCHA, 13/08/2015; OCHA, 24/07/2015). 21 out of 68 health zones are affected (AFP, 13/08/2015). Malemba health zone, Malemba-Nkulu territory, has been the worst affected with 1,500 cases per week on average (OCHA, 24/07/2015; 31/05/2015). Lack of vaccination is one reason for the rise (OCHA, 02/07/2015). Some 16,000 measles cases have been reported elsewhere in the country (OCHA, 31/05/2015).

Nutrition

Maniema: GAM is 10% and SAM 2%, with Kailo and Kabambare territories most affected (OCHA, 31/05/2015).

As of 16 August, in Bili camp, in Bossobolo territory, Equateur province, hosting CAR refugees, the SAM rate for children under five is 2.3% and GAM 6.8% (UNHCR, 14/08/2015).

WASH

North Kivu: An estimated 4.3 million people require WASH assistance in North Kivu (OCHA, 20/05/2015).

Orientale: WASH coverage has decreased from 85% in 2014 to 43.5% in 2015. 12,600 IDPs in Badengayido, Orientale, lack access to WASH because the Congolese Institute for Nature Conservation (ICCN) has opposed it (OCHA, 15/07/2015).

Water

Only 22% of the population has access to drinking water (Bond for International Development, 31/07/2015).

Equateur: Bili camp has a supply of 10L/person/day; Inke, 12.7L/p/day; Boyabu, 19 L/p/day; Mole, 17.3L/p/day. These are all below the minimum standard of 20 L/p/day (UNHCR, 14/08/2015).

Orientale: CAR refugees in Mboti camp only have access to 17L/p/day (UNHCR, 14/08/2015).

Shelter and NFIs

A fire in Kalonda II IDP site, South Kivu, on 7 July, destroyed 300 homes. Witnesses report that pastoralists started the fire (OCHA, 08/07/2015).

Education

7.3 million children aged 5–17 – 28% of the school-aged population – are not attending school (Radio Okapi, 10/03/2015). Violence in South Kivu, Katanga, and Orientale is preventing access to education.

Access and learning environment

In South Kivu, on average, 12,300 students cannot access schools every month, due to conflict and natural disasters (OCHA, 10/06/2015).

In Orientale, more than 2,000 children in six schools in Bili (Bossobolo territory, Equateur province) did not finish their school year due to LRA violence in December 2014 (OCHA, 20/08/2015).

Protection

Military, militias, and other armed groups are accused of abuse of civilians, including arbitrary arrest, extortion, looting, child conscription, sexual violence, and executions.

In Orientale, 485 incidents were reported in Haut-Uele in the first three weeks of May (OCHA, 27/05/2015). 935 protection incidents were registered in Ituri district in May, and 1,983 in April (OCHA, 03/06/2015). 12,300 protection incidents against civilians were reported across the province in 2014, compared to 4,800 in 2013 (OCHA, 04/02/2015).

In Katanga, 1,620 protection incidents were recorded in June. These include cases of rape, aggression and arbitrary arrest (OCHA, 20/07/2015).

193 ex-FDLR militants and 601 of their families have accused the DRC government of starving them so that they return to Rwanda. They say they have not been provided food for a week in the state-administered camp where they are living (AFP, 20/08/2015).

MONUSCO has announced it will stop providing food to 7,000 ex-fighters from September, sparking fears of renewed clashes (AFP, 26/08/2015).

Children

567 children were freed from the FDLR between January and June 2015 (RFI, 06/08/2015). 207 children left armed groups in Orientale province January–June 2015 (OCHA, 22/07/2015; 20/08/2015). 26 child soldiers surrendered in North Kivu on 20 July (UN, 18/07/2015).

Gender
Sexual violence has been a common element of warfare in eastern DRC since the early 1990s.

**Orientale:** 90% of the 2,900 SGBV cases reported in Orientale in 2014 occurred in Ituri, and the rest in Uele (OCHA, 08/04/2015; 19/04/2015). In Haut-Uele district, 110 SGBV incidents were reported in the first three weeks of May, and 138 in April (OCHA, 27/05/2015). 2,012 SGBV cases were reported in Orientale in 2014 (OCHA, 10/12/2014).

**Katanga:** More than 600 SGBV cases were reported January–March in Katanga; 50% from Nyunzu territory (OCHA, 22/04/2015). 1,680 SGBV cases were reported in 2014 (OCHA, 05/02/2015).

**Updated:** 31/08/2015

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**ERITREA**

**FOOD INSECURITY**

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<td>Low</td>
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<tr>
<td>Severe</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>moderate</td>
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See the methodology note for details.

**LATEST DEVELOPMENTS**

No new significant developments this week, 31/08/2015. Last updated: 10/06/2015.

**KEY CONCERNS**

- 1.2 million people, including 696,000 children under 18, are in need of humanitarian assistance (UNICEF, 15/01/2015). There is a lack of updated and reliable data on the humanitarian situation due to limited humanitarian access.

- Over 60% of the Eritrean population was reported as undernourished between 2011 and 2013 (WFP).

- Torture, arbitrary detention, and indefinite national service are the grave human right concerns reported in Eritrea (UNHRC).

- Ongoing human rights abuses prompt thousands of Eritreans to flee the country every year. In March 2015, Ethiopia was hosting 133, 348 Eritrean refugees (OCHA, 20/04/2015).

- Operations and maintenance of established humanitarian systems remain a significant challenge (UNICEF, 15/01/2015).

**Political Context**

Eritrea is a one-party state governed by President Isaias Afwerk and his party People’s Front for Democracy and Justice. No national elections have been held since Eritrea gained independence from Ethiopia in 1993.

**Humanitarian Context and Needs**

1.2 million people need humanitarian assistance, including 696,000 children under 18 (UNICEF, 15/01/2015). There is a lack of updated and reliable data on the humanitarian situation due to limited humanitarian access.

**Access**

Providing direct humanitarian assistance remains a challenge due to limited access, and absence of assessments and humanitarian space (ECHO).

**Displacement**

**Refugees**

As of May 2015, there were 2,802 Somali refugees in Eritrea (UNHCR, 22/05/2015).

**Eritrean refugees in neighbouring countries**

The entire Eritrean refugee population is estimated to constitute more than 321,000 people (Guardian, 21/04/2015). UN estimates that some 5,000 Eritreans, among them hundreds of unaccompanied minors, are fleeing the country every month to escape government repression and lack of basic freedoms. (OHCHR, 08/06/2015). Eritreans constitute the second biggest group of migrants arriving in Italy by boat, after Syrians (Guardian, 17/08/2015; Reuters, 24/03/2015). In 2014, more than 37,000 Eritrean refugees sought refuge in Europe, the vast majority arriving by boat across the Mediterranean (UNHCR). The high proportion of unaccompanied minors who cross from Eritrea to Ethiopia is a priority concern (UNHCR).

**Ethiopia:** At the end of June, there were 139,039 Eritrean refugees in Ethiopia (UNHCR, 30/06/2015), mainly settled in four camps in the northern Tigray and Afar regions (UNICEF, 21/04/2015). Arrival rates spiked towards the end of 2014, with a total of 33,000 arriving by the end of the year (UNHCR, 09/02/2015). The influx has resulted in shortages of shelter in the camps (OCHA, 26/01/2015).

**Sudan:** Sudan reportedly hosts at least 114,500 Eritrean refugees (UNHCR).

**Djibouti:** As of 1 January, there were 1,240 Eritrean refugees in Djibouti (UNHCR,
Kenya: As of 30 June, there were 1,583 Eritrean refugees in Kenya; the majority located in Nairobi (UNHCR, 30/06/2015).

Food security

A delayed onset and lack of rainfall has resulted in abnormal dryness across western Eritrea (FEWSNET, 24/07/2015). Very poor rainfall since February, including extremely sporadic rain since mid-March, has led to drought conditions in eastern Eritrea (FEWSNET, 30/05/2015).

It is estimated that Eritrea produces only 60% of the food it needs, and markets appear to be dysfunctional. These two factors suggest that a significant part of the population may be in need of food assistance. Due to extensive national service, farmers are routinely absent during harvest periods (Economist, 10/03/2014). In addition, local food and fuel prices are likely to be high, putting severe pressure on household coping mechanisms. The Government officially denies any food shortages within its borders and refuses food aid (ECHO).

Health and nutrition

According to FAO in 2013, over 60% of the Eritrean population was reported to be undernourished between 2011 and 2013.

Protection

According to a June 2015 report by the UN Human Rights Council, grave human rights violations are widespread. Eritreans are deprived of fundamental freedoms by the authorities, and are routinely and arbitrarily arrested, detained, and tortured. Disappearances or extrajudicial executions were also reported (UNHRC, 04/06/2015). Eritreans are subject to systems of national service and forced labour in which individuals are effectively detained indefinitely (UNHRC, 04/06/2015). Eritrea has the highest number of imprisoned journalists in Africa (22 known cases) and has not allowed international journalists into the country since 2007 (CPJ, 27/04/2015).

Mines and ERW

UNICEF reported in January 2015 that landmines and ERWs continue to have a serious impact on the population, including causing deaths, injuries and disabilities. Humanitarian mine action programmes in the country have been scaled down because of limited access (UNICEF, 15/01/2015).
A state of emergency was declared in Niger in February in response to BH attacks, and was extended until end August, with motorcycle traffic banned from 2000-0600 (UNHCR, 29/05/2015; AFP, 27/05/2015; 26/02/2015). Thousands of troops from Niger and Chad launched a major ground and air offensive against BH in southeastern Niger in March (AFP, 14/03/2015). Niger soldiers have also been deployed to support a regional offensive against the group (BBC, 10/02/2015).

**Recent Incidents**

There have been dozens of attacks in Bosso and Diffa departments in 2015 (OCHA, 28/08/2015).

**An overnight attack on Abadam village in Diffa region killed three on 27 August** (Reuters, 27/08/2015). 16 people were killed and four injured in BH attacks near Bosso town in Diffa region on 15 July (AFP, 18/07/2015). Five civilians were killed in a BH attack in Dagaya village in Diffa region on 10 July (AFP, 10/07/2015).

Multiple BH attacks and raids on villages in Diffa in June affected at least 7,000 people, killed 53, and injured 16. The biggest attack was on Lamana, Boulamare and Ngoumao villages on 18 June: 38 people killed, three wounded, 6,000 inhabitants affected. 80% of houses were burnt in Lamana, the most populated village. (OCHA, 03/07/2015; 26/06/2015; 19/06/2015).

**Disasters**

**Floods**

Floods in seven regions in central and southern Niger since end July affected nearly 20,090 people and killed at least four. Zinder region is most affected. Around 3,100 people have been relocated, while 2,170 homes and four tonnes of food supplies have been destroyed, and nearly 545 hectares of agricultural land flooded. Niamey is at particular risk of further flooding (OCHA, 14/08/2015).

**Displacement**

Overall in Niger, there are 66,400 IDPs, 105,580 Nigerian refugees, and 52,445 refugees from Mali (OCHA, 28/08/2015).

**Refugees and asylum seekers**

**Boko Haram crisis**

Overall, 105,580 Nigerians have fled the Boko Haram crisis and sought refuge in Diffa region since May 2013, including nearly 63,350 children (UNHCR, 18/08/2015). Up to 130,000 Nigerian refugees could be in Niger by the end of 2015 (UNHCR, 01/07/2015).

An estimated 10,000 Nigerians arrived in Gagamari and Chetamari areas of Diffa region from Damasak town in northern Nigeria, following the withdrawal of Chadian and Nigerian forces from the formerly BH-controlled town in late July (UNICEF, 18/08/2015). They are mostly staying in towns along the border (UNHCR, 19/08/2015). Gagamari and Chetamari were already hosting at least 1,000 refugees from Damask who had fled in anticipation of the troop withdrawal (OCHA, 22/07/2015; IRC, 21/07/2015). In recent weeks, Tchongourma town in Diffa is reported to have received an additional 3,990 new Nigerian refugees, but the area is currently inaccessible to UN agencies (UNHCR, 17/08/2015).

Boko Haram activities in Niger have also led to several waves of internal displacement. A 27 June BH attack on Assaga village in Niger caused an estimated 6,000 Nigerian refugees to flee to Assaga, Niger. In addition 3,771 Nigeriens fled from eight villages surrounding Assaga on the Niger side of the border, becoming displaced internally (UNICEF, 18/08/2015; OCHA, 14/07/2015). Priority needs for the displaced are for NFIs, WASH, shelter, and protection (OCHA, 14/07/2015). More than 50,000 people were also displaced from islands around Lake Chad between 30 April and 20 May. 75% are Nigerians and third-country nationals. 10,000 are in Kimegana site in Nguigmi, 13,000 in Yebbi camp in Bosso in Diffa region, and more than 16,000 have returned to Nigeria (UNICEF, 16/07/2015; 15/06/2015; MSF, 10/06/2015).

In total, 150,000 people are estimated to have fled BH violence to Diffa in the past two years (Reuters, 27/08/2015). At least 30,000 people in Diffa are entirely reliant on humanitarian aid: priority needs are for food, WASH, nutrition, health and protection (ECHO, 08/06/2015).

**Mali crisis**

As of 31 July, 52,445 Malian refugees are in Niger, having fled insurgency in their country, including 14,580 in Intikane camp, and 13,450 in Abala camp in Tillabery region. 62% are children (UNHCR, 31/07/2015).

**Humanitarian Access**

**Access of relief actors to affected populations**

Movement within Diffa, and northern parts of Zinder, Tahoua, and Tillabery regions is possible only with military escorts (OCHA, 16/02/2015). Access to displaced populations in Bosso department is still restricted, with its southeastern part nearly inaccessible (UNHCR, 30/06/2015). On 17 August, WFP launched air operations to Lake Chad and other hard-to-access areas in the region (WFP, 31/08/2015).

**Security and physical constraints**

The presence of landmines along the border between Niger and Nigeria, especially around...
Food Security and livelihoods

Around 3.6 million people are food insecure during the May–September lean season, including 2.7 million severely. 460,000 severely food insecure in Diffa region are targeted for monthly assistance. Other areas of concern are Tillabery, Tahoua, Zinder, Maradi and Niamey regions (OCHA, 14/08/2015; 31/05/2015; WFP/FAO/Food Cluster, 12/08/2015).

Food availability

Irregular rainfall in June and July in areas affected by drought conditions in 2014 has led to a delay of up to 30 days in the growing season (WFP, 01/07/2015).

Insecurity in Diffa region is significantly hampering land preparation activities. As of May, 68% of villages in Diffa had a cereal deficit (OCHA, 20/05/2015).

In agropastoral areas of south Diffa, insecurity is disrupting production but also trade and food supply on markets due to access constraints; poor households will face Stressed (IPC Phase 2) food security outcomes until December in the presence of assistance (FEWSNET, 31/07/2015).

Food access

At least 200,000 people in Diffa region are likely to continue facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food security outcomes until December due to continued insecurity and degrading livelihood opportunities, including lower purchasing power as a result of limited trade opportunities (FEWSNET, 31/07/2015). 63% of displaced are estimated to have insufficient access to food, while the majority are deprived of livelihood means (FEWSNET, 28/05/2015; ACTED, 01/06/2015).

Cereal prices were stable in July, except in Agadez market, where sorghum and maize prices rose 10% and 9%, respectively (Afrique Verte, 18/07/2015).

Livelihoods

In pastoral zones of Tahoua and Tillabery, poor households will move from Stressed (IPC Phase 2) to Minimal (Phase 1) food security outcomes from August to December as a result of improved pasture conditions for livestock following the rainy season (FEWSNET, 31/07/2015).

In Diffa region, insecurity and poor rains in 2014 have led to a decrease in economic activities. This has particularly affected livelihoods of households growing pepper and maize in the valleys of Lake Chad and Komadougou Yobe. Other activities in the south of Diffa, particularly fishing and the sale of fish around Lake Chad, have stopped entirely, resulting in a loss of income for households dependent on these activities (FEWSNET, 31/07/2015).

Sahel food crisis: Regional overview

At least 7.5 million are facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food insecurity outcomes across the Sahel and West Africa through August, and 26.6 million Stressed (IPC Phase 2) food security outcomes (Cadre Harmonisé, 06/2015). In 2014, food insecurity rose dramatically to 24.7 million food insecure people, compared to 2013, when 11.3 million people had inadequate food (OCHA, 03/02/2015).

Health

Healthcare availability and access

Health services are overcrowded in Diffa region with the arrival of new IDPs, and lack medicines and qualified personnel (OCHA, 20/05/2015). Predominant illnesses include parasitic diseases, eye infections, and respiratory infections (UNHCR, 29/05/2015). Waterborne diseases such as malaria and diarrhoea are increasing among the displaced and refugee population during the rainy season (MSF, 21/08/2015).

Fire damage to UN warehouses in Niamey on 2 June destroyed most stocks intended for immediate use. Vaccines to counter the meningitis epidemic, as well as supplementary feeding programmes for at least 10,000 children in urgent need of support during the lean season, will be severely affected (ECHO, 05/06/2015).

Measles

As of 12 August, 5,539 measles cases, including at least 14 deaths, have been recorded in 2015 in all eight regions of Niger. 60% of cases were in Zinder region (OCHA, 12/08/2015; UNICEF, 31/05/2015). 12/44 health districts have epidemic outbreaks (OCHA, 23/04/2015).

Meningitis

As of 12 August, 8,520 suspected cases of meningitis, including more than 573 deaths, have been recorded in 2015; 2,182 new cases were recorded over 4–10 May, but incidence has since decreased. 13 districts crossed the epidemic threshold, including all five districts in Niamey (OCHA, 12/08/2015; WHO, 08/07/2015). At least 281,000 people are at risk of infection over the next October–April dry season. Low vaccine supply on the continent is a concern (WHO, 28/06/2015; MSF, 10/06/2015; IFRC, 02/06/2015).

Cholera

As of 28 August, 51 cholera cases have been recorded in 2015 (OCHA, 28/08/2015).

Mental health
High mental health needs among the displaced, especially children (MSF, 27/08/2015).

**Nutrition**

393,571 children are acutely malnourished in Niger, including 173,815 severely malnourished (OCHA, 28/08/2015).

The nutrition situation is deteriorating in Diffa region: 24,438 children under five are expected to suffer from SAM in 2015, compared to 9,629 expected as of January, due to displacement, food insecurity and disease prevalence (UNICEF, 18/08/2015). GAM is at 28% among Nigerian refugee children and pregnant and breastfeeding refugee women, exceeding the 15% crisis threshold; GAM within host populations is also critical, at 19.5% (UNHCR, 22/07/2015). Admissions of children suffering from SAM to therapeutic feeding programmes rose by 22% in Dosso and 129% in Diffa between 2014 and 2015 (OCHA, 31/05/2015).

**Shelter**

35% of households in Diffa live in shelters that do not meet minimum standards. Each host family hosts around 17 people. 60% of IDPs in sites are homeless (OCHA, 20/05/2015). Shelter issues are of increasing concern, as the rainy season began in June (UNHCR, 31/05/2015).

**WASH**

Displaced populations have limited access to safe water, and sanitation (MSF, 21/08/2015). 43% of recently displaced populations from Lake Chad are estimated to have insufficient access to water sources (ACTED, 01/06/2015).

**Protection**

Documentation

82% of 13,000 Nigerian refugees surveyed in Diffa did not have identity documents in a February assessment, which could impact their ability to access assistance (IOM, 23/02/2015).

Updated: 01/09/2015

**LATEST DEVELOPMENTS**

29 August: Boko Haram killed 56 people during an attack on a remote village in Borno state (The Guardian, 31/08/2015).

26 August: Less than 40% of health services are operational in areas affected by the Boko Haram insurgency, and access to safe water and sanitation is very limited (Inter Press Service).

**KEY CONCERNS**

- Around 7,730 deaths from Boko Haram-related violence between January and August 2015. 7,711 deaths from Boko Haram-related violence were reported in 2014 (ACLED, 22/08/2015; 11/01/2015).

- 4.6 million people in need of humanitarian aid, including 1.4 million IDPs (OCHA, 05/06/2015; IOM, 30/06/2015).

- 3.5 million people are expected to be in need of emergency food assistance between July and September (FEWSNET, 25/06/2015).

- 1.5 million are in need of nutrition assistance, including 461,000 children under five suffering from SAM (OCHA, 05/06/2015).

- 2.2 million people are in need of WASH assistance; 1 million in need of shelter and NFIs; 2.2 million in need of protection; and 3.5 million people in need of healthcare (OCHA, 06/2015).

**OVERVIEW**

Violence has displaced close to 1.6 million people, restricted movement, disrupted food supply, seriously hindered access to basic services, and limited agricultural activities. People affected by violence in Adamawa, Borno, and Yobe, and neighbouring Bauchi, Taraba, and Gombe states are in urgent need of protection, shelter, food, and access to health services and education. Some 9.7 million people, including IDPs, are staying in 34 areas worst affected by the Boko Haram insurgency. The entire population of northeast Nigeria – 24.5 million people – is indirectly affected; 4.6 million are in need of humanitarian aid (OCHA, 30/04/2015; 09/07/2015).

For more information, visit the ACAPS country analysis page.

**Politics and Security**
Muhammadu Buhari was sworn in as President on 29 May, succeeding Goodluck Jonathan, whose party had led the country since 1999. Buhari is a former president and military ruler from northern Nigeria (local media, 29/05/2015; AFP, 02/04/2015).

Between January and mid-July 2015, around 6,740 fatalities were reported in more than 320 violent events with confirmed or suspected BH involvement in northeastern states. The same period in 2014 saw around 220 incidents, with almost 4,000 fatalities. As of 11 July, 69 suicide attacks have been recorded in 2015, compared to 38 in all of 2014 (ACLED, 11/07/2015). Boko Haram’s (BH) insurgency in the northeast began to gain momentum in 2014, when 7,711 deaths were reported (ACLED, 11/01/2015).

Since the end of 2014, the conflict with Boko Haram has taken on a more regional dimension, with attacks in Cameroon, Chad, and Niger, and a strengthened multinational force. With the engagement of regional forces, the Nigerian Government regained territory in early 2015, but insurgent attacks have since increased in the northeast (UNHCR, 22/05/2015).

In the Middle Belt area (Benue, Kaduna, Plateau, Nassarawa, and Taraba states), inter-communal clashes flare regularly, fuelled by ethnic and religious tensions, as well as competition between farmers and pastoralists (IDMC, 12/2014).

**Boko Haram (BH)**

Boko Haram (“Western education is forbidden”) has been leading an insurgency to create an Islamic state in the predominantly Muslim regions of northeastern Nigeria. The Nigerian authorities have been fighting BH since 2009. Precise BH troop numbers are not known, but estimated at around 15,000 (Amnesty, 13/04/2015). In March, BH pledged allegiance to Islamic State (AFP, 07/03/2015). The group is thought to hide in the Lake Chad region and the Sambisa forest (AFP, 31/07/2015).

**Nigerian troops**

Reports of low morale and defections persist among Nigerian forces. Failures to act on intelligence and abuse during the campaign against BH are also a problem, impacting relations with the civilian population (ACLED, 31/03/2015). In the past, Nigerian soldiers at times reportedly refused to deploy, or fled from operations (AFP, 22/08/2014).

**Regional forces**

The Multinational Joint Task Force (MJTF) has reached 8,700 military and civilian personnel, including contingents from Chad, Cameroon, Niger, and Nigeria (BBC, 03/03/2015). Deployment of the troops, which was expected in August, has been delayed (AFP, 31/07/2015; 13/08/2015). The scope and remit of the regional force is unclear.

Failure to maintain control over liberated towns, such as Gamboru and Marte in Borno state in March and April, have suggested coordination problems. The force is headed by a Nigerian commander (AFP, 11/06/2015; 25/04/2015; 20/03/2015).

**Conflict developments**

Recent military operations are pushing insurgents further east and south in Borno state, and towards neighbouring states Gombe, Yobe and Adamawa (UNHCR, 17/08/2015). BH has been using guerrilla tactics including village raids, abductions, bombings and suicide attacks, increasingly targeting civilians (AFP, 23/03/2015; US Institute of Peace, 09/01/2015). The raids tend to follow a similar pattern, with houses set on fire, food and cattle seized, and a number of villagers killed. The attacks often lead to the displacement of residents (AFP, 20/07/2015). The number and range of attacks has increased since March–April, including in areas not previously targeted (INGO Forum, 17/07/2015).

Between January and August 2015, more than 340 BH-related incidents and 7,330 deaths were reported (ACLED, 22/08/2015). July was the deadliest month since March, with 980 fatalities due to violence. 67% of all fatalities in July were related to BH; the highest proportion since January, and a significant increase from the 40% reported in June and 30% in May. The majority of fatalities were reported from Borno state (ACLED, 07/08/2015).

In August, at least 224 deaths have been reported in 21 Boko Haram attacks. The majority of attacks were reported in Borno state, followed by Yobe (ACLED, 22/08/2015).

**Borno state:** On 29 August, BH killed 56 people in Baanu village of Nganzai local government area. Many residents fled to the bush (The Guardian, 31/08/2015). On 15 August, a suicide bombing near a market in Ramirgo village killed at least three people (The News Nigeria, 16/08/2015). On 12 August, 50 people were killed and 51 injured in a blast on the market of Sabon Gari village (AFP, 12/08/2015). On 11 August, six people were killed in Bale Mamman, outside of Maiduguri, during a BH raid for livestock (Reuters, 12/08/2015). On 9 August, suspected BH killed four people and injured two in an attack on the Sambisa forest (AFP, 31/07/2015).

**Yobe state:** On 25 August, a suicide bomber killed six people at a bus station in Damaturu. 42 others were injured. A second suicide bomb on the outskirts of the city injured one person (AFP, 25/08/2015). Up to 160 people died in a Boko Haram raid on a remote village on 13 August, including 60 children (OCHA, 17/08/2015; ECHO,
Nine people were killed in Tadagara and Dunbulwa villages on 6 August. Hundreds of villagers fled to Potiskum. Shops and houses were looted, then set on fire (AFP, 06/08/2015). In July, more than 50 people were killed in village raids and suicide attacks. Several attacks were carried out in Damaturu (AFP, 31/07/2015; 20/07/2015; 17/07/2015; 05/07/2015; Reuters, 27/07/2015).

**Inter-communal violence**

Reports of inter-communal violence in the Middle Belt have decreased in recent months. On 18 June, eight farmers were killed in Wukari district of Taraba state (AFP, 18/06/2015). In May and April, at least 46 people were killed in inter-communal violence; 118 people were killed in March. Involved communities mainly include Fulani, Ologba, and Egba (AFP, 26/05/2015; 19/04/2015; 17/03/2015; ECHO, 17/03/2015). In 2014, around 1,700 people died in inter-communal violence (ACLED, 2014; ICG, 01/10/2014).

**Natural Disasters**

**Floods**

Heavy rains during the past weeks have caused flooding in Benue, Cross River, Kano, Katsina, Kebbi, Kwara, Sokoto, and Yobe states. Over 15-16 August, more than 260 houses were destroyed and livestock drowned in Sokoto. In Yobe, at least 200 houses were completely destroyed, and 100 more were flooded in Benue. **Heavy rains are forecast to continue in the first week of September** (ECHO, 19/08/2015; FEWSNET, 27/08/2015).

Heavy rains are causing living conditions in IDP camps to deteriorate, particularly in Maiduguri (OCHA, 19/08/2015).

**Displacement**

Around 1.6 million Nigerians have been displaced by conflict, including nearly 1.4 million internally and more than 170,000 abroad. 57% of IDPs are children.

**IDPs**

95% of IDPs were displaced by the insurgency, and 5% by communal clashes. About 75% were displaced in 2014, and 23% in 2015. 56% of IDPs are children; half are under five (IOM, 30/06/2015).

As of June, nearly 1.4 million IDPs have been identified in Adamawa, Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, Taraba and Yobe states, compared to 1.5 million in April. More than 1.2 million are staying with host families, the remaining are staying in 42 camps and camp-like sites. More than one million are in Borno, which is also the state of origin for 80% of IDPs. 125,484 are in Yobe (9%) and 113,437 in Adamawa (8%). People displaced by inter-communal violence are mostly in Taraba and Bauchi states (IOM, 30/06/2015).

Most basic needs are not covered. The priority is food security, followed by protection and livelihood support (INGO Forum, 19/06/2015; ECHO, 25/06/2015). 27% of registered IDPs are not receiving any assistance. This proportion is higher among IDPs living with host families (40%) than those in IDP sites (11%).

There are 223,141 returning IDPs in northern Adamawa state (OCHA, 09/07/2015). They are in urgent need of assistance. Homes, vehicles, public buildings and farmland have been destroyed, and food stores and health clinics looted. Many water sources are contaminated. Insecurity remains a concern, as sporadic attacks are still carried out in return areas (OCHA, 31/07/2015).

Military offensives have led to new displacement. Access to new IDPs is limited. Conditions in IDP sites are deteriorating, and needs are unmet in WASH, education, health, and shelter (UNHCR, 17/08/2015).

**Refugees and asylum seekers**

As of May, there were 2,190 refugees and asylum seekers in Nigeria (UNHCR, 27/05/2015).

**Returnees**

Around 15,000 undocumented Nigerian refugees have forcibly returned from Cameroon, due to increased measures following recent BH attacks in the country. Most of them originate from Borno state, having fled BH-related violence. They are arriving through Sahuda, Mubi South, in Adamawa (Government, 05/08/2015; IRIN, 21/08/2015). So far, 5,762 returnees have been transferred to IDP camps in Yola, Adamawa (Government, 10/08/2015). Others are staying in makeshift camps on the outskirts of Mubi (OCHA, 31/07/2015). More than 300 returnees are expected to arrive following recent suicide attacks in Chad (OCHA, 28/07/2015).

**Nigerian Refugees in Neighbouring Countries**

There are more than 170,000 Nigerian refugees in neighbouring countries. 57,300 registered refugees are in Cameroon, 105,600 in Niger, and 14,600 in Chad (UNHCR, 17/08/2015; 04/08/2015; OCHA, 12/08/2015).

**Humanitarian Access**

**Access of relief actors to affected populations**

Humanitarian assistance is very limited in remote areas that are or were formerly under BH control (UNHCR, 30/06/2015). Host communities receive very little assistance, as access remain difficult and needs are hard to assess (OCHA, 31/07/2015).
Access of affected populations to assistance

An estimated 2.3 million people do not have access to humanitarian aid and are in critical need of assistance (INGO Forum, 17/07/2015).

Security and physical constraints

The security situation in the northeast continues to impair access to affected populations. Almost daily attacks on communities since the beginning of the year have resulted in an absence of humanitarian actors in the region. Those who are present have difficulty accessing populations and assessing the extent of needs in remote areas (ACF, 30/06/2015).

In Borno state, many domestic flights have been cancelled and fuel stations are running out of petrol (BBC, 25/05/2015).

Media access has also often been prohibited, with BH having destroyed communication and media infrastructure (Reporters without Borders, 05/02/2015). Infrastructure damage reaches 80% in some areas controlled by BH (IRIN, 05/06/2015).

Food Security and Livelihoods

4.6 million people are estimated food insecure. 3.5 million people are thought to be in need of food assistance in the northeast between July and September. An estimated two million people residing in Borno state and much of Adamawa and Yobe are facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food security outcomes, and worst affected areas, including Maiduguri IDP settlements, are experiencing Emergency (Phase 4) outcomes. Availability of and access to food remain severely limited due to the conflict (OCHA, 08/06/2015; FEWSNET, 25/06/2015; 07/08/2015).

Boko Haram enforces rigid movement restrictions and some limitations on trade, negatively impacting people’s ability to obtain food and gain a livelihood, and limiting food availability on markets (Amnesty, 13/04/2015; FEWSNET, 25/06/2015).

Across much of the country, food access and availability are seasonally low, particularly among poor households. However, most of the country will be facing Minimal (Phase 1) food security outcomes through December (FEWSNET, 07/08/2015).

The October harvest will somewhat improve food security outcomes, but much of Borno and parts of Yobe and Adamawa will continue to face Crisis outcomes between October and December (FEWSNET, 07/08/2015).

Forecasts for the 2015 rainy season (May–September) are poor and the main harvest in October is expected to be well below average for a third consecutive year, limiting market supply and availability of household production stocks (FEWSNET, 25/06/2015; 07/08/2015).

Inter-communal conflict and conflict between farmers and pastoralists continues to disrupt agricultural activities in areas of Bauchi, Kaduna, Benue, Nasarawa, Plateau, Taraba, Katsina, FCT and Zamfara states. In some areas, markets are also negatively affected (FEWSNET, 07/08/2015).

Food access

Lack of access to IDPs for food distribution, mostly in urban areas, is a concern (FEWSNET, 20/05/2015). Lack of access to food has been reported in 11 out of 42 displacement sites. Borno state is most affected, with 10 sites lacking access to food (IOM, 30/06/2015).

Major urban markets, such as Maiduguri, Potiskum, Yola and Mubi, continue to operate, but are functioning at reduced levels due to limited demand and production, and disrupted trade routes. Some markets in areas not directly affected by the conflict are also negatively affected (FEWSNET, 07/08/2015).

Livelihoods

Communities in northeastern rural areas largely depend on farming for their livelihoods. But families returning from displacement will not be able to support themselves, as staple crops have not been planted (INGO Forum, 17/07/2015). Insecurity prevents those who remain in the northeast from carrying out typical farming activities (FEWSNET, 25/06/2015; 07/08/2015).

Health

3.5 million people need health support (OCHA, 09/07/2015). Mortality rates are increasing and vaccination programmes severely hit, with polio vaccination campaigns limited to Maiduguri. There is an increased risk of malaria, measles, and diarrhoea due to the disruption of health services (Inter Press Service, 26/08/2015).

Malaria is the most prevalent health problem among IDPs in camps (IOM, 30/06/2015).

A cholera outbreak is affecting 13 of 16 states. Most cases have been reported outside of northeastern states.

Healthcare availability and access

Most IDPs in host communities have limited access to health services (OCHA, 02/10/2014). Less than 40% of health facilities are operational in areas affected by the conflict (Inter Press Service, 26/08/2015). 75 health facilities had been destroyed in
Borno state as of May. Only half of the local government areas have access to healthcare facilities (USAID, 17/06/2015).

Mental health

People displaced by violence have witnessed many atrocities. They often face post-traumatic stress. Families have been separated and people have lost their homes. Signs of depression are common, as well as sleeping disorders, severe emotional reactions and trauma-related anxiety (MSF, 27/08/2015).

Cholera

As of early August, 3,211 cholera cases had been reported in 2015 in 13 of 16 states, with 147 deaths. Anambra, Kano, Rivers, and Ebonyi states are worst affected. Although the number of cases is significantly lower than the 28,193 over the same period in 2014, the case fatality rate has risen to 4.7%. In the week to 2 August, 71 new cases were reported (IFRC, 09/06/2015; 22/07/2015; UNICEF, 24/08/2015).

Nutrition

1.5 million children and pregnant and lactating women are estimated to suffer from acute malnutrition in 2015. 32% are thought to be children suffering from SAM (OCHA, 09/07/2015). In IDP camps, around 100,000 children are thought to be suffering from SAM (OCHA, 30/04/2015).

Food insecurity and a lack of safe water and health services are likely to cause an increase in malnutrition in the northeast (OCHA, 19/08/2015).

In May, GAM in Adamawa, Borno, and Yobe IDP camps was around 12% among children under five. Malnutrition is thought to be worse among IDPs in host communities, as they lack access to nutrition services. In April, a nutrition assessment found 29% GAM among IDPs under five in Borno state (USAID, 23/07/2015).

WASH

2.2 million people are in need of WASH assistance (OCHA, 09/07/2015).

WASH conditions in IDP host communities are critical, with reports of inadequate latrines and lack of access to safe water (IDMC, 16/04/2015). In the northeast, only 46% of the population have access to improved sources of drinking water and 21% to latrines (UNICEF, 13/01/2015).

More than 75% of IDP camps lack handwashing and drainage facilities. The number of people sharing a toilet far exceeds the Sphere standard (USAID, 23/07/2015).

Shelter and NFIs

One million people are in need of shelter and NFIs (OCHA, 09/07/2015).

Shelter

IDP sites are often overcrowded (IRIN, 05/06/2015). The number of IDPs in formal camps has been growing since April, and shelter and other basic needs have risen (OCHA, 08/06/2015). There is a reported need for shelter repair materials in half of IDP sites. 4% of IDPs in camps (some 4,450 individuals) are living in self-made tents, while others are staying in public buildings, such as schools and community centres, and government buildings (IOM, 30/06/2015).

16% of the IDP population have sought shelter in schools (OCHA, 19/08/2015).

Education

10.5 million children are out of school in Nigeria, including 60% in the northeast of the country (UNICEF, 04/2015). 300,000 children in Borno state have been unable to attend school for more than a year (USAID, 17/06/2015).

Access and learning environment

Resumption of school activities in September will likely be affected in the northeast, as many IDPs are staying in schools buildings (OCHA, 19/08/2015).

Teaching and learning

Low numbers of qualified teachers, scarcity of teaching materials, and fear of sending children to school are main concerns for IDP children’s access to education (UNICEF, 01/06/2015).

Protection

2.2 million people are in need of protection (OCHA, 09/07/2015). Top reasons cited for not feeling safe include the killing of civilians, armed encounters and destruction of property. The affected population in the northeast and north-central states indicates main protection concerns are destruction of housing, property and crops, land-related conflicts and forced evictions (UNHCR, 06/07/2015).

IDP camps are facing a significant threat from militant infiltration; some cases of BH militants disguised as IDPs have been reported from Maiduguri (UNHCR, 29/05/2015).

Young men are being forcibly recruited and executed (Amnesty, 13/04/2015). Cases of extrajudicial killings, arbitrary arrests, detention, and torture have been documented among Nigerian forces in the course of security operations against BH (Amnesty International, 03/06/2015). Amnesty has raised concerns about the tactics used by security forces in the offensive against BH. More than 8,000 people are said to have died
in detention as of June (Reuters, 23/06/2015).

**Gender**

Women and girls have been trafficked, raped, abducted and forcibly married in areas controlled by BH. Women are at particular risk of sexual violence and trafficking in displacement sites (OCHA, 30/04/2015).

So far in 2015, women carried out most of the largest suicide attacks. There are reports that BH is also using mentally handicapped women to bomb civilian areas (Action on Armed Violence, 10/08/2015).

**Children**

Unaccompanied minors make up 1.7% of IDPs (23,550 individuals) and physical and emotional abuse of children is reported in many IDP sites. The majority of unaccompanied and separated children are in Borno state, followed by Yobe and Adamawa (IDMC, 16/04/2015; UNICEF, 13/04/2015; OCHA, 07/07/2015; Protection Sector Working Group, 17/07/2015). The increasing use of children and women for suicide bombings is of great concern (UNHCR, 29/05/2015).

**OVERVIEW**

Protracted conflict, consecutive years of drought, natural hazards, and disruption of basic infrastructure have led to large-scale displacement in Somalia and across the region. Almost half the population of Somalia, around 3.2 million people, is vulnerable to external shocks and lacking access to basic goods and services, with an estimated 1.5 million people living in seven regions affected by the Somalia–African Union military offensive: Bakool, Gedo, Lower Shabelle, Hiraan, Bay, Banadir, and Lower Juba.

**Politics and security**

Somalia suffers from a chronic fragility of state institutions as a result of two decades of civil war. Infighting between presidents and prime ministers is a recurrent problem. Vision 2016, the Federal Government’s policy covering constitutional revision, the establishment of regional administrations, and transition to multiparty democracy, is opposed by key figures in the state (UNSC, 25/09/2014; ICG, 01/11/2014). Government and parliament have agreed that for planned elections in 2016 it will not be possible to collect votes from all individuals, given current political and security conditions (AFP, 28/07/2015; UNSOM, 03/08/2015).

Security incidents such as suicide attacks, mine explosions, and armed confrontations continue in southern regions. Most incidents between January and May 2015 were reported in Mogadishu, Baidoa, Belet Weyne and Kismayo (FSNAU, 26/06/2015). Armed actors conducted more than 340 violent incidents targeting civilians and humanitarian personnel between 1 March and 20 April (USAID, 19/05/2015). Over 2,200 conflict incidents with humanitarian impact were reported in the first nine months of 2014, including:

- 2.75 million people need safe water (OCHA, 27/08/2015).
- 3 million are estimated to need emergency health services (OCHA, 27/08/2015).
- 855,000 people are facing Crisis and Emergency (IPC Phase 3 and 4) food insecurity outcomes (FSNAU and FEWSNET, 31/08/2015).
- Some 214,700 children under five are estimated to be acutely malnourished, mainly in south-central Somalia, including 39,700 severely (FSNAU and FEWSNET, 31/08/2015).
- 1.7 million children are out of school (OCHA, 27/08/2015).
military operations, active hostilities, and other forms of violence against civilians (OCHA, 17/10/2014).

Stakeholders

Al Shabaab

Al Shabaab is a militant Islamist group and off-shoot of the Islamic Courts Union. It took over most of southern Somalia in 2006, seeking to establish an Islamic state. Numbering 7,000–9,000 militants, Al Shabaab typically targets Somali government officials, AMISOM forces, and perceived government allies. Attacks in urban centres and along transport axes are common. Al Shabaab has also carried out a number of attacks in Kenya. Al Shabaab was forced out of Mogadishu in 2011 and Kismayo in 2012, and lost Barawe, Lower Shabelle, in October 2014.

SNAF-AMISOM offensive

In November 2013, the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) force was increased to 22,000 from 17,600. Its mandate has been extended until 30 November 2015 (UNSC, 25/09/2014). The Somali National Armed Forces (SNAF) and AMISOM started launching military offensives against Al Shabaab-held areas in March 2014 (OCHA, 05/2014). New offensives started in July, affecting Bay, Gedo, Bakool, Galgaduud, Hiraan, and Lower Shabelle regions (AMISOM, 19/07/2015; OCHA, 20/08/2015).

Conflict developments

Al Shabaab continues attacks on civilians, humanitarian personnel, and government officials. In June, at least 93 Al Shabaab attacks were reported, with 197 fatalities, compared to 92 attacks and 157 fatalities in May. However, for many incidents no number of casualties is confirmed. The number of deaths from Al Shabaab-related violence is thus expected to be much higher (ACLED, 11/07/2015).

New offensives by SNAF-AMISOM and parallel operations by Ethiopian and Kenyan defence forces have affected areas of Bakool, Bay, Galgaduud, Gedo, Hiraan, and Lower Shabelle, leading to new displacement (OCHA, 20/08/2015).

On 22 August, a suicide bomber attacked a military base in Kismayo, killing at least 14 soldiers and wounding 20 others (AFP, 22/08/2015). On 21 July, at least 24 civilians were reportedly killed and 22 injured in Marka town, when AMISOM soldiers opened fire. AMISOM claims the victims were Al Shabaab fighters. Many residents fled the area (Al Jazeera, 21/07/2015). On 15 July, clashes occurred between Ethiopian AMISOM forces and Al Shabaab near Wajid district, Bakool (Horseedia media, 15/07/2015). The same day, militants were killed in Gedo region in clashes with Kenyan defence forces (AllAfrica, 15/07/2015).

Mogadishu: Al Shabaab attacks in Mogadishu mainly target political figures. On 22 August, four civilians were killed when a car bomb detonated near a police station. At least ten others were injured (AFP, 22/08/2015). On 26 July, at least 13 people were killed and more than 40 injured in a car bomb attack on a hotel that hosts several diplomatic missions. The attack was said to be in retaliation for the dozens of civilians killed by military forces in the south several days earlier (AFP, 27/07/2015; BBC, 26/07/2015).

Displacement

IDPs

An estimated 1.1 million Somalis were IDPs by June 2015, 893,000 in the south-central region, 129,000 in Puntland, and 84,000 in Somaliland. 369,000 IDPs live in makeshift camps in Mogadishu (UNHCR, 11/08/2015). The same figures have been reported since December 2014 (OCHA, 04/12/2014).

Conflict continues to cause displacement. An estimated 18,000 people have been displaced since mid-July due to the new military offensive in South-Central Somalia, particularly in Lower Shabelle and Bay regions (OCHA, 10/08/2015; 16/07/2015; ECHO, 21/07/2015). The majority have moved to safer places within the affected regions, others have moved to Lower Juba and Mogadishu. Many are staying in settlements, particularly in Baidoa, Elwak, Luuq, and Mogadishu, while others are staying in host communities. Priority needs are protection, food, safe water, shelter, household items, and healthcare (OCHA, 20/08/2015).

Many IDPs returning to Bardhere and Dinsoor, in Gedo and Bay region, respectively, are in urgent need of support. Due to prolonged inaccessibility, these areas have received little assistance. Looting and burning of public facilities during recent military operations further increased the need for support. Priorities are food, safe water, and basic services (OCHA, 21/08/2015).

Returnees

Between 8 December and 16 August, 3,345 Somalis returned from Kenya: 2,302 to Kismayo, 788 to Baidoa, 163 to Banadir, and 87 to Luuq (UNHCR, 16/08/2015). Afgoye, Balcad, Belet Weyne, Jowhar, Mogadishu and Wanla Weyne have been identified as new areas for return (OCHA, 20/07/2015). The original target for voluntary return of Somali refugees from Kenya was 10,000 in 2015 (UNHCR, 08/12/2014).

Returnees and refugees from Yemen

The number of new arrivals from Yemen has increased significantly since April. As of 27 August, 28,791 have been registered: 19,724 in Bosaso, Puntland, and 9,067 in Berbera, Somaliland. July has seen the highest number of new arrivals, with 9,864. In August, more than 400 people have arrived. Following reported relative stability in Aden...
Port, Yemen, many Somalis who had previously set out to return, are now arriving in Aden (IOM, 27/08/2015; 20/08/2015; 13/08/2015; UNHCR, 11/08/2015).

Immediate needs of new arrivals include emergency health relief, food, protection, and WASH (Red Cross Movement, 02/07/2015). A second reception centre is being set up in Bosaso. However, this is a school and will not be available from September (UNHCR, 04/08/2015). Arrivals are expected to reach 48,000 by September (Red Cross Movement, 02/07/2015). 90% of arrivals are Somali returnees, 9% Yemeni refugees, and 1% third-country nationals (IOM, 27/08/2015). 75% of arrivals are women and children (OCHA, 10/08/2015). More than half of returnees intend to continue to Mogadishu (UNHCR, 11/08/2015). Some already have returned, and they are staying in IDP settlements (UNHCR, 14/07/2015).

Somali refugees in neighbouring countries

There are 967,676 Somali refugees in neighbouring countries, of whom 5,010 were registered in 2015; at least 421,789 in Kenya, 247,934 in Ethiopia, and 246,648 in Yemen, with the remainder in Uganda, Djibouti, Eritrea, and Tanzania (UNHCR, 11/08/2015).

Humanitarian Access

Restricted humanitarian access continues to affect aid delivery to affected populations in south-central Somalia (OCHA, 10/08/2015). Even in areas where there is no active conflict, illegal checkpoints, banditry, and demands for bribes are common (OCHA, 17/10/2014). The new SNAF-AMISOM offensive may further restrict population movement, trade, and humanitarian access (USAID, 17/08/2015).

Access of relief actors to affected populations

Over 20 incidents of violence against aid workers were reported in May and June. In the first six months of 2015, there were more than 60 security incidents involving aid workers. Eight people were killed, 14 injured, five abducted, and 30 arrested or detained (OCHA, 16/07/2015; 20/07/2015). A 400-strong UN military unit was deployed in Mogadishu with a mandate to protect aid workers in May 2014 (UN).

Al Shabaab has cut off road access to towns controlled by AMISOM, including Rabhure and Wajid in Bakool (FEWSNET, 16/04/2015). However, some goods are coming into these towns through community networks (OCHA, 20/07/2015). Hudur district in Bakool is largely inaccessible due to roadblocks and illegal checkpoints, and residents are lacking access to basic services such as food and medicine (Horseed Media, 15/07/2015; OCHA, 20/07/2015).

Security and physical constraints

Insecurity on the main roads makes needs assessment, delivery of humanitarian supplies, and response difficult. Inaccessibility of major supply routes is disrupting markets and livelihoods (OCHA, 10/08/2015). The new military offensives have further complicated access to areas in Bakool, Bay, Gedo, and Hiraan. Non-state actors are blocking roads and limiting movement, as they are staying close to areas that have come under control of pro-government forces. Humanitarian actors and commercial transporters have suspended movement in affected areas, including in Waajid and Hudur (OCHA, 20/08/2015). Access to some areas in Bay region is extremely limited (OCHA, 20/07/2015).

The Puntland–Somaliland border is closed (OCHA, 24/04/2015; Logistics Cluster, 29/04/2015; OCHA, 12/05/2015). The indefinite closure of Bosaso Airport, Puntland, for renovation, has severely constrained humanitarian operations (PI, 08/01/2015).

Food Security and Livelihoods

Food insecurity has increased by17% since February, with 855,000 people facing Crisis and Emergency (IPC Phase 3 and 4) food security outcomes through December. An additional 2.3 million people are facing Stressed (Phase 2) outcomes and are highly vulnerable to shocks. IDPs make up 68% of severely food-insecure people. Most affected are Banadir, South Mudug, Bari, Awdal, Lower Juba, Woqooyi Galbeed, and North Mudug regions, and populations in areas affected by trade disruption due to insurgency in Bulo Burde, Hudur, and Waajid (FSNAU and FEWSNET, 31/08/2015).

Food availability

Food security deteriorated in agropastoral areas in Awdal, Hiraan, Middle Juba, and Woqooyi Galbeed regions, following poor gu rains (FEWSNET, 01/08/2015). Households in northwest agropastoral zones will have to reduce food consumption between July and the next karan harvest in October due to poor crop yields. (FEWSNET, 16/06/2015; FAO, 27/07/2015).

Harvesting of the gu crops is forecast to be below-average in south-central agropastoral areas, as well as in northwestern cropping areas. Off-season harvest in riverine areas of Lower and Middle Juba, Middle Shabelle and Gedo regions will be negatively impacted by below-average hagaa showers from July–September (FAO, 27/07/2015).

From July–December, a deterioration in food security is projected in agricultural livelihood areas of Bay, Bakool, Hiraan, Middle Juba and Middle Shabelle, where reduced crop yields are expected (FSNAU, 26/06/2015; FAO, 27/07/2015).

Food access

In parts of Hiraan and Bakool that are affected by roadblocks and conflict, most households will face Emergency food insecurity through September 2015, and the situation...
is likely to persist in the following months (FEWSNET, 01/08/2015; FSNAU, 26/06/2015; OCHA, 16/07/2015).

As expected, prices of staple crops increased seasonally in June in the south, including Mogadishu. Prices remain high due to consecutive below-average harvests and conflict-related trade disruptions (FAO, 27/07/2015; FEWSNET, 01/08/2015). In urban areas of Bakool and Hiraan regions, prices of food commodities remain high due to trade blockades throughout the past year (FSNAU, 26/06/2015). In Hudur, Bakool, price increases up to 28% were observed in June, compared to May. In Bulo Burde, Hiraan, prices remained relatively stable in June, but continue to be high due to insecurity (FSNAU, 27/07/2015).

Livelihoods

In most parts of Coastal Deeh pastoral livelihood zone in the central regions, pasture conditions deteriorated and water sources were only partially replenished. In most pastoral areas, depletion of water sources and deterioration of rangeland conditions have been faster than normal (FEWSNET, 01/08/2015). Pasture shortages are reported in parts of Bari, Sanag, Awdal, and Woogqi Galbeed regions in the north, and in parts of Galgaduud, Middle and Upper Juba, and Lower and Upper Shabelle regions in south-central Somalia (FAO, 27/07/2015).

In livestock-dependent livelihood areas, improvement in food security is likely due to favourable livestock prices, increased milk availability, and increased livestock herd size. However, in the areas with pasture shortages, deteriorating livestock conditions are expected during the dry hagaa season until October (FSNAU, 26/06/2015; FAO, 27/07/2015).

Health

Around 3 million people are in need of emergency health services, particularly in Bay, Bakool, Galgaduud, Middle Juba and parts of Gedo (OCHA, 27/08/2015). Priority health concerns continue to be measles and acute watery diarrhoea (OCHA, 20/07/2015).

All IDP sites in south-central Somalia had a serious under-five mortality rate May–June (1 -1.9/10,000/day) (FSNAU, 06/2015). The situation in Dhibley, Lower Juba, is considered a humanitarian crisis, with critical death rates (1.47/10,000/day), mainly due to acute malnutrition (FSNAU, 06/2015).

Healthcare availability and access

1.5 million people are without access to primary health services, including 300,000 children under five, due to funding shortfalls (OCHA, 16/07/2015). Ten hospitals have closed or majorly scaled down services since May. Basic health posts and clinics are struggling to meet primary health needs. Many aid agencies have withdrawn health workers due to lack of funds (WHO, 23/07/2015). Hospitals in Dhibley, Galkayo, Jowhar, and Kismayo risk having to suspend services. In 2014, 20 health facilities closed due to limited funding (OCHA, 16/07/2015).

Measles

From January to June, 4,568 cases of measles were reported. More than half come from the south-central region and Banadir, Middle Shabelle, and Lower Shabelle reported the highest number of cases. This reflects high measles transmission due to low vaccination coverage. Measles vaccination coverage in south-central Somalia is reportedly below 50% (UNICEF, 30/06/2015).

Nutrition

An estimated 214,700 children are acutely malnourished, including 39,700 severely. These numbers are expected to increase to 343,400 and 63,400, respectively, until December (FSNAU and FEWSNET, 31/08/2015).

Highest malnutrition rates are reported in Bakool, Banadir, Bay, Gedo, Hiraan, Lower Juba, and Lower Shabelle (OCHA, 20/08/2015). In accessible areas of Hudur town, 33% GAM and 19% SAM were observed in a MUAC assessment in July, representing a very critical situation (over 17% GAM). Boys are more affected than girls. Rates were at 16% GAM and 6% SAM in June (FSNAU, 27/07/2015). High malnutrition rates persist in Bulo Burde, with 24% GAM and 7% SAM in July, though SAM has improved from the 19% recorded in June (FSNAU, 27/07/2015).

IDPs

Malnutrition among IDPs is particularly critical. A May–June nutrition assessment found a significant deterioration among IDPs in Kismayo and Dhibley in south-central Somalia. Five sites have over 15% GAM: Baidoa, Dhibley, Garowe, Galkayo and Dolow. In the last three sites, acute malnutrition has been above the critical threshold over the past two years. Among Dhibley IDPs, GAM has nearly doubled since the last assessment (October –December 2014), from 11% to 20.7%. SAM levels are above 4% in Baidoa, Galkayo, and Dolow.

Serious malnutrition levels (10%–15% GAM) were reported among IDPs in Mogadishu, Qardho, Bossaso, Kismayo, Dhusamareeb and Hargeisa. Alert levels (5%–10% GAM) were only seen in the northwest, in Berbera and Burao (FSNAU, 06/2015).

WASH

2.75 million people are estimated to be in need of safe water. There is a need for maintenance of WASH infrastructure, particularly in displacement settlements and areas affected by drought. Newly displaced people, including those evicted in Banadir and Lower Shabelle, are in need of access to water and sanitation services (OCHA, 27/08/2015). In
Bosaso reception centre, Puntland, latrines are very few, but there is no room to build additional latrines. Water storage capacity needs to be increased (UNHCR, 14/07/2015).

**Shelter and NFIs**

**Shelter**

An estimated 937,000 people are in need of shelter. Needs have increased due to ongoing forced evictions and conflict (OCHA, 27/08/2015). Returnees from Yemen in south-central Somalia are in need of support for the rehabilitation of their shelters. Yemeni refugees arriving in Hargeisa are struggling to find and pay for accommodation (UNHCR, 11/08/2015).

IDPs in Mogadishu are living in makeshift shelters. The most pressing needs are in Aladala, Aslubta, Beelo and Maslac in Dayniile district, and Ikashi in Hodan (OCHA, 03/06/2015).

**Education**

1.7 million children are out of school. 78% are in south-central Somalia (OCHA, 30/07/2015). Children of displaced families remain the most vulnerable and neglected in access to education (OCHA, 02/06/2015).

**Access and learning environment**

At least 2,000 children in Tarebunka IDP settlements in Banadir region have no access to education. The few schools that are functional do not have the capacity to meet the needs. Other schools are used as accommodation for IDPs (UNICEF, 30/06/2015).

**Teaching and learning**

There is a lack of teachers and learning materials, and learning facilities are inadequate (OCHA, 20/07/2015).

**Protection**

1.11 million people are considered in need of protection, mainly due to physical insecurity during the SNAF-AMISOM offensive and inter-clan fighting; SGBV, including cases of sexual violence during inter-clan conflict; child protection violations; killing of civilians (including children); separation of children; and forced/secondary eviction (UNHCR Protection Cluster, 10/2014; OCHA, 02/06/2015). Protection of civilians living in areas affected by the new SNAF-AMISOM offensive remains a key challenge (OCHA, 20/08/2015).

AMISOM forces have been accused of killing civilians in their homes on several occasions. Human Rights Watch has called for an official investigation (HRW, 13/08/2015).

Forced evictions of IDPs surged in 2015. In the first five months, 96,000 people were forcibly evicted, compared to 32,500 in the whole of 2014 (OCHA, 20/07/2015). Thousands more are at risk of eviction, mainly in Kismayo and Mogadishu (OCAH, 30/07/2015). The majority of those evicted from Mogadishu fled to settlements in the outskirts of the city. They are in need of shelter, safe water and latrines, access to food, and health services (Food Security Cluster, 23/03/2015). Human Rights Watch reported that authorities beat some of those evicted, destroyed their shelter, and left them without food, water, or assistance (HRW, 20/04/2015). Forced evictions have also been reported in Kismayo, Bosaso, Baidoa, and Luuq (UNHCR, 28/02/2015; ECHO, 25/03/2015; NRC, 18/05/2015; OCHA, 20/07/2015).

**Gender**

The lack of privacy for women and girls at the reception centre in Bosaso is a serious protection concern and poses an SGBV risk (UNHCR, 07/07/2015).

**Children**

167 grave child rights violations were recorded in June, compared to 125 in May. The majority of cases were related to abduction (UNICEF, 31/05/2015; 30/06/2015). More than 1,000 grave violations were recorded January–April 2015. Grave violations include recruitment or use of children, killing, maiming, rape or other sexual violence (UNICEF). Boys are more affected than girls. 291 cases of child recruitment into armed groups and the national army were reported in the first four months of 2015 and 75 cases of sexual violence against children, compared to 370 and 30, respectively, during the same period in 2014 (OCHA, 03/06/2015).

**Updated: 31/08/2015**

**SOUTH SUDAN CONFLICT, FLOODS, FOOD INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT**

**LATEST DEVELOPMENTS**

**23–31 August:** SPLM-in-opposition (SPLM-IO) and SPLM forces have reportedly broken the ceasefire. Clashes have taken place in Unity, Malakal, Central Equatoria, Eastern Equatoria and along the White Nile (Sudan Tribune, 23/08/2015; 28/08/2015; 31/08/2015).
25 August: President Kiir signed a peace deal with the SPLM-IO, though his government continues to show reservations and fighting between the two forces has continued after the official ceasefire (AFP).

25 August: Two aid workers were killed in two separate attacks in Wulu village and Payak, Leer, Unity, in the last week of August (MSF).

KEY CONCERNS

- 6.4 million people in need of humanitarian assistance in 2015; 4.6 million people to be assisted by the end of 2015 (OCHA, 08/01/2015; UN, 12/06/2015).

- An estimated 3.6 million are predicted to be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and a further 1 million in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) food insecurity by the end of July (IPC, 27/05/2015).

- An estimated 250,000 children are severely malnourished (OCHA, 13/06/2015).

- 1.6 million IDPs since December 2013. 201,911 IDPs are sheltering in six sites on UNMISS bases (UNHCR, 24/07/2015; UNMISS, 19/08/2015).

- 265,296 refugees in South Sudan (mainly from Sudan, DRC, Ethiopia, and CAR (UNHCR, 15/08/2015).

- 620,762 South Sudanese refugees since December 2013 (UNHCR, 21/08/2015).

OVERVIEW

Violence began to spread across eastern and northern South Sudan in December 2013. Fighting was focused in the oil-rich northeastern states during the first six months of 2015. Strife has progressively adopted the characteristics of an inter-communal conflict between the Dinka tribe allied to South Sudan President Kiir and government forces, and the Nuer, loosely allied with former South Sudan Vice President Riek Machar.

Jonglei, Upper Nile, and Unity are priority states, and the priority sectors are food security and livelihoods, health, NFIs and shelter, nutrition, and WASH. Insecurity is hampering the delivery of assistance. The UN reports widespread violation of human rights and targeted violence against civilians.

Sudan–South Sudan

Relations between Sudan and South Sudan have been poor since South Sudan gained independence in 2011. The violence in South Sudan since December 2013 has exacerbated tensions, with additional concerns in Khartoum regarding an influx of refugees and arms, as well as disruption of oil flow. Sudan has accused South Sudan of using Sudanese militia groups to fight insurgents. South Sudan has made similar accusations.

On 2 July the UN Human Rights Council sent monitors to South Sudan, following an UNMISS report on atrocities in Unity state (AFP, 02/07/2015).

National context

Since violence broke out in December 2013, President Kiir’s government forces (SPLA), who are predominantly Dinka and backed by Ugandan troops, are pitted against a loose alliance of military defectors loyal to former Vice President Riek Machar called the SPLA-in-Opposition, or SPLM-in-Opposition (SPLM-IO) along with ethnic Nuer militia forces. Since the beginning of the conflict, several splinter groups have left the SPLM-IO. Despite a significant reduction in intensity from January 2014, violence persists. At least seven ceasefires have been signed and broken since the civil war started in December 2013 (The Daily Star, 29/06/2015).

The UN Security Council adopted a resolution setting out criteria for targeted sanctions on individuals or entities threatening security and stability in South Sudan in early March (UN, 03/03/2015). VOA, 17/07/2015). On 17 August, Machar signed the proposed peace deal, but several prominent generals from within the SPLM-IO leadership have voiced dissent and some have split from Machar’s opposition (Sudan Tribune, 05/08/2015). Kiir signed the peace deal on the 25 August, though his government continues to show reservations (AFP, 25/08/2015). Widespread fighting between the two forces continues to be reported.

The governors of Warrap and Central Equatoria have been removed by Kiir. South Sudanese police have been deployed in anticipation of unrest following the removal of these figures (Sudan Tribune, 17/08/2015).

On 24 March, the South Sudanese Parliament voted to extend President Kiir’s term by three years, cancelling elections scheduled for June 2015 (AFP, 24/03/2015). On 29 May, the Government expelled the UN resident coordinator; no reason was given (The Guardian, 01/06/2015).
The UN Security Council voted in December 2013 to increase the number of peacekeepers in the country from 10,000 to 12,500. As of 28 February 2015, there were 11,669 uniformed personnel. The mandate of the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) expires on 30 November 2015.

Border tensions

Sudan: Sudanese forces moved towards the border with South Sudan’s Unity and Upper Nile states in July, reportedly in an attempt to protect Sudan’s interest in the oil-rich territory that straddles the border (World Bulletin, 13/07/2015). Reports of cross-border raids are not uncommon.

Uganda: The Ugandan army has allegedly occupied contested land near the South Sudan-Uganda border, displacing 300 farmers from Eastern Equatoria state (UNHCR, 15/08/2015).

Conflict developments

Most violence is occurring in the oil-rich northeastern states of Unity, Upper Nile, and Jonglei. Clashes have intensified since January, with another significant escalation since March. In late June–July, as the rainy season reaches its peak, the number of violent clashes between the SPLM and SPLM-IO decreased.

Between 25 May and 12 June, at least 466 civilians were killed and 1,294 injured (WHO, 12/06/2015). At least 50,000 may have died since December 2013, although access restrictions make numbers hard to verify (International Crisis Group, 15/11/2014).

The capital of Unity state was transferred from Bentiu to Mankien, Mayom county on 15 April (UNMISS, 15/04/2015).

In May and June, the SPLM launched major offensives against SPLA-IO positions, taking key locations, particularly in Leer and Malakal. The SPLA-IO has retaken the positions since the rainy season began (Small Arms Survey, 01/07/2015).

Burning, looting, and rape were reported throughout the campaign and hundreds of thousands of people were displaced. An UNMISS report released on 30 June accused SPLM troops of targeting civilians. At least 67 civilians were reported killed and over 250 girls subject to sexual violence (Al Jazeera, 30/06/2015; Radio Tamazuj 30/06/2015; Radio Dabanga, 30/06/2015).

Recent clashes

Since the start of the rainy season, the number of incidents has declined. This is partly due to the difficulties involved in moving troops, and partly due to the ongoing peace process in Addis Ababa.

Between 23 and 31 August, SPLM-IO and SPLM forces have reportedly broken the ceasefire in Unity, Malakal, Central Equatoria, Eastern Equatoria and along the White Nile (Sudan Tribune, 23/08/2015; 28/08/2015; 31/08/2015).

Central Equatoria

On 23 August, there were reports of government and opposition forces along the Juba–Yei road near Lainya (Sudan Tribune, 23/08/2015).

Unity

There are reports of government and opposition forces clashing in Nihaldui and Payinjiar (Sudan Tribune, 23/08/2015; 28/08/2015). Forces allied to Machar claimed they had regained control of Leer and Koch counties on 29 June and 5 July, respectively (Sudan Tribune, 29/06/2015; 05/07/2015).

Upper Nile

On 30 August, SPLM and SPLM-IO reportedly clashed near Malakal (Sudan Tribune, 30/08/2015). Six civilians were wounded after an attack by an armed group while travelling in a truck near Malakal (Reuters, 23/07/2015).

East Equatoria

On 22 August, there were reports of fighting along the River Acca (Sudan Tribune, 23/08/2015). The SPLM advanced along the Uganda–South Sudan border near the town of Nimule on 8 July, before retreating. An unknown number of civilians were displaced (Sudan Tribune, 09/07/2015).

Inter-communal violence

Jonglei

On 23 August two groups of armed men exchanged fire in Pibor. Two people were injured (Radio Tamazuj, 24/08/2015).

Unity

The use of firearms continues to be reported in Bentiu PoC camp (UNHCR, 05/08/2015).
Central Equatoria

On 24 August, unidentified armed men attacked a police station and seized weapons in Lainya (Radio Tamazuj, 24/08/2015). On 18 July gunmen attacked vehicles on the Juba-Kajokeji road, killing five and wounding seven. The motivation behind the attack is unknown (Sudan Tribune, 18/07/2015).

Lakes

Inter-communal violence has been reported in counties across Lakes state since September 2014. Attacks on traders and travellers are frequent (local media, 15/06/2015). Between 2 and 5 July, up to 16 people were killed, including one aid worker, and over 20 wounded in inter-clan clashes in Cueibet county (Radio Tamazuj, 04/07/2015; Sudan Tribune, 04/07/2015).

Warrap

More than 19 people were killed in clashes between rival Dinka communities in July (Sudan Tribune, 28/07/2015).

Western Equatoria

In Nzara county, SPLM soldiers are accused of killing dozens of civilians and burning villages after a soldier was killed (Sudan Tribune, 26/08/2015).

Sporadic but continuous clashes between tribal and clan groups continue, particularly around Maridi. At least 14 deaths and 16 injuries were recorded in June in clashes related to cattle theft (OCHA, 15/07/2015; Sudan Tribune, 18/06/2015). 196 houses were burnt in Maridi and the hospital was looted. Approximately 30,000 people are believed to have been displaced (OCHA, 15/07/2015).

Economic Crisis

Oil production is at one-third of its level in 2011. The central bank of South Sudan is allegedly printing money to meet a budget shortfall (Al Jazeera, 27/06/2015). The South Sudanese pound depreciated by approximately 26% from December 2014 to March 2015. Fuel and food prices continue to increase dramatically (FEWSNET 24/06/2015).

Humanitarian Access

6.4 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance in 2015 (OCHA, 08/01/2015). The delivery of aid is restricted by heavy fighting, logistical constraints, and administrative impediments. The arrival of the rainy season and insecurity have led the ICRC to deliver aid via air drops for the first time in 20 years (ICRC, 30/06/2015).

Access of relief actors to affected populations

According to a statement by the UN, 27 aid workers have been killed since December 2013 (Sudan Tribune, 25/07/2015). Two aid workers from MSF were killed in two separate attacks in Wulu village and Payak, Leer, Unity in the last week of August (MSF, 25/08/2015). Assault, burglary, harassment, arrest, and detention have all been reported in 2015. Most cases were reported in Juba (Central Equatoria), Bentiu (Unity), and Upper Nile (OCHA, 01/07/2015). In May 2015, 38 cases of looting or destruction of humanitarian assets were reported (OCHA, 31/05/2015).

On 13 May, Parliament passed an ‘NGO Bill’, which requires that organisations sign a ‘country agreement’. Similar agreements have been used before to control organisations in Sudan. The bill would also ban the formation of forums for international NGOs, which could hinder coordination, and allow the Government to impose unspecified fees (IRIN, 13/05/2015).

On 29 May, the Government expelled the UN resident coordinator: no reason was given (The Guardian, 01/06/2015).

Access of affected populations to assistance

After fighting intensified between April and June, some organisations are returning to sites in Unity and Upper Nile state (ICRC, 27/05/2015; MSF, 29/06/2015; UNHCR, 15/07/2015). On 25 July, WFP was able to resume activities briefly in Dablual, Unity state before skirmishes in the area forced them to withdraw (WFP, 31/07/2015).

Malakal’s airstrip is back in use as of 7 August after weeks of intermittent use due to ongoing conflict (WFP, 08/08/2015).

Security and physical constraints

The security situation in Unity, Jonglei and Upper Nile remains volatile and continues to restrict humanitarian access following heavy fighting April–June.

Armed attacks on vehicles on the Juba-Yei road are hampering humanitarian access, particularly to Lasu refugee camp. Reports of attacks in Lainya, situated along the road, as well as clashes between government forces and armed opposition groups along the road, led some humanitarian organisations to evacuate their staff to Yei (PI, 24/08/2015).

Displacement
As of June 2015, around 2.5 million people have been displaced, both internally and to neighbouring countries (UNHCR, 11/06/2015). Fluid displacement patterns and limited access to rural areas make numbers difficult to verify (UNHCR 11/07/2014).

IDPs

There are approximately 1,606,400 million IDPs in South Sudan: 451,900 in Jonglei, 554,700 in Unity, 50,500 in Central Equatoria, 292,500 in Upper Nile, 113,900 in Lakes, Western, 4,700 in Eastern Equatoria, 24,100 in Western Bahr el Ghazal, 1,700 in Warrap, and 8,310 in Abyei (OCHA, 16/08/2015).

So far in July and August there have been 18,000 new arrivals at Malakal PoC, mainly from within Upper Nile state. Most are women and children. None of these new arrivals has shelter (UNMISS, 19/08/2015, UNHCR, 15/08/2015).

There are nearly 100,000 more people seeking shelter in PoCs in 2015 than in 2014. As of 19 August, 201,911 civilians are in six PoC sites on UNMISS bases, including 121,194 in Bentiu (over 43,000 new arrivals since 30 June), 28,663 in Juba UN House, 48,840 in Malakal (over 18,000 new arrivals since June) 2,289 in Bor, 723 in Melut, and 202 in Wau (UNMISS, 19/08/2015). The influx into Bentiu PoC can be attributed to the frontline of the conflict moving northward from Leer, through Koch and towards Bentiu during July. The shifting frontlines and clashes in Upper Nile state, particularly near Malakal PoC, can be seen as largely responsible for the influx in Malakal PoC.

Refugees and asylum seekers

265,296 refugees are in South Sudan: around 235,000 are from Sudan, 15,500 from DRC, 4,900 from Ethiopia, and 2,040 from CAR. 134,435 refugees are based in Upper Nile and around 100,707 in Unity, 19,894 in Central Equatoria, 2,339 in Jonglei and 8,921 in Western Equatoria (UNHCR, 15/08/2015). More than 10,000 refugees have arrived so far in 2015 (ECHO, 01/07/2015).

Most Sudanese refugees in Upper Nile state reside in four refugee camps in Maban county (OCHA, 03/04/2014). On 10 August, 1,547 Sudanese refugees arrived in northern Unity state (UNHCR, 15/08/2015). Around 14,000 new refugees entered over 12–14 June due to fighting in Upper Nile (UNHCR, 18/06/2015).

Since 23 December 2014, 13,479 new refugees have arrived in Yida, Unity state, bringing the total to 70,007 (UNHCR, 30/06/2015). Arrival rates have increased sharply in 2015. Refugees cited aerial bombardments, ground attacks and lack of livelihood and education opportunities as reasons for leaving (OCHA, 21/02/2015; UNHCR, 30/01/2015).

The number of people in Yida is fluid as Sudanese refugees move across the border, returning to the camp when they need resources or safety (PI, 03/07/2015). The South Sudan Government wants to close Yida camp and relocate refugees further from the border. The Government and UNHCR have agreed to expand Ajuong Thok camp to accommodate up to 40,000 people. Since December 2014 14,761 have been transferred from Yida (UNCHR, 30/06/2015). Tensions between refugees and the host community rose in June and local authorities subsequently banned refugees from leaving camps to fish and farm (UNHCR, 14/07/2015).

Refugees in neighbouring countries

620,762 South Sudanese have sought refuge in neighbouring countries since December 2013, including 65,000 who have fled the country since the beginning of 2015. 31,000 have sought refuge in Sudan, predominantly in White Nile state. 68% of South Sudanese refugees are under 17 (UNHCR, 07/08/2015; 21/08/2015).

Sudan: As of 10 July, 191,625 South Sudanese nationals have arrived in Sudan since December 2013 (UNCHR, 22/07/2015). The Sudanese Government refuses to recognise South Sudanese nationals as refugees and instead considers them to be Sudanese citizens (UNHCR, 03/04/2014). UNHCR declared this constitutes an obstacle to accessing humanitarian assistance.

Ethiopia: 221,376 South Sudanese refugees (UNHCR, 21/08/2015).

Uganda: 161,196 South Sudanese refugees (UNHCR, 21/08/2015).

Kenya: 46,566 South Sudanese refugees (UNHCR, 21/08/2015).

Food security and Livelihoods

Acute food insecurity in South Sudan peaked in June and July (FEWSNET, 11/08/2015). 3.6 million and 1 million people were projected to face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) food security outcomes, respectively, by end July (FEWSNET, 11/08/2015). The situation may be worse, as the conflict cut off humanitarian access to communities in Upper Nile and Unity, and macro-economic conditions have deteriorated (FEWNET, 24/06/2015). Fangak, Canal/Pigi, Ulang, Luakpiny/Nasir, and Longochuk counties were in Emergency as of April (FEWSNET, 20/04/2015; WFP, 15/04/2015; IPC, 27/05/2015). Food insecurity in Unity, Upper Nile and Jonglei is not expected to improve due to insecurity preventing the collection of the harvest. Any improvement will be shortlived as food stocks have been depleted (FEWSNET, 27/08/2015).
A recent survey indicates early signs of a drought in parts of Unity state, based on the FAO Agricultural Stress Index (FAO, 02/07/2015). Planting in Unity, Upper Nile, and Jonglei remains severely limited for the second consecutive year due to conflict. Below-average harvests are expected, and poor and IDP households are expected to exhaust food stocks by December (FEWSNET, 19/08/2015).

At least six people are reported to have starved to death in a remote part of South Sudan’s Eastern Equatoria state due to drought-like conditions that began in July. Budu county is the worst affected. Local youths have attacked figures believed to be ‘rainmakers’ and therefore responsible for the drought. At least two people were reported killed (Sudan Tribune, 12/08/2015). Though no assessment has produced figures, Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) food security outcomes are likely in Ayod and Mayendit, where 10% of the population has been observed as severely food insecure (FEWNET, 24/06/2015). In late July, local officials in Eastern Equatoria state warned of famine conditions due to drought and requested aid (Sudan Tribune, 28/07/2015).

Food stocks are depleting rapidly in Bentiu PoC camp, owing to a rapid population increase from around 45,000 to more than 125,000. Significant interruptions to the delivery of food assistance are expected after September (WFP, 08/08/2015). 26,000 IDPs in Melut PoC are in dire need of food assistance. On 5 August, UNHCR implemented a 30% reduction in food rations, starting in in Doro and Gendrassa refugee camps (UNHCR, 15/08/2015).

The effects of the lean season, high level of trader uncertainty, fuel shortages and economic crisis continue to increase inflation. The consumer price index (CPI) is 51.9% higher than the same month in 2014. The CPI for Health Services alone has increased by 76.2%. There has been a dramatic increase in fuel costs. In July 2015, the prices of white sorghum increased by 24%, 36%, and 48% in Juba, Yambio and Malakal from June. Food prices are expected to continue increasing faster than normal (WFP, 31/08/2015).

Compared to the same period in 2014, sorghum prices were 66% and 82% higher in Juba and Torit, respectively, and has more than doubled in Wau and Aweil (FEWSNET, 11/08/2015). In Juba, an increase in the prices of both locally produced and imported cereals, vegetable oil, and sugar in the first quarter of 2015 had already made them 90–100% higher than the normal seasonal levels. For most households, 80–85% of income is spent on food (FAO, 02/07/2015; IPC, 27/05/2015).

Food distribution in Lasu refugee camp did not take place in July, as insecurity on the Juba-Yei road led to a shortage of food stocks (UNCHR, 15/08/2015). After over a week’s suspension, the halt to food barge deliveries was lifted 3 August. This had previously prevented WFP from delivering food to areas of the Upper Nile including Malakal. Deliveries are now planned to resume. Malakal’s airstrip is also back in use as of 7 August after weeks of intermittent use due to ongoing conflict (WFP, 08/08/2015).

Food access

The affected population, particularly in Unity, Jonglei, and Upper Nile state, have reportedly reprioritized supplies in case of displacement. However, increased use of coping strategies during 2014 due to fighting and difficult lean season has diminished their effectiveness and long-term food security (PI, 01/07/2015).

Livelihoods

An estimated 610,000 people, more than half concentrated in Juba and Wau, have severely undermined livelihoods (FAO, 02/07/2015). Intensive and abnormal migrations due to insecurity has depleted the health and number of South Sudan’s cattle. The condition of these cattle has a profound effect on the 65% of Southern Sudanese who are pastoralists (FAO, 17/08/2015).

Health

4.6 million people need health assistance (UN, 12/06/2015). Responders are unable to conduct the measures necessary to tackle preventable diseases. The response is further hampered as conflict hinders access to health facilities and hospitals are frequently damaged in attacks (international organisation, 24/07/2015). Malaria, acute respiratory infections, acute watery diarrhoea, and acute bloody diarrhoea are the main causes of illness among IDPs (WHO, 15/02/2015).

Healthcare availability and access

Conditions in Bentiu PoC are deteriorating due to overcrowding. 344 measles cases, including five deaths, have been registered since the beginning of 2015 (WHO, 19/07/2015). MSF has warned about the risk of a hepatitis E outbreak (MSF, 03/08/2015).

The rapid influx of over 18,000 IDPs into Malakal PoC in July and August has overwhelmed health services and health indicators are deteriorating. The number of diarrhoea cases arriving weekly at facilities has doubled since June. There has been an 80% increase in respiratory tract infections from June to July. The number of malaria cases recorded per week has almost tripled compared to June (MSF, 21/08/2015).
The start of the rainy season in June has increased the risk of infection from waterborne diseases, particularly in IDP and refugee camps (UNHCR, 12/06/2015). In mid-July the case fatality rate (CFR) for malaria is higher than the same week in 2014, at 28.9% in contrast to 18.3% (WHO, 19/07/2015). Do There is concern that South Sudan may experience an unusually severe malaria season (MSF, 14/08/2015).

Visceral leishmaniasis

1,316 cases of visceral leishmaniasis, including 39 deaths (case fatality rate 3.18%), were reported in Lankien, Ulang, Walgak, and Chuil (Jonglei) in the first quarter of 2015. Of these, 837 were new cases, 188 were relapses, and 18 did not complete treatment (WHO, 15/02/2015; 29/03/2015).

Cholera

The current cholera outbreak began on 18 May in Juba PoC. 1,681 suspected cases and 46 deaths were recorded as of 29 August in Bor (Jonglei state), and 1,545 cases and 45 deaths in Juba county (Central Equatoria) (WHO, 29/08/2015). Nationwide, 42 more cases were recorded than in the previous week (WHO, 21/08/2015). The case fatality rate is almost double the global average, at 2.8% (WHO, 29/08/2015).

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Nutrition

5–8% of citizens have severe acute malnutrition (SAM) (FEWSNET, 24/06/2015). An estimated 250,000 children are severely malnourished, according to an OCHA representative (OCHA, 13/06/2015). Malnutrition remains particularly high among pregnant and lactating women, with an average rate of 26.6% recorded in IDP camps (UNHCR, 26/06/2015).

In Bentiu PoC site, screening of 9,288 children under five revealed a SAM rate of 1.8%. In Jonglei, 10,865 children under-five were screened, and 4.8% were severely malnourished. In Upper Nile, screening of 4,699 children found 0.6% SAM (UNICEF, 21/05/2015).

Malnutrition screening of 22,917 children in January and February in the three conflict-affected states found GAM levels above the emergency threshold of 15% in Upper Nile (17.2%), Unity (18.9%) and Jonglei (26%) (UNICEF, 26/03/2015). Among pregnant and lactating women, SAM rates are at 6% and 4% in Kaya and Batil refugee camps (UNHCR, 15/08/2015).

In the four Maban refugee camps, a lack of regular nutrition treatment is having a negative impact on children as well as pregnant and lactating women. The rainy season has made aid deliveries even less regular and the nutrition situation is expected to deteriorate (UNHCR, 29/07/2015).

WASH

6.4 million people are in need of WASH assistance (UN, 12/06/2015). Nationwide, 55% of people have access to safe drinking water (OCHA, 15/07/2015). 38,500 displaced people are reported to be in urgent need of clean water and sanitation in Wau Shilluk (OCHA, 01/07/2015).

Water

80% of people in Juba report a lack of access to clean water (OCHA, 01/07/2015). Due to the increasing cost of fuel, the price of water has dramatically increased, causing more people to resort to drinking water from unsafe sources (OXFAM, 31/07/2015).

Only Dabat Bosin refugee site has a water supply reaching SPHERE emergency standards of 15L per person per day (UNHCR, 29/05/2015). Water coverage slightly deteriorated in the PoCs in July. In Melut PoC, Bentiu PoC, and Malakal PoC 11, 9.4, and 12 L/person/day were available respectively (IOM, 22/07/2015; 25/06/2015). In Yida refugee camp, crude water coverage was 14 L/person/day (UNHCR, 22/06/2015).

Sanitation

Over 80% of the reported latrines in Ajuong Thok camp (Unity state) lack roofs or doors, and are not gender-separated (UNHCR, 29/05/2015). Sanitation provision has remained stable, with some slight improvement in Malakal PoC in July. Malakal PoC, Bentiu PoC, and Melut have 44, 21, and 55 people per latrine, respectively (IOM, 22/07/2015; 25/06/2015).

Education

Access and learning environment

83 schools are occupied by armed groups or IDPs (OCHA, 27/03/2014). Many schools remain closed in Jonglei, Unity, and Upper Nile (local media, 20/03/2015).

An estimated 2 million people are in need of education assistance (UN, 12/06/2015). Only 6% of 13-year-old girls have completed primary school (Plan, 10/06/2015).
Teaching and learning

In Ajuong Thok, Napere and Makpandu refugee camps, the pupil: teacher ratio is 72:1, 52:1 and 43:1. All fall short of the UNHCR standard of 40:1 (UNHCR, 24/07/2015; 14/07/2015). The inability to pay teachers’ wages has limited education activities in displacement areas and as of 15 August, teachers in Gendrassa and Batil refugee camp are on strike over pay (UNHCR, 15/08/2015; 26/10/2014).

Protection

In South Sudan, reports of torture, rape, censorship and targeting of civilians are widespread. On 20 August a journalist was killed soon after President Kiir threatened journalists who reported ‘against the country’. Journalists and newspapers have been targeted by both the SPLM and SPLA-IO. Seven journalists have been killed in 2015 in alleged targeted attacks (Reuters, 20/08/2015; AFP, 05/08/2015)

Gender

Rape has been used as a weapon of war between government and opposition forces (HRW, 21/07/2015). An UNMISS report released on 30 June accused SPLM troops of abducting at least 172 women and girls and raping an additional 79 during their April–May campaign in Unity state. Some were burnt alive inside their homes after being raped (Al Jazeera, 30/06/2015; Radio Tamazuj 30/06/2015; Dabanga, 30/06/2015). Human Rights Watch has published evidence of rape and violence in Unity state by government and government-aligned forces (HRW, 21/07/2015). The abduction of IDP women from outside PoCs continues to be reported (UNHCR, 12/06/2015).

Early and forced marriage, rape, and domestic violence have been reported in Maban refugee camps (OCHA, 16/10/2014). In Melut (Upper Nile), firewood collection remains a major safety concern for women and girls, with reports of GBV (OCHA, 26/10/2014).

It is difficult to obtain SGBV figures as people collecting information on SGBV face intimidation and threats. This was most recently reported in Central Equatoria (UNHCR, 14/07/2015).

Children

A UN Security Council report stated that all parties to the conflict since December 2013 were responsible for grave violations against children, including killing and maiming, recruitment and use, abduction, and rape and other forms of sexual violence (UN, 30/12/2014). In the second quarter of 2015, there were at least 166 incidents of child rights violations, affecting 4,184 children (OCHA, 01/07/2015).

25,000 children have been separated from their families (UN, 16/06/2015). 13,000 children have reportedly been recruited by armed groups since the beginning of 2014 (OCHA Monitor, 16/06/2015).

Updated: 31/08/2015

SUDAN CONFLICT, FOOD INSECURITY, EPIDEMIC, DISPLACEMENT

27 August: In Darfur, 12 are still functioning health facilities are inaccessible for resupply. There are also 190 facilities in Darfur that lack essential staff and are therefore operating at severely reduced capacity (WHO, 27/08/2015).

26 August: In White Nile, an estimated 46,200 South Sudanese refugees need shelter and NFI assistance (OCHA, 26/08/2015).

25 August: In some IDP camps in South Darfur, the average class size is 93 students, more than double the maximum 35-40 stated by UNHCR (OCHA, 25/08/2015).

25 August: White Nile state has recorded 6% MAM and 2.6% SAM (UNICEF, 25/08/2015).

KEY CONCERNS

- 5.4 million people are in need of assistance (24/08/2015).
- 4.4 million people in Darfur, more than half of the region’s population, needed humanitarian assistance. This includes 2.5 million IDPs and 150,000 returnees (OCHA, 30/06/2015).
- 1,289,000 million people face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) food security outcomes. Darfur, South Kordofan, Blue Nile, and West Kordofan are worst affected (IPC, 01/07/2015; FSNWG, 26/05/2015).
- 1 million children under five acutely malnourished, an estimated 550,000 are severely
acutely malnourished (OCHA, 09/08/2015).

- 3.1 million IDPs. Two million in Darfur prior to 2014, 401,000 displaced in 2015 (OCHA, 31/07/2015).

- Humanitarian access remains a significant problem due to insecurity, mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW), logistical constraints, and restrictions placed by the authorities.

OVERVIEW

Large-scale internal displacement due to violence, widespread food insecurity, malnutrition, lack of access to basic services, and recurrent natural disasters. Humanitarian access to conflict zones is severely restricted.

Numerous, protracted insurgencies are being waged by several armed groups across Darfur, South Kordofan, and Blue Nile. Darfur has been the scene of inter-communal clashes and conflict between the government and armed opposition for over a decade. Violence in Blue Nile and South Kordofan grew significantly after South Sudan won independence in 2011. Tensions also continue to run high between Sudan and South Sudan.

Politics and security

Profound divisions within Sudanese society have persisted since independence in 1956, and the Government’s exploitation of intercommunal differences has aggravated the situation.

Parliamentary and presidential elections were held 13–15 April, and according to unofficial estimates President Omar al Bashir achieved a landslide victory. Voter turnout was reportedly extremely low (AP, 13/04/2015; international media, 19/04/2015). The Sudan Revolutionary Front, the National Umma Party, and other opposition groups boycotted the elections (Al Jazeera, 27/04/2015).

Sudanese forces moved towards the border with South Sudan’s Unity and Upper Nile states in July, reportedly in an attempt to protect Sudan’s interest in the oil-rich territory that straddles the border (World Bulletin, 13/07/2015).

Sudan–South Sudan

Tensions between Khartoum and Juba, persistent since South Sudan’s independence in 2011, increased when violence erupted in South Sudan in December 2013. The disruption of oil flow is a key concern for both countries.

The Sudanese Government has accused Juba of using Sudanese militia groups, and the South Sudanese army (SPLA) has accused Khartoum of supporting the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement –in-Opposition (SPLM-IO). Both the opposition and Khartoum have denied the accusations. In 2014, South Sudanese officials accused the Sudanese Government of bombing Raga county, Western Bahr el Ghazal state, and Maban county, Upper Nile state, where more than 220,000 Sudanese refugees are living (AFP, 14/11/2014).

Blue Nile and South Kordofan

While the SPLM governs the independent South Sudan, the SPLM-North continues an insurgency in Sudan’s Blue Nile and South Kordofan states, which have routinely opposed government rule. Talks between Khartoum and the SPLM-N have repeatedly failed, and negotiations last collapsed in April 2014.

Stakeholders

Sudan Revolutionary Front

The SRF is made up of the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-N), mainly active in Blue Nile and South Kordofan states, as well as Darfur’s three largest opposition groups: the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM); the Sudan Liberation Movement led by Abdel Wahid Al Nur (SLM-AW); and the Sudan Liberation Movement led by Minni Arkou Minnawi (SLM-MM).

As of 26 August, the SRF and Alliance of the National Forces, a group of separate political forces also part of the talks, declared that they were no longer willing to be part of the ongoing ceasefire and peace process with the government. The government has declared its intentions to continue without their participation (Sudan Tribune, 26/08/2015).

In March 2015, the Sudanese Government and a number of Darfur opposition-group commanders led by Mohamedain Ismail Basheer, formerly the SLM-MM operations commander, signed a peace agreement in N’Djamena, Chad.

UN peacekeeping mission

Relations between the Government of Sudan and the UN peacekeeping mission deteriorated following the Government’s refusal to allow a African Union/United Nations Hybrid operation in Darfur (UNAMID) investigate mass rape in North Darfur at the end of 2014 (AFP, 30/11/2014). Despite protests from the Sudanese government, the Security Council extended UNAMID’s mandate until June 2016.
Conflict developments

Extensive military operations aimed to end armed opposition in Darfur, South Kordofan, and Blue Nile began at the end of 2013. Large-scale violence by pro-government militia against the IDP population in Darfur continues in 2015, and airstrikes by the Sudanese Air Force (SAF) remain frequent. Information on Blue Nile and South Kordofan states is difficult to obtain, as government authorities severely restrict access to the fighting zone. According to Human Rights Watch and local media, the Government of Sudan continues to target civilian areas of South Kordofan’s Nuba Mountains. The most recent bombing campaign allegedly began in February 2015 (Nuba Reports, 05/2015; Human Rights Watch, 16/04/2015).

Tribal fighting also intensified in Darfur and Kordofan regions in 2013 and 2014, leading to thousands of deaths and injuries and forcing over 300,000 people to flee their homes.

Fighting between SPLM-N and government troops intensified in March in Blue Nile and South Kordofan (SKBNCU, 03/2015). With the start of the rainy season, attacks by the Sudanese government have fallen by more than 50% in South Kordofan, though homes and clinics continue to be targeted in bombing raids. At least six deaths and 22 injuries were recorded in June, similar to the figure recorded in the same period in 2014 (The Sudan Consortium, 06/2015).

Darfur

On 13 August, clashes broke out between the Fellata and Salamat tribes in Buram locality, South Darfur. At least seven have reportedly been killed (Sudan Tribune, 13/08/2015; Radio Dabanga, 14/08/2015). Only 15 July, gunmen opened fire on a UNAMID patrol between Bowa and Turmes villages in North Darfur. No casualties were reported (UNAMID, 17/07/2015). The security in South Darfur is deteriorating. The frequency of robberies taking place near the IDP camps has been increasing (Radio Dabanga, 04/08/2015).

Inter-communal violence: Since 4 July clashes between Rizeigat and Habaniya tribesmen in Sunta locality in South Darfur have killed over 180 people, according to local sources (All Africa, 05/07/2015; Radio Dabanga, 14/07/2015).

Kordofan and Blue Nile

On 25 June, SPLM-N forces attacked the South Kordofan town of Talodi. Dozens of people were killed and around 100 injured (Sudan Tribune, 05/07/2015). On 12 June, the Sudanese Government bombed Wed Abuk in Blue Nile state (local media, 14/06/2015).

Khartoum state

Inter-communal violence: On 28 July, four people were killed in clashes between al Hawaweer and al Gamo’iyya groups near Omdurman. There were weeks of tensions in July, in which one person was killed and several others injured (Sudan Tribune, 28/07/2015).

Natural disasters

Heat wave: as of 15 August, has killed at least 15 people in Wadi Halfa, in Northern State. Temperatures have risen to above 47 degrees Celsius (East African, 15/08/2015).

Heavy rains and storms: starting in June have destroyed or damaged over a thousand shelters. In August, more than 20 people died in heavy rains in Sudan; mainly in house collapses and five when a ferry sank in adverse conditions linked to heavy rains (Radio Dabanga, 11/08/2015). On 14 August 2,600 people were affected or displaced in Tadamon locality, Blue Nile when heavy rains damaged their shelters. An additional 13,300 people have been affected by heavy rains throughout Ed Damazine and El Roseires localities in Blue Nile state since June (OCHA, 16/08/2015).

On 19 August, heavy rains severely damaged 150 homes in Kalma IDP camp in South Darfur (ECHO, 22/08/2015). The camp is home to 163,000 IDPs. The rainy season has exacerbated already low levels of sanitation and food shortages. WFP has not been able to deliver aid in two months (Radio Dabanga, 30/07/2015). Some 100 houses were destroyed by heavy rains in Nyala IDP camp in South Darfur on 2 August (Radio Dabanga, 04/08/2015).

Displacement

IDPs

Since January 2015, up to 401,000 have been displaced including 211,000 from Darfur and 36,000 in South Kordofan, 13,000 of whom have returned home. A total of 56,000 people remain displaced in Blue Nile, including new IDPs as well as relocated and recent returnees. Up to 99,000 people are believed to have been displaced in Jebel Marra in Darfur, but this has not been verified (OCHA, 31/07/2015). There are a total of 3.1 million IDPs in Sudan: 2.55 million are in Darfur (OCHA, 31/07/2015).

Up to 210,000 people have been displaced in Darfur since the start of 2015. This is an increase of 67,000 since May (UNICEF, 30/06/2015). Around 27,000 have returned
home (OCHA, 30/06/2015). These are similar to figures for the previous year, which saw the biggest displacement for a decade (OCHA, 31/12/2014).

2.4 million IDPs reside in 46 camps and 68 settlements in Darfur (including 82,530 orphans and 52,352 sick and elderly), according to a survey conducted by the Darfur Regional Authority (DRA) from December 2013 to April 2014. OCHA reported in June that government policy to prevent the creation of new camps is an obstacle to the verification and registration of IDPs (IRIN, 02/06/2015). The displaced in Darfur report insecurity as a major concern. Other concerns include lack of access to basic services such as water, food, shelter, and medicines (IRIN, 02/06/2015).

Jebel Marra: Up to 38,000 people were displaced between February and May by fighting between the government and armed groups. They have not been provided with any assistance since they were displaced (OCHA, 02/08/2015).

North Darfur: As of late August, 22,000 IDPs remain displaced from clashes between the Berti and Zayadia ethnic groups near Mellit (OHCA, 25/08/2015). Reports suggest the fighting has now ended. The displaced are in need of NFIs, shelter, health services, and psychological support (OCHA, 26/07/2015). IDPs’ conditions in North Darfur remain poor due to lack of basic services (Radio Dabanga, 27/07/2015).

Central Darfur: Local media report that displaced people in Central Darfur state have rejected voluntary return due to insecurity in their area of origin (Sudan Tribune, 31/07/2015). Between May and June, over 320 people came to Zalingei camp, Central Darfur, after their homes were burned down by militia groups (OCHA, 21/06/2015). An estimated 15,000 people have returned to their homes in Um Dukhun locality, according to a recent needs assessment (OCHA, 28/06/2015). There were 74,000 verified IDPs at the beginning of January 2015 (OCHA 31/12/2014).

East Darfur: 35,000 IDPs as of end November 2014 (OCHA, 31/12/2014).

West Darfur: 6,000 IDPs arrived from East Darfur fleeing fighting between the Southern Reizeigat and Maaliya tribes in May (OCHA, 24/05/2015).

Kalma IDP camp, South Darfur, houses 163,000 people. The rainy season has exacerbated already low levels of sanitation and food shortages. WFP has not been able to deliver aid in two months (Radio Dabanga, 30/07/2015).

Blue Nile and South Kordofan: Over 378,000 people are estimated displaced in SPLM-N territory (OCHA, 03/02/2015). With no presence in SPLM-N territory, the UN is unable to verify these figures (OCHA, 19/05/2014). 40,000 people have been displaced in Blue Nile since the start of 2015 (OCHA, 15/06/2015). Another 16,300 arrived in Blue Nile on 10 June (OCHA, 28/06/2015).

2,496 displaced South Sudanese are living in the disputed area of Abyei (UNHCR, 05/08/2015).

Refugees and asylum seekers

West Kordofan: More than 52,000 people were reported displaced in 2014 (OCHA, 21/09/2014).

There are over 310,000 refugees in Sudan, (UNHCR, 30/04/2015). More than 191,000 are South Sudanese refugees, most arriving since December 2013. At least 112,000 are from Eritrea and nearly 10,000 are from Chad (UNHCR, 19/08/2015; OCHA, 16/08/2015).

As of 19 August, 191,624 South Sudanese nationals have arrived in Sudan since 15 December 2013: 119,000 are children (UNHCR, 19/08/2015; UNICEF, 30/06/2015). As of 19 August, 110,211 South Sudanese refugees live in White Nile (approximate 9,952 in the host community), 34,059 in Khartoum, 22,221 in West Kordofan, 374 in North Kordofan, 20,982 in South Kordofan, 3,661 in Blue Nile, and 164 in East Darfur (UNHCR, 10/08/2015). 91% of households are female-headed (UNHCR, 29/01/2015).

The number of arrivals increased dramatically in June and early July following intense conflict in South Sudan’s Upper Nile and Unity states. Over 19–26 July, 4,814 refugees crossed into Sudan, more than double the 2,157 arrivals the previous week (OCHA, 26/07/2015; 19/07/2015). 5,000 South Sudanese refugees who passed through the transit point at Diffra in Abyei on their way to Sudan require shelter assistance (OCHA, 26/07/2015). The displaced in Darfur remain poor due to lack of basic services (Radio Dabanga, 27/07/2015).

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Humanitarian access

Humanitarian access for international relief organisations is a major problem. Humanitarian operations are hampered by insecurity, the presence of mines and ERW, logistical constraints, and government restrictions. The rainy season continues to hinder access, particularly South, West and Central Darfur (OCHA,
Access of relief actors to affected populations

An increase in carjacking incidents targeting aid organisations has been reported in 2015, with at least three recorded in mid-May (OCHA, 24/05/2015). In July, healthcare facilities in Central Darfur were shut down after government forces allegedly beat and detained several workers (Sudan Tribune, 07/08/2015). On 21 July, a Sudanese UNAMID worker was captured by unidentified gunmen in Darfur, and released five days later (Sudan Tribune, 26/07/2015). Three national aid workers were killed in Blue Nile state and two attacks on aid organisations were reported between January and February 2015 (ECHO, 10/02/2015; MSF, 22/01/2015). 25 aid workers were abducted in Darfur in 2014, the highest number of abduction cases recorded since 2004 (OCHA, 22/01/2015).

Access to areas of active conflict in Darfur remains largely denied (OCHA, 03/06/2015). The government has also banned humanitarian access to areas controlled by opposition groups. Authorities denied UNAMID and humanitarian agencies access to Abu Karinka after conflict there in May (IRIN, 02/06/2015).

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August 2013 regulations ban foreign humanitarian groups and UN agencies from working for human rights.

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Food security

Food security has not deteriorated as much as previously predicted during the lean season, which began in June. 1,289,000 people are reportedly facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) food security outcomes. This is due to improved pasture conditions and abundant production of cereals (IPC, 01/07/2015). Food security is expected to deteriorate through September as the harvest increases food availability (FEWSNET, 28/08/2015).

Food availability

Rainfall has been 25–50% of normal levels across some areas during May–July. Poor rainfall at start of 2015 cropping season is delaying planting and affecting crop quality (FEWSNET, 28/08/2015). As a result, the amount of land cultivated has decreased from 714,000 hectares in 2014 to 504,000 hectares in 2015 (OCHA, 16/08/2015).

Food access

Those areas that remain the worst affected by food insecurity are also affected by conflict, which prevents food distribution. Nearly 80% of households in South Kordofan experienced severe food insecurity during the first quarter of 2015 (FEWSNET, 19/07/2015). Newly displaced households and IDPs without access to humanitarian assistance are facing Crisis food security outcomes (IPC, 01/07/2015).

A spike in food prices in White Nile during July was partially caused by the presence of refugees from South Sudan increasing local demand. Sorghum rose by 11% and millet by 12%. This can have a potent impact on poor households, whose food stocks are already depleted, and exacerbate the effects of the lean season (WFP, 30/07/2015).

Local media reports suggest that displaced people in Zamzam camp, North Darfur, have not been provided with food for eight months (Radio Dabanga, 05/08/2015).

Food use

The ability of communities to cope has been depleted in South Kordofan, but those who are frequently affected by conflict and displacement in South Kordofan are reportedly pre-positioning supplies in case of displacement or damage by aerial attack. Cross-frontline trading is also believed to be continuing (PI, 03/07/2015).

Health

Mortality from acute respiratory infections, malnutrition, and diarrhoea-related causes has increased in El Salam locality, White Nile state. 12 such deaths were reported between 10 and 24 July (UNHCR, 24/07/2015).

There are indications that the health situation in Darfur is deteriorating; many have no access to healthcare and there are reports that the number of mosquitoes is increasing the risk of malaria infections (Radio Dabanga, 28/07/2015).

Healthcare availability and access

In Darfur, 12 functioning health facilities are inaccessible as of late August. There are also 190 facilities in Darfur that lack essential staff and are therefore operating at severely reduced capacity (WHO, 27/08/2015).

The UN estimated in mid-December 2013 that 165,000 children in SPLM-N-controlled parts of South Kordofan and Blue Nile do not have access to basic health services (UNHCR, 24/07/2015).
Measles

A measles outbreak began in late 2014. As of 26 July, 2,896 confirmed cases and 43 deaths have been reported in 2015, in 17 of Sudan’s 18 states (OCHA, 09/08/2015). Seven people have died from measles in the densely populated Zamzam IDP camp in North Darfur (Radio Dabanga, 02/07/2015). West Darfur is worst affected (665 confirmed cases, nine deaths as of 12 July). Kassala has had 497 confirmed cases and five deaths, while in Red Sea state, there have been 386 cases and six deaths (WHO, 12/06/2015). According to a 2014 survey, 39% of children have not been vaccinated against measles (UNICEF, 30/06/2015).

Nutrition

There is national GAM rate of 16.3%, with 550,000 children believed to suffer from severe acute malnutrition (SAM), mainly in North Darfur, El Gezira, South Darfur, Khartoum and Gedaref. 51% of all SAM cases come from these states. SAM rates above 20% are recorded in three localities in South Darfur and Red Sea (OCHA, 09/08/2015).

500,000 children are severely malnourished in Darfur, Blue Nile, and South Kordofan (ECHO, 01/07/2015). Among localities with IDPs, where 20% of the population face severe consumptions gaps, 2.2–7% of population are severely malnourished (IPC, 01/07/2015).

According to UNICEF, MAM is at 6% and SAM 2.6% in White Nile (UNICEF, 25/08/2015).

WASH

The WASH conditions inside refugee camps has deteriorated with the recent new influx of refugees from South Sudan (OCHA, 31/05/2015).

Water

Across Sudan, approximately one person in nine does not have access to a clean water supply (Kimse Yok Mu, 24/06/2015). All refugee camps, except Dabat Bosin, are below the standard of 20L of water per person per day (OCHA, 31/05/2015).

20 water pumps have stopped working in El Salam camp, South Darfur, in the past five months, affecting 80,000 people (Radio Dabanga, 04/05/2015). Displaced people have also complained about a lack of available water in Gereida, South Darfur (local media, 22/06/2015). Kassab IDP camp in Kutum has been suffering from a severe shortage of drinking water since the beginning of May. Reports suggest that 11 of the 20 water pumps at the camp are non-operational (local media, 25/05/2015).

Reports suggest there has been no regular maintenance of hand pumps in South Kordofan for up to four years (PI, 03/07/2015).

Parts of the capital Khartoum are not receiving water due to poor infrastructure. This has caused protests (local media, 22/06/2015; All Africa, 02/07/2015).

Sanitation

All refugee camps, except Dabat Bosin have dangerously low levels of sanitation. The worst conditions are in El Redis II refugee camp, were the ratio is 186 people per latrine (OCHA, 16/08/2015).

Shelter and NFIs

In White Nile, 6,600 South Sudanese refugee families (46,200 individuals) are in of Shelter and NFI assistance (OCHA, 26/08/2015).

Education

Access and learning environment

3 million children aged 5–13 are out of school in Sudan. 1.9 million are of primary-school age (UNICEF, 14/04/2015). The majority of the affected children are in Darfur, with high numbers also in Blue Nile and South Kordofan (Radio Dabanga, 14/07/2015). Schools are frequently used as shelter for IDPs (UNICEF, 30/06/2015).

In some IDP camps in South Darfur, the average class size is 93 students, more than double the maximum 35–40 stated by UNHCR (OCHA, 25/08/2015).

Protection

Human rights violations including torture, targeting of civilians, rape, censorship and arbitrary arrest are widespread in Sudan. One human rights organisation reports that in July, in Darfur, Blue Nile, and South Kordofan, 56 specific incidents of human rights abuses were committed, mainly by largely pro-Government militias. 221 people were killed during these incidents. There were also 19 victims of abduction and cases of arrest and torture reported in the same month (SUDO, 31/07/2015).

Mines and ERW

On 2 August, one boy was killed and another injured when an ERW exploded in Tabit, North Darfur (Radio Dabanga, 04/08/2015). 250 locations covering an estimated...
32km² are contaminated by mines and ERW, with the greatest concentrations in Kassala, Gedaref, Red Sea, Blue Nile, South Kordofan, and Darfur (UNMAS). South Kordofan is the most heavily mined area of Sudan, according to the Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor.

Gender

Four female IDPs were raped in two separate incidents by new settlers in abandoned villages in East Jebel Marra (Radio Dabanga, 10/08/2015). SUDO reports 35 incidents of rape in July (SUDO, 31/07/2015). Rape of IDPs by pro-government militia was frequently reported by the local media in North, South, and Central Darfur and Jebel Marra in 2014.

Vulnerable groups

200 Darfuri students have been injured in attacks at Sudanese universities in 2015. Mainly in Khartoum, the attacks involved students members of the ruling National Congress Party. The believed motivation is perceived Darfuri support for the SLM-MM. The increase in violence correlates with the re-election of President al Bashir in April (ACLED, 10/07/2015).

On 4 June, 14 Eritrean asylum seekers were kidnapped as they were transported to Shegarab refugee camp in eastern Sudan (AFP, 04/06/2015).

Mines and ERW

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Documentation

As of March 2014, the Sudanese Government refuses to recognise South Sudanese nationals as refugees and instead considers them to be Sudanese citizens (UNHCR, 03/04/2014). All foreigners in Sudan had to register with the immigration administration by 1 April. UNHCR has declared this constitutes an obstacle to humanitarian assistance.

Updated: 31/08/2015

CAMEROON FOOD INSECURITY, EPIDEMIC, DISPLACEMENT

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

21 August: In response to the number of suicide attacks in the past weeks, Cameroonian authorities forcibly repatriated around 15,000 Nigerians (IRIN).

21 August: Cameroon’s Minister of Transport reported that militants from neighbouring Central African Republic have recently killed several Cameroonian truck drivers (VOA).

KEY CONCERNS

- As of 20 August, there are 81,700 IDPs in Cameroon (OCHA, 20/08/2015).

- There are 314,300 refugees in Cameroon as of 31 July, mostly from Nigeria and CAR (OCHA, 17/08/2015).

- An estimated 1.08 million people are food insecure in 2015 (OCHA, 16/08/2015).

OVERVIEW

Conflict in both Nigeria and CAR continues to displace vulnerable refugees to Cameroon, and spillover from the Boko Haram conflict in Nigeria threatens security in Cameroon. Some 2.1 million people, 10% of the population, are in need of humanitarian assistance, primarily in the Far North, North, Adamawa, and East regions.

Politics and Security

The armed Islamist group Boko Haram (BH), based in Nigeria, has intensified attacks in Cameroon since December 2014 (ECHO, 06/01/2015). They cross into the Far North region from Lake Chad to attack towns, villages, and military vehicles, steal livestock and food, and kidnap individuals. Attacks are concentrated in the Far North region, but have spread southward (AFP, 06/04/2015). BH launched at least 37 BH attacks in northern Cameroon between January and end July (ACLED, 27/07/215).

2,000 extra troops have been deployed to the Far North, raising the total to 8,500 (AFP, 28/07/2015). A military force from Nigeria, Niger, Chad, Cameroon, and Benin is planned to be set up end of August, a month late, in response to the increase in cross-border attacks. The force will be based in Chad (international media, 30/07/2015). Operations against BH so far have included air and ground offensives (Daily Mail, 14/01/2015; New York Times, 05/02/2015). The United States is supplying...
The United States is supplying equipment and logistics training to the Cameroonian military, aiding its efforts to counter BH (VoA, 12/12/2014; Reuters, 17/02/2015).

On 21 August, Cameroon’s Minister of Transport reported that militants from neighbouring Central African Republic have recently killed several Cameroonian truck drivers (VOA, 21/08/2015).

Conflict developments

On 11 August, Boko Haram insurgents killed two soldiers and eight civilians, and then burnt several houses in Blame, town close to Lake Chad (AFP/Yahoo News, 13/08/2015). In the night between 3 and 4 August, Boko Haram insurgents attacked the village of Kangaleri, close to the Nigerian border. Twenty people were killed and several children were abducted (OCHA, 13/08/2015).

During July, members of the insurgent group undertook suicide attacks killing more than 40 people. They also raided villages, leaving eight dead and kidnapping 135 people (AFP, 08/08/2015). Authorities believe the militant group is opting for isolated but targeted attacks on villages or highways (OCHA, 15/06/2015).

Natural Disasters

Floods

Some 40,000 people were affected by floods in the cities of Douala and Yaoundé in June and July. In Douala, heavy rains caused the flooding of 60,000 hectares of land, displacing 2,000 and directly affecting 30,000 (UNISDR, 08/08/2015; IRIN, 03/07/2015; Reuters 26/06/2015).

Displacement

The needs among refugees are largely WASH, shelter, health and education (UNHCR, 23/05/2015; UNHCR, 15/04/2015). There are approximately 81,700 IDPs in Far North region, due to BH attacks (OCHA, 16/06/2015).

IDPs

As of 20 August, there are 81,700 IDPs in Cameroon (OCHA, 20/08/2015). 33,900 are in Mayo-Tsanaga department, 32,680 in Logone-et-Chari, 12,480 in Mayo-Sava, and 2,630 in Diamare. 36% live with host families, 28% live in shared housing and the rest in improvised, damaged, or public buildings. Food security, WASH, and health are the priority needs. Nearly half of IDPs are displaced within the same department. 35,960 people have returned to their place of origin (IOM/UNHCR, 29/06/2015; OCHA, 16/06/2015).

Refugees and asylum seekers

There are 314,300 refugees in Cameroon as of 31 July (OCHA, 17/08/2015).

Central African Republic: At 21 August, there are 251,232 refugees from CAR (UNHCR, 21/08/2015), 131,237 of these having arrived since December 2013 (UNHCR, 12/08/2015). 55% live in camps, 45% are with host communities (UNHCR, 05/06/2015). More than 8,000 have settled in Timangolo, which used to have a population of 13,000; the influx is causing severe strain on food stocks. (IRIN, 11/08/2015).

The Cameroonian government is reportedly arresting refugees from CAR, putting them in camps, and instructing families not to host CAR refugees, due to increased reports of refugees stealing cattle, and even kidnapping ranchers and businessmen for ransom (VOA, 13/08/2015).

Many refugees have crossed without being registered.

Nigeria: At 19 August, there are 56,400 Nigerian refugees registered in Cameroon (OCHA, 19/08/2015). More than 53,000 entered the country since July 2014. The rate of daily arrivals has fluctuated: from 400 per day in April–May, 60–70 daily in June, and 150–300 in August (FAO, 30/06/2015; IRIN, 12/08/2015). Around 1,500 people sought registration in July, due to the recent decision by the Government of Cameroon to increase deportations of undocumented migrants (USAID, 21/08/2015).

The majority of refugees are staying in Minawao camp, which hosts 43,883 people (UNHCR, 31/07/2015). Another 33,000 Nigerians are believed to have found refuge outside the Minawao camp (IRIN, 12/08/2015).

Due to the heightened security situation in the Far North, the government has begun registering Nigerian refugees in the immediate border area, where there are an estimated 12,000–17,000 unregistered refugees (UN, 31/07/2015). In response to the number of suicide attacks in the past weeks, Cameroonian authorities forcibly repatriated around 15,000 Nigerians (IRIN, 21/08/2015).

Refugee returnees

20% of individuals arriving from Nigeria are estimated to be returnees (UN, 21/07/2015).

Host Communities

In most locations, the number of refugees and third-country nationals exceeds the local population. Host communities and refugees are competing over already
inadequate resources and living conditions have become very difficult for host communities (FAO, 11/12/2014).

Humanitarian Access

The limited number of humanitarian actors involved in the response in the Far North has made comprehensive humanitarian intervention almost impossible.

Access of relief actors to affected populations

Heavy rains have prevented WFP trucks carrying food supplies from travelling between Zamai and Minawao (USAID, 21/08/2015).

Security and Physical Constraints

The deterioration of the security situation has made access to the Far North extremely difficult. Although the Cameroonian army have taken back border towns, the area remains insecure (OCHA, 10/04/2015). UN agencies have only been undertaking priority activities such as assisting refugees and some host communities, according to WFP (IRIN, 15/08/2014). Bad road conditions delay the provision of assistance.

Food Security and Livelihoods

Some 1.08 million people are food insecure, mostly in the Far North, North, Adamawa, and East regions, with 244,000 in severe food insecurity (OCHA, 16/06/2015; Reuters; 29/05/2015). 195,600 people are severely food insecure (OCHA, 16/06/2015).

In the Sahel and West Africa about 7.5 million people, including 4.5 million in the Sahel, will be in food and nutrition crisis between June and August (Cadre Harmonisé, 06/2015). In 2014, food insecurity rose dramatically to 24.7 million food insecure people, compared to 2013, when 11.3 million people had inadequate food (OCHA, 03/02/2015).

Food availability

54% of households in the Far North and North regions face shortages. 70% of farmers in the Far North have deserted their farms and missed out on planting (AFP, 28/01/2015). Dryness in the Sahel belt and the strain of hosting so many refugees are also affecting food security (ECHO, 06/01/2015).

Health

As of September 2014, 6.8 million people are in need of health services (IOM, 09/2014).

Healthcare availability and access

Cameroon's Far North, North, Adamawa, and East regions suffer chronic shortages of health workers. 46% of health centres do not have access to electricity and 70% do not have piped water (Inter Press Service, 19/08/2014).

Disease outbreaks

CAR refugees mostly suffer from malnutrition, malaria, and respiratory infections, according to an ECHO needs assessment. A number of measles cases have been reported among child refugees. Acute respiratory infections and malaria are the leading causes of death in refugee camps (UNHCR, 01/03/2015).

Cholera

At end July, 17 cases of cholera have been recorded so far in 2015, including one death. This compares to 1,655 cases during the same period in 2014.

Most cases were in the health districts of Bourha, Hina, Mogode and Mora. In Mogode, four new cases were reported between 11 and 14 August (UNICEF, 24/08/2015).

Malaria

Malaria is the main health issue among the approximately 30,000 refugees and 40,000 IDPs scattered around Kousseri, the capital of Logone-et-Chari department, Far North region (MSF, 29/05/2015).

Measles

In the Northwest region of Cameroon, a measles epidemic has affected more than 300 children and caused several deaths in the first week of July, a result of not vaccinating children (VoA, 11/07/2015).

Nutrition

Nationally, there are 70,000 cases of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and 190,000 cases of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) among children under five (OCHA, 11/06/2015). 39,000 children under five in the Far North are severely malnourished (UNICEF, 23/04/2015). There have been 6,320 cases of SAM in districts hosting IDPs since January (UNICEF, 15/05/2015). The prevalence of SAM in the Far North is 2.0%,
while global acute malnutrition (GAM) is at 9% (UNHCR, 29/03/2015). There were 40% more cases of severe malnutrition in January 2015 compared to the start of 2014 (OCHA, 30/01/2015).

**WASH**

IDPs face a high risk of water-related disease due to lack of adequate water and sanitation facilities in affected areas (UNHCR, 30/06/2015). In Minawao the number of borehole hand-pumps is less than 30 and the number of latrines is only 280. Together with overcrowding, the lack of water and sanitation increases the risk of diseases. Cholera represents a significant risk; more than 100 people died in a cholera outbreak in April (IRIN, 10/08/2015).

**Education**

Only 50% of the primary school-aged children are enrolled in school.

Almost 30,000 children internally displaced by BH are deprived of education (AFP, 12/05/2015). Primary school attendance in camps has increased from 44% to 63%. Secondary school attendance has dropped from 67% to 55%, despite advocacy with parents (UNHCR, 09/06/2015).

**Access and learning environment**

519 schools are open in the Far North, down from 737 before the conflict (IOM/UNHCR, 29/06/2015). In Minawao camp, there are only three primary schools – 21 classrooms – to accommodate more than 6,600 primary school-aged children (IRIN, 12/05/2015).

**Teaching and learning**

There are not enough classrooms nor teachers (UNHCR, 30/06/2015). The majority of people residing in Minawao camp have no formal education or profession (UNHCR, 21/03/2015).

**Protection**

**Gender**

The main protection issues among assessed IDPs are family separation, lack or loss of personal identity documentation, early marriage, and harassment or discrimination (IOM/UNHCR, 29/06/2015).

**Children**

According to some reports, the Police of Cameroon freed 70 people, mostly children, that had been held captive for years in a religious school in Ngaoundere, capital of Adamawa region in northern Cameroon (BBC, 10/08/2015). Other reports indicate that the military was involved in the operation (Daily Mail, 11/08/2015). Approximately 1,500 children have been abducted by Boko Haram in Cameroon since late 2014 (AFP, 04/06/2015). 84 children were illegally detained for six months in the Far North region, after authorities raided Koranic schools under allegations that they were training to join Boko Haram. They were released on 2 July (Amnesty International, 21/06/2015; 01/07/2015).

**Updated: 26/08/2015**

**CHAD FOOD INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT**

**LATEST DEVELOPMENTS**

24 August: Around 10 people died in clashes in the locality of Miski, in Tibesti, northern Chad, between members of the local Toubou tribe and gold prospectors from the Zaghawa community (AFP, 25/08/2015).

**KEY CONCERNS**

- 3 million affected by humanitarian crisis (OCHA, 16/06/2015).
- 435,164 refugees are reported in Chad, including 327,237 from Sudan, 92,499 from CAR, and 13,956 from Nigeria (OCHA, 27/08/2015).
- 2.4 million people in Chad are food insecure: 660,000 are in need of food assistance (OCHA, 27/08/2015; ECHO, 19/08/2015).
- An estimated 210,000 people are living with HIV. 12,000 people died due to AIDS in 2014; 14,000 people were newly infected with HIV (UNAIDS, 07/08/2015).

**Politics and security**

Nigeria and Central African Republic’s conflicts have affected stability in Chad: hundreds of thousands of refugees have entered the country, and Chad’s military is involved.
Chad also hosts 3,000 French troops, deployed to tackle the increasing insecurity in the Sahel region, and the capital N’Djamena serves as headquarters for a regional anti-Boko Haram force (Reuters, 11/07/2015).

Boko Haram: Boko Haram (BH) launched its first cross-border attack in Chad in February and has since carried out 14 attacks on civilians and soldiers in the Lake Chad region (ACLED, 07/2015).

The Chadian Government began military action against Boko Haram in the Lake Chad area in May. Chadian forces pushed BH back from the country’s islands in July, after a surge in attacks (Vice News, 28/07/2015). They bombed BH positions in Nigeria in June, following suicide attacks on the Chadian capital, N’Djamena (AFP, 18/06/2015). 23 civilians were killed and 101 were injured during two suicide bomb attacks on police stations in N’Djamena on 15 June (AFP, 15/06/2015). The border with Cameroon was immediately closed, and 300 Cameroonians were expelled 26–27 June. On 28 June, 60 suspects were arrested and a cell was dismantled in N’Djamena (ICG, 01/07/2015). Security measures have been reinforced, and 395 people of 14 nationalities were arrested in July (UNHCR, 14/07/2015).

Chad first aided Nigerian security forces to reclaim several towns from Boko Haram in Borno state at the beginning of 2015 (AP, 03/02/2015; VoA, 01/02/2015). In March, Chad and Niger launched a joint army operation against BH in Nigeria (Reuters, 08/03/2015).

Nigeria, Niger, Cameroon, Chad, and Benin have agreed to a joint force of 8,700 troops to fight Boko Haram (10/02/2015). It is planned to be set up end of August and will be based in Chad (International media, 30/07/2015).

Conflict developments

On 12 August, the President of Chad reported that Boko Haram’s leader Abubakar Shekau had been ousted and replaced by Mahamat Daoud, one of Shekau’s deputies, who may be more open to peace talks (The Telegraph, 12/08/2015).

Recent security incidents

On 24 August, around 10 people died in clashes in the locality of Miski, in Tibesti, northern Chad, between members of the local Toubou tribe and gold prospectors from the Zaghawa community (AFP, 25/08/2015).

On 11 July, a suicide bomber detonated in N’Djamena, killing 16, including the bomber, and injuring 80 (Reuters, 11/07/2015). On 13 July, BH attacked Tetewa Island on Lake Chad (ACLED, 13/07/2015).

Natural disasters

Floods

As of 27 August, heavy rains have been observed over eastern Chad, and sustained rains are forecast to continue in the following days. Although rains have mitigated the effects of dryness caused by the delayed beginning of the rainy season, excess of rainfall could cause severe damage to the crops (FEWSNET, 27/08/2015).

Displacement

As of August, the total number of displaced people in Chad because of conflict is 111,500 (IDMC, 13/08/2015).

Displacement is mainly caused by the Boko Haram conflict to the west and the CAR conflict to the east. 850,500 displaced people are in Chad, including Chadian returnees; 75,000 of these since January 2015 (OCHA, 13/08/2015; 21/08/2015).

IDPs

75,000 people have been displaced around Lac region since 21 July (MSF, 27/08/2015). This includes tens of thousands evacuated from 65 villages, according to a government announcement of 5 August (ECHO, 05/08/2015).

Nearly 85,500 IDPs are living in protracted displacement in the east, facing difficulties accessing shelter, land, and income-generating activities (IDMC, 02/2015; OCHA, 19/11/2013). In July, 21,300 new IDPS, displaced by the ongoing conflict between the government and Boko Haram, spontaneously settled in 13 small sites in Bagasola, Bol, and surrounding areas, in the Lake Chad region. These people are reported to be in severe need of shelter, NFIs, WASH and food assistance (UNICEF, 25/08/2015).

Refugees and asylum seekers

As of 27 August, the number of refugees in Chad was reported to be 435,164, almost 20,000 less compared to 2014, when the number of registered refugees was 452,897 (OCHA, 27/08/2015; UNHCR 31/12/2014).

Central African Republic (CAR): As of 27 August 2015, there are 92,499 refugees from CAR (OCHA, 27/08/2015). 84,030 live in sites in Amboko, Belom, Dosseye, Doholo, Gondje and Mayo (UNHCR, 01/05/2015; 15/05/2015). 6,690 live in host communities (UNHCR, 03/04/2015).
Nigeria: As of 27 August, 13,956 Nigerian refugees are in Chad (OCHA, 27/08/2015). At 14 July, 7,140 Niger and Nigerian refugees were registered in Dar es Salam site (UNHCR, 14/07/2015; UNICEF, 08/04/2015; UNHCR, 30/04/2015). Estimates indicate that by December 2015 the number of Nigerian refugees could increase to 30,000 (UNHCR, 22/07/2015). Resources are limited for both refugees and host communities, especially food, shelter, and essential household items (OCHA, 12/01/2015).

Sudan: As of 28 August, since 2003, over 400,000 refugees from Sudan are reported to live in Chad, most of them staying in 12 camps in eastern part of the country. Given the reduced funding available, these refugees, together with refugees from CAR, are receiving only 40% of the planned food rations. Since many of these Sudanese have been living in Chad for many years, the camps have evolved almost into local-looking villages (WFP, 28/08/2015).

Refugee returnees

239,854 returnees are reported to be in Chad: 130,000 from CAR, 100,000 from Libya, and 9,854 from Nigeria (OCHA, 27/08/2015). Additionally, there are between 5,000 and 15,000 unregistered returnees (ECHO 27/07/2015).

As of 11 May, some 70,000 returnees were living in five sites in the southwest, as well as in villages in Logone Oriental and Mandoul (IOM, 11/05/2015; OCHA, 28/03/2015). Since then, Sido returnee site has been emptied and most of the 16,000 residents transferred to Maingama site, although 1,330 people who chose to settle in an area to the west of the original site lacked adequate shelter and sanitation facilities as of June (UNICEF, 30/06/2015).

Humanitarian access

Security and physical constraints

Chad’s President Idriss Déby announced in May 2014 that the southern border with CAR would be closed to all except Chadian citizens until the CAR crisis is resolved. The government deployed additional security forces to the border, after expressing concern that armed fighters might be infiltrating refugee populations in the area. Along the border with Nigeria, Chadian security forces are screening road users and their property. Navigation on the Chari River and its tributary, the Logone, which flow along the border of Chad and Cameroon, has been halted (AFP, 30/04/2015). Severe issues reaching people in need of food assistance, including on islands, were reported end July–beginning August (WFP, 04/08/2015).

Food Security and Livelihoods

2.4 million people in Chad are food insecure (OCHA, 27/08/2015). Around 660,000 are in need of food assistance (ECHO, 19/08/2015).

As of 19 August, the food security situation is reported to be worsening. External support is likely to be needed up to February 2016 (FEWSNET, 19/08/2015). Food assistance needs through January 2016 will be higher than last year and the five-year average (FEWSNET, 22/07/2015).

In the Sahel and West Africa about 7.5 million people, including 4.5 million in the Sahel, will be in food and nutrition crisis between June and August (Cadre Harmonisé, 06/2015). In 2014, food insecurity rose dramatically, affecting 24.7 million people, compared to 11.3 million people in 2013 (OCHA, 03/02/2015).

Food availability

El Niño is expected to continue until the end of 2015, reducing precipitation (FAO, 30/06/2015).

Food access

As of 6 August, Sudanese and CAR refugees are reported to be receiving 40% less food rations, due to reduced funding (WFP, 06/08/2015). Sudanese refugees in eastern Chad report that food prices have risen and food rations decreased. INGOs and the UN have adopted a policy to make these refugees less dependent on food aid (local media, 10/06/2015).

Price spikes have been registered all over the country, although a particularly high seasonal increase in the price of sorghum has occurred in Hadjer (25%) and in Logone Oriental (30%), partly due to increased cross-border insecurity and the increase in refugees (WFP, 30/07/2015). The closure of the Nigerian border has led to a drop in cattle prices (UNICEF, 30/06/2015).

Livelihoods

As of 27 August, agricultural conditions are reported to be improving thanks to the increased rains fallen in the last weeks (FEWSNET, 27/08/2015). Livelihoods have been affected by decreased inflows of remittances from family members in Libya due to conflict (IFRC, 30/05/2015).

Health

2.5 million people are in need of healthcare (OCHA, 31/08/2014). Due to the influx of refugees, there is a need to strengthen healthcare activities in host communities and
to recruit more qualified medical personnel (UNHCR, 06/03/2015).

Child health

Only 34% of children under one have been vaccinated in returnee sites in eastern Chad (UNICEF, 10/11/2014).

Disease outbreaks

HIV/AIDS

An estimated 210,000 people are living with HIV in Chad, and prevalence has been stable, at 2.5%, since 2013. However only 30% of people with HIV have access to antiretroviral treatment. 12,000 people died due to AIDS-related illnesses in 2014, and 14,000 were newly infected with HIV (UNAIDS, 07/08/2015). As of April, HIV/AIDS prevalence in Lac region was 10.1%, more than four times the national average (UNHCR, 14/04/2015).

Measles

Between 1 and 15 July, 122 new cases of measles, including two deaths, were registered in Abeche, eastern Chad; 189 cases and three deaths were reported in June (OCHA, 28/07/2015). The outbreak is related to the return of miners from Sudan, where there is a measles epidemic (OCHA, 08/07/2015).

Nutrition

As of 25 August, 154,400 children are reported to be suffering from severe acute malnutrition (SAM) (UNICEF, 25/08/2015). 350,000 children under are projected to have experienced SAM by the end of the year (OCHA, 27/08/2015). In September 2014, the number of children with Severe Acute Malnutrition in Chad was reported to be 152,086 (UNICEF, 30/09/2014).

WASH

1.3 million people are in need of WASH assistance: 55% of the population has access to safe water, compared to 46% in 2012 (UNHCR, 03/03/2015; OCHA, 31/12/2014).

Sanitation

Only 4% of households and 50% of health centres have access to standard sanitation facilities (OCHA, 31/12/2014). There has been only a 9% increase in access to sanitation since 1990, with little or no improvement in the last year (UNICEF, 2015).

Education

An assessment of child refugees from Nigeria showed that 72% of the 296 school-aged children identified had never been to school (OCHA, 21/02/2015; 20/03/2015).

Protection

Gender

One in five women is a victim of physical violence. 35% of girls in Chad are married before the age of 15 and 44% undergo female genital mutilation (OCHA, 26/06/2015).

Children

On 30 June, the National Assembly of Chad ratified the law prohibiting child marriage (marrying before the age of 18) (UNHCR, 14/07/2015). Chad has the third highest rate of child marriage in the world, with 68% of girls being married as children (Girls Not Brides, 2015).

Documentation

Second and third-generation Chadians from CAR have been recognised as de facto nationals by the government, and UNHCR is working with authorities to formalise recognition and avoid statelessness. The government will provide birth certificates to every child born in a transit site (UNHCR, 07/2014).

Updated: 31/08/2015

Djibouti

Drought, Food insecurity, Displacement

No new significant developments this week, 25/08/2015. Last update: 07/07/2015.

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

No new significant developments this week, 25/08/2015. Last update: 07/07/2015.

KEY CONCERNS
- An estimated 300,000 people need humanitarian assistance, including more than 12,000 refugees (ECHO, 01/08/2014; UNICEF, 13/08/2015).

- Humanitarian organisations fear the influx of people from Yemen may worsen an already difficult humanitarian situation in Obock (ECHO, 20/04/2015).

Displacement

Conflict in Yemen has led to an influx of new arrivals from Yemen to Djibouti, in particular to Obock. As of late August, more than 23,000 people have arrived from Yemen since conflict escalated in March – 2,551 of them have been registered as refugees. Djibouti also hosts more than 12,000 refugees from Somalia, Ethiopia, and Eritrea.

Refugees and asylum seekers

12,763 refugees and 2,614 asylum seekers from Somalia, Ethiopia, and Eritrea live in Djibouti, mainly in Ali-Addeh and Holl Holl refugee camps (UNICEF, 13/08/2015). Out of the new arrivals from Yemen, 2,551 have been registered as refugees; 2,410 of these are Yemeni nationals. 1,887 of the registered refugees that have arrived from Yemen are staying in Markazi camp in Obock (UNHCR, 15/08/2015). The UN expects to receive more than 15,000 refugees from Yemen in the next six months (AFP, 14/05/2015).

Returnees

Of the new arrivals from Yemen, 1,840 are Djiboutian returnees (IOM, 20/08/2015).

Other

As of 20 August, 23,360 new arrivals from Yemen have been reported since late March. 10,673 are Yemeni nationals and 10,847 are third-country nationals (IOM, 20/08/2015).

Many of the new arrivals from Yemen that have not been registered as refugees, are staying in Obock or Djibouti cities, often hosted by Djiboutian relatives. Humanitarian actors in the country are concerned that if conflict in Yemen persists, this population may run out of resources and strain the resources of the host communities (UNICEF, 13/08/2015).

Since 26 March, an average of 1,680 people have arrived from Yemen every week (IOM, 04/06/2015).

IOM estimates that over 100,000 migrants, the majority from Ethiopia and Somalia, transit the country every year. Children account for 32% of the migrant population (UNICEF, 15/01/2015). Migrants arrive in dire conditions and vulnerable to a number of protection issues. Migrants report lack of access to food and water during their transit through Obock (UNHCR, 12/2014).

Food Security and Livelihoods

An estimated 162,000 people are expected to face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food security outcomes through December, primarily in Southeastern and Obock regions; typical of the dry and lean season (FEWSNET, 31/07/2015; FEWSNET, 30/06/2015). One in 10 people in Djibouti are severely food insecure; 60% of whom live in rural areas (FAO, 22/06/2015). In Obock, almost 60% of the households are food insecure (FAO, 22/06/2015).

Food availability

Poor cumulative rains are expected to result in reduced livestock productivity and limited milk output (FEWSNET, 06/08/2015). The poor October–February harvest has worsened the food security situation (FEWSNET, 30/06/2015).

Livelihoods

Poor rainfall is expected to result in a decrease in labour opportunities (FEWSNET, 06/08/2015).

Health

In 2014, OCHA reported that 300,000 people were in need of health services. Rates of communicable diseases are high, including diarrhoeal disease. A lack of medicine has been reported at health facilities (WHO, 27/04/2015).

In Markazi camp, cases of diarrhoea have increased. Women have also reported not receiving milk or diapers for their children (UNHCR, 10/07/2015).

Nutrition

According to OCHA, 277,700 people were in need of nutritional aid in 2014, compared to 195,400 in 2013. The SAM rate is 6.1% (Food Security and Nutrition Working Group, 20/05/2015). In Obock region, GAM has been estimated at 29.9% and severe acute malnutrition at 12.1% (UNICEF, 17/04/2015).

WASH

In Obock region, only 40% of the population have access to safe water and only 25% have access to adequate sanitation facilities (UNICEF, 17/04/2015). In Obock, emptying pit latrines is a challenge, as there is no functioning waste management system (UNHCR, 04/07/2015).

Shelter and NFIs
The Migration Transit Centre, hosting Yemeni nationals and third country nationals, has closed. Some transferred to Obock while others remained in the city (UNCHRA, 10/07/2015).

Sandstorms in Obock have damaged parts of infrastructure in the region and in Markazi refugee camp (UNHCR, 21/06/2015).

**Education**

As of January 2015, 41.6% of girls and 33.3% of boys aged 6–10 are out of school (UNICEF, 15/01/2015).

**Politics and Security**

Ethiopia is considered comparatively stable, but deep clan tensions and intra-communal violence persist. Two decades of deadly conflict in the southeastern region of Ogaden have had a severe impact on the Ethiopian ethnic Somali population, especially after years of a relatively successful government counter-insurgency campaign. The Government has yet to address the root causes of the violence. However, weak political opposition, and the Government’s determination to accelerate economic growth all make continued stability likely.

Ethiopia has historically been a key player in peacekeeping and counter-terrorism operations in East Africa. Peace talks on the South Sudan conflict, under the mediation of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, are taking place in Addis Ababa. Ethiopian troops are currently part of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), which has launched an offensive against Al Shabaab, together with the Somali National Army.

**Natural Disasters**

**Drought**

Far below average rainfall during both the March–May and July–September rainy seasons has led to very dry conditions (FEWSNET, 24/08/2015). Many planting activities have been delayed (NOOA, 23/07/2015).

Pasture and water availability have declined in eastern Amhara, Tigray, and Oromia (FEWSNET, 24/08/2015). Water availability improved in half of woredas in Amhara due to good rains in July. Heavy rain is expected to cause flooding in North Wollo and North Shewa. Drought conditions continue in parts of Arsi, Bale, East Shewa, East and West Hararge in Oromia; and in Mirab Abaya of Gamo Gofo zone and Humbo woreda of Wolayita zone in SNNPR (OCHA, 03/08/2015; FEWSNET, 24/08/2015).

**Displacement**

As of June, more than one million people are displaced in Ethiopia, including refugees, IDPs and returnees. The majority of refugees have been displaced by violence in neighbouring countries, such as Somalia, South Sudan and Eritrea. They are mainly

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**ETHIOPIA FOOD INSECURITY**

![Humanitarian crisis severity](severity.png)

**KEY CONCERNS**

- 4.5 million people are estimated in need of food assistance as of August 2015, a dramatic increase from the 2.9 million projected in February (Government, 18/08/2015).

- Ethiopia hosts some 704,800 refugees; mainly Somalis, South Sudanese, Eritreans, and Sudanese (UNHCR, 30/06/2015).

- A majority of refugee camps have reached full capacity. Main concerns include overcrowding, malnutrition, and critical shortfalls in humanitarian aid.

- Some 303,000 severely malnourished children are thought to require nutritional support; an increase of 14% since February (Government, 24/08/2015).

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**OVERVIEW**

They mainly originate from Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, and Eritrea. Though much of the displacement is protracted, with many being displaced for multiple years, a need for assistance remains. Malnutrition is among the main concerns in camps, as well as overcrowding. In addition, much of Ethiopia is facing drought, due to consecutive below-average rainy seasons. This is leading to high levels of food insecurity, particularly in Afar, in Sitti zone of Somali region, and parts of Amhara, Oromia, and SNNPR. Malnutrition has increased significantly. Priority areas are mainly in Afar, Amhara, and Oromia. 4.5 million people are estimated in need of food assistance as of August 2015.
staying in camps in Gambella, Dolo Ado and Shire regions. Many of them have been displaced for more than a year. IDPs are mainly displaced by conflict and flooding in Somali, Gambella and Oromia regions. Since April, nearly 5,000 people escaping the conflict in Yemen have arrived in Ethiopia; they are mainly returnees. Some 34,000 Ethiopian refugees and asylum seekers are in Kenya and Djibouti.

IDPs

As of June 2015, there are 470,261 IDPs in Ethiopia, a decrease from 505,150 in March 2015 (IOM, 09/07/2015). About 10% were displaced between April and June. The majority live in Somali, Gambella and Oromia regions, and were displaced mainly by conflict and flooding. Protracted displacement has arisen from inter-clan and cross-border conflict, and to a lesser extent natural disasters such as fires and flooding (PI, 06/2015).

Refugees and asylum seekers

As of 30 June, Ethiopia hosts some 705,000 refugees; mainly South Sudanese, Somalis, Eritreans, and Sudanese. 36,733 refugees arrived in the first six months of 2015 (UNHCR, 30/06/2015). The majority are staying in camps in Gambella, Dolo Ado and Shire (UNHCR, 30/06/2015). Environmental degradation in camps, the fragile ecosystem, and scarce resources have led to tensions between host communities and refugees in some locations (UNHCR, 20/01/2015).

South Sudan: As of 25 August, 27,707 South Sudanese have entered Gambella since December 2014, bringing the total of South Sudanese refugees in Gambella to 276,206. 67% are children. 71% of the adult population are women (UNHCR, 25/08/2015; 21/08/2015). With an additional 10,093 refugees in Benishangul-Gumuz region near Assosa, the total of South Sudanese refugees in Ethiopia reaches over 286,000 (UNHCR, 19/06/2015; 14/08/2015).

More than 6,200 people arrived in July, an increase from the 2,500 arrivals in June. On average 255 refugees have been arriving per day. The majority are fleeing generalised violence and food insecurity in Jonglei and Upper Nile states (UNHCR, 30/06/2015; 21/07/2015; 27/07/2015). They are mainly arriving through Pagak, Matar, Akobo, Burbiey, and Raad entry points. At 25 August, more than 13,087 South Sudanese were awaiting transfer to camps at entry points (UNHCR, 25/08/2015). Gaps in food, water, shelter, and health services have been reported for new arrivals (OCHA, 27/07/2015).

The majority of South Sudanese are staying in camps: 62,830 refugees are in Pugnido, 52,231 in Tierkidi, 47,448 in Kule, 46,300 in Jewi, and 7,795 in Okugo. 47,448 people are staying with host communities (UNHCR, 07/08/2015). A new camp, Pugnido II, is being developed. It is expected to accommodate more than 75,000 people (UNHCR, 21/08/2015).

Somalia: As of June, there are 247,700 Somali refugees in Ethiopia, including 2,285 who have arrived since January 2015 (UNHCR, 07/07/2015). Most are located in Dolo Ado camps (UNHCR, 30/06/2015).

Eritrea: As of July, Ethiopia hosts 139,039 Eritrean refugees, including 33,000 arrivals in 2014 (ECHO, 17/04/2015; OCHA, 03/08/2015). In the week to 3 August, on average 157 new refugees arrived daily, the majority being students and unaccompanied or separated children. High levels of secondary movement are thought to have reduced the number of refugees to less than a third of those registered (OCHA, 03/08/2015).

Sudan: As of April, there are 36,606 Sudanese refugees in Ethiopia (UNHCR, 30/04/2015).

Yemen: 4,717 people have arrived from Yemen (97 of whom are Ethiopian returnees) (IOM, 13/08/2015). Some people have been injured in the conflict, and many are in need of transport and shelter (IOM, 26/05/2015; 23/07/2015).

Refugee returnees

97 Ethiopians have returned from Yemen (IOM, 13/08/2015).

159 Ethiopian refugees have returned from Djibouti (IOM, 07/04/2015).

Ethiopian refugees in neighbouring countries

As of 1 January, there were 3,275 Ethiopian refugees and asylum seekers in Djibouti (UNHCR, 31/01/2015). As of 7 July, there were 31,023 Ethiopian refugees and asylum seekers in Kenya (UNHCR, 07/07/2015).

Humanitarian Access

Logistical constraints at the Djibouti port have delayed food and nutrition assistance, but are expected to ease in the second half of 2015 (OCHA, 03/08/2015).

Food Security and Livelihoods

Households in northeast Ethiopia are facing Crisis and Emergency (IPC Phases 3 and 4) food security outcomes (Food Security and Nutrition Working Group, 22/05/2015). Estimations indicate an increase from 2.9 to 3.9 million people in need of assistance (ECHO, 10/07/2015).

Belg-dominant areas in SNNPR, northeast Amhara, southern Tigray, and central and eastern Oromia will be facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food security outcomes from July to September. With humanitarian assistance in addition to the anticipated delayed and below-average belg and meher harvests, poor households in these areas will face Stressed (IPC Phase 2) food security outcomes from October to December. Poor pastoral households in...
In southern Afar and Sitti zone in Somali region, two consecutive seasons of below-average rain and well-below-average rain since March have led to very low pasture, browse and water availability, resulting in poor livestock body conditions and declines in productivity. In these drought-affected areas, unseasonal livestock migration and livestock deaths have been reported. Poor livestock conditions and productivity are also reported in eastern Oromia, and in eastern Tigray and Amhara. Household incomes have not increased as they normally would after the start of the rains (FEWSNET, 24/08/2015; 14/08/2015; ECHO, 10/07/2015).

Delayed and poorly distributed belg rains have delayed the harvest, extending the lean season until September instead of August in SNNPR, northeast Amhara, south Tigray and areas of central and eastern Oromia (FEWSNET, 14/08/2015). Many sorghum and maize crops have wilted in eastern Amhara, Tigray and Oromia (FEWSNET, 24/08/2015). In SNNPR, maize production is also well below average. The region received 20–50% less rain than in a typical year, and the planted area is less than 60% (FEWSNET, 26/06/2015; 24/08/2015). The meher harvest is also anticipated below average (FEWSNET, 14/08/2015).

Increased pasture resulting from expected average to above average October–December deyr rains will increase livestock production and food availability among pastoral households (FEWSNET, 14/08/2015).

Income from agricultural activities has decreased, and stocks are depleting (FEWSNET, 27/06/2015). Staple food prices have been increasing since March, contrary to a usual seasonal decrease from June onwards, increasing the pressure on vulnerable households (ECHO, 10/07/2015). Due to high staple food prices, poor households in southeastern and southern pastoral areas do not have enough income to pay for essential non-food expenses. In southern Shebelle and Afdar, and Liben zones of Somali region, and in the lowlands of Borena zone in Oromia, income from livestock and food access remain below normal (FEWSNET, 14/08/2015).

In southern Afar and Sitti zone of Somali region will to continue to face Crisis outcomes, even with the presence of humanitarian assistance, at least until December (FEWSNET, 14/08/2015; 24/08/2015).

Food insecurity is expected to persist in the coming months, as the ongoing El Niño phenomenon will continue to negatively affect rainfall throughout 2015 and in the first months of 2016 (OCHA, 24/08/2015). Staple food prices have been increasing since March, contrary to a usual seasonal decrease from June onwards, increasing the pressure on vulnerable households (ECHO, 10/07/2015). Due to high staple food prices, poor households in southeastern and southern pastoral areas do not have enough income to pay for essential non-food expenses. In southern Shebelle and Afdar, and Liben zones of Somali region, and in the lowlands of Borena zone in Oromia, income from livestock and food access remain below normal (FEWSNET, 14/08/2015).

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Health

There is an increasing risk of water-related diseases in areas where surface water sources were replenished in May and June, including in Oromia (OCHA, 27/07/2015). Malaria is the main illness in refugee camps (UNHCR, 19/06/2015).

Nutrition

Acute malnutrition is rapidly increasing. In some areas, a more than 20% increase in acute malnutrition cases has been reported (ECHO, 10/07/2015). Priority areas are mostly in Afar, Oromia and Amhara regions. 348 woredas have been identified as high priority areas as of 15 May (OCHA, 04/06/2015). In February there were 90 priority areas (OCHA, 08/06/2015). As of early July, 21 of 97 priority 1 woredas have no ongoing nutrition intervention. The largest gaps are in Sitti zone of Somali region, south and east Oromia, Afar and Tigray regions (Nutrition Cluster, 16/07/2015). Priority 2 woredas, which are across the country, are expected to deteriorate into priority 1 areas in September without timely intervention, increasing the number of children in need of emergency nutritional support, due to continued water shortages and below-average and delayed harvests (OCHA, 30/06/2015; 06/07/2015). In May, more than 26,000 severe acute malnutrition (SAM) cases were admitted across the country, compared to 18,300 in January (OCHA, 13/07/2015). Based on the number of admissions to therapeutic feeding programmes, the current situation has not yet reached the critical levels seen in the drought of 2011 (Nutrition Cluster, 17/06/2015).

Refugees

The nutrition situation has improved somewhat in Gambella, though it remains critical, with 20.9% GAM and 4.8% SAM in 2015, compared to 29.3% and 8.9%, respectively, in 2014 (UNHCR, 30/04/2015). At Matar entry point in Gambella, an initial screening of 966 children under five showed 7.8% GAM and 2.6% SAM (UNHCR, 07/08/2015). Based on the number of admissions to therapeutic feeding programmes, the current situation has not yet reached the critical levels seen in the drought of 2011 (Nutrition Cluster, 17/06/2015).

WASH

Water supply

Water shortages continue in parts of Oromia region, and 95,000 people in Sitti zone of Somali region are in need of immediate water trucking support. Many other people in the region continue to be at high risk of water shortage. In SNNPR, people have turned to unprotected water sources as surface water has not been replenished (OCHA, 03/08/2015).
Water supply in most camps in Gambella is below the UNHCR standard of 20L per person per day: 22L in Okugo, 17L in Tierkidi, 16L in Kule, 17L in Pugnido, and 8L in Jewi (UNHCR, 21/08/2015). Water quality and quantity meet minimum standards in Gambella and Dolo Ado camps (UNHCR, 30/04/2015).

Sanitation

Sanitation in Gambella has improved, and latrine to user ratios in the camps are better than the UNHCR standard of 1:50. Ratios are 1:26 in Tierkidi, 1:11 in Kule, 1:33 in Pugnido, 1:25 in Okugo, and 1:49 in Jewi (UNHCR, 07/08/2015).

Hygiene

In Gambella, poor hygiene practices continue to negatively affect the nutrition status of refugees (UNHCR, 30/04/2015).

Shelter and NFIs

Shelter

Refugees in Jewi camp, who were relocated from Leitchuor and Nip Nip camps, still need shelter support. They are living in temporary shelters, which have a short life span. Other priority needs are food and security (NRC, 23/07/2015).

Protection

Children

There are more than 36,000 unaccompanied and separated minors in Ethiopia: 19,570 are South Sudanese children in Gambella (UNHCR, 21/07/2015; 14/08/2015).

Updated: 26/08/2015

GAMBIA FOOD INSECURITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Severity</th>
<th>Humanitarian crisis</th>
<th>Pre-crisis vulnerability</th>
<th>% population affected</th>
<th>Humanitarian access</th>
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<td>Moderate</td>
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See the methodology note for details.

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

No new significant developments this week, 25/08/2015. Last update: 28/07/2015.

KEY CONCERNS

- Over March-May, 412,000 people were in IPC Phase 2 (Stressed) food insecurity, and 101,000 were in IPC Phases 3-5 (Crisis – Famine) food insecurity. Numbers are projected to increase over June-August 2015 (FAO/WFP, 31/03/2015).

- 10,000 children suffer from severe acute malnutrition (OCHA, 10/02/2015; 13/02/2015).

OVERVIEW

400,000 people face Crisis-Famine (IPC Phases 3-5) food security outcomes and 120,000 face Stressed (IPC Phase 2) food security outcomes over the lean season. At 2% of the requested USD 24 million, the humanitarian appeal for the Gambia is the least funded in the world (Financial Tracking System, 06/2015).

Refugees in the Gambia

As of September 2014, around 9,500 refugees, mostly Senegalese from the Casamance region, lived in the Gambia (OCHA, 31/08/2014). Smaller numbers of refugees come from Liberia, Sierra Leone, Côte d’Ivoire, and Togo.

Food Security and Livelihoods

406,000 people are projected to be in Crisis–Famine (IPC Phases 3–5) and 126,000 in Stressed (IPC Phase 2) food security outcomes over the June–September lean season. Over March–May, 101,000 were in Crisis–Famine, and 412,000 people were Stressed (FAO, WFP, 31/03/2015).

Food availability

Planting and livestock health have been affected by dry ground conditions caused by low levels of rainfall (FEWSNET, 24/07/2015).

2014–2015 cereal production was 16% lower than the previous year, which has increased food prices (FEWSNET, 03/04/2015; IFRC, 13/05/2015). The late onset and deficit of rains has also negatively impacted livestock production, which makes up 25% of annual agricultural GDP (IFRC, 13/05/2015).

Aggregate cereal production in 2014 dropped by 75% compared to 2013, due to irregular rains causing poor growing conditions. Production of groundnut, the main cash crop, is estimated to have declined by more than 80% (FAO, 05/11/2014).
The Ebola epidemic in neighbouring countries has led to a 60% decline in tourism, a significant source of income (Reuters, 12/02/2015).

Sahel Food Crisis: Regional Overview

During the lean season (June–August), 7.4 million are projected to be in Crisis and Emergency food insecurity across the Sahel and West Africa, and 26.6 million to be Stressed (Cadre Harmonisé, 04/2015). In 2014, food insecurity rose dramatically to 24.7 million food insecure people, compared to 2013, when 11.3 million people had inadequate food (OCHA, 03/02/2015).

Protection

According to Amnesty International, journalists and members of oppositional parties are regularly subject to arbitrary arrests. Torture has been reported in prisons (Amnesty International, 24/07/2015).

Kenya is considered relatively stable in the Horn of Africa and held peaceful presidential elections in March 2013. However, the country remains ethnically polarised and affected by two decades of conflict in neighbouring Somalia. The implementation of a devolution process, land reform, and national reconciliation all challenge stability in a country where institutions are perceived to be weak.

The frequency and scale of militant attacks in Kenya have increased dramatically since 2011, when Kenyan troops began operating in Somalia. The nature of the violence has also changed. Al Shabaab has built a cross-border presence and clandestine support network among the Muslim population in the northeast, in Nairobi, and on the coast. Non-Muslims continue to be targeted. Since April 2013, more than 400 people have been killed by Al Shabaab in Kenya (Reuters, 26/05/2015; The Guardian, 26/05/2015). Kenyan forces are involved in a new military offensive targeting Al Shabaab in Somalia’s Gedo region, along the Kenyan border (BBC, 22/07/2015).

The increasing radicalisation of the ethnic Somali Muslim population is allegedly fuelled by systematic ethnic profiling and discrimination. Muslims make up 11% of Kenya’s 40 million population.

Between April and June 2015, an increase in attacks by armed opposition groups (including Al Shabaab) was reported, particularly in Garissa and Lamu counties, but Mandera and Wajir are also affected. Attacks by these groups caused the deaths of 186 people and injured 144 in 39 incidents (OCHA, 04/08/2015).

In addition, deadly inter-communal violence remains common in a number of areas, particularly in Turkana and Baringo.

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In addition, deadly inter-communal violence remains common in a number of areas, particularly in Turkana and Baringo.
and northeastern counties along the border with Somalia, including Wajir, Mandera, and Lamu. The deadliest attack so far happened in April in Garissa, when 148 people were killed (BBC, 07/07/2015).

Fifteen Al Shabaab attacks have been recorded since February 2015 (ACLED, 27/07/2015). Since July, attacks have mainly occurred in Lamu county. Around 20 people have been killed (AFP, 07/07/2015; 14/07/2015). On 15 August, Al Shabaab militants stormed a village in Lamu county. No casualties or injured were reported, but many people fled to neighbouring towns (Kenya Daily Nation, 18/08/2015).

Inter-communal Violence

Growth in the population of both people and livestock has led to more frequent cattle raiding and violence, fed by the availability of small arms. The northern Rift Valley and northeastern regions are most affected. In the first half of 2015, inter-communal violence caused 310 deaths and 195 injuries in 273 recorded incidents, and led to the displacement of 216,294. A comparable number of people were killed, injured and displaced between January and November 2014, indicating the situation has since deteriorated. Most affected counties are Turkana, Baringo, Samburu, Marsabit and Isiolo. Conflict occurs particularly between Pokot and Turkana communities, and between Samburu and Turkana (OCHA, 04/08/2015; 31/11/2014).

In Tana River county, clashes occurred between pastoralist Wardei and farmer Giriama communities in early August. Six people died, several were injured, and more than 2,000 were displaced. No major incident has been reported in the area since 5 August (OCHA, 21/08/2015).

In Samburu county, four people were injured in a gunfight over an attempted livestock raid by Samburu on Turkana herders on 25 July. On 22 July, clashes in Garissa county killed two people. On 21 July, two people were killed in Wajir county in a dispute between Ajuran and Degodia clans. In Turkana, Pokot raiders attacked Turkana homesteads several times in July, leaving two killed, four injured and more than 2,100 livestock seized (CrisisWatch, 01/08/2015).

Natural Disasters

Drought

The Government has warned of a severe drought in Mandera county, following poor rains April–May. Few parts of the county received near-normal rain and the majority experienced a severe rain deficit. Areas that received rain have dried up due to livestock migration in search of water and pasture. Pastoralists are moving along the Daua River to Ethiopia and to parts of Wajir county. In areas with a high concentration of livestock, the only water source are boreholes; water pumps have dried up (Kenya Daily Nation, 30/06/2015).

Displacement

Kenya’s refugee population is among the largest in the world, with nearly 600,000 refugees as of 7 July. The large majority have fled conflict in Somalia and South Sudan. Refugees are mostly staying in camps, particularly in the Dadaab and Kakuma camp complexes. Many refugees have been in the country for several years. In 2015, some 8,000 new arrivals have been reported from Somalia and South Sudan. Other refugees originate from Burundi, DRC, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Sudan, and Uganda. In addition, more than 200,000 Kenyans were internally displaced due to inter-communal conflict in the first half of 2015.

IDPs

In the first half of 2015, inter-communal conflict led to the displacement of 216,294 people. The majority were in Mandera (103,000), Turkana (69,900), and Wajir (22,800).

Some 40 families (165 individuals) have fled Milimani and Mangai villages in Lamu, and are staying in Bodhai. They are in urgent need of food and water (Kenya Daily Nation, 18/08/2015).

Inter-communal conflict in early August displaced 2,191 people in Tana River county (OCHA, 21/08/2015).

Refugees and asylum seekers

As of 1 August, Kenya is hosting 590,776 refugees and asylum seekers (UNHCR, 06/08/2015). 222,787 are in Dadaab, 127,245 in Alinjugur, 184,393 in Kakuma and 57,351 in Nairobi (UNHCR, 01/08/2015).

From Somalia: As of 1 August, 421,626 Somali refugees are in Kenya (UNHCR, 01/08/2015). 2589 new refugees have been registered since January 2015 (UNHCR, 11/08/2015). 13,162 arrived in 2014, representing a considerable drop in arrivals (UNHCR, 01/04/2015; 06/05/2015). Most are in the northeastern Dadaab and Alinjugur refugee camp complexes, which host more than 350,000 people as of 31 July (UNHCR, 31/07/2015). They remain almost completely dependent on humanitarian aid (local media, 19/06/2015). Security in Dadaab and along the border with Somalia is volatile, with frequent incidents and implications for the safety of humanitarian workers (ECHO, 17/04/2015).

The Tripartite Agreement between the Kenyan and Somali Governments and UNHCR, signed in November 2013, establishes the legal framework for Somali refugees wishing to return home (IOM, UNHCR, 09/12/2014). As of 23 August, 3,431 returnees had arrived in Somalia (UNHCR, 23/08/2015).

From South Sudan: The total population of South Sudanese refugees in Kenya is 92,757 as of 1 August (UNHCR, 01/08/2015). 46,666 South Sudanese refugees have arrived since mid-December 2013 (UNHCR, 21/08/2015). 5,018 of the refugees have registered in 51
since January 2015 (UNHCR, 30/06/2015). They are mainly living in Kakuma camp. 64% are children (UNICEF, 05/02/2015). The trend of daily arrivals remains low, with 71 people arriving from 14-20 August (UNHCR, 20/08/2015).

On 19 June, land for a new camp in Kalobeyei, some 20km from Kakuma camp, was officially handed over by the local government in Turkana county. The camp will be able to accommodate 80,000 people. Kakuma camp, which has far exceeded its capacity of 125,000, was hosting 184,527 refugees as of 25 June. 50% of Kakuma camp’s residents are South Sudanese (UNHCR, 26/06/2015; Reuters, 20/06/2015). The overpopulation and burden on services is causing friction among communities (UNHCR, 14/11/2014).

From Burundi: As of 1 August, there are 7,518 refugees from Burundi, mostly in Kakuma camp. The majority arrived before electoral violence began in Burundi in 2015 (UNHCR, 01/08/2015).

From DRC: As of 1 August, there are 22,647 DRC refugees and asylum seekers in Kenya, including 5,040 who have registered since January 2015 (UNHCR, 01/08/2015; 30/06/2015).

From Ethiopia: As of 1 August, there are 30,914 Ethiopian refugees and asylum seekers in Kenya (UNHCR, 01/08/2015).

From Eritrea: As of 1 August, 1,639 Eritrean refugees reside in Kenya (UNHCR, 07/07/2015).

From Sudan: As of 1 August, there are 10,234 refugees and asylum seekers from Sudan in Kenya (UNHCR, 01/08/2015).

From Uganda: As of 1 August, 1,796 refugees from Uganda reside in Kenya (UNHCR, 01/08/2015).

Humanitarian Access

Access of relief actors to affected populations

42 MSF staff have been relocated from Dadaab to Nairobi, following a series of incidents. Two of four health posts have closed and some medical services, including antenatal care, have been suspended (MSF, 27/05/2015). The Kenya Red Cross has moved staff from the camp to Dadaab town. International NGOs residing in Dadaab town have temporarily suspended movement to the camps (OCHA, 15/06/2015).

So far in 2015, 33 security incidents involving NGOs have been reported, including one fatality, one abduction, and six injuries (INSO, 26/08/2015).

Food Security and Livelihoods

As of May 2015, conflict-affected areas in the northeast are facing Crisis and Emergency (IPC Phases 3 and 4) food security outcomes. Food security is categorised as Minimal (IPC Phase 1) in western Kenya, but Stressed (IPC Phase 2) in most pastoral areas. At least 1.6 million people are acutely food insecure, due to constrained food access, high food prices, and below-average rains (Food Security and Nutrition Working Group, 22/05/2015).

Food insecurity is expected to increase between July and October. Parts of Isiolo North and Wajir West sub-counties will continue to face Crisis food security outcomes until at least September, due to deteriorating livestock conditions, low water availability and low milk production. After October, the situation is expected to improve as a result of above-average rainfall in pastoral areas (FEWSNET, 01/08/2015).

WFP has cut food rations by 30% since mid-June in Kakuma and Dadaab camps due to limited resources. The ration cuts are expected to continue until December 2015 (UNHCR, 15/08/2015; WFP, 30/06/2015). Further ration cuts might be necessary in Dadaab camps to stretch available resources (WFP, 10/07/2015).

Food availability

Food security is seasonally deteriorating in coastal agricultural areas. The majority of households depleted their stocks much earlier than usual, owing to a well-below-average short rains harvest; there has been little demand for agricultural labour (FEWSNET, 01/08/2015).

The pastoral lean season started early in July, and availability of pasture and water is decreasing. Livestock body conditions remain good. In some pastoral areas, including northern Isiolo, western Wajir, eastern Mandera, eastern Samburu and parts of Marsabit, below-average rainfall has not improved food security or rangeland conditions as seasonally expected (FEWSNET, 01/08/2015).

Food access

Insecurity is making pasture inaccessible in Samburu North (FEWSNET, 01/08/2015).
Insecurity in northern, eastern, and coastal regions has led to the departure of many health actors since December 2014, negatively impacting healthcare provision and nutrition assistance (OCHA, 04/08/2015). Eleven of 26 health facilities in Mandera have closed because staff have left the county (UNICEF, 05/02/2015).

Cholera continues to affect 17 counties (Government, 21/07/2015).

Healthcare availability and access

Health posts are often overcrowded in the refugee camps, such as in Kambioos and Ifo camps, Dadaab, where minimum consultation times are negatively affecting the quality of services (UNHCR, 11/08/2015).

Cholera

A cholera outbreak was declared in Dadaab camp, after nine suspected cases were reported (UNHCR, 15/08/2015).

A cholera outbreak has been ongoing in Kenya since December 2014. More than 5,000 cases and 98 deaths have been reported (Government, 21/07/2015). Migori has reported over 128 cases since 20 July, and four people died of cholera in five days, leading to closure of a school where children were infected. Kisumu has reported 30 cases since 20 July (MSF, 27/07/2015; Kenya Daily Nation, 01/08/2015). The overall case fatality rate (CFR) is 1.9% (OCHA, 15/06/2015). The highest CFRs are in Trans Nzoia (14.3%) and Machakos (6.3%) counties (Government, 30/06/2015).

Nutrition

Since a peak in February there has been a continued reduction in the number of admissions to therapeutic feeding programmes (WFP, 27/05/2015). Global acute malnutrition (GAM) rates in February 2015 were highest in Wajir West (22.6%), Wajir East and South (17.4%), northern Garissa (15.2%), and Isiolo (13.2%). The nutrition situation in Isiolo, Garissa, Mandera, and Wajir counties was expected to worsen due to poor rains (UNICEF, 30/06/2015).

WASH

Water supply

As of 24 July, Kakuma 4 camp residents have access to an average of 17.5L of water per person per day – below minimum standards (UNHCR, 24/07/2015).

Sanitation

The latrine to user ratio in Kakuma 4 camp is 1:15, conforming to the UNHCR minimal standard (UNHCR, 26/06/2015).

Shelter and NFIs

Shelter

Dadaab refugee camps are overcrowded. In Kambioos camp, many people are staying in tents that have a lifespan of six–seven months. In Ifo camp, some shelters have not been replaced since the founding of the camp in 1991 (UNHCR, 11/08/2015).

Access and learning environment

More than 20 schools have reopened in Baringo, West Pokot, Samburu and Turkana counties due to improved security. They had been closed since May, due to violence along the borders between the counties (AllAfrica, 01/07/2015).

Teaching and learning

The absence of 1,600 teachers in conflict-affected counties leaves 80,000 children without access to education (UNICEF, 30/06/2015). More than 1,000 teachers have refused to go back to Baringo, Mandera, Garissa and Wajir since January due to insecurity (local media, 26/05/2015). Secondary schools are most affected, but primary schools along the Kenya–Somalia border are also without teachers (local media, 21/05/2015).

Protection

In January, Human Rights Watch issued a report highlighting serious human rights violations, including extrajudicial killings, arbitrary detentions and torture by security forces (HRW, 29/01/2015). There are reports of Somali refugees being mistreated by security forces in their efforts to confront Al Shabaab (BBC, 01/06/2015).

Gender

In Dadaab, 533 cases of SGBV have been reported between January and June 2015, compared to 623 during the same period in 2014. The majority of cases (96%) affected women, 9% affected children, and 4% men. Limited safe spaces are predisposing women and children to danger; poverty resulting from a lack of livelihood opportunities is a factor for abuse and exploitation; and long distances to basic requirements such as firewood expose women and children to heightened protection risks (UNHCR, 31/07/2015).
There were three cases of SGBV reported in Kakuma camp from 17-23 July (UNHCR, 23/07/2015).

Children

30,892 unaccompanied minors are among the refugee population (UNHCR, 31/05/2015). In Kakuma camp, the cumulative number of separated and unaccompanied children is 15,507, including 2,836 from South Sudan (UNHCR, 23/07/2015; 25/06/2015).

Trafficking of separated South Sudanese children is a growing phenomenon in Kenya. Traffickers find the children on their way to or inside refugee camps and take them to southern Africa, often Malawi, where they are used as slaves (Jesuit Refugee Service, 14/01/2015).

Updated: 26/08/2015

LIBERIA FOOD INSECURITY, EPIDEMIC

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

No new significant developments this week, 26/08/2015. Last update: 19/08/2015.

KEY CONCERNS

- Since the beginning of the outbreak in March 2014, 10,672 Ebola cases have been reported in Liberia, including 4,808 deaths (IOM, 11/08/2015, WHO, 26/08/2015). The utility of case numbers has been questioned; statistics are reported to be highly unreliable (CDC, 09/2014; international media, 20/11/2014).

- Over 70,000 births were not registered during the Ebola crisis in Liberia, hindering access to services and increasing the risk for the children to be trafficked (UNICEF, 31/07/2015).

- 16% or 640,000 Liberians are food insecure; 5% are reported to be severely food insecure, which equates to around 200,000 people (LFSA, 30/06/2015).

- There is insufficient capacity to meet non-Ebola medical needs, leading to an increase in non-Ebola related morbidity and mortality.

For more information on the Ebola crisis in West Africa, visit the ACAPS Ebola Needs Analysis Project page.

Politics and Security

The Security Council has extended the mandate of the UN Mission in Liberia until 30 September 2015, in light of the consequences of the Ebola outbreak for national reform (UNSC, 15/12/2014).

Political Instability

Peacebuilding work has been severely impact by the Ebola outbreak, threatening the progress made in the last six years (ACCORD, 26/08/2015).

In mid-June, an armed group of 200 people crossed into Liberia from Côte d’Ivoire and seized control of an area in the heavily forested border region. They are reportedly from the Mossi tribe. Reports suggest they have displaced some 2,000 people (AFP, 12/06/2015).

Displacement

Refugees and asylum seekers

Liberia is hosting around 40,038 refugees, asylum seekers and others of concern, including 38,102 refugees from Côte d’Ivoire who fled electoral violence in 2010 (UNHCR, 30/04/2015). On 12 March, UNHCR, Liberia, and Côte d’Ivoire agreed to resume voluntary repatriation, after it was suspended due to Ebola (UNHCR, 23/04/2015; international media, 23/04/2015). Repatriation has not started, but is scheduled to begin before elections take place in Côte d’Ivoire in October (international media, 23/06/2015). It is unclear whether the most recent outbreak will affect the schedule for repatriation.

Humanitarian Access

Access of affected populations to assistance

Liberia’s rainy season began in late May and is due to end in October (FEWSNET, 31/05/2015). The rainy season has made access to remote communities very challenging (UNICEF, 05/08/2015).

Food Security and Livelihoods

According to the Liberia Food Security Assessment, in June, 16% or 640,000 Liberians are food insecure. 5% are severely food insecure, which equates to around
Liberians are food insecure. 5% are severely food insecure, which equates to around 200,000 people (LFSA, 30/06/2015). As Liberia has entered the lean season, Stressed (IPC Phase 2) food security outcomes for poor households are expected until September 2015 (FEWSNET, 30/06/2015). Severely food insecure households have very limited or no rice stocks, making them particularly vulnerable to the ongoing lean season (June–September) (LFSA, 30/06/2015).

Livelihoods

33% of respondents of a FEWSNET trader survey reported less wage opportunities than average for this time of year, although daily wage rates increased by an average of 2% between May and June (FEWSNET, 08/07/2015; WFP, 30/07/2015).

In the Liberia Food Security Assessment, 18% of households reported using emergency coping strategies such as begging (LFSA, 30/06/2015). Areas in the southeast and in Bong county have increased the use of coping strategies as the lean season continues (WFP, 30/07/2015). WFP reports that urban households tend to use fewer coping strategies than rural ones (WFP, 31/03/2015).

Food availability

35% of households with access to farmland did not harvest last season. 21% have reported a decrease in rice production (LFSA, 30/06/2015).

Food access

The southeastern region, particularly River Gee and Grand Kru, is among the areas most affected by food insecurity. They report restricted access to markets to purchase or sell surplus produce (LFSA, 30/06/2015).

Increased unemployment rates are likely contributing to reduced household food access (FEWSNET, 01/05/2015). The total household incomes are expected to remain below-average throughout September, reducing the access to food purchase in markets (FEWSNET, 31/07/2015). Reduced household purchasing power, as a consequence of the Ebola outbreak, was registered in July (FEWSNET, 18/08/2015).

Over 21% of respondents to a FEWSNET survey reported that the most important market in their area was operating at reduced levels. This has been attributed to high transport costs linked to the rainy season (FEWSNET, 08/07/2015).

Health

Nearly all health facilities in the country are open, but most are operating at reduced levels compared to before the Ebola outbreak. The whole region has recorded 27,748 cumulative Ebola cases, including 11,279 deaths (UN 26/03/2015; WHO, 29/07/2015).

More border points with Guinea and Sierra Leone are opening officially on both sides, although there are concerns about critical gaps in infection control supplies, particularly on the Guinean side (UNMEER, 15/03/2015; UNMEER; 15/04/2015).

Healthcare availability and access

The Ebola outbreak has significantly reduced vaccination rates. DTP3 (diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis) vaccinations have decreased by 53% since 2013 (UN, 26/03/2015).

Maternal Health

In the three most-affected countries, deliveries in health facilities and the number of assisted births have decreased. Antenatal consultations had decreased by 40–43%, while institutional deliveries decreased by 37–38% by the end of 2014, compared to 2013 (UN, 26/03/2015, MoH, 07/04/2015).

Mental Health

A need for access to mental health and psychosocial support remains, especially for survivors, orphans, and the bereaved (UNMEER, 22/02/2015).

There is only one psychiatrist and there are no psychologists in Liberia (PI, 21/03/2015).

Disease outbreaks

Ebola

In recent weeks, there has been an increase in the number of cases in Sierra Leone along the border of Liberia; as of 24 June there are no plans to close the borders (USAID, 16/06/2015; International Media, 24/06/2015). As of 28 July, borders remain open, but regular checks at cross points and in communities living on the border are maintained (IFRC, 28/07/2015).

Liberia was declared Ebola-free on 9 May, however a new case was confirmed on 29 June (NYT, 29/06/2015), discovered post-mortem in Nedowein, a town close to the international airport. Six cases have been confirmed since June 29; two died and the other four were discharged after successful treatment. As of 26 August, no new cases have been reported in Liberia since the week ending 12 July and all contacts have completed their 21-day follow-up period (WHO, 26/08/2015).

Since the beginning of the outbreak in March 2014, 10,672 Ebola cases have been reported in Liberia, including 4,808 deaths (IOM, 11/08/2015). The utility of case...
numbers has been questioned; statistics are reported to be highly unreliable (CDC, 09/2014; international media, 20/11/2014).

Around 5,000 people are estimated to have survived Ebola in Liberia (International SOS, 13/08/2015). According to WHO, 25% of Ebola survivors experience some change in vision, with rare severe cases reporting to have developed blindness (Reuters, 07/08/2015).

Over 3% of health workers have been infected by Ebola; 2% of health workers have died of the disease (UNICEF, 29/04/2015).

Containment measures: The Government has threatened to shut down all schools and restaurants that lack WASH facilities (All Africa, 30/04/2015).

Measles

As of 2 June, more than 850 cases of measles have been confirmed, including seven deaths across ten counties. 67% of cases were among children under five. Grand Bassa (160), Margibi (85), and Montserrado (65) reported most cases (OCHA, 01/05/2015; WHO, 02/06/2015).

Some people suspected to have measles have abandoned their homes to avoid specimen collection and testing (UNMEER, 27/03/2015).

A mass vaccination campaign took place between 8–14 May, targeting around 700,000 children for both measles and polio (WHO, 02/06/2015; All Africa, 24/04/2015).

Nutrition

52,000 children are estimated to be at risk of severe acute malnutrition (SAM). Relative to trends observed from 1992–2012, malnutrition prevalence is forecast to increase by 2.8–5.3% between 2014 and 2016 (UN Development Group, 11/03/2015).

The six counties prioritised by responders for nutrition interventions are those who reported the highest Ebola case numbers during the height of the crisis: Montserrado, Margibi, Bong, Nimba, Grand Cape Mount, Lofa (UNICEF, 15/04/2015). Between June and 22 July, 919 children from Bomi, Bong, Lofa, Margibi, Monsterrado, and Nimba were admitted for severe malnutrition treatment (UNICEF, 22/07/2015).

WASH

Water

Only 62% of the Liberian population has access to improved drinking sources (Irish Aid, 18/08/2015). According to a recent assessment of health facilities, 50% do not have a protected year-round source of water, and 20% do not have any protected source on site. 49% do not have any bulk water storage on site. (WASH Cluster, 10/04/2015).

Sanitation

Only 25% of the population in Liberia has access to improved sanitation. The number drops to 4% in rural areas. 32% don’t have access to an improved drinking water source (Irish Aid, 18/08/2015; WASH Cluster, 13/04/2015). Only 61% of facilities report hand-washing facilities at the toilet. 23% have a drainage system and only 45% have a functioning soak pit for liquid waste (WASH Cluster, 10/04/2015).

Protection

Many Ebola survivors have returned home and found their possessions destroyed to prevent the spread of the virus. Landlords have terminated leases and some people have lost their jobs (VOA, 30/03/2015; All Africa, 04/05/2015).

Children

401 of the 450 rape cases reported in Liberia since the beginning of the EVD outbreak were committed against children under 17 years of age (UNICEF, 15/04/2015).

Over 70,000 births were not registered during the Ebola crisis in Liberia, hindering access to services and increasing the risk for the children to be trafficked (UNICEF, 31/07/2015).

Social workers have raised fears of child trafficking and exploitation, after some children, who have been placed into foster care and are receiving material support or onetime cash grants, have been claimed by strangers who failed to come forward previously (UNICEF, 31/12/2014).

5,794 children have been registered as directly affected (quarantined, orphaned, unaccompanied, separated, in treatment, and discharged) by Ebola (UNICEF 19/08/2015).

Vulnerable groups

Some Ebola survivors say traders are refusing to accept their money (All Africa, 04/05/2015).

Approximately 20,000 former healthcare workers and volunteers who were
approximately 20,000 former healthcare workers and volunteers who were associated with the Ebola response continue to face discrimination (IRIN, 11/06/2015).

updated: 26/08/2015

LIBYA DISPLACEMENT, CIVIL WAR, POLITICAL UNREST

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

17 August: Clashes broke out in Sirte between IS and armed residents trying to push back against the group. IS reportedly shelled parts of the city and beheaded 12 opponents (ALJ).

11 August: IS launched an offensive to retake Derna (Reuters).

11 August: Peace talks in Geneva resumed with the aim of finalising a peace accord that would be accepted by GNC (IRIN).

KEY CONCERNS

- 2.4 million non-displaced affected people (OCHA, 30/06/2015).

- 550,000 IDPs (Save the Children, 18/06/2015).

- 250,000 refugees, asylum seekers and migrants in need of assistance (OCHA, 30/06/2015).

- Indiscriminate shelling and targeting of civilian areas (UNSMIL, 04/09/2014).

- Access is a major concern (OCHA, 03/09/2014).

OVERVIEW

It is estimated that two million people have been affected by the conflict, which has generated shortages of food, fuel, water, medical supplies, and electricity, as well as reduced access to healthcare and public services.

Areas with highest humanitarian needs are Benghazi, in northeastern Libya; Ghat, Ubari and Sabha in the south, and Warshafana, Ziltan and Nalut in the northwestern area of the country. Priority needs are health, protection and education for the northwest and northeast and health, food security, and shelter for the south.

The rapidly deteriorating security situation has caused waves of displacement, particularly in the western outskirts of Tripoli and the eastern city of Benghazi. The prices of food and basic items, such as cooking fuel and wheat flour, have doubled.

Most displaced people are living in schools, and host communities are under growing strain. Access is difficult, with blocked roads preventing the delivery of food and medical supplies to areas most affected by conflict.

Politics and Security

Libya has two rival parliaments and governments, with militias exerting much control on the ground. The political crisis led to worsening armed conflict in 2014. Struggle over resources and a sharp drop in oil production have exacerbated the crisis (Financial Times 19/03/2015). Islamic State (IS) has exploited the volatile security situation (Asharq Al Awsat 04/05/2015). Profiting from the deterioration of the political and security situation, smugglers have also taken control over some areas, notably Sabrata and Zuwara towns near the Tunisian border west of Tripoli, making use of official ports for smuggling operations (BBC, 29/04/2015).

The House of Representatives (HoR) was elected in June 2014, and moved to Tobruk in early August (AFP, 12/11/2014). The Islamist-dominated General National Congress (GNC), which preceded the House of Representatives and had never stood down, reconvened and voted to replace the House on 25 August. It is supported by an alliance of groups called Libya Dawn.

Prime Minister Al Thani’s Government, from the House of Representatives, was sworn in in September. In October, the House of Representatives officially endorsed former General Haftar and his Operation Dignity (now known as the Libyan National Army). On 6 November, Libya’s Supreme Court ruled the House of Representatives unconstitutional. Certain members of the House of Representatives declared they did not recognise the ruling (UNHCR, 14/11/2014).

Peace Talks

Over 6–8 March, the rival parliaments held their first direct meeting, led by the UN (AFP, 06/03/2015; 11/03/2015). A new round of peace talks began on 26 June (Reuters, 29/06/2015). Talks continue even though the parliament in Tripoli rejected a UN proposal to resolve Libya’s political crisis (AFP 07/07/2015). On 11 July, Libyan political parties agreed on a UN-proposed peace accord, in the absence of the GNC (AFP, 12/07/2015).
August a new round of talks resumed in Geneva with the goal of drafting a version of the deal that could be adopted by GNC (IRIN, 17/08/2015).

Stakeholders

Libya Dawn

The Libyan National Army

Former General Khalifa Haftar launched Operation Dignity in May 2014, in support of the House of Representatives and aiming to break the strongholds of Islamist forces. Operation Dignity and its supporters have since been renamed the Libyan National Army (LNA), with Haftar as army chief (ICG, 05/01/2014; Middle East Eye, 24/02/2015). Support comes from the al Qa’qa’ and Al Sawai’q brigades, allied with the city of Zintan, and fighters from the Warshefana region west of Tripoli. The House of Representatives has repeatedly appealed to the international community for more weapons (AFP, 05/01/2014).

Islamic State and Allies

The Islamic Youth Shura Council has declared an Islamic emirate in the eastern city of Derna and pledged allegiance to Islamic State (Al Arabiya, 06/10/2014). The Battar Brigade, based in Derna, pledges alliance to Islamic State. They are not affiliated with either of the rival governments and have warned all governments and militia groups not to interfere with its activities. IS has set up training camps in eastern Libya, according to US officials (BBC, 04/12/2014).

Regional Involvement

In October 2014, Prime Minister Al Thani announced that Egypt would help to train the Libyan army. In February, Egypt carried out airstrikes on Derna (Reuters, 23/02/2015). Islamist fighters pushed out of Mali are said to be hiding in Libya’s south. Experts see links between these groups and Islamist militias in northern and eastern Libya (AFP, 26/10/2014). Palestinian, Sudanese, and Syrian nationals have been banned from entering Libya (Libya Herald, 05/01/2015). Bangladeshi workers have also been banned from entering Libya (Reuters, 16/05/2015).

Touareg from Mali and, reportedly, Tebu from Chad, have joined their respective Libyan tribe members in fighting over Ubari (Al Jazeera, 05/12/2014).

Conflict Developments

The surge in violence since July 2014 has affected more than two million people (UN, 03/09/2014). Over 1,800 deaths have been reported since the beginning of 2015 (ACLED, 01/08/2015). In 2014, there were 2,383 reported fatalities from battles and remote violence (ACLED, 15/01/2015).

While the beginning of May saw heightened tensions between Libya Dawn forces and Operation Dignity in the west, the second half of May witnessed a shift in violence, to the central city of Sirte and the eastern city of Benghazi. Libya Dawn alliance played a lesser role in violent conflict in May, reflected in several reconciliatory efforts and prisoner swaps in Zintan, Misrata, and Gharyan (ACLED, 05/06/2015).

Tripoli and Western Libya: Tripoli is largely under the control of Libya Dawn. On 20 March, the LNA announced an assault to recapture Tripoli (Reuters, 23/03/2015). In April, as peace talks were starting, forces loyal to the HoR carried out airstrikes on Mitiga airport and other targets in western Libya (Reuters, 15/04/2015). According to local officials, IS was behind attacks on the Spanish, South Korean, and Moroccan embassies in April (International Business Times, 13/04/2015; AFP, 21/04/2015). Tunisian consulate staff kidnapped on 12 June were released a week later, in exchange for Libya Dawn brigade leader Walid Kalib, who had been detained in Tunisia (Middle East Monitor, 23/06/2015).

Misrata: On 31 May, IS claimed responsibility for a suicide bombing at a checkpoint west of Misrata that killed five people and injured eight (Reuters, 31/05/2015). On 21 May, IS claimed responsibility for a suicide bombing at another checkpoint in Misrata that killed two guards (Reuters, 21/05/2015).

Sirte: On 12 August, clashes broke out between IS and armed residents trying to push back against the group. IS reportedly shelled parts of the city and beheaded 12 opponents (ALJ, 17/08/2015). On 29 May, IS seized Sirte airport and the Great Man Made River water project, which supplies water to Libyan cities (BBC, 29/05/2015). On 21 May, for the first time since fighting began in May 2014, Misrata’s 166 Battalion and forces of the HoR conducted a joint security operation against IS in Sirte (ACLED, 05/06/2015). IS, backed by local militias and militias from Misrata reportedly seized control of Sirte in March (NYT, 10/03/2015).

Benghazi and Eastern Libya: Between mid-October and January, 600 people were killed due to fighting in the city, according to medical staff (Reuters, 18/01/2015). Operation Dignity began an offensive to take Benghazi from the Shura Council in October (UNSMIL, 04/09/2014). The Libyan National Army claims to have almost full control of Benghazi’s Laithi district, central Benghazi’s port area, as well as part of the neighbouring Suq Al Hout district (Libya Herald, 06/01/2015).
Heavy fighting erupted again on 18 May between pro-HoR forces and Islamist groups (Reuters, 18/05/2015). IS appears to have entered Benghazi, joining the fight against the LNA. Libyan military sources said an airstrike on a farmhouse on 13 June in Ajdabiya city near Benghazi killed seven members of Ansar al Sharia (Reuters, 15/06/2015). As of 22 June, clashes in Benghazi continue (Middle East Eye, 23/06/2015). On 8 July, a rocket fell inside Al Jala hospital in Benghazi, killing one and injuring three (local media, 08/07/2015).

Derna: IS was reportedly pushed out of its stronghold in June and as of 11 August, launched an offensive to retake Derna (Reuters, 13/08/2015). Abu Salim Martyrs Brigade, linked to Al Qaeda, are among the militias fighting IS, and they have been joined by civilians (VoA, 15/06/2015). On 9 August, a car bomb killed three people and wounded 13 as IS fought to retake the city (Reuters 09/08/2015). Derna has been hit by airstrikes several times, both by pro-HoR and Egyptian planes (Reuters, 05/05/2015; 23/02/2015).

Inter-communal Violence
Intermittent violence in the south, linked to intra and inter-ethnic rivalries, has been exacerbated by geopolitics and shifting allegiances. Fighting has occurred between the Tebu and the Tuareg since last September. On 1 June, two people were killed when clashes broke out in Ubari (Libya Herald, 01/06/2015). On 3 June, a preliminary ceasefire was agreed (Libya Herald, 03/06/2015). 40 were killed in inter-ethnic clashes between the Toubou and Tuareg in Sabha, southern Libya (Reuters, 21/07/2015; AFP, 22/07/2015).

Economic Crisis
The Libyan economy contracted over 23% in 2014, and is expected to contract an additional 10% in 2015, depending on domestic stability as well as international oil prices. Insecurity-induced supply chain disruptions are likely to contribute to increased inflation in 2015. Unless the political crisis is resolved, the increasing financial constraints could pose serious risks to Libya’s ability to provide essential services (UNICEF, 03/2015).

Displacement
IDPs
As of end-June 2015, the IDP population is estimated at 435,000 in 35 locations (OCHA, 30/06/2015). Most require support, including non-food items and medicine. Those staying in schools and other public facilities need alternative shelter (OCHA, 16/06/2015). At least 56,544 IDPs are displaced since the 2011 conflict (IDMC, 23/09/2014).

IDPs’ physical security has been seriously threatened by indiscriminate shelling, attacks on IDP camps, and sieges.

As of March, there were 269,000 IDPs in and around Tripoli (IDMC, 30/03/2015). Near Tripoli, an estimated 83,270 people are living in settlements, schools and abandoned buildings (UNHCR, 16/01/2015).

About 105,000 IDPs are in Benghazi (UNHCR, 30/06/2015). More than 8,700 displaced Tawergahs, mostly women and children, are staying in nine camps in Qasr ben Ghashir, Abu Salim, Janzour in Tripoli, Ajdabiya, Bani Walid, Tarhuna and Benghazi (UNICEF, 01/06/2015).

18,492 people from Ubari are displaced in six towns: Sabha, Wadi Shati, Jufra, Ghat, Murzuq, and Lewenat (IDMC, 30/03/2015; UNHCR, 16/01/2015). Services have been severely disrupted by fighting: Schools, hospitals and markets are completely inaccessible (UNHCR, 16/01/2015; ALJ, 22/06/2015).

Refugees and Asylum-seekers
As of June 2015, there were 250,000 refugees and asylum seekers in Libya in need of assistance (OCHA, 30/06/2015).

Others
In January, IOM estimated at least 150,000 migrant workers were also in the country, 5,000 of whom might be vulnerable and in need of evacuation assistance, health services, and psychosocial support (IOM, 08/01/2015).

Third-country nationals face extreme difficulties leaving the country, as passage through Libya’s borders with Egypt and Tunisia is restricted. Migrants continue to embark on unseaworthy vessels to reach Italy. More than 200,000 people have tried to cross the Mediterranean so far in 2015, most of them using Libya as their starting point; 2,373 are believed to have died in the attempt (IOM, 25/08/2015; UNHCR, 06/08/2015). The Libyan Naval Coast Guard intercepts many boats, which has increased the number of migrants in need of urgent assistance in Libyan ports (IOM, 12/05/2015). In 2014, 170,000 migrants departed from Libya and arrived in Italy. An estimated 3,200 people died crossing the sea (IOM, 31/03/2015).

Humanitarian Access
Access of relief actors to affected populations
Armed groups lack knowledge of humanitarian organisations and restrict access. Most humanitarian agencies have left. The national agency tasked with leading the humanitarian response evaluates its own response capacity as almost non-existent (IRIN, 07/08/2014). In particular, the humanitarian impact on the civilian populations within Benghazi is becoming catastrophic (OCHA, 05/06/2015).

Fuel shortages are further limiting access (AFP, 19/05/2015).

Security and physical constraints
Indiscriminate fighting has led to movement restrictions. Violence and checkpoints along the route to Zawia from Tripoli are preventing people from reaching the Tunisian border. The Salloum border crossing between Libya and Egypt has been closed indefinitely (Libya Herald, 21/01/2015).

Food Security and Livelihoods

Food availability

Insecurity is affecting the food supply chain, including a substantial decline in food imports as foreign shippers fear making deliveries (Reuters, 31/07/2015). The HoR has reported it had started tapping into the country’s strategic wheat reserves to ensure bread supplies. Some bakeries in Tripoli and Benghazi have closed or reduced production (Reuters, 04/02/2015).

Food access

Warehouses (both public and private) are situated in conflict areas, and fuel shortages are aggravating the situation. The price of basic food items has tripled since the start of the crisis (Save the Children, 18/06/2015). Basic food items in Benghazi are only available in areas controlled by the LNA (Save the Children, 18/06/2015).

Health

Healthcare availability and access

Large numbers of expatriate medical personnel have left Libya, and such staff make up 80% of all medical personnel, according to the Ministry of Health.

Many IDPs and migrants do not have access to health services (Save the Children, 18/06/2015). Access to health services has become a major concern mainly in Benghazi. Ongoing fighting has led to restrictions of movement for people and health workers in the conflict areas (WHO, 24/11/2014).

The hospitals that remain operating in Tripoli and Benghazi have been overstretched dealing with casualties. Many national medical personnel have not been able to work due to insecurity. Tripoli hospitals have been hit by shelling, leading to suspension of services. Ambulances have been stolen (ICRC, 17/09/2014).

WASH

Lack of adequate WASH facilities has been reported in detention centres in and outside Tripoli (Human Rights Watch, 21/05/2015). Inadequate sanitation and hygiene conditions are reported in the nine displacement camps hosting Tawerghas (UNICEF, 01/06/2015).

Education

Half of the children in Libya are without education.

Access and learning environment

In Benghazi, 75% of boys and girls have no access to education (Save the Children, 18/06/2015). At December 2014, 21% of IDP school-aged children were not attending school due to insecurity, closed school and lack of space (UNICEF, 03/2015). Many of the schools in the northeast and south are occupied by IDPs (Save the Children, 18/06/2015).

Protection

Abductions, looting, burning of homes and other acts of revenge have all been frequently reported (UN Security Council, 05/09/2014). In some districts of Benghazi, civilians are reporting that militants patrolling the area are not allowing them to leave (Human Rights Watch, 26/05/2015). Human rights defenders and justice sector officials are targeted, intimidated, and frequently attacked (UNSMIL/OHCHR, 25/03/2015).

626 people are reported to have been abducted between February 2014 and April 2015, including an estimated 378 whose whereabouts continue to be unknown. 508 of these abductions were in Benghazi (Amnesty, 04/08/2015). On 3 June, IS abducted 86 Eritrean Christian migrants from Tripoli (International Business Times, 05/06/2015). Throughout the first half of 2015, IS has kidnapped and executed Ethiopian Christians, Coptic Christians, and foreign oil workers (AFP, 19/04/2015; HRW, 24/02/2015; BBC, 09/03/2015).

Mines and ERW

Incorrectly armed fuses or faulty ammunition have resulted in large quantities of unexploded ordnance in conflict areas (UNSMIL, 04/09/2014).

Vulnerable groups

Third-country refugees and asylum-seekers, including unaccompanied children, face arbitrary arrest and indefinite detention for migration control purposes by both state and non-state actors. Torture, including whippings, beatings and electric shocks, has also been reported (Human Rights Watch, 21/05/2015). As of May, 16,000 people, mainly African migrants, were reported to be in detention, mainly in the Tripoli region and in Misrata (Reuters, 24/05/2015). There are 18 government-run detention centres and 21 operated by armed militias (PI, 05/2015; Save the Children, 18/06/2015). The centres are reported to be overcrowded and lack adequate WASH facilities (Reuters, 24/05/2015).
MALAWI FLOODS

For more information, visit the ACAPS country analysis page.

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

19 August: Over 200,000 Malawians are expected to face an acute food situation (VOA).

KEY CONCERNS

- The maize production in the current agricultural season has been of 2,898,123 metric tons, representing a deficit of 27.7%. (VOA, 19/08/2015).
- 107,000 people are living in 131 displacement sites as a result of January floods (IOM/Government, 20/05/2015).
- 620,000 people affected by floods and heavy rainfalls are in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food security outcomes. Food security is likely to worsen as the 2015 harvest is projected to be 30–40% lower than 2014 (FEWSNET, 17/05/2015).

Natural Disasters

Floods

High rainfall in January and February caused the Shire River to reach its highest level in 30 years and led to severe flooding (IFRC, 30/06/2015). More than 1.1 million people were affected, of which 230,000 were displaced, 104 people died and 645 were injured, with the southern districts of Nsanje, Chikwawa, Phalombe, and Zomba most affected. 1,220km of roads and 185 bridges have been damaged or destroyed. Private housing is the greatest need, followed by transportation, agriculture, and WASH. A 0.6% decrease in GDP is expected for 2015 because of flood damage (Government, 18/06/2015).

Displacement

IDPs

Flood-affected: At 23 June, around 100,000 displaced people were still being hosted in temporary sites in Nsanje and Chikwawa districts. 88% of IDPs have remained within their area of origin. NFIs, shelter, WASH and health needs persist (UNICEF, 05/08/2015; IOM/Government, 20/05/2015; 29/04/2015).

Refugees and asylum seekers

21,768 refugees and asylum seekers are in Malawi, mostly from DRC, Burundi, and Rwanda, and residing in Dzaleka camp in Dowa district in central Malawi, or among host communities (UNHCR, 05/2015). On 27 July, district officials reported that 678 people, including 400 children, have arrived from Mozambique. They fled fighting between the army and RENAMO insurgents (ABC News, 27/07/2015). As of August 13, the village of Kapise II, located in the southern district of Mwanza, was reportedly hosting 775 Mozambican refugees (VOA, 13/08/2015).

Food Security and Livelihoods

2.8 million people are estimated to be at risk of food insecurity in 2015 as a result of the combined effect of floods and drought in 25 districts, according to the preliminary results of a VAC report (OCHA, 13/07/2015). 620,000 people in 17 districts affected by January floods are projected to be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food security until September unless they receive assistance (IOM/Government, 20/05/2015). An additional 180,000 affected by below-average rainfall in the south since February are expected to face Stressed (IPC Phase 2) food security outcomes from July to September. Households affected by drought in the northern and central regions are expected to face Minimal (IPC Phase 1) food security outcomes over the same period (FEWSNET, 30/06/2015).

Livelihoods

Between July and September poor households are expected to earn less from food and cash crop sales due to reduced production. Therefore, between October and December, many households in the southern and central areas of the country will likely be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and will need humanitarian assistance (FEWSNET, 17/08/2015). Almost half the districts in southern Malawi are experiencing limited agricultural labour opportunities, reduced income from crop sales, and reduced access to irrigated farming crops and income due to dry conditions since February. These are expected to diminish households’ purchasing power during the peak of the lean season, resulting in food consumption gaps and unsustainable coping (FEWSNET, 22/07/2015; 30/06/2015). Most of the people in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) have experienced reductions or total loss of livelihoods. (IOM/Government, 20/05/2015).

Food availability

The floods caused the destruction of around 89,100 hectares of cropped land and the loss of 195,032 animals (FAO, 09/08/2015). Dry conditions in the highly productive...
northern and central regions since February have also reportedly caused wilting and drying of crops (UNICEF, 08/04/2015; FEWSNET, 17/04/2015). The maize production in the current agricultural season is at 2,898,123 metric tons, representing a deficit of 27.7%. Over 200,000 Malawians are expected to face an acute food situation (VOA, 19/08/2015).

Food access

Households in 49 displacement sites reported having no access to food in May (IOM/Government, 20/05/2015). In the harvest and post-harvest periods, maize prices have increased by more than 10% (FEWSNET, 07/08/2015). In the second quarter of 2015, inflation remains high, and maize prices almost doubled in Southern (+95%) and Central (+99%) regions. In the same period the cost of the minimum food basket increased more than 10% (WFP, 30/07/2015). Additional large price increases are expected, because large deficits in agricultural production are forcing the country to increase imports (FEWSNET, 31/07/2015).

Health

Malaria, respiratory infections, and diarrhoea were the most prevalent health problems in IDP camps in May. The long distance to health facilities (over 3km) is a challenge in more than half of IDP sites (IOM/Government, 20/05/2015).

Healthcare availability and access

23 health facilities and significant medical supplies have been damaged or destroyed by floods (Government, 18/06/2015).

Disease outbreaks

Cholera

As of 23 June, 693 cases of cholera, including 11 deaths, have been confirmed since the outbreak began mid-February, including 225 cases and three deaths in Nsanje, 374 cases and four deaths in Chikwawa and 65 cases and four deaths in Blantyre (IFRC, 30/06/2015). Incidence fell in June. The outbreak was linked to a cholera outbreak in Mozambique (UNICEF, 08/04/2015).

Nutrition

There has been a significant increase in the number of malnourished children as a result of the floods and poor harvests. At least 107 sites report that no supplementary feeding is available for pregnant and lactating women, while 81 sites lack supplementary feeding for children (IOM/Government, 20/05/2015; Government/UN, 08/03/2015). 25,313 children aged 6–59 months were suffering from SAM as of July 2014 (Government/UN, 08/03/2015; UNICEF, 27/09/2014).

WASH

WASH needs are greatest in Chikwawa and Nsanje (IOM/Government, 20/05/2015; 29/04/2015).

Water

2,990 boreholes and six water treatment plants have been damaged or destroyed by floods (Government, 18/06/2015). At end April, 35% of IDP sites reported that drinking water was still poor quality, while 8% reported less than 15L of water per person per day (IOM/Government, 20/05/2015; 29/04/2015).

Sanitation

In Chikwawa and Nsanje the sanitation ratio has been one drop hole for 130 people (IOM/Government, 20/05/2015; 29/04/2015).

Shelter and NFIs

523,350 houses have been damaged or destroyed by floods, making this the largest recovery need (Government, 18/06/2015). Many on the east bank in Nsanje are waiting to be allocated land, but lack resources to rebuild their homes (Government/UN, 07/04/2015). 75% of IDP sites are spontaneous, while 22% of IDPs have sought refuge in planned displacement sites (IOM/Government, 20/05/2015).

Shelter

In 16 sites, 25% of IDPs live outside without shelter (IOM/Government, 20/05/2015).

NFIs

NFIs, including kitchen sets and blankets, remain a primary need among populations in IDP sites (IOM/Government, 20/05/2015). In 124 sites, no one has access to electricity (IOM/Government, 20/05/2015).

Education

508 schools have been damaged or destroyed by the floods, and 350,000 students have been affected; many schools are being used as camps (Government, 18/06/2015; IOM/Government, 29/04/2015). Ndione school in Nsanje remained submerged at 10

Protection

23 of the 192 remaining open IDP sites do not have separate bathing areas for male and female IDPs, which may raise protection issues (IOM/Government, 20/05/2015; 29/04/2015).

Reports of rape and cross-border trafficking between Malawi and Mozambique are a concern (Government/UN, 07/04/2015).

Children

On 30 July, police rescued 21 trafficked children in Blantyre while they were in transit to Mangochi from Mozambique (The Times Malawi, 30/07/2015).

Updated: 26/08/2015

MALI CONFLICT, FOOD INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT

Politics and Security

The state lost control of the north of the country in 2012, after Tuareg groups from the northern region known as Azawad began a campaign for greater autonomy, and a separate coup d'état further destabilised the country. The fragile alliance between Tuareg and Islamists was quickly broken, and Islamists took control of key northern cities. Civilian rule was re-established in mid-2013, with the aid of French and African Union troops, and a UN mission, MINUSMA, was set up, but Mali continues to face security and political challenges. The truce in the north remains fragile, and key government institutions need strengthening. Limited access to basic social services and the poor capacity of public administration are key drivers of the crisis.

On 23 August, a representative of the Azawad Movement Coalition (CMA), one of the main partners in the recently signed Algiers peace agreement, announced they are suspending their participation in the accord’s monitoring group as a result of clashes between the CMA and pro-government militia in Kidal region (AFP, 24/08/2015). Gaps in the agreement regarding the recognition of Azawad territory were considered a possible risk of violence in the future, particularly as there are concerns that both parties do not have absolute control over their forces (ACLED, 10/07/2015). Main Islamist armed groups operating in the country were excluded from the peace negotiations.

While the intensity of violence is much lower than at the peak of the insurgency in 2012, attacks by Islamist militants have become more widespread and continue to hamper security in the country. Every province has reported at least one attack in 2015. In addition to the northern provinces of Kidal, Gao, and Timbuktu, security incidents have been reported in the central regions of Mopti and Segou since January, and more recently in the south. Trends indicate that violence is increasingly directed at targets in the south, and is mainly targeting security forces and foreigners, including civilians and international forces (ACLED, 10/07/2015).

Three Islamist attacks were reported in the south in June. Civilians are affected, despite rarely being targeted. Landmines and improvised explosive devices (IED) are a particular threat, as well as rockets. Between late March and early June, nine civilians were reportedly killed and 41 injured (UN, 11/06/2015). It is often unclear who is responsible for the attacks.

Stakeholders

Tuareg Armed Groups

The Azawad Movement Coalition, comprising the National Movement for the Liberation of Azawad (MNLA), the High Council for the Unity of Azawad (HCUA), and the Arab Movement of Azawad (MAA), has been the main actor carrying out attacks in northern and...
central regions. They strive for more autonomy of the territory they call Azawad, which includes Timbuktu, Gao, Kidal and parts of Mopti.

**Islamist Armed Groups**

The Movement for Unity and Jihad in West Africa (MUJAO), which split from Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) in 2011, and Ansar Dine, are among the main Islamist groups active in Mali. Their attacks mainly target pro-government and international forces. The focus has mostly been in the north, but since June, several attacks have been carried out in the south.

**International Armed Forces**

The stability of the Sahel region relies on the presence of foreign troops. In addition to Malian forces, there are French forces, MINUSMA, and the EU military training mission (EUTM), mainly in Bamako and in northern cities such as Kidal, Gao, Timbuktu, and Menaka (OCHA, 31/05/2014).

MINUSMA’s mandate has been extended until 30 June 2016 (UN, 29/06/2015). Attacks on MINUSMA vehicles, camps, and peacekeepers have spiked since mid-August 2014 (AFP, 21/09/2014). Most have been carried out in Gao, but some in Timbuktu, Mopti and Kidal regions. 41 peacekeepers have died since the start of the UN mission in July 2013 and more than 150 have been wounded in close to 80 attacks (local media, 30/05/2015; AFP, 02/07/2015).

On 1 August 2014, France deployed a 3,000-strong counterterrorism operation across the Sahel region. Based in Chad, Operation Barkhane is active in Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger (Local Media, 01/08/2014).

**Conflict developments**

In June, when the peace agreement (Algiers Accord) was signed, the number of recorded violent incidents and fatalities was significantly lower than in the previous months. Some 20–25 violent events and around 70 deaths were reported in April and May, whereas June saw around 10 events leading to some 30 fatalities (ACLED, 10/07/2015).

On 15–17 August, the first serious violation of the Algiers peace accord was reported in Kidal region, when fighting erupted between the pro-government Gatia and Tuareg armed groups. There are rumours of up to 15 people killed and many more injured, but numbers have not been confirmed. In response, MINUSMA declared a security zone around the city of Kidal (MINUSMA, 17/08/2015; AFP, 17/08/2015).

Local media report that insecurity in the north remains, with sustained presence of armed bandits in Dire, and taking of hostages, attacks on civilians and stealing of livestock in Goundam (MaliWeb, 16/07/2015). MINUSMA has reported violations of the peace agreement and human rights, attributing them to movements that signed the agreement (MINUSMA, 30/07/2015). The security situation seems to be worsening particularly around Timbuktu, with an increasing number of attacks on villagers and people on the road to markets (Reuters, 08/08/2015). On 16–17 August, seven people were killed in violence between Tuareg and Sonrai communities in Tinassamede, Gao region (MaliActu, 19/08/2015).

Security incidents in southern and central regions have increased since June, and some have been claimed by Islamist insurgent group Ansar Dine (AFP, 30/06/2015; 27/06/2015; UN, 29/06/2015; local media, 11/06/2015). On 7 August, 23 people were killed in an attack on a hotel in Sevare, Mopti region. Among the victims were UN soldiers, Malian armed forces, and insurgents. The attack was claimed by an Islamist group linked to Mokhtar Belmokhtar (AFP, 08/08/2015; 11/08/2015).

**Natural Disasters**

**Floods**

Heavy rain on 7–8 August led to flooding in northeast Mali. In Menaka, Gao, five people died and 400 have sustained serious damage to their homes. Overall, 1,000 people have been affected, and at least 750 are staying in school buildings. Flooding in Mopti has affected schools, and displaced some 200 people (AFP, 09/08/2015; Education Cluster, 12/08/2015; OCHA, 13/08/2015).

**Displacement**

Nearly 80,000 people are internally displaced in Mali due to the conflict in the north, and more than 130,000 have sought refuge in neighbouring countries such as Niger and Burkina Faso. The majority of displacement is protracted, as most people have been displaced since mid-2013, when the number of IDPs and refugees reached its peak. Since then, people have gradually returned, particularly IDPs, though a new surge in internal displacement occurred in April–May 2015, due to increased insecurity in the north. Those who have returned are often still in need of assistance.

**IDPs**

As of 31 July, there are 78,183 IDPs in Mali (OCHA, 31/07/2015). Between April and May, the number of IDPs in the country more than doubled. Since June, the majority of newly displaced in Timbuktu and Mopti have returned. Only in Goundam and Tonka in Goundam district, Timbuktu region, they are not yet returning home. As of 17 June, Goundam district had received 20,354 new IDPs (IOM, 17/06/2015; 03/08/2015; OCHA, 31/07/2015). Most are staying with host families, putting extra stress on already limited resources (ECHO, 27/05/2015; local media, 10/06/2015; CARE, 12/06/2015).

Returning IDPs are often still in need of assistance, as general conditions in the north have
deteriorated, with infrastructure and houses destroyed due to a lack of maintenance (IOM, 03/08/2015).

As of April, 43,100 people remained displaced since the start of the conflict in 2012, a decrease from 61,000 recorded in December 2014 (OCHA, 08/06/2015).

Refugees in Mali

As of May, Mali hosts some 15,400 refugees, mainly from Mauritania and Côte d’Ivoire (UNHCR, 26/05/2015).

Returnees

Some 35,000 Malian refugees have returned: more than 10,000 from Burkina Faso, over 12,000 from Niger, around 7,300 from Mauritania, and 2,200 from Algeria (OCHA, 31/01/2015; UNHCR, 14/08/2014).

Malian Refugees in Neighbouring Countries

There are 137,789 Malian refugees in neighbouring countries (UNHCR, 31/07/2015).

As of 13 July, 51,400 Malian refugees are registered in Mbera camp, Mauritania; 52,445 were in Niger as of 31 July (UNHCR, 31/07/2015; 30/06/2015). Burkina Faso hosts 33,703 Malian refugees (UNHCR, 30/06/2015).

Access

The security situation continues to hinder humanitarian assistance, particularly in the north. Tensions are spreading to previously unaffected areas near the borders with Mauritania and Côte d’Ivoire, and closer to Bamako (WFP, 37/07/2015). As of 31 July, OCHA has recorded 56 access constraints so far in 2015, an increase from 31 recorded until May. 40% were incidents of violence directed at humanitarian personnel or goods, 32% resulted from military operations. The majority (76%) was directed at international NGOs, 16% at UN agencies. Most incidents involved armed groups, often unidentified. In comparison, 22 constraints were reported in the whole of 2014 (OCHA, 31/07/2015).

Access of relief actors to affected populations

Criminal activities in the north are affecting the humanitarian response. Looting of food from WFP and partners has been reported, both from warehouses and on the road. Incidents have reportedly increased since the signing of the peace agreement (WFP, 30/06/2015).

Security and physical constraints

Since the signing of the peace agreement, main access constraints in the north come from Islamist armed group attacks and banditry. Several roads are controlled by these groups, hampering access to affected communities (IOM, 03/08/2015).

Humanitarian air services have been disrupted in Kidal region since January, due to insecurity and needs for repair (OCHA, 04/05/2015; 21/05/2015).

Food Security

2.86 million people are food insecure as of June, including 451,000 people facing Crisis and Emergency (IPC Phase 3 and 4) food security outcomes, according to the Cadre Harmonise. This corresponds to 2.8% of the population, and is an increase from the 410,000 severely food insecure projected in March (Government, 07/2015).

The majority of people facing Crisis or worse food security outcomes are in Timbuktu (143,000), Gao (104,000) and Mopti (85,000), mainly due to low levels of food stocks, an extended pastoral lean season, and insecurity. The most affected areas are Goundam and Gourma Rharous in Timbuktu, and Bourem and Ansongo in Gao (Government, 07/2015; 30/07/2015).

Food availability

A rain deficit in the south during May–June has delayed the start of the agricultural campaign in northwest Kayes, southeast Sikasso, northern Koulikoro and northern Segou (FEWSNET, 30/06/2015).

Food access

Insecurity in Menaka, Goundam and Rharous has decreased household access to markets and decreased commercial influx to markets (FEWSNET, 30/06/2015).

Livelihoods

During the lean season, about one household in six will need livelihood support (OCHA, 15/06/2015). Insecurity has led to trade ruptures in the north, disruption of agricultural and pastoral activities, and loss of livelihoods due to looting of livestock and other goods (Government, 30/07/2015).

A fodder deficit, aggravated by poor rainfall and insecurity, has resulted in early transhumance and exceptionally high cattle concentrations in Timbuktu, Gao, and Mopti regions (OCHA, 15/06/2015; FEWSNET, 30/06/2015).

Pastoral households in the north are experiencing decreased revenue due to deteriorating livestock conditions, and are facing Stressed (Phase 2) food security outcomes. In the absence of humanitarian aid, their situation would be worse. Poor agropastoral households in riverine areas of Gao and Bourem districts (Gao region), the lake zone in Goundam, Haoussa in Niafunke (Timbuktu region) and the north of Youwarou (Mopti region) have
resorted to negative coping strategies, and are facing Stressed food security outcomes in the presence of humanitarian aid until September (FEWSNET, 30/06/2015).

**Sahel food crisis: regional overview**

During the lean season (June–August), 7.5 million people will be facing Crisis and Emergency (Phases 3 and 4) food security outcomes across the Sahel and West Africa, of whom 4.5 million in the Sahel. 26.6 million will face Stressed (IPC Phase 2) outcomes (Cadre Harmonisé, 04/2015; CLISS, FEWSNET, WFP, FAO, 01/07/2015). In 2014, food insecurity rose dramatically to 24.7 million food insecure people, compared to 2013, when 11.3 million people had inadequate food (OCHA, 03/02/2015).

**Health**

**Measles**

A measles outbreak has been confirmed in Tessalit and Kidal districts of Kidal region, with 148 confirmed cases as of 28 May (OCHA, 15/06/2015). There is no permanent humanitarian health actor in the region (OCHA, 21/05/2015; WHO, 29/05/2015; UNICEF, 31/05/2015). People in remote villages cannot access health services (local media, 21/04/2015). The number of measles cases has also exceeded the epidemic threshold in Segou (OCHA, 15/06/2015). As of 23 July, 545 suspected measles cases have been reported nationwide, with no reported death (Government, 23/07/2015).

**Nutrition**

An estimated 71,300 children are at risk of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) across the country and 534,000 are expected to suffer from moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) in 2015. Preliminary results of a May 2015 SMART survey indicate 12.4% GAM and 2.8% SAM nationwide. In Timbuktu, the emergency threshold has been passed, with 17.5% GAM and 3.8% SAM (OCHA, 11/08/2015; 15/06/2015).

The nutrition situation has worsened in Kidal and Gao regions. According to the WHO classification, the situation is serious in Gao, with 11.3% GAM and 2.3% SAM. In Kidal, 5.7% GAM and 1.0% SAM indicate a critical situation (UNICEF, 31/07/2015).

**WASH**

**Water supply**

In flooded areas in Menaka, Gao region, floodwater has submerged wells, making the town’s usual source of drinking water unfit for use (AFP, 09/08/2015).

Several areas of Gao and Timbuktu regions are facing acute water shortages, as up to 75% of water points have dried up (UNICEF, 31/07/2015). Nomad communities are putting additional pressure on remaining water sources. At least 7,660 households are affected (around 54,600 individuals) and some are losing their cattle. Worst affected are Bourem, Dorey and Ntillit in Gao; Tassik in Kidal; and Ebang Malane and Gossi in Timbuktu (OCHA, 11/08/2015; 31/07/2015).

The WASH situation among new IDPs in Gourma Rharous and Bourem districts is severe. 59% of households cite a lack of drinking water as a main concern. Between 67% and 88% of households use surface water as their main water source, increasing the risk of waterborne disease (NRC and Handicap International, 18/06/2015).

**Sanitation**

Among new IDPs in Gourma Rharous and Bourem districts, 71% of households have no access to latrines. More than 80% practice open defecation (NRC and Handicap International, 18/06/2015).

**Shelter and NFIs**

**Shelter**

In Fatoma (Mopti region) and Menaka (Gao region) people displaced by floods are staying in school buildings. This is affecting at least 950 people (Education Cluster, 12/08/2015).

**Education**

281,690 children in Mali are in need of education (OCHA, 10/06/2015).

**Access and learning environment**

Resumption of hostilities in the north has led to the closure of schools. By the end of June, 430 schools remained closed, affecting 20,500 students (UNICEF, 31/07/2015). In Menaka district, Gao, up to 92% of schools are closed, with Tidermene commune most affected. In Kidal region, all schools are closed in four communes (Education Cluster, 30/06/2015).

Flooding in Mopti and Gao regions has affected at least 20 schools. As of 12 August, in Mopti, two schools have been damaged by a storm in Konna, six others in Mopti town have been submerged, and a school in Fatoma is hosting 200 people. In Menaka, Gao region, one school has been submerged, two others have sustained damage to classrooms, and nine schools are hosting some 750 people (Education Cluster, 12/08/2015).

**Protection**

**Mines and ERW**

There has been a considerable decrease in the number of casualties from ERW since 2015, but IED casualties are increasing. Since 2013, IEDs have caused 136 civilian casualties, nearly half of which were recorded in the first half of 2015 (OCHA, 15/06/2015).
Explosive remnants of war (ERW) caused 101 casualties from 2012 to June 2014 (OCHA, 30/06/2014).

Children

Three armed groups (Ansar Dine, MNLA and MUJAO) are reportedly recruiting and using children, and are listed for rape and other forms of sexual violence (OCHA, 16/04/2015).

Gender

Since March 2015, 441 gender-based violence incidents have been reported. 90% of victims were female, and 34% involved minors. Victims often lack livelihood support services and safe accommodation. Survivors generally refuse referral to legal or protection services, in fear of retaliation or stigmatisation by their community (OCHA, 31/07/2015).

Updated: 25/08/2015

MAURITANIA  FOOD INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

No new significant developments this week, 26/08/2015. Last update: 19/08/2015.

KEY CONCERNS

- 458,000 people are facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food security outcomes in June. 795,000 are facing Stressed (Phase 2) outcomes (Cadre Harmonise, 06/2015).

- 33,760 children suffer from severe acute malnutrition (IFRC, 01/07/2015).

- Malnutrition is rising in Mbera camp, due to interruption of food aid (MSF, 13/07/2015).

Displacement

Refugees and asylum seekers

Mauritania hosts 51,425 Malian refugees as of 31 July, including 49,888 in Mbera camp and 1,512 urban refugees and asylum seekers (UNHCR, 12/08/2015; 13/07/2015).

The increase of nearly 400 refugees in Mbera camp since the end of May is mainly due to the registration of newborn babies (UNHCR, 13/07/2015). 226 Malian refugees arrived in Mauritania in May due to fighting in Mali, the highest number since September 2014; 93 arrived in June (UNHCR, 31/05/2015; 13/07/2015). Mbera camp is a remote desert location on the border that has significant security challenges, and where food insecurity and malnutrition are high. According to UNHCR, 80% of camp residents are women and children, and many have been in the camp for two years, resulting in overlapping emergency and medium-term needs (UNHCR, 30/04/2015).

Security problems and inaccessibility to areas of northern Mali make it difficult to obtain return figures, however UNHCR is reporting a small number of spontaneous returns to Mali (UNHCR 30/04/2015).

Food Security

As of June, 458,000 people are facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food security outcomes. Seven out of 14 wilayas in the south and southeast are classified as Crisis. Households facing Crisis outcomes are in northern Gorgol and Brakna, western Assaba, southern Tagant, and in the central zone of the Senegal River valley (FEWSNET, 01/08/2015).

An additional 795,000 people are facing Stressed (IPC Phase 2) food security outcomes (Cadre Harmonise, 06/2015). From October to December, the food security situation will improve, and poor households will be facing Stressed outcomes (FEWSNET, 01/08/2015).

Food availability

As of late June, agricultural activities had only started in the Hodh regions; in normal years they would take place throughout zones relying on rain-fed crops (FEWSNET, 30/06/2015). In northern Gorgol, the north of Brakna, west of Assaba, and south of Tagant, poor households have experienced two successive years of poor harvests. They have been depending on markets since February/March, two to three months earlier than in a normal year. Households are facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food security outcomes until September, even in the presence of humanitarian assistance (FEWSNET, 01/08/2015).

Pastoral conditions will improve starting in August, and early crops will be available in September. This will improve the food security situation from October to December (FEWSNET, 01/08/2015).

Food access

Livelihoods

In the central zone of the Senegal River valley (the south of Boghe, Bababe, Mbagne, and the southwest of Kaedi), below-average revenues and increased dependence on markets
for food supply, result in households facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food security outcomes through September (FEWSNET, 01/08/2015).

Between October and December, increased agricultural activity will augment revenue and improve the food security situation. However, households will continue to face Stressed (IPC Phase 2) food security outcomes until the next harvest in February/March 2016 (FEWSNET, 01/08/2015).

Food Security in the Sahel Region

During the lean season (June–August), 7.5 million will be facing Crisis and Emergency (Phase 3 and 4) food security outcomes across the Sahel and West Africa, of whom 4.5 million live in the Sahel, and 26.6 million to be Stressed (Cadre Harmonisé, 04/2015; CLISS, FEWSNET, WFP, FAO, 01/07/2015). In 2014, food insecurity rose dramatically to 24.7 million food insecure people, compared to 2013, when 11.3 million people had inadequate food (OCHA, 03/02/2015).

Health

Nutrition

An estimated 129,760 children are expected to be acutely malnourished, including 33,760 severely, according to ECHO. As of March, there was 6.2% global acute malnutrition (GAM) countrywide. No region exceeded the 10% threshold, but Hodh El Chargui, Guidimakha, Brakna and Gorgol were the most affected regions (IFRC, 01/07/2015).

GAM rates are increasing in Mbera refugee camp. WFP has had to cut monthly food rations, due to a lack of funding. As of 10 August, rice and pulse distribution have resumed, but remain at reduced levels (WFP, 10/08/2015). Admissions for nutrition have increased more than 100% according to MSF, with 79 malnourished children admitted per month since the interruption of food aid, compared to 30 per month before (IRIN, 13/07/2015).

WASH

In Mbera camp, refugees have access to 30L of water per day. On average, a latrine is shared between 22 people (UNHCR, 13/07/2015).

Education

Lack of access to education has been reported in Mbera camp, in particular affecting girls and minorities (UNHCR, 30/04/2015; 13/07/2015).

Protection

Incidents of sexual violence have been reported in Mbera camp (UNHCR, 31/05/2015).
**Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes** (Cadre Harmonise, 03/2015).

30% of rural households suffer from severe food insecurity, mainly as a result of 2014/2015 crop production shortfalls due to below-average rainfall, and reduced income (Red Cross, 02/06/2015). Poor agropastoral households in central and northern areas of Senegal, including Podor, Matam, and Tambacounda, will face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food security outcomes through September (FEWSNET, 01/07/2015; 31/05/2015; 21/04/2015).

By September, it is expected that households facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) will be in Stressed (IPC Phase 2) food security outcomes. The October harvest will lead to a further improvement of the situation, to Minimal (IPC Phase 1) food security outcomes (FEWSNET, 24/07/2015). The projected food assistance needs through January 2016 are lower than the five year average, even taking into consideration the lean season (FEWSNET, 22/07/2015).

**Food availability**

Below-average crop and animal production during 2014/15 have extended the lean season (FEWSNET, 01/07/2015).

Aggregate 2014 cereal production was 20% lower than the five-year average and is expected to cover about 51% of needs in 2015 (FAO, 09/07/2015; Red Cross, 02/06/2015). Production of millet, the most important staple crop, is estimated to have dropped by 38% compared to the five-year average, while production of groundnut, the main cash crop, declined by 21%. This is reducing food availability (FAO, 31/03/2015; GIEWS, 08/05/2015).

In October, the harvest will provide sufficient food to improve food security outcomes (FEWSNET, 24/07/2015).

**Food access**

The price of food has fallen to its lowest level since 2009 (FAO, 30/06/2015).

In October, the harvest will lower cereal prices, increasing household access to food (FEWSNET, 24/07/2015).

**Livelihoods**

Shortfalls in household incomes have contributed to the extension of the lean season (FEWSNET, 01/07/2015). Households in central and northern Senegal have adopted negative coping mechanisms, such as borrowing, cutting the number and size of meals, or selling livestock. Labour opportunities are low given the limited area of crops planted (FEWSNET, 07/08/2015; 24/07/2015).

Central areas of Senegal, already affected by drought in 2014, have received less than half the usual rainfall in 2015, resulting in abnormal dryness (FEWSNET, 07/08/2015). Only 25-80% of normal rainfall was recorded in July in central regions. This has negatively impacted livestock health (FEWSNET, 31/07/2015). Decreased pasture growth slows down transhumance and presents the risk of conflict between herders and farmers (OCHA, 15/07/2015).

**Sahel Food Crisis: Regional Overview**

In the Sahel and West Africa about 7.5 million people will be in food and nutrition crisis between June and August, including 4.5 million in the Sahel, (Cadre Harmonisé, 06/2015). In 2014, food insecurity rose dramatically to 24.7 million food insecure people, compared to 2013, when 11.3 million people had inadequate food (OCHA, 03/02/2015). The El Niño phenomenon is due to last until the end of 2015, reducing rainfall (FAO, 30/06/2015).

**Nutrition**

332,300 children are acutely malnourished, including 68,650 suffering from SAM. Matam, Saint Louis (Podor department in particular), and Tambacounda regions are most affected (UN, 16/02/2015).

**SIERRA LEONE FOOD INSECURITY, EPIDEMIC**

**LATEST DEVELOPMENTS**

**26 August:** No new case was reported for two consecutive weeks between 9–23 August, while the last Ebola patient was discharged on 24 August (WHO).

**25 August:** Cross-border movements have increased to 2,100 per day as Sierra Leone lifted some Ebola restrictions, raising the risk of rapid spread of the virus (WHO/OCHA).

**KEY CONCERNS**

- As of 16 August, 13,541 cumulative Ebola cases reported, including 3,952 deaths. 28,005 cumulative Ebola cases reported across the region, including 11,28 deaths (WHO, 19/08/2015). The numbers of registered cases and deaths are largely inaccurate.
43% of the population is food insecure, including 7% severely. This corresponds to around 420,000 people severely food insecure (Government/FAO/WFP, 30/06/2015).

For more information on the Ebola crisis in West Africa, visit the ACAPS Ebola Needs Analysis Project page.

Politics and Security

The state of emergency linked to the Ebola outbreak in Sierra Leone has been extended for 90 days, despite calls from opposition to ease restrictions (international media, 12/06/2015). There are concerns that the state of emergency measures are being used by the ruling party against the opposition. Police have been accused of using excessive force, protests have been banned, journalists have been arrested for criticising the response, and political figures have been arrested (local media, 26/04/2015; Amnesty International, 04/05/2015).

Displacement

Refugees

As of February, there were nearly 2,430 refugees in Sierra Leone. They have been included in the Ebola response (UNHCR, 02/03/2015).

Humanitarian access

Response activities are hampered by poor terrain and lack of transport (Doctors of the World, 04/05/2015).

Food Security and Livelihoods

Food security has deteriorated in Sierra Leone without distinction in both the Ebola affected and non-affected communities (WHO/OCHA, 12/07/2015).

As of April, 2.58 million people (43% of the population) are food insecure, including 420,000 severely (7%). Kailahun, Kenema, Bo, Port Loko and Kono districts are most severely affected by disruptions to agricultural production and market activities due to the Ebola outbreak. In Kailahun, food insecurity among households has surged to 74%, compared to 13% in 2011 (Government/FAO/WFP, 30/06/2015).

Households are expected to remain in Stressed (IPC Phase 2) or Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food security outcomes through September due to affected livelihoods. Food security is expected to improve after the October harvest (FEWSNET, 31/07/2015).

Food availability

In most areas, food stocks have depleted one to two months earlier than normal (BRAC, 21/05/2015; FEWSNET, 01/06/2015). Ongoing agricultural activities reportedly occur at below-normal levels due to Ebola containment measures (FEWSNET, 31/07/2015).

In a May survey, 46% of people reported that the most important market in their area was closed or operating at reduced levels, similar to December 2014. 28% of traders reported that agricultural activities continue at below-average levels (FEWSNET, 01/06/2015).

Food use

Poor households in Crisis food security outcomes are continuing to reduce their food intake throughout the lean season, as food stocks have depleted (FEWSNET, 09/07/2015). 45% of households have an inadequate diet, based on cereals, oil, some vegetables and a few other commodities (Government/FAO/WFP, 30/06/2015).

Livelihoods

Many households face Stressed and Crisis food security outcomes as a result of atypical weak purchasing power and high dependence on markets for food supply (FEWSNET, 31/07/2015). The economic slowdown due to Ebola has resulted in low income levels and weak household purchasing power (FEWSNET, 09/07/2015). Typical livelihood activities remain below average, as well as people’s working hours (FEWSNET, 01/06/2015; World Bank, 15/06/2015). An assessment in five districts indicated decreased income for 80% of respondents and increased unemployment as among the main effects of the Ebola outbreak in areas both infected or not infected with the disease (BRAC, 21/05/2015).

The use of coping strategies, such as a reduction in meal size and frequency, has increased across the country during the lean season; Kambia and Port Loko are most affected (WFP, 30/06/2015; 28/05/2015; BRAC, 21/05/2015). 32% of households use emergency strategies, such as begging, to cope with lack of income. Households’ high economic vulnerability translates into food purchases representing 65% of total expenditures for at least 45% of households (Government/FAO/WFP, 30/06/2015).

Health

New Ebola cases are still reported, with weekly cases on the decline. No mass immunisation activities took place during the Ebola outbreak, which increases the risk of preventable outbreaks. Pockets of diseases are already reported (Government, 08/06/2015). The mortality and morbidity of other diseases have also likely increased during the outbreak.

Healthcare availability and access

As of May, the Ebola outbreak had caused a 5% reduction in the number of doctors and a 7% reduction in nurses and midwives (World Bank, 08/07/2015). 307 health workers have
been infected with Ebola and 221 have died (WHO, 26/08/2015).

The health infrastructure is fragile and unresponsive in Sierra Leone. During the outbreak, many health facilities were temporarily closed and people were reluctant to seek healthcare due to fear of infection. It is likely there has been an increase in morbidity and mortality of other diseases, including malaria, diarrhoea, TB, and HIV (World Bank, 08/07/2015).

**Child health**

Under-five mortality rates are estimated to have increased by 19% compared to before the Ebola outbreak, up to 191 per 1,000 live births (World Bank, 08/07/2015).

**Maternal Health**

Delivery of maternal health services has improved in May: 89% of households report that a member gave birth in a clinic, compared to 64% in January–February, and 28% in November 2014 (World Bank, 15/06/2015). The loss of health workers is expected to have had an impact on maternal health. The World Bank estimates a maternal mortality ratio of 1,916 per 100,000 live births in May 2015, a 74% increase compared to 2013 (World Bank, 08/07/2015).

**Ebola**

As of 23 August, 13,541 cumulative Ebola cases have been reported in Sierra Leone, including 3,952 deaths. No new case was reported for two consecutive weeks between 9–23 August; the last Ebola patient was discharged on 24 August (WHO, 26/08/2015). Six new cases were reported over 20 July – 9 August, including three in Tonkolili district, which had been case-free for 150 days (WHO, 09/08/2015). **29 contacts remain under follow-up across Western Area Urban (Freetown) and Western Area Rural, after contacts associated with the Tonkolili cases completed follow-up (WHO, 26/08/2015).**

Fear, fatigue, and denial of the disease continue to allow the virus to spread (BBC, 18/07/2015). Some people still resist infection prevention and control measures, such as safe burials (BBC, 14/07/2015). Safe transportation of suspected Ebola cases and ambulance safety also remain priorities (OCHA/UNCR, 06/08/2015).

**Containment measures:** Curfews in the worst affected communities, including in Kambia and Port Loko districts, have been extended indefinitely. Military and police are in charge of enforcement (AFP, 08/07/2015; UNMEER, 12/06/2015). Some restrictions on public gatherings were eased on 8 August as a result of lower case incidence (AFP, 08/08/2015). Requests have also increased for humanitarian teams conducting safe burials to be scaled up in areas hard to reach during the rainy season (WHO/OCHA, 25/08/2015).

**Regional Outbreak**

28,005 cumulative Ebola cases have been reported across the region, including 11,287 deaths (WHO, 26/08/2015). Challenges faced by Ebola survivors include adverse psychological effects, community stigmatisation and re-integration difficulties, diminished livelihoods, and persistent physical pain (WHO, 31/07/2015).

Porous borders between Sierra Leone and Guinea are posing a challenge to surveillance, and empowering county authorities to improve surveillance at points of entry along the borders remains a priority (OCHA/UNCR, 06/08/2015; UNMEER, 15/04/2015). Officials from both countries have established screening and information sharing protocols at border points between areas of active Ebola transmission (UNMEER, 07/04/2015; 15/04/2015). Cross-border movements have increased to 2,100 per day as Sierra Leone lifted some Ebola restrictions, raising the risk of rapid spread of the virus (WHO/OCHA, 25/08/2015).

**Nutrition**

It is predicted that, compared to observed trends from 1992 to 2012, the number of people who are undernourished during 2014–2016 could increase by 1.30–1.4% due to the Ebola outbreak (UNDG, 11/03/2015). A UNICEF assessment in 60 of 150 chiefdoms identified 273 (1.27%) children with SAM (UNICEF, 25/03/2015).

**WASH**

Health facilities along international borders are striving to comply with medical procedures and lack basic WASH facilities to ensure minimal hygiene conditions (OCHA/UNCR, 06/08/2015).

**Education**

87% of households reported all children were attending school in May. Of those who were not attending, less than 2% cited the school was still closed or was unsafe due to Ebola (World Bank, 15/06/2015). In another survey, 46% of households who reported not sending a child to school cited inability to afford school as the main reason (BRAC, 21/05/2015).

**Protection**

There have been allegations of beatings by police during the Ebola outbreak (Voice of America, 22/06/2015). Child protection issues have also emerged during and as a result of the Ebola outbreak.

**Orphans**

Orphans are considered particularly vulnerable: 8,624 Ebola orphans have been
registered as of 19 August (UNICEF, 19/08/2015). The Ebola outbreak has also had a significant impact on birth registration in Sierra Leone (UNICEF, 31/07/2015).

Due to limited household resources, children are predisposed and sometimes forced to engage in income-generating activities. There are reports of girls turning to sex work for income (The Guardian, 28/04/2015).

Updated: 27/08/2015

ANGOLA DROUGHT, FOOD INSECURITY

Severe humanitarian crisis = Pre-crisis vulnerability + % population affected + Humanitarian access

Severities: minimal | Low | moderate | severe

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

No significant developments this week, 27/08/2015. Last update, 23/06/2015.

KEY CONCERNS

- Prolonged dry conditions are affecting 700,000 people in Cunene and Huila province (FEWSNET, 06/2015).

Displacement

Refugees and asylum seekers

As of 30 May, nearly 8,130 irregular refugees in Soyo and Cabinda provinces have been expelled in 2015, including 1,846 women and 1,391 children (local media, 08/06/2015).

Refugee returnees

As of 23 April, at least 15,520 Angolan refugees have returned from DRC since 20 June 2014 via voluntary repatriation (Government, 30/04/2015). The latest process, begun in February, was interrupted on 6 June due to organisational issues (Government, 08/06/2015).

Food Security and Livelihoods

Households in Cunene, Huila, and Namibe provinces are expected to be in Stressed (IPC Phase 2) food insecurity between May and September due to the effects of the worst drought since 2011-2012 (FEWSNET, 22/06/2015). An estimated 700,000 people in Cunene and Huila are affected by prolonged dryness, through crop losses or livestock deterioration and death as of June (FAO, WFP, FEWSNET, World Vison, OCHA, Oxfam 15/06/2015).

Food availability

Torrential rains in March/April caused around 40% loss of the planted area in Ganda and Cubal in Benguela province (FEWSNET, 01/06/2015).

Prolonged dryness has caused around 60–80% loss of the cereals planted in western Huila and Cunene provinces (FEWSNET, 01/06/2015). Availability of preferred foods in some areas of Cunene is severely limited (FAO, 18/05/2015).

Food access

Food prices have increased significantly, especially in Huila, though this is also partly due to an increase in fuel costs late 2014 (FAO, 18/05/2015). In May, maize prices increased by 15% in Namibe and 21% in Ondjiva, Cunene compared to April (FEWSNET, 22/06/2015).

Livelihoods

Dryness and an increased prevalence of foot-and-mouth disease has already led to an estimated 1,000 cattle dying in Cunene, and another 1,500 in Cuando Cubango, deceeding pastoralist income and coping strategies (FEWSNET, 23/06/2015). Other traditional income sources, including agricultural labour and sale of cereals, are affected (FEWSNET, 01/06/2015).

Nutrition

An assessment conducted in April by the government and World Vision found 17% GAM among the children screened (World Vison, Government, 15/06/2015).

Protection

The current regime has been accused of targeting outspoken journalists, arbitrary arrest, and the use of excessive force to stop reported peaceful anti-government protest (HREW, 2015).

Mines and ERW

According to government sources, 42 areas in the municipalities of Cazengo, Cambambe, Golungo Alto, Samba Cajú, Ambaca, Ngonguembo and Quiculungo...
remain mined from the Angolan civil war (1975–2002) (Government, 05/07/2015).

Reviewed: 27/08/2015

http://geo.acaps.org/methodology

BURKINA FASO FOOD INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Situation of concern</th>
<th>Pre-crisis vulnerability</th>
<th>% population affected</th>
<th>Humanitarian access</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Severity</td>
<td>minimal</td>
<td>low</td>
<td>moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.2%</td>
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</tbody>
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See the methodology note for details.

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

23 August: Unidentified gunmen attacked a police post in Oudalan province, killing one; the incident is seen by some as linked to the growing insurgency in Mali (AFP).

KEY CONCERNS

- Long-term displacement of 34,030 Malian refugees continues to put pressure on the resources of host communities (UNHCR, 30/06/2015).

- More than 1.5 million people likely food insecure during the June–August lean season, and 499,000 children suffering from GAM (WFP/FAO, 31/03/2015; UNICEF, 30/03/2015).

- 24,354 people affected by August floods; the Government is preparing for up to 122,000 by the end of the rainy season in September and has appealed for international support (UNICEF, 4/08/2015; OCHA, 12/08/2015).

Politics and Security

Burkina Faso is being ruled by a transitional Government until the beginning of October, when presidential and legislative elections will be held (AFP, 02/06/2015). A transitional Government was set up in November 2014, after demonstrations in October 2014 against President Blaise Compaoré’s attempt to pass a bill extending his term of office. Parliament was dissolved and Compaoré resigned.

Political tensions have risen since April, when authorities adopted a new electoral code that prevents supporters of Compaoré’s bill from participating in the next presidential elections (ICG, 24/06/2015). After the Presidential Security Regiment (PSR) accused the Prime Minister of inventing a kidnap plot against himself, they called for his resignation. President Michel Kafando decided to maintain him as Prime Minister but some positions were reshuffled within the transitional government (ICG, 01/08/2015).

Unidentified gunmen attacked a police post in Oudalan province on 23 August, killing one policeman and injuring another; the incident is seen by some as linked to the growing insurgency in Mali (AFP, 25/08/2015).

Natural Disasters

Floods

Floods and heavy winds in seven regions of Burkina Faso early August affected 24,354 people, killed eight, and injured 54. Bissighin and Kilwin neighbourhoods in the capital Ouagadougou (Centre region), Dallo (Centre Ouest region), and Bama (Hauts-Bassins) were most affected (OCHA, 12/08/2015). Food, health, WASH, rehabilitation and legal documentation support are priorities. The Government is planning for up to 122,000 people affected by the end of the rainy season in September, and has appealed for international support (UNICEF, 14/08/2015; ECHO, 07/08/2015).

Displacement

Refugees and asylum seekers

As of 30 June, there are 34,030 refugees in Burkina Faso. 33,700 are Malian refugees, more than half of them children. 76% of Malian refugees are residing in camps in Mentao, Goudebo, Bobo Dioulasso, and Ouagadougou in northern Burkina Faso; Saag-Nionio refugee camp was closed in March, with refugees relocated to other camps (UNHCR, 30/06/2015; WFP, 30/04/2015). Malian families mainly arrive from Gao and Timbuktu regions, fleeing political tensions and social unrest (UNHCR, 30/06/2015).

Food Security and Livelihoods

During the June–August lean season, 371,000 people are likely in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and 1.2 million in Stressed (IPC Phase 2) food security outcomes, compared to 79,000 and 669,000 between March and May (WFP/FAO, 31/03/2015). Poor households in Tin-Akoff commune in Oudalan province, and Nassoumbou and Koutougou communes in Soum province in the Sahel region, have faced Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food security outcomes since April (FEWSNET, 30/04/2015; FEWSNET, 22/05/2015). Abnormal dryness is expected to continue through the end of the year (FEWSNET, 24/06/2015).

Food availability

Floods in northern areas early August carried away more than 64 tonnes of cereal harvests and livestock, leaving households with few to no food reserves and prone to negative coping mechanisms (IRIN, 07/08/2015).
Plants have been significantly delayed in northern areas due to abnormal dryness in the first part of the year (OCHA, 27/07/2015). Rainfall in July and August will be essential for crops to recover from delays at the start of the growing season (WFP, 01/07/2015). A high de-capitalisation of livestock was also reported between April and June in Oudalan province due to fodder deficits and lack of water points (WFP/FAO, 31/07/2015).

Food stocks of poor households in Tin-Akoff commune in Oudalan province, and Nassoumbou and Koutougou communes in Soum province in the Sahel region have been depleted since January due to below-average 2014 harvests and reduced livestock prices (FEWSNET, 30/04/2015; FEWSNET, 22/05/2015).

Livelihoods

Pastoral conditions in the north have been affected by abnormal dryness, especially in Oudalan province, impacting in turn transhumance and increasing the risk of conflict over resources (OCHA, 27/07/2015; FEWSNET, 30/06/2015). Disruptions in the functioning of the main drilling hole providing water to the Sahel region of Burkina Faso between April and May has caused the death of some 2,000 cattle, affecting the food security vulnerability of their owners (UNHCR, 30/06/2015).

Poor households in Tin-Akoff, Nassoumbou, and Koutougou communes have resorted to coping mechanisms such as selling part of their livestock (FEWSNET, 30/04/2015; FEWSNET, 22/05/2015).

Sahel food crisis: regional overview

At least 7.5 million are facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food security outcomes across the Sahel and West Africa through August, and 26.6 million Stressed (IPC Phase 2) food security outcomes (Cadre Harmonisé, 06/2015). In 2014, food insecurity rose dramatically to 24.7 million food insecure people, compared to 2013, when 11.3 million people had inadequate food (OCHA, 03/02/2015).

Nutrition

In 2015, 499,000 children are estimated to suffer from acute malnutrition (8.6% of the under-five population), including 149,000 from SAM (UNICEF, 30/03/2015). Two out of three children suffering from undernutrition receive inadequate medical assistance (WFP, 23/06/2015).

WASH

Mobile latrines and potable water are priorities following the August floods, as the worst-affected areas in Ouagadougou are non-planned areas of the city, where there is no proper sewage system (IRIN, 07/08/2015).

BURUNDI FOOD INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT, POLITICAL UNREST

KEY CONCERNS

- 182,845 Burundians fleeing political unrest have been registered as refugees in Rwanda, DRC, Tanzania, and Uganda since April (UNHCR, 10/08/2015).
- 100,000 Burundians require urgent food assistance from mid-June to mid–September. Priority areas for intervention include Kirundo, Makamba, and Bujumbura (WFP, 31/07/2015).

OVERVIEW

The political turmoil is exacerbating a chronic situation of unmet humanitarian needs. A contingency plan has been activated. As of June, 270,000 were estimated to be affected. This number includes those displaced to neighbouring countries (OCHA, 06/06/2015; WFP, 26/06/2015). Priority areas are Kirundo and Makamba provinces, and the city of Bujumbura (OCHA, 06/06/2015).
Political instability and violence have been ongoing since April, when President Nkurunziza announced his intention to run for a third term (Reuters, 20/03/2015). The security situation deteriorated rapidly after Nkurunziza’s re-election end July, and some say risks degenerating into a renewed armed conflict with possible repercussions in the sub-region and mass atrocities (WFP, 14/08/2015; UNSC, 10/08/2015). On 20 August President Nkurunziza was sworn in for his third term, in advance of schedule and with short notice (AFP, 20/08/2015). He has unveiled his new cabinet, which is criticised as being dominated by loyalists, in contrast with earlier assurances that he would put in place a government of national unity (AFP, 25/08/2015).

**Political instability**

Nkurunziza was re-elected President on 24 July, with 69% of the votes. The election was widely declared as not credible (UN, 27/07/2015; AFP, 27/07/2015). Three out of eight candidates had pulled out of the race (AFP, 19/07/2015; 18/07/2015). The ruling party also won a majority of seats in parliamentary elections on 29 June, condemned by the EU and AU for taking place in an inappropriate context; a boycott by 17 opposition groups kept the turnout low (AFP, 07/07/2015; Al Jazeera, 29/06/2015).

On 30 July, leaders of the opposition in Addis Ababa in Ethiopia met to form a coalition (AFP, 30/07/2015). Several top officials have fled the country, including the Vice President and head of Parliament at end June (AFP, 28/06/2015; 25/06/2015).

Large protests denouncing Nkurunziza’s candidacy for a third term were held between April and July, mostly in the capital Bujumbura, where military forces have been deployed, but also in some communes in Bujumbura Rural and Bururi provinces (OCHA, 12/05/2015; AFP, 05/06/2015; 18/05/2015). A coup led by the former head of intelligence was attempted in May, but failed after two days of intense clashes in the capital (BBC, 13/05/2015).

**Recent incidents**

At least 96 people have been killed, including eight children, since violence began in April. Over 500 have been injured, while more than 600 have been arrested and detained, including minors (OHCHR, 14/08/2015; OCHA, 05/07/2015).

Three figures in government and civil society were killed in Bujumbura, and a prominent human rights activist shot and injured by an unidentified attacker between 2–15 August, representing an increase in political instability and a possible escalation of internal conflict (UN, 17/08/2015; Reuters, 05/08/2015; HRW, 04/08/2015; AFP, 02/08/2015).

**Bujumbura:** Clashes occur nightly during police patrols in areas where people have been protesting Nkurunziza’s third term since end July (WFP, 14/08/2015). Three people were killed in overnight violence on 13 August (AFP, 13/08/2015). Four people were wounded in a grenade attack on 23 July, a day before Nkurunziza’s election; blasts and shootings were heard at polling stations on 21 June and at least two people, including a police officer, were killed in a string of explosions and gunfire the day before (AFP, 24/07/2015; 21/07/2015). Violence also rose ahead of and following the 29 June parliamentary elections (AFP, 01/07/2015; 29/06/2015; 28/06/2015; 22/06/2015).

**Kayanza:** 31 gunmen died and 221 were captured in clashes with government troops near the border with Rwanda on 11 July. Some see the clash as a precursor to an insurgency by a section of the army that backed the failed May coup (OCHA, 16/07/2015; Press TV, 13/07/2015).

**Makamba:** Clashes between the Burundian army and unidentified armed groups on 25 July displaced an unconfirmed number of people, who have returned home (OCHA, 31/07/2015).

**Economic**

Foreign aid has significantly decreased since the onset of the crisis; following Nkurunziza’s re-election, a number of countries declared that trade and political and development aid cooperation would be reviewed (UNICEF, 26/08/2015; AFP, 24/07/2015).

**Displacement**

The political crisis since April has led to limited internal displacement, but displaced more than 186,300 Burundians to neighbouring countries. There are 77,600 protracted IDPs in Burundi, mostly ethnic Tutsis, and 79,000 returnees going through a reintegration process. Burundi also hosts 54,800 refugees from DRC, mainly in border regions.

**IDPs**

Internal displacement has been minimal since April: some people have moved to different neighbourhoods of Bujumbura or to their home villages. It is estimated that up to 250,000 people could be displaced in the first six months of an election crisis and related violence in Burundi (HCT, 24/04/2015; START Network, 20/05/2015).

As of January, Burundi had 77,600 IDPs, mostly ethnic Tutsis, living in and around 120 sites in northern and central Burundi (IDMC, 31/01/2015).

**Refugees and asylum seekers**

As of June, Burundi is host to 54,800 refugees from DRC, mainly in the border regions of Ngozi, Ruyigi, Muyinga, Cankuzo, and Bubanza (UNHCR, 03/06/2015). Since the beginning of the political crisis, refugees have been requesting relocation (UNHCR, 05/06/2015).

**Refugee returnees**
As of June, Burundi is host to 54,800 refugees from DRC, mainly in the border regions of Ngozi, Ruyigi, Muyinga, Cankuzo, and Bubanza (UNHCR, 03/06/2015). Since the beginning of the political crisis, refugees have been requesting relocation (UNHCR, 05/06/2015).

**Burundian refugees in neighbouring countries**

As of 25 August, 190,509 Burundian refugees have been registered in Rwanda, DRC, Uganda, and Tanzania since early April (UNHCR, 25/08/2015). Around 10,450 Burundians fled the country between 19–27 July, because of the presidential elections (UNHCR, 27/07/2015). Arrivals have been increasing at a rate of 2,000 per week in July. The majority are women and children (WFP, 13/07/2015).

**Tanzania:** Around 87,277 Burundian refugees have been registered since April. Nearly all of them are in Nyarugusu refugee camp, which is overcrowded and where protection, health and WASH conditions are critical (ECHO, 31/07/2015; UNHCR, 25/08/2015).

**Rwanda:** 75,327 Burundian refugees have been registered in Rwanda since April. The majority are in Mahama camp – where lack of safe water and latrines is of great concern. The overall population of the camp increased by 28% during the month of August, further straining resources. Remaining Burundian refugees are in Kigali, Huye district, Bugesera and Nyanza reception centres, and Nyagatare transit centre (ECHO, 31/07/2015; UNHCR, 25/08/2015).

**DRC:** 14,322 Burundians have been registered in DRC since April, and are being relocated from host communities to Lusenda refugee site in South Kivu (UNHCR, 10/08/2015). New influxes could destabilise volatile relationships between ethnic groups (Cordaid, 20/07/2015).

**Uganda:** 13,590 Burundian refugees have been registered since April. The majority are in two sites in Mbarara (Nakivale camp) and Misiera villages (UNHCR, 18/08/2015).

**Access**

UN agencies have been unable to access many parts of the country due to violence. In particular there have been restrictions on the delivery of food supplies from warehouses to distribution sites (WFP, 30/06/2015).

**Food Security and Livelihoods**

About 100,000 people affected by political instability require urgent food assistance between mid-June and mid-September. Kirundo, Muyinga, Makamba, and Bujumbura are priority areas (WFP, 31/07/2015; 16/06/2015). Poor households are expected to face Stressed (IPC Phase 2) food security outcomes through December in the presence of assistance (FEWSNET, 31/07/2015). Needs are also expected to grow in southern and western provinces, even if the political situation is resolved (WFP, 15/06/2015).

**Food Availability**

Production from the June Season B harvest in Muyinga and Kirundo provinces was significantly affected by the political crisis and late rains in the first half of the year (FEWSNET, 31/07/2015). 50,000 people in Kirundo are newly food insecure owing to these failed harvests; the province is facing an alarming humanitarian situation (WFP, 03/07/2015; OCHA/UNHCR, 25/06/2015; WFP, 30/07/2015).

**Food Accessibility**

Food prices declined significantly during the mid-June through July post-Season B harvest period across the country, but remained higher than the five-year average, particularly in Bujumbura, Ruyigi, Muyinga, and Gitega markets (FEWSNET, 31/07/2015; 30/06/2015). In these areas, prices have risen and household income has been significantly reduced; in Bujumbura and Kirundo provinces, food prices rose by 32% and 21% on average, respectively (WFP, 31/07/2015; Save the Children/War Child/Terre des Hommes, 23/07/2015).

**Livelihoods**

Slowed economic activities in Bujumbura during the protests, with most businesses and banks closed, hampered an already fragile economy (OCHA, 04/05/2015).

**Health**

Psychological needs have increased as a result of political instability. A cholera outbreak was ongoing, but has reportedly been contained as of end of July.

**Healthcare availability and access**

A shortage of hospital beds is reported during periods of mass causalities in Bujumbura. Emergency services are hindered by the small number of ambulances venturing out at night (MSF, 26/08/2015). There is risk of a shortage of essential medicines in the coming months (UNICEF, 26/08/2015).

**Mental health**

Children are increasingly in need of psychological care as a result of the prolonged crisis (UNICEF, 15/07/2015).

**Cholera**

As of 28 July, 181 cases of cholera have been reported, including five deaths, in Nyanza
Lac commune of Makamba province. The outbreak has reportedly been contained, but the prevention campaign in Nyanza Lac commune was delayed due to insecurity. Prevention coordination is required as cholera is endemic in September and October (UNICEF, 29/07/2015; 15/07/2015).

**Nutrition**

Malnutrition is a key concern in Kirundo province: below-average rainfall in the past months have taken GAM rates to 6%, including 1.5% SAM (OCHA, 29/06/2015). Malnutrition has also increased in Nyanza-Lac health district in Makamba province, a transit area for many Burundians fleeing to Tanzania, reaching 8.3% GAM, including 1% SAM (UNICEF, 12/08/2015). Reduction of household income is reportedly starting to impact nutrition levels (Save the Children/War Child/Terre des Hommes, 23/07/2015).

**WASH**

WASH has been identified as a priority in the context of the political crisis and cholera outbreak.

**Hygiene**

Non-availability of soap, including due to high prices, is a barrier to handwashing for households and a concern in the context of cholera (UNICEF, 29/07/2015; 15/07/2015).

**Education**

Access and learning environment

Many schools in Bujumbura closed during the protests; in July, where schools were open, attendance was low due to fear of insecurity (Save the Children/War Child/Terre des Hommes, 23/07/2015). Cases of exclusion from secondary school on the grounds of students’ political affiliation have been reported from Muyinga province (UNICEF, 29/07/2015).

**Protection**

Police and intelligence services have reportedly responded to demonstrations with a pattern of excessive and disproportionate force (Amnesty, 22/07/2015). At least 148 cases of arbitrary arrests and ill treatment by intelligence officials, police and members of the Imbonerakure were documented between April and July (HRW, 06/08/2015). Burundians are reporting harassment and disappearance of family members associated with the political opposition (ICG/UNHCR, 17/04/2015).

Imbonerakure is accused of severe abuse including torture, threats, and intimidation, including toward refugees (Amnesty, 24/08/2015).

Increasing violations and incidents affecting the exercise of public freedoms, including the rights of peaceful assembly, association, and expression, is a major concern (UNSC, 07/07/2015). Privately owned media remain closed (RSF, 15/07/2015). Journalists are reportedly facing violence and intimidation from authorities and members of the Imbonerakure (RSF, 30/04/2015; HRW, 22/01/2015).

**Children**

Following fighting in Kayanza province in July, 17 minors were sentenced on charges of involvement in armed groups, while 34 remain in preventive detention as they await trial (UNICEF, 12/08/2015).

Following fighting in Kayanza province in July, 52 children have been arrested and charged with involvement in armed groups (UNICEF, 26/08/2015).

Many children caught up in protests have been detained (OCHA/UNHCR, 25/06/2015). 70% of the refugees fleeing into neighbouring countries are under 18 and a significant number have been separated or are unaccompanied (UNICEF, 12/04/2015; IFRC, 10/06/2015).

**GUINEA FOOD INSECURITY, EPIDEMIC**

**LATEST DEVELOPMENTS**

**26 August:** Three new cases were confirmed from Ratoma in Conakry in the week to 23 August. 600 contacts remain under follow-up across four prefectures (WHO).

**25 August:** Cross-border movements have increased to 2,100 per day as Sierra Leone lifted some Ebola restrictions, raising the risk of rapid spread of the virus (WHO/OCHA).

**KEY CONCERNS**

- As of 23 August, 3,792 cumulative Ebola cases, including 2,527 deaths. The cumulative number of reported Ebola cases across the region has reached 28,005, including 11,287 deaths (WHO, 26/08/2015). Numbers are largely inaccurate.
7.5 million people are living in areas worst affected by the Ebola crisis, including 4.3 million children. Priority needs include health, food security, and nutrition support (UNICEF, 29/07/2015; OCHA, 09/07/2015).

1.9 million people are food insecure, including 59,000 severely (WFP/FAO/IFAD/Government, 01/07/2015).

Resistance to the Ebola response continues to be reported and is complicating case detection.

For more information on the Ebola crisis in West Africa, visit the ACAPS Ebola Needs Analysis Project page.

Politics and security

The Ebola response has increased tensions between President Condé’s ethnic group, the Malinke, who make up about 35% of the population, and the Fulani ethnic group, representing about 40% of the population, who mainly support the opposition (local media, 18/10/2014).

Political instability

Presidential elections are scheduled for 11 October (BBC, 25/07/2015). In January, and again in April and May, the opposition staged violent protests, demanding the revision of the electoral calendar. Local elections, which could galvanise support for the opposition, have been scheduled for March 2016, after planned presidential elections (local media, 10/05/2015; ICG, 01/02/2015). At least two protestors were killed and 146 injured in the April-May protests (HRW, 30/07/2015). The opposition has indicated new protests might be staged in the coming months (L’express Guinee, 08/07/2015; Africa Guinee, 21/07/2015).

Resistance to Ebola Response

The Prime Minister has announced measures against resistance to the Ebola response, including prosecution of those who hide patients from medical teams or those who hold medical teams hostage (international media, 12/01/2015). Security forces are enforcing penalties, including imprisonment, for disobeying burial policies (BBC, 25/05/2015).

Natural disaster

Floods

Heavy rains caused severe flooding in Conakry and six other prefectures (Telimele, Macenta, Siguiri, Beyla, Forecariah and Coyah) over 24 July – 3 August. Around 29,600 people have been affected, nine killed, 624 displaced, and 6,181 houses destroyed or damaged. Significant damage to WASH facilities has also been reported, increasing the risk of a deterioration of the health situation in these areas (IFRC, 12/08/2015).

Displacement

Refugees

As of February, there were nearly 8,850 refugees in Guinea, mostly from Ivory Coast. Voluntary returns of Ivorians from Guinea came to a standstill during the Ebola outbreak (UNHCR, 02/03/2015).

Humanitarian access

Response activities are hampered by poor road infrastructure outside the capital, the rainy season, and community resistance to the Ebola response.

Security and physical constraints

Access to communities outside the capital is severely hampered by poor road infrastructure (OCHA, 16/09/2014). The onset of the rainy season is making field operations more difficult.

Hostility towards health workers continues to hamper response efforts, particularly in western prefectures (OCHA, 01/07/2015; UN, 03/06/2015). Rumours about Ebola persist. Though community and family resistance to the response have decreased, the main challenge remains resistance at the individual level, which can lead to unsafe burials or refusal to take a sick relative to an Ebola treatment centre (UNICEF, 16/07/2015).

In Telimele prefecture, access constraints were reported in several localities, including resistance to contact tracing and a lack of implementing Ebola prevention measures, including due to lack of information or misinformation (UNMEER, 26/06/2015; USAID, 25/02/2015).

Food Security and Livelihoods

As of May, 1.9 million people were food insecure, including 59,000 severely. More than half of food insecure people are in Labe and Nzerekore. Kindia, Boke, Kankan, and Faranah are also significantly affected, due to the Ebola outbreak (IFAD/WFP/FAO/Government, 01/07/2015). As of March, 393,000 people were projected to be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food security between June and August (Cadre Harmonisé, 11/03/2015).

Most households will continue to face Stressed (IPC Phase 2) food security outcomes until October, particularly those directly affected by Ebola. In areas that remain unaffected by Ebola, food insecurity is mainly due to effects of the outbreak on economic activities, productivity and livelihoods (WFP/FAO/IFAD/Government, 01/07/2015). Food security is expected to improve following the upcoming October harvest (FEWSNET, 31/07/2015).
Food insecurity is substantially lower than in 2012 and 2009, as the drop in export demand has resulted in an increase in food availability in production zones, and some 7% of households received food distributions during the Ebola outbreak (WFP/FAO/IFAD/Government, 01/07/2015).

Food availability

Exports of agricultural products to neighbouring countries remain low due to fears of Ebola (FEWSNET, 31/07/2015). The impact of Ebola on export earnings has compromised Guinea’s ability to import more; international support is required to cover a gap of 44,000 tonnes of rice and wheat (as compared to the 2015 import requirements) (FAO, 07/08/2015).

The Ebola outbreak resulted in serious shocks to the agriculture and food sectors in 2014, as it disrupted crop maintenance and harvesting through labour shortages. Food production dropped by 3% compared to 2013; rice production in particular, dropped by 4% (FAO, 07/08/2015). Better prospects are expected for the October 2015 harvest, which will improve food security and livelihoods (FEWSNET, 31/07/2015).

Food access

Households that have lost one or more members to Ebola continue to see a decrease in revenue (WFP/FAO/IFAD/Government, 01/07/2015).

Livelihoods

Households are using more negative coping strategies than in Sierra Leone and Liberia, including due to the onset of the lean season. Coping levels are particularly high in Nzerekore, which was most affected by quarantines during the Ebola outbreak; they are also elevated in Boké, Faranah and Kankan. Conakry reported the lowest level of negative coping strategies. Perceptions of food security are lowest in western areas of Guinea, but better than in the other Ebola-affected countries, according to a June remote WFP assessment (WFP, 30/06/2015).

Health

The availability and accessibility of health services has fallen as resources have been redirected to the Ebola response; many health workers have also been lost during the outbreak. Ebola cases are still reported, as well as continuing risks of hidden transmission, including due to inadequate contact tracing. Measles and malaria cases remain high, while prevention around cholera remains critical to protect Guinea from an outbreak.

Healthcare availability and access

Availability and accessibility of maternal health services and child vaccination programmes have been most affected (OCHA, 09/07/2015). A 31% decline in maternal, newborn and child health service outpatients was reported between October-December 2013/2014, particularly in hospitals (PLOS, 04/08/2015).

The loss of health workers due to Ebola represents a decrease of around 1.8% (from the 5,395 registered before the outbreak), and could result in a 38% increase in maternal mortality rates (AFP, 08/07/2015; World Bank, 08/07/2015). 196 Ebola cases have been reported among health workers, including 98 deaths (WHO, 26/08/2015).

Ebola

As of 23 August, 3,792 cumulative Ebola cases, including 2,527 deaths, have been reported in Guinea. In the week to 23 August, three new cases were confirmed from Ratoma in Conakry. 600 contacts remain under follow-up across Conakry, Coyah, Dubreka and Forecariah prefectures (WHO, 26/08/2015).

Inadequate management and detection of new cases, including due to a lack of trust in the response, and incomplete contact tracing (particularly due to reports of contacts travelling to other prefectures to evade surveillance) have been reported. This increases the risk of hidden transmission (WHO, 08/07/2015; ECHO, 30/06/2015). As of 16 August, 45 contacts have been lost to follow-up, including high risk contacts (WHO, 19/08/2015).

Containment measures: Authorities have deployed 600 trained police officers to monitor traffic in the capital and surrounding areas to ensure that drivers are not transporting dead bodies, and to ensure that burials are conducted safely (WHO/OCHA, 18/08/2015). On 20 July, a quarantine targeted 90 households that included high risk contacts in Matam and Ratoma communes of Conakry (USAID, 21/07/2015). Four infection hotspots in Forecariah, Dubreka, and Boké are also under quarantine (WHO, 01/07/2015; Reuters, 24/06/2015). Although improvements in infection-control behaviors have been reported, many staff remain untrained on Ebola infection control (PLOS, 04/08/2015).

Regional Outbreak

28,005 cumulative Ebola cases have been reported across the region, including 11,287 deaths (WHO, 26/08/2015). Challenges faced by Ebola survivors include adverse psychological effects, community stigmatisation and re-integration difficulties, diminished livelihoods, and persistent physical pain (WHO, 31/07/2015).

Porous borders between Sierra Leone and Guinea are posing a challenge to surveillance, and empowering county authorities to improve surveillance at points of entry along the borders remains a priority (OCHA/UNCR, 06/08/2015; UNMEER, 15/04/2015). Officials from both countries have established screening and information sharing protocols at border points between areas of active Ebola transmission (UNMEER, 07/04/2015; 15/04/2015). Cross-border movements have increased to 2,100 per day as Sierra Leone lifted
Cross-border movements have increased to 2,100 per day as Sierra Leone lifted some Ebola restrictions, raising the risk of rapid spread of the virus (WHO/OCHA, 25/08/2015).

Malaria

Untreated malaria has surged, due to fear from the Ebola epidemic, and has probably caused many more deaths than Ebola. At the height of the outbreak (December 2014), the number of malaria patients receiving oral and injectible medication compared to 2011 decreased by 24% and 30%, respectively. The decrease was largest in Ebola-affected areas. Extrapolation of the results indicates an estimated 74,000 malaria cases have gone untreated (AFP, 23/06/2015).

Measles

As of 14 June, 2,029 suspected measles cases have been reported in 2015, including ten deaths (ALIMA, 03/07/2015). Peaks have been observed in Lola, Macenta, and Nzerekore prefectures. 80% of confirmed cases are among children under five, and 14% of confirmed cases have been vaccinated (WHO, 20/05/2015). 266 cases were reported in 2014 (WHO, 11/02/2015).

Nutrition

In the first four months of 2015, 12,000 SAM cases were identified in health facilities. Projections of a total SAM caseload of 36,000 by the end of the year represents a nearly 13% increase compared to 2014 (OCHA, 09/07/2015).

Protection

Protection issues have emerged with the Ebola outbreak, including linked to children, health workers and survivors, and gender-based violence.

Excessive use of force by Guinea’s security forces when responding to election-related opposition protests in April and May has also been reported (HRW, 30/07/2015).

Children

As of 19 August, 6,179 children have been identified as having lost one or both parents to Ebola (UNICEF, 19/08/2015).

Vulnerable groups

Health workers and survivors are stigmatised (MSF, 26/01/2015). There are reports of recovered patients not being accepted into their communities, despite awareness-raising activities in the community (USAID, 18/03/2015).

Gender

Increases in cases of SGBV have been reported in certain areas with a high Ebola caseload, particularly in Nzerekore, where the number of reports increased four-fold, and Kankan, where rape specifically had doubled in 2014, compared to 2013 (OCHA, 09/07/2015).

Reviewed: 27/08/2015

MADAGASCAR DROUGHT, FOOD INSECURITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Situation of concern</th>
<th>Pre-crisis vulnerability</th>
<th>% population affected</th>
<th>Humanitarian access</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Severity</td>
<td>low</td>
<td>moderate</td>
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See the methodology note for details.

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

August 19: An increase in the number of people in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food insecurity outcomes is expected, particularly in Tsihombe and Ambovombe, from August until February 2016 (FEWSNET, 19/08/2015).

KEY CONCERNS

- 579,000 severely food insecure; 200,000 require immediate food assistance (FAO, WFP, FEWSNET, and other, 15/06/2015; FAO, 11/05/2015).

- Currently experiencing the worst drought conditions in six years (FAO, WFP, FEWSNET, and others, 15/06/2015; FAO, 11/05/2015).

Food Security and Livelihoods

579,000 people are severely food insecure in seven southern regions, according to a food security assessment. 200,000 people require immediate food assistance, particularly in the drought-affected regions of Androy and Anosy.

Severe drought conditions, low food availability and reduced effectiveness of coping strategies are causing an increase in food insecurity. The food security situation will deteriorate for many households between August–February if current trends continue. An increase in the number of people in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food insecurity outcomes is expected, particularly in Tsihombe and Ambovombe (FEWSNET, 19/08/2015).
The worst drought conditions in six years have led to below-average crop production, and early exhaustion of food stocks (FAO, WFP, FEWSNET, and others, 15/06/2015; FAO, 11/05/2015). Agricultural production fell, due to a prolonged dry spell from mid-January to May. This is the third consecutive annual decrease, with production now at a five-year low: 9% less rice has been produced than the average year, 11% less maize, and 13% less cassava (FAO, WFP, FEWSNET, and others, 15/06/2015; FAO, 11/05/2015).

Most households stocks will not last beyond August–September.

**Food access**

In markets, staple food prices have doubled in the worst-affected regions of Androy and Anosy, and have increased 40% nationally (FAO, WFP, FEWSNET, and others, 15/06/2015; FAO, 11/05/2015).

**Livelihoods**

Poor households are engaging in some atypical coping strategies, such as increased consumption of cactus fruit in the post-harvest period, and some are starting to borrow to access food (FEWSNET, 30/06/2015). Reduced effectiveness of coping strategies because of last year’s lean season is further deteriorating food security (FAO, WFP, FEWSNET, and others, 15/06/2015; FAO, 11/05/2015).

Updated: 27/08/2015

**UGANDA DISPLACEMENT**

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**LATEST DEVELOPMENTS**

No new significant developments this week, 26/08/2015. Last update: 19/08/2015.

**KEY CONCERNS**

- 187,809 DRC refugees, 183,460 South Sudanese refugees, and 24,782 refugees from Burundi, are in Uganda (UNHCR, 26/08/2015; 20/08/2015; 31/07/2015).

- Reports indicate that the majority of Burundians entering Uganda do not cross at official border points. Border statistics may not reflect the real number of Burundians in Uganda (UNICEF, 12/08/2015).

- Malaria is still reported as the leading cause of morbidity among refugees, yet only 23.3% of those requiring treatment for malaria receive it (UNHCR, 22/07/2015).

- In Gulu district alone, 76,904 patients have been diagnosed with malaria at different health facilities since April. 3,398 of these were hospitalised because of severe impact of the disease and 62 died. The number of malaria cases per day per medical facility rose from 40 in May to 100 in July (Acholi Times, 30/07/2015; The Independent – Uganda, 10/08/2015).

- In Karamoja, GAM rates of 13.4% are the highest recorded in the last five years, while SAM remains above 3% (UNICEF, 23/01/2015).

**Displacement**

**IDPs**

As of March, Uganda has 30,136 IDPs (OCHA, 19/05/2015).

**Refugees and asylum seekers**

As of 12 August, Uganda is hosting more than 480,000 refugees (WFP, 12/08/2015). Refugees are hosted in settlements in Adjumani, Kiryandongo, Kampala, Moyo, Nakivale, and Arua districts (UNHCR, 24/11/2014). Refugees from Burundi and South Sudan are expected to remain in need of assistance up to February 2016 (FEWSNET, 19/08/2015).

**Burundi:** As of 18 August, there are 24,782 refugees from Burundi, with 13,590 having arrived since 1 January 2015 (UNHCR, 26/08/2015). However, reports indicate that the majority of Burundian entering Uganda do not cross at official border points. Data gathered at the border may not reflect the actual number of Burundians in Uganda (UNICEF, 12/08/2015). More than 1,000 arrived in the ten days up to 20 July (UNHCR, 21/07/2015). Refugees are being relocated to Nakivale refugee settlement in Isingoro district, and Nyakabande transit camp in Kisoro district. (WFP, 16/07/2015; 13/07/2015; IRIN, 04/06/2015; UNHCR, 28/05/2015). Up to 30,000 are expected to arrive up to December 2015 (UNHCR 10/08/2015).

**South Sudan:** As of 19 August, 161,196 South Sudanese refugees have arrived in Uganda since December 2013 (UNHCR 21/08/2015). The total number of South Sudanese refugees in Uganda is 183,460 and is expected to reach 210,000 by the end of 2015 (WFP, 11/08/2015; UNHCR 20/08/2015). Priority needs are NFIs, livelihoods, and psychological support. Refugees cite continued insecurity, economic hardship, and lack of food as their reason for fleeing (UNHCR, 03/07/2015; WFP, 26/06/2015;
and lack of food as their reason for fleeing (UNHCR, 03/07/2015; WFP, 26/06/2015; ACT, 15/04/2015).

Somalia:
As of 7 July, there are 29,053 Somali refugees (UNHCR, 07/07/2015).

DRC:
As of 30 July, 187,809 refugees are from DRC: 18,479 arrived in the first half of 2015 (UNHCR 31/07/2015).

Humanitarian Access

A proposed new law would give Ugandan authorities the right to supervise, approve, inspect, and dissolve all NGOs working in Uganda, in addition to imposing severe criminal penalties for violations (IRIN, 10/07/2015).

Security and physical constraints

According to Human Rights Watch, NGOs working on politically sensitive issues have reportedly been subject to intimidation and threats (HRW, 02/07/2015).

Food Security and Livelihoods

The cost of the minimum food basket has increased by more than 10%. The depreciation of the national currency, together with an increase in fuel prices and in maize exports to South Sudan led to an increase in seasonally adjusted prices for cassava flour (+10%), maize flour (+4%), millet (+9%) and beans (+19%) (WFP, 30/07/2015).

Livelihoods

Poor households do not have sufficient income to maintain adequate food consumption in Kaabong, Moroto, and northern parts of Nakapiripirit (FEWSNET, 30/06/2015).

Food availability

In Karamoja the harvests will arrive two to three months later than normal. This will cause the lean season to last longer, together with the poor diet that it causes (FEWSNET, 01/08/2015).

Food access

Based on the current status of funding, Uganda is expected to face a breakdown in the provision of food and humanitarian assistance after August 2015 (WFP, 11/08/2015).

20% of poor households will face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food security outcomes through September, as a result of limited purchasing power (FEWSNET, 30/06/2015). Projections indicate that prices will remain stable, ensuring the households preserve some purchasing power, however many households are likely to remain Stressed (IPC Phase 2) throughout December (FEWSNET, 01/08/2015).

Health

The rapid expansion of refugee camps has strained health services (UNFPA, 16/02/2015).

Healthcare availability and access

Health centres affected by the refugee influx require immunisation support, as well as medical infrastructure and supply support, especially in Arua (UNICEF, 15/04/2015; UNHCR, 20/01/2015).

Disease outbreaks

In mid-August, 1,755 people attended a free of charge, three-day clinic organised at Kiyuni Health Centre III in Gayaza East sub-county, Kyankwanzi District. 576 people were diagnosed with malaria and 503 with pneumonia. Most of the people affected were children five years and above, pregnant women, and people with HIV (The Monitor, 19/08/2015).

Cholera

Disaster-prone areas of East Africa, including the Kasese district in Uganda, are expected to have a high incidence of cholera this year due to flooding caused by El Niño (local media, 22/08/2015). As of 11 August a cholera outbreak with 29 confirmed cases was reported in Arua District; the refugees in the area were not affected (WFP, 11/08/2015). As of 15 July, 246 cumulative cholera cases had been reported in Kasese district since March, including two deaths (CFR 0.8%). In the week to 4 July, ten new cases were reported (Government, 20/07/2015).

Malaria

The Ministry of Health has confirmed a malaria outbreak, which is affecting ten districts in the north (AllAfrica, 16/07/2015). One source indicates 375,000 cases in total and 165 deaths over May-July (New Vision, 23/07/2015).

In Gulu district, 76,904 patients have been diagnosed with malaria at different health facilities since April: 3,398 were hospitalised and 62 died. The number of malaria
cases per day per medical facility rose from 40 in May to 100 in July (Acholi Times, 30/07/2015, The Independent – Uganda, 10/08/2015). Kitgum district has reported 5,382 cases (AllAfrica, 16/07/2015). Malaria is still reported as the leading cause of morbidity among refugees, yet only 23.3% of those requiring treatment for malaria receive it (UNHCR, 22/07/2015).

**Measles**

The number of measles cases is increasing in Kampala and Kamwenge. Kamwenge has confirmed a measles outbreak. Both districts reported more than ten cases in the week to 4 July (Government, 20/07/2015).

**Typhoid**

More than 10,230 cases of typhoid have been confirmed in Kampala, Wakiso, and Mukono districts in 2015, due to consumption of contaminated water. Six deaths have been reported. The outbreak was declared under control on 16 June (local media, 16/06/015). The number of cases continues to decline, with 2,245 reported in the week to 4 July, compared to 2,400 cases the previous week. Kampala reported the highest number of cases, with 421 cases in one week (Government, 20/07/2015).

**Nutrition**

Food availability is not a major issue in Uganda, however the use of food or food access can be inadequate in some areas. The average stunting nationwide is at 33%, and wasting is at 5%. In Karamoja, wasting is up to 7% and stunting as high as 45% because households’ capacity to provide adequate food has been disrupted by recent drought (WFP, 21/08/2015; The Monitor, 14/08/2015).

GAM among South Sudanese refugee children reaches 20.3% and SAM 4.6% (UNICEF, 21/05/2015).

**Shelter and NFIs**

Urgent food, NFIs, and shelter needs have been identified within the new Mahiga site in Rwamwanja refugee settlement, Kamwenge district. There are 11,200 refugees in Mahiga and new arrivals continue to overstretch capacities (ACT, 05/06/2015).

**Education**

Access and learning environment

In Isingoro district, the influx of Burundian refugees to Nakivale refugee settlement is expected to strain the resources of local schools (UNICEF, 17/06/2015).

**Protection**

**Gender**

The Nakivale reception centre lacks separate cubicles for men and women: men, women, and youth share shelter space. Adolescent girls reported being sexually harassed in their sleep (UNICEF, 12/08/2015)

**Children**

Among the Burundian refugees, child labour is very common and diffused, with the majority of child-workers employed in brick laying, fish farming and stone quarrying. Some children have reportedly been sexually abused during the flight from their country of origin (UNICEF, 12/08/2015).
No new significant developments this week, 31/08/2015. Last update: 24/08/2015.

KEY CONCERNS
- 947,870 IDPs in Afghanistan. Significant new displacements in Kunduz province since April (IDMC, 16/06/2015). Numbers are expected to exceed those of 2014 (FEWSNET, 01/08/2015).
- As of 7 August, the number of reported civilian casualties from complex and suicide attacks launched by anti-government elements was 1,523, including 282 dead and 1,241 injured, almost double the same period in 2014 (UNAMA, 11/08/2015).
- 500,000—990,000 people will be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or higher food security outcomes by November 2015 (FEWSNET, 22/07/2015)

OVERVIEW
Natural disasters and armed conflicts in Afghanistan have caused humanitarian crisis. Assistance needs include food, healthcare, and protection.

The Afghan Government faces internal and external challenges to its capacity, legitimacy, and stability. The security environment is highly volatile and expected to deteriorate as international troops gradually withdraw from the country.

Politics and security

Ashraf Ghani and Abdullah Abdullah were sworn in as Afghanistan’s President and Prime Minister, respectively, in September 2014 (Reuters, 29/09/2014). Rival presidential candidates in disputed elections, they have been struggling to maintain a unity government (Reuters, 08/07/2015; AFP, 26/09/2014). Leaders of ethnic groups have criticised Ghani for filling key government posts with Pashtun kin (Reuters, 08/07/2015; AFP, 26/09/2014). Parliamentary elections scheduled for April 2015 were postponed because of security concerns and disagreements over vote procedure. The current Parliament’s mandate has been extended until a vote can be held (Reuters, 19/06/2015; local media, 01/04/2015).

Conflict developments

Afghan officials and Taliban met in Islamabad, Pakistan, on 8 July, but the confirmation of Taliban leader Mullah Omar’s death in 2013 brought the group to pull out of talks. Informal talks had not brought any breakthrough (AFP, 24/07/2015; 08/07/2015; The Telegraph, 30/07/2015). On 30 July, the Taliban communicated that Mullah Akhtar Mansour had been appointed leader (BBC, 30/07/2015). Mansour is considered to be in favour of peace talks, although some factions remain opposed (The Telegraph, 30/07/2015). On 13 August, Ayman al Zawahiri, leader of Al Qaeda, reportedly delivered an audio message containing his pledge of allegiance to the Taliban’s newly elected leader (The Guardian, 13/08/2015).

At 8 August, 1,523 civilian casualties (282 dead, 1,241 injured) have been reported so far in 2015, specifically from complex and suicide attacks launched by anti-government elements – almost double the same period in 2014 (UNAMA, 11/08/2015). The total reported number of conflict-related casualties so far in 2015 is 4,921 (1,592 dead, 3,329 injured), 90% of them civilians (UNAMA, 05/08/2015). 3,699 civilians were killed and 6,849 injured in all 2014 (UNAMA, 18/02/2015). Incidents in 2015 have been concentrated in Helmand and Kabul, although intense fighting between Afghan forces, the Taliban, and other anti-government groups has also been reported in northern provinces in recent months, including Kunduz, Badakhshan, Nangarhar, Faryab, Baghlan, and Nuristan (Cordaid, 07/07/2015; RSF, 07/07/2015; local media, 16/07/2015).

Kabul: On 22 August, a suicide attack on a NATO convoy killed at least 12 people, and injured at least 67 (New York Times, 22/08/2015). On 10 August, at least five people were killed and 16 injured by a suicide bomb at a checkpoint on the road towards the airport (BBC, 10/08/2015). On 7 August, at least 44 people were killed and hundreds injured by three attacks, following the change of leadership in the Taliban movement (ABC News, 07/08/2015). This was the highest number of civilian casualties caused reported in Afghanistan in one day, since the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) began recording such data in 2009 (UNAMA, 08/08/2015).

Kunduz: On 8 August, a bomb attack killed at least 29 people in Khanabad district (BBC, 09/08/2015). Intense fighting has been reported between Afghan forces and the Taliban in the province in recent months. An explosion in Kunduz city killed two and wounded four on 12 July (AFP, 12/07/2015).

Faryab: A suicide attack killed 19 people and injured at least 28 in Almar district on 22 July (UNAMA, 22/07/2015). Since early July the Taliban has seized more than 100 villages in Qasyar, Almar, and Shirin Tagab districts (local media, 16/07/2015). 40 houses in Almar were set on fire (UNAMA, 15/07/2015).

Baghlan: At least 20 people were killed and eight wounded in a gunfight at a wedding
ceremony in Deh Salah district on 27 July (International Media, 27/07/2015). At least 40 civilians were wounded by a bomb attack targeting a mosque in Baghlan province on 13 July (UNAMA, 14/07/2015).

Other incidents: On 8 August, six people were killed and 24 were injured by a truck-bomb at a police compound in Pul-i-Alam, Logar province (Reuters, 06/08/2015). Hundreds of Taliban insurgents attacked and conquered the administrative headquarters in Kohistanat district in Sari Pul province, north Afghanistan (Vice News, 28/07/2015). A suicide attack near the military base of Camp Chapman in Khost province killed at least 33 people, mostly women and children, and wounded six on 12 July (AFP, 12/07/2015; BBC, 13/07/2015). An explosion in Tagab district, Kapisa, killed ten and wounded six on 12 July (AFP, 12/07/2015). An explosion in Kandahar on 11 July killed three (AFP, 11/07/2015).

Stakeholders

Taliban

Remote parts of southern and southeastern Afghanistan, near the border with Pakistan, remain under Taliban control. The group has intensified attacks since April, especially in the north, in particular in Badakhshan and Faryab (local media, 16/07/2015; Al Jazeera, 13/06/2015). It is increasingly financed by criminal enterprises including heroin laboratories, illegal mining, and kidnapping (UNSC, 02/02/2015).

Islamic State (IS)

Militants fighting under the IS banner in Afghanistan, including an unknown number of Taliban defectors and foreign fighters, have reportedly seized territory from the Taliban in at least six of Nangarhar’s 21 districts. Uncertainty remains regarding their links with IS in the Middle East (Reuters, 29/06/2015).

International military presence

NATO formally ended its combat mission in Afghanistan on 31 December 2014, moving to the Resolute Support mission, comprising some 6,800 US troops and more than 6,300 soldiers from other member states as of June 2015. The focus of the mission is on supporting Afghan forces’ fight against the Taliban, along with US counter-terrorism operations (Reuters, 01/01/2015; NATO 06/2015).

Natural disasters

Since 1 July, 33 disaster events triggered by natural hazards were reported in 18 provinces, with around 17,700 individuals affected (IOM & USAID, 01/08/2015). 107,451 people have been affected by floods, landslides and heavy snowfall in 2015, mostly in February; 513 people were killed, and 14,460 houses damaged or destroyed. Badghis, Faryab, and Nangarhar provinces were most affected (OCHA/IOM, 02/07/2015).

Floods

Floods in July affected several areas. Many households in remote districts of Badakhshan province were impacted and riverwater, due to river bank erosion, displaced 3,830 people. Floods also damaged roads, agricultural land and irrigation canals affecting 1,297 families (around 9,470 people). In the north, the Amu Darya River overflowed, causing severe flooding that damaged cultivable land, houses, and irrigation canals. In Nangarhar, Kunar, Laghman, and Nuristan provinces, in eastern Afghanistan, more than 200 hectares of agriculture land and 10 irrigation canals were washed out by floods (Food Security Cluster, 06/08/2015).

Displacement

IDPs

Increasing insecurity has led to a rise in internal displacement. As of end June, 947,870 IDPs were recorded, compared to 805,409 in December 2014. 223,280 are in the south, 220,430 in the west, and 169,960 in the centre. It is expected that the number of people displaced in 2015 will exceed that of 2014, and IDPs and returnees from Pakistan will not have access to enough humanitarian assistance (FEWSNET, 01/08/2015). Priority needs are for water, food, housing, and employment (IDMC, 16/06/2015; UNHCR 31/12/2014). The security context challenges access and identification of IDPs (UNCHR, 24/05/2015).

Fighting in the north of Kunduz province since May has displaced more than 134,000 people, including 32,960 to Kunduz city, and significant numbers to Badakhshan, Badghis, Baghljan and Faryab provinces (OCHA, 25/06/2015; 28/05/2015). As of 25 July, over 8,900 people were displaced in Kunar, Nuristan, and Nangarhar, by ongoing clashes between Daesh fighters and Taliban (Food Security Cluster, 06/08/2015). At 8 August, 103,000 people have been displaced by the conflict so far in 2015, an increase of 43% compared to the same period in 2014 (OCHA, 18/08/2015).

Refugees and asylum seekers

Displacement from Pakistan to Afghanistan’s Khost and Paktika provinces has been ongoing since mid-June 2014. As of 8 June, these provinces were hosting around 205,440 refugees from Pakistan, the majority in Khost (including 10,210 families in Gulan camp) (UNHCR, 11/06/2015). There are concerns about the host communities’
ability to support the refugee population, in particular in terms of food, shelter, and education (UNHCR, 15/06/2015). Between June 2014 and 23 August 2015, over 200,000 people resettled themselves in Gurbuz district, in Khost Province (UN, 23/08/2015).

An additional 600,000 Baloch refugees who have fled insurgency activities in Pakistan since 1986 are living in precarious conditions, notably in Nimroz (AAN, 31/12/2014).

Refugee returnees

At 18 August there are 319,818 returnees from Iran and Pakistan. 43,695 refugee returnees from Pakistan were registered in the first half of 2015, compared to 9,323 during the same period of 2014. Around 73,000 undocumented Afghans returned from Pakistan in the first half of 2015 (OCHA, 18/08/2015). Returns have increased following security incidents in Pakistan, particularly the December 2014 Taliban attack in Peshawar. Returnees report an increasing number of protection issues as the main reasons for return: eviction notices by authorities, discrimination, movement restrictions, settlement closure, and harassment (UNHCR, 31/05/2015).

The eastern region hosts almost 40% of undocumented returnees (Food Security Cluster, 31/07/2015). 30–40% of the returnees are vulnerable and in need of assistance; 80% of Afghanistan is reportedly not safe for people to be sent back to (BBC, 16/07/2015; OCHA, 15/07/2015). In 2014, only 17,000 people returned from Pakistan (UNHCR, 31/05/2015). An estimated 3.8 million refugees have returned to Afghanistan from Pakistan since 2002 (Dawn News, 26/08/2015).

Refugees from Afghanistan in other countries

Some 2.6 million Afghan refugees remain in neighbouring countries (UN, 29/06/2015). The government of Afghanistan has requested that Pakistan allow 1.5 million registered Afghan refugees to stay on its territory for another two years (ALHASAN, 24/08/2015). Thousands of Afghan asylum seekers are blocked on the border between Macedonia and Greece, as Macedonia has declared a State of Emergency due to the refugee crisis (Amnesty International, 24/08/2015). 32,414 Afghans have entered Greece as asylum seekers so far in 2015 (IOM, 20/08/2015).

Humanitarian access

Planning figures are for 6.9 million Afghans in need of humanitarian aid in 2015, including 2.8 million children, compared to 7.4 million in 2014 (UNICEF, 21/01/2015). Badghis, Helmand, Kunar, Nangarhar, and Wardak most need assistance (OCHA, 25/11/2014). Humanitarian access is a key operational concern: tens of thousands of civilians remain trapped in conflict zones as of end June (USAID, 02/07/2015).

Access of relief actors to affected populations

Since the beginning of the year, as of 17 August, 33 aid workers were reported to have been victims of attacks in the country: 20 national aid workers were killed, two were wounded, and seven were kidnapped. Four international aid workers were also kidnapped in 2015 (Aid Workers Security Database, 17/08/2015). 14 aid workers were killed in 27 incidents against national and international organisations in June, including nine national NGO workers in Balk province on 2 June, and five incidents involving health facilities and health staff (OCHA, 15/07/2015; Reuters, 02/06/2015). 11 aid workers were killed in 21 incidents involving violence against humanitarian staff or damage to NGO facilities in May (USAID; 02/07/2015).

In 2014, there were 293 incidents against aid workers, including 57 killed (UN, 11/04/2015; OCHA, 31/12/2014).

Security and physical constraints

Deteriorated security conditions in Helmand significantly hamper the delivery of assistance (OCHA, 15/07/2015). Journalists have had to withdraw from Badakhshan and Nangarhar due to insecurity (RSF, 07/07/2015).

Food Security and Livelihoods

Approximately eight million people are food insecure, including 2.1 million severely, according to a recent vulnerability assessment (USAID, 02/07/2015). Some households suffering major crop losses and most IDPs displaced by recent floods are in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) (FEWSNET, 01/08/2015). In the northern Balkh, Faryab, Samangan and Saripul provinces, 80,654 people are in IPC Phases 3 and 4 (Crisis and Emergency) (Food Security Cluster, 06/08/2015). An estimated 500,000 to 990,000 people will be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food security or worse by November 2015 (FEWSNET, 22/07/2015).

Food availability

Severe food gaps are reported in 14 villages in Arghanjkhah district of Badakhshan, affecting 17,940 people (Food Security Cluster/USAID, 14/07/2015). The 2015 wheat harvest is expected to be better than the last two years, except in Ghazni, Bamyan, Daikundy, Kandahar, Hilamand, Zabul, Uruzgan, Paktya, Paktika and Khost (FAO, 03/07/2015; FEWSNET/WFP, 07/06/2015).
Refugees in Khost and Paktika have exhausted short-term coping mechanisms and need livelihood opportunities to face long-term displacement (UNHCR, 26/05/2015).

Below-average precipitation and high temperatures have made pasture conditions worse than normal, impacting pastoral livelihoods (FEWSNET, 01/08/2015).

Health

Healthcare availability and access

There is a shortage of trained surgeons, anaesthetists, and trauma capacity in conflict-affected areas (OCHA, 25/11/2014).

Maternal health

As of 28 August 2015, the Maternal Mortality Ratio in Afghanistan is reported to be still very high, with an average of 400 deaths per 100,000 live births (WHO, 28/08/2015).

Disease outbreaks

Measles

In the first quarter of 2015, 445 laboratory-confirmed cases of measles were reported, compared to 581 cases in all of 2014 (WHO, 26/04/2015). So far, 12 confirmed outbreaks have occurred in 2015, according to the Afghan Ministry of Public Health (SalamWatandar, 25/07/2015).

Polio

Eight cases of wild polio have been recorded so far in 2015, as many as in the same period in 2014 (GPEI, 31/08/2015). 28 cases were reported altogether in 2014, mostly in conflict-affected areas, compared to 14 in 2013 and 37 in 2012 (WHO, 26/04/2015; Global Polio Eradication Initiative, 25/02/2015). As of September 2015, Afghanistan is starting to implement the Inactivated Polio Vaccine (IPV), which contains the three types of polio virus but not ‘live’. The IPV vaccine, which usually is not recommended for extensive use in endemic areas, is the safest vaccine available. However, it is five times more expensive than the oral polio vaccine, and requires trained health workers with adequately sterilized injection equipment. (WHO, 24/08/2015; GPEI).

Tuberculosis

Tuberculosis is a high burden for Afghanistan, but many new cases were missed in 2014 due to lack of close monitoring (Government, 24/03/2015).

Mental health

Women have reduced access to education, health and livelihood activities and face significant unmet mental health needs (NRC, 23/03/2015).

Nutrition

48,000 children under five die of malnutrition each year. Malnutrition accounts for an estimated 45% of all child deaths in refugee and IDP camps (Government, 04/08/2015; UNICEF, 21/01/2015). Nearly 517,600 children suffer from SAM (UNICEF, 21/01/2015).

WASH

1.9 million Afghans are in need of better access to safe WASH facilities (UNICEF, 21/01/2015).

Refugee influxes have stretched already limited water and hygiene resources and infrastructure in Khost and Paktika; lack of solid waste management and latrines are major challenges, while access to latrines and potable water remains a challenge in Urgun district, Paktika (UNHCR, 15/06/2015; 08/04/2015).

Shelter and NFIs

A growing number of IDPs live in informal settlements in major Afghan urban centres, in substandard and crowded accommodation, with insufficient WASH facilities, food, education, and employment opportunities. Women particularly have reduced access to education, health, and livelihood opportunities (NRC, 23/03/2015).

Shelter

1,300 people in informal settlements in Kabul received eviction warnings for end June. 40,000 people remain in 50 informal settlements in Kabul (USAID, 02/07/2015).

Education

Access and learning environment

In provinces most affected by fighting, schools have closed over the fear that students might get caught in crossfire. In northern Baghlan at least 18 schools were closed in May (Reuters, 31/05/2015). As of 24 July, over 100 education facilities were reported closed in Helmand due to security threats (Tolonews, 24/07/2015).
Teaching and learning

Educational facilities in Khost are overstretched, with 344 schools employing 6,000 teachers and teaching around 360,000 children. There are 50,000 school-aged refugee children in Khost (Institute for War and Peace Reporting, 05/11/2014). Refugees have language barriers (UNHCR, 31/05/2015).

Protection

Afghan local police have reportedly been involved in intimidation, physical abuse or violence, bribery, salary fraud, and theft. Incidents of rape, drug trafficking, drug abuse and the selling or renting of local police weapons and vehicles have also been reported (ICG, 05/06/2015). In the first six months of 2015 UNAMA reported a 23% increase in the casualties among women and a 13% increase in the casualties among children, compared to the previous year (OCHA, 31/07/2015).

Mines and ERW

559km² (4,321 hazardous areas) are contaminated by minefields and explosive remnants of war (ERW). In 2015, a monthly average of 103 total casualties from mines, IEDs, and ERW are reported (UNMAS/MAPA, 30/06/2015).

Gender

Sexual violence is underreported because of resulting social stigma as well as lack of access to Taliban-controlled areas. UNAMA registered 44 cases between January 2014 and January 2015 (UN Security Council, 15/04/2015).

Children

40 reports of sexual violence against children, involving in all 27 boys and 24 girls, were registered by UNAMA between September 2010 and December 2014 (UNAMA, 24/08/2015).

The Afghan national and local police and three armed groups (Taliban, Haqqani Network, and Hezb-e-Islami) have been listed for recruitment and use of children (Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict 02/05/2015). Between September 2010 and December 2014, 2,302 children were killed and 5,047 wounded. In the same period, 560 children were recruited for support and combat roles (UNAMA, 24/08/2015). Children have also been used as suicide bombers by armed groups (UNSC, 15/05/2015). Between September 2010 and December 2014, 20 boys were killed carrying out suicide attacks (UNAMA, 24/08/2015).

Updated: 31/08/2015

IRAQ

CONFLICT, INTERNAL UNREST, DISPLACEMENT

For the latest Briefing Notes, visit the ACAPS country analysis page.

For information relating to the Syria crisis, see SNAP’s latest reports.

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

30 August: IDPs from Diyala who are in Kirkuk have been requested to leave the governorate within one month, and are at risk of involuntary return or secondary displacement (OCHA).

28 August: 980 suspected measles cases have been recorded so far in 2015 (WHO).

KEY CONCERNS

- 1,332 deaths recorded in July, including 844 civilians, an increase on June. More than 44,000 conflict-related civilian casualties recorded between January 2014 and April 2015 (UNAMI, 01/08/2015; OHCHR, 13/07/2015).

- 8.6 million people are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance, including more than 3.2 million IDPs. This compares to 5.2 million people in need of aid end February and 9.9 million projected by end 2015 (OCHA, 18/08/2015; OCHA/UNCT, 04/06/2015).

- Access continues to be severely constrained in large parts of Anbar, Salah al Din, Diyala, Kirkuk, and Ninewa (OCHA, 26/07/2015). Protection is a key concern.

- 250,408 registered Syrian refugees are in Iraq; 42% are children (UNHCR, 16/08/2015).

OVERVIEW

The IS insurgency has compounded an already fragile political and humanitarian situation, leading to a level 3 humanitarian crisis and international military intervention. Iraq now hosts one of the largest internally displaced populations in the world. Priority needs are food, water, shelter, fuel, and access to healthcare. Access constraints and
human rights violations, particularly in IS-controlled areas, are of major concern.

Politics and Security

Political instability and insecurity with the rise of the Islamic State are the main drivers of the crisis in Iraq.

As of July, more than 13,860 conflict-related civilian casualties have been recorded in 2015; July was the most violent month, with 844 civilians killed and 1,616 injured (UNAMI, 01/08/2015). An increasing number of civilian casualties caused by IEDs were reported in the last weeks of July, while reports of possible use of chemical weapons by non-state actors in August are a serious concern (OPCW, 17/08/2015; OHCHR, 28/07/2015). Casualty numbers are hard to verify in conflict areas. More than 35,400 casualties, including 12,280 deaths, were recorded in 2014, in the worst violence since 2006–2007 (OHCHR, 13/07/2015; UNAMI, 01/01/2015).

Political instability

The perceived marginalisation of Sunni groups by former President Maliki’s Government is considered one of the main drivers of the current conflict. A unity government, led by Prime Minister Abadi, was formed in September 2014, and a plan for national reconciliation is under consultation (UNAMI, 22/07/2015). While trying to balance sectarian tensions inside the country, Abadi has been seeking international support for the fight against Islamic State (IS), including from neighbouring Sunni Arab states (Foreign Affairs, 16/01/2015).

Widespread protests in July against electricity cuts, perceived corruption, and rising unemployment have led to a range of government reforms (UNHCR, 31/07/2015).

Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I): KR-I President Masoud Barzani’s extended term expired on 20 August, however he continues to rule, leaving KR-I in a legal vacuum that political parties are still trying to resolve. Opposition parties are reasserting objections to the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP)’s political dominance (ISW, 20/08/2015; AFP, 20/08/2015). A budget agreement between Baghdad and Erbil around oil revenues was incorporated into Iraq’s 2015 national budget law late January, but differences persist over the interpretation of the agreement (UN, 13/07/2015; local media, 26/04/2015).

Stakeholders

Islamic State (IS): In June 2014, IS declared the establishment of a Sunni caliphate, covering the area between Aleppo in northern Syria and Diyala in eastern Iraq. Abu Bakr al Baghdadi was declared caliph and leader for Muslims worldwide. IS now controls nearly 300,000km² of territory in Syria and Iraq (AFP, 01/06/2015). It has attracted more than 20,000 foreign fighters (ICSR, 21/01/2015; NBC, 02/2015).

Government forces: Iraqi Security Forces (ISF), numbering around 48,000 troops, are involved in offensives around Baghdad and in central governorates (Foreign Policy, 28/03/2015). Falling global oil prices have led to significant budget deficits, hampering the government’s capacity to undertake military operations and finance basic services for affected populations (Deutsche Welle, 11/06/2015).

Shi’a militias: Three militias have been supporting government forces on all major fronts against IS since the beginning of the insurgency, as part of the Popular Mobilisation Forces (PMF): Asa’ib, Kata’ib Hezbollah, and the Badr Brigades. PMF number around 100,000 fighters, including 30,000 reportedly backed by the Iranian Government (Al Jazeera, 23/01/2015).

KR-I Forces: The Kurdish Peshmerga, supported by Kurdish fighters from Syria and Turkey, are engaged in a counter-offensive against IS. Kurdish fighters receive training and equipment from multiple countries, including the United States (AFP).

International Involvement: In August 2014, US forces started airstrikes on IS locations. On 15 September, 30 additional countries pledged to help Iraq fight IS. Iran has dispatched members of its elite Revolutionary Guard and reportedly carried out airstrikes against IS (The Economist, 03/01/2015; The Guardian, 05/01/2015, 04/12/2014).

Conflict Developments

IS has intensified its attacks against ISF and associated militias in northern and western Iraq since June, especially in Anbar, Kirkuk, Diyala and Salah al Din (ISW, 06/07/2015). ISF and Peshmerga forces regained territory in early 2015, recapturing populated areas of Diyala in January, and Al Baghdadi in Anbar early March (AFP, 26/01/2015; 08/03/2015). Peshmerga forces are fighting IS in Kirkuk.

Anbar: A second, large-scale military operation to retake Anbar from IS was launched by Iraqi forces and associated militias, supported by coalition airstrikes, on 12 July. Fighting around Falluja quickly reached a stalemate with IS planting booby traps around the city; another ground operation was launched in Ramadi on 27 July, and clashes were ongoing as of 20 August (ISW, 20/08/2015; ICG, 01/08/2015). On 25 August, ISF launched an operation against in Baghdadi sub-district, reportedly dislodging it from Jubby town (ISW, 25/08/2015). Up to 40 civilians were reported killed and 30 wounded in an airstrike on Rutba district on 31 July (UNAMI, 03/08/2015). IS captured Ramadi on 17 May (ISW, 10/07/2015).

Baghdad has seen an increase in attacks since July. Two IS bombings in Sadr City on 13 and 15 August killed at least 65 and wounded 168 (AFP, 16/08/2015; 13/08/2015).

Two bombings in Bayaa and Al Shaab districts killed 21 and wounded 46 on 22 July (AFP, 22/07/2015). Two IS attacks targeting Shi’ite militia in al Jadida and Zafaraniya districts killed 23 and wounded 53 on 21 July (AFP, 22/07/2015). A series of bomb explosions killed...
Displacement

There are more than 3.1 million IDPs, 3.2 million people in host communities who are affected, and 251,690 Syrian refugees.

IDPs

As of 13 August, there are 3,171,946 IDPs in 3,522 locations in Iraq, including 16% displaced after April. Anbar hosts 584,364 IDPs, Baghdad 538,632, and Kirkuk 399,660 (IOM, 28/08/2015). 28% are in KR-I (875,569). 70% of IDPs are living in private settings. 19% are in critical shelter arrangements, including 4% in informal settlements (mainly in Anbar and Salah al Din), and 8% in camps, mainly in KR-I (IOM, 28/08/2015). 35% of IDPs in critical shelter arrangements are under 15 years of age (IOM, 30/06/2015). The number and spread of IDPs pose a major challenge to needs assessment and assistance.

Anbar: More than 78,340 people have been displaced from Saqlawiyyah in Falluja district over 8–21 July, mainly to Falluja city (IOM, 12/08/2015). More than 300,000 people are believed to have been displaced from and within Anbar since operations began on 8 April, including 154,180 from Ramadi district over 15 May–23 June (IOM, 15/07/2015). Of those displaced since April, 43% went to Baghdad, 14% to Erbil and 33% stayed in Anbar. A high concentration of IDPs are in Falluja district and Khaldiya subdistrict in Ramadi. Ramadi displaced are in need of health, shelter, food and NFI support (IOM, 15/07/2015; WHO, 07/06/2015). Many civilians have not been able to flee to safer areas due to ad hoc entry restrictions and insecurity (NRC, 21/05/2015).

Salah al Din: Nearly 26,910 people were displaced in Samarra, Tikrit, Balad, and Dujail districts due to conflict since 14 June (IOM, 12/08/2015). Populations have begun returning to Tikrit and Alam, where the cities’ local police force and militia are keeping order (local media, 23/06/2015). Around 98,000 returnees to Tikrit since April need NFIs and shelter repair support (OCHA, 04/07/2015; 23/06/2015). Dour and Albu Ajil, where many people supported IS, remain empty (local media, 23/06/2015).

IDP Returnees: Between 27 March and 30 July, 295,320 IDPs returned to their place of origin, including 44% to Salah al Din, 21% to Nineva, 20% to Diyala, and 13% to 14% are in critical shelter arrangements (IOM, 12/08/2015). A 37% increase in the number of returnees was reported between 4 June and 2 July, with Baghdad, Salah al Din and Kirkuk experiencing the highest increases (IOM, 15/07/2015). Heavily disrupted basic services and infrastructure, mines, insecurity, and lost documentation increase risks for returnees (UNHCR, 15/04/2015). 900,000 IDP returnees are in need of assistance (OCHA/UNCT, 04/06/2015).

Refugees and asylum seekers

There are 250,408 Syrian refugees registered in Iraq and 41,700 non-Syrian refugees (UNHCR, 16/08/2015, 23/04/2015).

Syrian refugees: As of 15 August, 250,408 Syrian refugees were registered in Iraq, including 16,783 who arrived in 2015; 42% are children. KR-I hosts an estimated 97%, with 113,142 in Erbil, 98,791 in Dahuk and 30,131 in Sulaymaniyah; 4,512 were last known to be in Anbar and 1,576 in Ninewa (UNHCR, 16/08/2015). A reduced number of arrivals has been reported since 2 June due to changes in admission procedures into KR-I (UNHCR, 31/07/2015).

38% of refugees live in nine camps; over half these refugees are in Domiz camp in Dahuk (47,167), 10,138 in Kawergosk, and 10,351 in Darashakran in Erbil (UNHCR, 16/08/2015). 851 Syrian refugees were last reported in Al Obaidy camp, in IS-controlled Al...
Qa'im in Anbar, but access constraints limit information; information on the faith of some 2,800 urban refugees in Al Qa'im is also lacking (UNHCR, 31/07/2015; 15/03/2015).

As of end July, nearly 11,760 Syrian refugees have returned to Syria in 2015. Reasons for return include high living cost in the KR-I, lack of job opportunities and family reunification (UNHCR, 31/07/2015).

Iraqi refugees in neighbouring countries

Around 180,000 Iraqi refugees are thought to be residing in neighbouring countries, mostly in Turkey and Jordan (UNHCR, 04/06/2015).

Humanitarian Access

Access to the estimated five million people in areas under armed opposition groups’ control is limited (OCHA, 12/08/2015). Several INGOs have suspended activities in IS-controlled areas, or provide emergency assistance through local partners. Long delays in obtaining clearance from Iraqi authorities also hinder access (OCHA, 05/12/2014).

Anbar: remains largely inaccessible due to ongoing military operations. Only three UN agencies and eight organisations are operating in Anbar, along with government ministries (OCHA, 14/07/2015).

Ninevas: Access to Mosul is impossible for humanitarian actors and communications with areas outside the city are allegedly cut off. Conditions have dramatically deteriorated since IS took control (OCHA, 02/03/2015; WFP, 02/02/2015).

Salah al Din: Humanitarian presence remains limited. Roads are only usable from the south through Baghdad and Samarra (OCHA, 14/07/2015).

IDP movement restrictions: New IDPs from Anbar face serious restrictions accessing neighbouring provinces: Baghdad, Babylon, Kirkuk and Diyala have implemented strict security policies: access across Bzibz bridge to enter Baghdad, in particular, remains unpredictable and 1,500 are reportedly stranded in a camp at the bridge in urgent need of aid, particularly WASH and health (OCHA, 18/08/2015). Local authorities in Kirkuk have asked all IDPs from Diyala to leave the governorate within one month, despite reports that IDPs do not consider it safe to return (OCHA, 30/08/2015). IDPs attempting to enter KR-I by land require a local guarantor (UNHCR, 29/05/2015).

Border crossings: Syrian refugees’ access to safety and asylum remains a concern with changes in exit and admission procedures into KR-I (UNHCR, 31/07/2015). The Ibrahim Khalil border crossing has been closed to Syrians from Kobane since 2 March; most refugees have entered via the Peshkabour crossing (UNHCR, 15/03/2015; 08/2015). Insecurity prevents most civilian movement at the IS-controlled Al Qa’im and Al Waleed crossings, as well as at Rabia (Reuters, 23/11/2014; UNHCR, 28/02/2015; 15/01/2015).

Anbar: Tens of thousands of people are reportedly trapped in Falluja and Ramadi districts, as many routes are blocked or closed (OCHA, 11/08/2015). The situation is also worrying for more than 80,000 people who have limited access to services and commodities in Haditha, including food, safe water, health and electricity (OCHA, 25/08/2015, 18/08/2015).

Security and physical constraints

High insecurity and UXO hinder access to affected populations (OCHA, 05/12/2014). IEDs are also a concern for returnees to recaptured areas (OCHA, 14/07/2015).

Food Security and Livelihoods

4.4 million people need food assistance (OCHA/UNCT, 04/06/2015). Food security is deteriorating, particularly for IDPs.

Food availability

The October–November 2014 and April–May 2015 agricultural seasons were significantly affected by conflict, especially in major producing areas such as Salah al Din, Ninewa, and Anbar; government seed distributions were delayed end 2014, impacting planting (FAO, 27/05/2015). Below-average wheat production is expected in 2015 (OCHA, 14/07/2015). IS controls major wheat storage silos in Ninewa and Salah al Din (FAO, 10/02/2015).

Food access

In a June assessment, 21% of IDP households reported poor or borderline food consumption, a 5% increase on May, compared to 4% of non-displaced households (WFP, 29/07/2015). In Anbar, the percentage of households reporting poor and borderline food consumption rose from 6% to 18% between April and June; food supply in Haditha district in Anbar is extremely limited (WFP, 01/08/2015; 29/06/2015).

Food prices are high in Anbar, Ninewa, Kirkuk, Salah al Din, and Dahuk due to conflict and blocked supply lines. As of June, prices in Anbar were 58% higher than in Baghdad (WFP, 01/06/2015). Government support via the Public Distribution Centre is limited in conflict areas; 80% of households reported having received no rations in April (WFP, 01/06/2015; FAO, 27/05/2015).

Refugees: Vulnerability-based assistance to Syrian refugees will be introduced in August; 50,000 previously assisted refugees will no longer receive food vouchers; the monthly voucher value will reduce to USD 10 per person for over 47,000 moderately vulnerable
Refugees: while 1,000 considered the most vulnerable will continue to receive USD 19 (WFP, 06/08/2015). **860 Syrian refugees in camps are estimated to be food insecure** (WFP, 31/07/2015).

**Livelihoods**

3.4 million people are in need of emergency livelihood support, compared to 800,000 end February (OCHA/UNCT, 04/06/2015; UN, 18/02/2015). IDPs’ financial conditions are deteriorating, and labour opportunities and wage rates low in conflict and IS-held areas (UNHCR, 15/03/2015; OCHA, 02/03/2015; WFP, 11/03/2015).

**Health**

More than 7.8 million people need health support, including 6.95 million in critical need (WHO, 10/08/2015). 84% of health programmes supported by humanitarian agencies have shut down due to funding shortfalls, affecting more than three million people (WHO, 04/08/2015).

Acute diarrhoea and scabies have been gradually increasing in IDP and refugee camps since end May due to high temperatures and reduced health and hygiene promotion activities. These, combined with steady rates of acute respiratory infections remain the leading causes of morbidity in camps (WHO/Gol, 30/08/2015).

**Healthcare availability and access**

At least 14 major hospitals and more than 170 other health facilities are non-functional or destroyed. Functioning facilities are overburdened and 45% of health staff have been displaced. Key concerns include: the lack of specialised services; recurrent shortages of essential medicines and other supplies, especially in Anbar, Salah al Din, and Ninewa; disruption of treatment for patients with chronic illnesses; mental health support, and the risk posed by communicable diseases (OCHA, 04/08/2015; WHO, 04/06/2015). Low vaccination coverage in Najaf is a concern (WHO, 28/06/2015).

**Anbar:** Health capacities are severely strained in Haditha city and al-Baghdadi sub-district, with at least six out of 14 primary health care centres not functioning due to damage in Haditha city, and two out of three in al-Baghdadi (WHO, 11/08/2015). Most health facilities in Khalidiya are reported closed since the departure of health workers in June (WHO, 07/06/2015). Ramadi’s main hospital came under IS control on 16 May, and the city hospital in Hit district is no longer accessible for civilians (OCHA, 17/05/2015; 05/05/2015). Shortages of fuel have affected healthcare delivery, leading to critical shortages of medicine.

**Ninewa:** The majority of health facilities in Sinjar remained closed end June due to infrastructure damage, and lack of staff and medical equipment (WHO, 28/06/2015).

**Refugees:** 20% of the non-camp population has difficulty accessing health services, due to cost and perceived availability. Access to specialised primary services, including mental healthcare and control of communicable diseases, remain priorities, especially outside camps (WHO/UNHCR, 30/06/2015; 28/02/2015).

**Measles**

**980 suspected measles cases have been recorded so far in 2015, including 544 from Baghdad and 115 from Babylon; 493 and 563 cases were suspected during the same periods in 2013 and 2014 (WHO, 28/08/2015; 01/08/2015).**

**WASH**

7.1 million people need WASH support, including 4.1 million in critical need (OCHA, 14/07/2015). Extreme temperatures are aggravating the already critical water access problem in areas affected by conflict or controlled by armed groups (OCHA, 11/08/2015). At least 30% of WASH programmes supported by humanitarian agencies have shut down, leaving 1.8 million without access to WASH services (UN, 27/07/2015).

Urgent WASH support is required for at least 26,100 IDPs in Habbaniya and 6,000 in Rahaliya in Anbar, 39,000 returnees in Tikrit and Samarra in Salah al Din, and for 5,300 returnees to Muqdadiya district in Diyarla; shortage of fuel and chlorine is reported in Falluja, undermining efficient water supplies to displaced populations (OCHA, 18/08/2015; 11/08/2015; 14/07/2015).

**Refugees:** The operation and maintenance of WASH facilities, and the delivery of WASH services in camps, remain challenges. Transition to safe water supply and sanitation in Qushtapa, Kawergosk, Darashakran, and Basirma camps is ongoing, but challenged by funding (UNICEF/UNHCR, 31/07/2015; 30/06/2015).

**Water**

The rate of water flow in the Euphrates River has more than halved since IS took control of the dams in Ramadi and Falluja in Anbar early June. This is threatening access to drinking water in Anbar and in Kerbala, Babylon, Najaf, and Qadisiyah (WHO, 28/06/2015). Defects in Khalidiya’s water network in Anbar have been reported (OCHA, 18/08/2015).

**Shelter and NFIs**

Around 2.9 million people require shelter and NFI support, mainly in non-camp settings in central and southern Iraq (OCHA/UNCT, 04/06/2015). IDPs in critical shelter arrangements are of highest concern and are particularly affected by high summer temperatures (UNHCR, 31/07/2015; IOM, 30/06/2015).

13 camps are under construction in twelve governorates for an additional capacity of
346,995 people (UNHCR/CCCM, 11/08/2015).

Arbat IDP camp in Sulaymaniyah hosts 13,000 people instead of the planned 4,800: access to basic services is of major concern. Close to 3,700 people have been relocated to the new Ashti IDP camp, and an additional 2,500 will be relocated in August (OCHA, 14/07/2015).

Refugees: Refugees are increasingly seeking to move to camps due to high living conditions in KR-I and lack of livelihood opportunities for low to medium-skilled workers (DRC/UNDP, 31/07/2015). 26% of shelters in refugee camps in KR-I are unimproved. 6/9 camps’ capacities are exhausted; 3,134 new improved shelter plots are required in Gawilan, Kawergosk, Basirma and Qushtapa camps (Government/UNHCR, 31/07/2015; 30/06/2015).

Education

More than three million children did not attend the full 2014/2015 school year, including more than 650,000 who have received no schooling at all (UN, 30/06/2015). 55% of school-aged IDP children in camps are not enrolled in schools, compared to 70% of those out of camps (Education Cluster, 10/06/2015). Challenges include lack of teachers, and schools operating on several shifts to accommodate increasing demand (OCHA, 04/07/2015). Extreme summer temperatures are also constraining children’s attendance at child-friendly spaces (UNICEF, 31/07/2015).

Anbar: More than 1,500 schools have been damaged or destroyed by conflict in the province (AFP, 03/08/2015).

Refugees: 68% of school-aged refugee children are attending school, including 74% in camps and 62% outside camps. Attendance in primary school in camps varies from 67% in Arbat to 95% in Kawergosk. Challenges include overcrowded classrooms, shortages of Syrian teachers, increasing demand for schooling, and insecurity. At least 50% of Syrian teachers have been unpaid since at least April, due to KR-I’s limited budget (UNICEF/Save the Children, 31/07/2015).

Protection

7.9 million people are in need of protection support (OCHA, 12/08/2015).

IS has committed targeted attacks, killings, torture, rape, forced religious conversion, and child conscription. Sharia courts have been established in IS-controlled territories, carrying out extreme punishments against men, women, and children (UN, 19/03/2015; 20/01/2015). As many as 3,000–3,500 people, predominantly from the Yazidi community and other ethnic and religious groups, remain in IS captivity (UN, 13/07/2015). ISF and associated militias have allegedly carried out looting, killing, torture, and abduction during their counter-offensives against IS (Reuters, 04/04/2015; 21/03/2015; Amnesty, 02/04/2015).

Children

Around 2.4 million children are living in the most affected governorates of Iraq. Grave violations against children, including sexual violence, maiming, and forced recruitment, are prominent (UNHCR/Protection Cluster, 20/06/2015). IS has reportedly sold children as sex slaves, is using minors as suicide bombers, and providing military training to schoolchildren in Syria and Iraq (AFP, 08/06/2015; OCHA, 06/02/2015). The group abducted 400 children in Anbar during the last week of May (OCHA, 31/05/2015).

Child marriage is increasingly used as a strategy by families to protect young girls from sexual violence and deprivation (OCHA, 12/08/2015).

Refugees: Child labour is affecting 16-30% of Syrian refugee children in Dahuk (UNHCR, 31/07/2015).

Documentation

IDPs: Lack of documentation among IDPs is a key concern, especially as it is a prerequisite for residency permits and difficult to obtain outside a person’s area of origin: many children born in displacement lack birth registration, while up to 50% of IDP families are reportedly missing at least one important personal identity document (OCHA, 14/07/2015). There are reports of IDPs from Diyala and Kirkuk having their documentation confiscated and being forced to return to their province of origin (OCHA, 04/07/2015). Reports also highlight arrests of IDPs without documentation in Kirkuk (UNHCR, 30/06/2015).

Refugees: Residency permits in KR-I are only issued for 3-6 months, which has limited access to legal employment (DRC/UNDP, 31/07/2015). Many of the 37,500 Syrian refugee children aged 0–4 lack birth registration documents because their parents do not have any (UNHCR, 25/05/2015). Refugees in Al Obaidi camp in Anbar continue to lack access to legal documentation and assistance due to inaccessibility of government services (UNHCR, 31/07/2015).

Gender

Accurate numbers of women and girls affected by abuse across Iraq are hard to obtain. Reports show an increase in sexual violence, abduction, trafficking, and forced recruitment of women. IS reportedly carried out systematic sexual violence against Yazidi women and girls in northern Iraq (HRW, 15/04/2015).

Mines and ERW

The Government estimates more than 1,730km² of land is contaminated by landmines and...
Updated: 31/08/2015

SYRIA DISPLACEMENT, CIVIL WAR

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS


25 August: Deliberate interruptions of water supply systems are increasingly being used as a tactic of war; in Aleppo city the water has been cut deliberately 18 times so far this year (UNICEF).

KEY CONCERNS

- Over 240,000 deaths documented March 2011–August 2015, including over 70,000 civilians, 12,000 of them children (SOHR, 06/08/2015). In the first six months of 2015, 11,000 people were killed (SNHR, 01/07/2015).
- 12.2 million people in need of humanitarian assistance inside Syria, including 5.6 million children (OCHA/UNICEF, 12/2014).
- 7.6 million IDPs (OCHA, 28/12/2014).
- 4.8 million people live in hard-to-reach areas (OCHA, 12/2014).
- 4 million Syrians refugees in neighbouring countries (UNHCR, 15/07/2015).

OVERVIEW

Some 12.2 million people are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance inside Syria, including 5.6 million children. The humanitarian situation appears most critical in the governorates of Aleppo, Ar-Raqqa, Rural Damascus, and Deir-ez-Zor (SNAP, 28/01/2015).

The conflict has killed over 240,000 people and caused large-scale displacement.

Protection concerns are widespread. WASH and access to food are high priorities, as well as access to health services. Humanitarian needs in areas under prolonged and ongoing siege are particularly high because access is obstructed.

For more information, see the SNAP project’s reports.

Politics and security

The conflict in Syria has been ongoing since 2011, when fighting broke out between pro-government and opposition forces. The conflict later developed as more armed groups became involved, in particular Jabhat al Nusra (JAN), Islamic State (IS), and Kurdish armed groups such as People’s Protection Units (YPG).

Widespread conflict and high levels of violence continue, including indiscriminate aerial bombing by government forces and indiscriminate shelling by armed opposition (UNSC, 23/06/2015). Civilians have been subject to direct and indiscriminate attacks, including the widespread use of barrel bombs and other explosives in populated areas (UNSC 18/06/2015).

During July 2015, 1,674 people were killed – not including IS or security forces casualties. 51% of those killed by government forces were civilians (Syrian Network for Human Rights, 01/08/2015).

Over the first six months of 2015, 11,090 people were killed, according to the Syrian Network for Human Rights. Government forces are believed to be responsible for 77% of the deaths, including 6,928 civilians (Syrian Network for Human Rights, 01/07/2015).

In 2014, 76,000 people were killed in conflict, the highest toll since the war began. 18,000 civilians, including at least 3,500 children, were among the victims (SOHR, 02/01/2014). More than 240,000 people have been killed since fighting began in March 2011 and more than one million people have been wounded or suffered permanent disability (SOHR, 06/08/2015; UNICEF, 03/2015).

On 17 August, a statement on a Syrian peace initiative set to begin in September was adopted unanimously by the UN Security Council. It is the first time in two years that the Security Council has agreed on a statement on Syria (AFP, 17/08/2015).

Stakeholders

Government forces have control of several areas near Aleppo city, in and around Homs city, and several areas in the Qalamoun region in Rural Damascus. Government forces also control Tartous governorate, parts of As-Sweida, Da’a, Hama, Lattakia and Quneitra governorates, and some areas in Al Hasakeh, Deir-ez Zor, and Idleb governorates (ISW, 19/06/2015).

Islamic State (IS, formerly the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant): Ar-Raqqa
Islamic State (IS, formerly the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant): Ar-Raqqa governorate is IS’s stronghold in Syria, and under IS control since October 2014. IS holds significant swathes of territory in Aleppo, Al Hasakeh, and Deir-ez-Zor, and is also fighting in Rural Damascus, Damascus, and Homs (ISW, 19/06/2015).

Democratic Union Party (PYD) and People’s Protection Units (YPG): Syrian Kurds have been in de facto control of Kurdish zones in the north since government forces withdrew mid-2012. This includes large areas of the northern parts of Al Hasakeh, Ar-Raqqa, and Aleppo governorates (ISW, 19/06/2015).

Opposition alliances: The Al Qaeda-affiliated Jabhat al Nusra (JAN) controls areas in Idlib governorate (ISW, 19/06/2015). In March, JAN joined forces with several other Islamist groups to create the Jaysh al Fatah Operations Room, mainly active in Idlib governorate (ISW). In April, Ahrar al Sham, Jaysh al Islam, and five other Aleppo-based opposition groups announced the formation of the Aleppo Conquest Operations Room in Aleppo city, which later expanded to Hama and Idlib governorates (ISW, 20/05/2015; 28/04/2015). In early July, JAN and 13 other Islamist groups formed the Ansar al Sharia Operations Room in Aleppo governorate (BBC, 03/07/2015).

International intervention: As part of a multinational campaign against Islamist militant groups, a US-led coalition began airstrikes on IS and JAN military installations in September 2014. More than 2,500 people have been killed by coalition airstrikes so far, the vast majority of them IS fighters, according to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR, 23/05/2015). Turkey began airstrikes in Syria on 24 July (BBC, 24/07/2015). The YPG, supported by other armed groups and coalition airstrikes, are challenging IS in the north (ISW, 25/06/2015). According to analysts, with the exception of the take-over of Palmyra in May, IS has been losing ground since February (AFP, 29/07/2015). IS lost Tal Abyad in Ar-Raqqa governorate to YPG in mid-June, considered a significant defeat (AFP, 15/06/2015).

Conflict developments

In June 2015, opposition alliances launched offensives against both Dar’a and Aleppo cities. According to analysts, if opposition groups seize control over either city, the stalemate that has long characterised the conflict could be overturned (ISW, 09/07/2015). Government forces are struggling to secure and hold terrain (ISW, 24/06/2015).

The YPG, supported by other armed groups and coalition airstrikes, are challenging IS in the north (ISW, 25/06/2015). According to analysts, with the exception of the take-over of Palmyra in May, IS has been losing ground since February (AFP, 29/07/2015). IS lost Tal Abyad in Ar-Raqqa governorate to YPG in mid-June, considered a significant defeat (AFP, 15/06/2015).

A 48-hour ceasefire took place in Zabadani town, Rural Damascus, and al Foua and Kefraya towns in Idlib governorate, between 27 and 29 August. Negotiations were simultaneously held to end fighting in Zabadani and the siege of al Foua and Kefraya, no agreement has been reached (AFP, 29/08/2015). A 72-hour ceasefire was held in the same areas earlier in August (BBC, 12/08/2015).

Aleppo: Fighting continues in Aleppo on a daily basis (UNSC, 20/08/2015). In early August, IS forces seized the village of Umm Housh in northern Aleppo, which lies along a key supply line from Turkey. Clashes continue in the area (AFP, 09/08/2015). On 27 July YPG forces seized control of Sarrin town, after weeks of fighting with IS forces. The capture cuts off IS’s main access route to other parts of Aleppo governorate (AFP, 30/07/2015).

Al Hasakeh: On 28 July, YPG and pro-government forces pushed IS forces out of Al Hasakeh city, after a month-long IS offensive (AFP, 29/07/2015).

Ar-Raqqa: In July, YPG recaptured at least ten villages that were seized by IS forces earlier the same month (ICG, 01/08/2015).

Dar’a: On 24 July, the opposition alliance Southern Front launched a new offensive on Dar’a city (AFP, 24/07/2015). Government airstrikes in Dar’a governorate have intensified over July (ECHO, 24/07/2015; AFP, 24/07/2015; 02/07/2015).

Hama: Intense fighting continues in the Sahl al-Ghab region, with forces from the Jaysh al Fatah Operations Room taking control over several villages and moving closer to the Government’s regional military headquarters in Jureen (AFP, 09/08/2015; Reuters, 09/08/2015). In late July, the Jaysh al Fatah Operations Room launched a major offensive in government-held areas (AFP, 01/08/2015).

Homs: On 6 August, IS forces seized the town of Al-Qaryatain in IS’ first major offensive since May (BBC, 06/08/2015). The take-over means IS forces are moving closer to the M5 highway, a crucial supply route for government forces (IRIN, 13/08/2015).

Idlib: In late July, government forces carried out intense airstrikes (ECHO, 31/07/2015). As of June, government forces have lost control over most of Idlib, while the Jaysh al Fatah Operations Room has expanded its presence (AFP, 04/07/2015; ISW, 19/06/2015).

Lattakia: On 19 July, government forces launched a new offensive to retake villages and cut off opposition supply lines from Turkey (Reuters, 19/07/2015).

Rural Damascus: After the end of the 48-hour ceasefire, fighting resumed in Zabadani (AFP, 29/08/2015). On 5 July, government forces, supported by Lebanese Hezbollah, entered Zabadani town, considered the final JAN stronghold in Qalamoun region (Al Jazeera, 05/07/2015).

Displacement

IDPs

There are 7.6 million IDPs within Syria; 50% are children (OCHA, 25/11/2014). There are 147 IDP camps in northern Syria hosting 175,520 IDPs (OCHA, 30/01/2015).
705,068 people were displaced in the first five months of 2015: 208,647 fled to Turkey, 36,922 to Lebanon, 15,641 to Iraq, and 5,295 to Jordan (OCHA, 02/06/2015). The remaining 438,563 are internally displaced (OCHA, 02/06/2015).

In June, 120,000 people were newly displaced in Al Hasakeh governorate, 28,000 in Aleppo governorate, 30,000 people in Dar’a, and 50,000 people in Ar-Raqqā (WFP, 17/07/2015; UNICEF, 30/06/2015).

In late July, an estimated 30,000 people were displaced in Idleb governorate following a government campaign of intense airstrikes (ECHO, 31/07/2015). At least 150,000 people have reportedly been displaced in the governorate since late March (WFP, 17/07/2015).

The numbers of IDPs include people who have been displaced several times since the conflict broke out (UNICEF, 30/04/2015).

Almost 30,000 IDPs returned to their areas of origin (mostly in Dar’a) in March (OCHA, 21/04/2015). Reportedly, around 70,000 people have returned to Kobane (IRIN, 07/05/2015).

Refugees

Palestinian refugees in Syria (PRS): There are 560,000 Palestine refugees (OCHA, 21/04/2015). 470,000 Palestine refugees registered with UNRWA are in need of assistance (UNRWA, 21/04/2015). Over 50% have been displaced within Syria (UNRWA, 28/10/2014).

Iraqi refugees: There are an estimated 29,000 Iraqi refugees in Syria (UNHCR, 25/11/2014).

Syrian refugees in neighbouring countries

4,015,256 Syrians are registered as refugees in neighbouring countries as of 31 July; a million more than in September 2014 (UNHCR, 31/07/2015).

Turkey: 1,805,255 registered refugees (UNHCR, 09/07/2015). 23,135 refugees were registered in Turkey mid-June, having fled fighting in Tal Abyad, Ar-Raqqā, and Deir-ez-Zor (ECHO, 17/06/2015).

Lebanon: 1,172,753 refugees (UNHCR, 06/07/2015). Lebanon’s borders have been closed to Syrian refugees since October 2014. Since January 2015, Syrians wanting to enter Lebanon must apply for a visa (BBC, 05/01/2015).

Jordan: 629,128 refugees (UNHCR, 17/06/2015).

Egypt: 132,375 refugees (UNHCR, 05/07/2015).

Iraq: 251,690 refugees (UNHCR, 31/07/2015).

PRS: 42,000 have been recorded with UNRWA in Lebanon, 14,348 in Jordan (UNRWA, 02/03/2015) and 860 in Gaza. Around 4,000 are reportedly in Egypt (UNRWA, 28/10/2014).

Humanitarian access

4.6 million people are living in 137 hard-to-reach areas, including up to two million children (OCHA, 27/08/2015; UNICEF, 12/2014; UNFPA, 31/05/2015). Delivery of aid continues to be hampered by ongoing insecurity and lack of access for humanitarian organisations to government and opposition held areas (AFP, 28/08/2015).

Armed clashes and restrictions imposed by armed groups are hampering assistance, particularly in Al Hasakeh, Ar-Raqqā, Deir-ez-Zor, and rural Hama (UNICEF, 30/04/2015). Al Hasakeh remains inaccessible by road (ICRC, 18/06/2015).

Access of relief actors to affected populations

Ten aid workers have been killed and three injured since the beginning of 2015 (OCHA, 30/04/2015; Aid Worker Security Database, 20/04/2015). 77 humanitarian workers have been killed in the conflict since March 2011 (OCHA, 30/04/2015). 27 UN staff (including 24 UNRWA staff) have been detained or are missing (UNSC 21/11/2014).

Access of affected populations to assistance

4.6 million people live in hard-to-reach communities; an estimated 2.7 million of these live in IS-controlled areas where humanitarian access continues to deteriorate (OCHA, 27/08/2015; 30/04/2015). 422,000 civilians are living in besieged areas (OCHA, 22/06/2015).

UN agencies only reached 1% of the population in besieged areas with food assistance in the first half of 2015, and only 2% with health supplies. In July, they reached none of the besieged areas. Only 12% of people living in hard-to-reach areas were reached with food assistance in the first half of 2015, only 3% of them with health supplies (OCHA, 27/08/2015).

Aleppo: Humanitarian organisations have reduced operations in Kobane to only lifesaving activities after recent attacks in the area and in the Turkish border city of Suruc. The border crossing point between Kobane and Suruc has been closed (ECHO, 31/07/2015).

Damascus: The UN has removed Yarmouk from its list of besieged areas, despite UNRWA not having been able to deliver aid for four months (IRIN, 24/07/2015).

Deir-ez-Zor: IS has cut off access to government-controlled areas of Deir-ez-Zor, leaving an estimated 228,000 civilians under siege since February: minimal relief supplies have been airlifted into the city (UNICEF, 30/04/2015).

Homs: As of April, three inter-agency convoys had reached Homs governorate (Talbiseh,
Al Wa‘er and Ar-Rastan. Prior to this, Ar-Rastan was last reached in March 2014 (OCHA, 21/04/2015). Under partial siege since October 2013, over half of Al Wa‘er’s 350,000 residents are IDPs; most live in substandard accommodation (WFP, 22/10/2014).

**Idlib:** Lack of access due to insecurity continues to significantly hamper tracking of population movement, safe registration of IDPs, identification of lifesaving needs and provision of humanitarian assistance (OCHA, 14/04/2015). Al-Foua and Kefraya towns are besieged by JAN forces and cannot be accessed (AFP, 29/08/2015).

**Rural Damascus:** Zabadani town has not been accessed by humanitarian actors since 2012, and lack of food and medical supplies is reported, with fighting worsening the situation (OCHA, 07/07/2015). 40,000 people are in urgent need of basic services in Moa’damiyah town, which has been cut off for several months. Little to no food or water is available; access to healthcare is lacking; and there is no electricity (ICRC, 18/06/2015).

**Security and physical constraints**

Siege tactics are used by all actors in the conflict. Parties to the conflict continue to target public infrastructure and facilities, including water supply and electricity (OCHA, 27/08/2015).

In northern Syria, fuel shortages are severely limiting transportation (MSF, 22/06/2015).

**Food security and livelihoods**

9.8 million people require food, agriculture, and livelihoods-related assistance, according to the Food Security and Livelihoods sector. Of these, around 6.8 million people live in high-priority districts and need critical food assistance (WFP, 26/03/2015).

**Food availability**

While weather conditions have been generally favourable, the conflict continues to impact the agricultural output (FAO, 30/07/2015).

Wheat production in 2015 is estimated to be 40% lower than pre-conflict levels, although higher than in 2014. It is the smallest estimated harvested wheat area since the 1960s (FAO/WFP, 23/07/2015).

Crop production has been adversely affected by high prices or lack of agricultural inputs (such as seeds, fertiliser, and fuel); damage to agricultural machinery, irrigation systems, and storage facilities; disruptions in electricity supply; and destruction of standing crops (FAO/WFP, 23/07/2015; FAO, 17/06/2015).

Food prices increased sharply in early 2015 (FAO/WFP, 23/07/2015). Since 2011, the average monthly prices of wheat flour and rice have increased 301% and 629%, respectively. In besieged areas, wheat flour and rice prices have risen by 669% and 560%, respectively. Subsidised bread prices have risen by 180%, and commercial prices by 220% (WFP, 05/2015).

**Livelihoods**

Unemployment stood at 57% the last quarter of 2014; an 8% increase since early 2014 (FAO/WFP, 23/07/2015). Gross domestic product has contracted by more than 40%, and exports have fallen by 90%. Oil production has dropped by 96% (World Bank/IMF/AFP, 02/12/2014). Insecurity is hampering transportation, preventing farmers from selling their products (FAO/WFP, 23/07/2015).

**Health**

Over 2.4 million people are in need of health assistance (MSNA, 30/10/2014).

**Healthcare availability and access**

25% of hospitals are not functioning, and 32% of hospitals are only partially functioning, due to shortage of staff, equipment, supplies, or damaged infrastructure (UNICEF, 31/07/2015). Health services in Aleppo, Dar’a, Homs, Hama, Idlib and Al Hasakeh governorates have been the most affected by conflict (UNICEF, 31/07/2015).

**Populations living in hard-to-reach or besieged areas have limited access to healthcare (ICRC, 27/08/2015).**

The number of available health professionals has fallen to approximately 45% of 2011 levels (WHO, 27/03/2015). Local production of medicines has fallen by 70% and many lifesaving treatments are not available (WHO, 27/03/2015).

**Health needs are growing in northeastern Syria, and humanitarian actors struggle to access al Hasakeh governorate due to insecurity (ICRC, 27/08/2015).**

Since 2011, Physicians for Human Rights has recorded the killing of 633 medical personnel and 271 attacks on 202 medical facilities. Government forces were found to be responsible for 90% of attacks on medical facilities – including 51 attacks with barrel bombs – and 97% of medical personnel deaths – including 142 deaths by torture or execution (PHR, 18/06/2015).

**Waterborne diseases**

The number of diarrhoea cases increased by more than 40% over May-July (UNICEF, 31/07/2015).

As of July 2015, 105,866 cases of acute diarrhoea have been reported since the beginning of the year. Children are particularly at risk. The incidence of waterborne diseases will likely increase over the summer months (UNICEF 10/07/2015). In the first weeks of July,
at least 3,000 cases of diarrhoea were reported among children in Aleppo city (UNICEF, 22/07/2015).

In the first five months of 2015, 1,000 hepatitis A cases were recorded per month (UNHCR, 10/05/2015). Significant increases in hepatitis A and typhoid cases were reported over May-July in Hama, Deir-ez-Zor, Idleb and Rural Damascus (UNICEF, 31/07/2015).

In late August, six cases of typhoid were reported in Yarmouk refugee camp in Damascus (AFP, 19/08/2015).

**WASH**

4.6 million people are in need of WASH assistance. Six out of ten governorates report major problems in the WASH sector (MSNA, 30/10/2014). New waves of displacement have put further strain on water and sanitation networks (UNICEF, 10/07/2015).

**Water**

The availability of safe water is at a third of pre-crisis levels (WHO, 27/03/2015). The reliability of urban piped water is severely reduced and the quality of drinking water cannot be guaranteed due to a lack of testing facilities. Fuel shortages also affect water supply (UNICEF, 10/07/2015).

Deliberate disruptions to water supply systems are increasingly being used by various parties to the conflict as a tactic of war (UNICEF, 19/08/2015). 18 deliberate water cuts have been recorded in Aleppo city so far this year (UNICEF, 25/08/2015). Water cuts in the last weeks of August have affected at least five million people in and around Damascus. Water supplies have been restored, but not to adequate levels (ECHO, 21/08/2015). Water from the main water distribution system in Aleppo was cut for the first two weeks of August (UNICEF, 19/08/2015). During August, water prices in Aleppo increased with as much as 3,000% (UNICEF, 25/08/2015).

Water pumping stations in Idleb governorate are operating only two hours a day (UNICEF, 10/07/2015).

**Sanitation**

One-third of water treatment plants no longer function, and sewage treatment has halved (PHR, 10/2014; WHO/UNICEF, 22/07/2014). New waves of displacement have put further strain on sanitation networks (UNICEF, 10/07/2015).

**Shelter and NFIs**

In late 2014, 1.6 million people were estimated to be in need of shelter and NFIs assistance (2015 Syria SRP, 17/12/2014).

Limited information is available on shelter needs of the 7.6 million IDPs (Shelter Cluster, 29/07/2015).

At least 1.2 million houses have been damaged, 400,000 of which have been totally destroyed (UNHCR, 30/10/2014).

IDPs from Dar’a report shelter as their priority need. Thousands of IDPs living in fields outside Dar’a city have no protection against the weather or other natural threats (OCHA, 27/06/2015).

**Education**

Between 2.1 and 2.4 million school-aged children are currently out of school (OCHA, 22/06/2015).

**Access and learning environment**

Between 5,000 and 14,000 schools have been damaged, destroyed or occupied since March 2011 (Save the Children, 03/2015).

In areas of prolonged active conflict, education enrolment is estimated to be around 6% (Save the Children, 03/2015). The primary reason for student drop-out is the need to work to support the family. Around 90% of schools in Idleb city have stopped functioning due to violent conflict (OCHA, 14/04/2015).

**Protection**

Non-state armed groups and pro-government forces continue to commit human rights violations. Ethnic and religious communities in IS-occupied areas have been targeted directly (UN Human Rights Council 11/2014). Human and organ trafficking are reported (UNHCR 20/11/2014). Chemical weapons attacks have been reported (Reuters, 18/07/2105; HRW, 03/06/2015).

Both government and opposition forces have reportedly carried out arbitrary detention and abduction (Syrian Network for Human Rights, 30/08/2015).

Since the start of the conflict, 11,500 people have died from torture while in detention; government forces were responsible for 99% of cases (Syrian Network for Human Rights, 26/06/2015).

Journalists and other media workers are systematically targeted. Since the conflict began in 2011, 84 journalists have been killed, more than 90 abducted, and 25 remain missing (Institute for War and Peace Reporting, 12/08/2015).
Large quantities of unexploded ordnance and many booby-trapped houses in the eastern sector of Kobane city and the surrounding countryside are preventing return (OCHA, 17/02/2015). Since late January, there have been 45 explosions and 66 people killed, the vast majority of them civilians, according to a demining NGO (IRIN, 07/05/2015).

Children

Various opposition groups, including JAN, Kurdish groups, and IS have been found to recruit children (NOREF, 16/02/2015). In 2015, IS has trained over 400 children as fighters (AFP, 24/03/2015). 52 children recruited by IS have been killed so far in 2015 (31 in July alone), including 16 who were used in suicide bombings (SOHR, 15/07/2015). The YPG has recruited 59 children since June 2014 (HRW, 15/07/2015).

Updated: 31/08/2015

YEMEN COMPLEX, CONFLICT, FOOD INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT

- 21.1 million people in need of humanitarian assistance (OCHA, 10/06/2015).
- 12.2 million people are directly affected by the conflict (OCHA, 10/06/2015).
- 12.9 million people are food insecure (IPC Indicative Analysis, 18/06/2015). Six million people are estimated to be severely food insecure (OCHA, 05/06/2015).
- More than 15 million people lack access to healthcare (OCHA, 03/06/2015).
- 1.6 million children under five are estimated to suffer from acute malnutrition, including 400,000 potential SAM cases (OCHA, 13/07/2015; 12/06/2015).
- At least 20 million people lack access to clean water. Since the escalation of the crisis, 9.4 million people have lost access to safe water (OCHA, 05/06/2015).
- 1.4 million IDPs in Yemen (Protection Cluster, 05/08/2015).

OVERVIEW

An estimated 21.1 million people, 80% of the population, are in need of humanitarian aid (OCHA, 10/06/2015). 50% are under 18 years old (OCHA, 05/03/2015). 12.2 million people are estimated to be directly affected by the conflict (OCHA, 10/06/2015).

Access to safe drinking water, healthcare, and other basic services continues to decline. The Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) has declared Yemen a Level 3 emergency based on the severe humanitarian situation.

Yemen’s political transition has turned into armed conflict between Houthis from the north and the Government. Southern secessionists, Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), and Islamic State activity throughout the country compound the security and political challenges.

Politics and Security

Instability and violence continue across the country. In February 2015, the Houthis dissolved Parliament and replaced the Government with a presidential council. President Hadi fled to Aden, and later to Saudi Arabia (BBC, 27/03/2015; AFP, 21/02/2015).

Several peace talks have been conducted with no agreement. The last round of UN-led talks including government and Houthi representatives concluded in Geneva on 19 June, with no agreement (AFP, 19/06/2015).

Conflict escalated significantly from 23 March 2015. Several ceasefires have failed to hold (AFP, 27/07/2015; 13/07/2015). As of end August 2015, 21 of Yemen’s 22 governorates are directly affected by airstrikes, armed clashes, and shelling (OCHA, 27/08/2015).
As of 27 August, 4,513 conflict-related deaths and 23,509 injuries have been registered since March (OCHA, 27/08/2015). Civilians account for almost half of those killed (UN News Service, 28/07/2015). These numbers are expected to be much higher due to underreporting (OCHA, 25/05/2015).

Stakeholders

The pro-government forces, supported by Saudi-led coalition airstrikes, are aiming at regaining control over Houthi- and AQAP-controlled areas. President Hadi is in charge of government forces from his exile in Saudi Arabia, however several ministers have returned to Aden as of late July (Al Jazeera, 23/07/2015). The Yemeni army is deeply divided, with units loyal to President Hadi fighting pro-Houthi units (ABC 15/04/2015).

The Houthis, also referred to as Ansar Allah, are based in Sa’ada governorate. The Houthis seized the capital in September 2014. They have taken up arms before, citing political, economic, and religious marginalisation (Al Jazeera, 16/11/2009). Certain factions in the Yemeni army have allied themselves with the Houthis against President Hadi, including members of the former central security force, a unit seen as loyal to former President Saleh (Reuters, 12/03/2015; ABC, 23/03/2015). Estimates put the number of Houthi militants at around 20,000–30,000 (Al Jazeera, 04/03/2015).

Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) and Ansar al Sharia: AQAP is based in the south and east of the country. Ansar al Sharia has gained a foothold in the south and is believed to be a local branch of AQAP (ICG, 27/02/2015). According to the national security service, there are around 1,000 Al Qaeda militants in Yemen from 11 Arab and non-Arab countries (AFP, 17/01/2015).

International Involvement: A Saudi-led coalition began airstrikes in support of pro-Hadi forces on 26 March. UAE, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, Jordan, Morocco, Sudan, and Egypt are also participating in the coalition (CNN, 29/03/2015). Saudi Arabia claims that Iran backs Houthi militants financially and materially, a claim the Iranian Government denies (Amnesty 26/03/2015).

Conflict Developments

Aden was taken by pro-government troops on 17 July. Over July and the first weeks of August, pro-government forces have made significant gains in southern Yemen. As of 17 August, Houthi forces have reportedly lost all previously held territory in southern governorates, but maintain their stronghold in the north (ECHO, 17/08/2015; ICG, 12/08/2015). As of 21 August, pro-government forces have gained control over Aden, Abyan, Shabwah, Lahj and Al Dhalee governorates (WFP, 21/08/2015).


Abyan: On 12 August, pro-government forces took control of Abyan governorate (WFP, 21/08/2015). In early August, intense fighting was reported in the capital, Zinjibar – Abyan governorate had been relatively quiet up until the capture of Aden (ECHO, 04/08/2015).

Lahj: On 3 August, pro-government forces retook the Al Anad airbase from Houthi forces – a significant strategic loss for the Houthis (AFP, 04/08/2015; BBC, 04/08/2015). Houthi forces have reportedly lost most of their presence in Lahj governorate (Reuters, 05/08/2015).

Marib: Fighting in Marib continues, with neither side gaining significant ground (ECHO 17/08/2015).

Sanaa: Fighting is moving closer to the capital, and analysts expect pro-government forces to launch an offensive in Sanaa city in the coming weeks (ECHO, 13/08/2015; ICG, 12/08/2015). Over June and July, IS claimed responsibility for several bombs targeting Shi’ite mosques (AFP, 29/07/2015; France24, 21/07/2015; AFP, 07/07/2015; ABC, 20/06/2015).

Taizz: Fighting in Taizz city intensified in the last weeks of July, and has continued into late August (ICRC, 28/08/2015).

Displacement

Several waves of conflict, lack of access, and the fluidity of displacement make it difficult to estimate displacement figures and needs. Since conflict escalated in March, more than 1.4 million people have become displaced in Yemen – adding to an estimated 800,000 returnees, refugees, and migrants in need of assistance.

IDPs

As of early August, 1,439,118 people have been internally displaced since the escalation of conflict, a 12% increase since early July (Protection Cluster, 05/08/2015). This includes 298,788 in Hajjah, 235,656 in Al Dhalee, and 195,325 in Aden governorate. IDPs originate mainly in Aden, Al Dhalee, and Lahj governorates (Protection Cluster, 05/08/2015).

Most IDPs are staying with friends and family and host community members are in need of assistance themselves (OCHA, 19/06/2015; OCHA, 10/06/2015). IDPs and host communities urgently need food, shelter, health services, and fuel in several governorates, including Hadramaut, Al Mahwit, and Taizz (IOM, 23/07/2015).

Refugees and asylum seekers

There are 257,645 registered refugees in Yemen: most are Somali (236,803); 5,934 are...
Ethiopian (Mixed Migration Secretariat, 28/02/2015). At least 2,000 Syrian refugees have been registered in Yemen since August 2014: more than 10,000 Syrians are thought to be in the country (OCHA, 05/11/2014).

Conflict in areas close to refugee-hosting sites have resulted in further displacement of refugees and asylum seekers, loss of livelihoods, and a breakdown in basic services (OCHA, 19/06/2015). In Kharaz refugee camp in Lahj governorate, food rations have run out, the school is closed, health facilities are shutting down, and a general lack of basic services is reported (UNHCR, 19/06/2015).

Arrivals from Yemen to Other Countries

Since March 2015, almost 100,000 people, consisting of Yemenis, returnees, and third-country nationals (TCNs) have left Yemen (UNHCR, 07/08/2015). As of 27 August, 23,804 have arrived in Djibouti and 28,791 in Somalia (IOM, 27/08/2015). 3,000 Yemenis and Somalis have arrived in Ethiopia; 5,000 arrivals of mixed nationalities have been recorded in Oman. 30,000 Yemenis and 10,000 TCNs have arrived in Saudi Arabia; all but 5,000 have since left Saudi Arabia for other countries.

Other

Estimates indicate that over 883,000 returnees, refugees, and migrants in Yemen currently require assistance, including Yemeni migrants deported from Saudi Arabia (OCHA, 12/06/2015).

10,500 people have arrived in Yemen since March, mostly from Somalia and Ethiopia (UNHCR, 14/07/2015). Many new arrivals reported they were unaware of the security situation in Yemen before arriving. Others reported they were aware of the situation, and still preferred it to the situation in their country of origin (UNHCR, 03/07/2015).

Humanitarian Access

Checkpoints, insecurity, and the reluctance of transporters to access volatile areas are hampering the delivery of assistance via both road and sea (WFP, 29/07/2015). Fuel shortages are further hampering humanitarian operations (OCHA, 30/06/2015).

Many aid agencies have suspended activities and evacuated their staff (IRIN, 27/03/2015). The arms embargo on the Houthis and the commercial-shipping restrictions have also impacted the supply of humanitarian relief (OCHA, 27/08/2015).

Access of relief actors to affected populations

On 24 August, the ICRC office in Aden city was attacked by unidentified gunmen – cars, cash, and equipment were stolen (ICRC, 25/08/2015). In late July, a Yemen Red Crescent ambulance was attacked; two people were killed (ICRC, 29/07/2015). Yemen Red Crescent volunteers have been killed since March (ICRC, 29/07/2015).

Humanitarian access constraints are particularly severe in Sa’ada, followed by Lahj, Aden, Al Dhalee, Taizz, Abyan, Shabwah, Marib, and Al Jawf (OCHA, 19/06/2015). An estimated 490,000 people in Sa’ada cannot be reached by humanitarian assistance, most of whom have limited or no access to medical services, clean water, food, and communication (OCHA, 22/05/2015). Other northern governorates such as Hajjah and Amran also have limited access (OCHA, 29/05/2015). Roads in and around Aden are either inaccessible or difficult to access due to insecurity (Logistics Cluster, 06/07/2015).

Security and physical constraints

Delivering supplies by road is becoming increasingly difficult due to numerous checkpoints and roadblocks (OCHA, 19/06/2015). Roads connecting Sanaa to Aden, Taizz, Al Dhalee, and Lahj have become gradually inaccessible (WFP, 27/04/2015).

The closure of airspace over Yemen is severely restricting air operations, as are limitations in neighbouring airspace zones (Logistics Cluster, 06/07/2015). Sanaa and Seiyun are the only airports operating international flights (Logistics Cluster, 26/08/2015). Aden airport requires repair and is inaccessible to humanitarian flights (Logistics Cluster, 31/07/2015).

The Yemeni government-in-exile has formally banned ships from entering the country’s waters without prior inspection (IRIN, 17/04/2015). On 18 August, coalition airstrikes hit Hodeidah port, the main entry point for aid coming into Yemen. The container terminal and cranes were heavily damaged (Logistics Cluster, 26/08/2015; Reuters, 18/08/2015). As of 27 August, Hodeidah port remains inaccessible (OCHA, 27/08/2015; Logistics Cluster, 26/08/2015).

The amount of fuel currently in Yemen is estimated to be 20% of what is needed (Oxfam, 14/07/2015). Diesel prices are 1,056% higher than before the conflict escalated (OCHA, 13/07/2015). The fuel shortage is creating severe challenges for the transportation of food, water, and medical supplies, and the operation of water pumps and generators (ECHO, 14/05/2015). On average, Yemenis have less than one hour of electricity per day, due to fuel shortages (OCHA, 05/06/2015).

Food Security and Livelihoods

12.9 million people are food insecure, 2.3 million more than before the escalation of the crisis in March (Indicative IPC Analysis, 18/06/2015). 6.07 million people (22.7% of the population) face Emergency (IPC Phase 4) food security outcomes, mainly in Sa’ada, Aden, Abyan, Shabwah, Hajjah, Al Hudaydah, Taizz, Lahj, Al Dhalee, and Al Bayda, while 6.8 million people (25.7%) are in Crisis (IPC Phase 3), according to the June 2015 IPC Analysis. This is a 21% increase in food insecurity since last year (Indicative IPC Analysis, 18/06/2015). The situation is expected to further deteriorate as long as insecurity continues.
continues to severely constrain access and household purchasing power falls (Indicative IPC Analysis, 18/06/2015; FEWSNET, 30/06/2015).

Food availability

While Yemen ordinarily imports 90% of its food, imports of staple foods, such as cereals, have almost completely ceased since the escalation of conflict (OCHA, 29/05/2015). Cooking gas is unavailable in Aden and Taizz and only sparsely available in 13 other governorates (OCHA, 13/07/2015). The price of cooking gas has increased by more than 300% since March (OCHA, 17/06/2015).

Crops, storage, and irrigation facilities have been significantly damaged in conflict-affected areas including Sa‘ada, Lahj, Taizz, Al Dhalee, and Abyan (FAO, 23/06/2015). Lack of fuel and insecurity are preventing the delivery of goods from ports to markets (FEWSNET, 18/06/2015).

Wheat and meat products are unavailable in Aden and only sparsely available in 14 other governorates (FEWSNET, 18/08/2015; MSF, 29/07/2015; OCHA, 13/07/2015). Grain milling has ceased for lack of fuel (OCHA, 19/06/2015). It is increasingly difficult to store and transport fruit and vegetables due to fuel shortages. Fuel shortages have also affected transportation of livestock (FAO, 23/06/2015).

95% of local supermarkets are reportedly closed, affecting in particular people in urban settings (OCHA, 22/05/2015). Most bakeries in Aden have shut down due to wheat and fuel shortages (OCHA, 30/06/2015).

Food prices have increased by 40–100% since the start of the crisis, with the highest prices in southwestern governorates (FAO, 08/07/2015). Acute fuel shortages have affected food prices (WFP, 10/04/2015).

Airstrikes have reportedly targeted local markets and trucks carrying food (OCHA, 27/08/2015).

Livelihoods

Incomes in IDP and host communities are dwindling, affected people are resorting to negative coping mechanisms, such as selling their belongings, to meet everyday needs (OCHA, 10/06/2015). Many families have lost their sources of income, and can no longer afford sufficient or nutritious food (OCHA, 19/06/2015). Farmers are struggling to sustain their income due to high input costs and low output prices (FAO, 23/06/2015). More than 500,000 people have been affected by disruption of fishing, caused by insecurity, lack of fuel causing spoilage, and market disruption (OCHA, 06/07/2015; FAO, 08/07/2015).

Electricity shortages have affected all economic sectors, and have been a factor in reduced employment opportunities. Only three percent of businesses were reportedly functioning normally by May 2015 (FEWSNET, 18/08/2015).

In areas affected by ground conflict, many people have not received public salaries since March, due to insecurity and disruptions to transfer systems (FEWSNET, 18/08/2015).

An assessment carried out in Hodeidah governorate found that 70% of households have lost some or all of their monthly income since March (UNICEF, 25/08/2015).

Health

About 15.2 million people lack access to basic healthcare, 40% more than in March (OCHA, 03/06/2015; 14/06/2015).

Healthcare availability and access

Out of 5,642 health facilities in Yemen, 754 (13%) are non-functional and 559 (10%) partially functional as a result of the conflict (WHO, 30/07/2015).

Health staff are increasingly unable to report to work. Non-Yemenis make up at least 25% of health workers and their evacuation has added to shortages (WHO, 27/04/2015). Prior to the escalation of the crisis, qualified medical staff were already in short supply. Health professionals who continue working have not been paid in months due to the economic crisis caused by the conflict (OCHA, 27/08/2015).

Al Sabeeh Hospital in Sanaa, which serves an estimated three million people, is reportedly facing imminent closure, due to critical fuel shortages and lack of medical supplies (Save the Children, 30/08/2015).

Out of 20 major hospitals in Taizz governorate, 15 are closed and the remaining hospitals are overstretched (ICRC, 28/08/2015; MSF, 07/08/2015). Humanitarian organisations are struggling to deliver medical and surgical supplies due to insecurity (ICRC, 28/08/2015). The Taizz International Hospital is occupied by armed groups (OCHA, 27/08/2015).

Since the escalation of the conflict, nine incidents of violence against staff and in health facilities and care workers and 65 incidents against health facilities have been reported (OCHA, 14/06/2015). There are also reports of ambulances being commandeered by militias (OCHA, 27/08/2015). 39 health facilities have been damaged since March, including 27 hospitals (WHO, 15/08/2015).

Ambulance services are non-functional in most areas heavily affected by conflict due to fuel shortages and security threats (OCHA, 14/06/2015). Medicines for diabetes, hypertension and cancer are no longer available and there are acute shortages in critical medical supplies – trauma kits, medicines, blood bags and other necessities (OCHA, 12/06/2015). Prior to the conflict, Yemen imported 80% of its medical supplies (OCHA, 12/06/2015).
The only oxygen generating plant in Yemen has ceased to function due to lack of fuel (OCHA, 19/04/2015). Outbreak response, including surveillance and early response, is no longer functioning (OCHA, 13/07/2015; 14/06/2015). 25% of Yemen's health facilities are no longer conducting routine vaccination (UNICEF, 07/07/2015). 87 out of 333 districts lack a functioning cold room to store vaccines (UNICEF, 07/07/2015).

**Dengue and Malaria**

In Taizz governorate, a spike in dengue fever cases has been reported: from 145 suspected cases in early August, to 421 cases by 25 August (WHO, 27/08/2015).

At least 8,000 cases of dengue fever have been reported in Aden since March (Thomson Reuters Foundation, 12/08/2015). The number of new cases declined significantly from mid-June to end-July (WHO, 30/07/2015).

Some cases of malaria have been reported (Thomson Reuters Foundation, 12/08/2015). Insecurity is preventing vector control (OCHA, 30/06/2015). Due to lack of electricity and medical supplies, laboratory testing for dengue and malaria is challenging (OCHA, 30/06/2015).

**Measles and Rubella**

Over 365 cases of measles and over 90 cases of rubella have been diagnosed in Yemen over the past year (OCHA, 14/06/2015). 12 cases of measles were reported between 3 and 9 July (OCHA, 13/07/2015).

**Nutrition**

Around 1.8 million children are likely to suffer from malnutrition in Yemen in 2015 – one million more than in 2014. Of these, a projected 537,000 will be at risk of severe acute malnutrition (UNICEF, 19/08/2015).

Since March, there has been a 150% increase in hospital admissions for malnutrition (WHO, 19/06/2015). 1.6 million children and pregnant or lactating women are in need of services to treat or prevent acute malnutrition (UNICEF, 07/07/2015).

An assessment in Hodeidah governorate found a 31% global acute malnutrition (GAM) prevalence among children under five, 9% of whom have severe acute malnutrition (SAM) – a significant increase from 18% GAM in the governorate in 2014 (UNICEF, 25/08/2015).

**WASH**

At least 20 million people lack access to clean water (WHO, 19/06/2015). Since the escalation of the crisis, 9.4 million people have lost access to safe water due to fuel shortages (OCHA, 05/06/2015). Diesel needed to deliver public water and sanitation is either not available or only sporadically in 20 of 22 governorates (OCHA, 13/07/2015).

Lack of drinking water and adequate sanitation facilities have been reported in sites hosting IDPs in Al Jawf and Marib governorates (OCHA, 23/05/2015).

**Water**

Public water networks in eight major cities are at imminent risk of collapse (OCHA, 19/06/2015). In the south, the lack of power combined with damaged water pumps has forced people to resort to water collection from unprotected and abandoned wells. Water trucks do not have fuel to make deliveries (OCHA, 22/05/2015). The price of water has doubled since July, with some families spending one-third of their income on water (Thomson Reuters Foundation, 12/08/2015). In Sanaa, the price of water has tripled since the escalation of conflict (WFP, 19/08/2015).

**Sanitation**

Solid waste collection has been suspended and sewage treatment plants have reduced operations in several major cities (OCHA, 19/06/2015). Garbage has been accumulating on the streets (UNICEF, 07/07/2015).

**Shelter and NFI**

1.2 million people are in need of emergency shelter or essential household items (OCHA, 12/06/2015).

**Shelter**

The majority of IDPs are hosted by relatives. Some families are reportedly hosting up to six or seven displaced (IOM, 22/05/2015).

IDPs staying with host families are reporting overcrowding, lack of food, and lack of adequate WASH facilities (OCHA, 22/05/2015). Many IDPs are staying in public buildings, such as schools or health facilities, open spaces or makeshift shelters (OCHA, 28/08/2015).

Refugees who were previously self-reliant are now dependent on humanitarian assistance and unable to afford adequate shelters in urban areas, leading to overcrowding (OCHA, 19/06/2015).

**Education**

Over 1.8 million children have lost access to school since the escalation of conflict in March (UNICEF, 11/08/2015). Prior to the conflict, an estimated 2.5 million children were
Access and learning environment

3,584 schools have closed since March (UNICEF, 18/08/2015). An estimated 600,000 children in grades 9 and 12 have not been able to take their National Certification Exams, exams meant to facilitate transition into higher levels of education (UNICEF, 25/08/2015).

More than 400 schools have been damaged: 315 schools have been partially damaged and 114 schools have been destroyed (UNICEF, 25/08/2015). Some 68 schools are occupied by armed groups, and 360 schools are hosting IDPs (UNICEF, 25/08/2015; 21/07/2015). The Saudi-led coalition has stated that schools are legitimate targets if used for military purposes, and have targeted school buildings claimed to be hosting military equipment (Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack, 11/06/2015).

In schools hosting IDPs, classroom equipment, such as desks and benches, is being used for firewood (UNICEF, 23/06/2015).

Protection

11.4 million people are in need of protection assistance, including about 7.3 million children (OCHA, 12/06/2015).

Use of explosive weapons in populated areas, attacks on civilian infrastructure, increased recruitment of children, and attacks against humanitarian workers have been reported since the conflict escalated in March (OCHA, 19/06/2015). Protesters against the Houthi takeover have been illegally detained and tortured, according to several reports (AFP, 14/02/2015; Amnesty, 16/02/2015).

Mines and ERW

Landmines and explosive remnants of war are a major concern in northern governorates. Since March, incidents of civilians wounded in cluster munition attacks in Sada’a governorate have been reported (Human Rights Watch, 31/05/2015). In Lahj, local partners report that AQAP has placed landmines in Al Hamra area of Al Hawta district in order to guard against any Houthi advance (OCHA, 31/03/2015). The Yemen Executive Mine Action Center (YEMAC) has confirmed the presence of cluster munition remnants in four districts on the border between Sada’a governorate and Saudi Arabia (Cluster Monitor, 04/12/2014).

Children

As of 25 August, 402 children have been reported killed and 606 injured (UNICEF, 25/08/2015).

Up to 30% of fighters in armed groups are children (OCHA, 22/12/2014). 377 children have been recruited by armed groups since the escalation of the conflict (UNICEF, 28/07/2015). Houthis, Ansar al Sharia, AQAP and state forces are reported to be recruiting children (Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict, 01/10/2014).

Vulnerable Groups

Due to their marginalisation, the Muhamasheen minority have greater humanitarian needs than the average population (UNICEF, 20/02/2015).

Updated: 31/08/2015

DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF KOREA  FLOODS, FOOD  INSECURITY, EPIDEMIC

INSECURITY, EPIDEMIC

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

24 August: DPRK and South Korea agreed on deal to reduce tensions after shelling from both sides last week (BBC, 25/08/2015)

KEY CONCERNS

- Information on the food security situation remains limited. An estimated 18 million people (70% of the population) are dependent on government rations. 1.8 million people are in particular need of food assistance (UN, 01/04/2015).

- DPRK is disaster-prone, regularly experiencing intense rain, floods and droughts.

- Humanitarian access remains extremely limited (UN, 01/04/2015).

Politics and Security

Tensions between DPRK and South Korea increased after a landmine at the border injured two South Korean soldiers in early August (Guardian, 04/08/2015). On 20 August, the tension resulted in a brief exchange of fire at the border – no casualties were reported. On 24 August, DPRK and South Korea agreed on a deal to reduce tensions; the deal stipulating that South Korea would stop broadcasting over loudspeakers at the border and that DPRK would withdraw additional troops recently deployed to the border (BBC, 25/08/2015).
Humanitarian Access

Humanitarian access remains extremely limited. Humanitarian agencies do not have the ability to freely access communities, conduct assessments, or run monitoring and evaluating processes. International sanctions are further complicating assistance, in particular due to the suspension of banking channels for fund transfers (UN, 01/04/2015).

Natural Disasters

Floods

Heavy rain from 1-5 August caused flooding in South Hwanghae, South Hamgyong, and North Hamgyong provinces. As of 10 August, 21 people have been reported dead, and nine are missing. 3,400 people have been affected by the floods, with more than 900 houses destroyed, and more than 4,000 hectares of crops damaged (IFRC, 12/08/2015; ECHO, 12/08/2015).

Drought

A prolonged dry spell during the planting season, which lasted from April to early June, has adversely affected crops and the yield potential of 2015 food crops (FAO, 17/06/2015). So far in 2015, all provinces have experienced less rainfall than the yearly average (OCHA, 01/07/2015). The provinces of North and South Hwanghae, which contribute to the largest share of the national cereal output, have been most affected (FAO, 17/06/2015). According to South Korean officials, June rainfall has alleviated the drought in other areas (AFP, 10/07/2015).

Food Security and Livelihoods

1.8 million children, older people, and pregnant and lactating women are in particular need of food assistance (UN, 01/04/2015). An estimated 18 million people, of a total population of 24.6 million, are dependent on government rations and highly vulnerable to shortages in food production (UN, 01/04/2015). These food rations were reportedly reduced from 410g per person per day in June to 310g in early July. In mid-July the rations were reportedly further reduced to 250g. Though reductions are normal, this year’s reductions have come a month earlier than in previous years (OCHA, 20/07/2015).

Most households are estimated to have borderline and poor food consumption rates (FAO, 01/06/2015). Decreased production of vegetables and soybeans, a major source of protein, contributes to a lack of food diversity for the general population (UN, 01/04/2015).

The food system in DPRK remains highly vulnerable to shocks and serious shortages exist, particularly in the production of protein-rich crops. Lack of agricultural inputs, such as seeds, fertiliser and plastic sheets, is a fundamental challenge for food production (UN, 01/04/2015).

Food availability

Potato, wheat, and barley crops could be reduced by up to 40–50% in drought-affected areas, compared with normal levels. Rice planting was significantly affected by reduced rainfall in 2014, and output is forecast to be 12% lower than last year. Maize output is expected to be 15% lower than last year. In 2015, 31% of rice crops suffered from serious water shortages during planting and 6% of rice crops were not planted (OCHA, 11/08/2015). Soybean production is also expected to be affected (FAO, 13/07/2015).

9% of agricultural land has become unarable due to the 2014 drought; in North and South Hwanghae 33% of land is considered unusable for agricultural purposes (OCHA, 01/07/2015).

Health

An estimated six million people need access to essential health services, including vaccines. Other medical products and lifesaving equipment, such as ambulances, remain limited. Health facilities often lack functioning water systems, increasing the risks of hospital infections and the spread of disease (UN, 01/04/2015).

Waterborne diseases

Indicators suggest that health facilities are stretched by an increase of diarrhoea cases, as access to safe water is diminishing during the drought (OCHA, 01/07/2015). A joint field observation mission in June found a general increase in waterborne diseases (OCHA, 22/06/2015).

Nutrition

According to FAO, 10.5 million people were undernourished in 2014 (FAO, 27/05/2015).

Food shortages peak during the lean season, between July and September, and households resort to coping mechanisms such as receiving support from families on cooperative farms; reducing meal sizes; gathering wild foods; and diluting meals with water (OCHA, 01/07/2015).

Chronic and acute malnutrition remains one of the major contributors to maternal and child mortality (UNICEF, 26/01/2015). According to the 2012 National Nutrition Survey, acute malnutrition is at 4% among under-fives (National Nutrition Survey, 03/2013). Micronutrient deficiencies are of particular concern (OCHA, 01/07/2015).

WASH

An estimated seven million people need access to clean water and sanitation. There is a notable lack of adequate sanitation in rural areas and in social care institutions and
Water

The quality and availability of water in domestic water wells, which many communities rely on, has been impacted by the drought. According to reports, wells are dry and water levels in reservoirs are 20–30% of 2013 levels (NRP, 18/07/2015). Irrigation activities have been disrupted by the April–June dry spell (FAO, 17/06/2015). Rainfall in 2014 was also 40–60% below 2013 levels (Reuters, 30/05/2015).

Education

Lack of teaching/learning materials in addition to the lack of adequate sanitation facilities in school buildings remain a challenge (UNICEF, 26/01/2015).

Protection

Forced labour is a major concern. According to Human Rights Watch, DPRK authorities arbitrarily arrest and unfairly prosecute citizens (Human Rights Watch, 08/06/2015).

OVERVIEW

Lebanon has the highest per capita concentration of refugees worldwide. While the country struggles to deal with the refugee influx, which exceeds a quarter of the Lebanese population, tensions between host and refugee populations are increasing due to food price hikes, and pressure on health and education systems, housing, and employment. Some 3.3 million people in Lebanon, including 1.2 million children, are directly affected by the Syria crisis (UNHCR 16/12/2014). Lebanon is also hosting 270,000 long-term Palestinian refugees (UNICEF 12/12/2014).

Politics and Security

The Lebanese Parliament has extended its mandate until June 2017, claiming that elections would present too much of a security risk (Daily Star, 12/11/2014). Lebanon has been without a president since President Sleiman’s term expired in May 2014. Parliament has failed to elect a president 24 times in the last year (Daily Star, 17/06/2015).

Hezbollah’s involvement in Syria, and the alleged presence of Jabhat al Nusra (JAN) and Islamic State (IS) in Lebanon, has raised destabilisation concerns in Lebanon. Longstanding tensions between Lebanon and Israel have flared occasionally in the context of the Syrian civil war.

The Government of Syria continues to conduct cross-border air raids (UN Security Council, 22/04/2015).

Civil Unrest

Following the closure of Beirut main landfill, and the subsequent build-up of solid waste in the street, several days of rioting targeting corrupt officials have broken out in Beirut, mainly outside government buildings. As of 26 August, at least one protester has been killed, tens have been wounded and four are missing (Daily Star, 26/08/2015; Al Jazeera, 24/08/2015).
Conflict Developments

Bekaa Valley: The presence JAN militants continues to be suspected on the outskirts of Arsal (Daily Star, 26/06/2015). There have been no major security incidents in the area involving JAN since June.

Palestinian refugee camps: The security situation in many Palestinian refugee camps is tense. A Palestinian joint security force deployed to the southern refugee camp of Mieh Mieh in late March, less than a year after a similar security plan was implemented in Ain al Hilweh (Daily Star, 24/03/2015).

Ain al-Hilweh, Lebanon’s largest Palestinian refugee camp, is a site of frequent tensions and armed clashes. On 22 August, at least two people were killed and 15 wounded during clashes between Fatah and other Islamist armed groups in the camp. An unconfirmed number of people, believed to be in the thousands, were displaced (UN, 25/08/2015; 22/08/2015). Four people were injured during clashes between Fatah and Islamist groups in two separate incidents, 18 June and 1 July (Daily Star, 18/06/2015; 01/07/2015).

South Lebanon: On 1 July, eight people were injured during armed clashes between an armed group linked to Hezbollah and residents of the coastal village of Chouf (Daily Star, 01/07/2015). On 13 May, Hezbollah moved part of its military infrastructure to villages in South Lebanon. Israel is accusing Hezbollah of using civilians as human shields and said it will strike villages if necessary (L'Orient le Jour, 13/05/2015).

Displacement

Refugees

Since 6 May, registration has been temporarily suspended. As of 25 August, 1,113,941 Syrians are registered as refugees in Lebanon. Bekaa is hosting 390,727 refugees; Beirut 328,504; North Lebanon 266,246; and South Lebanon 128,464. This is a significant decrease of nearly 60,000 from the figure reported in early July (UNHCR, 25/08/2015). The lower is partly due to the decision to deregister refugee who originally registered after 5 January according to new Government regulations. It may also be due to those cross border migration meaning that those who obtain work in Syria are losing their registration status. 26% of refugees are women, and 53% children (UNHCR 09/2014). 16% of Syrian refugee households are led by women (Equal Access Monitor, 30/06/2015). The number of Syrians in Lebanon not registered with UNHCR is unknown.

Palestinian refugees from Syria: 45,185 Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS) reside in Lebanon (UNHCR, 28/02/2015) PRS entry to Lebanon is now almost entirely limited to those transiting to a third country. An increasing number of PRS remain in Lebanon illegally, and face an array of protection concerns (OCHA 01/09/2014). Recent fighting in Ain al-Hilweh may have displaced up to 3,000 camp residents, although numbers are not confirmed (UN, 25/08/2015).

Host Communities

Host communities have reported inadequate or insufficient access to water, waste water management systems, affordable housing, and employment opportunities (OCHA 09/2014).

Humanitarian Access

Access of affected populations to assistance

Registration with UNHCR has been temporarily suspended since early May, upon government instruction. The Government formally decided to stop welcoming displaced people in October 2014, barring exceptional cases. The policy raises serious protection concerns (UNHCR, AFP 24/10/2014; UNHCR 07/2014; UNCHR, 20/04/2015).

Since January, Syrians wanting to enter Lebanon must apply for a visa (UNHCR, 25/01/2015).

Security and physical constraints

Refugees live across 1,750 different locations in Lebanon, making the delivery of humanitarian assistance challenging (UNHCR 10/2014). Northern Bekaa, Tripoli, and Akkar are areas of higher risk, and the UN will only carry out critical missions to parts of those areas (WFP, 03/12/2014).

Food Security and Livelihoods

As of 6 May, 1.5 million people are in need of food assistance (WFP, FAO, Food Security cluster, 31/03/2015; UNHCR, 06/05/2015). In total, 24.5% of people are in moderate to severe food insecurity, compared to 12.8% in 2014 (WFP, 07/07/2015). The highest levels of food insecurity are found in North Lebanon (Akkar) and the Bekaa Valley (WFP, 01/07/2015).

Livelihoods

700,000 people are in need of livelihood assistance (UNDP, 31/01/2015; UNHCR,
700,000 people are in need of livelihood assistance (UNDP, 31/01/2015; UNHCR, 06/05/2015). 49% of refugee households live below the Lebanese extreme-poverty line (USD 3.84/person/day) (WFP, 07/07/2015). A third of the refugee population is living with under USD 2–3 per day, unable to meet their basic needs (UNHCR, 09/06/2015).

Reduced assistance to Syrian refugees due to funding shortfalls has caused families to adopt negative coping strategies (WFP, 16/06/2015). In 2015, 15% rely on loans as a main source of income compared to nearly 0% in 2014. This year 11% are in need of emergency coping strategies, compared to 8% in 2014 (WFP, 07/07/2015).

Palestinian refugees from Syria: 75% of PRS have reported cash assistance as their main source of income (UNRWA, 15/05/2014).

Health

3.3 million people are in need of healthcare (WHO/UNHCR, 31/01/2015; 06/05/2015). In the Bekaa Valley, there has been a 20% increase in summer morbidities compared to 2014. This includes respiratory tract infections, diarrhoea and dermatological problems. The rise has been attributed to a heatwave combined with poor living conditions (MSF, 20/08/2015).

WASH

3.3 million people are in need of WASH assistance (UNICEF/UNHCR, 05/05/2015). WASH conditions are worse for refugees in informal settlements and in difficult-to-access locations in the Bekaa Valley and the north (UNHCR, 07/2014). WASH conditions are often below standards in Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut, where many Syrian refugees have settled (IFRC, 03/02/2015).

Sanitation

Informal settlements in the Bekaa valley and in the north have limited or no sanitation facilities (MSF, 20/08/2015).

Environmentally friendly and safe disposal of wastewater is a huge challenge in Lebanon, especially for the majority of locations across the country that are not connected to functioning treatment plants. This is exacerbated in Arsal where security concerns have prohibited the provision of services (WASH Cluster, 04/2015).

Shelter and NFIs

Shelter

1.8 million people are in need of shelter assistance (UNHCR, 05/05/2015).

Refugees are spending up to 90% of their monthly income to live in substandard housing such as garages, sheds, and in unfinished buildings (NRC, 18/06/2015). An assessment found that 50% of refugees live in poor conditions, including accommodation without adequate WASH facilities, or adequate protection against weather. An additional 18% were found to live in temporary shelters without access to basic services (NRC, 18/06/2015).

A large number of refugees are forced to live in tents or haphazard shelters in informal tented settlements (ITS), with 900 in the Bekaa Valley alone (MSF, 20/08/2015). The ITS are usually substandard. Humanitarian agencies are unable to make substantial improvements to the sites, as they are located on private land (UNHCR, 09/06/2015).

In Beirut, many Syrian refugees have settled in Palestinian refugee camps, where shelter conditions are often substandard (IFRC, 03/02/2015).

Palestinian refugees from Syria: The Palestinian population has increased from 110,000 to 140,000 since 2011: 44,000 are Palestinian refugees from Syria (OCHA 09/2014; 01/2015). PRS households are residing in overcrowded dwellings, with an average of 4.6 persons per bedroom; 8.4 people on average share one bathroom. Most households (71%) reported paying rent for shelter. Slightly over a quarter of households (27%) were hosted free of charge. The USD 100 housing assistance for more than 43,000 PRS will be suspended July 2015 (UNRWA, 22/05/2015).

Lebanese returnees: As of 6 May, 50,000 Lebanese nationals had returned from Syria since the beginning of the crisis (UNDP, UNHCR; 06/05/2015). Assessments in 2014 indicated that at least 51% of returnees are shelter insecure (IOM/OCHA 09/2014; UNHCR 07/2014).

Education

750,000 children are in need of education assistance (UNICEF, UNHCR, 31/01/2015, 06/05/2015).

Access and learning environment
One in five households with school-aged children have withdrawn their children from school due to increased food insecurity (WFP, 02/06/2015).

**Protection**

Main protection concerns include the presence of ERWs; child labour; lack of documentation for refugees, impacting their ability to access services and move freely; and forced evictions.

**Mines and ERW**

15.23 square kilometres remain in need of clearance for ERW. 19 incidents of ERW related injuries or deaths have been recorded in 2015 as of August, compared to 24 in all of 2014. The increase may be related to the presence of refugees in dangerous areas (Al Jazeera, 13/08/2015).

On 25 June, a Syrian boy was killed and three others wounded when an ERW exploded in south Lebanon (Daily Star, 26/06/2015). Lebanon has nearly 1,400 confirmed minefields and 520 cluster munitions strike areas, including in areas hosting refugees. A significant number of landowners and workers still enter contaminated areas, stating they have no choice (Mine Advisory Group, 01/06/2015).

**Children**

According to ILO estimates, between 210,000 and 320,000 refugee children of school age who are not in school are involved in some form of child labour (VoA, 23/01/2015). Social exclusion, vulnerability of households, the influx of Syrian refugees, and organised crime and exploitation are all leading children to live or work on the streets (ILO et al., 16/02/2015).

**Vulnerable groups**

Undocumented refugees: Increasing numbers of refugees are undocumented, as they are unable to renew legal residence due to unaffordable fees and complicated administrative procedures. Rental agreements are required to obtain legal residence, however only about 15% of refugees have rental contracts (NRC, 18/06/2015). Registered refugees are not allowed to work, which further deters refugees from seeking legal status. Concern is raised over undocumented refugees’ ability to freely move and access services, and an increased risk of abuse and harassment (ECHO 20/06/2015; NRC, 18/06/2015).

Forced evictions: By February, the Lebanese army had ordered 17,000 refugees in eastern Bekaa Valley to vacate informal tented camps, reportedly to prevent infiltration by militants (Daily Star, 07/02/2015). As of 1 May, 5,981 people had been evicted and relocated from 61 sites; 6,422 individuals remain at risk of eviction (UNHCR, 10/05/2015).

**Documentation**

De-registration of refugees: As of 24 April, refugees who entered after 5 January and have been subsequently registered should be deregistered according to new Government regulations. As of 31 May, 2,626 persons have fallen into this category. In May, the Ministry of Social Affairs further notified UNHCR that all new registrations should be suspended until a mechanism to deal with those who seek registration is established (OCHA, 31/05/2015).

Stateless refugees in Lebanon include Syrian Kurds who were denaturalised in Syria in 1962. Between March 2011 and August 2014, 34,272 Syrian refugees were born in Lebanon. An estimated 72% do not possess an official birth certificate (UNFPA 30/11/2014).

**OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES COMPLEX, FOOD INSECURITY, INSECURITY**

**LATEST DEVELOPMENTS**

**24 August:** Teachers at UNRWA schools in Gaza are on strike on the first day of the academic year. They are protesting increased class size and the suspension of pay during annual leave (Al Jeezera, 24/08/2015).

**17–18 August:** 39 structures were destroyed, displacing 126 people – the largest demolition and displacement event in the West Bank in three years (HRW, 24/08/2015).

**15–17 August:** Two Palestinians were killed following an incident at Z’atara checkpoint when an Israeli soldier was stabbed (OCHA, 22/08/2015).

**KEY CONCERNS**
- 1.9 million people need humanitarian assistance; 1.3 million in Gaza and 600,000 in the West Bank (OCHA, 31/03/2015).

- 1.45 million people, or 33% of the people in oPt, are estimated to be food insecure (WFP, 19/12/2014). 868,000 people in Gaza alone require food aid (UNRWA, 05/02/2015).

- 1.4 million people are in need of WASH assistance, particularly access to water (OCHA, 12/05/2015).

- Continuity of medical care is threatened by the financial crisis and electricity shortages in both the West Bank and the Gaza Strip (OCHA).

- The ongoing blockade of the Gaza Strip limits access and movement of both people and goods.

**Politics and Security**

The Palestinian unity government, made up of members of both Hamas and Fatah, resigned in June, a year after its formation in 2014. Its mandate was to arrange a general election, which never materialised. Hamas remains dominant in the Gaza Strip and Fatah in the West Bank (Al Jazeera, 17/06/2015).

On 16 January, the ICC launched a preliminary examination of the events of the 50-day war (ICC, 16/01/2015). Palestine became an official member of the ICC on 26 March (AFP, 26/03/2015). An Amnesty International report found evidence of war crimes committed by Israel during Operation Protective Edge in the Rafah area of Gaza, and that Hamas used torture during the same conflict against its enemies (Amnesty, 29/07/2015; 27/05/2015).

**Stakeholders**

Hamas: is an Islamist organisation that was established in 1987 in the first Palestinian Intifada – The Uprising (1987–1993), with the aim of resisting the Israeli occupation. It provides some social welfare programmes, and uses its military wing, the Izzedine al-Qassam Brigades, to fight against Israel. In 2006 Hamas won political office in Gaza; tensions between its secular rival Fatah erupted in 2007, when Hamas set up a rival government in the Gaza Strip. Hamas has regularly fired rockets into Israel and conducted attacks against Israel military and civilian targets.

Fatah/PLO: was founded in the late 1950s for the purpose of launching commando raids on Israel. Despite being expelled from Jordan, and then Lebanon, it eventually became the controlling power behind the Palestinian Authority (PA), which was founded in the 1990s after the first intifada. Fatah lost control of Gaza in 2007 to Hamas. Fatah has greatly reduced the number of violent attacks in last two decades, with the exception of the second intifada (2000–2005). It remains the dominant party in the West Bank and within the PA.

Israel: Since 1967, Israel has occupied the West Bank and east Jerusalem. Since then Israel has been accused of pursuing a policy of illegal ‘settlement construction’ in the West Bank and forcibly displacing Palestinians from territory recognised by the UN as Palestinian. Israel withdrew its forces and removed its settlers from the Gaza Strip in 2005, but imposed a strict blockade in 2007 control the flow of goods and materials. Israel and Hamas has been involved in three major conflicts since its withdrawal in 2008, 2012 and 2014. In each, Israel has been accused of the disproportionate use of force.

**Incidents**

Incidents between Israeli security forces and Israeli settlers against Palestinians gradually increased during the second quarter of 2015. In the West Bank, the majority of injuries and fatalities are caused by protests at Israeli settlements and checkpoints. In Gaza, injuries most frequently occur in the Access Restricted Area (ARA), caused by Israeli forces opening fire on groups accused of entering the restricted area. There are growing tensions between actors within oPt, particularly between Hamas and various smaller armed groups or ‘brigades’ in Gaza (OCHA, 01/06/2015).

On 30 June, Islamic State (IS) declared its intentions to replace Hamas as the main power in Gaza. No action followed, but Sinai, the Egyptian territory adjacent to Gaza, has been the site of major clashes between Egyptian army and armed groups allied to IS. Armed groups in Egypt have allegedly been supplied by armed groups in Gaza who are sympathetic to IS (Independent, 01/07/2015; Al Jazeera, 01/07/2015).

As of 22 June, 13 people have been killed and 993 wounded by Israeli forces in oPt so far in 2015 (OCHA, 01/06/2015). An average of over 40 Palestinians are injured by Israeli forces every week (OCHA, 25/06/2015).

**Gaza**

Palestinian armed groups continue to test-fire rockets into the sea and fire rockets towards Israel. On 7 August, a retaliatory Israeli airstrike, targeting the Hamas military wing, injured four policemen (Dunya News, 07/08/2015).

There has been an increase in rocket firing by groups other than Hamas (UNRWA, 04/08/2015). From 30 July to 3 August, militant groups not associated with Hamas
fired 11 rockets towards Israel from inside the Gaza strip. All either failed to launch or landed inside Gaza. Hamas intervened and stopped several of the launches. On 16 July, a rocket was fired into Israel, who responded with airstrikes (Jerusalem Post, 16/07/2015). One Palestinian was injured. In early June, four rocket attacks on Israel were claimed by the Salafist group Supporters of the Islamic State. Israel responded with airstrikes. No casualties were reported on either side (UNRWA, 19/06/2015; AFP, 25/05/2015).

Tensions are rising between Hamas and other armed groups inside Gaza. On 19 July, six bombs believed to be targeting Hamas and Islamic Jihad, an armed group associated with Hamas, detonated in northern Gaza (Al Jazeera, 19/07/2015). It is suspected that IS or groups who support IS, may be responsible; this has not been confirmed (Al Jazeera, 21/07/2015).

Incidents of inter-communal violence are also increasing. On 30 July, two people were injured during such violence (UNRWA, 04/08/2015). In two separate incidents on 7–8 July, three people were killed and one other injured in clashes (UNRWA, 14/07/2015).

It was reported on 9 July that two Israeli citizens are believed to be held in the Gaza Strip by Hamas (BBC, 09/07/2015). Hamas has demanded the release of Palestinian prisoners in exchange for two Israelis (AFP, 17/07/2015).

Israeli forces injured three Palestinians in the week ending 27 July: two fisherman in the Access Restricted Area (ARA) and one in an airstrike (OCHA, 27/07/2015). There has been a consistent trend of Israeli forces firing into the ARA in 2015, and the number of injuries and fatalities resulting from these incidents increased in the second quarter of 2015 (OCHA, 08/06/2015). Israeli and Egyptian naval forces have also repeatedly fired at fishermen at sea (OCHA, 01/06/2015).

On 31 July, Israeli forces killed one Palestinian and injured another in the ARA (UNRWA, 04/08/2015).

On 3 July, a senior Israeli military officer shot and killed a Palestinian near Qalandiya checkpoint (AFP, 03/07/2015). Over 13–27 July, three Palestinians were killed by Israeli forces, mainly during search and rescue operations in the West Bank. There have been 17 fatalities due to Israeli forces in 2015, compared to 19 in the same period in 2014 (OCHA, 27/07/2015).

On 29 June, an armed assailant shot at a car north of Ramallah, killing one Israeli settler and injuring three (Middle East Eye, 30/06/2015). This pattern of ‘lone-wolf’ attacks on Israeli security personnel and settlers is growing, with three incidents recorded in mid-to-late June (Al Jazeera, 21/06/2015; AFP, 19/06/2015). In response to these ‘lone–wolf’ attacks, Israel cancelled all permits granted to Gazans to visit Jerusalem for Ramadan, while narrowing the age-criteria allowing access from the West Bank (OCHA, 01/07/2015).

Settler-related violence

In the week ending 10 August, seven Israeli settler attacks resulted in damage to Palestinian property. This is slightly above the weekly average for 2015. 133 incidents of settler-related violence have resulted in Palestinian casualties or property damage in 2015, less than 2014, when tensions escalated following the conflict in Gaza (OCHA, 13/08/2015).

As of 10 August, 334 structures have been demolished so far in 2015, with 340 people subsequently displaced. If the current trend continues, the demolitions will roughly match the number recorded in 2014 (OCHA, 13/08/2015).

Displacement

As of 19 June, 215 IDPs remained in UNRWA Collective Centres. Around 100,000 people remain displaced following the 2014 July-August conflict. Many are believed to be staying within the host community but their exact location and shelter requirements, and other needs are unclear (UNRWA, 19/06/2015; IFRC, 06/03/2015; OCHA, 31/05/2015).

Humanitarian Access

Access of relief actors to affected populations

Following attacks in the Sinai by IS-affiliated groups, Israel has closed the Kerem Shalom border with Gaza (Jerusalem Post, 02/07/2015). Material for reconstruction in Gaza continues to be restricted and delayed, but the situation has improved in recent weeks (OCHA, 25/06/2015).

Security and physical constraints
Rafah Crossing was open in both directions on 17 August. It had been closed since 25 June. 949 people entered and 474 exited (OCHA, 22/08/2015). 7,504 Palestinians exited the Gaza Strip in the first half of 2015 compared to 19,806 in the same time period in 2014.

In late June, increased restrictions were placed on people crossing the Israel–Gaza border due to rocket attacks (AFP, 25/06/2015).

Food Security and Livelihoods

1.45 million, or 33% of Palestinians, are food insecure: 57% of the population of Gaza and 19% of the population of the West Bank (WFP, 19/12/2014). 868,000 people in Gaza require food aid (UNRWA, 01/06/2015).

Food availability

Electricity shortages have impacted food production and refrigeration.

Food access

Delays at crossings are complicating deliveries. Destruction of tunnels bringing inexpensive goods has also impacted access to food and supplies.

Livelihood

Unemployment in oPt was at 29.1% in December 2014. Unemployment in the West Bank was 17%, and Gaza 44% (UN, 08/05/2015; 21/04/2015).

The Israeli navy limits fishing to a three nautical-mile zone off Gaza’s coast, negatively impacting livelihoods (Inter Press Service, 08/06/2015).

Health

Child Health

The infant mortality rate in Gaza has risen for the first time in more than five decades, from 20.2 per 1,000 live births in 2008 to 22.4 in 2013, the last date with available information (UN, 09/08/2015).

Mental health

Between 300,000 and 400,000 children are in need of mental health support in the Gaza Strip (UNICEF, 26/02/2015, World Vision, 13/04/2015).

WASH

1.4 million people are in need of WASH assistance, particularly access to water (OCHA, 12/05/2015).

Water

More than 70% of households in Gaza are being supplied with piped water for 6-8 hours once every two to four days, due to insufficient power supply (OCHA, 06/07/2015).

Sanitation

90% of the water in Gaza fails WHO standards for safe drinking water (UNWRA, 24/03/2015). Up to 90 million litres of partially treated sewage are being discharged into the Mediterranean Sea every day, partially due to electricity and fuel shortages (OCHA, 06/07/2015). This is exacerbating the contamination of the aquifer.

Waste Management

Although solid waste is being collected in most areas, it is being left in temporary sites rather than dumped in designated landfills.

Shelter

An estimated 500,000 Palestinians are in need of shelter assistance (OCHA, 31/03/2015). Rebuilding of the 9,161 Palestine refugee houses considered totally destroyed by Operation Protective Edge began in late June (AFP, 24/06/2015). As of 13 July, 51,039 families are yet to begin the first phase of repair works on their homes (UNRWA, 13/07/2015).

NFIs

There is currently a 55% energy deficit within Gaza (OCHA, 06/07/2015). Fuel shortages and infrastructure restrictions mean 12–18 hours of blackout per day (UNICEF, 26/03/2015). As of 1 July, the power supply in Rafah governorate in the south of the Gaza strip has diminished as power cables from Egypt have been damaged by fighting in the Sinai area (OCHA, 06/07/2105).

Education

Teaching and Learning

Teachers working at UNRWA schools in Gaza have gone on strike on the first day of the new academic year. They are protesting an increase in average class size to
between 40–50 pupils and pay being halted during annual leave. The cuts followed UNRWA’s attempt to open schools despite a reduction in available funds. Public sector workers in Gaza announced they would join the strike on Friday in solidarity. This would mean nearly all public services in Gaza would not be able to function (Al Jazeera, 24/08/2015; The Times of Israel, 26/08/2015).

In the previous academic year, 90% of the 252 UNRWA schools in Gaza ran on a double shifts, and some on triple shifts, affecting some 400,000 students (UNRWA, 29/01/2015; OCHA, 12/02/2015).

Protection

The Israeli authorities are accused of detaining individuals, including children, without trial, forcibly displacing communities, as well as legalising the use of force feeding of prisoners, building on and claiming Palestinian land (Al Jazeera, 30/07/2015). To date, the Israeli government has approved plans to build Jewish settlements on 26% of Area C in the West Bank (HRW 24/08/2015). Both Israeli and Palestinian armed groups have been reported as targeting civilians (HRW, 2015).

It has been alleged that an increasing number of journalists are being targeted and injured by Israeli forces during clashes, due to a policy change. Rubber bullets and live ammunition have been used. Palestinian journalists have been the most affected (AFP, 08/04/2015). At least seven journalists have been injured since May (international media, 16/05/2015; OCHA, 06/05/2015; local media, 02/05/2015).

Mines and ERW

Palestinian civilians and security forces continue to be killed and injured by ERW. On 6 August, an ERW exploded, killing four people and injuring more than 40 in Rafah. Ten houses were damaged (The Guardian, 06/08/2015). In May, 84 people were injured in several incidents involving ERW (UNRWA, 11/05/2015; OCHA, 18/05/2015).

It is estimated that more than 1,900 ERW have yet to be secured (UNRWA, 23/09/2014).

Children

Approximately 30 children were injured by live ammunition in the first quarter of 2015 (Defence for Children International, 23/03/2015).

The Israeli army continues to arrest or detain Palestinian children as young as 11 (HRW, 20/07/2015). As of December 2014, a monthly average of 185 Palestinian children were in Israeli detention (OCHA, 31/03/2015).
- 1.8 million IDPs in Pakistan, half of whom were displaced by military operations in 2014 (UNHCR, 05/06/2015).
- 1.6 million Afghan refugees in Pakistan, the majority in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (OCHA, 07/05/2015).
- 1,781 civilians were killed in 2014; 649 civilians have been killed so far in 2015 (SATP, 23/08/2015).

OVERVIEW

Priority humanitarian needs are health, nutrition, and food assistance. IDPs and Afghan refugees in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa are of particular concern. The security situation remains volatile due to militant attacks in urban centres and military operations against the Taliban in the tribal areas.

Politics and Security

Several armed conflicts are ongoing in Pakistan. As of 23 August, 649 civilians have been killed in conflict-related violence in 2015 (SATP, 23/08/2015). 1,781 civilians were killed in conflict-related violence in Pakistan in 2014, compared to 3,001 in 2013 (SATP, 01/01/2015).

A military offensive was launched in June 2014 against the Pakistani Taliban in North Waziristan following the unravelling of peace talks. Government military operations in tribal areas have further escalated since end 2014, notably since the Taliban attack on an army-run school in Peshawar in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in December 2014, which killed 145 people (ICG, 05/01/2015; BBC News, 17/12/2014).

Sectarian violence is mounting against Shi’ites, especially in Sindh. Security incidents are also frequent in Balochistan, due to a prolonged separatist insurgency.

India, Pakistan, and Kashmiri insurgent groups have fought over control of the disputed region of Kashmir since the Indo-Pakistan War. While thousands have died as a result of this conflict, the situation has become less deadly in recent years. Tensions have been increasing mid-August after several incidents of shelling, which have reportedly killed eight civilians – six in India-controlled Kashmir and two in Pakistan-controlled Kashmir (AFP, 16/08/2015).

On 16 August, 14 people, including Punjab’s Home Minister, were killed in two suicide attacks in the village of Shadi Khan in Attock district, Punjab. 23 people were injured in the attacks. No one has claimed responsibility (AFP, 16/08/2015).

Balochistan

Several armed groups, including the Baloch Liberation Front (BLF), have been fighting for greater autonomy since 1948. 2014 saw a sharp rise in acts of violence, which has persisted in 2015. Attacks by Islamist armed groups are also increasing.

Quetta has seen a rise in targeted killings and bomb explosions in the last months, and in early July security forces launched a crackdown on militants both within and outside the city (DAWN, 07/07/2015). Twelve police officers were killed in Quetta in June and July. No one has claimed responsibility for the attacks (DAWN, 27/07/2015; 14/07/2015; 11/06/2015; 06/06/2015). On 25 August, two police officers were killed in two separate attacks in Quetta and Jhal Magari districts (DAWN, 25/08/2015).

On 24 August, two people were killed and two injured in a hand grenade attack by suspected militants in Gwadar city (DAWN, 24/08/2015).

Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

In June 2014, the Taliban vowed to start all-out war on the Government, and the Government launched Operation Zarb-e-Azb in North Waziristan. A second operation began in October in Khyber Agency, and was expanded mid-March 2015 to cover Landi Kotal, Jamrud, and Bara districts. The military claims to have cleared two-thirds of the tribal regions of militants (DAWN, 30/03/2015; 23/03/2015). The first phase of the operation in North Waziristan has been completed, while the operation in Khyber is reportedly over (Alhasan Systems, 22/07/2015).

At least 94 incidents of terrorism were reported in Peshawar district in the first five months of 2015: 31 civilians and six members of security forces were killed (DAWN, 05/06/2015).

On 22 August, three people, including two tribal elders, were killed and two people were injured in an IED explosion in Bajaur agency (DAWN, 22/08/2015). The following day, another tribal elder was killed and four security personnel injured in two separate IED explosions in the same area. No one has claimed responsibility for the attacks (DAWN 24/08/2015).

On 25 August, three security personnel were killed in a militant attack on a checkpoint in the Ladha area of South Waziristan (DAWN, 25/08/2015).

Sindh

A report from the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan highlights that in Sindh, killing, including both terror attacks and other crime, fell 34% in the first quarter of 2015 compared to the same period in 2014 (DAWN, 21/04/2015).

Displacement
1.8 million IDPs and 1.6 million Afghan refugees are registered in Pakistan. An unknown number of unregistered Afghan refugees also live in Pakistan – Pakistani authorities estimate the number may be as high as one million.

IDPs

As of 30 June, there were 1.8 million IDPs in Pakistan, half of whom were displaced by military operations in 2014. The biggest IDP populations are located in Bannu (85,147 households), Peshawar (59,415 households), and Dera Ismail Khan (44,083 households) (OCHA, 30/06/2015; UNHCR, 05/06/2015). The majority of the IDPs live in host communities, with only 2% living in camps (UNHCR, 05/06/2015).

The phased return of IDPs in FATA started mid-March. As of 20 August, 553,900 people (79,127 households) have returned: 49,383 families to Khyber Agency, 26,506 to North Waziristan, and 3,238 to South Waziristan (OCHA, 13/07/2015). Needs include food security, WASH, and livelihood support (OCHA, 25/05/2015).

Refugees in Pakistan

As of May, 1.6 million registered Afghan refugees live in Pakistan, mostly in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The majority live in host communities (UNHCR, 29/12/2014; OCHA, 07/05/2015).

Registration of undocumented Afghan refugees is due to begin late July. According to Pakistani officials, about a million unregistered Afghan refugees live in Pakistan (DAWN, 20/06/2015).

The number of undocumented Afghans returning home has increased following security incidents in Pakistan, particularly the Taliban attack in Peshawar last December. Pakistani authorities have alleged that the Taliban attack was planned in Afghanistan, and included the repatriation of refugees in its new anti-terrorism action plan (AAN, 09/03/2015). The number of reported Afghan returnees varies between 42,385 and 139,500 (OCHA, 15/07/2015; UNHCR, 30/06/2015).

Pakistani Refugees in Neighbouring Countries

As of 8 June, Khost and Paktika provinces in Afghanistan are hosting 205,434 refugees from Pakistan (UNHCR, 11/06/2015).

Food Security and Livelihoods

Ten districts are facing Emergency (Phase 4) food insecurity outcomes, 28 are in Crisis (Phase 3), and 67 are Stressed (Phase 2). Crisis and Emergency districts are mostly in Balochistan, Sindh, and FATA provinces (Food Security Cluster, 24/04/2015). As of February, 1.83 million people were in need of food assistance (Food Security Cluster, 04/02/2015).

Several security incidents involving aid workers have been reported so far in 2015. A peace committee volunteer was killed by an improvised explosive device in Mohmand Agency on 7 May (DAWN, 11/05/2015). Three peace volunteers in Khyber Agency and two bomb disposal technicians in South Waziristan lost their lives in bomb blasts in February and April, respectively (DAWN, 03/02/2015; 06/04/2015).

Attacks on polio vaccination teams have killed nine and injured one in 2015, mainly in Balochistan (DAWN, 20/05/2015; 05/02/2015; AFP, 17/03/2015; 18/02/2015; 04/02/2015; OCHA, 03/03/2015).

Natural Disasters

Floods

As of 24 August, more than 1.5 million people in Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab, Sindh, Azad Jammu & Kashmir, FATA, and Gilgit-Baltistan have been affected by flash floods since the onset of the monsoon in mid-July (Government, 24/08/2015).

219 people have been killed and 183 injured, the majority in Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab, and Azad Jammu & Kashmir. More than 4,000 villages have been affected, and close to 24,000 houses damaged across the affected areas (Government, 24/08/2015).

Hundreds of thousands of hectares of standing crops have been destroyed (DAWN, 10/08/2015).

Drought

Drought conditions in Cholistan, Tharparkar, and parts of Balochistan will likely worsen in the coming months, due to a predicted mild monsoon (DAWN, 15/06/2015). 163 deaths from the drought, mostly among children, have been reported in 2015 in Tharparkar (Alhasan Systems, 22/07/2015).

In 2014, drought in Tharparkar affected nearly 1.74 million people and killed 650, mostly children (USAID, 04/12/2014; DAWN, 16/02/2015).

Access of relief actors to affected populations

In June, the Government gave INGOs working in Pakistan three months to re-register under new regulations (DAWN, 17/06/2015).
Health

1.1 million IDPs are in need of basic health and quality maternal and child health services (OCHA, 31/01/2015). The IDP population has severely strained health facilities and the lack of medical staff to provide care for displaced women is a critical challenge (UN Population Fund, 03/10/2014).

Polio

28 new polio cases have been reported so far in 2015 from Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Khyber Agency, FATA, and Sindh (DAWN, 08/08/2015). The number represents a 70% drop from the same period last year. In 2014, 306 cases were confirmed nationwide (Alhasan Systems 12/07/2015; Global Polio Eradication Initiative, 01/07/2015).

Dengue

As of 17 June, 544 cases of dengue, including 192 deaths, have been reported so far this year in Sindh, the vast majority in Karachi (DAWN, 17/06/2015).

Nutrition

An estimated 2.86 million children and pregnant and breastfeeding women are undernourished in Pakistan, including one million IDPs (OCHA, 31/01/2015). In FATA, GAM reaches 16% and SAM 5.6% (Nutrition Cluster, 30/04/2015).

WASH

1.1 million people are in need of WASH, including 500,000 IDPs (OCHA, 31/01/2015). Over 80% of water resources in Pakistan’s southern Tharparkar district are unsafe for drinking due to the drought (Reuters, 02/02/2015).

Water shortages in Karachi are forcing people to rely on expensive water trucking (local media, 05/06/2015). In Punjab, water reserves are low and have been declining for years (Reuters, 10/06/2015).

Shelter and NFIs

1.1 million people are in need of emergency shelter, including 530,000 IDPs (OCHA, 31/01/2015). Inadequate shelter, overcrowding, harsh weather conditions, and high rental charges are key challenges for the displaced (OCHA, 15/08/2014).

Education

450,000 children lack access to education, including 205,000 displaced children. Educational supplies are a major gap in the education response (OCHA, 31/01/2015).

In Balochistan, schools reportedly lack basic facilities such as drinking water and toilets. Teachers are also reported to lack adequate education (DAWN, 22/06/2015). Around 33% of children in the province are out of school (DAWN, 13/03/2015; 20/02/2015).

The majority of school-aged Afghan refugees in camps in Pakistan are unable to attend school after sixth grade (around age 11) due to lack of means (Inter Press Service, 22/12/2014).

Protection

An estimated 1.08 million people are in need of protection, including 500,000 displaced people. This group largely consists of IDPs and returnees in KP and FATA. Women, children, the disabled, and the elderly need referral assistance and specialised protection in displacement and returnee areas (OCHA, 31/01/2015).

Following the Taliban attack in Peshawar in December 2014, allegedly planned in Afghanistan, harassment of Afghan refugees has escalated and arbitrary arrests of Afghan refugees have been reported (AAN, 09/03/2015; BBC, 26/02/2015).

JORDAN DISPLACEMENT

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

No new significant developments this week, 26/08/2015. Last update: 19/08/2015.

KEY CONCERNS

- 630,224 Syrian refugees in Jordan (ECHO, 19/08/2015).
- Jordanian authorities are reported to have tightened controls along the borders. Several hundreds of asylum seekers are stranded and in deep need of humanitarian assistance in the ‘no-man’s land’ on the border, in Jordanian territory (ECHO, 19/08/2015, Physicians for Humanity, 19/08/2015).
- As of August 2015, 85% of refugees are food insecure, compared to 48% in 2014 (NRC, 03/08/2015).
- A growing number of Syrian refugees living outside of camps are entering camps to
Concerns over spiralling crises in Iraq and Syria and extremist infiltration have increased since Jordan joined the US-led airstrikes against Islamic State (IS) in September 2014, and then reinforced its participation after the assassination of a captured Jordanian pilot on 3 February (ISW, 19/02/2015; Al Jazeera, 12/02/2015). Tensions between refugees and host communities are a concern, primarily due to a sense of competition over housing, jobs, and assistance (Mercy Corps, 12/2014).

On 13 August, six people in Ramtha, along Jordan’s northwest border, were injured by an illuminating shell fired during clashes in Syria (ABC News, 13/08/2015). On 25 June, one person was killed and another four injured when mortar shells from southern Syria fell into Ramtha, a town in Jordan close to the border. The mortar shelling is believed inadvertent, resulting from clashes inside Syria (Kuwait News Agency, 25/06/2015).

As of 31 July, there are 630,224 Syrian refugees in Jordan (UNHCR, 30/06/2015). The average number of Syrians able to enter Jordan has dropped significantly since 2013 (RRP6, 2014–2015). The number and accessibility of entry points has been limited, and entry restrictions have increased, forcing Syrians to travel to remote informal crossing-points in the eastern desert (IOM, 2014).

Syrian Refugees

As of 19 August, there are 630,224 Syrian refugees in Jordan (ECHO, 19/08/2015). The Government of Jordan claims that the actual number of Syrian refugees hosted in Jordan is around 1.5 million (AFP, 25/08/2015). Jordanian authorities are reported to have tightened controls along the borders. Several hundreds of asylum seekers are stranded and in deep need of humanitarian assistance in the ‘no-man’s land’ on the border, in Jordanian territory (ECHO, 19/08/2015, Physicians for Humanity, 19/08/2015).

141,271 refugees live in Irbid governorate, 168,358 in Amman governorate, and 155,080 in Mafraq governorate (UNHCR 16/08/2015). There were 6,263 new arrivals in the first six months of 2015 (UNHCR, 30/06/2015). In June, the majority of refugees arrived from Aleppo, rural Damascus, Dara’a, and Raqqa (UNHCR, 30/06/2015).

Around 84% of the refugees live in urban areas (UNHCR, 09/06/2015; 27/04/2015).

Refugees and asylum seekers

Non-Syrian Refugees

As of 31 July, there are 30,000 registered Iraqi refugees. However, many Iraqis may travel to remote informal crossing-points in the eastern desert (IOM, 2014).

Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)

UNRWA have recorded 14,736 PRS who have approached the agency for support since the start of the Syrian conflict, 82% of whom are vulnerable or extremely vulnerable (UNRWA, 03/12/2014; 15/05/2015).

Since late 2012, the Government has explicitly stated that it would not allow PRS to enter Jordan. Those who do enter are subject to a number of protection issues, including refoulement, confiscation of documents and, for those with Jordanian citizenship, de-nationalisation (HRW 05/2014, 04/07/2012). As of 15 May, 41 forced returns to Syria have been reported to UNRWA since January 2015. UNRWA reports 106 cases of PRS deported in 2014, a 40% increase on 2013, but warns the actual number of deportations is likely much higher (UNRWA, 03/12/2014; 15/05/2015).

Politics and Security

Some 20,856 Syrian refugees live in Azraq camp, an 88% increase since January. 56% of these refugees are children, including 205 identified separated and unaccompanied minors. There are 367 people in the camp living with disabilities, 35% of these are children. Three households in 10 are headed by women and 1,158 women are reported to be at risk (UNHCR, 31/07/2015). In the first half of 2015, 3,658 people returned to Azraq camp from urban areas, compared to 738 in the second half of 2014 (UNHCR, 28/07/2015). At end of July, in Mafraq governorate 74,875 Syrians and non-Syrians reside in urban areas.

There are 81,405 Syrian refugees in Zaatari camp (UNHCR, 31/07/2015). In 2015, significant numbers of refugees have been returning to Zaatari from urban areas as a result of increased economic vulnerability.

Irbid hosts 143,215 refugees, Jerash hosts 10,725, and Ajloun, 9,625. There are 673 refugees in King Abdallah camp and 304 in Cyber City camp (UNHCR, 31/07/2015).

76,000 Syrian refugees have reportedly returned to Syria since the beginning of the crisis (Jordan Times, 10/02/2015). As of 13 August, around 100 people are returning to Syria every day, mainly to Deraa, Syrian town along the border with Jordan (EU, 13/08/2015). Drivers include reunion with family members, increasing vulnerability with reduced aid, lack of livelihood opportunities, and a desire to continue education (UNHCR, 27/04/2015).
As of 31 July, there are 30,000 registered Iraqi refugees. However, many Iraqis may have entered without a legal permit, or overstayed a regular period, therefore there are challenges to estimating the actual number of Iraqis in Jordan (Act Alliance, 13/08/2015). A surge in the registration of Iraqi refugees was reported between September and December 2014, but new registration numbers have significantly decreased in 2015 (UNHCR, 23/09/2014; PI, 11/03/2015).

Only 1% of Iraqi refugee needs are funded. The most urgent issues are lack of access to schooling (34% of Iraqi refugees are of school age), lack of access to healthcare and, for the most vulnerable refugees, heavy reliance on cash assistance (UNHCR, 13/05/2015). The unemployment rate of Iraqi refugees in Jordanian host communities is reported to be very high (Act Alliance, 13/08/2015).

Humanitarian Access

The influx of Syrian refugees has placed significant additional stress on Jordan’s already-strained public services. Public health and education services are particularly affected (Government, 12/2014).

Accessing Syrians in the “no man’s land” on the border, in the Jordanian territory, it is very difficult (Physicians for Humanity, 19/08/2015). International NGOs working in Jordan are required to get all projects approved by the Government, which can be a lengthy process. Aid agencies assisting Syrians also need to include vulnerable Jordanians as 30% of their beneficiaries; some have faced pressure to increase this proportion to 50% (PI, 06/2014).

Tension between humanitarian agencies and the Government may increase, as the Jordan Response Plan (JRP) 2015–16 attempts to channel the bulk of international assistance to Syrians through government institutions, rather than humanitarian actors (JRP, 12/2014). On 28 May, only 7.3% of the funding for the JRP has been secured (Government, 28/05/2015).

Food Security and Livelihoods

Food insecurity among refugees in the country has risen in 2015. As of August 2015, 85% of refugees are food insecure, compared to 48% in the previous year (NRC, 03/08/2015).

Within host communities, there has been a 37% increase in the number of food insecure compared to 2014, and 68% live below the poverty line, representing a 24% increase since 2014. 67% of households are using negative coping strategies, a 32% increase since 2014 (WFP, 30/06/2015).

Livelihoods

The unemployment rate among active Syrian refugees is as high as 57% (ILO, 11/05/2015). 86% of Syrian refugees in urban areas are living below the Jordanian poverty line of USD 96 per month and 10% are below the abject poverty line of USD 37. More than 80% are resorting to reducing their food intake, sending family members out to beg, or engaging in high risk or illegal activities to earn money. Over 60% of refugee families outside camps are in debt (VAF, 15/06/2015; UNHCR, 15/06/2015). An estimated 1,750 Syrians are reported to be living in extremely poor conditions on the eastern border of Jordan (UNHCR, 30/06/2015).

As of May, the labour force participation rate for Jordanians is similar to before the Syrian crisis, but unemployment has increased from 15% to 22% (ILO, 11/05/2015). A study suggests that Syrians may have crowded Jordanians out of the construction sector (ILO, 11/05/2015).

Health

Healthcare availability and access

The Government decision to halt free access to health services for refugees in November 2014 led to a reduction in the number of Syrians accessing public healthcare. This reduction is partly compensated by an increased reliance on NGO and Red Crescent facilities (Inter-sector Working Group, 19/05/2015). However, cuts in healthcare have led to a growing number of Syrian refugees entering camps to receive medical attention, straining already limited resources. An increasing number of Syrians are reported to be repatriating because of the reduction in assistance (ECHO, 19/08/2015).

Three in ten families could not access healthcare services when needed between
October and March due to financial reasons (CARE, 06/04/2015; UNICEF 30/06/2015). There is a lack of vaccinations (UNHCR, 10/03/2015).

Maternal Health

Maternal health is of particular concern: half of pregnant women were unable to afford antenatal care, and 60% of new mothers could not afford postnatal care. Refugee women in Zaatari camp are reported to be in particular need of better postnatal care (EU, 14/08/2015; UNICEF 30/06/2015).

Mental Health

High needs of psychosocial support have been reported (EU, 14/08/2015).

WASH

Water

Reports suggest that the public water system is under significant strain in areas with high concentrations of Syrians (Government, 17/03/2015).

Sanitation

Municipal sewage and garbage removal services are under stress (REACH, 12/11/2014). Two out of five Syrian refugees live in poor sanitary conditions; only one in five has a functioning toilet. People in informal shelters are particularly affected (UNHCR, 27/04/2015).

Shelter and NFIs

About 75% of registered Syrian refugees (520,000 people) live among host communities in Jordan (NRC, 03/08/2015). Most refugees are concentrated around the major urban areas of the northwest, such as Amman and Irbid. Syrian refugees now constitute 38% of the population of Mafraq city and Ba’lama subdistricts (UNHCR, 31/05/2015, 13/07/2015).

Shelter

Lack of adequate shelter is the main concern for Syrian refugees. Available shelter is often not adequate, affordable or secure (NRC, 17/06/2015). An assessment in northern Jordan showed that one in five refugee households live in accommodation that does not provide basic protection from the elements. Housing is often overcrowded, and half of the families assessed share accommodation with at least one other family to save costs (NRC, 17/06/2015). Threat of eviction is another concern (NRC, 17/06/2015).

NFIs

In Mafraq governorate, almost half of refugee households have no heating and a quarter have unreliable electricity (UNHCR, 27/04/2015).

Education

40% of Syrian school-aged children in Jordan, approximately 80,000, are not receiving formal education (International Peace Institute, 28/05/2015). Over 65% of all school-aged children in Zaatari camp attend school; 57% of children in Azraq camp are not attending school (UNICEF, 30/06/2015). 37.5% of Iraqi refugees were not enrolled in schools in 2014, with financial issues reported as the main reason for non-attendance among 40% of those enrolled (UNHCR, 31/01/2015).

Access and learning environment

Barriers to attendance and reasons for dropping out include distance; overcrowding; safety in and on the way to school; lack of resources to pay for school material; and needing to work for household income (UNHCR, 31/03/2015; REACH, 03/2015). A survey showed that 60% of Syrian refugees over 15 have never completed basic schooling; only about 15% have completed secondary education (ILO, 11/05/2015). Over 3.3% of children in Zaatari camp are reported to have at least one form of disability or chronic disease. Two-thirds are not attending school due to their condition (UNICEF, 30/06/2015).

Protection

There was increasing evidence in the second part of 2014 that the Government is returning screened refugees to Syria. Jordanian officials maintain that the border is open to refugees, and that Jordan is simply instituting security measures to exclude people connected to “terrorist organisations” (Al Ghad, 14/12/2014; Jordan Times, 11/12/2014). Refugees report a waiting period of up to two months and lack of sufficient shelter, sanitation, and medical support (UNHCR, 31/05/2015). The most vulnerable refugees likely include those without identity documents, or with forged documents, and those who had previously returned to Syria (PI, 29/09/2014).

Gender

Many among the Syrian refugee community face domestic violence, early marriage, and sexual violence. 32.7% of all marriages were child marriages in 2014 and in 2013 13% of marriages involved girls younger than 18. In 2014, 50.7% of people seeking support services for physical assault and physiological abuse report the harm was
caused by a spouse or primary caregiver (UN, 02/07/2015).

Children

The prevalence of child labour, often resulting in children withdrawing from school, raises concerns (UNHCR, 28/04/2015). 8% of the boys aged 9-15 are economically active and 3% are employed. In the 15–18 age group, 37% are economically active and 14% are employed (ILO, 11/05/2015). Child marriage is a concern.

Vulnerable groups

Since early 2014, the Government appears to have been implementing a more rigorous approach to its encampment policy of Syrian refugees. Significant numbers of refugees are being forcibly returned to camps (NRC-IRC, 13/11/2014; PI, 03/12/2014, 12/11/2014). This has often resulted in separation of family members between camp and urban settings (UNHCR, 27/04/2015).

Documentation

Refugees in camps and who wish to move to urban areas must obtain “bail” from the government. However, large numbers of refugees have left the camps without obtaining bail. The Government has asked UNHCR not to issue asylum-seeker certificates to Syrians in urban areas who left the camp after 14 July 2014 and who did not obtain bail (PI, 16/07/2014 R1; PI, 07/2014 R1).

Only about 10% of employed Syrians have obtained formal work permits, and almost all Syrian refugees working outside camps do not have work permits. Since the beginning of the crisis, Jordanians have faced deteriorating work conditions. However on average, Syrian workers are still paid less, work longer hours, and have poorer contracts compared to Jordanians in the same sector (ILO, 11/05/2015).

An urban verification exercise, which requires biometric registration of all Syrians outside camps and the reissuing of key documents, has been ongoing since 15 February. As of 27 April, 54,794 Ministry of Interior (MoI) cards had been issued, covering 11% of the urban refugee population (UNHCR, 13/05/2015). A lease agreement is one of the preconditions for registration and for the issue of the MoI card, yet many Syrians outside of camps lack rental contracts (NRC, 17/06/2015). The card is required to access basic health and education services or register marriage, births, or deaths. The Government has instructed humanitarian agencies not to provide assistance to Syrians who do not have service cards. There is no sign this decision has been enforced, but it creates a vulnerability, also considering that, according to several agencies, between 15-30% of the refugees (100,000-200,000) in Jordan may not be fully registered (PI, 08/01/2014; 03/12/2014; IFRC, 04/08/2015).

Updated: 26/08/2015

**MYANMAR: INTERNAL UNREST, FLOODS, DISPLACEMENT**

**LATEST DEVELOPMENTS**

23 August: 385,000 households were reportedly displaced at the height of July-August floods. The water began receding in mid-August and people have returned home, with an unconfirmed number of people remaining in temporary shelters. At least 10,000 in Chin are still displaced (ECHO, 23/08/2015).

21 August: Fighting continues around Sumpra Bum Township after intensifying in mid-July. Armed forces in the area will not grant humanitarian access to over 1,000 people displaced by the fighting (Irrawaddy, 21/08/2015).

**KEY CONCERNS**

- Floods linked to Cyclone Komen began on 26 July and continued until 10 August. 1,615,000 million people have been affected, up to 385,000 households were displaced at its peak, and 117 killed. 12 out of 14 states and regions have been affected (ECHO, 23/08/2015).

- An estimated 540,000 people in need of humanitarian assistance, mainly due to conflict between the government and ethnic armed groups, as well as between ethnicities (USAID, 16/06/2015).

- Repeated bloodshed between Buddhists and Muslims in Rakhine state since 2012, with human rights abuses reported against the Muslim minority (UN).

- 244,000 IDPs, resulting from years of internal conflict, including 146,000 mainly Rohingya Muslim IDPs in Rakhine state (OCHA, 27/02/2014).

**Politics and Security**

Myanmar’s first democratic election in 25 years will take place on 8 November 2015 (Myanmar Times, 08/07/2015). Foreign observers will be invited to monitor the
Peace Negotiations

In 2013, the Government made peace deals with a number of ethnic groups involved in armed insurgency. The Government and 16 ethnic opposition groups are yet to agree on a draft text for the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) which was due to be completed in March (ICG, 01/07/2015). The Government has made clear that the agreement will only apply to those armies taking part in negotiations, but participants have said they will not sign unless other groups are also permitted to sign (AFP, 11/05/2015; ICG, 01/07/2015). Ceasefire talks resumed 22 July (AP, 22/07/2015).

On 17 March, the Kachin Independence Organisation (KIO) met with the President and affirmed its commitment to the peace process (Government, 17/03/2015). On 6 July the Tang National Liberation Army (TNLA) declared a unilateral ceasefire and its intention to join the national ceasefire agreement (Democratic Voice of Burma, 06/07/2015).

Conflict Developments

Despite peace negotiations, the security situation remains tense in parts of Myanmar. The Myanmar Peace Monitor recorded 28 armed clashes in June and 31 armed clashes in July. Most of these were in Shan and Kachin states (Myanmar Peace Monitor, 30/06/2015; 31/07/2015). Between February and May, 554 people were killed in clashes between separatist groups and Myanmar forces. In April and March, the Myanmar Armed Forces and MNDAA engaged in 28 recorded battles, with 281 fatalities ion Shan state alone (ACLED, 16/06/2015).

In December 2014, the United Nationalities Federal Council, the largest coalition of ethnic armed organisations, announced the establishment of the Federal Union Army. The status of the army is unclear, but it has said it will not interfere with the national elections in November 2015 (Democratic Voice of Burma, 16/07/2015).

Kachin State: The KIO still has administrative control over several key areas of Kachin, and there are intermittent clashes between its army (the KIA) and the Myanmar army (local media, 06/10/2014). Security incidents have been reported regularly since fighting resumed in April 2014 (OCHA, 16/05/2015). Fighting continues around Sumpra Bum Township after intensifying in mid-July. Armed forces in the area will not grant humanitarian access to over 1,000 people displaced by the fighting (Irrawaddy, 21/08/2015). Intermittent clashes near Hpakant throughout June and July displaced hundreds of people (Local Media, 17/06/2015; Irrawaddy, 01/07/2015).

Kayin State: Sporadic, low-intensity fighting between the Myanmar Army and the Democratic Karen Benevolent Army (DKBA) broke out in southern Kayin state on 4 July and lasted for several weeks. Clashes mainly took place along a highway that connects Myanmar with Thailand through the eastern border town Myawaddy. Civilians injuries are being reported but the number is unconfirmed (Radio Free Asia, 06/07/2015; 16/07/2015). The DKBA has since distanced itself from the attacks, claiming it was carried out by renegade officers (Myanmar Times, 24/07/2015).

Sagaing Region: Indian forces began attacks on positions in Myanmar’s Sagaing region on 9 June, after armed groups associated with the Naga ethnic group in Myanmar carried out cross-border attacks on Indian army patrols and convoys (BBC, 19/06/2015). After parallel Indian and Myanmar army operations, the armed Naga ethnic group and the Indian army signed a peace agreement on 4 August (Time, 04/08/2015).

Shan State: On 18 June, the Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDA) declared a unilateral ceasefire (local media, 18/06/2015). Fighting between Myanmar’s army and the MNDA in early February displaced tens of thousands of people (AFP, 10/02/2015; Radio Free Asia, 23/02/2015).

On 4–5 July, two soldiers were killed and one wounded during an attack on a military outpost around 50km northwest of the Shan state capital, Lashio (Democratic Voice of Burma, 07/07/2015).

Disasters

Cyclone Komen

Floods linked to Cyclone Komen began on 26 July and continued until 10 August. 1.6 million people have been affected, up to 385,900 households being displaced at its peak, and 117 killed. Twelve out of 14 states and regions have been affected (ECHO, 23/08/2015). The highest numbers of people affected were in Ayeyarwaddy (505,761), Kachin, and there are intermittent clashes between its army (the KIA) and the Myanmar army (local media, 06/10/2014). Security incidents have been reported regularly since fighting resumed in April 2014 (OCHA, 16/05/2015). Fighting continues around Sumpra Bum Township after intensifying in mid-July. Armed forces in the area will not grant humanitarian access to over 1,000 people displaced by the fighting (Irrawaddy, 21/08/2015). Intermittent clashes near Hpakant throughout June and July displaced hundreds of people (Local Media, 17/06/2015; Irrawaddy, 01/07/2015).

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Disasters

Cyclone Komen

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The 130,000 Rohingya displaced in Rakhine are considered to be particularly vulnerable, as already inadequate shelter was damaged by the flooding (BBC, 02/08/2015; OCHA, 01/08/2015).

The monsoon season continues until October, though tropical storms can be expected until November (HEWS).

Other Flooding

In late June, flooding killed seven people and affected around 14,430 people in Rakhine state, Tanintharyi region, Kayin state, Ayeyarwaddy region and Bago region. Up to 2,400 houses were damaged, and 180–550 destroyed (New Light of Myanmar, 30/07/2015).

Displacement

385,000 households were reported displaced at the height of the recent flooding. As water began receding in mid-August, people have returned home, with an unconfirmed number remaining in temporary shelters. At least 10,000 in Chin are reported as currently displaced. (ECHO, 23/08/2015).

Prior to July and August flooding, 662,400 people were estimated in protracted displacement nationwide primarily due to conflict. There were around 97,000 displaced people in Shan and Kachin states as of May (OCHA, 21/06/2015) and 147,000 displaced in Rakhine as of April (OCHA, 23/06/2015). About 20,000 people were newly displaced in 2015, mainly in Kachin and northern Shan (OCHA, 16/06/2015). Approximately 2,000 people were displaced in July by conflict (Myanmar Peace Monitor, 31/07/2015).

IDPs

Chin: Some 10,000 are displaced by recent flooding (ECHO, 23/08/2015).

Magway: Reports suggest about 6,200 people have been displaced from Pwint Phyu Township to nine temporary shelters as of 4 August (IFRC, 04/08/2015).

Rakhine: Flooding in July and August displaced at least 18,000 people around Buthidaung Township (UNHCR, 04/08/2015), and over 6,000 displaced people in Minbya are sheltering in 23 monasteries (MSF, 04/08/2015).

350 people remain displaced after 450 fled the villages of Pinglong, Aung Lan Chaung, Dan Chaung and Kalakya to the village of Zapazeik, Kyauktaw Township, following clashes between Arakan Army and government troops (local media, 22/04/2015; 16/06/2015).

Around 130,000–140,000 people, mainly Rohingya Muslims, are in protracted displacement in Rakhine (USAID, 16/06/2015; The Diplomat, 17/06/2015). Many live in closed camps following inter-communal violence in 2012 (OCHA, 27/02/2015).

Sagaing: Local media reports that 10,000 residents of Kalay Township have displaced to eight temporary shelters (Myanmar Times, 05/08/2015).

Shan and Kachin: 1,000 people have been displaced to avoid forced recruitment by the KIA in Shan (local media, 01/06/2015).

Fighting intensified between the KIA and government troops on 11 July around Sumpra Bum Township, Kachin state. As of 21 August, the fighting has continued, and 1,400 civilians are reported displaced (Irrawaddy, 21/08/2015; 20/07/2015). In June and early July, clashes near Hpakant, Kachin state displaced at least 200 people (Irrawaddy, 01/07/2015, 17/06/2015).

Refugees in neighbouring countries

According to UNHCR, as of late March, over 415,000 refugees originate from Myanmar (AFP, 30/11/2014).

China: Between January and February 2015, around 60,000 people are believed to have fled to China. Refugees move back and forth across the border to seek shelter, food, and employment, according to aid agencies (OCHA, 30/05/2015; RFA, 23/03/2015).

Bangladesh: An estimated 30,000 Rohingya refugees live in official camps and receive assistance from aid agencies (local media, 09/11/2014). An additional 300,000–500,000 Rohingya reside either in unofficial camps or villages where they get little or no humanitarian assistance and almost no protection from human rights abuses. Most Rohingya are denied refugee status (UNHCR, 12/06/2015; AFP, 29/05/2015).

Malaysia: 40,700 Rohingya registered with the UN were in Malaysia at end December 2014. Rohingya activists say a roughly equal number are unregistered. Rohingya migrants are frequently kept in smugglers' camps along the border, where they are held for ransom, tortured, and raped (AFP, 30/11/2014; international media, 30/12/2015, Reuters, 01/06/2015).

Thailand: In July, biometric verification found around 110,000 refugees from Myanmar in nine camps in Thailand, along the Thailand–Myanmar border (UNHCR,
566,560 hectares of cropland were destroyed (USAID, 21/08/2015). Since June 2014, movement restrictions have been more strictly enforced; Myanmar refugees are banned from leaving camps, confined to their homes 1800 –0600, and threatened with deportation if they do not comply (Refugees International, 29/08/2014). Authorities have pledged to send about 100,000 refugees back to Myanmar. Thai officials have been accused of tugging boats carrying Rohingya out to sea, away from their coast (CNN, 20/05/2015; UNHCR, 01/2015). Rohingya are subject to human trafficking. Many are held for ransom and abused (international media, 01/06/2015; 02/06/2015).

Other

Rohingya in the Bay of Bengal: The Thai Government began a major operation to shut down human trafficking along its border with Myanmar in April, leading people smugglers to abandon migrants at sea (Reuters, 02/06/2015). 27,154 Rohingya and Bangladeshi migrants have attempted to cross the Bay of Bengal in 2015 (IOM, 16/06/2015). An estimated 300–1,000 have died during the journey (USAID, 19/06/2015; Human Rights Watch, 27/05/2015). As of 12 July, Myanmar authorities have collected and returned more than 1,000 Rohingya Muslims and Bangladeshi migrants to the mainland (VICE, 14/07/2015; AFP, 08/06/2015; local media, 18/06/2015). As of 16 June, an estimated 5,354 people have arrived in Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand in 2015 (IOM, 16/06/2015). An unknown number remain stranded or in transit at sea.

Humanitarian Access

Access of relief actors to affected populations

Fighting around Hpakant and Sumpra Bum has prevented access to around 1,400 people who have reportedly been inaccessible since 11 July. Some reports suggest armed groups are actively denying access to humanitarian groups (Irrawaddy, 21/08/2015; 20/07/2015). Frequent conflict, predominately in Kachin and Shan state, also prevents access to people in need.

Access of affected populations to assistance

There has been little to no cross-line humanitarian assistance to non-government-controlled areas in Kachin. Some 50,000 IDPs have had little to no humanitarian access since September 2014 (local media, 05/12/2014; OCHA, 15/06/2015).

Security and physical constraints

In Myanmar’s highland areas access is restricted by difficult terrain and poor infrastructure, and further limited during the monsoon season (May–October). Many areas are heavily mined, mainly Kachin and northern Shan states, and particularly eastern Bago region (Norwegian People’s Aid, 09/06/2015; UNICEF, 30/11/2014).

Access to areas affected by recent flooding and landslides is severely restricted. Although water has receded from some areas since 10 August, access, particularly in Chin State, remains very difficult (Democratic Voice of Burma, 18/08/2015). Roads, bridges, and other transport infrastructure has been damaged or destroyed. The government reports that 868 road sections and 831 bridges were damaged (Government, 24/08/2015). There have been blackouts in certain areas and communication with some areas, including Sittwe, the capital of Rakhine state, has been cut off from the national grid (WHO, 03/08/2015).

Chin state: Landslides triggered by torrential rain have blocked major roads and severely restricted access to 40,000 people in Hakha, the state capital (Democratic Voice of Burma, 04/08/2015).

Kachin state: Fighting around Hpakant and Sumpra Bum has further restricted access to over a thousand people in need of assistance (Irrawaddy, 17/06/2015; 20/07/2015).

Sagaing region: Access to the city of Kalay – 400,000 residents – has been entirely cut off due to flooded roads, with air travel the only viable means of reaching people in need (BBC, 02/08/2015).

Shan state: In July, UN teams were able to access the Kokang region in northeastern Shan state for the first time since February due to going conflict in the area. Suspended humanitarian operations, such as WFP distributions which stopped in May, are yet to fully resume (Myanmar, 15/07/2015; WFP, 31/05/2015).

Estimates suggest that 60,000 people around Laukkai are in need of humanitarian assistance, but cannot be reached due to insecurity (OCHA, 30/04/2015). Roadblocks and border closures are restricting the movement of civilians fleeing fighting between government troops and MNDA. Chinese government officials have increased border controls (Radio Free Asia, 25/02/2015).

Food Security and Livelihoods

Some 200,000 people are in need of immediate food assistance due to flooding in late July and early August (WFP, 05/08/2015). Prior to flooding, 429,000 people were in need of food assistance (OCHA, 01/2015).

Food availability

At the height of the flooding (July-August), approximately 566,560 hectares of
farmlands were flooded across 12 affected regions and states, though the waters are now receding. At least 229,280 hectares of farmland are believed damaged or destroyed. Most negatively affected agricultural land is in the north and west (ASEAN, 18/08/2015; Democratic Voice of Burma, 18/08/2015; FAO, 10/08/2015).

Livelihoods

The harvest of some crops, including beans and pulses – some of Myanmar’s biggest agricultural exports – will be delayed by at least 60 days, affecting food security and livelihoods (Irrawaddy, 04/08/2015).

Health

Access to healthcare is a major challenge in Rakhine (OCHA, 30/09/2014). If Rohingya camp residents wish to leave their camp to see a doctor, they must first obtain a referral by a government doctor and reportedly must also often bribe the security guards (Center for International and Strategic Studies, 22/10/2014). Only patients in the most critical condition tend to reach hospital.

Healthcare availability and access

July and early August flooding has damaged health facilities and further diminished access to healthcare nationally. 242 health facilities have been damaged or destroyed in July and August and drug stocks have been lost in some areas (UNICEF, 20/08/2015; ECHO, 17/08/2015).

Dengue Fever

As of 17 June, the number of dengue fever cases in 2015 has reached 8,475, causing 37 deaths – more than double the number during the same period in 2014. Incidence has been increasing since April. Mon state, Yangon, and Irrawaddy regions are the most affected (Eleven, 18/06/2015; local media, 22/06/2015).

Nutrition

In Rakhine state, GAM is above 20% in some areas. In June 2014, 2.1% SAM and 6.8% MAM was found among 32,000 children under five screened in Rakhine (UNICEF, 01/02/2015).

WASH

People from Rakhine and Chin states and Sagaing and Magway regions are reportedly without access to portable water due to July and August’s flooding (Democratic Voice of Burma, 18/08/2015).

Sanitation

131,000 people need access to adequate sanitation facilities in temporary evacuation sites following July and August flooding (OCHA, 05/08/2015). The poor WASH situation in camps in Rakhine prior to flooding elevates the risk of waterborne diseases (USAID, 16/06/2015).

Vector Control

Case of acute diarrhoea have been reported in Rakhine, Sagaing region, and Magway region. This rise in cases is partially attributed to the lack of potable water, as well as around 1,000 pounds that is reportedly contaminated by waterborne diseases in Rakhine and 250 pounds contaminated in Sagaing region (Democratic Voice of Burma, 18/08/2015).

Shelter and NFIs

Around 17,000 homes were completely destroyed in July and August’s flooding. 10,000 were in Rakhine alone. The government reports that 430,000 additional homes damaged (ECHO, 23/08/2015; 16/08/2015; Government, 24/08/2015).

Shelter

Prior to the flooding, only 52% of IDP shelters met minimum humanitarian requirements (USAID, 19/06/2015), and approximately 120,000 protracted displaced were without access to improved shelter across Myanmar (USAID, 16/06/2015).

NFIs

Displaced people and vulnerable communities in Rakhine already had limited access to cooking fuel and energy. The situation is particularly difficult for over 80,000 IDPs who have been in camps in Sittwe Township for over two years. Households in camps and isolated villages have been using shelter materials or unsustainable and hazardous materials as fuel, exchanging food rations for fuel, and over-exploiting surrounding forest and woodland (OCHA, 30/11/2014).

Education

In total, 250,000 children have had their academic year disrupted by the flooding in July and August (UNICEF, 20/08/2015). 1,200 schools have been damaged or destroyed by floods in July and August (ECHO, 17/08/2015).
The KIA continues to forcibly recruit people from villages in Shan state (local media, 11/11/2014; local media, 01/06/2015). Local media has accused government troops of rape, beatings, and shooting of unarmed civilians in the Kokang region, Shan state (RFA, 25/03/2015). The Rohingya ethnic minority continues to face discrimination from the government and is vulnerable to human trafficking.

Mines and ERW

Around five million people live in mine-contaminated areas (Mines Advisory Group, 05/2014). Eastern Bago is believed to be the most contaminated region (Norwegian People’s Aid, 09/06/2015).

An assessment in Kachin and northern Shan states concluded that the majority of reported landmine victims over the second half of 2014 were male farmers, and 56% were displaced people. Most accidents happened while people travelled on foot to areas they visit often, such as fields (UNICEF, 30/11/2014).

According to local media, citing intelligence reports by the Bangladeshi border security forces, Myanmar security forces have planted mines along the border between Myanmar and Bangladesh (local media, 23/11/2014).

Gender

Rape has been repeatedly used as a weapon by armed groups, including the Myanmar army. In 2014, the Women’s League of Burma released a report that documented more than 118 victims of sexual violence at the hands of the Myanmar army since Thein Sein’s government took power (local media 26/11/2014).

Cross-border trafficking for the purposes of domestic servitude, sexual exploitation, and forced marriage was identified as a major protection concern by respondents during an assessment (OCHA, 30/11/2014).

Children

549,000 children were affected by flooding in July and August linked to Cyclone Komen (UNICEF, 20/08/2015). Children not in flood shelters are extremely vulnerable and less likely to receive assistance as they are harder to identify and harder to reach (SC, 2006).

On 4 June, 51 children were discharged from the Myanmar Armed Forces, bringing the total of children discharged since the beginning of 2015 to 93 (UNICEF, 04/06/2015). From 2013 to January 2015, a total of 723 cases of underage recruitment by the Myanmar Army were reported to the UN (Child Soldiers International, 01/2015). The number of children that remain within the ranks of the Myanmar army, or within other armed ethnic groups, is unclear.

Rohingya: Massive human rights infringements against the Rohingya minority in Rakhine state continue to be reported. Myanmar states that the Rohingya are migrants from neighbouring Bangladesh, thus excluded from citizenship under the 1982 Citizenship Law. Myanmar authorities have started the process to send Rohingya to Bangladesh (AFP, 08/06/2015). Over 400 were repatriated to Bangladesh between May and late August (New Light of Myanmar, 27/08/2015; Irrawaddy, 19/07/2015). Bangladeshi officials state that Rohingya are citizens of Myanmar and that Rohingya living in Bangladesh should be sent to Myanmar (Reuters, 02/06/2015).

Documentation

Over 800,000 people – mostly Rohingya – are estimated without citizenship in northern Rakhine (UNHCR). In early April, the Myanmar Government started taking back temporary identity cards, expired end March, from people without full citizenship, including Rohingya (international media, 18/06/2015). In June, the Government began offering two-year ‘green cards’ to some Rohingya, but they have to provide documentation, which the majority do not have, and renounce their Rohingya identity (international media, 18/06/2015). For those who refuse registration or lack adequate documents, the plan was for Rakhine authorities to construct temporary camps (local media, 12/10/2014). Rights advocates say this could put thousands of Rohingya at risk of indefinite detention. The damage to shelters resulting from the flooding in July and August may have exacerbated as documentation may have been destroyed.

Updated: 27/08/2015

PHILIPPINES CONFLICT, FLOODS, TYPHOON

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

25 August: Typhoon Goni affected 232,692 people, displaced 102,488, killed 21, and injured 23. Some 8,400 people were pre-emptively evacuated. 15 people are still...
KEY CONCERNS
- 38,200 people who fled fighting in Zamboanga in September 2013 are still displaced (OCHA, 01/06/2015).
- 10,000 remain displaced in Maguindanao as of 3 July, after a month-long military campaign against BIFF in March (OCHA, 13/07/2015).
- The Philippines is one of the most hazard-prone countries in the world, experiencing several large-scale natural hazards a year.

OVERVIEW
A series of natural disasters, most significantly Typhoon Haiyan in November 2013, has caused widespread damage across the Philippines and affected millions. The overall political situation had been relatively stable until January 2015, when fighting broke out in Maguindanao. Although tensions remain high, the peace deal with MILF has not derailed. Those displaced by fighting in Maguindanao and Zamboanga are facing protection issues and many are in need of safe water and shelter support.

For more information, visit the ACAPS country analysis page.

Politics and Security
Since October 2012, the Government has been engaged in finalising a lengthy peace process with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), the country's largest Muslim separatist group. The proposed 2014 Comprehensive Agreement on Bangsamoro, which is yet to be passed in Parliament, paves the way for the creation of a new Muslim autonomous entity, replacing the current Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao. On 16 June, MILF began the first phase of the decommissioning process, in an attempt to encourage the passing of the bill in Parliament (AFP, 16/06/2015).

Political instability
Various armed groups, among them the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF), which split from MILF in 2008, IS-affiliated Abu Sayyaf, and the Maoist New Peoples’ Army (NPA) continue their violent opposition against the state. Since July, especially the NPA have increased their number of attacks.

In February, the national army launched a military offensive against BIFF in Mindanao, following clashes in which 44 police officers, 11 militants and two civilians were killed. Troops were sent to Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat, and Maguindanao. 139 insurgents were killed, 12 captured, and bomb-making bases seized during a five-week campaign (AP, 30/03/2015).

Conflict developments
On 24 July, one person was killed and nine people were injured in an explosion in a nightclub in Zamboanga City. No one has claimed responsibility for the attack (AFP, 24/07/2015).

Several clashes between armed forces and NPA and other militia were reported in Mindanao and Luzon between 17 and 29 July. 16 people were killed and several wounded, including six civilians (PhilStar, 29/07/2015; 17/07/2015; 20/07/2015; 21/07/2015; 22/07/2015). Suspected NPA clashed with security forces on 12 July in Quezon province, Calabarzon region. Three people were killed and five injured (PhilStar, 14/07/2015). On 11 July, one person was killed and three wounded by suspected NPA in South Cotabato (PhilStar, 11/07/2015).

In Maguindanao, a local official was killed and a soldier wounded by suspected BIFF fighters on 10 July in Salibo town (PhilStar, 10/07/2015). In June and early July, Abu Sayyaf and BIFF carried out several attacks in Mindanao, mainly on police and security forces. Five people were killed, including two civilians, and more than 20 were injured (PhilStar, 16/06/2015; 19/06/2015; 02/07/2015; 06/07/2015; 09/07/2015).

Natural Disasters

Volcanic Eruption
Bulusan volcano in Sorsogon province in Luzon has emitted ash and smoke several times: the latest emissions were on 17 July (PhilStar, 19/07/2015).

Floods and Landslides
As of 13 August, the Southwest Monsoon Hagabat has affected 112,555 people in Maguindanao. Heavy rains also affected 57,145 people in Northern Mindanao, Western Visayas, and Soccoskargen. 2,438 people were reported in three evacuation centres in Negros Occidental, Bukidnon, and North Cotabato (DSWD, 13/08/2015).

Heavy rains have led to flash floods and landslides, affecting more than 42,500 people on Luzon and Visayas. The regions of Central Luzon and Calabarzon, NCR, CAR, and Ilocos are particularly affected. As of 21 July, 21 people had died, two had been injured, and six were still missing (Government, 11/07/2015; 14/07/2015; ECHO, 21/07/2015; 14/07/2015).
As of 5 July, 126,340 people in Mindanao have been affected by moderate to heavy rainstorms since late June. 235 houses were damaged (Government, 05/07/2015). Several dikes, bridges, and more than 1,900 hectares of agricultural land have been damaged (ECHO, 27/06/2015).

Tropical Storms

On 4 July, tropical storm Linfa (locally known as Egay) made landfall over Palanan, Isabela province, northern Luzon, affecting 11 coastal towns. The storm caused four landslides and 16 flooding incidents, which made major roads impassable. No casualties were reported. As of 7 July, 48,310 individuals were affected. 95 houses were damaged (Government, 08/07/2015; ECHO, 06/07/2015; AFP, 05/07/2015).

Typhoons

Typhoon Goni, known locally as Ineng, made landfall on August 22, affecting Luzon, Visayas, Metro Manila, Pangasinan, Zambales, and Bataan. 232,692 people were affected, 102,488 displaced, 21 died and 23 were injured. 8,426 people were preemptively evacuated. 102 houses were completely destroyed (Government 25/08/2015; IFRC 26/08/2015).

Displacement

As of May 2015, there are at least 119,000 IDPs in the Philippines (IDMC, 06/2015). About half of IDPs are from conflict-affected areas of Mindanao. In 2015, the total number of people displaced by conflict and violence has reached its lowest level since 2011 (IDMC, 10/02/2015). In 2014, 3 million people were displaced, around 80% by natural disasters.

IDPs

Maguindanao: As of 3 July, around 10,000 people remain displaced because of the ongoing conflict. Some 8,500 are in evacuation centres, the others are staying within host communities (OCHA, 13/07/2015). Water, shelter, and protection are priority needs (OCHA, 01/06/2015; IOM, 22/05/2015). The prolonged dry season is further affecting the health and incomes of the IDPs (ICRC, 20/04/2015). Many of the IDPs who have returned home (125,000 were displaced initially) still require assistance (OCHA, 01/06/2015).

Zamboanga: As of June, 28,200 people remained displaced after fighting between Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) and government forces in September 2013. 1,907 people are in evacuation centres, 15,083 in transitional sites and 11,300 are staying with host families or renting temporary homes (OCHA, 01/06/2015). Mid-July, some 800 people returned home (PhilStar, 17/07/2015). Some of the transitional sites, including Mampang, which hosts 7,000 IDPs, are disconnected from livelihood opportunities and have irregular and insufficient access to water and electricity (OCHA, 31/05/2015; 22/06/2015). The majority of IDPs are from landless Muslim minorities (OCHA, 03/07/2015).

Typhoon Haiyan: Little information is available about the needs of the approximately four million people who have returned home since the typhoon hit in November 2013, although it is believed that livelihood, food, and housing needs remain considerable in Haiyan-affected areas (IDMC, 10/02/2015). Around 38,100 houses were destroyed and 203,600 partially damaged (OCHA, 15/12/2014). Less than 20% of households indicate that their lives have returned to normal. 32% of returned households are able to provide for their basic needs, and 74% have experienced a decline in their livelihood situation (Brookings Institute and IOM, 24/06/2015). Shelter support continues, as thousands of people are still restoring their homes, but remoteness and isolation of affected communities make assistance difficult (international media, 21/07/2015). Longer-term assistance is required, such as assistance with safer reconstruction and enabling access to healthcare, schools, and livelihood opportunities (UNHCR, 30/09/2014). Shelter gaps persist in Western Leyte (EU Red Cross, 20/03/2015).

Other

In Davao Region, south of Philippines, 700 indigenous peoples are being hosted in churches after being displaced by conflict between the New People’s Army and Government forces (UN, 31/07/2015).

Humanitarian Access

Access of relief actors to affected populations

Insecurity in parts of Mindanao and nearby areas is limiting humanitarian access.

Food Security and Livelihoods

For 85% of IDPs in Maguindanao, food security is a main concern, and they are in need of livelihood support (IOM, 22/05/2015).

Livelihoods

In August, September, and October, the Philippines are expected to receive less rain than normal (OCHA, 10/08/2015).

Food access
Food prices are inflated and thousands of people still do not have the means to buy food or lack sufficient access to markets (EU Red Cross, 20/03/2015).

Health

Healthcare availability and access

In nine of the 62 return sites in Maguindanao, health and nutrition facilities have been partially damaged, and one completely destroyed (OCHA, 01/06/2015).

Disease outbreaks

Main health concerns among remaining IDPs in Maguindanao are influenza, skin diseases, and diarrhoea (IOM, 22/05/2015).

Dengue

From 1 January to 18 July, 40,593 cases of dengue, including 134 deaths, were reported nationwide, representing very slight decrease compared to the same period in 2014 (WHO, 29/07/2015).

Nutrition

A SMART survey of displaced communities of Zamboanga indicated high malnutrition rates among children under five (ACF, 20/03/2015).

WASH

Water

Only 29 of 62 return sites in Maguindanao have access to water as of 1 June, compared to 59 before the conflict (OCHA, 01/06/2015).

Sanitation

37 return sites in Maguindanao have access to toilets, compared to 46 before the conflict (OCHA, 01/06/2015).

Education

Access and learning environment

Conflict and displacement in Maguindanao since February–March continues to affect the education of over 14,000 students (OCHA, 03/07/2015).

Protection

Gender

In Zamboanga, IDPs’ dependency on food assistance has increased tensions and the risk of SGBV. Women and children are particularly exposed to harassment, threats, and theft (OCHA, 31/05/2015).

Children

Many armed groups are accused of recruiting children. The Philippines army has identified some 340 child soldiers currently fighting with the NPA, though the number may be higher in reality. BIFF and Aby Sayyaf are also reported to recruit children and teenagers (IRIN, 20/05/2015).

Vulnerable groups

Protection is a critical concern for IDPs in Maguindanao, particularly those in Datu Salibo and Datu Saudi Ampatuan municipalities, where the presence of military forces and militant groups is threatening security (OCHA, 31/05/2015). In almost all IDP sites, protection services, including referral pathways, psychosocial services, and legal documentation support are still not available (IOM, 22/05/2015).

Updated: 26/08/2015

For more information, visit the ACAPS country analysis page.
LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

20 August: The conflict has deprived more than 300,000 people with disabilities of almost all their legal rights (OHCHR).

KEY CONCERNS

- Five million people are affected by the crisis, including two million in non-government areas and two million along the contact line (OCHA, 17/08/2015).
- More than 1.4 million people have been displaced internally and nearly 1.07 million externally (UNHCR, 11/08/2015).
- Conflict, administrative and logistical constraints are impeding access and response. Access to food, health, and WASH are also key concerns (OCHA, 17/08/2015).

Politics and security

Ukraine and pro-Russian separatists signed a peace roadmap on 12 February, introducing a full bilateral ceasefire and the establishment of a buffer zone along the frontline (BBC, 12/02/2015). The ceasefire has been broken repeatedly, with fighting intensifying along the frontline since May. Several attempts at mediation have failed, the latest one early August (AFP, 03/08/2015).

Ukraine's highest court allowed parliament to vote on Western-backed constitutional amendments aimed at giving pro-Russian insurgents three years of partial autonomy in the separatist eastern cities of Donetsk and Luhansk (AFP, 31/07/2015). This decision follows changes to the constitution the Government introduced in July granting more power to regions, and denounced as insufficient by opposition groups (AFP, 16/07/2015).

The list of areas beyond government control was extended end April, with all budgetary payments terminated (OCHA, 01/05/2015). State services and payments to non-government-controlled areas were halted late 2014 (international media, 15/11/2014; UN, 15/12/2014).

Pro-Russian separatists control most of eastern Donetsk region, including Donetsk’s airport and Debaltseve, and a small area of southern Luhansk region (Government, 13/01/2015). Their forces reportedly comprise around 35,000 to 40,000 fighters (AFP, 23/03/2015).

Conflict developments

As of 25 August, more than 6,900 people have been killed and more than 17,000 wounded since the beginning of the conflict; the number of casualties decreased between February and April due to the ceasefire, but has risen again since May (AFP, 25/08/2015; 03/08/2015). Sporadic violence has been reported around Donetsk city and airport since April and has intensified and spread to other areas since May.

Recent incidents

An intensification of ceasefire violations was reported along the Donetsk–Mariupol corridor in Donetsk region since 15–16 August, as pro-Russian forces seek to gain control of a strategic highway linking the two cities, as well as in northwest Luhansk. At least 13 people were killed (AFP, 25/08/2015; OSCE, 17/08/2015; AFP, 17/08/2015). Shelling was reported in Donetsk city on 19 July, for the first time since the February ceasefire. Clashes in the conflict zone on 3 June left at least 34 people dead and 180 wounded, mainly around Maryinka and Krasnoshirivka, in one of the worst outbreaks of violence since February (OSCE, 19/06/2015; 04/2015; AFP, 04/06/2015; 19/07/2015).

Economic

GDP fell by 17.6% in the first quarter of 2015 compared to the same period in 2014, while inflation rose 61% compared to April 2014 (Les Echos, 07/05/2015). Damage to industrial plants is affecting the country’s economic output (Reuters, 24/05/2015).

Humanitarian access

Administrative requirements to cross the lines separating government from non-government areas are increasingly complicated. Obligatory permits have been enforced since 21 January, but they not easy to acquire and corruption is reported. In non-government areas of Luhansk region, a local decree on 1 May effectively closed all crossing points. These, combined with significant logistical challenges, severely constrain both aid delivery and populations’ ability to reach safety, services and reunify with their families (UNICEF/Protection Cluster, 25/05/2015; UNHCR, 08/06/2015; 20/03/2015; OCHA, 06/03/2015).

Access of relief actors to affected populations

Administrative requirements to cross the lines separating government from non-government areas are severely affecting aid delivery. Foreign organisations working in non-government areas of Donetsk region now need to be accredited (IMC, 24/07/2015). Since mid-June, humanitarian convoys have only been able to conduct cross-line operations along the contact line via the Volnovakha-Donetsk route; another crossing is open, but only to smaller trucks. A dedicated entry point for humanitarian cargo and facilitated procedures to reach non-government areas will reportedly be made available in the context of the “green corridors initiative” (OCHA, 17/08/2015).
Lack of capabilities and insecurity are also hampering evacuation operations by humanitarian actors in conflict areas (UNHCR/Protection Cluster, 15/06/2015).

Several aid workers and OSCE monitoring mission patrols have been caught in crossfire or directly targeted near the contact line or in non-government areas since June (OSCE, 09/08/2015; 27/07/2015; 26/07/2015; OCHA, 26/06/2015).

Access of affected populations to assistance

Lack of available and affordable transport, insecurity along exit routes, and administrative barriers are preventing civilians from reaching safety and access aid (UNHCR, 10/03/2015). Protocols have been established to allow individuals facing an emergency to leave non-government areas without a permit, however they are not yet institutionalised (UNICEF/Protection Cluster, 28/08/2015; OCHA, 26/06/2015). The pass system introduced in June to facilitate the crossing also remains unable to quickly process large numbers of requests; civilians are waiting for hours at checkpoints with no access to basic services, and are exposed to high levels of risk as checkpoints are often targeted by shelling (UNICEF/Protection Cluster, 28/08/2015; OCHA, 14/08/2015; USAID, 12/08/2015).

Many civilians remain stranded in hard-to-reach areas in conflict and non-government areas. People who fled Krasnohorivka village in Donetsk region during the fighting have returned, fearing their abandoned homes would otherwise be seized. They are hiding in basements and living in desperate conditions (UNHCR, 26/06/2015). As of March, 500,000 people were living in underground shelters in conflict areas, with little or no access to aid (OCHA, 16/03/2015).

Security and physical constraints

The Government halted public transport between government and non-government areas, which limits the ability of people without vehicles to cross the contact line. There are increasing reports of civilians travelling via the Russian Federation to reach government areas and facing an administrative fine when re-entering (UNHCR/Protection Cluster, 30/06/2015).

Railway transport out of and into the non-government area of Luhansk region has been interrupted, limiting civilian travel to pedestrian traffic, and restricting the vehicle transport of commercial goods (USAID, 25/06/2015). Luhansk region is difficult to access due to deteriorated roads and bridges, and UXO and IEDs (OCHA, 27/02/2015).

Displacement

More than 2.4 million Ukrainians have been displaced by the conflict, including more than 1.4 million internally. Many who have left the country are not seeking asylum and have not been registered as refugees. Numbers are rising as violence in Ukraine intensifies.

IDPs

At 21 August, nearly 1.45 million IDPs have been registered in eastern Ukraine since March 2014: 12% are children and 4% people with disabilities. 35,200 people were displaced in August. Key reception areas are areas under government control in Donetsk (539,500) and Luhansk regions (213,800), and Kharkiv (186,700), Kyiv (106,000), Zaporizhzhya (99,800), and Dnipropetrovsk regions (72,400) (UNHCR, 26/08/2015; 03/08/2015). 19,000 people are estimated to be displaced within Crimea (IDMC, 31/10/2014). IDPs are in need of livelihood, employment and psychological support (UNHCR, 03/08/2015).

Some IDPs have reportedly returned to conflict areas, as the devaluation of the national currency has limited their ability to afford basic living expenses (OCHA, 06/03/2015). With the fighting intensifying in May, returns have decreased (OCHA, 25/05/2015).

IDPs are required to register in government areas in order to be eligible for social payments and pensions, causing displacement and confusing overall IDP numbers (UNHCR 31/12/2014; 23/01/2015). There are also concerns that military-age men are not registering as IDPs for fear of being drafted to the army (OCHA, 10/04/2015).

Ukrainian refugees in neighbouring countries

More than 1.12 million Ukrainians are seeking asylum or other forms of legal stay in neighbouring countries, including 911,500 in Russia, 126,400 in Belarus and 71,300 in Poland; this compares to 593,000 as of early January. A spike was recorded over 4–11 August, with more than 147,300 seeking refuge abroad, compared to 3,200 over 24 July – 4 August (UNHCR, 26/08/2015; 08/08/2015; 24/07/2015; OCHA, 09/01/2015). Since July 2014, Russian authorities have prevented Ukrainians from obtaining refugee status in several regions, including border areas and major cities such as Moscow. Most asylum seekers have been unable to collect the required documents and access refugee status (IO, 09/12/2014).

Host communities

Social fragmentation and tensions between IDPs and host communities have increased as a result of the conflict, especially in the Donbas region (UN/World Bank/EU, 08/07/2015).

Food Security and livelihoods

Nearly 1.8 million people need food assistance, including 670,000 in conflict areas; this compares to 1.3 million people in need of support overall as of end March (WFP, 30/06/2015; OCHA, 17/08/2015; MSNA, 30/03/2015). In a recent assessment, 40% of interviewed beneficiaries were found food insecure, compared to 14% in March (WFP, 31/07/2015). Food insecurity is increasing for IDPs and populations in non-government areas and facing an administrative fine when re-entering (UNHCR/Protection Cluster, 15/06/2015).
areas, mostly as a result of high food prices, limited food supply due to restricted movement of commodities, and few livelihood opportunities.

**Food availability**

People in non-government areas are particularly affected by limited food supply due to the restricted movement of commodities, both for humanitarian and commercial cargos (WFP, 31/07/2015). Food shortages have also been reported among IDPs in Luhansk and Kharkiv (OCHA, 24/04/2015; 10/04/2015; FAO, 26/01/2015).

Insecurity, damaged infrastructure, landmines, and lack of resources are delaying agricultural activities in many conflict areas (OCHA, 10/04/2015). 13% of wheat, barley, and maize, and up to 30% of sunflower crops were not harvested in 2014 due to displacement, corresponding to losses of 530,000 and 400,000 MT (FAO, 31/01/2015).

**Food access**

Inflation in Ukraine slightly decreased in July to 50% year-on-year, from a peak of 53.7% in April, but remains one of the highest in the world (WFP, 31/07/2015). People in non-government areas are particularly affected by high food prices due to the restricted movement of commodities: as of July, they were 70% higher than the national average (WFP, 31/07/2015). Price increases, disrupted transport systems, high insecurity, remoteness, and lack of hard currency limit access to markets for at least 20% of the population in Luhansk, Donetsk, Kharkiv, Dnepropetrovsk, and Zaporizhzhya regions (OCHA, 12/2014).

**Livelihoods**

Households’ poor financial situation is the main driver of need (MSNA, 30/03/2015). 2.7 million people are in need of livelihood support (OCHA, 03/06/2015). Food expenditure is now a larger share of households’ final consumption, which suggests higher incidence of poverty (UNDP, 02/07/2015). Only 20% of 38,000 IDPs registered at government employment agencies have found jobs (IRIN, 22/06/2015).

**Health**

Nearly 4.5 million people are in need of health support, compared to 1.5 million reported end March, due to increasing access constraints (OCHA, 03/06/2015; MSNA, 30/03/2015).

**Healthcare availability and access**

There are critical shortages of medicines and medical supplies in eastern Ukraine, especially in conflict areas in Donetsk region, and many people in non-government areas cut off from care. Medicine price hikes are affecting treatment for chronic illnesses (IMC, 24/07/2015; OCHA, 16/05/2015; MSF, 04/03/2015). Significant vaccine shortages are also reported; only 7–10% of required quantities are available in non-government areas of Donetsk region (OCHA, 26/06/2015; UNICEF, 01/05/2015).

More than 100 health facilities in Donetsk and Luhansk regions have been destroyed or damaged, while 30% of health workers in Donetsk and 70% in Luhansk are no longer at their posts (OCHA, 21/03/2015; WHO, 16/01/2015).

**HIV/AIDS:** HIV-related needs are a concern in eastern Ukraine, with some 8,000 people receiving antiretroviral therapy and facing a critical risk of treatment interruption from mid-August if access to non-government areas is not improved. Over 14,000 people are living with HIV/AIDS in non-government areas (UNICEF/Global Fund, 18/08/2015).

**Opioid Substitution Treatment (OST):** Restrictions on the delivery of narcotic drugs since December 2014 for people undergoing OST in Donetsk and Luhansk regions could result in discontinuation of treatment for nearly 900 patients residing in the area (OCHA, 23/01/2015). Numbers are likely to have significantly increased.

**Tuberculosis (TB):** At least 2,400 people in non-government areas with TB, including 530 people with multidrug-resistant TB, lack consistent treatment provision and follow-up (HRW, 13/03/2015). Stocks of medicines for drug-resisting TB are insufficient and further shortages are expected, leading to more cases (Global Fund, 24/07/2015). New TB cases were already estimated to have increased by 5% in non-government areas of Donetsk, mainly among the elderly and combatants, in February (OCHA, 06/02/2015).

**Mental Health**

At least 100,000 parents and children in conflict areas need psychological support after months of shelling (UNICEF, 11/06/2015). Older people, men, and children are at particularly high psychological risk (IMC, 10/07/2015).

**WASH**

More than 1.3 million people need WASH assistance, including nearly 1.2 million in non-government areas (OCHA, 03/06/2015). Access to safe water in non-government areas is of particular concern.

**Water**

Damage to water supply lines has affected access to safe water for 1.3 million people, while three million are at risk of acute water shortages if repairs are not conducted (OCHA, 17/08/2015). More than 2,000km of pipelines have been damaged in Donbas and conflict hampers agencies’ ability to conduct repairs to the pipes (OCHA, 10/07/2015; 10/04/2015). Populations in non-government areas of Donetsk region are significantly affected by damage to the Donbas canal: Mariupol is receiving only 10% of its normal water intake and is relying on a secondary source of water, which may be exhausted by October (OCHA,
Shelter and NFIs

1.4 million people are estimated to be in need of emergency shelter and NFIs, compared to 600,000 end March. Government and non-government areas in Donetsk and Luhansk, as well as high IDP reception areas are most affected (OCHA, 17/08/2015; MSNA, 30/03/2015).

Shelter

Housing solutions are provided to only 3–5% of IDPs in temporary collective centres; 9-10% of IDPs in government areas along the conflict line receive solutions, compared to less than 1% in western and central Ukraine (UNHCR/Shelter Cluster, 15/06/2015; UNHCR, 20/03/2015). The majority of IDPs are staying with host families or with volunteers and are often excluded from humanitarian assistance (UNHCR, 21/05/2015). The absorption capacity within host communities is exhausted in high reception areas and in Odessa (UNHCR, 21/05/2015).

Repair needs are high along the conflict line (UNHCR/Shelter cluster, 30/04/2015). 60% of Shyrokyne’s buildings have been destroyed by shelling (MSF, 21/04/2015).

Education

Up to 25,000 children have had their education disrupted by the conflict (UNICEF, 11/06/2015). Insecurity, overcrowding, damaged facilities and teachers having fled non-government areas are main barriers to education.

Access and learning environment

82 schools remain closed in non-government areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions (UNICEF, 11/06/2015). 523 facilities need repair in Donetsk region; lack of transportation, mines, and overcrowding are also main barriers to school attendance (OSCE, 22/04/2015; UNICEF, 20/03/2015).

Teaching and learning

50% of teachers are thought to have left non-government areas, including 35% in Luhans (OCHA, 08/05/2015; 27/03/2015). At least 225,000 school-aged children still need access to school supplies and quality education (UNICEF, 11/06/2015).

Protection

5.1 million people are in need of protection (OCHA, 17/08/2015). Human rights violations and abuses persist in eastern Ukraine, including shelling, arbitrary and illegal detentions, human trafficking, and deprivation of economic and social rights for people in conflict areas (UN, 01/06/2015). An increase in cases of human trafficking of women and IDPs has been reported; in previous years, the majority of victims were men for labour exploitation (OCHA, 17/08/2015).

Children

Around 1.7 million children are in need of support (local organisation, 03/08/2015). There are continued reports of minors unable to register for IDP status and receive aid as they fled violence unaccompanied by a parent or legal guardian (UNHCR/Protection Cluster, 31/07/2015; UNHCR, 08/06/2015). There are also significant concerns over the militarisation of children in non-government areas (AFP, 24/06/2015; Protection Cluster, 04/03/2015).

Partners continue to report that a significant number of minors have fled the violence with relatives but are not accompanied by their parents. These children are left out of the system because of ambiguous legislation. They cannot register as IDPs and therefore are not receiving financial support and protection.

Documentation

There are significant barriers to obtaining or replacing official documentation for people, including newborns living in non-government areas, as access to government areas is restrained. Common instructions to local authorities on how to address this issue is lacking (UNHCR/Protection Cluster, 30/06/2015).

Vulnerable Groups

Disabled people: Support is lacking for the 54,000 disabled people in eastern Ukraine, who constitute the most vulnerable population (UNICEF, 22/06/2015; UNHCR, 21/05/2015). The conflict has deprived more than 300,000 people with disabilities of almost all their legal rights (OHCHR, 20/08/2015).

IDPs: Difficulties in the registration of new IDPs and re-registration of IDPs with expiring certificates continue to be reported (UNHCR, 26/06/2015). A mechanism for verifying IDP addresses was introduced in April, raising concerns that IDPs with temporary addresses might lose their status and associated benefits (UNHCR, 10/04/2015). Unlawful refusals of registration and financial assistance, violations of employment rights, limited access to social benefits, discrimination and stigmatisation have been reported among IDPs (OCHA, 13/03/2015; IOM, 22/10/2014).

Minorities: The situation of minority communities in Crimea, including Crimean Tatars and ethnic Ukrainians, among others, is of concern. Anti-Roma sentiment has also apparently increased (UN, 27/01/2015). Roma report living with restricted water and electricity supply, and unequal access to healthcare (OCHA, 01/05/2015). In Crimea, intimidation and
restrictive laws have been used to silence the media – including almost all Crimean Tatar media outlets – and NGOs, and public protests have been banned since annexation (UN, 01/06/2015; UNHCR, 31/01/2015; Amnesty, 17/03/2015; local media, 01/04/2015).

Older people: The situation for older people in Donetsk and Luhansk is worsening, and particularly alarming in remote rural areas and areas with active conflict. Access to pension income and therefore to food and medicine is almost non-existent for many who are not mobile (OCHA, 20/02/2015).

Mines and ERW

Landmine and UXO incidents continue to be reported in Donetsk and Luhansk regions, especially near conflict areas (OCHA, 10/07/2015). 30,000 hectares of land along the frontline in Novoazovskiy and Artemivskiy districts in Donetsk region are reportedly contaminated (UNHCR, 10/04/2015).

19 August: Haiti’s Foreign Ministry announced that Haiti would not receive stateless persons from the Dominican Republic (AlterPress).

KEY CONCERNS

- Erratic rains since January have led to 3.8 million food insecure Haitians, including 180,000 in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) (local media, 15/06/2015; ECHO, 27/05/2015). Basic food prices have increased since January, up 30–40% in some areas (FEWSNET, 08/05/2015).

- Continued cholera incidence, with 20,043 suspected cases and 170 deaths between January and July (PAHO, 12/08/2015; OCHA, 31/07/2015).

- 60,800 IDPs remain in 45 camps as a result of the 2010 earthquake. 59% of camps are tents and makeshift sites (IOM, 30/06/2015).

OVERVIEW

Humanitarian needs in Haiti stem from displacement, food insecurity, and malnutrition. The situation is compounded by an extremely fragile political and economic situation, and a significant vulnerability to natural disasters, including hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, landslides, and droughts. The resilience of the population is extremely low.

Politics and Security

Political instability

Legislative elections took place on 9 August. 26 of 1,508 polls were closed due to violence, and voter turnout reached only 18%, significantly lower than expected (AFP, 21/08/2015; OAS, 10/08/2015; Reuters, 10/08/2015). Following demonstrations in several parts of the country and sharp criticism from international observers and Haitian human rights groups, the Provisional Electoral Council announced that voting will be redone in 25 out of 119 constituencies (Alter Press, 11/08/2015; 12/08/2015). In addition, 16 candidates were disqualified over suspected involvement in election violence. National police forces were mobilised and MINUSTAH forces put on standby in case of further violence (AFP, 21/08/2015).

Local and Presidential elections are due to take place on 25 October 2015. Elections were previously delayed since 2011, leading to tensions and opposition demonstrations in the country, most significantly in January (UN, 18/03/2015).
Recent incidents

Clashes in the days leading up to the legislative elections on 9 August injured 34 and killed five people (Reuters, 10/08/2015; AFP, 10/08/2015).

Armed criminal violence is reportedly increasing in Haiti (Alter Press, 24/02/2015). While the UN stabilisation mission maintains police in regions, the Haitian National Police is not yet fully capable of dealing with civil unrest on its own (OCHA, 31/07/2014).

Natural disasters

Drought

Around one million Haitians have been affected by prolonged drought conditions in Haiti since the beginning of the year. The most affected departments are Sud-Est, Nord-Ouest, Haut Artibonite, Centre and Nord-Est (OCHA, 03/07/2015). 80% of Haiti is currently affected by El Niño conditions, with seasonal rainfall about 50% lower than average (FEWSNET 07/08). The drought is expected to continue until at least December (FEWSNET, 20/07/2015).

Displacement

IDPs

As of 30 June, 60,800 IDPs remain in 45 camps since the 2010 earthquake, including 47% in Delmas (27,340), 17% in Croix des Bouquets (10,760), and 10% in Tabarre (5,750) in Port-au-Prince (IOM, 03/06/2015). 21 IDP sites were closed between 1 April and 30 June (IOM, 30/06/2015). Information management and service delivery in camps has been severely constrained due to lack of funding (OCHA, 31/07/2015).

Basic services in camps have declined faster than the pace of return or relocation (OCHA/UN, 31/12/2014). Absence of a protection-sensitive approach, lack of coherent urban planning, and instability, in part due to poor rule of law, are major obstacles to durable solutions for IDPs (UNHCR, 08/05/2015).

Humanitarian access

Access of relief actors to affected populations

The number of humanitarian actors has continued to decrease, from 512 in 2010 to 146 by March 2015, and government capacity has not always improved, creating critical sectoral gaps (UN, 28/03/2015; OCHA/UN, 31/12/2014).

Food Security and Livelihoods

As a result of below-average rainfall in 2015, 3.8 million Haitians are food insecure, including 180,000 people in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food security outcomes, compared to 605,000 and 165,000 in 2014 (local media, 15/06/2015; ECHO, 27/05/2015; OCHA/UN, 31/12/2014).

Poor households in Sud, Sud-Est, Nord-Ouest, Nord-Est and Artibonite are expected to face Crisis food security outcomes through January 2016, due to the combined effect of food prices, erratic rains, poor autumn harvest prospects, and lack of investment in the agricultural sector. The situation for some others will worsen to either Crisis or Stressed (IPC Phase 2) food security outcomes (FEWSNET, 17/08/2015).

Food availability

60–80% of the main local crops and vegetables have been lost in parts of Haiti as a result of the drought, while a 50% production deficit is expected for the spring harvest due to reduced planting activities in the main producing areas. Sud-Est (Grand Gosier, Anse-à-Pitres and Belle-Anse communes), Nord-Ouest, Artibonite (Gonaïves), Plateau central, Nord-Est, and Ouest (Grand-Gôave) are most affected (FEWSNET, 17/08/2015; FAO, 27/05/2015). Prolonged dryness until December will likely lead to a second below-average output for the August-December season harvest (FEWSNET, 17/08/2015).

Food access

Basic food prices have increased 30–40% compared to 2014 as a result of lower supply from the spring harvest (OCHA, 27/07/2015). Local maize prices have risen significantly in Centre and Sud departments between April and June (19% and 15% respectively), and an alert was raised for Jeremie and Port-au-Prince communes in June (WFP, 30/07/2015).

Livelihoods

Extended dry spells have reduced agricultural labour opportunities in Haiti (OCHA, 27/07/2015). Livestock has been severely affected by the drought, and pressure has been put on fishing activities, significantly impacting households’ purchasing power (ECHO, 27/05/2015).

Health

Five million Haitians (half of the total population) lack access to basic health services (UN, 27/10/2014). Cholera continues to affect Haiti, driven mainly by poor WASH conditions. The total number of cases in the first half of 2015 was triple that of the same period in 2014.

Healthcare availability and access
Some hospitals have still not been fully rehabilitated since the earthquake (MSF, 08/01/2015). Lack of mental health support is also reported (Alter Press, 10/01/2015).

Haitian migrants are returning from the Dominican Republic to poor living conditions, especially in Anse-à-Pitres; cases of bacterial conjunctivitis and skin diseases have been reported (Alter Press, 24/06/2015).

Cholera

As of 12 August, 20,043 suspected cases and 170 deaths have been reported in 2015, compared to 7,739 cases and 56 deaths during the same period in 2014 (PAHO, 12/08/2015; OCHA, 31/07/2015). 2,000 new cases and 21 deaths were recorded in July, with a weekly incidence rate twice that of 2014. Most cases are from Ouest, Centre, Artibonite and Nord departments (OCHA, 31/07/2015). January recorded the largest number of cases, with 4,321 suspected cases and 36 deaths (HPN, 01/06/2015).

Nearly 744,698 suspected cholera cases and 8,826 deaths have been reported since the start of the epidemic in October 2010 (PAHO, 12/08/2015).

Nutrition

At March, 85,000 children suffered from acute malnutrition, including 17,000 requiring immediate assistance (OCHA/UNCT, 11/03/2015).

WASH

Water

More than 3.4 million Haitians lack access to safe water (one-third of the total population and 47% of the rural population) (UN, 30/09/2014). More than three-quarters of schools lack access to water (HRW, 08/10/2014).

Populations in Belladere and Fonds-Verrets in Centre and Ouest departments, as well as in several areas of Port-au-Prince, have lacked access to safe drinking water for the past six months, mainly due to drought, causing children to miss school and increasing social tensions (Alter Press, 01/07/2015; local media, 22/05/2015).

Sanitation

69% of Haiti’s population lack access to improved sanitation (World Bank, 30/09/2014). 60% of schools have no toilets (HRW, 08/10/2014).

Shelter and NFIs

The majority of remaining IDP sites are in the metropolitan area of Port-au-Prince, including 12 in Delmas and four in Croix des Bouquets, as well as Leogane commune in Palms region Delmas (12), and Leogane (11). 40% of IDP sites are tents and makeshift shelters, while 47% transitional shelters (IOM, 30/06/2015).

96% of people left homeless by the 2010 earthquake have been relocated outside camps (IOM, 31/03/2015). Overall, 3.5 million Haitians (one-third of total population) live in precarious neighbourhoods and informal settlements in urban areas where they suffer from socio-economic deprivation, elevated risk of disaster impact, and forced eviction (OCHA/UNCT, 11/03/2015).

Protection

Children

Many children still show signs of emotional and psychological stress since the earthquake, and remain in need of protection; minors in camps are particularly at risk of exploitation, with sexual violence commonplace (Save the Children, 08/01/2015).

Documentation

Around one-third of people relocated outside camps after the 2010 earthquake do not have legitimate status/rights for the land they occupy. Land disputes and tensions are common and have been accompanied by coercion, violence, and forced eviction (OCHA/UNCT, 11/03/2015).

Vulnerable groups

Haitian migrants

Up to 200,000 Haitians and people of Haitian descent in the Dominican Republic are at risk of forced expulsion as a regularisation process ended on 16 June (AFP, 21/06/2015). Many are at risk of statelessness, as the Haitian government has indicated that it will refuse to accept non-national deportees onto its territory (AlterPress, 19/08/2015). Some 60,000 people have returned between 17 June and 6 August, including 20% forcibly and 25 unaccompanied children (IOM, 11/08/2015). Most recently, an additional 251 people were forcibly expelled by Dominican authorities (Local Media, 22/08/2015). The majority are in Ouanaminthe (Nord-Est) and Belladere (Centre) communes, and some in four spontaneous camps in Anse-à-Pitres, where conditions are critical (GARR, 20/08/2015; IOM, 11/08/2015; Alter Press, 26/06/2015). Arbitrary deportations and racial profiling have been reported by the Haitian Government, but denied by Dominican authorities (UN HRC, 28/07/2015; OCHA, 21/07/2015).

6,680 irregular migrants were repatriated to Ouanaminthe commune in the first four months of 2015, more than half of them in April. 5,570 were repatriated in the whole of 2014 (Alter Press, 08/05/2015).
In total, an estimated 600,000 Haitian nationals or people of Haitian descent face an elevated risk of forced expulsion and deportations from countries of the Caribbean region. Most of them are unable to obtain birth certificates (OCHA/UNCT, 11/03/2015).

Updated 24/08/2015

GUATEMALA DROUGHT, FOOD INSECURITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Situation of concern</th>
<th>Pre-crisis vulnerability</th>
<th>% population affected</th>
<th>Humanitarian access</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Severity</td>
<td>minimal</td>
<td>low</td>
<td>moderate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

14 August: Nearly one million people are facing acute food insecurity, as drought has led to decreased harvest. 900,000 people have no food stocks left (Reuters).

KEY CONCERNS

- Nearly one million people are facing acute food insecurity due to drought (Reuters, 14/08/2015).

- Acute malnutrition rates are on the rise (FEWSNET, 08/2015). Chronic malnutrition is reportedly increasing due to several years of below-average harvest and food insecurity (Reuters, 14/08/2015).

Natural Disasters

Drought

The El Niño phenomenon is causing severe drought in Central America’s “dry corridor”, which runs through Guatemala (Reuters, 14/08/2015). According to forecasts, the drought will continue until the end of the postrera season in November, with well below-average rainfall and a likely early end to the rains in the second half of October (FEWSNET, 08/2015).

This year’s drought is exceptionally long, with more consecutive days without rain than in 2014 and smaller amounts of cumulative rainfall reported. In August, the lack of rainfall reached 95% in the departments of El Progreso, Zacapa, Baja Verapaz, and some areas of Chiquimula and Jalapa, with up to 27 days without rain that month (FEWSNET, 08/2015). In May and June, areas in the dry corridor went 25 days without rain (OCHA, 25/08/2015).

The dry spell is expected to last at least until March 2016, drastically reducing harvest as staple crops such as beans and maize are destroyed by drought (Reuters, 14/08/2015; FEWSNET, 08/2015).

Guatemala is reported to be the most affected country by the regional drought, followed by Honduras and El Salvador (OCHA, 25/08/2015).

Floods

Floods caused damage to 34 communities in the cities of Livingston and El Estor in early August, affecting 8,290 people. At least four people died. As of 10 August, 109 people were still staying in shelters (OCHA, 10/08/2015).

Food Security and Livelihoods

Nearly one million people are facing food insecurity, as drought has led to a third consecutive year of decreased harvest (Reuters, 14/08/2015).

In the east, households receiving emergency food assistance are facing Stressed (IPC Phase 2) food security outcomes, while those that do not receive assistance will face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes until September. From October onwards, seasonal wages will improve household revenue and lead to Stressed (Phase 2) outcomes in the east (FEWSNET, 08/2015).

Municipalities in the highlands receiving assistance will continue facing Stressed (Phase 2) outcomes until September. Without continued assistance, households affected by agricultural losses and a fungus epidemic will move to Crisis (Phase 3) food security outcomes (FEWSNET, 08/2015).

Food availability

900,000 people have no food reserves left, due to three consecutive years of below-average harvests (Reuters, 14/08/2015). The unusually long dry spell has caused a 75-100% loss of subsistence production in the dry corridor. The latest harvest has not replenished food stocks as usual. There is a high risk that the bean harvest will also be well below-average due to continued El Niño effects (FEWSNET, 08/2015). Some 350,000 people are suffering losses in corn crops (OCHA, 25/08/2015).

Areas most affected by agricultural losses are in the east and west of the country, and some areas in the departments of Suchitepequez and Retalhuleu, on the southern coast.

Food access

Thousands of families cannot afford food due to a lack of income from seasonal work (Reuters, 14/08/2015). Households in poor, rural communities have resorted to eating only one or two meals a day (Reuters, 14/08/2015).

Livelihoods


An ongoing fungus epidemic that affects coffee plants is leading to a reduction in seasonal employment and lower wages (Reuters, 14/08/2015).

Health

On 24 August, the government declared a health emergency in the health districts affected by epidemics of dengue fever and chikungunya, in central, south, northeast and northwest Guatemala, Santa Rosa, Retalhuleu, Quetzaltenango, San Marcos, Peten Norte, Escuintla, and Zapatoca (Government, 24/08/2015). Between January and August, more than 2,500 suspected chikungunya cases have been reported, and 650 cases of dengue. Vector control is a priority to prevent further spread of the disease (Redhum, 28/08/2015).

Nutrition

Chronic malnutrition is reportedly increasing due to consecutive years of extended dry spells (Reuters, 14/08/2015).

There are indications that the nutrition situation is deteriorating in areas affected by a rain deficit. An initial nutrition screening among children under five in Huehuerenango, Quiche, Chiquimula, Quetzaltenango, Alta Verapaz, and Baja Verapaz municipalities indicated 5.7% acute malnutrition. Initial results of an assessment in July in Tucuru and Santa Catarina La Tinta, indicated 3.3% acute malnutrition (FEWSNET, 08/2015).

Updated: 01/09/2015

HONDURAS DROUGHT, FOOD INSECURITY

OVERVIEW

Yearly droughts have deteriorated the food security situation in Honduras, affecting crop production, livelihoods, and food availability. Consecutive droughts do not give households sufficient time to build up food stocks or adapt, creating a need for humanitarian assistance.

Natural Disasters

Drought

807,015 people are affected by the 2015 drought, worsened by El Niño. A state of emergency has been declared in twelve departments. 146 municipalities – half of the country’s municipalities - are affected in the southwestern part of the country (OCHA, 03/08/2015). El Niño is expected to continue throughout 2015, if not until February 2016, decreasing the amount of precipitation (OCHA, 04/07/2015; El Heraldo, 03/07/2015). 81 municipalities, home to 332,920 people, are considered to be severely affected and 65 municipalities, home to 312,670 people, moderately affected (OCHA, 24/08/2015).

Lempira, Intibucá, and La Paz are the most affected departments (OCHA, 24/08/2015). Other affected departments include Choluteca, Valle, Francisco Morazán, El Paraíso, Ocotepeque and Copán (El Heraldo, 14/08/2015).

In 2014, 930,000 people in 165 departments were affected by drought (Government, 13/01/2015). Choluteca, Valle, El Paraíso, Francisco Morazán, Intibuca, and Lempira departments were most affected (ECHO, 20/08/2014).

Food Security and Livelihoods

As of February, 682,000 people are affected by moderate and severe food insecurity (OCHA, 23/02/2015). Food assistance needs through January 2016 are forecast to be similar to last year and the five year average. Most of the country will remain in Stressed (IPC Phase 2) food security outcomes, including in the March-August lean season (FEWSNET, 22/07/2015).

Parts of Honduras are projected to be at Crisis food security (IPC Phase 3) over April –September 2015, higher than the same period in 2014 and the five-year average, due to a lack of food reserves and an increase in grain prices (FEWSNET, 13/03/2015).

Food availability
The effects of El Niño coupled with the drought are expected to result in damage or complete loss of crops in the *primera*, *postrera* and *apante* harvests (FEWSNET, 06/2015). The drought caused by El Niño has damaged parts of the maize, bean, and coffee crops in southern Honduras. Two consecutive poor growing seasons will add to the effects of the 2014 drought (WFP, 01/07/2015; FEWSNET, 24/07/2015).

Basic grain crops will be severely affected due to the drought, putting populations in the western region at risk (OCHA, 04/07/2015). Additionally, below-average rainfall in the central and western region has led to losses in maize and bean crops (FEWSNET, 07/08/2015).

Livelihoods

Farmers are reporting that low levels of rainfall and lack of seeds are the two main challenges for the *postrera* planting season. The drought may cause increased migration to urban areas as labour opportunities in rural areas are affected (El Heraldo, 13/08/2015).

Small-scale farming households are projected to need assistance because of crop losses in the current *primera* season (FEWSNET, 19/08/2015).

Health

Limited access to water due to drought is having a negative impact on hygiene, in turn increasing health risks, especially acute diarrhoeal diseases. Health services in rural areas do not have sufficient capacity to meet the needs of the affected population (OCHA, 10/12/2014).

Chikungunya

56,983 cases of chikungunya have been confirmed so far in 2015 (El Heraldo, 29/07/2015).

Dengue

31,405 cases of dengue have been confirmed so far in 2015; 648 of which were confirmed to be cases of the more serious dengue haemorrhagic fever (El Heraldo, 29/07/2015).

Nutrition

In 2014, 3.4% of children under five were suffering from acute malnutrition. At least 19,559 children were malnourished as a direct consequence of the drought (OCHA, 10/12/2014). Updated: 26/08/2015

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**PAPUA NEW GUINEA DROUGHT**

**LATEST DEVELOPMENTS**

24 August: 1.8 million people are affected by frost and drought in the Highlands region; 1.3 million reported as most at risk (Government). Water shortages have caused schools and hospitals to close, and the affected population is resorting to using less reliable water sources (OCHA; ABC).

**OVERVIEW**

Prolonged drought and frost have affected 1.8 million people in the Highlands region; 1.3 million are categorised as most at risk. Food and WASH are reported as priority needs.

**Natural disasters**

Frost and drought

The impact of several months of drought and frost over recent weeks have now reached 1.8 million people in the Highlands region. Of the people affected, 1.3 million have been classified at most at risk (Government, 24/08/2015). As of 24 August, ten people have reportedly died from related causes (OCHA, 24/08/2015). The most affected provinces include Simbu, Southern Highlands, Enga, Eastern Highlands, and Western Highlands (OCHA, 24/08/2015). Southern Highlands has declared a state of emergency (UNDP, 26/08/2015). Some people in the Highlands region have reportedly moved to lower altitudes to live with relatives (ABC, 19/08/2015).

**Food security and livelihoods**

Frost and drought

The impact of several months of drought and frost over recent weeks have now reached 1.8 million people in the Highlands region. Of the people affected, 1.3 million have been classified at most at risk (Government, 24/08/2015). As of 24 August, ten people have reportedly died from related causes (OCHA, 24/08/2015). The most affected provinces include Simbu, Southern Highlands, Enga, Eastern Highlands, and Western Highlands (OCHA, 24/08/2015). Southern Highlands has declared a state of emergency (UNDP, 26/08/2015). Some people in the Highlands region have reportedly moved to lower altitudes to live with relatives (ABC, 19/08/2015).
Frost has destroyed crops in the most affected areas, and food is reported as a priority need (AFP, 24/08/2015). Provinces where sweet potato is the staple crop are expected to be severely affected, while provinces which mainly depend on sago and banana are likely to be less affected in terms of food availability (Government, 24/08/2015). Livestock such as pigs and fish are at risk (The Pacific Islands News Association, 19/08/2015).

Health

Water shortages have caused hospitals and health centres in the affected provinces to scale down operations (UNDP, 26/08/2015).

WASH

Water

With water sources drying up, the population has resorted to using less reliable water sources, including the Warongoi River, which may be contaminated following a suspected cyanide spill at a nearby mining site in July (ABC, 18/08/2015). Reportedly, dead fish have been sighted in the river, and people have fallen sick after eating them (ABC, 18/08/2015).

Education

Water shortages have caused several schools in the affected provinces to close (OCHA, 24/08/2015).

Updated: 01/09/2015

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

25 August: 1,000 Colombians were repatriated from Venezuela following an attack on Venezuelan border guards. The border has been closed since 21 August. There are 2,000 additional recent returnees and government shelters are reportedly overwhelmed by the influx. People are in immediate need of food, water, and NFIs in the border city of Cúcuta (OCHA).

24 August: FARC-EP admitted they killed a community leader in Nariño in early August (Colombia Reports).

20 August: FARC-EP announced extension of unilateral ceasefire, which was previously set to last until end-November (AFP).

KEY CONCERNS

- 4.8 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance (OCHA, 10/05/2015).

- 6.3 million IDPs, including 224,300 newly displaced in 2014 (UNHCR, 30/06/2015).

- In the first half of 2015, around 2 million people suffered limitations in humanitarian access or mobility, due to conflicts, disasters due to natural hazards, or mass protests (OCHA, 03/08/2015).

- Approximately 1.3 million people are affected by natural disasters (floods, heat wave, droughts) every year (OCHA, 24/02/2015).

OVERVIEW

4.8 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance in Colombia, including 1.3 million affected by natural disasters, 1.3 million people in areas with access constraints, 900,000 IDPs, and 1.1 million people in host communities (OCHA, 01/05/2015).

Five decades of armed violence coupled with the country’s frequent natural disasters have had serious humanitarian consequences. Forced displacement and landmine contamination are among the major concerns. For rural communities, movement restrictions by armed groups limit access to basic health services, crops and labour markets, especially in the country’s Pacific region.

Politics and Security

Colombia’s armed conflict has spanned five decades, pitting the central government
against armed groups such as the Armed Revolutionary Forces of Colombia – People’s Army (FARC-EP) and the National Liberation Army (ELN).


The intensity of the armed conflict has decreased substantially since peace negotiations began in 2012. Nonetheless, violence and insecurity persist, including kidnappings and extortion by various armed groups.

Since the start of the FARC-EP’s unilateral ceasefire on 20 July and the government suspension of air raids thereafter, military activity between the two parties has almost completely ceased, and is at its lowest since the 1970s (Colombia Reports, 21/08/2015). The ceasefire was set to last four months (Colombia Reports, 20/07/2015; 13/07/2015). On 20 August, FARC-EP announced the ceasefire would be extended; the length of the extension is not known (AFP, 20/08/2015).

The ELN has been involved in informal peace talks with the Government since June 2014, and in late August 2015 the parties are reportedly close to reaching an agreement on beginning formal talks (Colombia Reports, 25/08/2015).

On 21 August, Venezuela closed its border to Colombia indefinitely after an attack at the border injured four Venezuelan border guards (AFP, 22/08/2015).

Stakeholders

FARC-EP: The Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia – People’s Army (FARC-EP) is the oldest left-wing militant group in Colombia. It was formed in 1964 by the Colombian Communist Party, as fighting between the liberal and conservative parties led to rural unrest. Approximately 7,000 fighters make up the FARC-EP today, which allegedly makes USD 500–600 million profit from the illicit drug trade (UNRIC 2013; BBC 29/08/2013). FARC-EP has been active throughout the country, but especially in Arauca, Meta, Norte de Santander, Cauca, and Antioquia.

ELN: The National Liberation Army is a left-wing militant group formed in 1965 and composed of an estimated 2,000 fighters. On 7 January, it stated that it intended to join the peace talks and would consider disarmament (AFP, 07/01/2015; BBC, 07/01/2015). The ELN has been active in Arauca, Norte de Santander, Nariño and Cauca Departments (Kienyke, 2013).

Government forces: The Government of Colombia’s strategies to combat non-state armed groups have been closely linked to eliminating the cultivation of illicit crops in the country, which finance the armed groups.

BACRIM and post-demobilised armed groups: Criminal gangs (bandas criminales) under the names Black Eagles, and Erpac, among others, are generally made up of former paramilitary fighters and another former armed group, the United Armed Forces of Colombia (AUC). They are involved in drug trafficking and extortion throughout the country and in Venezuela and Panama. These groups are particularly active in Antioquia department, as well as the Pacific and Caribbean regions (BBC 29/08/2013).

Conflict Developments

FARC-EP has allegedly violated the ceasefire on three occasions since 20 July, and the group has admitted to the killing of a community leader in Nariño in early August (Colombia Reports, 24/08/2015). FARC-EP has claimed that the military has carried out airstrikes, however this has not been verified by observers (Colombia Reports, 17/08/2015).

The military has since the FARC-EP ceasefire began reportedly mainly focused on other armed groups, including EPL in the northeast, and the Urabeños (Colombia Reports, 21/08/2015).

Natural Disasters

In the first six months of 2015, more than 319,000 people were affected by disasters caused by natural hazards (OCHA, 03/08/2015).

Floods

The El Niño phenomenon is considered the strongest in 18 years and due to last through December, resulting in an increase in rainfall and flooding throughout Colombia (ECHO, 08/08/2015). In early August, heavy rainfall damaged over 1,000 houses, public offices, and some schools in Puerto Boyacá, Department of Antioquia, and affected around 6,000 people (OCHA, 03/08/2015; RedHum, 01/08/2015).

Displacement

IDPs

224,300 IDPs were displaced in 2014; 79,989 were under 18 years of age. 39% of the IDP caseload between 2012 and June 2014 was concentrated in the Pacific region (OCHA, 01/05/2015; OCHA, 20/01/2015). Estimates indicate that around 190,000 people will be displaced in 2015 (OCHA, 03/08/2015).

Antioquia: Between 5 and 13 August, 460 people of the Embera Eyabida indigenous groups were displaced in Chigorodó, due to fear of clashes between security forces and the armed group Urabeños (OCHA, 13/08/2015). 380 people belonging to the Embera Eyabida indigenous groups were previously displaced in Urrao due to fear of FARC-EP and
military clashes (OCHA, 10/07/2015).

**Cauca:** Five attacks since 12 July have displaced 66 people and restricted the movement of 160 in Argelia (OCHA, 14/07/2015). 521 Afro-Colombian families in Guapi have restricted movements and daily activities due to fear of military operations against FARC-EP (OCHA, 05/06/2015).

**Nariño:** 233 people in La Esperanza, a rural zone in Cumbitara, were displaced due to armed attacks by FARC-EP on 18 June. The population intends to return if explosives are cleared from the territory (OCHA, 23/06/2015).

**Norte de Santander:** At least 300 people have been displaced in Catatumbo in late August, following military operations against the leader of a drug trafficking group (Colombia Reports, 21/08/2015). During the first six months of 2015, 2,186 people in Catatumbo region became displaced due to insecurity (OCHA, 16/08/2015).

**Valle del Cauca:** Over 10–17 June, 142 Wounaan were displaced from Papayo-Litoral de San Juan to Buenaventura. 515 of the indigenous group have been displaced in Buenaventura since 2014. They live in inadequate housing, lack NFIs, and have limited access to food (OCHA, 21/07/2015).

**Returnees**

As of 25 August, more than 1,000 Colombians, including 241 children, have been repatriated from Venezuela following closure of the Venezuelan border on 21 August (OCHA, 25/08/2015; BBC, 25/08/2015). An additional 2,000 Colombians are also believed to have returned to Colombia during the same period (OCHA, 25/08/2015). A government shelter in the Colombian border city of Cúcuta is reportedly overwhelmed by the influx of new arrivals (AP, 26/08/2015). Food, water and NFIs, including hygiene kits, clothes, tents, and blankets, are reported as immediate needs (OCHA, 23/08/2015).

**Colombian Refugees in Neighbouring Countries**

360,000 Colombians have sought refuge in neighbouring countries (Colombia Reports, 22/06/2015). Costa Rica: 16,620 refugees and 210 asylum seekers; Panama: 15,550 refugees and 800 asylum seekers; Venezuela: 5,000 refugees, 168,500 unregistered refugees and 250 asylum seekers; and Ecuador 121,320 refugees and 11,580 asylum seekers. 800–900 Colombians arrive in Ecuador each month (UNHCR, 30/06/2015).

Most refugees come from Norte de Santander, Chocó, Valle del Cauca, Cauca, and Nariño (UNHCR, 30/06/2015).

**Humanitarian Access**

Between January and June 2015, conflicts, natural disasters, and mass protests restricted humanitarian access for around 2 million people (OCHA, 03/08/2015).

**On 21 August, Venezuela closed its border to Colombia indefinitely after an attack at the border injured four Venezuelan guards (AFP, 22/08/2015).**

**Food Security and Livelihoods**

1.2 million people are food insecure, due to in part to low food production, poverty, and internal displacement (OCHA, 20/01/2015). 557,000 require food assistance. Indigenous communities in Nariño are among the most affected (OCHA, 20/01/2015).

**Health**

Only 30% of the population living in areas affected by armed conflict have access to healthcare (OCHA, 20/01/2015).

**WASH**

1.1 million people are in need of WASH (OCHA, 20/01/2015).

**Water**

Only 35.5% of the population consumes safe drinking water, with only 15% of rural areas consuming treated water (OCHA, 20/01/2015).

Attacks on the oil industry in Putumayo department in 2014 are still affecting nearby communities, who have little access to water. Some oil companies are providing families with 20–40L of water per week, which is below standards (OCHA, 23/04/2015).

**Shelter and NFIs**

916,000 people need shelter (OCHA, 20/01/2015). Many of those displaced by armed conflict come from rural areas and have difficulty re-obtaining rights to their homes when they return. A legal process is in place in the departments of Atlantico and Magdalena in northern Colombia, though some claimants have received threats from paramilitary groups (Amnesty, 23/01/2015).

**Education**

370 students have not been able to attend school due to mobility restrictions in Teorama, Norte de Santander (OCHA, 18/07/2015).

**Protection**

Torture and ill-treatment in various forms are reportedly common in Colombia, and measures for protection and compensation are either very limited or ineffective. As of June 2015, 72,544 people have been reported missing (Red Cross, 04/06/2015).
Mines and ERW

Over November 2012–March 2015, there were 789 victims of anti-personnel mines and unexploded ordnance, an average of 27 people per month (OCHA, 17/05/2015). In March, the Colombian Government and FARC-EP agreed to remove landmines and explosives, aiming to complete demining by 2025 (Reuters, 09/03/2015).

There have been frequent reports of landmine explosions involving both civilians and security personnel in Cauca and Caqueta (BBC, 17/06/2015; Government, 03/06/2015).

Gender

52% of displaced women have suffered some type of sexual violence after displacement, according to a study by OHCHR. Women in the Pacific region are particularly affected (NRC, 09/2014).

Children

There are approximately 2,000 underage fighters in FARC (Reuters, 15/04/2015). By 2014, reports showed that 76% of children fighting with FARC-EP and 18% with ELN had been reintegrated into society (UNICEF, 2014).

Vulnerable Groups

Afro-Colombians and indigenous peoples are highly vulnerable groups, as they are minorities and generally live in areas more likely to be cut off by conflict (NRC, 09/2014).

In 2014, there were 626 registered attacks against human rights defenders, a 147% increase compared to 2013. 73% of attacks were carried out by post-demobilised armed groups (OCHA, 28/02/2015).

Updated: 26/08/2015
Introduction to the Global Emergency Overview

The Global Emergency Overview (GEO) is a weekly update that provides a snapshot of current humanitarian priorities and recent events. Its primary objective is to rapidly inform humanitarian decision makers by presenting a summary of major humanitarian crises, both recent and protracted. It collates information from a wide range of sources, including Reliefweb and media, and displays this information to enable quick comparison of different humanitarian crises. 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? (Snapshot and Latest Developments)
3. What is the situation in the country affected by a crisis? (Latest Developments and Narrative)
4. Which countries could be prioritised in terms of humanitarian response? (Prioritisation)

The world map and the table provide an overview of how the countries are prioritised. The countries are subdivided by four priority levels: “watch list”, “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 under-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 ongoing crisis, a country is highlighted by a yellow dot on the map.

The snapshot briefly describes major events in the seven days to the date of publication.

Narratives for each country in the GEO reflect major developments and underlying vulnerabilities of the country over recent months. They are based on secondary data. The latest developments for each country cover the incidents over the past seven days, and key concerns highlight humanitarian priorities.

More information on the Global Emergency Overview Methodology can be found in the Global Overview Methodology Brief and the Frequently Asked Questions.

The Global Emergency Overview is a mobile application.

To download the mobile application for Android phones click here.


To download the mobile application for iOS phones click here.


Updates

The Global Emergency Overview prioritisation will be updated once a week and the results will be available every Tuesday. In case of major new humanitarian events or an escalation of an ongoing crisis which triggers a change of prioritisation, the Global Overview will be updated on an ad hoc basis.

Disclaimer

While ACAPS has defined a methodology striving to ensure accuracy, the information provided is indicative and should not be used in isolation from alternative sources of information for any decision making. ACAPS is not responsible for any damage or loss resulting from the use of the information presented on this website.