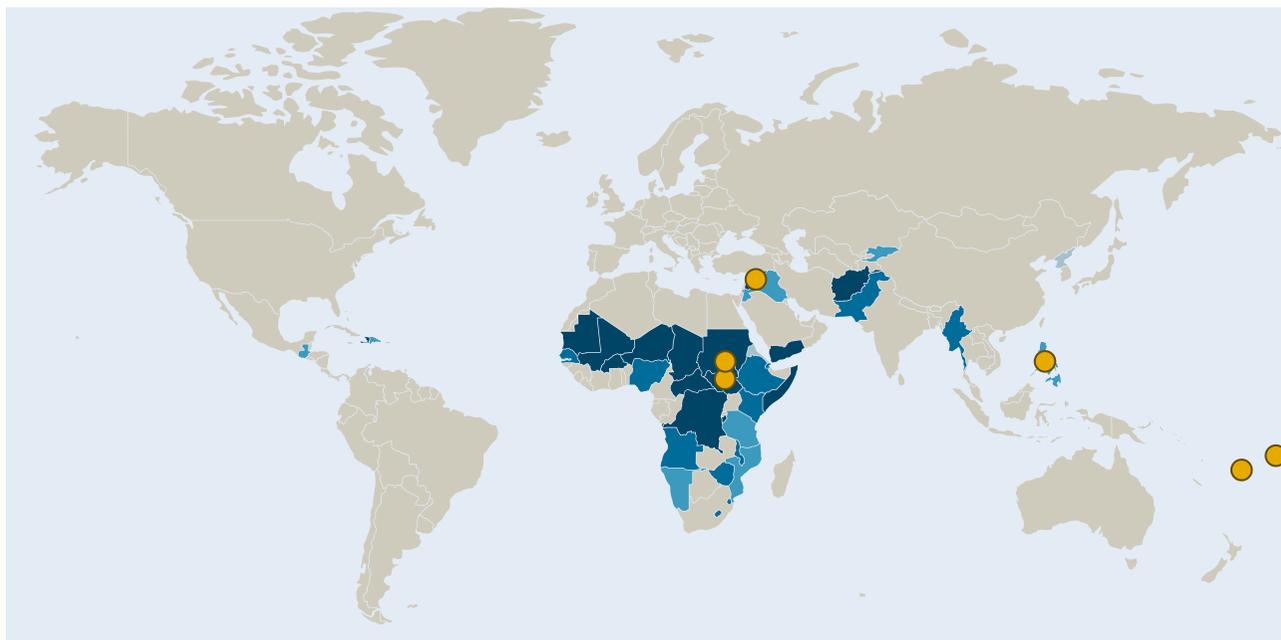




GLOBAL OVERVIEW

December 2012



Snapshot 10-17 December

Tropical cyclone Evan hit **Samoa and Fiji** on 13 and 16 December. As a category 4 storm, Evan caused significant damage to homes and infrastructure on both islands. 3,500 people were evacuated to emergency shelters in Fiji. In Samoa 1,500 were evacuated and 2 killed. Typhoon Bopha (Pablo) made landfall in the southern **Philippines** on 4 December, carrying winds of up to 160 kilometres an hour. More than 6.2 million people have been affected in nine provinces, according to Government estimates. The situation in **Syria** continues to deteriorate, with heavy fighting southwest of Damascus and in the Yarmouk district of Damascus, which hosts more than 112,000 Palestinian refugees, following a major operation launched by the Government to prevent rebels from advancing on the capital. The security situation in **South Sudan** was tense in Western Bahr al Ghazal, Northern Bahr al Ghazal and Jonglei States due to the eruption of localised violence and clashes of the South Sudanese army and armed groups. In West Darfur, **Sudan**, the Ministry of Health announced the outbreak of Hepatitis D in addition to a yellow fever outbreak which has caused 788 suspected cases and 166 deaths in Darfur since 29 October.

Updated: 17/12/2012, Next update: 03/01/2013

Severe humanitarian crisis

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

Humanitarian crisis

Angola	Nigeria
Djibouti	oPt
Ethiopia	Pakistan
Kenya	Senegal
Lesotho	Swaziland
Malawi	Zimbabwe
Myanmar	

Situation of concern

Dominican Republic	Mozambique
Guatemala	Namibia
Iraq	● Philippines
Jordan	Tanzania
Kyrgyzstan	

Watch list

DPRK	● Fiji
Eritrea	● Samoa



AFRICA

BURKINA FASO FOOD INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT

According to FAO, 2.85 million people were affected by food insecurity in Burkina Faso in 2012. Prolonged drought, high food prices, displacement and chronic poverty are the main causes for this crisis. Despite sufficient rainfall since July, household food security is expected to remain fragile in 2013.

In October, the price of millet, the staple food of the most vulnerable households, was 67% and the price of Sorghum 45% higher compared to the previous year. According to UNICEF, Burkina Faso has an estimated caseload of 100,000 children <5 with severe acute malnutrition in 2012. In October 2012, 77 cases of cholera and 4 deaths were reported in Dori district.

The country has additionally been affected by the insecurity and ensuing displacement in Mali. By 1 December, around 37,000 refugees were registered with UNHCR in Burkina Faso. The refugees are residing at seven official sites (Mentao, Damba, Fereiro, Goudebo, Gandafabou, Bobo Dioulasso, Ouagadougou) which are recognized as refugee camps by the Government of Burkina Faso. There are also several spontaneously settled sites.

Updated: 17/12/2012

BURUNDI FOOD INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT

In Burundi, an estimated 1.5 million people face food insecurity, of which 200,000 at a crisis level (IPC Phase 3), as a result of two consecutive poor harvests caused by erratic and below average rain fall. The recent drought is exacerbated by an already weakened purchasing power for many households due to high prices of staple foods. The on-going lean season (October to December) has increased food insecurity among poorer households. The fragile peace, following a 12 year civil war that ended in 2005, is being threatened by repression of political opposition and retaliatory attacks by anti-Government groups. However, overall violence has reportedly declined in recent months.

The country, which is already hosting more than 50,000 refugees from DRC, is currently experiencing an increased influx from refugees fleeing the violence in North and South Kivu, straining the capacity of the existing refugee camps in Bwagiriza, Musasa and

Gasorwe. In August, the Tanzanian Government declared that Burundians in Tanzania are no longer considered refugees and are required to leave the country before the end of the year. Between 31 October and 8 December more than 31,000 former Burundian refugees have returned. More than 1,500 people return daily. 60% of the returnees are children. The main areas of return are Nyanza-Lac, Giharo, Rumonge and Kayogoro.

Burundi suffered a cholera outbreak on 3 October, affecting 6 provinces. As of 28 November there were 27 new cholera cases reported, the majority of them in Makamba Province. The number of people affected has been especially high in those areas that are receiving returnees, particularly Nyanza-Lac and Makamba districts.

Updated: 17/12/2012

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC FOOD INSECURITY, INSECURITY

On 10 December heavy fighting broke out between the Union of Democratic Forces for Unity (UFDR) and forces of the Central African Republic in the key northern city of Ndele, leaving at least four dead and 22 Government troops captured by rebels as well as forcing several hundred people to flee. According to ICRC, around 300 people took shelter near a camp set up by a CAR peace mission and were receiving aid. Ndele, a town with nearly 20,000 inhabitants close to the Chadian border, lying on busy trade routes linking Sudan and Cameroon, has been at the heart of clashes between different rebel groups and the army between 2007 and 2010.

The Central African Republic continues to face a severe and protracted humanitarian crisis. In December, OCHA reports that an estimated 664,000 people are in need of humanitarian assistance, primarily in Vakaga, Haut-Mbomou, Nana-Gribizi and Mbomou. In 9 out of 16 prefectures, the prevalence of severe acute malnutrition in children <5 is above the emergency threshold of 2%. MSF reports that CAR has the highest HIV prevalence in Central Africa, with malaria and tuberculosis among the main causes of death. Crisis levels of food insecurity (IPC phase 3) persist in 6 prefectures in the south and east of the country. There is no recently updated data available on the number of people food insecure.

According to OCHA, around 99,000 Central Africans are displaced within the country, including 47,000 returnees and 27,000 due to recent activities of the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA). The overall security situation improved in 2012, following cease-fire agreements between the Government and two main rebel groups, as well as amongst different rebel groups. However, in the north centre the security situation has deteriorated (due to a military operation from the Chadian and Central African army against the rebel group Front Populaire pour le Redressement) and south east (due to attacks from the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA)).

Updated: 17/12/2012

CHAD FLOODS, FOOD INSECURITY

Two years of continued climatic shocks, including erratic rainfall in 2011, have caused significant food security concerns in 2012, with an estimated 3.6 million people food

insecure. The nutritional situation in Chad's Sahel belt is at critical levels with a Global Acute Malnutrition rate surpassing the emergency threshold of 15% in 9 out of 22 regions according to OCHA. The areas most affected are Batha (25% GAM), Wadi Fira (22%), Salamat (22%), Beg (21%), and Kanem (21%).

A pre-assessment of the 2012-2013 agricultural season indicates a 124% increase in grain production compared to 2011 due to favourable rains. Nevertheless, structurally deficient regions will continue to face a shortage of grain. In addition, southern Chad suffered from significant crop losses due to major flooding.

The heavy rains in early August, flooded at least 16 of the country's 22 regions and 700,000 people were still affected by the end of October. The floods further increase the risk of a locust infestation, which could negatively impact the upcoming harvest. The rainy season severely hampers humanitarian access.

Updated: 17/12/2012

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO **CONFLICT, FOOD INSECURITY**

After capturing the regional capital of Goma on 20 November, the M23 rebel movement withdrew from frontline positions around Goma on 1 December, as agreed under a regionally brokered deal. However the situation in Goma remains calm but tense. M23 fighters, who were to retreat to some 20 km outside of the city, are still maintaining positions close to Goma.

Peace talks between Congolese rebels and the Kinshasa Government on 10 December faltered after rebels shunned meetings over officials' outrage at their accusations. Both sides, however, remain committed to the negotiations, aimed to end the crisis. The Democratic Republic of Congo's M23 rebels returned to peace talks with the Government on 11 December, saying they were ready to push on with negotiations a day after staging a boycott.

Estimates indicate that 130,000 persons are displaced in and around Goma. A main electricity line was cut during the fighting, leaving large areas of Goma without power or piped water. With 70% of the rural population without access to drinking water, there is a high risk of cholera. Cholera was already present in Kanyaruchinya camp (53 cases in week 45), and Goma town (22 cases in week 45).

The clashes that led to Goma's take-over and its consequences, such as the break-out of over 1,000 prisoners and an accrued circulation of weapons, have created a climate of insecurity that is affecting thousands of displaced people and delaying the return to normal life. An estimated 914,000 people are currently internally displaced in North Kivu, according to the latest figures from the committee in charge of IDP statistics. The new number represents an 8% increase from the figures of 841,000 IDPs at the end of October. Of the 914,000, some 500,000 have been displaced since the FARDC-M23 crisis started in April 2012. So far, about 27,000 people have returned to their homes.

Since March 2012, the eastern region has seen an upsurge in violence, involving more than 30 different armed groups. Human rights violations by rebel groups have been reported and sexual violence is increasing as armed groups continue to move across the

area. According to UNICEF, as of November, more than 2.4 million people have been displaced as a result of fighting between the Congolese army and various rebel groups. This includes 1.6 million people in North and South Kivu provinces. An estimated 450,000 Congolese refugees are residing in neighbouring countries, including more than 40,000 people who fled to Uganda and 15,000 to Rwanda since April.

In addition, the country continues to be affected by food insecurity and disease outbreaks. The humanitarian situation is deteriorating and IPC reports that 6.3 million people are in urgent need of food assistance. The west of DRC, although relatively stable compared to the east, faces chronic food insecurity due isolation, the lack of social infrastructure and effects of several aggravating economic shocks. The Ministry of Health reported on 26 November that an Ebola outbreak, which claimed 34 lives, has ended.

Humanitarian access has been limited due to mountainous and volcanic terrain, coupled with widespread and shifting insecurity. Tensions between the local population and international aid workers have escalated in both North and South Kivu, with more than 170 security incidents targeting aid workers reported since the beginning of the year. In addition, a shortage of petrol and logistical challenges due to the closure of Goma airport are hindering operations in eastern Congo. However, since the lull in fighting, humanitarian access has improved, allowing aid organizations to substantially increase its interventions. Cargos of food and non-food items are being airlifted to the area.

Updated: 17/12/2012

MALI **CONFLICT, FLOODS, FOOD INSECURITY**

On 11 December Mali's Prime Minister Cheick Modibo Diarra was arrested and resigned under pressure from the country's ex-military junta. Mali's new Prime Minister Diango Cissoko formed a new Government on 15 December.

The conflict in the north and a nationwide food crisis continue to affect Mali. According to OCHA, a total of 4.3 million people are affected in the country. This includes two million people who are at risk of food insecurity caused by below-average food production due to drought, a steep increase in food prices, flooding and insecurity. Market prices are down from last month by an average of five to 15%, though still higher than 50% above the five-year average.

After Tuareg-led rebels launched a bid to create an independent state in January 2012, fighting for control of northern Mali continues between various armed factions. The insecurity in the north has led to large scale displacement. According to the Commission on Population Movement in Mali, at least 204,000 people are currently internally displaced. In addition, UNHCR reports that as of 1 December more than 155,000 people have fled to neighbouring countries (around 54,000 in Mauritania, 65,000 in Niger and 38,000 refugees in Burkina Faso). On Sunday 11 November, ECOWAS committed to sending 3,300 troops to the northern area of Mali to support the Government. It is, however, unlikely that any international military intervention will take place before mid-2013.

Humanitarian access is limited in the northern provinces of Gao, Kidal and Tombouctou due to insecurity and restrictions posed on operations by armed groups. However, on 6 November, the militant group Ansar Dine announced free passage to anyone in its territory

wanting to deliver humanitarian aid. Kidnappings for ransom continue; a French citizen was kidnapped on 21 November, in south west Mali, in an area previously considered safe.

Updated: 17/12/2012

MAURITANIA FOOD INSECURITY

WFP reports that about 800,000 people, almost one fourth of the households in rural areas, and 200,000 in urban areas, have been affected by food insecurity as a result of last year's drop in cereal production and require urgent food and nutrition assistance. Global Acute Malnutrition rates for children <5 years stand at 12%.

Food insecurity and malnutrition is chronic in Mauritania: the Global Acute Malnutrition rate for children <5 has been around 12% since 2008.

The highest malnutrition rates have been recorded in Hodh Ech Chargui (16% GAM), Guidimaka, Gorgol and Assaba regions in the south-east of the country. Hodh Ech Chargui further hosts around 54,000 Malian refugees fleeing armed conflict in northern Mali as of 1 December. The current number of Malian refugees in the camp represents a 50% decrease of compared to previous figures of an estimated 109,000 persons due to adjusted estimates obtained through Level 1 Registration.

In addition an outbreak of Rift Valley Fever (RVF) has been reported. A total of 34 cases, including 17 deaths have been reported from 6 regions as of 30 October. The 6 regions include Assaba, Brakna, Hodh Chargui, Hodh Gharbi, Tagant and Trarza.

Updated: 17/12/2012

NIGER FLOODS, FOOD INSECURITY, EPIDEMIC, DISPLACEMENT

Niger is coping with four simultaneous disasters: the Sahel food crisis, the Malian refugee crisis, flooding and a cholera outbreak. Since November renewed flooding threatens Niger's capital Niamey and parts of the west of the country. Water has already begun to swamp some low-lying parts of Niamey. The Niamey-based Niger Basin Authority warned that floods could be exceptional because of heavy rain late in the year. Since mid-July more than 520,000 people have been displaced by flooding. The regions of Tillaberi and Dosso have been most severely affected. A surge in malaria and cholera cases was reported in most of the affected areas. As of 24 October, the number of cholera cases had risen to 4,972, including 103 deaths. Floods rendered refugee camps inaccessible in Tillaberi, an area which hosts an estimated 36,000 Malian refugees.

According to OCHA 5.5 million people (38% of the population) are affected by food insecurity, due to consecutive poor harvests, drought and rising food prices. In September, prices for local Sorghum were 43% higher compared to the previous year.

The situation is compounded by the arrival of around 65,000 Malian refugees since January 2012, who have settled in the regions hardest hit by the nutrition and food security crisis. Between September and November 3,853 new refugees arrived in Niger.

Updated: 17/12/2012

SOMALIA CONFLICT, FOOD INSECURITY

OCHA reports that an estimated 3.8 million people in Somalia are in need of life-saving assistance. Although no longer classified as a famine situation, an estimated 2.12 million people will remain in Stressed (IPC Phase 2) and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) levels of food insecurity up until December 2012. While conditions have improved considerably compared to 2011, 236,000 children <5 remain severely malnourished. The epicentre of the crisis remains in the south, largely due to the long-term effects of drought and famine, and the short-term effects of this year's poor *Gu* rainy season. Food security and nutrition is expected to improve as food prices remain stable in most markets across the country, however, great differences exist between different livelihood zones.

Conflict is still widespread in Somalia. Military operations by Somali forces, supported by African Union peacekeepers, against militants forced a large number of al-Shabaab rebels out of the southern and central strongholds. More than 400 Somali militants have reportedly moved north into the semi-autonomous region of Puntland and attacked a military base on 5 December. As a result of the food crisis and conflict, more than 1.1 million people are currently internally displaced.

In addition, at the end of November, localised flooding affected more than 120,000 people in areas of northern and southern Somalia

Humanitarian access remains highly restricted in south and central Somalia due to insecurity.

Updated: 17/12/2012

SOUTH SUDAN CONFLICT, FLOODS, FOOD INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT

In the past week South Sudan the security situation in South Sudan was tense in Western Bahr al Ghazal, Northern Bahr al Ghazal and Jonglei States due to the eruption of localised violence and clashes of the South Sudanese army and armed groups. In Wau, Western Bahr el Ghazal State protests by youths on 8 and 9 December led to clashes between the South Sudan army and the protesters, sparked by plans to move the administrative headquarters from Wau to Baggari payam.

South Sudan continues to face a severe food security crisis, flooding and an influx of Sudanese refugees. According to OCHA, an estimated 2.3 million people require food assistance. Food insecurity is caused by a series of factors including diminished cross border trade with the Sudan, inter-communal clashes, increasing number of IDPs, returnees and refugees, fuel scarcity and high food prices. Inflation rates nearly doubled in the past month, according to figures from the South Sudan Bureau of Statistics. The data shows that inflation shot up from 22% in October to 41% in November. On a national level, the cost of food and non-alcoholic beverages rose by 43% compared to last year.

The influx of Sudanese refugees from North Kordofan and Blue Nile state continues, with over 214,000 Sudanese refugees currently present in South Sudan, primarily in Upper Nile and Unity state. About 68,000 Sudanese are now located in Yida, South Sudan's largest refugee settlement. A further increase of refugee arrivals between now and January is

anticipated due to the onset of the dry season and resumption of military activities in South Kordofan. UNHCR estimates that another 30,000 to 40,000 Sudanese refugees could arrive before the end of the year. In addition, by 22 November more than 125,000 South Sudanese had returned from Sudan this year.

Over 313,000 people in 44 of the country's 79 counties were affected by floods this rainy season, between June and November. The rains hit heavier than in 2011, with more than three times the number of people impacted. Jonglei was the worst affected state where floods displaced over 220,000 people, destroyed crops, houses and basic infrastructure, including roads. People were affected since the rains began in June.

The seasonal flooding, which affected six states, is expected to significantly impact the performance of crops and livestock. In addition, since late August, there has been an intensification of hostilities between the South Sudan Army and non-state armed actors in Jonglei. During 2012, about 170,000 people have been internally displaced due to inter-communal fighting and insecurity. Insecurity, poor infrastructure and seasonal rains severely hamper humanitarian access nationwide.

Updated: 17/12/2012

SUDAN CONFLICT, FOOD INSECURITY, EPIDEMIC

On 29 October 2012, Sudan's Federal Ministry of Health declared a yellow fever outbreak in seven localities in Central and South Darfur. According to WHO, this outbreak is Africa's worst in decades, with 788 suspected cases, including 166 deaths and a case fatality rate of 21% reported by 10 December. An emergency mass vaccination campaign targeting 3.4 million people is currently being implemented. The majority of cases are reported from Central Darfur, North Darfur and West Darfur.

In addition, on 12 December the Ministry of Health of West Darfur announced the outbreak of Hepatitis D in the state, with patients come from the gold mining area of Jebel 'Amer, in North Darfur.

In the meantime, Sudan faces widespread food insecurity and multiple conflicts. As of October 2012, an estimated 3.2 to 3.5 million people in Sudan face Stressed and Crisis (IPC Phase 2 and 3) levels of acute food insecurity, a 30–35% reduction compared to 4.6 million people in July 2012. FEWSNET reported that 200,000-250,000 people in areas of southern Blue Nile and South Kordofan are facing crisis and emergency levels of food insecurity due to severe insecurity. Food security assessments conducted in Sudan People Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-N) controlled areas by local humanitarian actors in November indicate poor harvests and worsening food security in those areas. Food insecurity will remain in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) levels in conflict-affected areas in North Darfur through at least March 2013.

Since 10 December nationwide violent protests erupted in Khartoum after the death of four students originally from the conflict-plagued Darfur region. The deaths, following a crackdown on a tuition protest at Gezira University south of Khartoum, have sparked the largest outpouring of Arab Spring-style discontent since anti-regime protests in June and July.

Fighting between Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) and SPLM-N forces in parts of Blue Nile and South Kordofan states have affected an estimated 908,000 people. 13,500 have fled the violence in the two states in the last weeks. There is no humanitarian access to 420,000 people affected in rebel held areas in South Kordofan and Blue Nile state and on 8 November, the Sudanese Government stated that it will not extend a three month deal to access civilians in these rebel held areas. Fighting in South Kordofan has escalated in recent months with the insurgents managing to shell Kadugli a number of times. It is reported that the Sudanese army is dispatching heavy reinforcement into the area in order to defeat the rebellion and increase security in the border region.

Sudanese Government forces appear increasingly incapable of defeating the rebellion of the SPLA/M-N despite Khartoum's assertions to the contrary.

In Darfur, new civilian displacements have been reported following inter-tribal clashes. At the end of November, a wave of displacement was reported in Dar es Salam locality, where an unknown number of people have fled inter-tribal fighting. On 7 December, a former Darfur rebel group, the Liberation and Justice Movement (LJM), threatened to withdraw commitment to the peace deal it signed with the Sudanese Government in 2011 over an assault against its troops this week. Although violence in Darfur is down from its peak, clashes amongst rebels and between rebels and Government continue.

Updated: 17/12/2012

ANGOLA FOOD INSECURITY

At the beginning of November, OCHA reported that more than 1.8 million people in Angola have been affected by a food security crisis. The primary cause of the crisis is the poor agricultural production in 2012, limiting the availability of food from own production. The worst affected provinces are Bengo, Kwanza Sul, Benguela, Huila, Namibe, Cunene, Moxico, Bie, Huambo and Zaire. In addition, an estimated 533,000 children suffer varying levels of malnutrition. At the same time, the country is still recovering from decades of civil war which lasted until 2002.

Updated: 17/12/2012

DJIBOUTI FOOD INSECURITY

Several consecutive years of drought have led to a critical food security situation in Djibouti. Currently, around 70,000 vulnerable populations in rural areas are currently at Stressed (IPC Phase 2) and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) levels of food insecurity.

Conditions for urban poor households are expected to remain critical during the coming months due to on-going increases in food prices. High unemployment rates (48%) and high staple prices are causing urban to peri-urban migration to areas such as Balbala. In Ali Sabieh (Assamo region), resident populations are expected to continue experiencing crisis levels of food insecurity (IPC Phase 3) through at least December.

Successive years of poor rains have also eroded the coping mechanisms of pastoralists in Djibouti's rural regions, even as high food prices and unemployment rates afflict the

country's urban areas.

The continued influx of refugees from Somalia is leading to an increase of humanitarian needs in both rural and urban areas. As of 14 December there were more than 18,000 Somali refugees in Djibouti.

Updated: 17/12/2012

ETHIOPIA FOOD INSECURITY

The Ethiopian Government announced that, as of 30 October, 3.8 million of its citizens will require humanitarian assistance, up from 3.2 million in January. From January to March 2013, significant increases in grain prices are expected, which will reduce the purchasing power of the market-dependent poor and the very poor. In the meantime, the UN expects an overall improvement of the food security situation across the country between October and December 2012 as the 'meher' harvest replenishes household stocks and causes a seasonal decline in food prices expected to last until January.

However, reduced yields are likely in most lowland areas of East and West Harerge (up to 25%) and some parts of West Shewa zones (Oromia Region), parts of eastern Tigray and the lowlands of eastern Amhara due to early withdrawal of the kiremt rains, reduced land planted with meher crops, and localized hailstorms, flash floods and pest infestations.

Ethiopia continues to receive Somali refugees and by December 2012, the Dolo Ado settlements are hosting more than 174,000 of the 220,000 Somali refugees fleeing drought and conflict. A surge in new arrivals was reported in late November: between 26 and 30 November, 2,113 Somali refugees crossed into Ethiopia. This is a significant increase compared to the 763 new arrivals recorded during the previous week. Overall, November saw 3,652 new arrivals compared to 770 in October.

Updated: 17/12/2012

KENYA FOOD INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT, INSECURITY

Continued violent attacks on security agents and civilians highlight Kenya's fragility in the run-up to the March 2013 general elections. Some of the worst-affected areas are North Eastern, Rift Valley, Coast and Nairobi provinces where cattle rustling is common and competition over scarce resources is high. The formation of a new tribe-based alliance signals a likely increase in flashpoints for conflict. So far this year, over 400 people have been killed, 250 injured and 112,000 displaced as a result of isolated incidents of inter-communal, resource-based conflict in Kenya.

In the latest eruption of violence grenade attacks in Nairobi's Eastleigh neighbourhood killed nine people on 5 and 7 December. Kenya's Government has blamed Al-Shabab militants for a series of explosions and kidnappings on its territory in response to Kenya's deployment of troops to Somalia supporting the UN-backed Government.

Over 11,000 were displaced following a sharp deterioration of the security situation in Baragoi area in Samburu district. The Government ordered the deployment of Kenyan military to support the police's rapid response unit in response to a deadly attack on 42

police officers. This has triggered population displacement in fear of the planned disarmament exercise. Many of the internally displaced pastoralists from Baragoi, already vulnerable due to drought, fled with few possessions. Many, who were stranded in Samburu district and elsewhere, largely lack assistance.

At the beginning of October, FAO estimated the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance at about 2.1 million. This is 43% less than in August 2012, following the start of the harvest. However, high maize prices in some areas in the north and south east continue to make food access difficult and contributed to Crisis (IPC Phase 3) levels of food insecurity. Conflict affected regions of Mandera, Tana River, and Wajir Districts are currently classified in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) due to displacement and asset losses. Malnutrition rates have significantly improved compared to 2011 drought levels. For instance, Global Acute Malnutrition rates in Turkana North in May 2012 were 15.3% compared to 37.4% in May 2011. Around 470,000 refugees in Dadaab camps, mostly from Somalia, have limited access to basic necessities such as food, shelter, water and sanitation. 5,640 refugee families in camps were affected by floods at the beginning of October.

According to FEWS-Net despite above-average rains in eastern Kenya in the past two weeks, dry conditions persist in the northern and southern regions due to an extended period of dryness at the end of November and beginning of December. Unlike dry areas in northern Kenya and southern Somalia, where seasonal rains are expected to end by the start of 2013, there is still ample time for rains to recover across southern Kenya.

Updated: 17/12/2012

LESOTHO FOOD INSECURITY

Lesotho's food security has deteriorated significantly for the second year in a row. As a result of the impact of consecutive droughts and late rains in the cropping season 2011/12, around 725,500 people are food insecure (40% of the population). Agricultural production has dropped 70%, resulting in Lesotho's worst harvest in ten years. This situation is compounded by maize prices increasing 60% since the beginning of the year. On 9 August, the Government declared a food crisis situation and called on development partners to assist. As of 8 December, only 25% of the country's Flash Appeal is funded, making it the least-well funded UN appeal in 2012.

Southern Africa is predicted to receive normal to below-normal rainfall this season, and therefore the region faces an enhanced risk for repeated episodes of poor crop performance and reduced pasture over the next 12 to 18 months, which could also impact livelihoods in Lesotho.

Lesotho's population is extremely vulnerable - the country has the world's third highest prevalence of HIV (23.5%) and 39% of children <5 are stunted. Lesotho suffers from widespread poverty with the proportion of households living below the poverty line exceeding 55%, out of which about 40% are extremely poor.

Updated: 17/12/2012

MALAWI FOOD INSECURITY

Floods and droughts have negatively impacted the food security situation of communities in Malawi. An updated analysis by the Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee in October 2012 revealed that the number of vulnerable people has increased from 1,630,000 to around 2,000,000 people, representing a 21% increase. This increase is due to previously food secure communities now becoming food insecure, primarily due to rising food prices. Maize prices in October were 60 to over 100% higher than their levels in the previous year. The national inflation rate continued to rise in September 2012 reaching 28%, compared to 8% a year earlier, which also increased transportation costs, affecting especially the southern region. Historical seasonal trends indicate that maize prices are expected to continue to climb until early next year, when new supplies from the 2013 harvest will supplement market stocks. The persistent high maize prices prompted the Government to maintain the maize export ban.

As many as 15 out of 28 districts are affected by the crisis, with the southern (Mulanje and Chikwawa Districts) and central parts (Balaka District) of the country most severely affected. Even before the current crisis, 40% of the population was already living below the poverty line.

Updated: 17/12/2012

NIGERIA FLOODS, INSECURITY

On 12 December 15 people were killed in a shooting between security forces and members of Boko Haram in Potiskum, northeastern Nigeria. Potiskum has increasingly become the scene of violent attacks by Boko Haram. More than 770 people have been killed in Boko Haram attacks so far this year, according to Associated Press making 2012 the worst year of violence attributed to the group. Outbreaks of violence are common in Nigeria's north and central regions, including sectarian violence and attacks by armed groups and Boko Haram. The Boko Haram conflict has intensified in urban and rural areas of Borno and Yobe states.

Over 1,000 people have been displaced in Niger State after a deadly raid, attributed to the Boko Haram, killed six people on November 30. The conflict has displaced a significant number of people, restricted population movement, disrupted food inflow and restricted agricultural activities. In the affected areas, displaced populations will be dependent on food assistance through December. Moreover, in the extreme northeast, the effects of the Boko Haram conflict will likely cause households to face stressed (IPC Phase 2) food insecurity from January to March.

As of 15 November, a total of 7.7 million people were affected in Nigeria by flooding which occurred between July and end of October. Initially, 2.1 million were officially registered across the country as IDPs. However, as flood waters have receded, the large majority of IDPs returned. Of the 2.1 million registered IDPs displaced by the floods around 387,000 IDPs were remaining in camps by 15 November.

Suspected cholera cases have been reported as the flooding increased the risk of cholera outbreaks. Access in parts of Kogi state and in downstream states remains difficult, with

sections of roads cut off and bridges destroyed.

Updated: 17/12/2012

SENEGAL FLOODS, FOOD INSECURITY

Over one million people are affected by a nutrition crisis due to the poor 2011/2012 agricultural harvest, high cereal prices and falling remittances. The lean season typically starts in July in most parts of the country, but this year it started as early as March in some areas. Despite the arrival of new crop products on the markets, availability remains low with producers and traders not supplying enough into the local markets. This has caused the local prices of cereals and legumes to jump from 13 to 20 % higher than in September 2011 and 16 to 30 % higher compared to the past five years.

Although the 2012 harvest is reported to be good, the agricultural production has been affected by the floods in August and September in the Senegal River Valley and western regions of the country. As a result, it is likely that a food crisis in 2013 will persist among many vulnerable families which have depleted their livelihoods and do not have the means to restore them.

A July SMART survey showed that GAM rates are above the 15% critical threshold in Podor, Ranerou and Kanel departments and above the 10% serious threshold in 13 of 45 departments. On 15 October, UN reported that the large majority of the 260,000 people affected by flooding in mid-August were able to return to their homes.

Updated: 17/12/2012

SWAZILAND FOOD INSECURITY

Food insecurity levels have increased in Swaziland following poor crop performance in 2011-2012. According to the 2012 vulnerability assessment, around 116,000 people are facing food deficits, compared to 89,000 in 2011, primarily due to food price increases. A fiscal crisis, caused by a reduction in Government revenues, aggravated food insecurity and led to an increase in unemployment and cuts in social services.

Updated: 17/12/2012

ZIMBABWE FOOD INSECURITY, UNREST

While the timetable for the 2013 elections remains unclear, political tensions are rising across the country and HRW has expressed concerns of a crackdown on perceived opposition activists. Sharp differences among the main parties over whether or not to invite western election observers have increased the political tensions.

Late and erratic rains, poor agricultural practices, limited access to agricultural inputs, and a reduction in planted area have all contributed to a 33% decrease in the harvest in Zimbabwe compared to 2011. In the most affected areas maize prices are reported to be between 12 and 47% higher when compared to prices in maize surplus areas.

In Zimbabwe, 3.7 million (29% of the population) are already chronically food insecure.

According to WFP, during the peak hunger period of January to March 2013, 1.7 million people are expected to be in need of food assistance. Masvingo, Matabeleland North and South, and parts of Mashonaland, Midlands and Manicaland provinces are the worst-affected areas.

The on-going drought in the southern part of the country is expected to continue into 2013 according to meteorological forecasts. Communal farmers in Zimbabwe's Matabeleland region have reported the death of thousands of livestock and wild animals due to the drought. Food insecurity in Zimbabwe in 2013 is projected to be comparably worse than any period over the past three years. Almost one in five people living in rural areas will not be able to meet their basic food requirements.

The food security crisis is exacerbated by the high HIV-prevalence rate, which is 14% compared to 5% for the rest of the southern Africa region (as % of the total population aged 15-49).

Updated: 17/12/2012

MOZAMBIQUE FOOD INSECURITY

Up to 21% cereal production losses caused by a dry spell and cyclone damage in late 2011/early 2012 have aggravated food insecurity conditions in the central and southern areas of Mozambique.

Stressed (IPC Phase 2) levels of food insecurity persists in Chicualacuala, Chigubo, Funhalouro, Panda and Machanga districts. Very poor and poor households are currently facing difficulties in accessing food through market purchases due to low and unreliable income levels. Maize prices in October were up to 53% higher compared to the previous year and in some locations abnormal spikes have been reported due to localized poor harvest.

The country already suffers from high chronic food insecurity, affecting nine million people (39% of the population). According to the 2012 vulnerability assessment in the Limpopo and Zambezi river basins, more than 255,300 persons are estimated to be food insecure in 23 districts. Of those, nearly 140,000 persons require urgent assistance to bridge their food deficits.

Updated: 17/12/2012

NAMIBIA DROUGHT, FOOD INSECURITY

Despite an above average cereal harvest, drought conditions during the 2011/12 cropping season in some northern regions have stressed food insecurity (IPC Phase 2), due to a combination of poor crop production, livestock diseases and increased food prices. The Kunene region in the north west of the country has been particularly affected. Nationwide, approximately 75,000 persons were assessed to be food insecure, though this is still significantly lower than the 243,500 estimated in 2011. One million, 34% of Namibia's population, is chronically food insecure. Recurrent droughts are common in Namibia, impacting local economy and food security. The northern regions of the country have been

historically most affected by droughts and are vulnerable due to high population density.

Updated: 17/12/2012

TANZANIA FOOD INSECURITY

OCHA reports that, due to drought conditions, more than 945,000 people are food insecure in Tanzania. Food prices have risen to record levels, after a slight reduction in August/September following the 2012 harvest of "masika" crops. The lean season started in October and cereal prices are likely to remain at high levels, further eroding households' purchasing power. Tanzania hosts more than 100,000 refugees from DRC and Burundi. Last August, the Government declared that Burundian refugees are no longer in need of international protection and will have to return to Burundi before the end of the year.

Updated: 17/12/2012

ERITREA FOOD INSECURITY

An estimated 6 million people in Eritrea are food insecure (98% of the population). Local food and fuel prices are likely to remain high, putting severe pressure on vulnerable groups' coping mechanisms. The Government of Eritrea officially denies any food shortages within its borders and refuses food aid. There is a lack of updated and reliable data on the humanitarian situation due to limited humanitarian access and a ban on humanitarian organisations assessing needs. No confirmed data on the food security situation or food price levels is available. **Therefore, Eritrea is not included within the Global Overview prioritisation.**

Updated: 17/12/2012



ASIA

AFGHANISTAN CONFLICT, FOOD INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT

More than nine million people are currently food insecure in Afghanistan, according to OCHA reports. Despite a bumper harvest in 2012, wheat prices have been increasing since June 2012. Although all areas of Afghanistan are categorised at minimal levels of food insecurity (IPC Phase 1), food security concerns remain in the extreme northeast,

central highlands and for low income households affected by the increase in prices.

In addition, 5.4 million people are affected by the on-going conflict. In the first nine months of 2012, more than 1,100 civilians were killed, of which the large majority by insurgent activities. In the month of November, 317 civilians were injured or killed in security incidents. Attacks by Taliban insurgents in Afghanistan rose by 1% during the main part of the fighting season this year as U.S. surge forces withdrew and the transition to Afghan security lead picked up pace.

As conflict and insecurity continue, the displacement crisis in Afghanistan is growing. A study by IDMC indicates that more than 166,000 internally displaced Afghans have been recorded in 2012, bringing the total number of IDPs due to conflict to at least 460,000. Most IDPs are residing in the south (137,000), followed by the west (122,000) and east (95,000). Since 2001, UNHCR has supported the return of 4.7 million Afghan refugees. However, nearly three million registered Afghan refugees are still living in exile in Pakistan and Iran.

About 300 natural disaster incidents, including floods, extreme weather and landslides, have affected over 200,000 people in the first eight months of 2012. 18% of children nationwide suffer from malnutrition while acute malnutrition rates in the south are as high as 29.5% for children <5. The humanitarian crisis will be exacerbated by the upcoming winter. During the winter of 2011/2012, a reported 214 people died due to the cold.

Humanitarian access in Afghanistan is limited, particularly in the south. Around 85,000 international troops are currently supporting the Government in its fight against the Taliban. However, all international combat troops are preparing to withdraw by the end of 2014 and more than 75% of the country will be under national security control by July 2013.

Updated: 17/12/2012

SYRIA CIVIL WAR

The intensity of the armed conflict in Syria remains at high levels, with the Government shelling rebel-held suburbs southwest of Damascus and heavy fighting reported around the international airport. Violent clashes and airstrikes continue in Homs city, Aleppo, Deir al-Zor, Deraa as well as Idlib and Hama provinces. The use of cluster munitions and incendiary bombs by the Government has been reported in Damascus, Idlib and Homs. The Syrian army reportedly lost control over large areas east of the city of Deir al-Zor, on the Iraqi border.

On 16 December heavy fighting occurred in the Yarmouk district of Damascus, which hosts more than 112,000 Palestinian refugees according to UNRWA. Syrian rebels, together with a brigade of Palestinian fighters known as Liwa al-Asifah (Storm Brigade), gained ground in Yarmouk battling a pro-Assad Palestinian faction. Syrian fighter jets reportedly fired at least two rockets at the Palestinian Yarmouk camp in Damascus. 25 people sheltering in a mosque were killed. More than 496,000 Palestinian refugees are registered in Syria.

Syrian Government defectors and opposition figures formed a body on 15 December that would step in to prevent the collapse of state institutions if President Bashar al-Assad is

overthrown. The Free National Gathering was formed largely by members and supporters of Syria's opposition coalition, which was recognised this week by 114 countries as the legitimate representative of the Syrian people.

Coping with the humanitarian situation is a challenge for humanitarian organisations, despite increasing scope of the relief interventions. OCHA reports that three million Syrians are at imminent risk of food insecurity, including 1.5 million who need food assistance over the next three to six months, however WFP reports only reaching 1.5 million in November as food insecurity continues to grow with food prices having increased in some places 300 to 500%.

The Syrian Arab Red Crescent reported on 13 November that an estimated 2.5 million people are internally displaced, thereby doubling previous estimates of 1.2 million IDPs. As of 12 December, 516,632 refugees have been registered or are awaiting registration, with around 157,000 refugees in Lebanon 137,000 in Turkey, 147,000 in Jordan and 65,000 in Iraq. These figures do not include Syrians who have not come forward for registration.

The large refugee influx risks destabilisation of host countries. Fears of regional spill over of the conflict still remain.

Updated: 17/12/2012

YEMEN CONFLICT, FOOD INSECURITY

An estimated 13 million people are affected by conflict and food insecurity according to OCHA. Violence and insecurity continues with inter-tribal fighting in the north, fighting between the Government and armed groups in the southern governorates and civil unrest in urban centres of the west and central governorates. Assassinations and attempted attacks on security officials and politicians have significantly increased in the last weeks. As a result, more than 430,000 people are currently internally displaced. In southern Yemen, an increasing number of IDPs are returning home following the re-establishing of Government authority in the province of Abyan in July. Between July and November more than 80,000 had returned and further returns are on-going.

Yemen's oil exports have been halted by repeated attacks on its pipelines, with a recent shutdown since 12 November. Al Qaeda insurgents ambushed an army patrol inspecting a pipeline in Maarib province on 8 December, killing 17 soldiers.

Approximately 970,000 people suffer from Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM). The emergency threshold for Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) of >15% is exceeded in six Governorates: Hajjah, Al-Jawf, Al Hudaydah, Taiz, Aden and Lahj. The situation is serious (10-14% of GAM) in six other Governorates (Raymah, Ibb, Abyan, Amran, Al-Mahwit, and Al Dhale'e). OCHA reports that the number of people severely food insecure is as high as 10.5 million. A collapse of public services following the civil unrest in 2011 has severely disrupted access to health services, clean water and basic sanitation. Epidemics are re-occurring, with 170 children having died from measles in 2012. In addition, the flow of refugees and migrants from the Horn of Africa has seen a 30% increase compared to last year. Information about humanitarian needs remains difficult to ascertain due to insecurity.

Updated: 17/12/2012

MYANMAR INTERNAL UNREST, FLOODS

On 7 December the Chin National Front (CNF) and a Government peace team agreed to 27 points from a 33-point plan presented by the armed group during a second round of negotiations. The armed group, CNF, has been militarily engaged with the Burmese army for more than 20 years, but signed a ceasefire agreement with the Government in January. So far, the on-going armed conflict in Kachin State, which re-ignited on June 9 last year, has left nearly 100,000 people homeless.

Despite this, fighting between Kachin rebels and the army continues. On 14 December, the Government artillery units and helicopters reportedly launched attacks in the Lajayang area nearby the rebels' headquarters. After a month of calm, the Government had sent troops to try to pressure Kachin forces by opening another frontline in Lajayang in order to reduce pressure on its troops in the Pangwa region, where fighting escalated in the past weeks leaving 20 Government soldiers killed.

In June and October 2012, Rakhine State in Myanmar experienced wide-spread inter-communal violence between predominantly Muslim and Buddhist communities. By 19 November, more than 115,000 people were still displaced across eight Rakhine townships (Kyaukpyu, Kyauktaw, Minbya, Mrauk-U, Myebon, Pauktaw, Ramree and Rathedaung). Despite the presence of soldiers and police, security across Rakhine remains tense. Access to the affected population in Rakhine state is difficult as campaigns have taken place based on claims of favouritism by international aid agencies towards the Rohingya.

The Irrawaddy Delta - where 130,000 people died due to cyclone Nargis in 2008 - has been the hardest-hit by floods occurring at the beginning of September and affecting 85,000 people. The rice harvest in 2013 is expected to be significantly affected as the rains have inundated around 250,000 hectares of crops.

Updated: 17/12/2012

OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES COMPLEX

On 29 November the General Assembly voted to grant Palestine a non-member observer State status at the United Nations, while expressing the urgent need for the resumption of negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians moving towards a permanent two-State solution.

A ceasefire between Israel and Hamas took hold on Wednesday 21 November after eight days of violence. According to OCHA, 140 Palestinians were killed and 1,202 injured since the security situation deteriorated on 14 November. Five Israeli's were killed during the violence. UNRWA reported on 20 November that there was no large scale displacement taking place in Gaza and no need for the provision of emergency humanitarian assistance. Before the start of the latest violence, 1.8 million Palestinians were in need of humanitarian assistance.

A December 2012 Food Security Assessment reports that people having lost an income source due to the conflict in November will need several months or years to replace it, and as a result may need to be supported by longer-term emergency food assistance. These

households include those who have lost productive land, crops or trees which require several years to regenerate (such as olive trees), livestock, equipment, and/or employment. Without a reliable income source to meet their food and other basic requirements, these households are currently relying on external humanitarian assistance, support from relatives and neighbours, and credit authorized by shop-keepers.

Updated: 17/12/2012

PAKISTAN CONFLICT, FLOODS

Flash floods triggered by heavy rains in September have caused destruction across Pakistan. According to the Government of Pakistan, the flooding had affected around 4.8 million people in Balochistan, Punjab and Sindh provinces as of 10 December, with around 142,000 people residing in camps. Many of the affected districts, particularly in Balochistan and Sindh, were already struggling to recover from the floods of 2010 and 2011. Areas still inundated may remain under water for several more months due to lack of drainage and slower evaporation during the winter months. The winter season is causing a deterioration of the humanitarian situation, particularly for those residing in makeshift shelters.

Malnutrition rates in some of the flood affected districts were beyond emergency thresholds before the current floods and are predicted to worsen. As of 10 November 2012, more measles cases and deaths have been reported in Pakistan than in 2011, while reports from the 17 November 2012 indicate a total of 54 polio cases from 27 districts/tribal agencies. In addition, more than half of households in Pakistan are food insecure and inflation, rising fuel prices and stagnating domestic productivity are pushing up the food prices.

Assessments are hampered by difficult access due to standing flood waters. Seven districts are classified as facing IPC phases three ('Crisis') and four ('Emergency'). Since July 2008, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) and the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) have experienced significant population movement as a result of Government operations against non-state armed groups as well as sectarian violence. According to OCHA, more than 774,000 people were displaced in the north as of 10 December with 411,000 displaced in 2012.

Pakistan is experiencing a Taliban insurgency trying to erode state control. On 15 December militants attacked the Peshawar airport killing 9 people. The raid on the airport was the biggest assault on a high-profile military facility in Pakistan since gunmen stormed an air base in the province of Punjab in August.

Update: 17/12/2012

IRAQ DISPLACEMENT, INSECURITY

While violence in Iraq has declined dramatically since its peak in 2006-2007, violent attacks remain common. The most recent wave of attacks on 29 November targeted Shiite Muslims, with more than 50 people killed and 98 wounded in multiple bomb attacks.

As of 12 December, the number of Syrian registered refugees in Iraq stands at 65,527, with Kurdistan hosting the large majority of refugees. In the meantime, as of 5 December approximately 58,000 Iraqis had returned to Iraq from Syria since mid-July according to UNHCR. A USAID report indicates that around 27,000 Iraqis have crossed from Iraq into Syria during the same period.

On 20 November, Iraq's central Government and the authorities of the country's autonomous Kurdistan region, Tuz Khurmato, deployed troops to reinforce their internal border. Tensions arose over the formation of a new command centre for Iraqi forces to operate in an area over which both Baghdad and the Kurdistan regional Government (KRG) claim jurisdiction. Kurdistan and Baghdad disagree over who controls disputed land and the right to control oil in the Kurdish region.

An estimated 1.2 million were still displaced inside Iraq by 11 June. There is a lack of updated displacement figures. Although humanitarian access has become less restricted, security threats for international staff remain high, particularly in Baghdad, north/central governorates and the Disputed Territories.

Updated: 17/12/2012

JORDAN DISPLACEMENT

By 12 December, around 105,000 Syrian refugees have registered with UNHCR in Jordan and around 43,000 Syrian refugees have received appointments for registration. These figures do not include Syrians that have not registered, and the Jordan Government reported on 21 November that as many as 240,000 Syrians have actually crossed the borders. As a result, Jordan's economy, as well as water and energy resources, is strained. The prices of commodities are higher in Jordan compared to Syria and the purchasing power of the refugees to cover basic needs is rapidly decreasing. Furthermore food prices in Jordan have increased by nearly 50 % due to the reduction of food imports and increased demand from new arrivals from Syria. As winter sets in, there is an increased risk of death or serious illness as a result of the region's cold temperatures and the lack of resources.

On 28 November the police dispersed a demonstration by Syrian refugees at Zaatari camp in northern Jordan protesting over living conditions after power was cut in the camp hosting 42,000 refugees. Several such demonstrations took place since it was opened in July. To ease the pressure on Zaatari, Amman has announced a new camp will be opened by the end of the year.

Updated: 17/12/2012

KYRGYZSTAN FOOD INSECURITY

A WFP September 2012 assessment revealed that household food security had deteriorated, with an estimated 25% of the population - about 1.3 million people - considered food insecure compared to 18% in March 2012. The assessment also revealed that another 13% of households - some 547,000 people are at risk of becoming food insecure should they be affected by an additional shock, such as further rises in food

prices.

The 2012 wheat production was affected by delayed planting due to a long cold winter, followed by a hot summer. The latest estimate puts cereal production at about 1.3 million tonnes, which is some 19% lower than last year's level.

Between June and October 2012, the retail price of wheat flour increased by 53% in rural and 42% in urban areas, pushing bread prices to all time high levels in most markets. The price increases reflect reduced wheat output and higher export prices in the regional markets. The Government, which imposed a six-month ban on wheat exports in late September, ordered the release of 150,000 tonnes of wheat from state reserves in late October, to be sold in selected domestic markets at reduced prices.

In 2010, 34% of the population was living below the national poverty line.

Updated: 17/12/2012

PHILIPPINES CONFLICT, FLOODS, TYPHOON

Typhoon Bopha (Pablo) affected more than 6.2 million people as of 17 December after it struck the Philippines on 4 December. According to UNICEF, 2.3 million of the affected population are children. More than 1,040 people have been reported killed and the impact of Bopha prompted the Government to declare a state of emergency in the affected regions on the island of Mindanao. With increasing access displacement figures have risen from 370,000 on 10 December to more than 959,000 people according to the Government as of 17 December. The majority of displaced are staying outside evacuation centres. Extensive damage to houses and infrastructure, widespread power blackouts as well as landslides and floods in low-lying areas has been reported. On 9 December an earthquake of 5.6 magnitude struck near Davao, in the same areas affected by Typhoon Bopha. Currently there are no additional reports of damage or casualties.

Humanitarian access is hampered by the remoteness of the affected area, the fact that it is not normally affected by cyclones, as well as the wide-scale impact. However, on 15 December the Government and Maoist rebels declared an official 18-day unilateral Christmas truce in two southern provinces devastated by the typhoon last week as the army concentrates on relief and many rebels recover from the disaster.

The affected region of Mindanao is still recovering from four decades of conflict between the Government and rebel groups fighting for independence. Some 47,000 people were displaced in Mindanao at the end of September, after attacks by the Muslim rebel group BIFF on the Philippines Armed Forces (AFP) in Maguindanao and North Cotabato province.

Typhoon Bopha followed a path almost similar to that of Tropical Storm Washi (Sedong), which killed more than 1,200 people in December 2011, but with wind intensity considerably greater than that of Washi. The Philippines frequently experiences natural disasters, particularly typhoons. On 24 October, tropical storm Son Tinh (Ofel) made landfall in the Philippines affecting around 110,000 people across 17 provinces. As of 30 October, around 2,000 people were still in five evacuation centres. 9 typhoons struck the Philippines in 2011, of which 10 were destructive, leading to more than 1,500 deaths and affecting nearly 10% of the total population.

On 27 November, the Department of Health reported over 3,700 dengue cases since January 1st, which is a 45% increase compared to the same period last year. A 1.15% Case Fatality Rate (CFR) has been recorded, with the highest CFR in General Santos City.

Updated: 17/12/2012

DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA FLOODS, FOOD INSECURITY

According to WFP, some three million people are estimated to face food deficits and remain vulnerable to under nutrition in five provinces in the north-east of the country.

Some 57% of households have 'borderline' food consumption. Chronic food insecurity in DPRK continues to affect two-thirds of the country's 24 million people. However, acute malnutrition rates seem to have improved this year due to better food rations and a consistent food assistance pipeline. According to the UN, the main 2012 harvests and 2013 early season crops will see a 10% increase compared to a year earlier and the production is expected to reach 5.8 million metric tons.

However, DPRK still requires international assistance. Flooding and a subsequent typhoon in July and August further affected an estimated 700,000 people, damaged health facilities and reduced access to primary and secondary health care. The floods further aggravated the impact of a severe dry spell in southwest and central provinces: a 30% decline in soybean production due to the dry spells in the first half of 2012 has been reported.

Humanitarian access is limited. No current data on child mortality, the food security situation, food price levels and general magnitude of humanitarian needs is available. Therefore, DPRK is not included within the Global Overview prioritisation.

Updated: 17/12/2012

IRAN EARTHQUAKE



NORTH AMERICA

HAITI FLOODS, EPIDEMIC, HURRICANE

At the beginning of November, torrential rain caused by Hurricane Sandy led to massive flooding and damage to crops, infrastructure and homes, affecting 1.5 million people. The cumulative impact of drought, tropical storm Isaac, and of Hurricane Sandy has left 1.5 million people in rural areas food insecure. 40% of maize, beans, rice, banana and coffee crops have been lost in the floods, and as a result, two million people are at risk of malnutrition. Ouest, Sud-Est, Nippes, Grande-Anse and Sud provinces were most affected by Hurricane Sandy. On 10 December the Haitian Government extended the state of emergency to 5 January 2013.

At least 20% of the population has lost their primary sources of food supply. Poor rural households which depend on agriculture both as a source of income and food, have already exhausted all their food reserves. Projections of the food situation until March 2013, indicate that the poor and very poor in some municipalities in the Sud-est, Ouest and Nord-est departments will enter Phase 3 (Crisis) between January and March 2013.

Cholera cases have increased in these affected departments. In the Nord department there was a 50% increase in reported cases according to OCHA. Since the start of the cholera outbreak in October 2010, around 625,800 cumulative cholera cases have been reported as of 10 December 2012. There is a risk of cholera becoming endemic in Haiti, with only 2% of the population having access to potable water and adequate sanitation. According to PAHO/WHO the number of new cholera cases in 2013 could range between 118,000 and 120,000 if the situation fails to improve.

Two years after the earthquake, around 360,000 people remain displaced. Some 78,000 living in camps on property owned by schools and churches and on private land face eviction by landowners and local authorities.

Updated: 17/12/2012

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC HURRICANE

The Dominican Republic was hit by the rain-trails of hurricane Sandy, bringing heavy rainfall and flooding to the south of the country and affecting 175,000 people, according to ECHO. More than 24,500 houses were damaged and extensive damage in agriculture has been reported. A state of emergency was called in Azua province, where 75% of the population has no access to safe water. The south of the Dominican Republic was also affected by tropical storm Isaac on 24 August. The resulting flooding displaced more than 30,000 people and agricultural losses are estimated at more than \$30 million nationwide. 34% of the population in the Dominican Republic is living at the national poverty line. 15% or 2 million of the population is undernourished according the State of the Food Insecurity in the World Report.

Updated: 17/12/2012

GUATEMALA FOOD INSECURITY, EARTHQUAKE

On 7 November, an earthquake of 7.2 magnitude struck the pacific coast of Guatemala, centred 15 miles off the coastal town of Champerico and about 100 miles southwest of Guatemala City. An estimated 3.4 million people were affected. According to the

Government, 127 municipalities (38% of the country) in 11 departments were hit by the earthquake. By the end of November, more than 10,440 people were living in 88 temporary emergency shelters. On 10 December the Government officially extended the rule of public calamity by 30 days in the 8 departments most affected by the earthquake.

In addition, an extended drought has affected more than 260,000 people in Guatemala with an estimated 100,000 people in need of food assistance. Poverty and malnutrition are widespread and 51% of the population lives below the poverty line. Illiteracy, infant mortality and malnutrition are among the highest in the region and the country is frequently affected by disasters, including flooding, drought and recently a volcano outbreak.

Updated: 17/12/2012



OCEANIA

FIJI CYCLONE

On 16 December tropical cyclone Evan struck Fiji as a category 4 storm with winds of up to 212 kmh, torrential rains and coastal storm surges up to four meters with flooding reported. More than 3,500 people evacuated to emergency shelters. According to ABC News, at the northwestern side of the main Fiji islands of Vanua Levu and Viti Levu towns remain cut off due to flooding. Power supplies and communication has been disrupted, however many of the evacuees have begun returning to their homes. The roads and the highway to the western district remained closed from the capital Suva.

Fiji is regularly exposed to natural hazards, especially cyclones. Per year approximately 16% (130,000 people) of Fiji's population is exposed to tropical cyclones. Fiji's cyclone season is from November through April. In January and March 2012 torrential rains caused widespread flooding and landslides particularly in the western district of Fiji. The floods killed four people and temporarily displaced 15,000 causing damages to homes and critical infrastructure. With power and electricity disrupted for days, at least 150,000 people were affected.

Updated: 17/12/2012

SAMOA CYCLONE

On 13 December flash floods and power cuts hit the Samoan capital Apia as category 2

tropical cyclone Evan struck the island-state with high winds and heavy rain. 1,500 people were evacuated and two killed. Substantive damages to power lines, roads, infrastructure and homes are reported. Most of the roads out of the capital Apia were cut off, due to flooding. The whole of Samoa is without water, except for critical services such as the hospital. The Samoan Government has declared a state of disaster.

Updated: 17/12/2012

Introduction to the Global Overview Update

The Global Overview is a weekly update that provides a snapshot of current humanitarian priorities and recent events. The Global Overview collates information from a wide range of sources, including Reliefweb and media sources, and displays this information in a manner that allows for quick comparison of different humanitarian crises. The primary objective of the Global Overview is to rapidly inform humanitarian decision makers by presenting a summary of major humanitarian crises, both recent and protracted. It is designed to provide answers to four questions;

1. Which humanitarian crises currently exist? (World map)
2. What has happened in the last seven days? (Highlights and snapshot)
3. What is the situation in the country affected by a crisis? (Narrative)
4. Which countries could be prioritised in terms of humanitarian response? (Prioritisation)

The Global Overview consists of three main sections:

Firstly, the **world map** provides an overview of how the countries are prioritised, indicated by different shades of blue. The countries are subdivided by four **priority levels**: "on watch", "situation of concern", "humanitarian crisis", and "severe humanitarian crisis".

The priority levels are assigned on the basis of:

- the number of people affected by recent disasters
- the level of access to the affected population
- the <5 mortality rate
- the level of development of the country
- the number of protracted IDPs and refugees.

If a country experienced a disaster in the seven days prior to an update, or witnessed an escalation of an on-going crisis, a country is **highlighted** by a yellow dot on the map.

Secondly, the **snapshot** briefly describes what has happened in the last seven days from the date of publication, by outlining the crises that have occurred in the different highlighted countries.

Thirdly, **narratives** for each country included in the Global Overview reflect recent major developments and underlying vulnerabilities of a country. Narratives are written based on secondary data.

The Global Emergency Overview is a mobile application.

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

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

Update

The Global Overview will be updated once a week and the results will be available every Monday before midday (Central European Time/Central European Summer Time). In case of major new humanitarian events or an escalation of an on-going crisis which triggers a change of prioritisation, the Global Overview will be updated on an ad-hoc basis.

Disclaimer

While ACAPS has defined a methodology striving to ensure accuracy, the information provided is indicative and should not be used in isolation from alternate 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.

More information on the Global Overview Methodology can be found in the [Global Overview Methodology Brief](#) and the [Frequently Asked Questions](#).