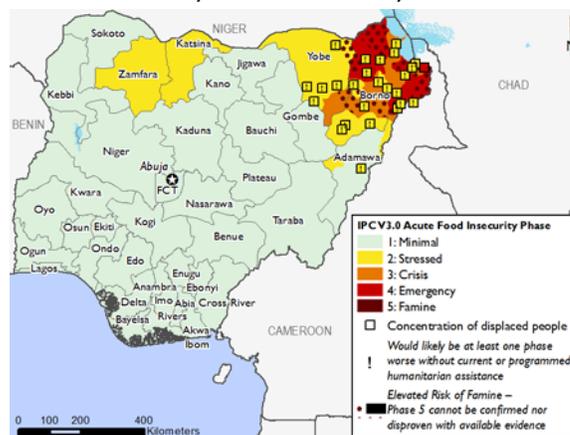


Intense insurgent attacks in northeast Nigeria lead to increased displacement and food needs

KEY MESSAGES

- Conflict in northeast Nigeria continues to threaten lives and livelihoods. Affected resident and displaced populations continue to face significant difficulty meeting their basic food needs, and worst-affected areas are likely in Emergency (IPC Phase 4). Inaccessible areas are likely facing similar or worse food security outcomes as neighboring, accessible areas. More extreme levels of acute food insecurity are possible in a worst-case scenario where displaced populations become cutoff due to a shift in conflict and emergency assistance provision is halted.
- Many households continue to be impacted by farmer/herder conflict in central and northern states, and affected populations remain displaced in Zamfara, Katsina, Kaduna, Taraba, Plateau, Benue, Nasarawa, and Adamawa states. The conflict keeps households from engaging in normal livelihood activities in affected areas. Larger populations have restricted access to market and income opportunities in Zamfara and Katsina states and will likely be Stressed (IPC Phase 2) through September 2018.
- In much of the rest of the country, households are consuming own food stocks in the postharvest period. Households are engaged normally in dry season activities, petty trading, and labor work to earn income. Staple food prices are generally exhibiting typical trends and will peak during the lean season period between July and September. Consequently, most households will face Minimal (IPC Phase 1) acute food insecurity between February and September 2019 across the country.

Current food security outcomes, February 2019



Source: FEWS NET

NATIONAL OVERVIEW

Current Situation

Dry season activities: Dry season cultivation started normally in December 2018 when waters receded in local ponds and rivers. In most areas, the area cultivated increased due to increased government support through inputs provided including fertilizer, irrigation equipment, and improved seeds. Farmers are engaged in increased cultivation of rice, maize, and vegetables. Fishing activities are also underway normally in most areas.

Market supplies and household stocks: Market supplies for most staples are declining, following a normal trend in most areas. Traders are restocking their stores, and institutional purchases by government agencies, the food industry, and poultry farmers are underway in major markets as Dawanau market in Kano, the largest grain market in the West African sub-region. Similarly, cross border purchases are also underway, mainly in Niger Republic. In the same vein, most households are consuming their own food during the postharvest period, gradually depleting their stocks. Exceptions are

households in the northeast affected by the insurgency and households impacted by the farmer/pastoralist conflict where households have limited stocks that will deplete faster than normal.

Macro-economic situation: The year-on-year inflation rate declined slightly from 11.44 percent in December 2018 down to 11.37 percent in January 2019. The central bank of Nigeria continues to provide direct foreign exchange intervention into the foreign exchange market to stabilize the naira. Interbank foreign exchange market is currently at 306.85 naira/dollar in January while the Bureau de Change rate is at 360.94 naira/dollar. OPEC continues to cut down the production quota of crude oil aiming to increase price in February above \$64/barrel.

Labor and income sources: In most areas outside the northeast and areas affected by the farmer/pastoralist conflicts, households are engaged in normal livelihood activities such as dry season farming, fishing, petty trading, construction work and other menial jobs to earn income, normally.

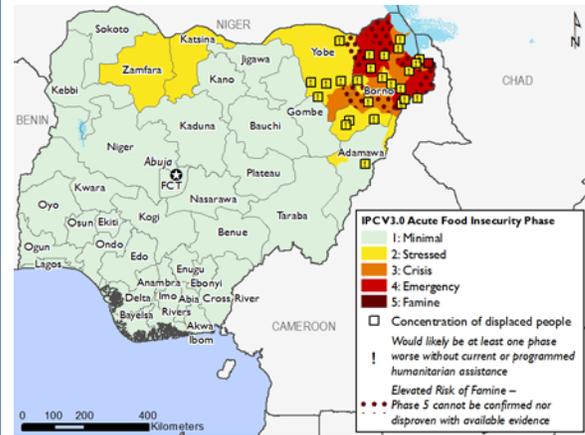
Staple food prices: Staple cereal prices including maize, millet, sorghum and rice are exhibiting normal trends across most markets, either remaining stable or declining. The impending general election across the country has also slowed down market activities and trader speculation. For example, the price of white maize in January decreased in Damaturu, Gombe, Gujungu, Saminaka and Mile-12 markets by 9.5, 5.4, 5.4, 6.0 and 8.7 percent, respectively, relative to the previous month. However, staple prices also tend to increase, though slightly, in some other markets. Prices are relatively lower or similar to previous year for most staples but remain higher than the 5-year average.

Northeast Nigeria

The recent IOM assessment report in October 2018 indicates there are over 1.8 million displaced persons across Borno, Yobe and Adamawa states. Borno state remains the epicenter of the Boko Haram conflict and is hosting over 1.4 million IDPs. Heightened tensions in recent months have triggered further displacement, with close to 72,000 new arrivals registered between November 2018 and January 2019, mainly in Borno state. The recent insurgent attacks are mainly in northern and east central Borno state, Geidam, Gujba in Yobe state as well as Madagali in Adamawa state.

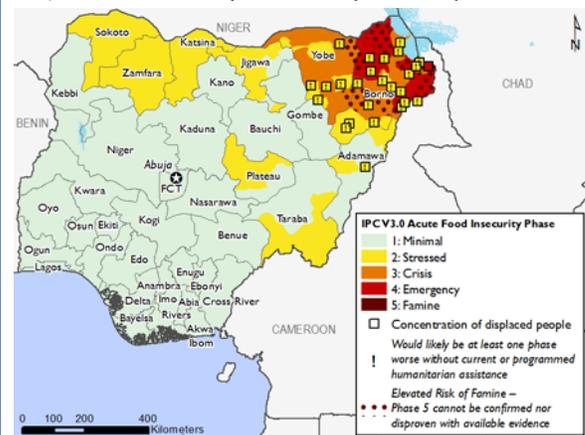
The 90-day humanitarian response strategy by UNOCHA for the northeast indicates that locations in northern and central Borno state and parts of Yobe state fall within a corridor of heightened tensions, including Damasak, Gubio, Magumeri, Monguno, Kukawa, Kala Balge, and Ngala (Borno state), as well as Geidam, Gujba and Damaturu in Yobe state. A portion of the new displacements results from involuntary relocation, poor living conditions, and in some cases an improved security situation and the need to re-establish livelihoods especially in farming. The increased rate of new arrivals, heightened tensions, and a projected surge in new arrivals based on historical trends during the dry season, formed the basis for identifying hotspot areas in need of accelerated humanitarian assistance including Bama, Dikwa, Gubio, Gwoza, Jere, Kala Balge, Konduga, Kukawa, Magumeri, Maiduguri, Mobbar, Monguno, Ngala, and Nganzai, in Borno State; Damaturu in Yobe State; and Lamurde in Adamawa State. An estimated 280,000 incoming and projected new arrivals through April 2019 from the 16 identified hotspot LGAs are being targeted for humanitarian assistance. The impact of the persisting conflict coupled with the general election and anticipated post-election violence has likely deterred and led humanitarian actors to down scale their activities leading to a reduction in food assistance delivered across the three conflict affected states in January 2019 relative to December 2018. In January 2019 about 1.42 million people benefitted with food assisted as against 2.17 million people in December 2018, within the same area.

Projected food security outcomes, February to May 2019



Source: FEWS NET

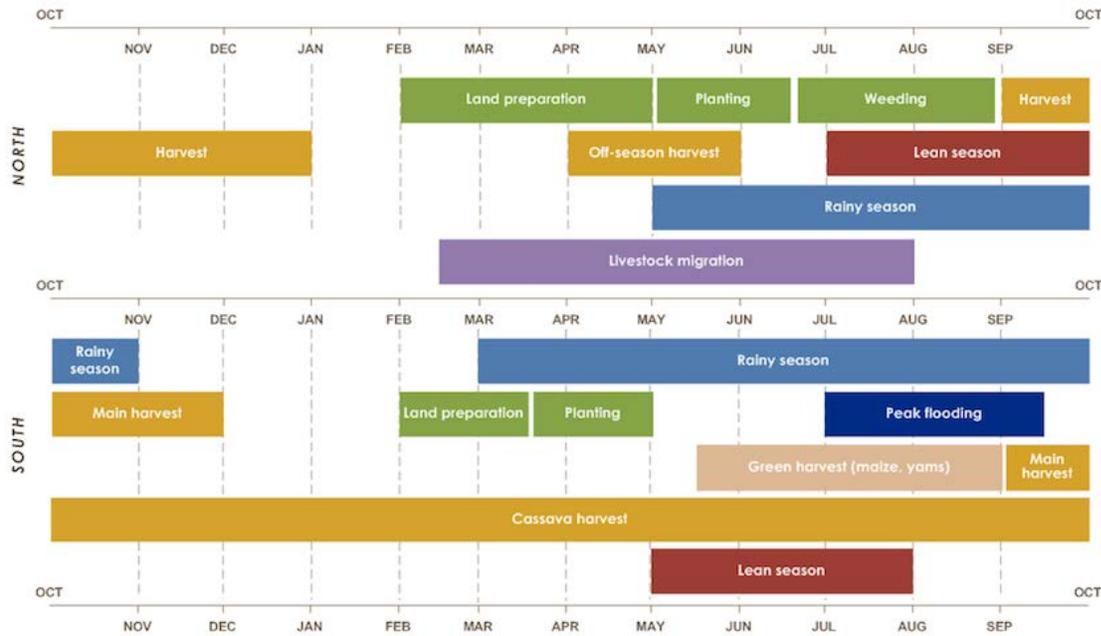
Projected food security outcomes, June to September 2019



Source: FEWS NET

FEWS NET classification is IPC-compatible. IPC-compatible analysis follows key IPC protocols but does not necessarily reflect the consensus of national food security partners.

SEASONAL CALENDAR FOR A TYPICAL YEAR



Source: FEWS NET

Northwest and central states of Nigeria impacted by the farmer/herder, banditry and communal conflict

The farmer/herder conflict is escalating in north-central states: Kaduna, Nasarawa, Plateau, Benue, Taraba, and Niger. A similar situation is also observed in the northwestern states including Katsina, Zamfara, and part of Sokoto as well as in Adamawa state in the northeast of Nigeria. In the northwestern areas, however the predominant incidence is armed banditry dominated by cattle rustling and kidnapping for ransom.

In northwest Nigeria, Zamfara state is the worst affected with 12 local government areas (LGAs) affected and substantial population displaced. Tsafe, Anka, Birnin Magaji and Zurmi LGAs are the worst affected in Zamfara state with over 30 percent (Figure 1) of the communities in the respective LGAs affected, according to Zamfara state Emergency Management Agency – ZEMA/FEWS NET. These are closely followed by Bungudu, Shinkafi, and Maradun LGAs where over 20 percent of the respective communities are affected. Others include Talata Mafara, Bukkuyum, Maru, Kaura Namoda, and the state capital – Gusau where less than 20 percent of the various communities are impacted by the attacks. Over 30,000 IDPs are registered across 6 LGAs as reported by the ZEMA (Figure 1), though several others are staying with relations and others are in neighboring states. FEWS NET field informants indicated that over 28 percent of the population in affected local governments have been affected by the conflict in Zamfara state.

The affected population are mainly dependent on limited own production, community support and limited government assistance. Humanitarian actors active in the area have relocated due to security concerns. There are IDP camps located in Gusau, Anka, Birnin Magaji, Maradun and Shinkafi. Other camps are in Tsafe, and Maru. However, DFID sponsored social protection program – the Child Development Grant Program (CDGP) implemented by Save the children (SCI) targeting pregnant women since 2014 is underway in Anka and Tsafe LGAs only, providing cash transfer value of NGN 4,000 monthly and nutrition sensitization to more than 20,000 beneficiaries.

Similarly, in Katsina state, 10 out of 34 LGAs have been affected by the conflict with populations and sometimes entire communities displaced. These LGAs include: Bakori, Batsari, Danmusa, Dandume, Faskari. Others are Funtua, Jibia, Kankara, Sabuwa and Safana LGAs. IDPs are now at LGA headquarters, while others are at the state capital, resorting to begging and others are engaged in limited menial jobs to earn income. Over 150,000 individuals have been displaced across Katsina state. The most affected LGAs include Kankara, Batsari and Faskari, bordering the Dajin Rugu forest, a famous hideout for bandits.

Recent attacks in Kajuru local government area, Kaduna state, on February 15 have resulted in the death of several people and several others wounded and displaced to neighboring communities. Birnin Gwari, Giwa, Kajuru and other local governments in southern part of Kaduna state are the most affected by the banditry as well as inter-tribal conflict resulting in displacement of several people. Consequently, crop production, pastoralism, market activities and other livelihood activities are substantially impacted by the conflict. In Kaduna state, the Kamuku Forest also serves as the main hideout of bandits across the affected states in the northwest region. The bandits also engage in communal attacks, cattle rustling and kidnapping for ransom.

Dry season activities: Dry season activities have declined in areas affected by insurgency, communal conflict and farmer/pastoralist conflict and armed banditry. In northwest Nigeria where dry season cultivation is prominent, the area cultivated has declined substantially due to the attacks in the area. According to estimate by FEWS NET field informants in Zamfara state the dry season area under cultivation has declined by about 50 percent across the 12 affected LGAs where vegetables, rice and wheat are cultivated. Similarly, in Katsina state the dry season cultivation declined by about 60 percent across 8 LGAs and about 80 percent in Jibia LGA, though the level of cultivation is within normal level in Mai'adua LGA. Also, in Giwa LGA, Kaduna state, the dry season activities have declined by about 50 percent relative to average. Thus, below average dry season activities in the northeast and northwest of Nigeria affected by the insurgency and banditry, respectively will substantially reduce the harvest during April/May across the country.

Market supplies and household stock: Traders are evading such areas, limiting income opportunities. For example, in Gusau town, Zamfara state capital, Mada market remains non-functional and is occupied by IDPs. Most markets in affected areas in Zamfara state according to FEWS NET field informants are only functioning at 25 to 50 percent level, compared to normal. Similarly, Magami and Wanke markets were functioning at 25 percent level relative to normal. The conflict has directly affected food flow and other services in the area, with an attendant negative flow of food items to Jibia and Mai'adua markets in Katsina state and the Giwa market in Kaduna state. Due to restricted market access and substantial low patronage in staples, food prices have also substantially declined in some markets, particularly in Birnin Gwari (Kaduna state) – a major production area where over 20 villages have been displaced and population relocated to major urban settlements including Pandogari, and Kontagora in neighboring Niger state. Similarly, households have to sale own staples to available customers to earn income to purchase non-food items and other essential needs. Traders from Dandume, Kuyello, Funtua and Kaduna are no longer patronizing the market. Production has substantially declined in Birnin Gwari as farmers from neighboring states such as Katsina, Zamfara, Kano and Sokoto are evading and abandoning their farms in the area.

Figure I: Population affected by the farmer/pastoralist conflict in Zamfara state

LGA Name	Projected 2018 population	Estimated % of affected Population	Population of IDPs (source: ZEMA)
Anka	207634	66,442 (32%)	6,526
Birnin Magaji	260665	83,412 (32%)	1,950
Gusau	559163	50,324 (9%)	9,460
Maradun	307,704	64,617 (21%)	14,500
Shinkafi	197957	41,570 (21%)	9,617
Talatan Mafara	314,017	17,700 (5%)	Not Available
Zurmi	428,807	137,218 (32%)	Not Available
Maru	425,981	89,456 (1%)	1,528
Kaura-Namoda	410,610	69,823 (17%)	Not Available
Bungudu	376,388	94,097 (25%)	Not Available
Bukkuyum	308,844	52,503 (17%)	Not Available
Tsafe	388,196	124,222 (32%)	8,647
Total	4,185,966	1,471,384 (28.4%)	30,802

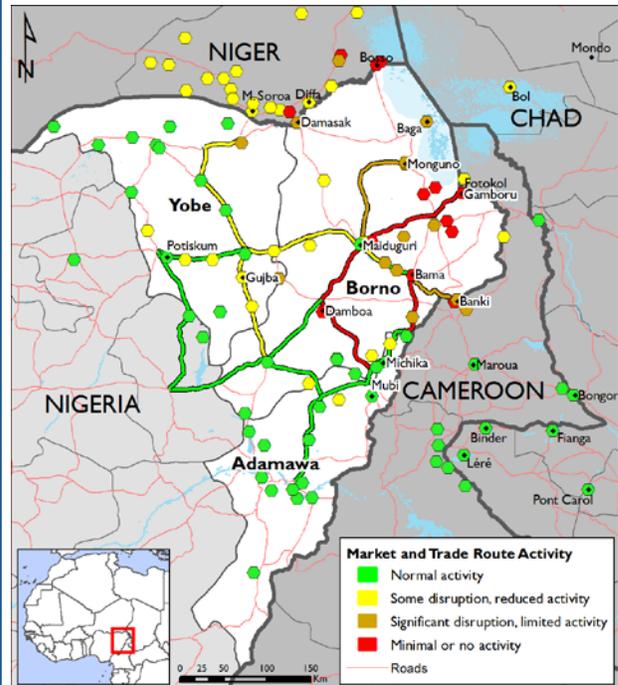
Source: FEWS NET/ZEMA

Assumptions

The most likely scenario for February to September 2019 is based on the following national level assumptions:

- Macro-economic situation:** The naira will likely continue to depreciate relative to other foreign currencies through May/June 2019 when the elected government is constituted. However, the continued direct intervention of the central bank of Nigeria into the foreign exchange market and the continued implementation of the Bilateral Currency Swap Agreement (BCSA) with China will moderate the exchange rate of the naira and will remain more stable during the remaining part of the year. Inflation rate year-on-year will also continue to increase normally, mainly driven by increased food demand and staple prices through the lean season period. Nigeria is expected to cut its crude oil production by 3.04 per cent to 1.685 million barrels per day for the first half of 2019, as part of efforts by the OPEC to reduce oversupply in the international market. The economy is projected to grow by 2 percent according to the IMF, 2.2 percent according to the World Bank, and 2.28 percent according to the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN).

Figure 2. Market functioning in northeast Nigeria



Source: FEWS NET

- Weather:** The recent presentation of the seasonal rainfall prediction by the Nigeria meteorological agency on January 24, 2019 revealed that the onset of the rainy season will likely be delayed in most parts of the country. The earliest onset is expected in the southern part of Nigeria around early March and the late onset will be around late June in the northern Sahelian areas. Rainfall cessation is expected to be earlier than normal in the northern most areas, normal cessation in the central states and longer than normal in some parts of the southern states. Cessation is likely to occur in late September in the northern areas and mid-October in the central states and December in the southern areas. Rainfall amount is expected to be normal to below normal across the country. Rainfall amounts will range between 300 to 700mm in the northern areas and about 1100 to 2700mm in the central and southern areas.
- Dry season harvest:** The Anchor Borrowers’ scheme of the federal government is deliberately targeting dry season farmers, particularly rice farmers with various inputs such as seeds, fertilizer, pesticides, herbicides and water pumping machine in addition to funds to hire labor for paddy harvesting and processing. Flood affected households along the major river floodplains will engage more in dry season cultivation to recover part of their losses. Thus, cultivated area and dry season harvest will likely be average to above average in most areas. Exceptions are areas affected by insurgency and farmer/pastoralist conflict.
- Main season cultivation:** With the expected favorable rainfall across most parts of the country, farmers are expected to engage in normal level of cultivation. Inputs such as fertilizer, improved seeds and funding through the Anchor Borrowers’ scheme through the Central Bank of Nigeria will lead to increased level of cultivation. Major challenges to increased production level will include high labor cost, crop pest and diseases, flooding, limited access to land. Others are access to tractor services, insurgency, communal conflict and farmer/pastoralist clashes in affected areas. Despite these challenges, cultivated area during the growing season will likely be average to above average in most of the country.
- Staple stocks at household level during lean season:** Food stocks will deplete normally during the consumption year. Most households will consume own production through June normally and will resort to market during the lean season period between July and September. Households will engage in agricultural labor work during the lean season to purchase food. Other poor agropastoral households in localized areas across the country will sale livestock and/or resort to indebtedness to access food. Dry season harvest during April/May will slightly increase household food stocks and access.

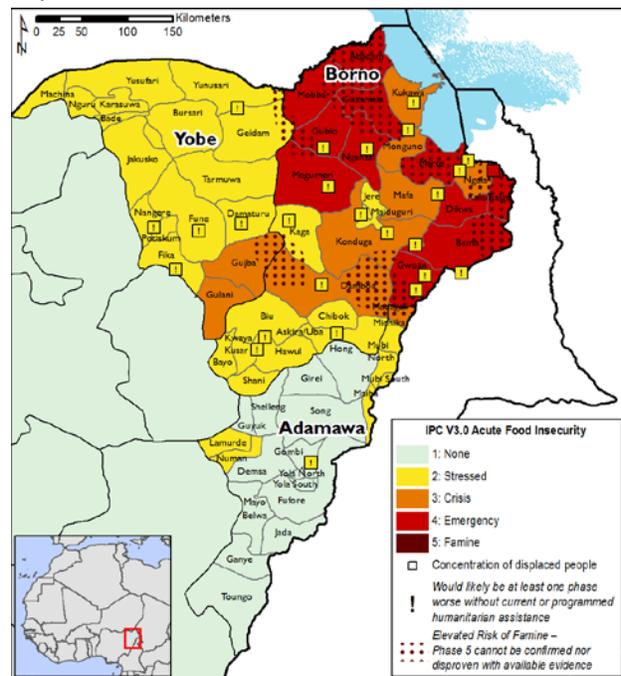
- Markets food availability:** Market stocks will continue to decrease for most staples during the post-harvest periods. Traders and institutional purchases to restock warehouses will deplete market stocks during February/March period. During April/May the dry season harvest of rice and maize will slightly increase market supplies. Cereal demand during the Ramadan period in May/June will further deplete market supplies, particularly for millet and maize by households and poultry farmers, respectively. However, with the slight delay in the onset of the rainy season in June/July, traders and farmers will release their remaining stocks, slightly increasing market supplies. Between July and September market supplies will at their lowest level and prices will peak due to high level of demand. Staple prices will remain elevated until the main harvest beginning in October. Prices will remain higher than average but lower than last year's levels across the country.
- Income sources:** Most poor households will engage in normal income earning activities including dry season labor work, dry season harvest and fishing activities to earn income through May/June period. Similarly, others will engage in land preparation activities, petty trading, construction work and other unskilled jobs during the dry season. Between May and July planting activities will begin in most areas providing income opportunities for some of the households. Dry season harvest of rice, maize and vegetables during April to May will also support income earning opportunities for some households. Pastoralist and agropastoral households will sale own livestock to earn income during the peak lean season period.

Most Likely Food Security Outcomes

Most households across the country are consuming own stocks during the current postharvest period. Households are engaged normally in dry season cultivation, fishing, petty trading, and other labor work to earn income. Political campaigns across the country also provided additional income for some households. Pastoral resources are available for the pastoralists and livestock body conditions are favorable. With the anticipated normal onset of the rainy season in most areas staple prices will remain within normal range. Households will also engage in agricultural labor work including land preparation, planting, weeding and pesticides applications to earn income. Thus, Minimal (IPC Phase 1) acute food insecurity is expected for most areas of the country between February and September 2019.

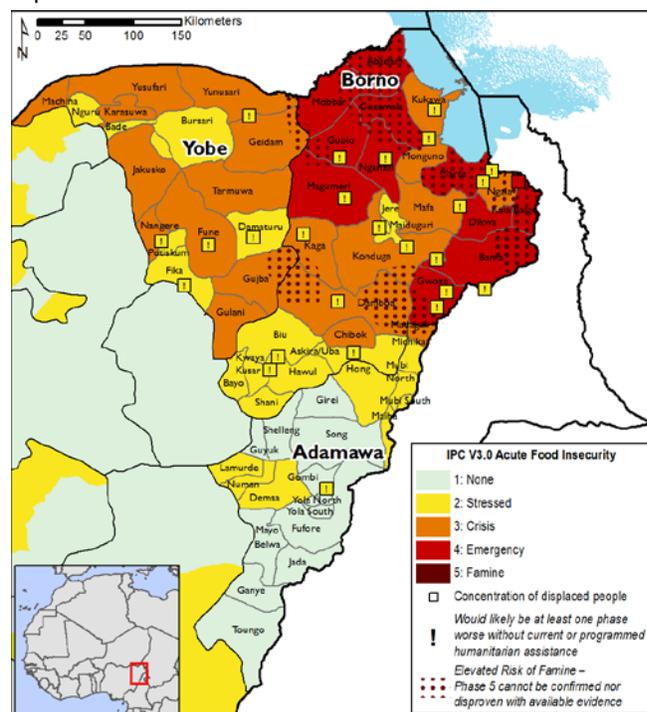
However, many households affected by farmer/pastoralist conflict in the northwest and central parts of Nigeria and who remain displaced in Plateau, Benue, Zamfara, Taraba, Kaduna, Adamawa and Katsina states are facing limited food access in

Projected food security outcomes in the northeast, February to May 2019



Source: FEWS NET

Projected food security outcomes in the northeast, June to September 2019



Source: FEWS NET

FEWS NET classification is IPC-compatible. IPC-compatible analysis follows key IPC protocols but does not necessarily reflect the consensus of national food security partners.

localized affected areas. In Zamfara, Katsina states these households are only able to meet their basic food needs and will be Stressed (IPC Phase 2) through September 2019. Similarly, in parts of Taraba, Sokoto, Plateau and Adamawa states affected households are able to adequately meet basic food and non-food needs between February and May. However, due to restricted level of cultivation and income opportunities during the lean season period these households will only be able to minimally meet their basic food needs and will face Stressed (IPC Phase 2) during June to September.

In Boko Haram conflict-affected areas of the northeast, livelihoods for most households remain heavily disrupted. Agricultural and other income-earning opportunities remain restricted due to the direct impacts of the conflict and by the high levels of displacement. This is exacerbated by atypical market functioning and high staple prices. In many cases, households remain highly dependent on humanitarian assistance to meet their basic food needs, particularly the IDPs in Greater Maiduguri area where they are mainly accessible to humanitarian actors and are facing Stressed (IPC Phase 2!). Much of the host communities in the northeast are likely to remain in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) through September 2019, as they do not receive substantial humanitarian assistance and are using strategies that may deplete their livelihoods, such as sale of farm tools, fishing nets and farmlands. Worst-affected areas, where there are highest restrictions on agriculture, other livelihoods activities, access to markets, and assistance provision, are expected to face larger food consumption gaps and they will continue to face Emergency (IPC Phase 4) through September 2019. Areas where populations are affected by complete loss of livelihoods activities and who remain inaccessible to humanitarian actors are likely facing similar or worse food security outcomes as neighboring, accessible areas. Extreme levels of acute food insecurity are possible in a worst-case scenario where displaced populations become cutoff due to a shift in conflict and emergency assistance provision is halted.

AREAS OF CONCERN

IDP camps in Greater Maiduguri (MMC and urban Jere & Konduga)

Current Situation

Population movement, conflict level and security restrictions: The IOM-UN Report on new arrivals into MMC and Jere from Baga covering 24 - 31 December 2018, recorded influx of 8,248 internally displaced persons (IDPs) from Baga in Kukawa LGA as a result of escalation of hostilities between the Armed Groups and Nigerian Army in Borno state. The new arrivals are in immediate need of humanitarian assistance, with many reportedly living without shelter and basic WASH facilities since arrival. Majority of the new arrivals cited Baga ward in Kukawa LGA as their place of origin before this latest displacement. The key trigger for the population movement was attributed to recent increase in attacks and fear of insecurity in the ward. On December 28 reports indicated that the Armed Groups are in full control of Baga town and came 4 kilometers closer to neighboring Monguno town. This led to massive displacement of population from all across Kukawa LGA into Monguno and further into MMC/Jere LGAs. NSAG attacked Kekenno and Monguno military barracks again on December 28. On December 29, 133 humanitarian personnel were temporarily relocated to Maiduguri.

The ETT-IOM Report: No. 102 covering January 14 – 20 2019 revealed that about 3819 IDPs arrived to MMC, Jere and Konduga LGAs. These IDPs have arrived mainly from Kukawa, Monguno and partly from Bama, Guzamala, and other surrounding LGAs impacted by the recent insurgents’ attack. 95 percent of the new arrivals reported to have relocated due to the ongoing conflict, 3 percent voluntarily relocated while 2 percent relocated due to poor living condition.

Humanitarian Assistance: The Food Security Sector (FSS) report in December 2018 indicates providing food, agriculture and livelihood support across the three LGAs of Jere, Konduga and Maiduguri as detailed in Figure 3. Over 360,000 people benefitted with food assistance while over 440,000 others benefitted with livelihood assistance across the three LGAs in December 2018. Assistance is based on 70 percent (1,470kcal/day/person) per capita food assistance or cash transfer equivalent of NGN3,300/person/day. With the recent influx of IDPs from neighboring LGAs in Borno state, there are gaps in various sectors due to overstretching of the available assistance across the various camps within the city center.

Figure 3: Number of food and agriculture beneficiaries in Maiduguri and Konduga

LGAs	Food Assistance	Agriculture & Livelihoods
Jere	139,129	303,126
Konduga	61,022	66,693
Maiduguri	162,487	73,634
Sum Total	362,628	443,453

Source: Food Security Sector

Food is the most pressing need of the newly arrived IDPs from neighboring LGAs in Borno state. Most of the IDPs that have not been registered depend on support from relatives to meet their food needs. The key staples consumed include rice and beans which are distributed by government through National emergency management agency (NEMA). Other food items distributed include tomato paste, and condiments. The state government through State emergency management agency (SEMA) provides cooked food. Households reported NEMA distributions occurred from 11 to 14 January 2019.

Market functionality: The rapid market assessment by WFP in January 2019 in Bulunkutu, Baga Road and Monday markets within Maiduguri, revealed adequate stocks of local rice, imported rice, maize and red beans. Baga Road and Bulunkutu markets continue to operate, though below their pre-crisis levels. The volume of trade and number of traders across the three markets has increased during the past two years in response to increased demand for food commodities from the growing population in Greater Maiduguri. In general, traders have the capacity to supply adequate stocks of various food items to meet an increase in demand within one to two weeks. The prices of food commodities are determined based on associated cost (transportation and other cost), not set by an organized body of wholesale or retail traders. Based on the findings on market functionality, market competitiveness and the capacity of traders to absorb an increased demand for food commodities, market-based food assistance intervention are feasible in Maiduguri.

However, FEWS NET observed that the market supply is below average in the area due to the persisting conflict. Food flow remain restricted due to the traders' fear of attacks by insurgents. Similarly, the persisting conflict is also leading to increased transaction costs due to detours and security checks along the routes.

Food availability: Assistance is based on 70 percent (1,470kcal/day/person) food assistance or cash transfer equivalent of NGN3,300/person/day. In addition to food assistance, certain markets are supplied with adequate levels of stock, while others are functioning at decreased levels. Overall, food availability for IDPs is highly dependent on humanitarian assistance.

Food access: The IDPs has limited purchasing power to buy available food commodities, further exacerbated by limited or no income source. However, average prices of key staples such as cowpea white compared to the previous month has increased by 35 percent, while local and imported rice prices were slightly stable. These increases were mostly related to transport cost associated with the unwillingness of some transporters and traders to commute the highly volatile trade routes for fear of attacks. Nonetheless, trading remains uninterrupted with traders having adequate stocks of maize, sorghum, beans, and groundnuts (peanut) to meet any increase in demand. Humanitarian assistance remains accessible to most IDPs, however, there are new arrival households that have not yet received tokens to be eligible for receiving food assistance.

Food consumption: Respondents confirmed that some of the IDP households eat a maximum of two meals per day. However, majority of the men eat only one meal a day and leave the second meal for women and children. IDPs in Greater Maiduguri area are not currently facing significant consumption gaps, thanks to humanitarian assistance.

Livelihoods opportunities and wage labor: The limited livelihood opportunities coupled with rising food prices in markets in Maiduguri and its environs invariably reduces the purchasing power and deepens the vulnerability of the newly arrived households in the absence of food assistance. Firewood sales are still predominant in these areas. Livelihood options are still limited among the very poor and poor households. Some of the households engage in negative coping mechanism such as begging and selling off food supplies to buy non-food items including cooking fuel.

Assumptions

- **Dry season harvest and income sources:** The persisting conflict has led to continued influx of IDPs into MMC/Jere, substantially increasing the population of IDPs within the city center. Constraints to land access in the suburb of Maiduguri will increase due to the persisting conflict and intense competition for land as influx of population into the city center increase. Irrigable areas are far from the city center and farmers will evade such areas due to fear of attacks by the insurgents. Dry season harvest, usually taking place during April/May, will be substantially below average due to land access constraints. Thus, labor opportunity and income from dry season activities will be significantly below average in the area. Wages will similarly be below average due to intense competition for labor employment. Rice farmers in Maiduguri affected when the insurgents burnt their rice farms will likely be unable to engage in normal cultivation.
- **Main season prospects:** The recent seasonal rainfall forecast released by the Nigeria Meteorological Agency (NIMET) on January 24, 2019 indicated a likely normal onset of the season in Maiduguri and environs and slightly early cessation of the season in late September as against early October. Rainfall amounts will likely be within the normal amount of

300mm during the growing season. Severe dry spells during June/July for a period of about 10 days are likely over Maiduguri and environs. The growing season will likely be shorter due to an anticipated El-Nino conditions and the impact will likely be felt more in the northern areas. However, the season prospect will remain substantially below normal in the area.

- **Level of stocks:** Market supply will satisfy households needs throughout the consumption year. However, humanitarian assistance will continue to provide some stocks to IDP households. Households will continue to rely partly on market and access will be more constrain during the lean season period when staple prices are at peak levels.
- **Market functioning levels:** Markets in Maiduguri, particularly Monday market, Kasuwan Shanu, Muna Cowpea market, Baga road, Budum, Custom, Bulunkutu markets will remain with sizeable food and non-food supplies, though lower than pre-conflict periods. Market stocks will continue to deplete towards the lean season period, though supply will meet demands as markets remain integrated. Markets will continue to remain functional and supplies adequate to meet demand through September as traders are expecting increased demand due to influx of population into the city, Ramadan during May/June and Tabaski (Eid-el-Adha) in August leading to increase market demand coupled with the lean season through September. However, sporadic attacks along the major trade routes between Damaturu and Maiduguri will limit food flow into Maiduguri due to fear of attacks by insurgents and some traders will likely evade the area.
- **Sources of income:** As the main harvest concludes in the area, agricultural labor work will continue to decline. Dry season cultivation is hindered due to land access constrain as most irrigable areas are in remote and difficult to access areas. Rice cultivation during the recent wet season was favorable, though the harvest was burnt by insurgents, limiting access to paddy for the milling industry which serve as major source of labor employment for the substantial IDPs through the rice value chain. Thus, constraining income opportunities in the area. However, about 70 to 80 percent of the IDPs will rely on menial jobs including petty trading, water hawking, loading/off-loading, construction work, domestic work, cap knitting, and crafts to earn limited income. Cash transfer from humanitarian actors will contribute to income earning opportunities. Others will resort to begging and support from relations to earn limited income.
- **Conflict and displacement:** The influx of IDPs from surrounding LGAs into the city center since November 2018 will continue to increase the IDPs population in MMC/Jere. During the dry season period insurgents' activities will continue to escalate for ease of movement and will slightly decline during the rainy season (June through September) when movement becomes restricted and seasonal roads are unmotorable in the rural areas. Military operations will also intensify leading to increase population displacement to the city center. However, towards the onset of the rainy season some IDPs will relocate to areas where they can easily access land for crop cultivation, leading to slightly reduced IDP population. Conflict will persist at the current level.
- **Humanitarian assistance:** Humanitarian actors will continue to provide support to the vulnerable population. The Financial Tracking System by UNOCHA reported a food security funding of 75.7 percent in November 2018 out of the \$431.5 million requirement for the FY 2018 for the three northeast states. About 24.3 percent funding gaps exist despite the intense conflict, influx of IDPs and increased assistance needs in the northeast of Nigeria. Humanitarian assistance will continue to be restricted due mainly to funding constraints worsen by unprecedented influx of IDPs into the city center overstressing the limited assistance. (UNOCHA northeast Nigeria humanitarian situation update – December 2018 covering November 1 to 30, 2018). However, a three-year Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) is been coordinated by UNOCHA covering 2019 to 2021 and targeting 2.7 million beneficiaries with food, agriculture and livelihood assistance across the three northeast states including Borno, Adamawa and Yobe, likely providing a seamless food access for the vulnerable households in the three states.
- **Staple food prices:** Staple prices such as millet, sorghum and maize will remain elevated, above average levels, during the typical lean season period (July to September). With the recent daily influx of IDPs into the city of Maiduguri, food demand will remain elevated throughout the period. The recent escalation of conflicts along the Lake Chad basin will further limit dry season activities including fishing and cross border activities. Millet prices will peak during May/June due to the impending lean season in other parts of the country and increased household demand for millet during the Ramadan period. Thus, millet prices will remain elevated, though lower than last year's level. The establishment of the rainy season during July/August will reduce speculation by traders and they will release the remaining stocks, increasing market stocks leading to slight millet price decline.

Most Likely Food Security Outcomes

IDPs within the camps in Maiduguri and environs are mainly reliant on humanitarian assistance for both food and income. Thus, they are marginally able to meet basic food needs but unable to meet non-food needs. Some of these IDPs will continue to engage in petty trading, construction labor work, local crafts. Others are engaged in water hawking, domestic labor, cap knitting and begging to earn income. However, these income sources will remain below average and, most households will be unable to meet non-food needs. Consequently, most of these IDPs are facing **Stressed (IPC Phase 2!) food insecurity outcomes through May 2019, in presence of humanitarian assistance.**

With the humanitarian response plan, humanitarian assistance funding is expected to be available through at least September 2019 and be well targeted. Coupled with the expected improved and continued sectoral coordination, assistance will be accessible, and most households will be able to access basic food needs. Consequently, affected households will be facing **Stressed (IPC Phase 2!) through September 2019.**

Sambisa axis and other LGAs totally or partially inaccessible (Bama, Kala Balge, Dikwa, Mafa, Ngala, Konduga, Kukawa, Monguno, Guzamala, Abadam, & Marte)

Current Situation

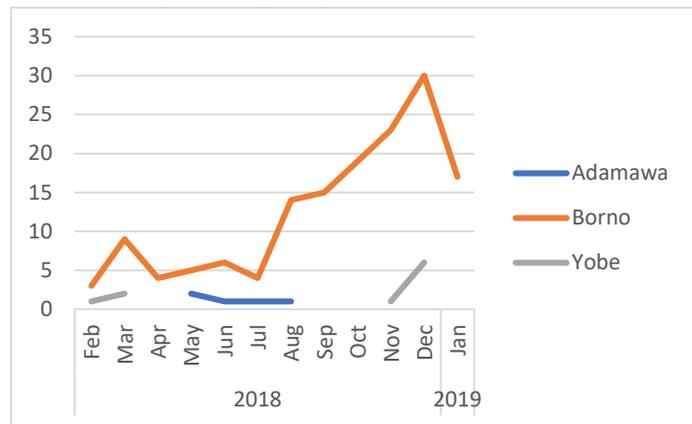
Conflict situation: Attacks by insurgents have intensified between November 2018 and February 2019. Recently, there are attacks by the insurgents in northern Borno including Kukawa, Guzamala, Mobbar, Monguno, and Nganzai. Similarly, there are attacks in Kala Balge, Dikwa and Ngala resulting in substantial displacement of population towards the major cities of Monguno, Konduga and Maiduguri. Others relocated to Bama, Damboa and other urban areas. Affected population from Kala Balge, however moved to – Goura town, Far-North Region of Cameroon. About 35,000 people from Rann relocated to Cameroon, and between 40,000 to 50,000 others are left behind and others returning to Rann. In Yobe state there were attacks in Gujba and IDPs relocated to Damaturu, the state capital. Similarly, there are two attacks in Madagali LGA in Adamawa state in early February 2019. The security situation in Monguno is said to be relatively calm but remains unpredictable.

There are recent attacks by non-state armed group (NSAG) in some wards in Kukawa LGA namely: Baga, Doro, Bunduram, Kekeno, Kauwa, Kukawa and; Mairari, Bunari (Guzamala LGA).

Similarly, the ongoing military operations around the Lake Chad region has necessitated the influx of populations from these locations into Monguno town to seek refuge due to direct attack and/or fear of being attacked.

Population movement: ETT-IOM report covering the week of 14-20 January 2019, indicated a total of 10,122 population movements recorded, including 9,534 arrivals and 588 departures of persons across Borno and Adamawa states. Within the area of concern, arrivals were recorded in Bama, Damboa,

Figure 4. Count of lethal events in Northeast Nigeria related to Boko Haram, February 2018 to January 2019



Source: FEWS NET, ACLED data

Figure 5. Monthly New Arrivals in prioritized LGAs by the ISWG (as of 01 January)

LGA	Nov-18	Dec-18	Jan-19	Total
Maiduguri MC	240	8,161	16,860	25,261
Monguno ¹	2,730	3,827	3,976	10,533
Nganzai	No data	No data	7,767	7,767
Damaturu	No data	No data	6,000	6,000
Konduga	349	248	4,516	5,113
Gwoza	1,592	2,209	1,268	5,069
Lamurde	518	919	1,360	2,797
Jere	38	958	1,341	2,337
Bama	758	1,042	390	2,190
Gubio	230	1,216		1,446
Ngala	382	604	130	1,116
Magumeri	536	274	306	1,116
Dikwa	228	152	115	495
Mobbar	192	178	40	410
Kukawa	41	63		104
Kala Balge	8	3	42	53
Total	7,842	19,854	44,111	71,807

Source: Inter Sector Working Group

Dikwa, Gwoza, Mafa, Magumeri, Mobbar, Monguno and Ngala Local Government Areas (LGAs) of Borno state as well as Madagali, and Michika LGAs in Adamawa state. Monguno LGA has the highest number, with 3,902 arrivals. The arrivals were all from Kukawa LGA. The new arrivals reported to have relocated due to the ongoing conflict. However, there were departures from Madagali LGA in Adamawa state within the period.

Heightened tensions in recent months have triggered further displacement, with close to 72,000 new arrivals registered between November 2018 and January 2019 (Figure 5). The trend in new displacements/new arrivals from November 2018 through January 2019 continually increased from 7,842 people in November 2018, to 19,854 people in December 2018 and a high of 44,111 people in January 2019. Borno State remains the epicentre of the crisis, with 14 LGAs that have received the highest number of new arrivals over the last three months. Population in Rann, Kala Balge LGA relocated to Cameroon republic in January as the attacks intensified in the area. Rann is host to about 80,000 IDPs before the January 27 attack by the insurgents.

Similarly, Monguno is one of the towns with highest IDPs in the state with over 130,000 individuals staying in 12 camps (8 formal and 4 informal) and some affected populations are within host communities.

It is estimated that a total of 3,000 to 4,000 households have so far arrived Monguno within the last 2 months, increasing intense competition with the host community for food and income opportunities. This population are in critical condition and in need of basic services as the recent withdrawal of most partners in Monguno have further deteriorated the situation. Food is also cited as a priority across all the new arrivals interviewed.

The food security sector has collated food assistance data across the three northeast states of Nigeria including Borno, Yobe and Adamawa states. Within this area of concern, the data collated by the FSS indicates that the humanitarian actors have provided assistance to over one million individuals out of the total 1.39 million individuals reached with food assistance during December 2018. Most of the food assistance are mainly in Borno state, the epicentre of the crisis. Currently, UNOCHA has revealed the implementation of a three months emergency response plan spanning from January to April targeting the newly displaced IDPs from the hard-to-reach areas and areas prone to attack by the insurgents, particularly in Borno state.

Humanitarian Situation in Hard-to-Reach Areas: The UNOCHA preliminary HRP report in December 2018 revealed that the conditions of new arrivals to major centres suggest high levels of deprivation in hard-to-reach areas. Even the most basic services for survival were unavailable in the “bush” and “hunger” is causing many reported deaths. The situation is reportedly much more severe because Boko Haram has increased looting of food from civilian populations, and cultivation is restricted. Many families are surviving reportedly on boiled leaves. Recently, a joint rapid KII was conducted by FEWS NET/FAO/WFP/Government on January 18, 2019 in Bama town with new arrivals from Chongolo, Jiwa, Bulakuri and Sabilwuda, all in Borno state, some of whom were trapped for the past 5 years in their respective locations. These populations, though have limited access to food and were perceived to be experiencing food consumption gaps as they arrived only with their tattered clothes, indicated there was no medical facilities or access to drugs. They depend mainly on their limited cultivation including groundnut, cowpea and sorghum. Markets are not functioning and there are no income sources. Limited own production is exchanged with other community members. Livestock have been seized by insurgents. Whenever food is unavailable these population mainly depend on wild foods such as fruits and vegetables. They indicated their major priorities as food, clothing and income to purchase/access other needs and are not anxious to return to their homesteads until the insurgency ends. These population have been more vulnerable as most of them declare serving as forced labor to cultivate crops for the NSAGs while in captivity.

Analysis of nutrition screenings in reception centres for new arrivals revealed that the nutrition situation of children coming from hard-to-reach areas is worse than that of children in areas receiving assistance. For example, 4,663 children 6-59 months from new arrival households were screened by nutrition partners from August to November 2018. About 41 per cent of the children from hard-to-reach areas are considered acutely malnourished – 24 percent are considered severely malnourished, compared to only 14 percent of the children from accessible areas that are acutely malnourished.

Assumptions

- **Dry season harvest and income sources:** Dry season cultivation in the area will generally decline due to the conflict and will be substantially below average in Kukawa, Monguno, Bama and LGAs in eastern and northern Borno state, parts of Yobe and Adamawa states. Though, dry season vegetable harvest will slightly improve in Damboa, and Gwoza due to slight increase to land and inputs access. Fertilizer supplies by humanitarian actors will likely increase dry season harvest

in the area. However, given the scale of current agricultural production, this will have marginal impact on food availability and food security.

- **Main season prospects:** NIMET seasonal rainfall forecast released January 24, revealed a likely slight delay from normal onset of the season during early to late June across the area, with late onset towards the northern border with Niger republic. Severe to moderate dry spell is also expected in the area, with increased severity in the northern part of Borno state. Thus, main season production will be substantially below average in most areas due to the persisting conflict.
- **Level of stocks:** Market supplies and household stocks will continue to deplete through the normal lean season period. However, due to limited main season harvest and the anticipated lower than average dry season harvest, household food stocks will deplete faster than normal.
- **Market functioning levels:** Markets are expected to moderately function in Sambisa axis and some parts of the eastern areas including Damboa, Gwoza, Gujba, Konduga. Monguno market, in the northern area will also function moderately. These markets will have enough stocks to meet demand through the lean season period. However, markets such as Kala balge, Kukawa, Guzamala, Abadam and Marte will remain restricted or non-functioning during February to May 2019 and will likely improve slightly as the population returns to major urban areas to engage in crop cultivation between June and September.
- **Sources of income:** Income sources varies from construction work, firewood sales, water vending, and petty trade. These income opportunities will remain minimal and continue to diminish, during the rainy season as demand and access declines. However, agriculture labor will increase during the rainy season – June to September, though slightly.
- **Conflict and displacement:** Insurgents attacks on military checkpoints and installations will persist in the area. Coupled with the general election in first quarter of the FY2019 and likely the break out of post-election violence the attacks will likely intensify through at least April/May period. Thus, more population will likely be displaced to major urban areas from rural settlements.
- **Humanitarian assistance:** Most of the population in the area will continue to access limited humanitarian assistance as most of the population within this axis remain totally or partially inaccessible. Humanitarian actors including government partners will continue to evade the area as the attacks by insurgents and military operations persists in the area. However, humanitarian assistance is mainly targeted at IDP population in camps and limited if any are provided to population in host communities.
- **Staple food prices:** Most staples are supplied from neighboring areas into this zone, mainly from Maiduguri, the major market within the northeast area. Thus, staple prices such as millet, sorghum and maize will remain elevated and above average levels through September. The recent escalation of conflicts along the Lake Chad basin will further limit dry season activities including fishing and cross border activities. Transaction cost will remain elevated due to several checkpoints along the routes from Maiduguri as the conflict persists. Most households will continue to relocate to major urban areas including the LGA headquarters in the area, and both land access and income will be constrained. Millet prices will peak during May/June due to the impending lean season and increased household demand for millet during the Ramadan period. Thus, millet prices will remain elevated, though lower than last year's level.

Most Likely Food Security Outcomes

The limited main season harvest and humanitarian assistance will increase food access, but will not be able to completely offset food needs. Most households have exhausted all their coping strategies and are unable to avoid food consumption gaps. A majority of households will remain dependent mainly on atypical livelihoods activities during this period and will continue to experience **Crisis (IPC Phase 3)** food insecurity until the main harvest in October 2019. Households in hard to reach areas have exhausted their livelihood options, lacking humanitarian assistance and are mainly dependent on restricted own production for food and are experiencing wide food consumption gaps. This is exacerbated by absence of functional markets and health facilities. Consequently, these population are facing **Emergency (IPC Phase 4)** outcomes. Areas where populations are affected by complete loss of livelihoods activities and who remain inaccessible to humanitarian actors are likely facing similar or worse food security outcomes as neighboring, accessible areas. Extreme levels of acute food insecurity are possible

in a worst-case scenario where displaced populations become cutoff due to a shift in conflict and emergency assistance provision is halted.

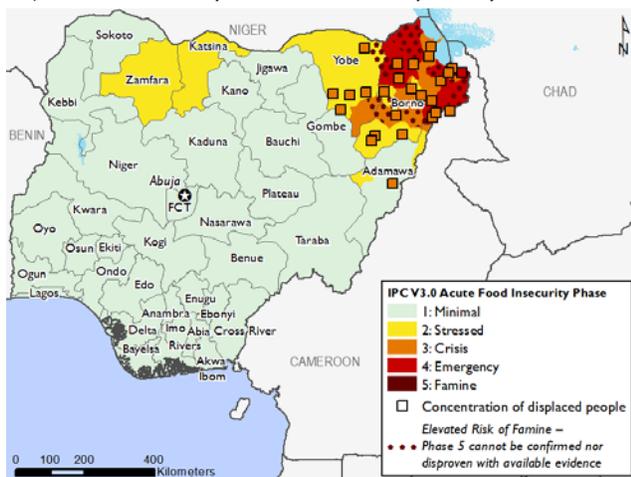
EVENTS THAT MIGHT CHANGE THE OUTLOOK

Table I. Possible events over the next eight months that could change the most-likely scenario.

Area	Event	Impact on food security outcomes
National	Escalation of the herder/farmer conflict Widespread flooding across the country Post-election violence across the country Delay onset of the rainy season and erratic rainfall distribution and low amount of rainfall.	Reduced level of cultivation and increase population displacement in affected areas. Displacement of more population and increased food needs. Reduced level of main season harvest. Displacement of more population in affected areas. Increase trader speculation and spike in food prices. Poor main season harvest. Low pasture availability and unfavorable livestock body condition.
Northeast	Reduced level of conflict	Increase return of IDPs to homestead. Improved livelihood activities and income access.

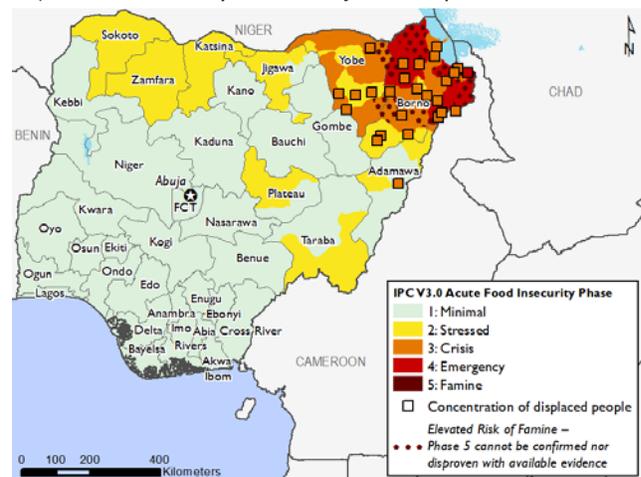
FOOD SECURITY OUTCOMES ASSUMING NO HUMANITARIAN FOOD ASSISTANCE IN THE PROJECTION PERIOD

Projected food security outcomes, February to May 2019



Source: FEWS NET

Projected food security outcomes, June to September 2019



Source: FEWS NET

FEWS NET classification is IPC-compatible. IPC-compatible analysis follows key IPC protocols but does not necessarily reflect the consensus of national food security partners.

ABOUT SCENARIO DEVELOPMENT

To project food security outcomes, FEWS NET develops a set of assumptions about likely events, their effects, and the probable responses of various actors. FEWS NET analyzes these assumptions in the context of current conditions and local livelihoods to arrive at a most likely scenario for the coming eight months. Learn more here.