

FOOD ASSISTANCE OUTLOOK BRIEF

September 2017

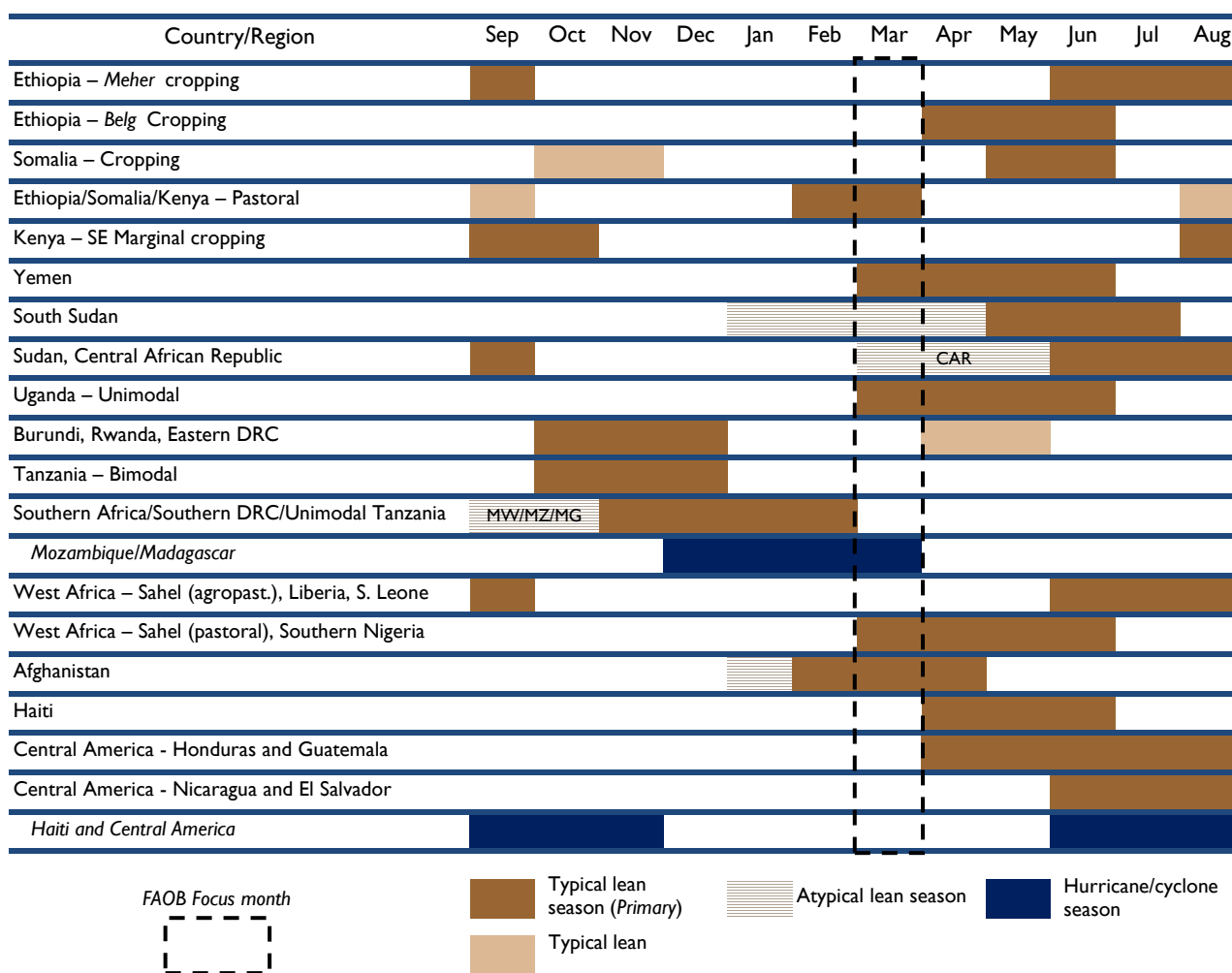
PROJECTED FOOD ASSISTANCE NEEDS FOR MARCH 2018

This brief summarizes FEWS NET's most forward-looking analysis of projected emergency food assistance needs in FEWS NET coverage countries. The projected size of each country's acutely food insecure population (IPC Phase 3 and higher) is compared to last year and the recent five-year average and categorized as Higher (▲), Similar (▶), or Lower (▼). Countries where external emergency food assistance needs are anticipated are identified. Projected lean season months highlighted in red indicate either an early start or an extension to the typical lean season. Additional information is provided for countries with large food insecure populations, an expectation of high severity, or where other key issues warrant additional discussion. Analytical confidence is lower in remote monitoring countries, denoted by "RM". Visit www.fews.net for detailed country reports.

Country (In order of estimated food insecure population, MAR.)	External needs in MAR. ?	MAR. versus last year	MAR. versus 5-year avg.	Highest likely severity (area) in MARCH	Key upcoming lean season	
10+ million	YEMEN	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency	March - June 2018
	Conflict is the primary driver of the largest food security emergency in the world, which is associated with high levels of acute malnutrition as well as excess mortality. The recent decision of the Central Bank in Aden to float the Yemeni Rial is raising concerns about the potential impact on future food imports and staple food prices. The potential for conflict in Al Hudaydah Governorate to restrict food imports through Hudaydah and Salif ports also remains a high concern.					
	SOUTH SUDAN	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency	January - July 2018
	Food security has improved marginally with the ongoing harvest but is expected to deteriorate in early 2018 when harvest stocks are depleted. Food availability is expected to be lower than previously anticipated in Torit, Magwi, Budi, Juba, and Aweil Center, due to crop damage from Fall Armyworm. Some households on isolated islands along the White Nile of Leer and Ayod could be in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) and concern will remain high for them with the 2018 lean season.					
2.5 – 4.9 million	ETHIOPIA	Yes	▼	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency	SE Pastoral: February - March 2018
	In Dollo, parts of Korahe, Shebelle, and Afder zones of Somali Region, large populations are expected to require assistance into March 2017, and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes are possible due to excessive livestock losses. Poor households in some Belg -dominant areas of SNNPR will begin to face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes.					
	AFGHANISTAN	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	January - April 2018
	Poor 2017 rainfed wheat production, particularly in parts of the north and northeast, will force households to atypically rely earlier on market purchases for their primary staple. Many of these households, along with conflict-displaced and returnees from Pakistan, are likely to face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes during the 2018 lean season, in the absence of assistance.					
	NIGERIA	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency	Northeast: April/May - September 2017
	Although main season harvests will seasonally improve food security outcomes in many parts of the country, conflict-affected populations in the northeast, particularly in Borno State, will remain highly dependent on humanitarian assistance for food access after little or no own production, extremely limited income opportunities, high food prices, and limited market access. There remains an elevated risk of Famine (IPC Phase 5) in inaccessible areas of Borno State.					
SOMALIA	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency	Pastoral minor: July-September 2017	
Data collected during the post-Gu in July indicates that extreme levels of food insecurity persist in central and northern pastoral areas. Food security has improved marginally in agropastoral and agricultural areas with the Gu harvest. Some improvements are expected with the October-December rains and even more with the start of the March-May Gu rainfall. However, Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes are still possible in some pastoral areas.						
DRC	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	Kasai/Tanganyika: Oct - Dec 2017	
Food assistance needs are expected during the post-harvest period, following below-average Season A harvests in some localized areas. Additionally, rural households may experience limited Season B cultivation due to conflict-related population movements, particularly in the Kasais where about 20 percent of the rural population (1,720,000 people) are displaced, as well as damages from pests, including the Fall Armyworm.						

	Country (In order of estimated food insecure population, MAR.)	External needs in MAR. ?	MAR. versus last year	MAR. versus 5-year avg.	Highest likely severity (area) in MARCH	Key upcoming lean season
2.5 – 4.9 million	KENYA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	Pastoral: July - October 2017 The October to December 2017 short rains are not expected to be sufficient to fully restore rangeland resources and livestock productivity across northern pastoral areas, particularly in Turkana, Marsabit, West Pokot, Isiolo, and Mandera. As a result, significant numbers of poor households are still expected to face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes in March 2018.
	SUDAN	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	June - September 2018 Urgent assistance will be required for IDPs and some resident households in SPLM-N-controlled areas of South Kordofan and in Jebel Marra areas of Darfur, even after the onset of harvests in October 2017. Moreover, the ongoing influx of South Sudanese refugees is expected to increase humanitarian assistance needs.
1.0 – 2.49 million	UGANDA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	Karamoja: March - June 2018 In Karamoja, Stressed (IPC Phase 2) outcomes are expected to persist, but there may be some households in Crisis (IPC Phase 3). According to WFP, funding levels are sufficient to continue providing assistance through September, but in March 2018, in the absence of assistance, South Sudanese refugees would likely be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3).
0.5 – 0.99 million	MOZAMBIQUE	Yes	▼	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	Central: October 2017 - March 2018 At the peak of the lean season in March, Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are expected in semiarid areas in northwestern Sofala Province where poor households will have exhausted their food stocks and income and rely on coping strategies.
	Central African Rep (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	March - September 2018 The conflict has had a significant impact on livelihoods and food access. It has also caused a rise in food prices and hinders the delivery of humanitarian assistance. The most affected areas are in the northwest, central, and southeastern regions.
	ZIMBABWE	Yes	▼	▼	PHASE 3: Crisis	November 2017 - February 2018 Poor households in southern and northern periphery districts are likely to experience food gaps because of reduced labor wages, lower remittances, and below-average income from crop and livestock sales due to the national cash shortages.
0.1 – 0.49 million	MADAGASCAR	Yes	▲	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	South: October 2017 - March 2018 Consecutive years of drought and below-average harvests are expected to drive Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes in southern Madagascar, beginning in October 2017, when households will begin to exhaust their food stocks.
	NIGER	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	Pastoral: March to July 2018 The conflict in the Lake Chad region disrupts the livelihoods and consumption needs of the host community due to the IDPs.
	Burundi (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	October - December 2017
	HAITI	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	April - June 2018
	GUATEMALA	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	April - August 2018
	MALAWI	No	▼	▼	PHASE 3: Crisis	Extreme south: Sept 2017 - Feb 2018 Poor household livelihoods in parts of the central and southern regions are still recovering from consecutive years of poor production. Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes during the lean period are expected for some of these households.
	Tanzania (RM)	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	Bimodal: October - December 2017
	Rwanda (RM)	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 1: Minimal	October - December 2017
	Lesotho (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	December 2017 - February 2018
<0.1 million	SIERRA LEONE	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	June - September 2017
	MALI	Yes	▼	▼	PHASE 1: Minimal	June - September 2017
	LIBERIA	Yes	▼	▼	PHASE 1: Minimal	June - September 2017
	MAURITANIA	No	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	June - September 2017
No projected Phase 3+	Honduras (RM)	No	▶	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	April - August 2018
	CHAD	No	▼	▼	PHASE 2: Stressed	Lac Region: May - September 2017
	Nicaragua (RM)	No	▶	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	June - August 2018
	El Salvador (RM)	No	▶	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	June - August 2018
	BURKINA FASO	No	▶	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	June - September 2017
	ZAMBIA	No	▶	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	November 2017 - February 2018

LEAN SEASONS IN FEWS NET MONITORED COUNTRIES AND REGIONS



IPC ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY PHASE DESCRIPTIONS (AREA)

PHASE 1 Minimal	Households are able to meet basic food needs and afford essential non-food expenditures without engaging in atypical, unsustainable coping strategies.
PHASE 2 Stressed	For at least 1 in 5 households, food consumption is reduced but minimally adequate without having to engage in unsustainable coping strategies. However, these households are unable to afford some essential non-food expenditures.
PHASE 3 Crisis	At least 1 in 5 households face significant food consumption gaps with high or above usual acute malnutrition, or is marginally able to meet minimum food needs only with unsustainable coping strategies such as liquidating livelihood assets.
PHASE 4 Emergency	At least 1 in 5 households face extreme food consumption gaps resulting in very high acute malnutrition or excess mortality, or faces extreme loss of livelihood assets that will likely lead to food consumption gaps.
PHASE 5 Famine	At least 1 in 5 households have a near complete lack of food and/or other basic needs. Starvation, death, and destitution are evident.
!	Phase classification would likely be worse without current or programmed humanitarian assistance.

ESTIMATED ACUTELY FOOD INSECURE POPULATIONS March 2018

Country	Pop. in IPC Phase 2		Pop. in IPC Phase 3 or higher		Total Acutely food insecure population	
	#	% of pop.	#	% of pop.	#	% of pop.
Yemen	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	>10.0 million	>60%	>10.0 million	>60%
South Sudan	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%	2.5 - 4.99 million	40-60%	5.0 - 9.99 million	>60%
Ethiopia	2.5 - 4.99 million	<5%	2.5 - 4.99 million	<5%	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%
Afghanistan	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%	5.0 - 9.99 million	20-40%
Nigeria	2.5 - 4.99 million	<5%	2.5 - 4.99 million	<5%	5.0 - 9.99 million	<5%
Somalia	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%	5.0 - 9.99 million	40-60%
DRC	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	<5%	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%
Kenya	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%
Sudan	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%
Uganda	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Mozambique	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
CAR RM	1.0 - 2.49 million	20-40%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	20-40%
Zimbabwe	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Madagascar	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%
Niger	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Burundi RM	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%
Haiti	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%
Guatemala	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Malawi	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%
Tanzania RM	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%
Rwanda RM	<0.1 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Lesotho RM	0.1 - 0.49 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	5-20%
Sierra Leone	0.1 - 0.49 million	5-20%	<0.1 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%
Mali	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	<0.1 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Liberia	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	<0.1 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	5-20%
Mauritania	<0.1 million	<5%	<0.1 million	<5%	<0.1 million	<5%
Honduras RM	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	None	0	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Chad	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	None	0	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Nicaragua RM	<0.1 million	<5%	None	0	<0.1 million	<5%
El Salvador RM	<0.1 million	<5%	None	0	<0.1 million	<5%
Burkina Faso	None	0	None	0	None	0
Zambia	None	0	None	0	None	0