**AFGHANISTAN Food Security Outlook**

**June 2019 to January 2020**

**Average wheat harvest is anticipated to improve food security outcomes across the country**

**KEY MESSAGES**

- Poor households dependent on rainfed wheat and on-farm labor in northern, northeastern, and northwestern Afghanistan are expected to experience an improvement in food consumption as the harvest continues. These households are expected to be in Minimal (IPC Phase 1) and Stressed (IPC Phase 2) as most households will not be able to meet all their minimum non-food needs. However, undocumented returnees, IDPs, and households with below-average remittances are likely to experience Crisis (IPC Phase 3) as they become more reliant on markets for food.

- National wheat production in Afghanistan is likely to be significantly above last year and average levels as a result of the significantly above-average precipitation across the country. Many areas across the north, northeast, and northwest of the country, where livelihoods are heavily dependent on rainfed staple production and livestock rearing are experiencing improvements in typical food and income sources. Preliminary harvest estimates indicate that the 2019 wheat harvest will be the highest since at least 2015 at 5.2 million metric tonnes (MMT).

- According to OCHA, through mid-June 2019, insecurity and conflict in various parts of the country has led to the displacement of more than 150,000 people. Conflict to date in 2019 occurred in over half of the provinces. Conflict continues to disrupt livelihood patterns and market activities in these areas. Furthermore, there have been nearly 225,000 undocumented returnees from Iran and Pakistan since the start of 2019. Many of these households will have few income-generating opportunities and labor opportunities, specifically after September as agricultural labor demand decreases.

**SEASONAL CALENDAR FOR A TYPICAL YEAR**

*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.
NATIONAL OVERVIEW

Current Situation

Above average 2018/19 precipitation across the country led to above-average cropping conditions and water availability for irrigation (Figure 1). Flooding occurred at normal levels during the transition from winter to spring. According to OCHA, as of June 5, flooding affected nearly 272,000 people in 23 provinces. As a result, according to the National Statistics Institute Authority (NSIA) and satellite estimates, many households planted in the spring leading to above-average area planted as households used all their available resources to access either improved and/or local wheat seeds. Additionally, more households are engaging in agriculture activities this year than normal due to the favorable performance of the precipitation season. The incidence and severity of spring flooding is above last year and near normal. Flooding had minimal impacts on the national cereal harvest; however localized affects in Kandahar, Hilmand, Herat, Badghis, and Ghor provinces are expected where crops were washed out. The snowmelt at higher elevations in the spring provided water for intensive agriculture; including horticultural production, winter and spring grain crops, and for the ongoing second season of cash crops such as cotton, grains used for fodder, and secondary grains including maize and rice. As a result, the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock (MAIL) and NSIA’s, Agriculture Production Report (APR) estimate aggregate crop production to be 5.2 MMT, 1.5 MMT above last year’s production, and 19 percent above the four-year average (Figure 2).

In areas where winter wheat or other winter crop harvest is complete, planting of second season crops has started. In intensive irrigated areas, second season crops such as rice and cotton are estimated to have areas planted above last year and similar to the five-year average. Melons and watermelons are important cash crops; in addition to saffron and poppy in some parts of Afghanistan, particularly in the northern and northeastern region. Current estimates indicate second season and melon production is likely to be average.

Afghanistan is a typically deficit wheat producing country and is reliant on imports to fulfill its national wheat consumption requirement. Preliminary estimates from MAIL indicate the wheat deficit will be about 1.0 to 1.5 MMT. This is anticipated to decrease Afghanistan’s demand for imports by about 50 percent compared to last year. Wheat production in both Kazakhstan and Pakistan is expected to be average this year, facilitating imports to meet domestic demand through normal marketing channels. Official estimates from Kazakhstan indicate wheat exports in MY 2019/20 will be 7.5 MMT. In Pakistan, the total availability (production and stocks) of 31.5 MMT of wheat at the start of the marketing year, maintaining stability in the Afghan wheat market. Typical marketing channels for importing wheat and wheat flour from Pakistan and Kazakhstan are contributing to price stability in wheat markets.

Wheat prices were similar to or slightly above the five-year average (Figure 3) in May 2019. Imports from Kazakhstan and Pakistan and the start of the 2019 harvest are contributing to the price stability. Although, prices in Kabul and Jalalabad are above the five-year average. In both markets, the market drivers are complex: increase in conflict, trade dynamics with Pakistan, as well as the influx of IDPs and undocumented returnees in and around these areas, all of which have affected

Projected food security outcomes, June to September 2019

Source: FEWS NET

Projected food security outcomes, October to January 2020

Source: FEWS NET

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AFGHANISTAN Food Security Outlook  
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Market prices. Livestock prices remain stable (Figure 4) in some areas, notably Kandahar, Maimana, and Mazar-e-Sharif, prices have started to increase as the result of improving livestock body conditions. Satellite data and reports indicate that spring pasture conditions have been favorable, supporting healthy body conditions for livestock. However, insecurity is preventing some households from accessing pastures.

Casual labor wages and availability have remained stable or increased since the start of 2019. The increased availability is the result of the start of the harvest and more agriculture labor opportunities. However, compared to the five-year average, labor wages and availability have decreased. This is primarily due to lower demand for labor in construction and other industrial sectors, largely as a result of political instability, reduced private investment, increasing insecurity, and competition between the repatriated Afghans from Iran and Pakistan seeking domestic employment opportunities.

Conflict and insecurity remain widespread, although the number of events is lower compared to the same period in 2018. Although the conflict events have spread in geographic extent, particularly in the north, northeast, west, and south (Figure 5). High levels of displacement and as well as fatalities continues. The prevailing insecurity conditions continue to have broad impacts on the ability of Afghans to maintain and establish livelihoods and participate in the ongoing agriculture season. This leaves many households frequently adjusting to the changing local conditions that alter daily life including: market access, labor opportunities and availability, access to grazing lands, and ability to participated in the ongoing agriculture season. Many IDPs affected by conflict, as well as undocumented returnees are most likely to have a below-average household harvest.

According to UNHCR and IOM, since the beginning of the year through mid-June, over an estimated 225,000 documented and undocumented people have returned from Iran and Pakistan. Returnees, especially those who are undocumented, have limited options for re-establishing livelihoods and participating in the ongoing agriculture season. The number of returnees is lower than estimates at the beginning of the year. Many of those returning have lived outside of Afghanistan for many years and have a lack of employment opportunities, shelter, and security, making it difficult to establish livelihoods in their new environment. Many returnees, particularly those who were undocumented, have few assets and are highly dependent on limited assistance from communities and humanitarian agencies. Furthermore, population movements away from insecure areas to cities and more secure areas has increased competition for limited employment opportunities. Undocumented returnees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) now compose most of the influx of populations to urban areas.
The majority of poor households in central, western, and northwestern provinces receive money from household members who are labor migrants in Iran, which is a key income source. Remittances from the Persian Gulf region continue at a normal rate. However, according to MAIL/NSIA, due to the international financial embargo on Iran, Iran’s economic prosperity has decreased, which negatively affected the level of remittances from Iran. A recent FEWS NET assessment indicates remittance reliant households have started seeking alternative income sources by working in the formal sector by joining the Afghan National Army (ANA) or the Afghan National Police (ANP), creating self-employment opportunities, and engaging in agriculture labor.

The prevalence of Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) as measured by weight-for-height (WHZ) is “Serious” (10.0 to 14.9 percent) to “Critical” (> 15.0 percent) per WHO Classification in most provinces. Ongoing conflict, low access to basic services, high incidence of disease, and the impact of natural disasters have exacerbated the existing vulnerabilities of communities, contributing to the high rates of acute malnutrition.

According to FSAC information, humanitarian food assistance continues across the country to IDPs, households affected by flooding, and to a few provinces. Current and up to date data on humanitarian food assistance distribution, including the number of beneficiaries and ration size was only available for a few provinces. As such, this analysis includes the impacts of humanitarian food assistance only where data was available.

In addition to food from own harvests, poor households are currently relying on income earned from agricultural and non-agricultural labor, as well as remittances from household members abroad or in other areas within Afghanistan; however, these income sources are mostly below average. As a result, most poor households are estimated to be facing Minimal (IPC Phase 1) and Stressed (IPC Phase 2) outcomes. Many returned households have few income-generating opportunities as agricultural labor demand declines after September and will likely be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3). In almost all areas of country, there are households who have not been fully recovered from the major losses of livelihood assets or crops due to last year’s drought and conflict. Many of these households are starting to rebuild their livelihoods; however, despite the above average harvest these households are not able to fully as they still have depleted livestock herds and few assets. Many of these households are currently facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes. Areas with the greatest proportion of people estimated to be facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes include many parts of the north and central highlands that are heavily dependent on rainfed agriculture and livestock grazing, as well as areas that have been heavily affected by ongoing conflict.

Assumptions

The most likely scenario for June 2019 to January 2020 is based on the following assumptions:

- International wheat market prices, especially for exports of wheat and wheat flour from Kazakhstan and Pakistan, are likely to remain stable leading to normal import quantities of wheat grain and wheat flour from both countries.
• Domestic wheat prices are expected to remain stable with some changes in prices due to further devaluation of Afghan currency against US dollar which will destabilize the prices in Afghanistan and in the region.

• The above average 2018/19 wet season and favorable pasture conditions across most of the country is anticipated to lead to improvements in livestock body conditions and productivity with average access income from livestock products. Households are also anticipated to start rebuilding their herd sizes.

• Livestock migration from higher elevation areas to lower elevations is expected to happen as normal in August and September.

• Livestock prices are likely to remain stable. However, in August, prices are expected to increase before Eid-a-Qurban (Eid of Slaughter).

• Production from the second season crops will most likely be average to above average as water availability and soil moisture remain above average.

• Household food stocks are likely to be average from own-produced foods, helping limit the length of time in which poor households are reliant on food purchases to access staple foods for 6 to 10 months.

• Poppy production is expected to increase in 2019 compared to 2018 with harvest levels near that of 2017. Taking into consideration the current political instability and insecurity, the labor income from the poppy harvest will most likely be average.

• In 2019, the IOM is projecting a return of over 570,000 returnees from Iran linked to ongoing economic challenges and a minimum of 50,000 returns from Pakistan, a figure that has already been endorsed by the Governments of Pakistan and Afghanistan. The remaining undocumented and Afghan Citizenship Card holding caseloads of more than 1,000,000 people may also face deportation from Pakistan in 2019/2020.

• The international sanctions on Iran will most likely lead to decreased work opportunities; decreasing remittances from Iran.

• Household purchasing power will likely improve, and households will most likely rely atypically on credit from stores, relatives and/or on in-kind payments from better-off households.

• The nutrition situation continues to be of concern due to Chronic drivers of acute malnutrition, however the nutrition situation is expected to remain stable or slightly improve with the completion of the first and second season harvests.

• Given the difficulty in predicting the evolution of conflict, this scenario assumes the continuation of conflict similar to recent years. This will most likely continue to disrupt overall agriculture activities and livelihoods and is anticipated to cause further deterioration of the labor market and economic activities, including migration for labor.

**Most Likely Food Security Outcomes**

Food security outcomes are anticipated to generally improve across the country from June to September, due to the above-average wheat harvest, favorable livestock prices, and high demand for agriculture labor during the harvest. Poor farmers have sufficient staple foods to meet households’ food needs, at least through September 2019. In addition, incomes generated from agricultural production and livestock sales will cover non-food costs. The landless households will also be able to cover their food consumption needs through sharecropping and income earned from labor opportunities during the main season harvest. Most poor households across the country are likely to face Minimal (IPC Phase 1) and Stressed (IPC Phase 2). Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are likely to continue in displaced households, undocumented returnees and areas of Badghis province which was significantly affected by last year’s drought and conflict. New IDPs and urban households nationwide, who have been entirely reliant on the now waning construction sector, are expected to be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) from June to September.

Rural poor households are likely to continue relying on food stocks, although they are most likely going to start relying on markets food. Wheat prices are estimated to be remain stable, however below average incomes, will most likely restrict market purchases. As a result, most poor households are likely to have below normal food consumption during the scenario period. IDPs and returnees with no or limited access to land for cultivation will not have access to food from own harvests, sale of cash crops, or livestock will be primarily dependent on seasonal agricultural labor on the farms of their host communities during the June to September harvest period. Many poor households are likely to not have fully rebuilt their
livelihoods due to the last year’s drought. From October through January 2020, many households are likely to deteriorate to Crisis (IPC Phase 3) as many households are still trying to recover from the drought and face food consumption gaps.

**Events that Might Change the Outlook**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Impact on food security outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National</td>
<td>Further depreciation of Afghan Currency against US dollar.</td>
<td>Considering the devaluation of Afghan currency against US dollar, there is a risk of higher price of staple food items in Afghanistan which will further worsen the purchasing power of the poor households in the country.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National, but particularly Urban Area.</td>
<td>Pakistan and/or Iran accelerate the repatriation of Afghan refugees</td>
<td>If Iran and/or Pakistan do accelerate forcible repatriate Afghan refugees, labor wages would likely further deteriorate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Afghanistan and Central Highlands</td>
<td>Further depreciation of the Iranian Rial (IRR) against the Afghanistan Afghani (AFN)</td>
<td>For households receiving a large proportion of their income as remittances from Iran, food access would likely deteriorate due to the continued decline in income.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nationwide, but particularly urban households in eastern and southern provinces</td>
<td>Pakistan bans wheat and/or wheat flour exports</td>
<td>If Pakistan bans wheat or wheat flour exports, wheat flour prices in Afghanistan especially in eastern and southern provinces can rise in response. Due to political tension between Pakistan and Afghanistan and political instability in the country, export bans are more likely. High prices decrease household access to food.</td>
</tr>
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**AREAS OF CONCERN**

**Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)**

**Current Situation**

As per OCHA, since the beginning of 2019 through mid-June, nearly 150,000 people have been displaced due to conflict in 26 out of 34 provinces (Figure 6*). In addition, there are roughly 277,000 people displaced by natural disasters throughout Afghanistan. Ongoing conflict throughout the country limits humanitarian access and prevents the verification of the full extent of displacement. A few urban centers are the recipients of most displacement patterns, Kabul, Herat, and Mazar-e-Sharif, Kandahar, and Jalalabad as bastions of relative security in provinces where insecurity in rural areas is increasing.

IDPs are anticipated to have limited access to labor opportunities as they often do not know how to find opportunities, know they exist, or lack the more specialized skills for labor in urban areas. Levels of displacements due to conflict are assumed to increase from June to September, when conflict typically intensifies. As IDPs are often in unfamiliar environments, many have not established their livelihoods or found new sources of income following displacement. Although many IDPs are in camps or hosted by other...

*It is important to note the data displaced for years 2012 to 2018 are the cumulative annual total for displacement. Data for 2019 is for January 1 to June 20, 2019.*

![Figure 6. Conflict Induced IDPs from 2012 to mid-June 2019](source: UNOCHA)
communities in informal settlements or homes of hosting communities. The IDPs in camps are relying mostly on humanitarian aid, although distribution is not consistent due to access constraints and is typically not a complete ration. Food insecurity and scarcity of drinking water, coupled with displacement, have contributed to an increase in malnutrition rates and water-borne disease among the IDP population. IDPs are likely to remain in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) throughout the first half of the scenario period (June to September 2019) and will likely depend heavily on support from host communities and humanitarian assistance.

During the second half of the scenario period (October 2019 to January 2020), the number of labor opportunities may drop in rural areas after the second season harvest is complete. Competition for urban labor opportunities is most likely to increase; limiting their ability to access income. IDPs are likely to remain in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and will are expected to continue to depend heavily on support from host communities and humanitarian assistance.

**Kandahar Province**

**Current Situation**

Despite spring flooding, current estimates indicate wheat production is expected to be above last year’s production, particularly in households reliant on rainfed wheat production. However, Kandahar is traditionally a wheat deficit area, with a significant amount of wheat imported from Pakistan. Most households are more dependent on internal provincial labor migration, civil services like ANA, ANP rather than migrations to Iran, which is becoming unstable source of income over time. Household male members are migrating to Kandahar city, and surrounding provinces in search for work. Fortunately, labor wages increased 10 percent compared to last year. The increase in wages is inclusive of annual inflation as well as increase in goods prices, and available labor opportunities with the areas.

According to ACELDDATA, conflict in Kandahar province in the first six months of 2019 is significantly above levels seen in 2017 or 2018. There is also a significant increase in the number of fatalities in the first half of 2018. The increased conflict is the result of insurgents including the Taliban trying to gain control of more land to have a stronger position during the peace talks.

Seasonal precipitation is above the long-term average, rangeland and pastures condition is better than last year. As a result, animal grazing land is widely available and this year, livestock prices are higher than the same time as last year. Fresh milk products are available which is a good source of income. It is early to conclude the outcomes of pomegranates harvest as this will not be completed for another several weeks. However, considering the current status of the crop, in addition to farmers’ reported perceptions, the pomegranate harvest looks to be average to above average.

Market access is normal except in areas affected by conflict. Wheat prices across this area are 6 percent above the five-year average and nearly 10 percent above last year’s prices at the same time. Livestock prices are 50 to 60 percent above prices at the same time last year, although prices have stabilized since the beginning of 2019 at current levels. These price increases are most likely due to the increase in conflict. Melons and grapes are exported to Pakistan, while wheat flour and other goods are imported. Despite the conflict trade is occurring at normal rates.

This year, nearly 33,000 individuals have been affected by floods in Maiwand, Zeray, Panjway, Daman, Arghandab, Spin Boldak and center of the province. Damage to infrastructure has been reported, including to homes. In Kandahar city, an estimated 600 houses were damaged or destroyed. However, since most of the flooding occurred in urban areas there was not significant impact to the ongoing agriculture season. WFP along with other humanitarian agencies have distributed food and nonfood assistance to the flood affected people.

In Kandahar province, despite the harvest and consumption of own foods, the natural disaster impacted households, IDPs, undocumented returnees, and poor households are not able to access income to meet their non-food needs. As a result, most of the province is facing Stressed (IPC Phase 2) with some households facing Minimal (IPC Phase 1).
Assumptions

In addition to the national assumptions described above, the most likely scenario for Kandahar is based on the following assumptions:

• Though some localized and temporary road blockages happen during fighting’s, generally access to markets is expected to be normal with some short-term localized market disturbances.

Most Likely Food Security Outcomes

Most households will likely continue relying on own production, livestock products sales, and domestic labor from June to September. Income from orchard and other industrial crops is anticipated to continue to be at average levels. Flood and conflict affected households as well as undocumented returnees are expected to will employ some of the following coping strategies including migrating to seek labor opportunities where second season agriculture takes place or urban areas. Northern areas of the province are anticipated to have near average access to labor opportunities and continue relying on own production are likely to continue facing Stressed (IPC Phase 2) and Minimal (IPC Phase1) outcomes during this period.

As many households continue recovering from the drought as well as are impacted by continuing conflict and flooding, these household are most likely to start facing food consumption gap in October and November. As a result, most of the province is anticipated to face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Stressed (IPC Phase 2).

Herat Province – Livelihood Zone 13 – Western Intensive Irrigated Agriculture

Current Situation

Herat province was significantly affected by the 2018 drought and many households are continuing to rebuild their livelihoods. Access to wheat seeds to the majority of poor households was not difficult as seeds were readily available in the market and most household did whatever they could do to purchase seeds for planting. Current estimates indicate the harvest is likely to be average to above average as a result of the above average precipitation season and a nearly 50 percent increase in rainfed wheat area planted. This year flooding affected Ghoryan, Hira Urban, Shindad, Zerkoh, Push koh, Zawol, Pashton Zarghun and Injil districts. As a result of the flooding some households lost their growing crops; however, the impacts of flooding were localized and did not have significant impacts.

Saffron is an important cash crop in almost 19 districts of Herat, this year’s saffron production is estimated to be above average, providing another income source through labor and sales. Pasture condition are very good this year with normal access allowing livestock owners to graze their animals without any concern. Compared to last year livestock body conditions are satisfactory which has resulted higher livestock prices and productivity of livestock products than last year.

Overall prices for wheat are stable; only slightly above the same time last year by roughly 4 percent. Although, due to the increased inflation rate, other food commodities such as oil, rice and pulse prices are slightly higher than at the same time last year. Due to favorable pasture conditions, livestock productivity is increased considerably and many pastoral households are consuming dairy products. Livestock prices are considerably higher comparing to same time last year and have been stable since about November of 2018. The terms of trade (ToT) Sheep to Wheat Flour are favorable and pastoral households can sell a goat for a favorable amount of wheat.

Generally, labor opportunities are widely available at this time of year as the agriculture season is ongoing. Labor migration to Iran is continuing at similar rates to last year; however, their significant decrease in income of household relying on remittances as remittances from Iran have decreased.

Herat center currently hosts about 29,000 IDPS in IDP camps that receive humanitarian assistance monthly. Based on a survey from the Provincial Disaster Management Committee (PDMC) the majority of IDPs in Hirat city were displaced from Badghis province with some from Ghor and Faryab provinces. Food consumed in these camps are either from humanitarian assistance or purchases through cash assistance or with their own cash or credits. Some of them are also relying on charity and gifts.
from friends and relatives. IDP households access labor opportunities outside of the camps; however limited. Displaced households residing in camps are currently experiencing Stressed! (IPC Phase 2!) as the result of humanitarian assistance.

As a result of the impacts of the average to above average season, many households have started recovering from the drought, rebuilding their livelihoods; however, they have not fully recovered. As a result, non-displaced households with market access to purchase food and access to labor opportunities are likely in Stressed (IPC Phase 2).

**Assumptions**

In addition to the national assumptions described above, the most likely scenario for Herat Province is based on the following assumptions:

- The competition for labor opportunities is likely to increase and is anticipated to decrease labor wages, decreasing poor household income.

**Most Likely Food Security Outcomes**

Labor demand will most likely peak seasonally in June to September; although income earned from labor is expected continue to be below-average. Livestock herd sizes and body conditions are likely to continue improving and households will be able to sell sheep and goats during the upcoming months of August and September during Eid Qurban for higher prices. Also, most households will most likely continue relying on own production and livestock products sales and in-house labor opportunities during the first half from June to September. Income from orchard and other industrial crops is anticipated to continue to be at average level. Conflict and flood affected households are expected to migrate to seek labor opportunities where there is second season planting and urban areas. Most poor rural households will not be able to meet their non-food needs due to restricted incomes; however, are expected to continue consuming own foods through September and expected to be in Stressed (IPC Phase 2).

During the October to January period, many households are likely to have consumed most to all of their food stocks and will most likely rely on market purchases for food. Income from remittances will remain below average and some households will also try to send their members to Iran to continue seeking additional income. Most households, IDPs, and undocumented returnees across the province are expected to be in Stressed (IPC Phase 2) and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) as they relying on market purchases for food with below average incomes, limiting purchases.
MOST LIKELY FOOD SECURITY OUTCOMES AND AREAS RECEIVING SIGNIFICANT LEVELS OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE*

Each of these maps adheres to IPC v3.0 humanitarian assistance mapping protocols and flags where significant levels of humanitarian assistance are being/are expected to be provided. ☟ indicates that at least 25 percent of households receive on average 25–50 percent of caloric needs from humanitarian food assistance (HFA). ☠ indicates that at least 25 percent of households receive on average over 50 percent of caloric needs through HFA. This mapping protocol differs from the (!) protocol used in the maps at the top of the report. The use of (!) indicates areas that would likely be at least one phase worse in the absence of current or programmed humanitarian assistance.

PROJECTED FOOD SECURITY OUTCOMES, JUNE TO SEPTEMBER 2019

PROJECTED FOOD SECURITY OUTCOMES, OCTOBER 2019 TO JANUARY 2020

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.