FOOD ASSISTANCE OUTLOOK BRIEF

April 2018
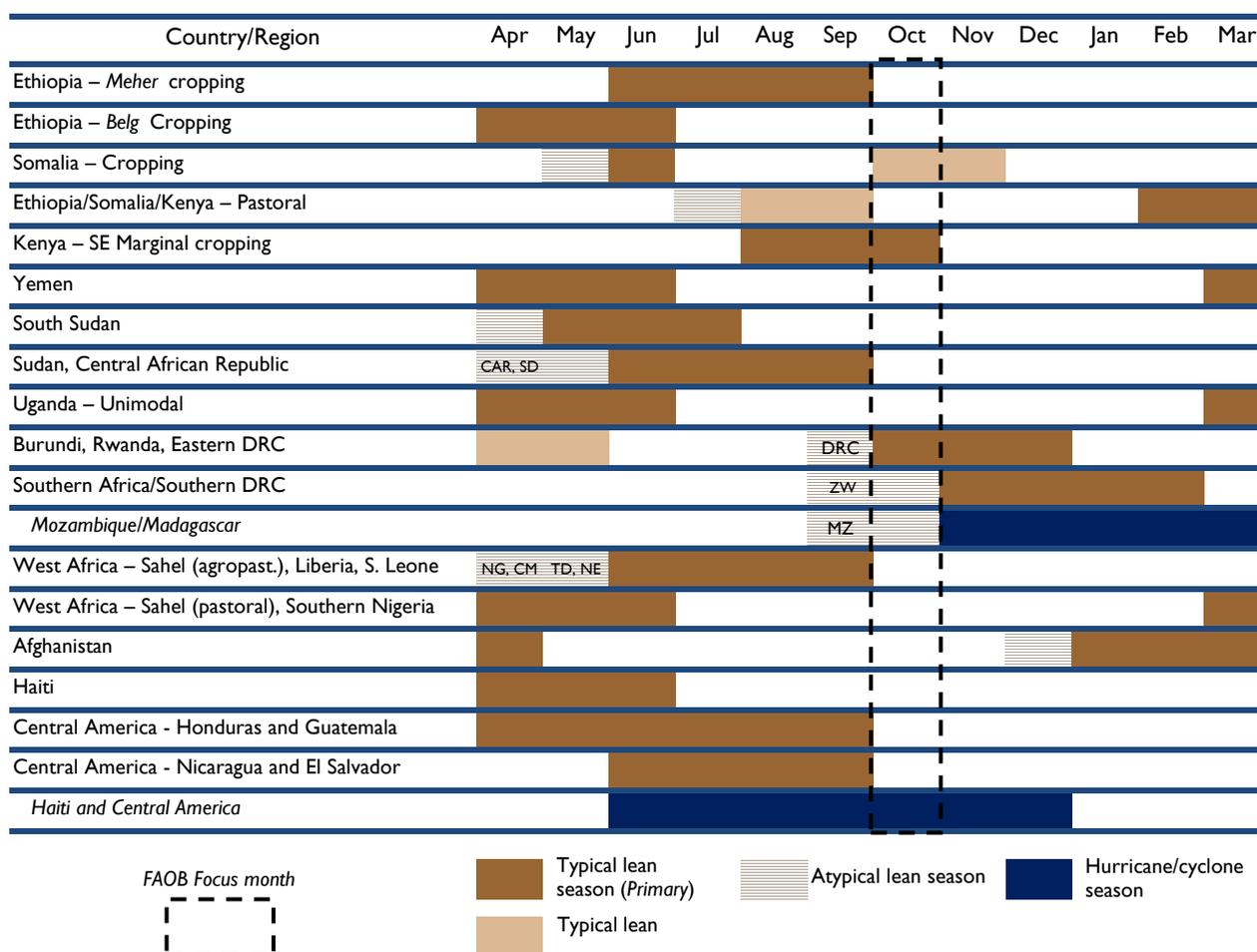
PROJECTED FOOD ASSISTANCE NEEDS FOR OCTOBER 2018

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, OCT.)	External needs in OCT. ?	OCT. versus last year	OCT. versus 5-year avg.	Highest likely severity (area) in OCTOBER	Key upcoming lean season
10+ million					
YEMEN	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency & risk of Famine	April - June 2018
Several months following the end of the recent blockade, staple food prices remain high. This, in combination with persistent conflict and reduced economic activity, continue to drive Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes in many areas. Yemen faces a risk of Famine (IPC Phase 5) in a worst-case scenario in which there is a prolonged and significant disruption to imports through the ports of Al Hudaydah and Salif.					
5.0 – 9.9 million					
SOUTH SUDAN	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency & risk of Famine	January - July 2018
In October, many households will have access to some harvests; however, widespread Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes are still expected. In a worst-case scenario characterized by the protracted absence of assistance, Famine (IPC Phase 5) would be expected. Of greatest concern are southern and central Unity, northwestern Jonglei, and Western Bahr el Ghazal. Kapoeta East is also of increasing concern.					
NIGERIA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency & risk of Famine	March - September 2018
Many of the 1.7 million displaced people in the northeast will be unable to return and cultivate during the main season. With limited economic activity and poor agricultural production due to ongoing conflict, a large proportion of people in the area will remain heavily dependent on humanitarian assistance during the post-harvest period. There remains a risk of Famine (IPC Phase 5) in the event worst-affected populations are cut-off from assistance and local livelihood activities.					
2.5 – 4.9 million					
ETHIOPIA	Yes	▼	▶	PHASE 4: Emergency	SE pastoral: July - Sept 2018
Forecasts for below-average *Gu* 2018 rains, combined with extremely low household livestock holdings, suggest the ongoing food security emergency in southeastern Ethiopia will continue through most of 2018. Sustained, large-scale assistance is needed through at least mid-2018 to mitigate the risk of increases in acute malnutrition and a further deterioration of outcomes, particularly in Dollo, Korahe, and Jarar zones.					
DRC	Yes	▼	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	Northeast: July - Sept 2018
Conflict-related population movements affected Season A and Season B cultivation, leading to two successive below-average harvests. As a result, there will be food assistance needs through at least the end of September 2018, in the greater Kasai Region, Tanganyika, Ituri, South Kivu, and North Kivu provinces.					
SUDAN	Yes	▲	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	April - September 2018
Staple food prices have increased sharply in many markets in Sudan, following the devaluation of the Sudanese Pound and removal of wheat subsidies in late 2017. This is likely to drive an increase in the total number of households facing Stressed (IPC Phase 2) and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes.					
AFGHANISTAN	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	December 2018 - April 2019
Poor households, many of whom typically depend partly on rainfed staple production to access food, are likely to have below-average food stocks after main season harvests. Due to weak casual labor availability, their ability to meet remaining food needs through market purchases will be limited. Further internal displacement and returnees from Pakistan are likely.					

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Country (In order of estimated food insecure population, OCT.)	External needs in OCT. ?	OCT. versus last year	OCT. versus 5-year avg.	Highest likely severity (area) in OCTOBER	Key upcoming lean season
2.5 – 4.9 million					
KENYA	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	July - October 2018
Ahead of the October-December short rains, food assistance needs are expected to peak in October due to declining food and income sources in both pastoral and marginal agricultural areas. Areas of greatest concern include Isiolo, Wajir, Mandera, and Garissa where Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are expected to persist.					
1.0 – 2.49 million					
SOMALIA	Yes	▼	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency	May - June 2018
Although the *Gu* harvest and increased milk availability will improve food security in mid-2018, household access to food and income will remain below average due to past poor seasons and the forecast below-average *Gu*. Food security will again deteriorate in October, the start of the minor agropastoral lean season. Large assistance needs will persist through October, and northern and central areas are of highest concern.					
UGANDA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	Karamoja: March - June 2018
Refugees from South Sudan and DRC are expected to continue to flee to Uganda through October, and they represent the majority of needs. In the absence of assistance, Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are likely for this population.					
ZIMBABWE	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	September 2018 - March 2019
Below-average harvests are anticipated in southern and far northern districts due to extreme dryness and high temperatures during a critical growing period. Despite multiple plantings by poor households and improved rainfall in February, needs are expected to be above average. Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are projected for these areas.					
0.5 – 0.99 million					
MALAWI	Yes	▲	▼	PHASE 3: Crisis	October 2018 - March 2019
Several districts in the central and southern regions are projected to be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) as a result of anticipated below-average 2018 cereal production and limited incomes among poor households.					
Central African Rep (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	February - September 2018
The new harvests are expected to improve food security, particularly for host and displaced populations. However, many poor households will be unable to practice any kind of agricultural or pastoral activities and will be market dependent.					
MOZAMBIQUE	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	Sept 2018 - March 2019
Following crop failure or low main season production, poor households in southern and central semiarid areas are likely to begin facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes in June. Income-earning opportunities are not expected to cover food needs.					
0.1 – 0.49 million					
NIGER	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	Pastoral: February - June 2018
The October main harvest is expected to allow many poor households to replenish their stocks. However, livelihoods in the Diffa region are expected to remain affected by the ongoing Boko Haram conflict.					
MADAGASCAR	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	SW: October 2017 - June 2018
Consecutive years of poor rainfall in the southwest have caused below-average harvests and limited food access.					
Burundi (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	April - May 2018
HAITI	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	April - June 2018
Rwanda (RM)	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 1: Minimal	April - May 2018
CHAD	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	Pastoral: January - June 2018
As the lean season ends, food availability will recover as households replenish their stocks. However, the Lac region is still likely to be affected by trade flow disruptions with Nigeria due to Nigeria's economic crisis and the Boko Haram conflict.					
<0.1 million					
GUATEMALA	No	▼	▼	PHASE 2: Stressed	April - September 2018
Lesotho (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	October 2018 - March 2019
MALI	No	▶	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	April - October 2018
MAURITANIA	No	▲	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	Agropastoral: Jan - June 2018
No projected Phase 3+					
Cameroon (RM)	No	▶	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	April - September 2018
Honduras (RM)	No	▶	▼	PHASE 2: Stressed	April - September 2018
Burkina Faso (RM)	No	▶	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	June - September 2018
Nicaragua (RM)	No	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	June - September 2018
El Salvador (RM)	No	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	June - September 2018

LEAN SEASONS IN FEWS NET MONITORED COUNTRIES AND REGIONS

Country/Region	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Ethiopia – *Meher* cropping												
Ethiopia – *Belg* Cropping												
Somalia – Cropping												
Ethiopia/Somalia/Kenya – Pastoral												
Kenya – SE Marginal cropping												
Yemen												
South Sudan												
Sudan, Central African Republic	CAR, SD											
Uganda – Unimodal												
Burundi, Rwanda, Eastern DRC						DRC						
Southern Africa/Southern DRC						ZW						
Mozambique/Madagascar						MZ						
West Africa – Sahel (agropast.), Liberia, S. Leone	NG, CM TD, NE											
West Africa – Sahel (pastoral), Southern Nigeria												
Afghanistan												
Haiti												
Central America - Honduras and Guatemala												
Central America - Nicaragua and El Salvador												
Haiti and Central America												

FAOB Focus month ⬚

- Typical lean season (*Primary*)
- Typical lean
- Atypical lean season
- Hurricane/cyclone season

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   October 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	5.0 - 9.99 million	20-40%	>10.0 million	>60%	>10.0 million	>60%
South Sudan	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%	5.0 - 9.99 million	40-60%	>10.0 million	>60%
Nigeria	>10.0 million	5-20%	5.0 - 9.99 million	<5%	>10.0 million	5-20%
Ethiopia	2.5 - 4.99 million	<5%	2.5 - 4.99 million	<5%	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%
DRC	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%	>10.0 million	5-20%
Sudan	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%
Afghanistan	5.0 - 9.99 million	20-40%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%	5.0 - 9.99 million	20-40%
Kenya	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%
Somalia	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%
Uganda	<0.1 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%
Zimbabwe	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%
Malawi	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	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%
Mozambique	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Niger	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Madagascar	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	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%
Rwanda RM	<0.1 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Chad	<0.1 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Guatemala	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	<0.1 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%
Lesotho RM	<0.1 million	<5%	<0.1 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	5-20%
Mali	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	<0.1 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Mauritania	0.1 - 0.49 million	5-20%	<0.1 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	5-20%
Cameroon RM	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	None	0	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%
Honduras RM	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	None	0	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Burkina Faso RM	<0.1 million	0	None	0	<0.1 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%