

FOOD ASSISTANCE OUTLOOK BRIEF

August 2020

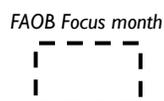
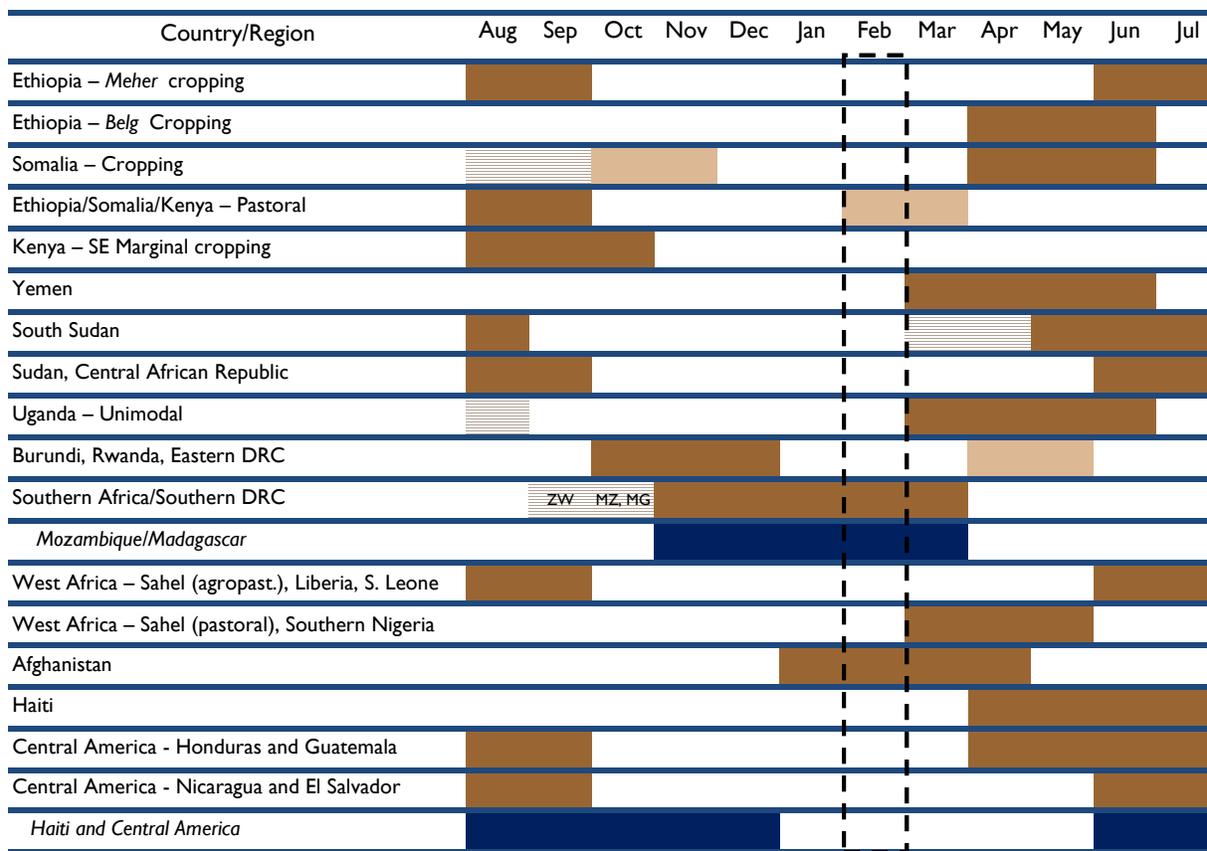
PROJECTED FOOD ASSISTANCE NEEDS FOR February 2021

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, FEB.)	External needs in FEB. ?	FEB. versus last year	FEB. versus 5-year avg.	Highest likely severity (area) in FEBRUARY	Key upcoming lean season
15+ million	YEMEN	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency & risk of Famine	March - June 2021
	<p>By February 2021, an increasing number of households are expected to be facing consumption gaps due to depleted food stocks, high food prices, reduced access to income, and reductions to humanitarian assistance in northern Houthi-controlled areas. Widespread Crisis! (IPC Phase 3!) outcomes are expected, with Emergency (IPC Phase 4) likely in worst-affected areas. Should food supply be cut off for a prolonged period, Famine (IPC Phase 5) would be possible.</p>					
5.0 - 9.99 million	DRC	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency	NE/SE: August - November 2020
	<p>Conflict and flooding are leading to another poorer than normal harvest in the northeast and central-east. Ongoing easing of movement restrictions will improve access to informal labor, but high levels of acute food insecurity are still expected in urban areas where purchasing power remains low. In Djuju territory of Ituri Province, conflict is driving displacement and limiting access to food, and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes are expected in the lean season.</p>					
	ZIMBABWE	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	September 2020 - March 2021
	<p>COVID-19 restrictions are exacerbating the impacts of continued macroeconomic deterioration and poor production in 2019 and 2020. Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are expected in many areas through at least March 2021, the peak of the lean season. Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes are expected among some households in southern areas of the country.</p>					
2.5 - 4.99 million	SOUTH SUDAN	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency & risk of Famine	February - August 2021
	<p>Although the main harvest and seasonal milk, fish, and wild foods availability will marginally improve food security outcomes beginning in October, Emergency (IPC Phase 4) will most likely persist in the post-harvest period in areas where intercommunal conflict or floods significantly constrain crop and livestock production. Famine (IPC Phase 5) would be possible in a worst-case scenario where households are unable to access food sources for a prolonged period of time.</p>					
	AFGHANISTAN	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	January - April 2021
<p>By February 2021, an increasing number of rural households will have exhausted food stocks as the lean season progresses. Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are expected in many areas, with the Central Highlands worst affected. Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are also expected among some poor urban households due to prolonged impacts of COVID-19.</p>						
2.5 - 4.99 million	ETHIOPIA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	Meher cropping: Jun. - Sept. 2020
	<p>COVID-19 related movement restrictions are lowering income earning opportunities, while conflict continues to displace households and disrupt livelihoods. The desert locust upsurge and forecast below-average Oct.-Dec. <i>deyr</i> season are expected to lead to below-average production in late 2020. In February, Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are anticipated in many southern and eastern areas.</p>					
	NIGERIA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency & risk of Famine	April - September 2020
<p>Declines in oil prices and associated depreciation of the NGN is putting upward pressure on staple food prices. Due to COVID-19 related movement restrictions, poor households are facing declines in income. These restrictions, alongside conflict in the Northeast, Northwest, and North-Central states are expected to contribute to a below-average harvest in October. Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse area-level outcomes are anticipated in conflict-affected areas, and a risk of Famine (IPC Phase 5) persists in the Northeast.</p>						

Country (In order of estimated food insecure population, FEB.)	External needs in FEB. ?	FEB. versus last year	FEB. versus 5-year avg.	Highest likely severity (area) in FEBRUARY	Key upcoming lean season
SUDAN	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	May - September 2020
	Food security is expected to improve as harvests get fully underway in November and provide access to own-produced crops and cash and in-kind income. However, very high staple food prices and the restrictions related to COVID-19 are expect to maintain very high assistance needs during the harvest period.				
SOMALIA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency	Riverine: April - September 2020
Needs will be atypically high in early 2021, driven by consecutive seasons of below-average <i>gu</i> and <i>deyr</i> crop production; the effect of below-average <i>deyr</i> rainfall and the desert locust upsurge on livestock production; and the economic impacts of COVID-19 on remittances, exports, labor demand, and imported food prices.					
KENYA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	July-October 2020
	Many poor urban households remain in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) due to a loss of income linked to COVID-19 restrictions. Due to the below average Oct.-Dec. short rains, Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes will persist in February in some pastoral and marginal agricultural areas. Refugee settlements will likely be Stressed! (IPC Phase 2!).				
UGANDA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis (!)	Karamoja: March - September 2020
Due to underfunding, there is a likelihood of ration cuts to refugees in 2021; Crisis! (IPC Phase 3!) outcomes are expected in refugee sites. By Jan., some households in Karamoja may be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) due to the below-average 2020 harvest.					
MOZAMBIQUE	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	October 2020-March 2021
Drought in the southern regions and insecurity in Cabo Delgado are driving Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes in February 2021.					
GUATEMALA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	February - August 2020
Poor urban households who work in the informal sector are expected to face Stressed (IPC Phase 2) or Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes through November. Humanitarian assistance is anticipated to end in September, and poor households in the Dry Corridor are expected to face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes in February 2021.					
Burkina Faso (RM)	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	Sahel: February - Sept. 2020
Conflict in the north is causing displacement and disrupting households' access to typical food and income sources. Continued COVID-19 restrictions in urban areas are reducing access to income for the urban poor, driving higher needs.					
CAMEROON	Yes	▲	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	Far North: June-September 2020
In February, stocks from the below-average harvest in the Northwest and Southwest will continue to deplete, driving Crisis					
NIGER	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	March - September 2020
In conflict-areas, below-average production is anticipated to contribute to Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes in February 2021.					
Honduras (RM)	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	February - September 2020
Despite the lifting of COVID-19 related restrictions, poor households that experienced loss of income will continue to be impacted for several months, particularly in the Dry Corridor where Crisis (IPC Phase 3) was observed before the pandemic.					
HAITI	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	March - June 2021
Inflation and high food prices are negatively affecting food access. Low income earned from the below average spring harvest is anticipated to drive below average second season production and contribute to Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes in February.					
MADAGASCAR	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	October 2020-March 2021
In the south, due to the drought and poor early 2020 production, food stocks will likely be depleted in September. The onset of the lean season starting in October will result in Stressed (IPC Phase 2) and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes through February.					
MALAWI	Yes	▼	▼	PHASE 3: Crisis	December 2020 - March 2021
Central African Rep (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	East: April - August 2020
El Salvador (RM)	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	February - September 2020
Lesotho (RM)	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	December 2020-March 2021
CHAD	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	April-September 2020
BURUNDI	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	October-December 2020
Nicaragua (RM)	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 2: Stressed	February - September 2020
MALI	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 2: Stressed	May - September 2020
Mauritania (RM)	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 2: Stressed	February - July 2021
Rwanda (RM)	Yes	▲	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	October-December 2020

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

February

2021

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%	>15.0 million	>60%	>15.0 million	>60%
DRC	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%	>10.0 million	5-20%
South Sudan	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%	5.0 - 9.99 million	40-60%	5.0 - 9.99 million	>60%
Afghanistan	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%	>10.0 million	20-40%
Zimbabwe	5.0 - 9.99 million	20-40%	5.0 - 9.99 million	20-40%	>10.0 million	>60%
Ethiopia	2.5 - 4.99 million	<5%	2.5 - 4.99 million	<5%	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%
Nigeria	5.0 - 9.99 million	<5%	2.5 - 4.99 million	<5%	>10.0 million	5-20%
Sudan	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%	>10.0 million	20-40%
Somalia	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%	5.0 - 9.99 million	40-60%
Kenya	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%
Uganda	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%
Mozambique	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	5.0 - 9.99 million	20-40%
Guatemala	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%
Burkina Faso RM	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%
Cameroon	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%
Niger	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%
Honduras RM	1.0 - 2.49 million	20-40%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%
Haiti	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	40-60%
Madagascar	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Malawi	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
CAR RM	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	20-40%
El Salvador RM	1.0 - 2.49 million	20-40%	0.1 - 0.49 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	20-40%
Lesotho RM	0.1 - 0.49 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	5-20%	0.5 - 0.99 million	20-40%
Burundi	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%
Chad	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%
Nicaragua RM	1.0 - 2.49 million	20-40%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	20-40%
Mali	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%
Mauritania RM	0.1 - 0.49 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%
Rwanda RM	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%