

# FOOD ASSISTANCE OUTLOOK BRIEF

November 2018

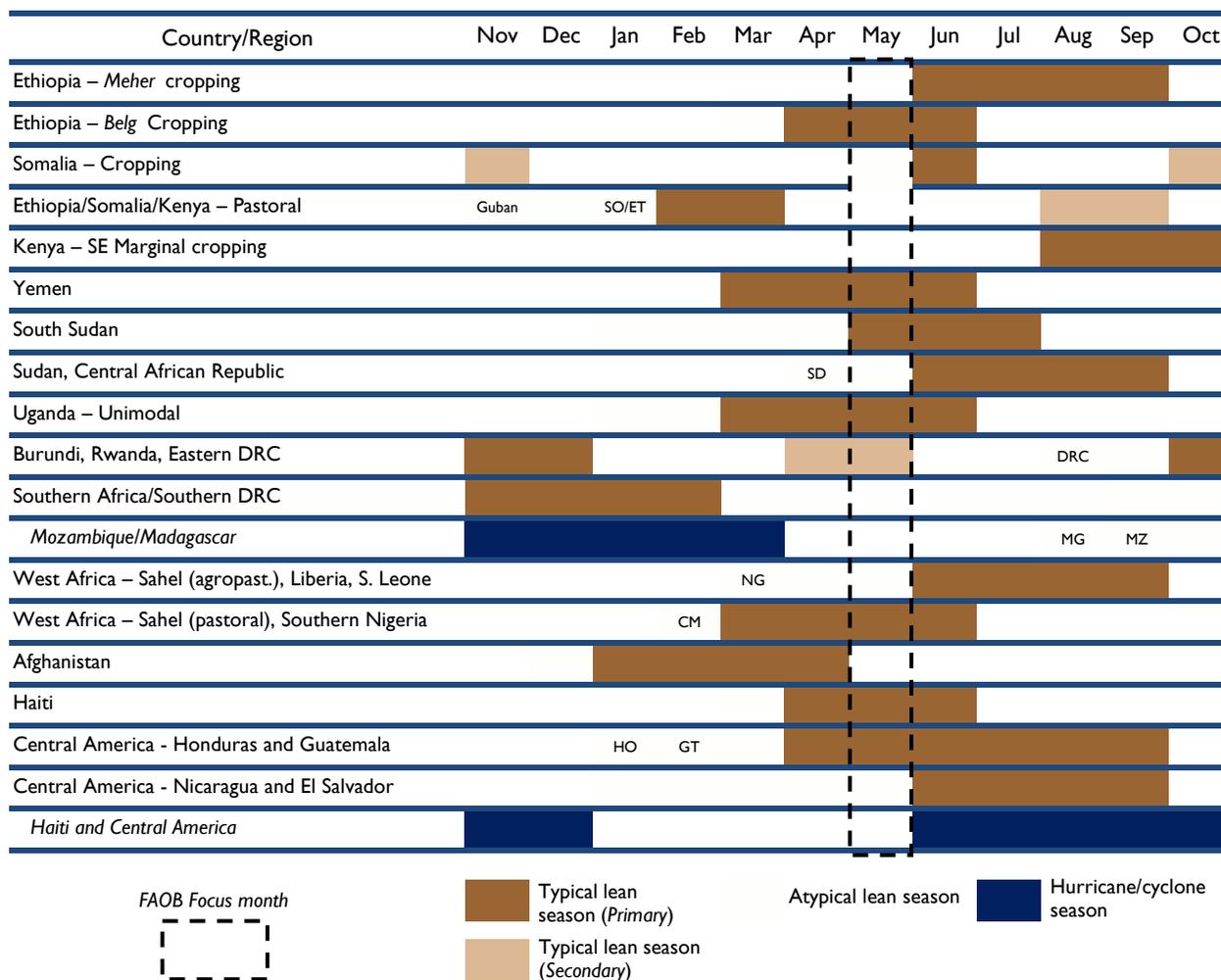
## PROJECTED FOOD ASSISTANCE NEEDS FOR **May 2019**

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](http://www.fews.net) for detailed country reports.

Country (In order of estimated food insecure population, MAY)	External needs in MAY ?	MAY versus last year	MAY versus 5-year avg.	Highest likely severity (area) in MAY	Key upcoming lean season	
15+ million	YEMEN	Yes	▲	▲	<b>PHASE 4: Emergency &amp; risk of Famine</b>	March - June 2019
	Should key port facilities be damaged, or trade from the ports to urban areas of the country be cut off for a prolonged period of time, Famine (IPC Phase 5) would become likely. Even in the absence of import limitations, however, the possibility for more drastic price shocks for essential commodities in the coming months also poses a risk of Famine (IPC Phase 5). Regardless of whether or not these threats occur, Yemen continues to face the largest food security emergency in the world.					
5.0 – 9.9 million	SOUTH SUDAN	Yes	▶	▲	<b>PHASE 4: Emergency (!)</b>	January - August 2019
	Humanitarian food assistance plans for mid-2019 indicated that 2-3 million people will be reached with food assistance per month, but many households will still face wide food consumption gaps in May. Famine (IPC Phase 5) is possible in Greater Baggari, should access and movement continue to be severely restricted. In Leer and Mayendit, where assistance delivery has resumed, Emergency (IPC Phase 4!) is most likely in early 2019.					
2.5 – 4.9 million	SUDAN	Yes	▲	▲	<b>PHASE 3: Crisis</b>	April - September 2019
	Macroeconomic challenges, including devaluation of the currency, are leading to higher food prices. Crisis (IPC Phase 3) is expected in parts of Darfur, Blue Nile, South and North Kordofan, Kassala, and Red Sea States. Should fuel shortages persist through 2018, concern for below-average ongoing harvests in mechanized areas would increase.					
	ETHIOPIA	Yes	▼	▶	<b>PHASE 3: Crisis</b>	Pastoral: <b>January</b> - March 2019
	Pasture resources in the south are expected to be near average despite October rainfall deficits. March to May rains will further improve pastoral conditions but improvements in food access are not expected until mid-2019. In agricultural areas impacted by poor 2018 rainfall or where conflict restricted agriculture, Meher stocks will exhaust early.					
	AFGHANISTAN	Yes	▲	▲	<b>PHASE 3: Crisis</b>	<b>December 2018</b> - April 2019
Spring labor opportunities are anticipated to be near average for the 2018/19 agricultural season, and this coupled a likely favorable 2019 harvest will drive food security improvements in May. However, continued high assistance needs and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes will be driven by below-average remittances and returnees from Iran and Pakistan.						
DRC	Yes	▼	▶	<b>PHASE 3: Crisis</b>	East: <b>Aug. 2018</b> - January 2019	
Conflict-related population movements continue to affect agricultural production, resulting in below-average harvests. Season A harvests in the north and central east will conclude in February while harvests in the southeast will continue through May. Conflict-affected regions will have food assistance needs due to expected low production and constrained market access.						
NIGERIA	Yes	▼	▶	<b>PHASE 4: Emergency &amp; risk of Famine</b>	NE: <b>March</b> - September 2019	
Although there have been improvements in the security situation in parts of the northeast in 2018, conflict continues to disrupt livelihoods for many and restrict humanitarian access. Large areas of the northeast remain inaccessible to humanitarians, where it is possible Famine (IPC Phase 5) is ongoing although there is inadequate data to make a determination. Famine (IPC Phase 5) is also possible in currently accessible areas in the event that displaced populations become cutoff by a shift in conflict.						

	Country (In order of estimated food insecure population, MAY)	External needs in MAY ?	MAY versus last year	MAY versus 5-year avg.	Highest likely severity (area) in MAY	Key upcoming lean season
1.0 - 2.49 million	SOMALIA	Yes	▼	▶	PHASE 4: Emergency	Pastoral: <b>January</b> - March 2019 High food assistance needs are expected in Guban Pastoral and northwestern Northern Inland Pastoral (NIP) livelihood zones through at least May 2019, when livestock births will increase herd sizes. Due to the impact of below-average <i>Deyr</i> rainfall on pasture and water availability, northeastern NIP, Addun Pastoral, and Coastal Deeh Pastoral and Fishing will likely deteriorate to Crisis (IPC Phase 3) in the absence of assistance, while Guban would likely be in Emergency (IPC Phase 4).
	Cameroon (RM)	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	<b>February</b> - September 2019 The Northwest and Southwest regions will continue to face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) acute food insecurity outcomes due to conflict that continues to drive atypical food assistance needs. In the Far-North, however, food security outcomes will improve due to an average to above-average 2018 harvest and decreased insecurity.
	UGANDA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	Karamoja: <b>January</b> - June 2019 Poor main season production in Karamoja and anticipated shortfalls in second season production in bimodal areas in Eastern region are expected to cause some poor households to deteriorate to Crisis (IPC Phase 3), though most will be Stressed (IPC Phase 2). Most of Uganda's refugee population would be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) in the absence of assistance.
	GUATEMALA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	<b>February</b> - September 2019 Poor rainfall led to 2018 <i>Primera</i> harvest losses in western and eastern areas of the country. Households in the east who have the opportunity to plant two cropping cycles also experienced partial crop losses in the 2018 <i>Postrera</i> season. Reduced income from coffee production has also negatively impacted laborers and small coffee producers.
0.5 - 0.99 million	NIGER	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	Pastoral: April - June 2019 Conflict continues to disrupt livelihoods and contribute to displacement in border areas in the east and west of the country.
	MADAGASCAR	No	▶	▲	PHASE 2: Stressed	South: <b>Aug. 2018</b> - March 2019
	ZIMBABWE	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	<b>September 2018</b> - March 2019 Marginal cropping and cereal-deficit areas are expected to continue to have difficulty meeting their minimum food needs even after the harvest. Coupled with lack of resilience to current economic conditions, Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are likely.
	Central African Rep (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	South/North: April - Sept. 2019 Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are likely to continue during the April to September lean season for both IDP and poor host community populations, particularly in areas inaccessible to humanitarian assistance, due to prevailing insecurity.
	KENYA	Yes	▼	▼	PHASE 2: Stressed	Pastoral: February - March 2019
0.1 - 0.49 million	HAITI	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	<b>March</b> - June 2019 Poor households in the Haut Plateau and Nord-Est will likely be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) due to poor 2018 harvests.
	Burundi (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	October - December 2018
	Honduras (RM)	Yes	▲	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	<b>January</b> - August 2019 Subsistence farming households are likely to be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) after poor <i>Primera</i> and <i>Postrera</i> harvests.
	CHAD	Yes	▼	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	April - September 2019 Conflict is anticipated to continue to significantly disrupt livelihoods in the Lac region. Households are not able to access usual income-earning sources, including farming and fishing, and will face food gaps in the absence of humanitarian assistance.
	Rwanda (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	October - December 2018
	MOZAMBIQUE	Yes	▶	▼	PHASE 2: Stressed	<b>September 2018</b> - March 2019
<1.0 million	MALI	Yes	▼	▼	PHASE 2: Stressed	April - October 2019
	Burkina Faso (RM)	No	▼	▼	PHASE 1: Minimal	June - September 2019
	Nicaragua (RM)	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	<b>January</b> - August 2019 Subsistence farming households are likely to be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) after poor <i>Primera</i> and <i>Postrera</i> harvests.
	El Salvador (RM)	Yes	▲	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	<b>January</b> - August 2019 Subsistence farming households are likely to be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) after poor <i>Primera</i> and <i>Postrera</i> harvests.
	Lesotho (RM)	No	▶	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	<b>October 2018</b> - March 2019
	MALAWI	No	▶	▼	PHASE 2: Stressed	<b>September 2018</b> - March 2019

### 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

May 2019

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%
Sudan	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%
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%
DRC	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%	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%	5.0 - 9.99 million	<5%
Somalia	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	5.0 - 9.99 million	40-60%
Cameroon RM	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%
Uganda	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%
Guatemala	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%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Madagascar	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Zimbabwe	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	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	40-60%
Kenya	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%
Haiti	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%
Honduras RM	0.1 - 0.49 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%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Rwanda RM	<0.1 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Mozambique	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Mali	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	<0.1 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Burkina Faso RM	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	<0.1 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Nicaragua RM	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	<0.1 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
El Salvador RM	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	<0.1 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Lesotho RM	<0.1 million	<5%	<0.1 million	<5%	<0.1 million	<5%
Malawi	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	<0.1 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%