FOOD ASSISTANCE OUTLOOK BRIEF

November 2022

PROJECTED FOOD ASSISTANCE NEEDS FOR   MAY 2023
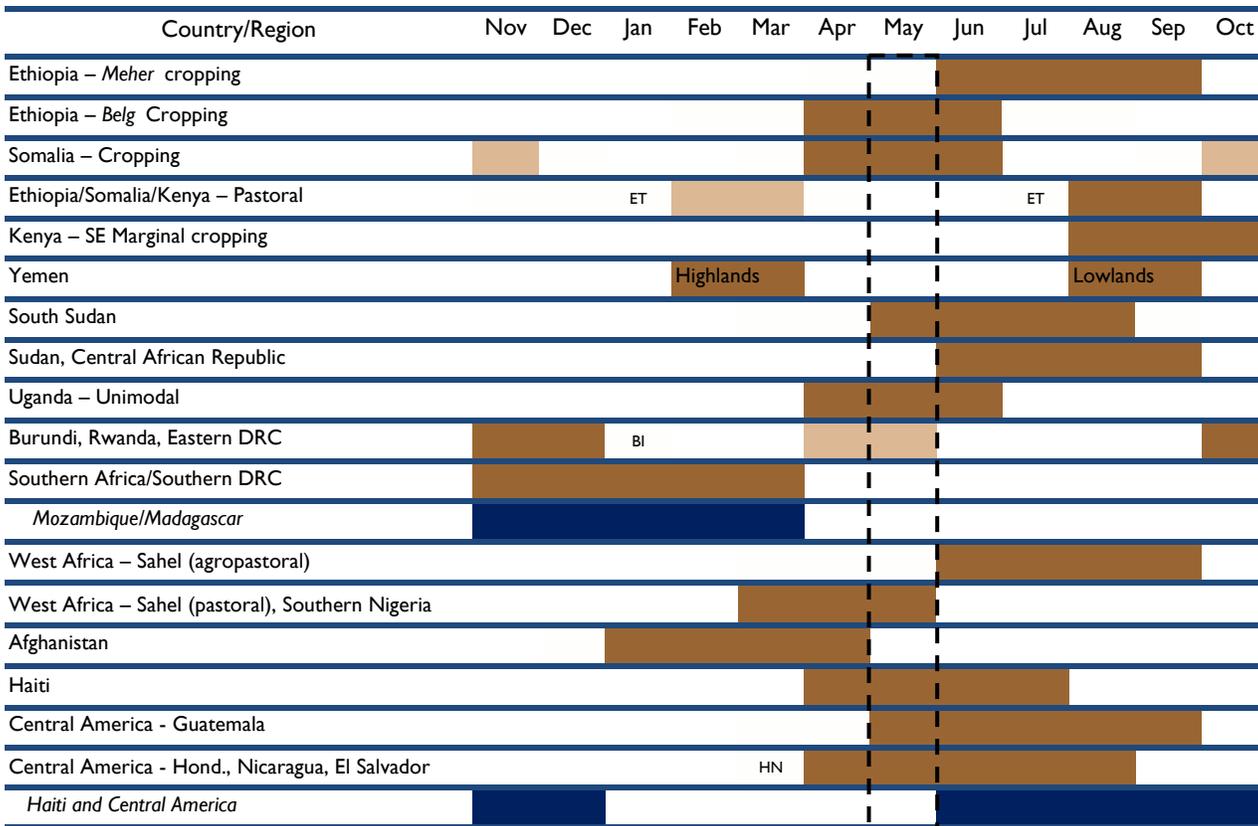
This brief summarizes FEWS NET's most forward-looking analysis of projected emergency food assistance needs in FEWS NET coverage countries. The projected size of each country's acutely food insecure population (IPC Phase 3 and higher) is compared to last year and the recent five-year average and categorized 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, MAY)	External needs in MAY ?	MAY versus last year	MAY versus 5-year avg.	Highest likely severity (area) in MAY	Key upcoming lean season
YEMEN	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency	*Highlands:* February - March 2023
Following years of protracted conflict and poor economic conditions, rising food prices and a below-average 2022 harvest are expected to drive persistently high food assistance needs in May 2023, especially if conflict escalates following the expired truce. Meanwhile, assistance is expected to continue at reduced levels. As a result, Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes will remain widespread, while Marib and Hajjah will likely be in Emergency (IPC Phase 4).					
ETHIOPIA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency	*SE/S pastoral:* Dec. - March 2023
Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes will most likely be widespread, with some households in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5). In the worst drought- and conflict-affected areas, there is a risk of more extreme outcomes. In southern and southeastern pastoral areas, where levels of hunger and destitution are currently increasing, household access to food will likely be extremely low due to the forecast of a sixth consecutive poor rainy season in March-May 2023. In northern Ethiopia, despite the newly signed peace deal, many households are still expected to face large food consumption gaps due to the impacts of recent conflict on the harvest and other livelihood activities.					
NIGERIA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency	North: April - September 2023
Increased conflict and displacement in the densely populated Northwest and North-central regions, alongside protracted conflict in the Northeast, will likely lead to elevated food assistance needs in May, when households begin to exhaust their own-produced food stocks from the 2022 harvest. Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes are likely in inaccessible northeastern areas, while Crisis (IPC Phase 3) is expected in several of the most conflict-affected northern areas.					
Afghanistan (RM)	Yes	▼	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis (!)	November 2022 - April 2023
In May 2023, the start of the main harvest in lower elevation areas will increase households' access to food from crop production and income from crop sales and agricultural labor. However, area-level Crisis! (IPC Phase 3!) outcomes are expected to persist in some higher elevation areas where the harvest starts later.					
DRC	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	NE/SE: September - Dec. 2022
While food assistance needs in May 2023 will be similar to May 2022 due to improved harvests in southeastern DRC, needs in the northeast and north-central are likely to increase due to ongoing conflict disrupting agricultural activities. Households in Ituri and North and South Kivu will continue to face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes.					
SOMALIA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 5: Famine	August - December 2022
Although a scale-up in food assistance through Dec. 2022 is mitigating the severity of food consumption gaps for millions of beneficiaries, the ongoing five-season drought is still expected to result in widespread destitution and displacement. In May, an anticipated sixth consecutive poor rainfall season will be underway, only marginally alleviating the severity of acute food insecurity. In the absence of confirmed food assistance in 2023, Famine (IPC Phase 5) would be likely in Bay Region; additional rural areas and IDP settlements also face a risk of Famine.					

Population bands (left margin): 15+ million; 10.0 - 15.0 million; 7.5 - 9.99 million; 5.0 - 7.49 million

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
5.0 - 7.49 million	SOUTH SUDAN	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency & risk of Famine	March - September 2023
	Conflict and a fourth consecutive year of widespread flooding will result in a national cereal deficit and an early start of the 2023 lean season, while high food prices and macroeconomic challenges will constrain household capacity to purchase sufficient food. Planned levels of food assistance are likely insufficent to prevent Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes, and some households in hard-to-reach areas will likely be in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5). There is a risk of Famine (IPC Phase 5) if sub-national conflict escalates and isolates households from food and income for a long time.					
	SUDAN	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis (!)	June - September 2023
	In May, an increasing number of households will be dependent on market purchases as their food stocks diminish with the approaching lean season. Localized violence, political instability, poor macroeconomic conditions, and high food and fuel prices are expected to drive Crisis! (IPC Phase 3!) outcomes in the worst-affected areas.					
2.5-4.99 million	KENYA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency	September - December 2022
	Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes are likely in drought-affected northern and eastern pastoral areas, following six consecutive below-average rainy seasons. FEWS NET is monitoring the potential for a risk of Famine (IPC Phase 5), but government safety nets, food aid, and labor income are expected to prevent further deterioration in acute food insecurity. In marginal agricultural areas, household income from on and off-farm activities will improve food access.					
1.0 - 2.49 million	UGANDA	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	Karamoja: January - August 2023
	Consecutive below-average harvests in Karamoja and Uganda's north are expected to result in atypically high needs. Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are expected in Karamoja in the absence of sufficient assistance during the lean season. Stressed! (IPC Phase 2!) outcomes are expected in refugee settlements, supported by assistance.					
	BURKINA FASO	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency	March - September 2023
	Due to worsening conflict, Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes are likely to persist across most of the Sahel Region, and some households in blockaded municipalities will likely be in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5). While neighboring provinces are less severely affected, conflict is also expected to disrupt agricultural activities and other food and income sources, resulting in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes at the onset of the lean season.					
	HAITI	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency	March - June 2023
	In Cité Soleil, where increased gang violence has halted income-generating activities and reduced market supplies, poor households will likely liquidate their productive assets to mitigate the widening size of large food consumption gaps, resulting in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes. For many households across rural areas in the rest of the country, Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes will persist during the peak of the lean season.					
	CAMEROON	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	South: March - May 2023
	ZIMBABWE	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	August 2022 - March 2023
	MOZAMBIQUE	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	October 2022 - March 2023
	GUATEMALA	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	March - August 2023
	NIGER	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	March - Sept. 2023
	MALAWI	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 2: Stressed (!)	November 2022 - March 2023
	MADAGASCAR	Yes	▼	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	September 2022 - March 2023
	Angola (RM)	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	September 2022 - March 2023
0.5 - 0.99 million	MALI	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	March - September 2023
	Honduras (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	March - August 2023
	Central African Rep (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	June - August 2023
	BURUNDI	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	October 2022 - January 2023
0.1 - 0.49 million	CHAD	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	April - September 2023
	Mauritania (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	Pastoral: March - June 2023
	Nicaragua (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	April - August 2023
	Rwanda (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	October - December 2022
	Lesotho (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	November 2022 - March 2023
< 0.1 million	El Salvador (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	April - August 2023

LEAN SEASONS IN FEWS NET MONITORED COUNTRIES AND REGIONS

Country/Region	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Ethiopia – *Meher* cropping												
Ethiopia – *Belg* Cropping												
Somalia – Cropping												
Ethiopia/Somalia/Kenya – Pastoral			ET					ET				
Kenya – SE Marginal cropping												
Yemen					Highlands					Lowlands		
South Sudan												
Sudan, Central African Republic												
Uganda – Unimodal												
Burundi, Rwanda, Eastern DRC				BI								
Southern Africa/Southern DRC												
Mozambique/Madagascar												
West Africa – Sahel (agropastoral)												
West Africa – Sahel (pastoral), Southern Nigeria												
Afghanistan												
Haiti												
Central America - Guatemala												
Central America - Hond., Nicaragua, El Salvador					HN							
Haiti and Central America												

Legend:
- FAOB Focus month (dashed box — May)
- Typical lean season (*Primary*)
- Typical lean season (*Secondary*)
- Atypical lean season
- Hurricane/cyclone season

IPC ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY PHASE DESCRIPTIONS (AREA)

Phase	Description
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   2023

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