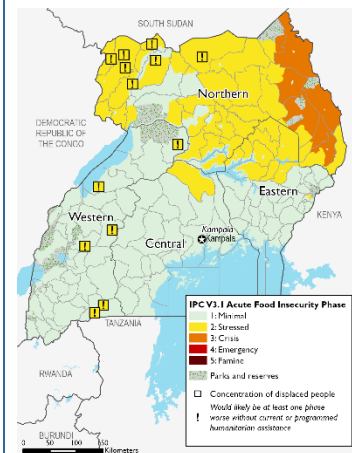


Inflation, poor production to drive sustained food insecurity in Karamoja, Teso, and the greater north
KEY MESSAGES

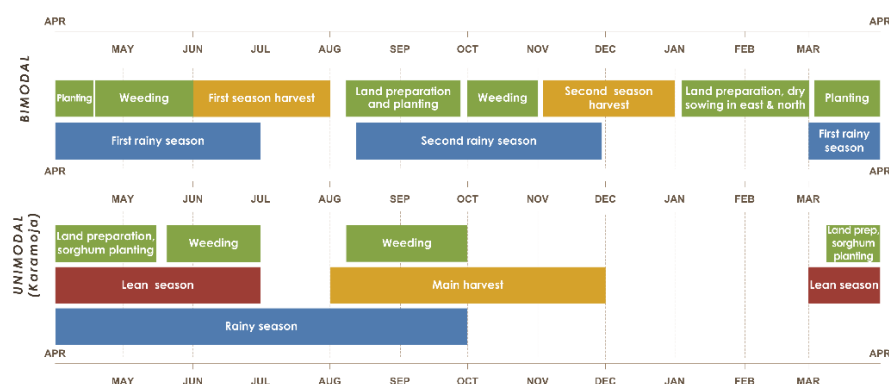
- Due to below-average rainfall through the end of June, first season bimodal harvests in most of the greater northern Uganda and the Teso subregion are delayed and are expected to be below average. As a result, most poor rural households have below-normal seasonal income from crop sales and limited availability of food stocks. Stressed (IPC Phase 2) outcomes are likely widespread in the greater north and the Teso subregion and are expected to prevail through the start of second season harvest in November/December. Worst-affected households are experiencing a third consecutive below-average production season and, given limited remaining coping capacity, are likely facing consumption gaps and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes.
- The slow pace of economic recovery following impacts of COVID-19 restrictions last year is limiting access to typical income from daily wage opportunities and other sources. Additionally, rising prices of food and non-food items and general high inflation are constraining household purchasing power. As such, Stressed (IPC Phase 2) outcomes are likely among the poorest households in both rural and urban areas.
- In Karamoja, insecurity is further constraining typical livelihood activities and food prices are significantly above average. Although the harvest in August/September will temporarily improve food security, crop production will likely be below normal and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are expected to prevail through at least January due to significantly below-average purchasing power. Some of the poorest households are likely in Emergency (IPC Phase 4). Poor food consumption has likely contributed to increased levels of acute malnutrition, particularly in Moroto and Kaabong districts.
- Given limited livelihood opportunities, below-average income-earning, below-normal first season crop production, and above-average prices, many refugees are expected to continue facing Stressed! (IPC Phase 2!) or Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes throughout the projection period. Humanitarian food assistance rations equivalent to an estimated 40, 60, or 70 percent of households' total energy needs are likely preventing more widespread consumption gaps despite limited funding and reduced rations in some settlements, with Stressed! (IPC Phase 2!) outcomes likely at the area level.

Current food security outcomes, June 2022



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.

SEASONAL CALENDAR FOR A TYPICAL YEAR


Source: FEWS NET

NATIONAL OVERVIEW

Current Situation

The establishment and progression of the first bimodal rainy season (March to June) was poor, with the season likely to be among the driest on record since 1981 in large parts of the northern region. The full start of the season was delayed by around 30 to 40 days or more across the country. This was followed by poor temporal and spatial distribution throughout the season, characterized by light to moderate rains interspaced by atypical dry spells. Although some of these areas received favorable rainfall in April/May, the timing was too late and rainfall amounts were not sufficient to support full crop recovery. Overall, **cumulative rainfall from March to May** reached only 55-85 percent of average across most of northern Uganda and 85-95 percent of average across most of eastern Uganda, according to data from CHIRPS. In the worst affected northern areas, cumulative deficits exceeded 100 mm (Figure 1). More recently, in June, rainfall was below average across almost the entire country. Above-average temperatures since mid-May have further stressed crop development.

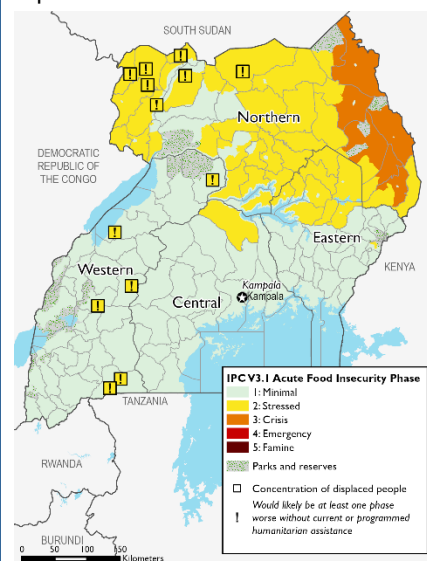
In Karamoja, the onset of the unimodal rainy season (April to September) was also delayed by around 20 to 30 days. Southern Karamoja received rains earliest, in mid-April, while the onset was further delayed in northern Karamoja. According to data from CHIRPS, cumulative rainfall as of June 25 was only 75-90 percent of the average.

In northern and much of eastern Uganda, the poor start of the season led to delays in planting or stunted or failed early-planted crops, requiring widespread replanting in the north. Consequently, crop development was delayed by approximately a month. Given significantly reduced rainfall amounts, late-planted crops in eastern and northern areas were suffering moisture stress in advanced flowering to grain-filling stages as of late June. Additionally, in localized parts of eastern and western Uganda, irregular rainfall and localized flooding and landslides earlier in the season led to localized crop damage. On the other hand, crop damage due to the African Armyworm was overall minimal given early chemical control and rainfall that killed the worms.

Overall, given delays in the season, the start of the harvest is expected to be delayed to June/July. As of late June, dry harvesting and preparations for threshing are ongoing across much of the southwest and parts of the central and eastern regions where rainfall performance was not as poor. Some dry beans and green maize are already on the market. Meanwhile, the harvest is yet to start in the greater north and the Teso subregion.

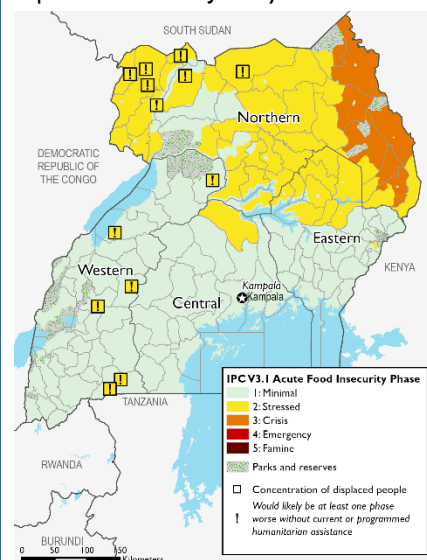
While satellite-derived Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) data suggest that vegetation conditions have been improving since March (Figure 2), vegetation has generally been **below average** across widespread parts of the country throughout most of the season given poor rainfall performance and above-average temperatures. As such, availability of seasonal cultivated and wild vegetables—important sources of food for poor households during the April to June period—is expected to have been below average in recent months. By late June, field observations also pointed to worse pasture conditions than suggested by the NDVI as well as to rapidly drying/reducing water resources for livestock production, exacerbated by atypically high land surface temperatures. Below-average pasture conditions have reportedly led to reduced seasonal milk production levels and slight deterioration of livestock body conditions across widespread areas. Additionally, in May, an outbreak of anthrax prompted a livestock quarantine (prohibiting livestock movement) and the closure of livestock markets in the eastern districts of Bududa, Manafwa, and Namisindwa. Livestock markets were closed and the sale of animal products was prohibited as vaccination efforts progressed, likely resulting in income losses for households in these areas.

Projected food security outcomes, June to September 2022



Source: FEWS NET

Projected food security outcomes, September 2022 to January 2023



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.

In June, there was a slight increase in incidence of COVID-19, though the positivity rate averaged below 5 percent. The government has indicated that, apart from observing the existing Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), it would not re-impose any restrictions on the movement of people or on any sector of economic activity. Generally, overall low COVID-19 incidence is attributed to improved coverage of vaccination against the virus.

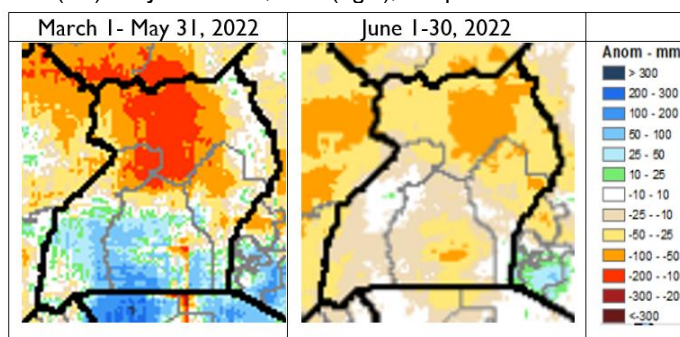
According to the Bank of Uganda monetary policy statement for [June 2022](#), economic growth is now projected at 4.0-5.0 percent in 2022, down from the earlier April projection of 5.5-6.0 percent growth. This downward revision follows the adverse global economic impacts of the Ukraine-Russia war on the national economy, including due to disruptions to supply chains and higher global prices of food, fuel, and fertilizer, which have resulted in higher domestic inflation and tighter monetary conditions. The annual headline inflation rate as measured by the Consumer Price Index for Uganda increased to 6.8 percent in June 2022, up from 6.3 and 2.7 percent registered in May 2022 and January 2022, respectively. In addition to rising prices, the slow pace of economic recovery following the full lifting of COVID-19 restrictions in January 2022 is constraining activities that typically support households' access to income. High fuel prices are also straining livelihood activities dependent on fuel, such as in the transportation sector.

Prices of staple food commodities have generally followed typical seasonal patterns but have been elevated since late 2021 due to reduced domestic supply, rising domestic demand due to the re-opening of the economy, above-average regional demand, and high global prices of fuel, cooking oil, wheat, and other commodities. Below-normal crop production in both bimodal seasons of 2021 resulted in a below-average national surplus of cereals and legumes and, though carryover stocks have lasted into 2022, supplies are less than normal. At the same time, since January 2022 when the economy was fully reopened, typical domestic demand for staple food commodities has been restored, exerting pressure on tightening supplies and contributing to inflation. Additionally, regional exports of maize, sorghum, rice, and dry beans were above average in the first quarter of 2022, driven by above-average prices in deficit countries (including Kenya, Rwanda, Burundi, and South Sudan), which attracted supplies from Tanzania and Uganda (the main surplus producing countries in the region). Meanwhile, high domestic fuel prices since December have also contributed to rising prices of basic food and non-food items by increasing transportation costs. Rising staple food prices are now being further exacerbated by delayed first season harvests, as reduced supply is putting additional upward pressure on food prices, particularly given the high costs of transportation.

In May, prices of preferred staple food commodities generally continued to rise across bimodal reference markets. This is being driven by declining market supply and rising demand as households exhaust stocks, compounded by sustained above-average regional demand and anticipated below-average first season production. From April to May, retail prices of maize grain increased by 6-14 percent in Arua, Masindi, and Mubende markets, though were relatively stable in other markets (Figure 3). Prices of beans, cassava, and sorghum also increased in many markets. Staple prices in May were generally above average and significantly above prices recorded at the same time last year across bimodal reference markets with the exception of beans (Figures 4 & 5), likely at least in part due to significant supplies of beans from Tanzania and bimodal areas. Above-average prices are reducing poor households' purchasing power, constraining food access at a time when household food stocks are low or exhausted, harvests are delayed, and households are heavily dependent on market purchases.

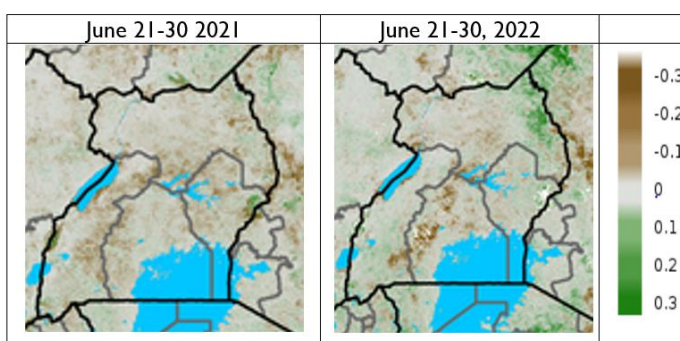
At the same time, income-earning is likely below average for many rural households. Typical incomes earned from agricultural and livestock-related labor activities in the first agricultural season were likely below average in many areas due to the below-

Figure 1. Seasonal rainfall accumulation anomaly, March 1 to May 31, 2022 (left) and June 1 to 30, 2022 (right), compared to 1981-2010 mean



Source: USGS/FEWS NET

Figure 2. Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI), difference from 2012-2021 average, June 2021 (left) and June 2022 (right)



Source: USGS/FEWS NET

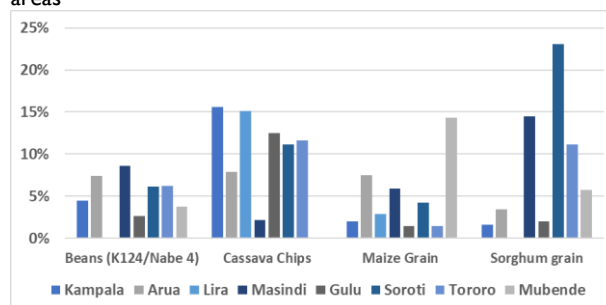
average rainfall and poor cropping season. Additionally, many poor households in bimodal Uganda typically have access to income from crop sales in June alongside the first season harvests. However, households in eastern and the greater northern Uganda have not yet accessed this income due to delayed harvests.

In most **bimodal areas**, Minimal (IPC Phase 1) outcomes are expected at the area level. However, given atypically high dependence on market purchases at a time when prices are significantly above average and access to income is below normal, most poor households in northern Uganda, the Teso sub-region, and several districts in eastern Uganda that were most affected by poor rainfall performance are likely struggling to meet their needs. Many likely have only minimally adequate food consumption and are unable to afford essential non-food expenditures, with Stressed (IPC Phase 2) outcomes expected at the area level. However, some worst-affected very poor households in areas of the greater northern Uganda and the Teso sub-region that are experiencing a third consecutive below-average production season are likely reducing the size and frequency of meals given limited remaining coping capacity. These households are expected to be facing consumption gaps indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes. This analysis is supported by observations during a late May field assessment conducted by FEWS NET across most bimodal areas in the greater north, east, and parts of central Uganda, which found that worst-affected households in northern Uganda were eating only one meal a day and were reducing both quality and quantity of food consumed. It is expected that the prevalence of acute malnutrition has risen to higher-than-normal levels in the Teso sub-region and greater northern areas.

In **Karamoja**, many poor households are likely facing food consumption gaps and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes at the peak of the lean season, with worst-affected households likely in Emergency (IPC Phase 4). Food affordability continues to be the limiting factor for food security due to low access to income-generating activities and elevated food prices since early 2022. Insecurity is constraining normal livelihood and income-earning activities and has resulted into the loss of livestock assets, disruption of marketing activities, and loss of human life and property. For many poor households, consumption gaps are increasing as the lean season progresses, expected to be contributing to high levels of acute malnutrition. According to a food security and nutrition assessment (FSNA) conducted by WFP/UNICEF/GOU in March 2022, the prevalence of acute malnutrition has increased in many districts of Karamoja, with the highest levels ("Critical" levels according to IPC thresholds) recorded in Moroto and Kaabong. In-depth analysis on Karamoja is provided in the "area of concern" section of the report below.

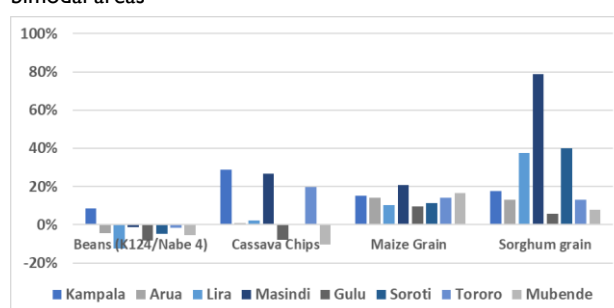
According to UNHCR/OPM, Uganda hosted 1,529,272 **refugees and asylum seekers** as of June 30, 2022. At the area level, Stressed! (IPC Phase 2!) outcomes are expected across refugee settlements in the presence of humanitarian assistance, with many worst-affected households (though less than 20 percent of the overall population) likely to be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3). In-depth analysis on refugees in settlements is provided in the "area of concern" section of the report below.

Figure 3. Retail prices in May 2022 as a percent of April 2022 prices for various commodities and markets in bimodal areas



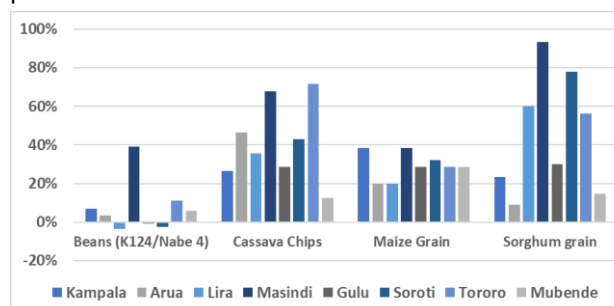
Source: Farmgain/WFP

Figure 4. Retail prices in May 2022 as a percent of the 2017-2021 average for various commodities and markets in bimodal areas



Source: Farmgain/WFP

Figure 5. Retail prices in May 2022 as a percent of May 2021 prices for various commodities and markets in bimodal areas



Source: Farmgain/WFP

Assumptions

The most likely scenario for the June 2022 to January 2023 projection period is based on the following key national-level assumptions:

- At the national level, first season bimodal production of staple cereals is expected to be below average and production of legumes is expected to be significantly below average. Crop production is expected to be poor and significantly below average across much of the greater north and parts of the eastern region. Elsewhere, production is likely to be average to below average, with notable localized variability expected based on a late May field assessment.
- Despite relatively higher farmgate prices, income from crop sales is generally expected to be below average for households who harvest below-average amounts, with households in northern and eastern Uganda worst affected.
- In Karamoja, despite the delayed and below-average start to the April to September rainy season, cumulative rainfall is likely to be near average according to international forecasts. However, due to below-average planted area and recurring moisture stress, crop production is expected to be below average, with the start of harvesting delayed until August/September. Labor demand for typical weeding and harvesting will likely be below average and delayed.
- According to international forecasts, cumulative rainfall during the second bimodal rainy season from September to November 2022 is most likely to be below average, though uncertainty exists given the long-term nature of the forecast. Given this, second season crop production is most likely to be slightly below normal. Given historical patterns at these production levels, it is likely that agricultural labor demand and wage rates will be near normal.
- Incidence of the African Armyworm is likely to remain low given the presence of chemical control. Overall, crop damage due to the African Armyworm is likely to be minimal. However, there is still a risk of resurgence while crops remain in the fields due to reduced rainfall since June.
- Domestic fuel prices are generally expected to increase throughout the projection period and, given expectations for high global fuel prices and continued uncertainty in the global market, remain higher than last year and five-year average levels. High transportation costs will likely put additional upward pressure on prices of food and non-food commodities.
- According to the Bank of Uganda monetary policy statement for [June 2022](#), economic growth is projected at 4.0-5.0 percent in 2022, less than earlier projected. Given expectations for slow economic recovery, income-earning opportunities will likely remain below average in general, constraining household purchasing power.
- Given the volatile conflict situation in the North Kivu and Ituri provinces of the DRC and South Sudan, continued high rates of population displacement into Uganda are likely. WFP estimated in April 2022 that, should the recent rate of arrivals continue, 100,000 people could arrive from April to December 2022.
- Pasture and water resources in the central cattle corridor districts will likely decline earlier than usual following below-average rainfall in June/July and will likely remain below average through October before the second rainy season begins to drive regeneration. Consequently, average to below-average livestock body conditions and productivity are likely through around October, with improvement to near-normal conditions expected thereafter.
- Staple food prices are likely to decline when supplies are boosted by the bimodal harvests in June/July but are likely to remain above average during the post-harvest period and increase again through the arrival of second season harvests in November/December. Staple food prices will likely remain above prices recorded last year and five-year average levels throughout the projection period given expectations for below-average first-season cereal and legume production, high domestic demand, and above-average regional demand due to drought. Price increases will likely be highest in the greater northern Uganda due to expected production shortfalls.
- Below-average production and rising prices are likely to moderate exports of maize, beans, sorghum, millet, and other staple goods to Kenya given competitive imports from Tanzania through September. By October to January, maize exports to Kenya are expected to increase given reduced supplies from Tanzania and relatively lower prices in Uganda. Exports to South Sudan are expected to continue increasing through September 2022 due to attractive marketing margins despite insecurity-related risks and costs along the transit route.

Most Likely Food Security Outcomes

In bimodal areas, below-normal first season harvests in June/July are expected to replenish household and market stocks, but not to typical levels. Nonetheless, improved food availability from own crop production and anticipated slight market price reductions will likely support temporary improvement in many rural households' ability to meet their needs in the post-harvest period. However, income from crop sales will likely be below average for many households due to reduced

production—particularly in the greater north and east—and income from other sources will likely be below average throughout the projection period due to slow economic recovery. As food stocks seasonally decline in September/October and reliance on market purchases increases, many poor households are likely to face increasing difficulty meeting their non-food needs without engaging in coping strategies such as selling younger and smaller livestock, selling assets, spending savings, borrowing money, or reducing dietary diversity, indicative of Stressed (IPC Phase 2) outcomes. Worst-affected poor households will likely reduce frequency of meals, with slight to moderate food consumption gaps and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes expected. Beginning in November, second season harvests will again improve food availability and drive some price reductions, though production is likely to be below average for a fourth consecutive season in many areas. As such, it is likely that some rural households will be purchasing more food than is typical throughout the projection period, with below-average income-earning and above-average prices likely to continue constraining some poor households' ability to meet their essential non-food needs and invest in typical livelihood activities. Overall, **across most bimodal areas** of the country, most households are expected to access sufficient food and income to cover at least their minimally adequate dietary needs throughout the projection period, with **Minimal (IPC Phase 1) area-level outcomes** likely to be sustained. However, **in the greater northern Uganda—including Acholi, Lango, Teso, and parts of the West Nile subregions**—following three consecutive seasons of poor production, area-level Stressed (IPC Phase 2) outcomes are expected to persist through November/December when the harvest will boost food availability and increase market supplies.

In Karamoja, availability of food and income is expected to remain highly limited during the remainder of the lean season, which is now expected to last through July (longer than usual by at least a month) given delays in the 2022 agricultural season. Around August/September, the start of harvesting in Karamoja is expected to support improved access to food from own consumption and income from crop sales, ending the lean season. However, insecurity is likely to continue constraining typical income-earning activities throughout the projection period and, though some seasonal price declines are expected with the bimodal harvests, prices are expected to increase overall and remain above average throughout the projection period. As such, for many poor Karamoja households, significantly below-average purchasing power will continue constraining access to food from market purchases. Though children of school-going age will likely access at least one daily meal through WFP's programming for school feeding during the rest of the second school term through August and during the third school term from September to December—providing significant support to poor households—many poor households will be unable to meet their food needs given limited food and income sources and eroded coping capacity following below-average crop production in 2021. Widespread Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are now expected to persist at the area-level through at least January, with worst-affected households facing Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes.

In northwestern refugee settlements, most farming households will likely consume significantly below-average crop production in green form in June/July. **Refugees in southwestern settlements** are likely to obtain near normal harvests, with stocks expected to last around a month. Given limited income-earning opportunities, above-average prices, and limited coping capacity, access to food from market purchases is expected to be constrained for refugee households. However, humanitarian food assistance rations are expected to continue supporting 40, 60, or 70 percent of most refugee households' total energy needs. Despite this, given overall limited food and income from other sources, Stressed! (IPC Phase 2!) outcomes are expected to persist at the area-level, though an increasing number of refugees are likely to face food consumption gaps and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes throughout the projection period, even in the presence of humanitarian food assistance.

Events that Might Change the Outlook

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

Event	Impact on food security outcomes
Second season rainfall is significantly below average and/or poorly distributed	This would likely result in worse crop production than currently anticipated. Income from agricultural labor opportunities and crop sales would likely be farther below normal. A greater number of households would likely face Stressed (IPC Phase 2) outcomes, including in urban areas due to price increases. Worst-affected poor households would likely deteriorate to Crisis (IPC Phase 3), especially in the greater north and east.
Global supply chain disruptions result in fuel shortages	This would contribute to additional fuel price increases and higher prices of many food and essential non-food items, further weakening the purchasing power of poor households dependent on markets and constraining food access, especially in urban areas. It is likely that Stressed (IPC Phase 2) and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes would emerge in urban areas. In rural areas, higher costs of agricultural inputs could also impede poor households' ability to invest in livelihoods.

AREAS OF CONCERN

Central Sorghum and Livestock (CSL) livelihood zone in Karamoja

The Central Sorghum and Livestock (CSL) livelihood zone (Figure 6) has an estimated rural population of 550,650.

Current Situation

The April to September rainy season in Karamoja was delayed by 20-30 days, leading to a delayed start to seasonal agricultural activities. Southern Karamoja received rains earliest, in mid-April, while the onset was further delayed in northern Karamoja. In some areas, crops planted in April wilted and required replanting, while in other areas planting was delayed until May. In Kotido, Abim, and Kaabong, planting and replanting activities were also disrupted by general insecurity, especially for farmers with gardens distant from their homesteads. Many households also faced constrained access to agricultural inputs like seeds and labor due to below-average purchasing power. These factors are expected to have resulted in below-average area planted.

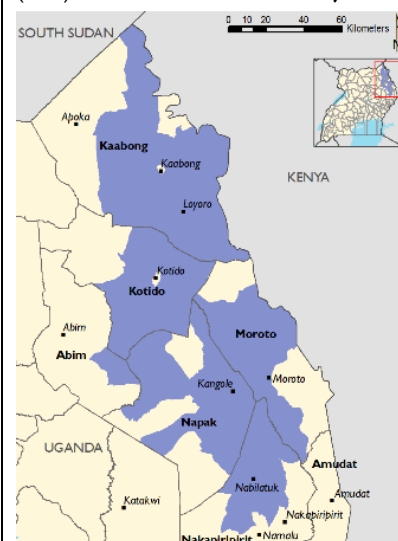
After below-average rainfall in April, rainfall amounts received in May were higher than the same time last year and the long-term average. However, according to data from CHIRPS, cumulative rainfall as of June 25 remained at only 75-90 percent of average levels. Additionally, atypically long dry spells in between the rains have slowed crop growth and resulted in moisture stress in some crop fields. The impacts of delayed and unevenly distributed rains on the agricultural season have reduced opportunities for agricultural labor, constraining poor households' ability to earn income typically needed for purchasing food and agricultural inputs like seeds. In addition, delayed and below-average rainfall has reduced the availability of wild foods that typically supplement poor households' other food sources during the lean season.

According to NDVI data, vegetation conditions in northern Uganda including Karamoja improved to near-average levels in mid-April and improved further to above-average levels in mid-May. Livestock body conditions and productivity are generally expected to be near average. However, in traditional grazing areas where an above-normal number of herds have been assembled and grazed in a limited expanse due to insecurity—particularly in Kotido and Moroto districts—overgrazing is causing limited access to pasture and water resources. Insecurity is also restricting trade, leading to reduced demand for livestock and declining prices in some markets. In May, retail prices of goats increased by 15-19 percent in all markets except Kotido, where prices decreased by 38 percent, the latter being driven by heightened insecurity in Kotido sub-county. Overall, in affected areas, a significant number of households that depend on selling livestock to purchase food are not able to access typical income, either because their livestock assets have been stolen or due to below-average prices. The northern Karamoja districts of Kotido, Abim, and Kaabong have experienced the worst insecurity including ambushes, livestock raids, and killings of civilians. In early to mid-2022, the heavy deployment of security forces has reduced the severity of the insecurity, though situation remains unpredictable.

This year, the lean season started as early as January (compared to the typical February/March) after many households exhausted food stocks atypically early due to below-average 2021 production. According to a food security and nutrition assessment (FSNA) conducted by WFP/UNICEF/GOU, over 60 percent of households in Karamoja reported having no food stocks in March 2022. This compares to 44 percent who reported this in March 2021 and only 34 percent in 2020. Even among households that reported having some food stocks left in March 2022, over 80 percent reported that stocks would last a month or less, providing evidence of an early start to the lean season.

Food prices in Karamoja have generally been increasing since January due to the same factors driving high prices nationally as well below-average crop production in Karamoja in 2021. However, in May 2022, retail prices of staple sorghum remained stable—though at above-average levels—across all reference markets except in Nakapiripirit, where prices decreased by 25 percent due to an increased supply of substitute foods from the Sebei sub-region. Despite this stability, retail prices of staple sorghum in May were 25-60 percent above five-year average levels and 32-103 percent above prices recorded at the same time last year. These high prices are constraining purchasing power at a time when households are highly dependent on

Figure 6. Area of concern reference map, Central Sorghum and Livestock (CSL) livelihood zone in Karamoja

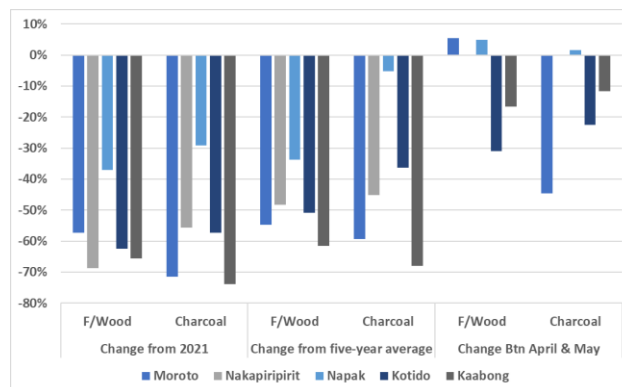


Source: FEWS NET

market purchases. High fuel prices are also straining livelihoods and increasing transportation costs, leading to higher prices of food and non-food items.

Poor households in Karamoja typically sell firewood and charcoal for some of their income. However, access constraints due to insecurity are disrupting firewood and charcoal production in affected areas. In May 2022, prices of firewood were 7-39 percent below average across markets, except for Nakapiripirit where prices were near average and Napak where prices were 8 percent above average. Meanwhile, charcoal prices decreased by 7-47 percent from April to May in Moroto, Kotido, and Kaabong, following sustained insecurity that affected charcoal burning and trade. Prices of charcoal in May 2022 were near average in Nakapiripirit, 22 and 52 percent above average, respectively, in Kotido and Napak, and 41 and 43 percent below average, respectively, in Kaabong and Moroto.

Figure 7. Percent change in the terms of trade for sorghum against firewood and charcoal, in May 2022 compared to the five-year (2017-2021) average, May 2021 and April 2022 in key reference markets in Karamoja



Source: Farmgain/WFP

Driven by above-average sorghum prices but with below-average prices of firewood and charcoal also contributing in some markets, the amount of staple sorghum that Karamoja households could purchase from the sale of firewood and charcoal in May 2022 was significantly below average in most cases (Figure 7). Meanwhile, the amount of sorghum that a household could purchase from the sale of one goat was 17 percent above average in both Moroto and Nakapiripirit, but 6 percent below-average in Kaabong and 42 and 53 percent below average, respectively, in Napak and Kotido. It should also be noted that very few of the poorest households own goats.

According to the FSNA conducted by WFP/UNICEF/GOU in March 2022, food consumption in Karamoja in has likely deteriorated significantly compared to March 2021, as evidenced by an increase in the number of households reporting low Food Consumption Scores (FCS), with the most significant deterioration in food consumption recorded in Amudat, Kaabong, and Moroto districts. At the time of the assessment, a significant number of households in Karamoja had recently employed food consumption-based and livelihood coping strategies due to inability to afford food. The most frequent food consumption-based coping strategies reported were reducing the number of meals consumed per day and reducing the amounts consumed by adults in the household, followed by relying on less-preferred foods. The most common livelihood coping strategies reported were reducing essential non-food expenditures, borrowing money, and consuming seed stocks. These strategies are indicative of Stressed (IPC Phase 2) and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes according to IPC definitions.

In this context, school feeding and nutrition programming by WFP (including school meals, take-home rations, and supplementary food for households with malnourished children) continues to provide important support for poor households in Karamoja. School goers receive one meal a day (of maize, beans, vegetable oil, and salt), and school enrollment is expected to have increased in recent months. However, school enrollment in Napak was recently disrupted due to insecurity. WFP also provides a protective ration for the families of malnourished children as part of nutrition support.

The March 2022 FSNA found that, by March 2022, Moroto, Kotido, and Kaabong districts were facing “Critical” levels (15-29.9 percent prevalence according to IPC thresholds) of Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) despite ongoing safety net programs seeking to reduce GAM levels. Mortality rates among children under five differed across districts, with mortality rates in Kaabong (2.24) and Napak (2.32) classified as “Very Serious.” Mortality rates were lower in Kotido (1.14) and Moroto (1.26), though still very high. Nearly 60 percent of surveyed households reported that the cause of death was **malaria**, with this proportion reaching between 70 and 90 percent in districts like Abim, Karenga, and Napak. Through June, the media has reported deaths of both the elderly and children under five, though it is not explicit whether these deaths were linked to hunger or food shortages, pending verification and confirmation by the government. However, increased admissions of children under five with moderate and severe acute malnutrition into health clinics provides evidence of a worsening and severe food insecurity situation in the region.

Across Karamoja, programs by WFP are contributing to food access. However, most households are experiencing below-average income-earning and significantly below-average purchasing power at a time when they are highly dependent on markets for food. Given this and eroded coping capacity following below-average crop production in 2021, many households likely cannot meet all food and non-food needs and are unable to invest in productive livelihoods. Many of the poor and very

poor are expected to be facing consumption gaps, eating only one meal in a day and/or reducing portion sizes of meals. Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are likely widespread, with worst-affected households likely facing Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes.

It should be noted that the Karamoja IPC report released in June 2022 describes a consistent deterioration in food insecurity since 2020 due to climate shocks and pests and diseases that have affected seasonal crop production, as well as general insecurity, and high fuel prices.

Assumptions

In addition to the national assumptions listed above, the most likely scenario for the Central Sorghum and Livestock livelihood zone in Karamoja for June 2022 to January 2023 is based on the following assumptions:

- Despite the delayed and below-average start to the April to September rainy season, cumulative rainfall for the season is likely to be near average according to international forecasts. However, it should be noted that forecasts for favorable rainfall over the past year have not manifested, and significant uncertainty exists (see “Events that Might Change the Outlook” table below).
- Area planted in the 2021 agricultural season is likely to be below average due to challenges in accessing seeds and early-season crop losses due to dry spells and localized heavy rains.
- Due to below-average planted area and some crop losses, crop production is expected to be below average. The short-cycle sorghum harvest is expected to be below average and delayed until August/September. The long-cycle sorghum harvest is expected to be below average but is likely to arrive on time in December/January given anticipated near-average rainfall for the rest of the season.
- Overall, given expectations for crop production, demand for typical weeding and harvesting labor will likely be below average and delayed. Based on historical trends, daily wage rates for agricultural labor will likely remain stable or slightly decline in response. Overall, income from agricultural labor will likely be below normal throughout the scenario period.
- Due to below-average crop production, household food stocks are not likely to be replenished to normal levels with the harvests in August/September. Among poor households, food stocks will likely last at least two months. Poor households are also likely to sell more of their harvests than usual to repay debts incurred to purchase food during the lean season.
- Average to below-average pasture conditions are expected to support near normal livestock body conditions and productivity in most areas. However, insecurity is likely to continue disrupting grazing patterns in affected areas.
- Below-normal cereal and legume production in surplus-producing bimodal areas will likely reduce supply to Karamoja. Given this, below-average crop production anticipated in Karamoja, high fuel prices, and overall inflation, staple food prices will likely slightly increase overall throughout the projection period and will remain above-average despite periods of temporary decline when harvests boost market supply.
- Localized conflict and crime—involving cattle thefts, destruction of property, armed confrontation with security forces, and loss of life—will likely continue hindering normal livelihood and income-earning activities in affected areas, including by disrupting normal livestock grazing and marketing. Income from firewood and charcoal sales will likely be below average.
- School feeding programming provided by WFP is expected to continue throughout the projection period. School children are expected to access one daily meal during the rest of the second school term through August and during the third school term from September to December. The community-based supplementary feeding programme (CBSFP) and the Mother and Child Health and Nutrition (MCHN) program also implemented by WFP are expected to continue throughout the outlook period. However, not all households in need of food assistance will be reached by WFP due to funding constraints.

Most Likely Food Security Outcomes

Given delays in the start of the agricultural season, the lean season is now expected to last through July, longer than usual by at least a month. Around August/September, the start of main season harvesting is expected to improve food consumption and boost income from crop sales. However, households’ food stocks will likely be exhausted after around two months—particularly as many households are likely to sell more of their own harvest to pay debts incurred during the extended lean

season—and households will again resort to the market for most of their food needs. In September/October (instead of the typical July/August), the delayed harvest from bimodal surplus areas will likely boost market supplies and drive down prices, though food prices are expected to remain above average overall. Meanwhile, throughout the projection period, access to income from typical sources will likely remain below average, particularly in areas worst impacted by insecurity, and purchasing power is expected to remain significantly below average for many households. As such, although improved access to food and income with the harvest in August/September is expected to reduce the number of households facing consumption gaps and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse outcomes, many poor households will likely continue to be highly dependent on markets and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are expected to persist at the area level. As more households exhaust food stocks, the number of households facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse outcomes will again increase, with an early start to the next lean season expected by December. Additionally, in December/January, after the conclusion of the third school term in December, consumption gaps are expected to widen for many poor households in the absence of WFP's school feeding program, unless take-home rations are provided.

Levels of acute malnutrition are expected to remain high, driven by the high incidence of malaria during the rainy season, inadequate food intake, and poor hygiene and sanitation as well as poor child nutrition and care practices that inhibit food utilization. Peak levels of acute malnutrition will likely continue through June/July (compared to the typical April/May) due at least in part to inadequate food consumption. While the harvest in August/September will temporarily increase consumption, the prevalence of acute malnutrition is expected to remain atypically high in Kaabong, Kotido, and Moroto throughout the projection period.

Events that Might Change the Outlook

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

Event	Impact on food security outcomes
Rainfall is below average and/or poorly distributed during the rest of the rainy season through September	This would further reduce crop production levels, resulting in additional upward pressure on prices and constrained food access as households would harvest lower amounts and exhaust stocks earlier. Additional households would likely face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and even Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes by January 2023.
Greater than expected increase in staple food prices	Household food access would deteriorate beyond what is currently anticipated through September. An increase in the number facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes would be likely, and a greater number of households would likely face wide food consumption gaps. This could occur in the event that crop production in August/September is significantly lower than expected and/or if the conflict in Ukraine continues to lead to significant global price increases.

Refugee settlements hosting refugees from South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Current Situation

According to the Office of the Prime Minister and UNHCR, Uganda hosted 1,529,272 refugees and asylum seekers as of June 30, 2022 (Figure 8). Of these, 61 percent are from South Sudan, 29 percent are from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), and the remaining 10 percent are from Burundi, Somalia, and Rwanda. Since the start of 2022, 72,869 new refugee arrivals were recorded (22,118 from South Sudan and 50,751 from the DRC) (Figure 9), in large part driven by renewed and intensified conflict in the North Kivu and Ituri provinces of eastern DRC since late March 2022. In addition, there is a fluid movement of people across borders, districts, and through transit/holding areas, resulting from the unpredictable situation in the DRC.

Following the surge of newly arriving refugees, a humanitarian crisis has arisen at the border town of Bunagana in Kisoro district. The holding and transit centers have become overstretched beyond their capacity as fighting in the DRC continues close to the border along Kisoro district. As registration is ongoing at the holding centers, many refugees have constructed temporary accommodation shelters and pit latrines, while others are renting rooms around Bunagana town or are staying with relatives. Tension with the local authorities is reported to have increased given the security threat with new arrivals being so close to the border fighting area. There is a severe lack of sanitation facilities and below standard usage of water that has resulted in the spread of diseases. Some newly arriving refugees have tested positive for COVID-19. For those transferred to the settlements, the huge numbers of refugees have exacerbated pressure on school facilities in refugee settlements. At the same time, the reluctance of some refugees to move to settlement camps has left many children in transit

camps without access to educational and health interventions. Overall, levels of humanitarian assistance funding remain very inadequate to meet the needs of all refugees in the sectors of health and nutrition, education, child protection, food security, WASH, and mental health and psychosocial support.

WFP continues to provide high-energy biscuits and hot meals at a 100 percent ration to new arrivals within the transit/reception centers, in addition to the blanket supplementary feeding program at some transit centers to prevent further malnutrition. Each newly arrived refugee household receives a 900 square meter plot of land to engage in crop production for the second season beginning in October. Once resettled, WFP provides food assistance to refugee households at 100 percent rations for the first three months. Among refugees living in settlements, about 40 percent or fewer households are estimated to engage in crop production. For these households, the poor performance of the March to June rainy season affected agricultural livelihoods. Settlements in the southwest received more rainfall than those in the northwest, and crop production is expected to be relatively better. However, poorly distributed rainfall affected crops during critical growth stages, resulting in below-average production prospects. Consequently, crop harvests are delayed in the northwest, and available green consumption is less than usual in the southwestern settlements where harvesting is more advanced, according to key informants.

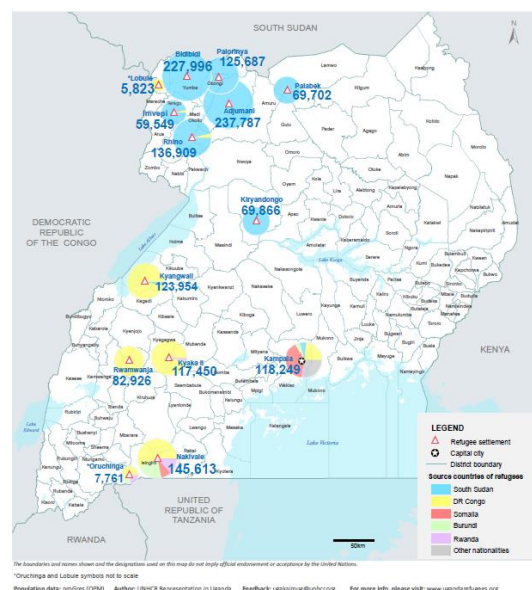
Livelihood options are typically limited for households living in refugee settlements, particularly in the northwest. In addition to income from humanitarian assistance (cash transfers or the sale of in-kind food rations), refugees especially in the southwest earn income from the sale of food crops, casual labor, petty trading, and local brewing. Currently, the availability of income-earning opportunities is expected to be even less than normal given below-average economic activity and poor crop production in 2021 and in the concluding first season of 2022. Additionally, household members migrating back and forth between Uganda and South Sudan have constrained ability to be productive in their typical livelihood strategies.

According to UNHCR/GOU, over 90 percent of refugee households living in settlements receive monthly humanitarian food assistance. In November 2021, WFP and OPM began implementing a geographical prioritization for levels of humanitarian assistance provision based on assessed differences in household vulnerability. Settlements are categorized into three groups: Group 1 (Bidibidi, Imvepi, Lobule, Palorinya, and Rhino Camp), Group 2 (Adjumani, Kiryandongo, and Palabek), and Group 3 (Kyaka II, Kyangwali, Nakivale, Oruchinga, and Rwamwanja). Beginning in November 2021, beneficiaries in Group 1 experienced a slight increase in assistance rations, from 60 to 70 percent of total energy needs; beneficiaries in Group 2 continued to receive 60 percent rations; and beneficiaries in Group 3 (in the southwestern areas where livelihood options are comparatively better) experienced a reduction in rations from 60 percent to 40 percent. Additional prioritization at the household level within the different settlements is pending the completion of the household profiling process.

Given delayed and below-average harvests, households that cultivate land are currently atypically dependent on market purchases. Like in much of the rest of the country, above-average market demand and below-average supply is driving atypically high staple food prices in markets (such as Arua) that serve refugee settlements. Additionally, above-average prices of many essential non-food commodities such as fuel are further constraining households' available resources. In particular, high fuel prices are driving high transportation costs, negatively affecting livelihoods in addition to putting upward pressure on prices of food and non-food commodities. Inflation has also increased costs associated with essential services such as medical costs, school fees, and educational materials.

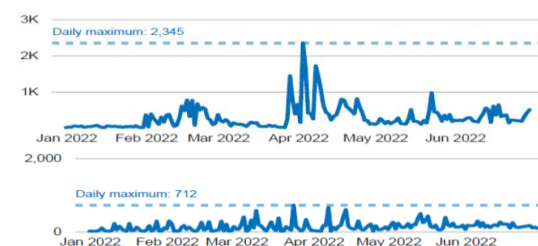
Given the current economic circumstances, delayed harvests, below-average purchasing power, and limited available resources, many refugee households are likely selling productive assets, withdrawing children from school, reducing

Figure 8. Location and population of refugee settlements in Uganda as of June 30, 2022



Source: UNHCR/OPM

Figure 9. New refugee arrivals into Uganda from DRC (top) and South Sudan (bottom) January 1 – June 30, 2022



Source: UNHCR/OPM

expenditures on hygiene, health, or education, and incurring additional debt. The ability of refugees to consume diverse diets continues to be constrained due to the high commodity prices, inflation, and ration reductions in southwestern settlements. Some refugees (though expected to be less than 20 percent) are likely not able to meet their minimum food needs, even with humanitarian assistance, with consumption gaps and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes likely. Worst-affected households are expected to be engaging in illegal/risky income-earning activities. At the area level, Stressed! (IPC Phase 2!) outcomes are expected in the presence of high levels of assistance.

Assumptions

In addition to the national assumptions listed above, the most likely scenario for the refugee settlements for June 2022 to January 2023 is based on the following assumptions:

- Crop production is expected to be significantly below-average for farming households in northwestern settlements and slightly to moderately below-average for farming households in southwestern settlements. Most households will likely consume their harvests in green form in June/July. Given expectations for production, demand for agricultural and non-agricultural labor through the remainder of the first season is expected to be below average in northwestern settlements and near average in the southwestern settlements.
- Demand for agricultural labor will be seasonally higher in September/October alongside land preparation, planting, and weeding activities, and seasonally lower in November/December during harvesting. However, given the below-average rainfall forecast for the October to December period, it is likely that agricultural employment opportunities will be below average.
- Staple food prices in Arua market and other markets serving refugee settlements are expected to follow patterns similar to those described in the national assumptions.
- Given the volatile conflict situation in the North Kivu and Ituri provinces of the DRC and South Sudan, continued high rates of population displacement into Uganda are likely. WFP estimated in April 2022 that, should the recent rate of arrivals continue, 100,000 people could arrive from April to December 2022.
- Due to limited funding, WFP is expected to continue providing humanitarian assistance at current levels throughout the scenario period. It is expected that WFP will continue to scale up cash-based assistance in the southwest, increasing the proportion of beneficiaries who receive cash transfers as opposed to in-kind assistance from last year's 62 percent.
- Delivery of health, nutrition, and WASH services in the refugee settlements will most likely be sustained near current levels and will continue to contribute greatly to the minimization of preventable diseases related to poor hygiene and poor food utilization among the refugee population.

Most Likely Food Security Outcomes

First-season harvests in June/July will support improved food consumption for farming households, though production is expected to be below-average—particularly in northwestern settlements—and most households are likely to consume their entire harvests in green form. In November/December, farming households will likely again experience temporary improvements in food availability with the second season harvest. However, production is expected to be below average for a third or fourth consecutive season and stocks will likely be exhausted quickly.

Across refugee settlements, humanitarian assistance will continue to provide a significant source of food and income for most refugees. However, below-average income-earning given the slow pace of economic recovery and above-average and rising prices of food and essential non-food commodities will likely continue to drive below-average purchasing power throughout the projection period. Given this and reduced assistance rations in the southwest and particularly poor crop production in the northwest, an increasing number of refugee households will likely be unable to meet all of their food and essential non-food needs throughout the projection period as prices rise. Many poor households will likely reduce the quality and quantity of food consumed. Some poor farming households will likely be unable to afford seeds and other inputs for the second season.

At the area level, Stressed! (IPC Phase 2!) outcomes are expected to persist in the presence of humanitarian assistance. However, given limited remaining coping capacity, it is likely that an increasing number of refugees will face food consumption gaps indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Crisis! (IPC Phase 3!) outcomes throughout the projection period. Worst-affected refugees will likely engage in begging and other self-destructive ways of earning income. An increase in the prevalence of acute malnutrition among refugees is possible during the scenario period.

Events that Might Change the Outlook

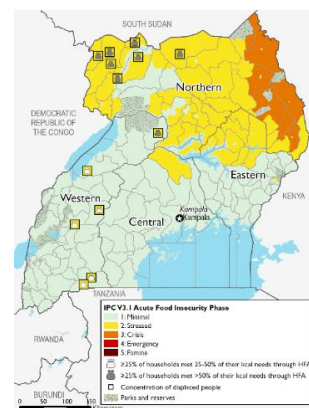
Possible events over the next eight months that could change the most-likely scenario:

Event	Impact on food security outcomes
Further significant reduction in humanitarian assistance rations	New refugee arrivals without access to own production or other established livelihood strategies would face food gaps and turn to damaging coping strategies. This would likely result in area-level Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes, with many poor households facing wide food consumption gaps in line with Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes. Levels of acute malnutrition would likely increase.
Significantly below-average rainfall during the October to December period	This would likely reduce crop production levels, reducing availability of food from own production. Improvements in food consumption outcomes around the harvest period would likely be more limited, with a greater number of farming households facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes.

MOST LIKELY FOOD SECURITY OUTCOMES AND AREAS RECEIVING SIGNIFICANT LEVELS OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE*

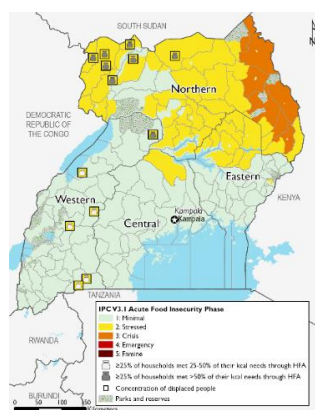
Each of these maps adheres to IPC v3.1 humanitarian assistance mapping protocols and flags where significant levels of humanitarian assistance are being/are expected to be provided. 🏠 indicates that at least 25 percent of households receive on average 25–50 percent of caloric needs from humanitarian 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.

Current, June 2022



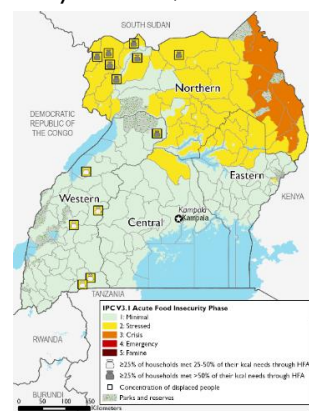
Source: FEWS NET

Projected food security outcomes, June to September 2022



Source: FEWS NET

Projected food security outcomes, October 2022 to January 2023



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.

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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.](#)