

FOOD ASSISTANCE OUTLOOK BRIEF

February 2015

PROJECTED FOOD ASSISTANCE NEEDS FOR AUGUST 2015

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, AUG.)	External needs in AUG. ?	AUG. versus last year	AUG. versus 5-year avg.	Highest likely severity (area) in AUGUST	Key upcoming lean season	
2.5 - 4.9 million	YEMEN	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis (!)	January - June
	Political uncertainty, macroeconomic instability, reduced government revenue, and conflict continue to disrupt livelihoods. Assistance will be needed in many governorates, especially for IDPs and the formerly displaced. Households most affected by displacement and recurrent shocks may face Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes.					
	NIGERIA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	Northeast: March - September
	IDPs and conflict-affected households in northeast Nigeria will stretch their food stocks and incomes but will continue to face difficulty in meeting their food and non-food needs. With elections in March, there is a risk for a further increase in Boko Haram-related violence in the northeast.					
SOUTH SUDAN	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency	Northeast: March - July	
Food availability will improve with green harvests and other food sources by August, easing acute food insecurity across the country. However, conflict and displacement will continue to limit food access and reduced area planted will limit production. Although humanitarian assistance needs will begin to decline during this period, poor and IDP households in many areas will remain unable to meet minimum food needs and remain in Crisis and Emergency.						
SUDAN	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	Northeast: May/June - September	
Assistance needs will remain high as the lean season peaks in August. Above-average food prices will continue to limit food access for the poor, particularly during this period when households are most market dependant. Outcomes will be most severe among IDPs in Darfur and in SPLM-N-controlled areas of South Kordofan.						
1.0 - 2.5 million	ETHIOPIA	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	Wag Himra: July - September
A far below average Meher harvest in November/December in the Tekeze River catchment in eastern Amhara and Tigray will lead to a worse than normal lean season, especially in Wag Himra and North Gonder Zones.						
0.5 - 0.99 million	Central African Rep (RM)	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	March - August
	An earlier than normal depletion of household food stocks, along with below-average incomes, is expected to limit food access and lead to food consumption gaps for the poor in conflict-affected zones by the end of the lean season in August 2015. IDPs will face the worst outcomes with Emergency (IPC Phase 4) possible for certain households.					
	Senegal (RM)	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	April - September
	The significantly below-average harvest is leading to an early exhaustion of household stocks. Market purchase will continue to be difficult due to below-average incomes and greater market dependency.					
SOMALIA	Yes	▶	▼	PHASE 3: Crisis	Riverine areas: May - July	
River flooding during the Gu season, most likely in Middle Juba and Middle Shabelle, is likely to delay planting of maize from April to July in these areas. Most of these areas also flooded in October and November of last year, meaning households will enter the rainy season with fewer food stocks than usual.						
MAURITANIA	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	South/central: March - September 2015	
Limited labor opportunities will contribute to below-average seasonal incomes for households in central Mauritania who have already experienced poor main season harvests. Below-average pasture availability will translate into declining livestock body conditions and low sale prices for livestock, further limiting incomes for poor households.						

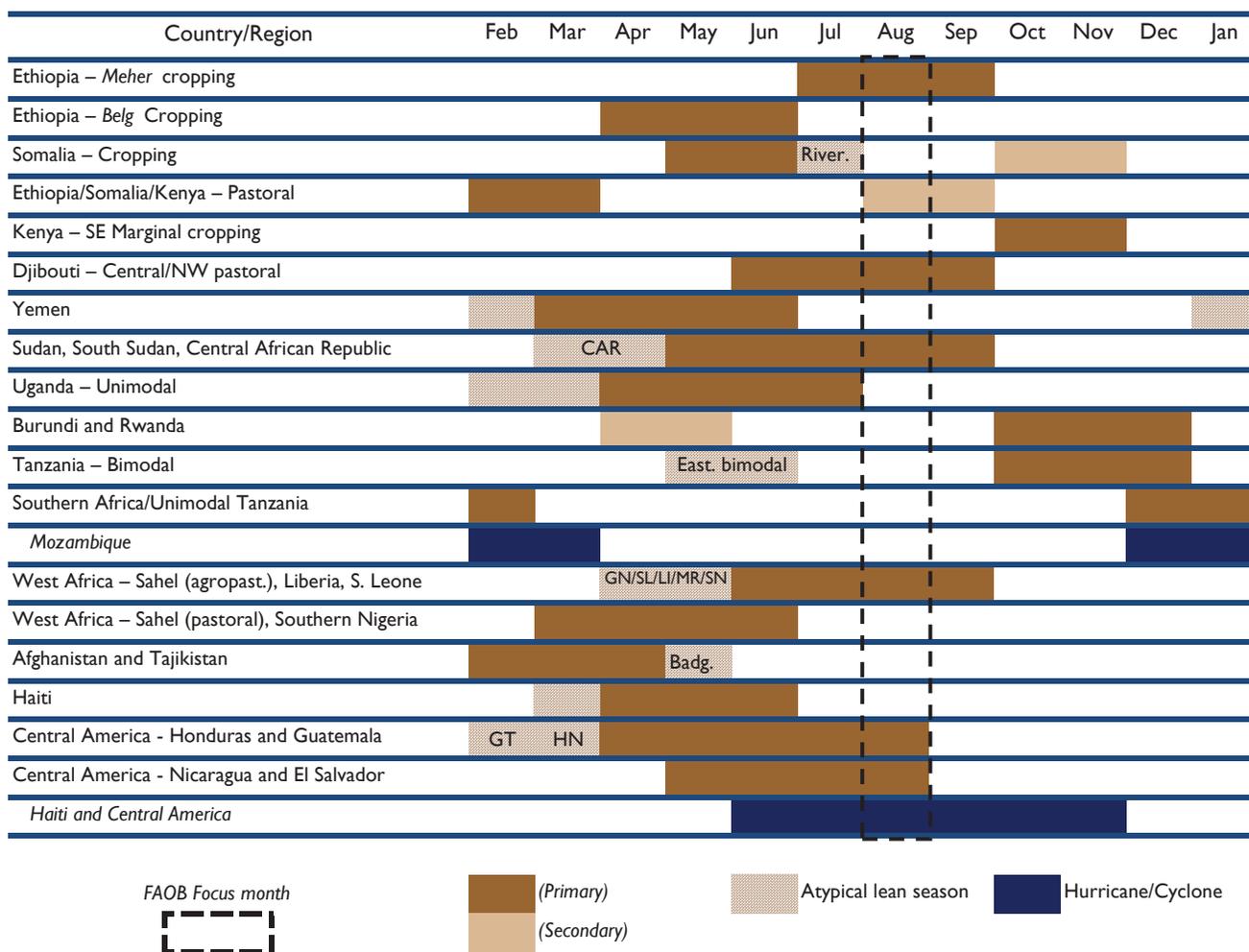
Country (In order of estimated food insecure population, AUG.)	External needs in AUG. ?	AUG. versus last year	AUG. versus 5-year avg.	Highest likely severity (area) in AUGUST	Key upcoming lean season
MALI	Yes	▼	►	PHASE 3: Crisis	North riverine areas: May - Aug.
Poor households in the lakes region of Goundam as well as Gao, Bourem, and Niafunké suffered the worst cropping deficits in 2014 and will begin to face food consumption gaps as early as May.					
AFGHANISTAN	Yes	▲	▼	PHASE 2: Stressed (!)	Badghis Province: February - May
Sierra Leone (RM)	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	April - September
Ebola-related fears and official restrictions on population movements have significantly disrupted market functioning and household incomes. For households directly impacted by Ebola and for poor households in zones where disruptions have been most severe, food consumption gaps are likely during the 2015 lean season.					
MALAWI	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	Southern Region: November- April
Areas in the southern region directly affected by flooding in January will likely be unable to replant and will face limited access to labor and subsequent income. Constrained access to food for poor households is expected to continue during the post-harvest period of the national 2014/15 harvest.					
NIGER	Yes	►	►	PHASE 3: Crisis	Diffa: April - September
Refugees and returnees displaced by the Boko Haram conflict in northeast Nigeria to the Diffa Region of Niger will continue to need assistance in meeting their essential food and non-food needs.					
CHAD	Yes	▼	▼	PHASE 2: Stressed (!)	Guéra/Kanem: April - September
KENYA	Yes	►	►	PHASE 3: Crisis	Isiolo, Garissa, Wajir: Feb. - Mar.
Following the early end of the October to December rains, the short dry season will have a higher level of food needs in northern and eastern pastoral areas including parts of Isiolo, Garissa, Wajir, Mandera, and Marsabit.					
Guinea (RM)	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 2: Stressed	Forest Zone: April - September
Atypically poor purchasing power will limit food access for certain poor, market dependent households in areas worst-affected by Ebola-related market disruptions, such as the southern forest zone.					
Honduras (RM)	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	March - August
Due to lack of reserves from the 2014 Primera harvest, limited income opportunities, and above-average prices for basic grains, some households in southwestern Honduras may enter Crisis as early as March, and will begin to experience improved outcomes as the Primera harvest starts in August.					
GUATEMALA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	February - August
Households affected by poor 2014 staple harvests and reduced income due to coffee rust in areas of the dry corridor in both western and eastern Guatemala will remain in need of assistance. Some areas of the western highlands are expected to be in Crisis from March until the 2015 harvest beginning in November.					
Liberia (RM)	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 2: Stressed	April - September
An economic slowdown and market disruptions caused by the Ebola outbreak will result in reduced household incomes, purchasing power, and food access compared to normal during the peak of the lean season in August.					
HAITI	Yes	▼	▼	PHASE 2: Stressed	March - June
BURKINA FASO	Yes	►	►	PHASE 3: Crisis	Séno/Soum: March - September
DJIBOUTI	Yes	►	►	PHASE 3: Crisis	June - September
Tajikistan (RM)	No	►	▼	PHASE 1: Minimal	February - April
Tanzania (RM)	No	►	▼	PHASE 2: Stressed	Eastern bimodal May- June
Rwanda (RM)	No	►	►	PHASE 1: Minimal	April - June
Angola (RM)	No	▼	►	PHASE 2: Stressed	November-February
Nicaragua (RM)	No	►	►	PHASE 2: Stressed	May - August
Burundi (RM)	No	►	►	PHASE 1: Minimal	April - June
UGANDA	No	▼	▼	PHASE 2: Stressed	February - July
MOZAMBIQUE	No	►	▼	PHASE 2: Stressed	Central/Northern: December- March
El Salvador (RM)	No	►	►	PHASE 2: Stressed	May - August
Lesotho (RM)	No	►	►	PHASE 1: Minimal	December - February
Madagascar (RM)	No	►	►	PHASE 1: Minimal	October - April
ZAMBIA	No	►	►	PHASE 1: Minimal	December - February
ZIMBABWE	No	►	►	PHASE 1: Minimal	December- April

0.1 - 0.49 million

<0.1 million

No populations projected at IPC Phase 3 or higher

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 expenditure without a reliance on 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.
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ESTIMATED ACUTELY FOOD INSECURE POPULATIONS: August 2015

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 RM	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%	5.0 - 9.99 million	20-40%
Nigeria	2.5 - 4.99 million	<5%	2.5 - 4.99 million	<5%	5.0 - 9.99 million	<5%
South Sudan	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%	5.0 - 9.99 million	40-60%
Sudan	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%
Ethiopia	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%	2.5 - 4.99 million	<5%
CAR RM	1.0 - 2.49 million	20-40%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	40-60%
Senegal RM	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Somalia	1.0 - 2.49 million	20-40%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	20-40%
Mauritania	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	0.5 - 0.99 million	20-40%
Mali	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Afghanistan	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Sierra Leone RM	1.0 - 2.49 million	20-40%	0.1 - 0.49 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	20-40%
Malawi	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%
Niger	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%
Chad	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Kenya	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Guinea RM	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Honduras RM	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%
Guatemala	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Liberia RM	0.5 - 0.99 million	20-40%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	20-40%
Haiti	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	<0.1 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%
Burkina Faso	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	<0.1 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%
Djibouti	<0.1 million	5-20%	<0.1 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	5-20%
Tajikistan RM	<0.1 million	<5%	<0.1 million	<5%	<0.1 million	<5%
Tanzania RM	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	None	0	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Rwanda RM	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	None	0	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Angola RM	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	None	0	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Nicaragua RM	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	None	0	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Burundi RM	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	None	0	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Uganda	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	None	0	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Mozambique	<0.1 million	<5%	None	0	<0.1 million	<5%
El Salvador RM	<0.1 million	<5%	None	0	<0.1 million	<5%
Lesotho RM	None	0	None	0	None	0
Madagascar RM	None	0	None	0	None	0
Zambia	None	0	None	0	None	0
Zimbabwe	None	0	None	0	None	0