

FOOD ASSISTANCE OUTLOOK BRIEF

March 2013

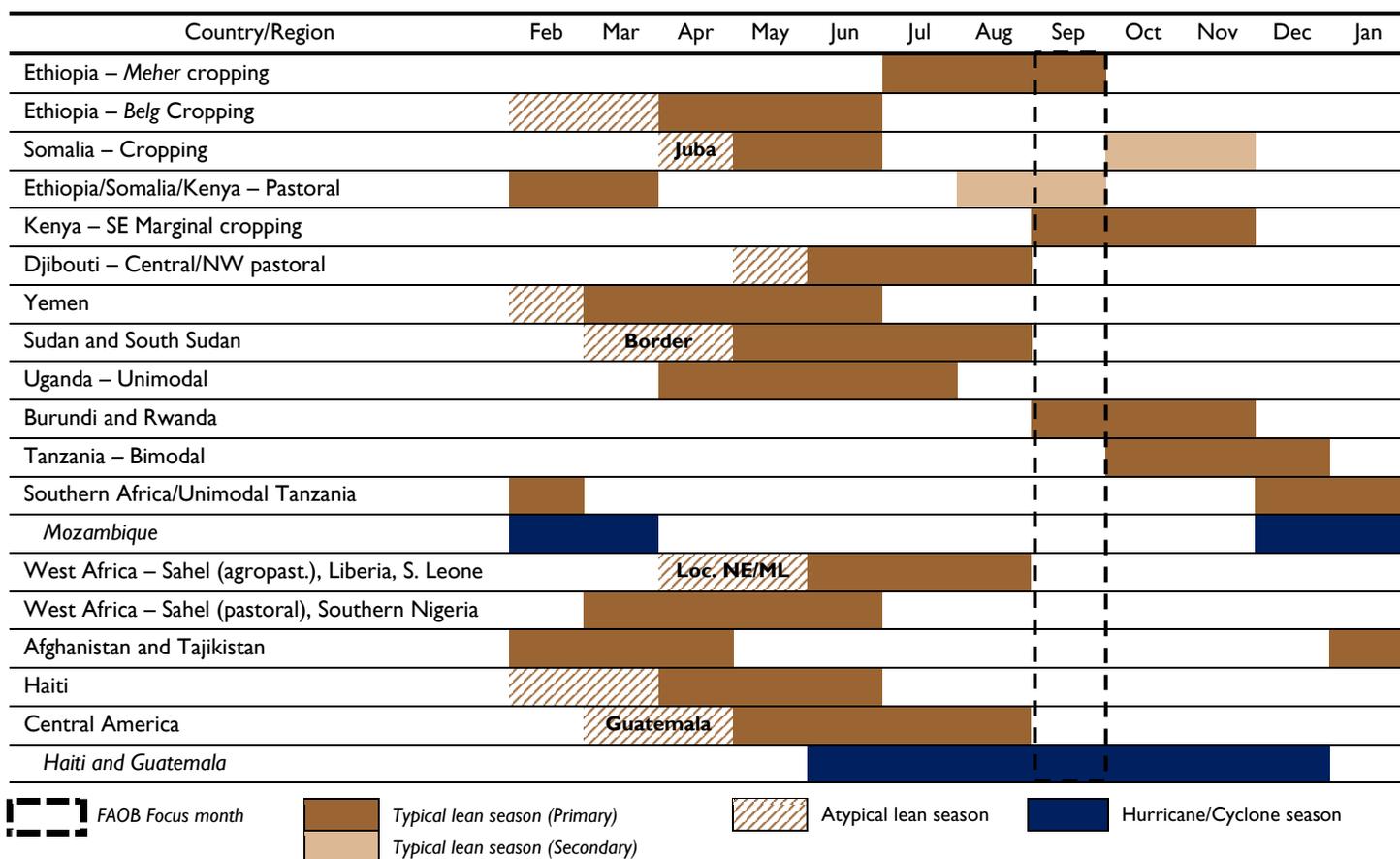
PROJECTED FOOD ASSISTANCE NEEDS FOR SEPTEMBER 2013

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 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, SEPTEMBER)	External needs in SEPT?	SEPT. versus last year	SEPT. versus 5-year avg.	Highest likely severity in SEPTEMBER	Key upcoming lean season	
2.5 – 4.9 million	SUDAN	Yes	▼	▼	PHASE 4 Emergency	Blue Nile/South Kordofan: <i>Mar/Apr</i> – August Despite an above-average harvest throughout Sudan, ongoing conflict in South Kordofan, Blue Nile, and parts of Darfur has compromised people's livelihoods, reduced access to cultivation, limited trade flows, and prevented access to assistance. An Emergency (IPC Phase 4) is likely in the SPLM-N controlled areas of South Kordofan and Blue Nile during the July-September period. Nationwide, food prices and waterborne diseases both peak during September.
	ETHIOPIA	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3 Crisis	Belg-dependent Amhara/SNNPR: <i>Feb</i> – May September needs are likely to be high, both in Belg-dependent areas in eastern and southern Tigray, North and South Wollo, Wag Hemera, SNNPR, and East and West Hararghe. Pastoral areas of Somali and Afar are also likely to have higher than average needs due to the expectation of a poor March to May rainy season.
1.0 – 2.49 million	KENYA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3 Crisis	SE Marginal cropping: <i>July</i> – November Households in the southeastern and coastal marginal cropping lowlands will likely deplete their stocks by August. Poor grazing conditions are likely to follow below average March to May rains, which will increase needs in pastoral areas and likely lead to conflict in areas where pastoral and agropastoral households try to find pasture and water.
	YEMEN (RM)	Yes	▼	▼	PHASE 3 Crisis	<i>Ongoing</i> – June Current forecasts suggest near-average 2013 harvests beginning in June/July, ending a harsher than usual lean season in the western and southern coastal lowlands. Assistance needs will be concentrated among IDPs, returnees, and refugees.
	NIGERIA	No	▶	▶	PHASE 3 Crisis	North: <i>June</i> – September Recent field assessments revealed that crop damage from 2012 floods was more severe than initially estimated. Conflict-related market disruptions in the north are increasing. These factors will likely cause food prices to rise at a faster rate than is seasonally normal, constraining food access and increasing food insecurity through September.
	SOMALIA	Yes	▼	▼	PHASE 4 Emergency	Lower Juba agropastoral: <i>April</i> – June In addition to a high level of needs for IDPs and the pastoral destitute, the possibility of poor April to June <i>Gu</i> rains increases the risk of rising food insecurity in agropastoral areas in southern Somalia, especially in Lower Juba.
	HAITI	Yes	▼	▼	PHASE 2 Stress	<i>February</i> – June Despite the difficult current lean season, Haiti does not expect food insecurity higher than Stressed (IPC Phase 2) in September assuming normal spring rains. Areas of concern will be parts of Grand Anse, Sud-Est, and Nord.
	SOUTH SUDAN	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3 Crisis	Upper Nile and Bahr el Ghazal: <i>April</i> – August Needs will be above average due to high food prices, restricted trade, and displacement related to border conflicts. Market access in Upper Nile and Bahr el Ghazal regions will be limited during the rainy season. The failure to implement the Abyei referendum, which is crucial for trade, is likely to ignite fighting with adverse effects on lives and livelihoods.
	NIGER	Yes	▼	▼	PHASE 3 Crisis	Agropastoral lean season: <i>April/May</i> – Sept. Emergency needs in Niger will be lower than normal. Emergency programs will target households in localized areas where production was poor, particularly Tillaberi department.
CAR (RM)	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3 Crisis	<i>March</i> – August/September Crop damage and theft related to civil insecurity during recent harvests have reduced household and market food stocks. Displacement and disruptions to trade and humanitarian assistance have been noted. Atypical price increases are being reported and are expected to continue. September needs will be above-average as the northern lean season peaks.	

	Country (In order of estimated food insecure population, SEPTEMBER)	External needs in SEPT.?	SEPT. versus last year	SEPT. versus 5-year avg.	Highest likely severity in SEPTEMBER	Key upcoming lean season
0.5 – 0.99	MALI	Yes	▼	▲	PHASE 3 Crisis	Pastoral lean season: <i>March</i> – June
	The resumption of commercial and humanitarian access to the north since late February has increased food access and availability in conflict affected areas. However, pastoral populations in the far north (Kidal region), will likely face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) due to poor livestock demand, limited market access, and reduced purchasing power.					
	AFGHANISTAN	Yes	▲	▼	PHASE 2 Stress	Ongoing – March
	ZIMBABWE	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 2 Stress	Ongoing – March
0.1 – 0.49	BURKINA FASO	Yes	▼	▼	PHASE 2 Stress	Agropastoral lean season: July - September
	GUATEMALA	No	▼	▶	PHASE 2 Stress	<i>March</i> – August
	BURUNDI	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 2: Stress (!)	April – June
	CHAD	No	▼	▼	PHASE 2 Stress	June – September
	RWANDA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 2 Stress	March – June
	UGANDA	Yes	▼	▼	PHASE 1: Minimal	Agropastoral lean season: <i>February</i> – July
	MAURITANIA	Yes	▼	▼	PHASE 2 Stress	Pastoral lean season: April – June
	DJIBOUTI	Yes	▲	▼	PHASE 3 Crisis	<i>May</i> – August
	<0.1 million	MALAWI	No	▼	▼	PHASE 1: Minimal
LESOTHO (RM)		Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 1: Minimal	Ongoing – March
LIBERIA (RM)		Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 1: Minimal	April – July
MOZAMBIQUE		No	▶	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	South/Central: Ongoing-April
HONDURAS (RM)		No	▶	▼	PHASE 1: Minimal	April – August
NICARAGUA (RM)		No	▶	▼	PHASE 1: Minimal	April – August
EL SALVADOR (RM)		No	▶	▼	PHASE 1: Minimal	May – August
SENEGAL (RM)		No	▶	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	Agropastoral lean season: June – September
SIERRA LEONE (RM)		No	▶	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	Agropastoral lean season: June – September
TAJIKISTAN (RM)		No	▼	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	Ongoing – March
TANZANIA (RM)		No	▶	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	Unimodal areas: Ongoing – March
ZAMBIA		No	▶	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	Ongoing – March

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 or humanitarian assistance.
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.