Regional forecast 2021

The high levels of acute food insecurity are expected to persist in 2021 largely due to ongoing conflict and displacement in the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and northern Mozambique as well as the ongoing economic impacts of the second wave of COVID-19 cases, and rainfall deficits in Madagascar, northern Mozambique and central and south-western Angola. See figure 2.8.

In many areas, household food supplies were likely to be very scarce during January–March 2021, when prices generally reach their highest level and many households rely on markets for food consumption. Populations facing acute food insecurity are expected to be greatest in low-production areas, including southern parts of Mozambique, Madagascar, Malawi and much of Zimbabwe and conflict-affected areas of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (FEWS NET, December 2020).

Acute food insecurity will remain at alarming levels in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, with 27.3 million people in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) from February–July 2021. In Ituri, North Kivu, South Kivu and Maniema, conflict and related displacements will continue driving acute food insecurity and adversely affecting livelihoods. COVID-19 restrictions are expected to continue curbing income generation.

Map 2.2
Central and Southern Africa, acute food insecurity estimates and drivers in 2021

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Source: FSIN, GRFC 2021.