The situation of millions of crisis-affected people in the region will remain critical in 2021, with over 29 million people projected to be in Crisis or worse (CH Phase 3 or above) across 15 countries/territories. A major deterioration is expected in Nigeria (16 states and the FCT) where almost 13 million people are expected to be in Crisis or worse (CH Phase 3 or above) during the lean season. See figure 2.25.

Despite extensive damage caused by flooding, the 2020–21 regional agricultural campaign has been positive overall with cereal production estimated to be 1.4 percent higher than the previous campaign and 9.3 percent above the five-year average. Although fodder production has maintained generally favourable levels with some surplus production, the security crisis continues to restrict access to pastures, the functioning of livestock markets and pastoral mobility (RPCA, December 2020).

Nigeria (16 states and the FCT) is expected to account for the largest number of people in Crisis or worse (CH Phase 3 or above) in the region, with 12.8 million in June–August 2021.