Regional forecast, 2022 *continued*

continued from previous page...

Major deteriorations forecast in some countries

The most significant increases in the number of people in Crisis or worse (CH Phase 3 or above) are expected in Nigeria (6.5 million additional people), due to the impacts of persistent conflict, which is expected to continue displacing significant populations from their homes and livelihoods.

In the Niger, an additional 1.8 million people are expected to face Crisis or worse (CH phase 3 or above) during the 2022 lean season, as conflict, trade disruptions, low cereal stocks from 2021 and high food prices contribute to worsening acute food insecurity.

In Benin, the number of people in Crisis or worse (CH Phase 3 or above) is projected to increase by 333 percent relative to the 2021 peak to over 1.2 million people. This dramatic increase is expected due to deteriorating food security conditions. Increased geographical coverage in 2022 also accounts for rising numbers.

Additional increases in the number of people in Crisis or worse (CH Phase 3 or above) are projected in Burkina Faso (586 000 people), Guinea (536 000), Mali (534 000), Mauritania (395 000), Senegal (393 000), Chad (320 000), Cameroon (240 000) as well as the Gambia (93 000).

During the lean season, in June–August 2022, Emergency (CH Phase 4) levels of acute food insecurity are projected across five areas of Burkina Faso, and for the first time in the history of CH, in two areas of the Niger. In northeast Nigeria, Gubio, Mobbar and Abadam LGAs are forecast to be in Emergency (CH Phase 4).

Potential implications of the war in Ukraine for West Africa and the Sahel in 2022

The war in Ukraine is violently disrupting the global trade of food, fertilisers and oil products, with the already high prices of agricultural products reaching record highs not seen in West Africa and the Sahel since 2011.

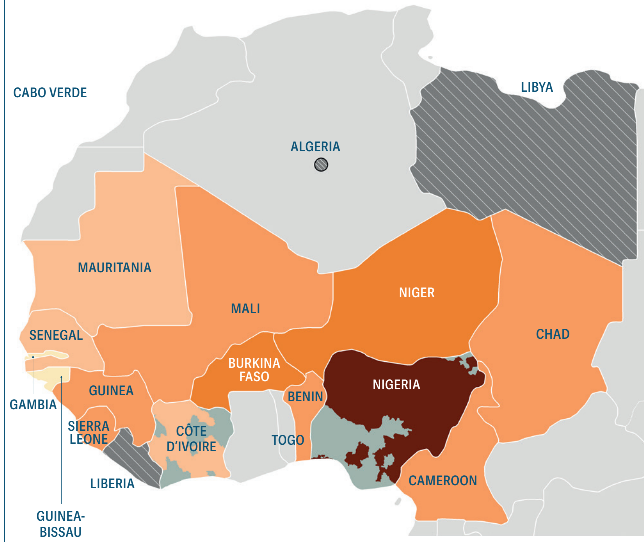
Unlike East Africa and Eurasia, countries in West Africa and the Sahel are less dependent on Ukraine or the Russian Federation for key imports of food, fuel or fertiliser. However, these countries remain vulnerable to potential rises in global commodity prices (IFPRI, April 2022).

Against the backdrop of already elevated regional food prices, in March, staple food prices experienced a 40 percent increase relative to the five-year average in Burkina Faso, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, the Niger, Nigeria, and Sierra Leone due to the combination of ongoing food production trends in the region, as well as global disruptions in the trade of food, fertiliser and oil products (WFP, April 2022).

Rising fuel and fertiliser prices resulting from the war in Ukraine and the economic impact on the Russian Federation are likely to result in increased transportation and production costs for local farmers, placing additional upward pressure on food prices (WFP, April 2022). This could lead to further increases in the number of people facing Crisis or worse (CH Phase 3 or above), beyond the increases already projected through the 2022 lean season.

MAP 2.6

Acute food insecurity forecasts in West Africa and the Sahel, in 2022



Numbers of people in Crisis or worse (CH Phase 3 or above) (ranges)

- <0.5 million
- 0.5–0.99 million
- 1–2.99 million
- 3–4.99 million
- 5–9.99 million
- 10–14.99 million
- ≥15 million
- Country not selected for analysis
- Insufficient evidence/ population not analysed
- No forecast
- Migrants/refugee populations (colour coding as above)

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 2022.