

## Acute food insecurity overview 2021

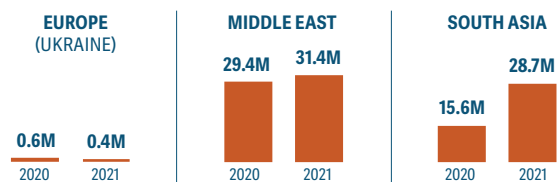
### Acute food insecurity trends

The number of people in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) or equivalent in 11 countries/territories in Eurasia increased from 45.4 million in 2020 to 60.5 million in 2021.

In the five countries analysed in all six editions (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Iraq, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen), the population in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) or equivalent increased from 30.9 million in 2016 to 41 million in 2020 and to 52.8 million in 2021 – despite some comparability issues (see chapter 3).

In three countries in South Asia, the number of people in these phases increased from 15.6 million to 28.7 million between 2020 and 2021, driven largely by the worsening situation in Afghanistan and the use of revised population figures, where the number of people in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) reached 22.8 million in November 2021–March 2022.<sup>2</sup> The rise is also attributable to the inclusion of three provinces – Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkwa and Sindh – for Pakistan in 2021, versus one (Khyber Pakhtunkwa) in 2020. Pakistan became the ninth largest food crisis globally in 2021, with around 4.7 million people in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3

FIG 2.22  
Numbers of people in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) or equivalent, 2020–2021



In the Middle East, no data was available for Syrian refugees in Turkey in 2021, reducing the number of countries/territories included from eight to seven. In South Asia the 2021 analyses included two additional provinces in Pakistan (Balochistan and Sindh).

Source: GRFC 2021–2022.

<sup>2</sup> The increase in Afghanistan can also be attributed to changes in the base population used in the October 2021 IPC analysis, which, at the request of the humanitarian community in Afghanistan, used Flowminder population estimates used for the annual HRP.

or above) from October 2021–March/April 2022. In Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh, the number of moderately or severely food-insecure Rohingya refugees and host community members increased slightly from 1.2 million to almost 1.3 million people based on WFP ENA methodology (WFP, March 2022).

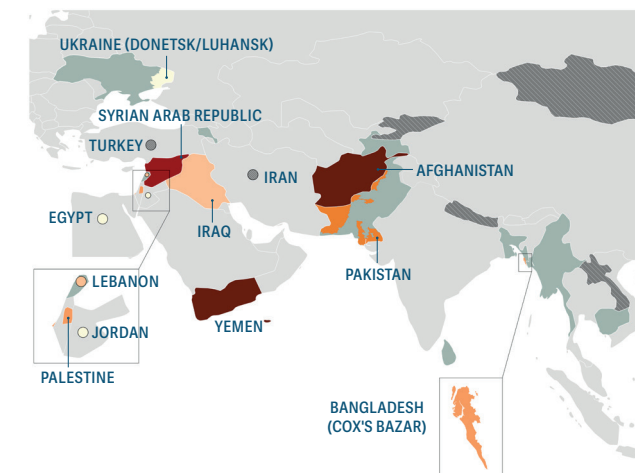
In the Middle East, the number of people in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) or equivalent increased from 29.2 million in seven countries in 2020 to 31.4 million in 2021. In Yemen, the number of people in these phases rose from 13.5 million in October–December 2020 to 16.2 million in January–June 2021 as a result of protracted conflict and economic collapse. After a decade of conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic, the number of acutely food-insecure people was persistently high at 12 million, having increased from 6.5 million in 2018 and 6.6 million in 2019 to 12.4 million by November 2020, as protracted conflict increased displacement, unemployment soared and food prices sky-rocketed.

In Palestine, around 1.8 million people were moderately or severely food insecure based on the SEFSec methodology in December 2020–January 2021, slightly lower than in 2020, when 2 million people were acutely food insecure due to the effects of COVID-19 restrictions, following years of conflict and economic hardship (PCBS, January 2021). In Lebanon, 0.74 million Syrian refugees (49 percent of the population) were moderately to severely food insecure according to WFP CARI methodology, as the country navigated an unprecedented economic, political and public health crisis. The share of the population in these phases were consistent with results in 2020 (VASyR, 2021). In Jordan and Egypt, acute food insecurity among Syrian refugee populations persisted at similar levels to 2020 as COVID-19 continued to disrupt income sources.

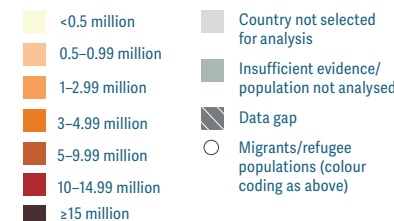
In Europe, the number of severely and moderately food-insecure people, based on WFP CARI methodology, in Luhansk and Donetsk oblasts and among IDP populations in Ukraine decreased from 0.6 million in 2020 to 0.4 million in 2021. Despite persistent conflict, heightened violations of the peace agreement, and restricted humanitarian access in non-Government Controlled Areas, there was a slight improvement in the Government Controlled Areas

MAP 2.9

### Acute food insecurity estimates in Eurasia, in 2021



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



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.

due to unrestricted humanitarian access and a slight economic recovery. Acute food insecurity in the two oblasts was already defined by eight years of conflict, high food prices, limited or lack of markets and access to basic services, and loss/lack of livelihood opportunities (HNO, February 2022).