

2021 GLOBAL REPORT ON FOOD CRISES

High-level virtual release of the 2021 edition of the
Global Report on Food Crises

Rome, 5 May 2021



The GRFC – an evidence-based public good

A strong and expanding partnership

A highly consultative process

A compilation of multiple consensus-based food security and nutrition analyses

A technical document of reference on food crises



Sources of acute food insecurity estimates for the GRFC 2021

Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) and Cadre Harmonisé (CH), where available

Phase 1 Minimal	Phase 2 Stressed	Phase 3 Crisis	Phase 4 Emergency	Phase 5 Catastrophe/Famine
Households are able to meet essential food and non-food needs without engaging in atypical and unsustainable strategies to access food and income.	Households have minimally adequate food consumption but are unable to afford some essential non-food expenditures without engaging in stress-coping strategies.	Households have food consumption gaps with high or above usual acute malnutrition OR accelerated depletion of livelihoods assets OR resort to crisis coping strategies.	Households have large food consumption gaps resulting in very high acute malnutrition and excess mortality OR face extreme loss of livelihood assets OR resort to emergency coping strategies.	Households have an extreme lack of food and/or other basic needs. Starvation, death, destitution and extremely critical acute malnutrition levels are evident.

Action for disaster risk reduction and livelihoods protection

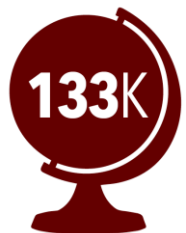
Urgent action required

Or, IPC-compatible FEWS NET analyses, WFP analyses and/or Humanitarian Needs Overviews



In 2020, 155 million people in 55 countries/territories were in **Crisis or worse (IPC/CH Phase 3 or above) or equivalent** – 20 million more people than in 2019.

The share of the analysed population in **Crisis or worse (IPC/CH Phase 3 or above) or equivalent** was 21 percent in 2020 compared to 16.5 percent in 2019.



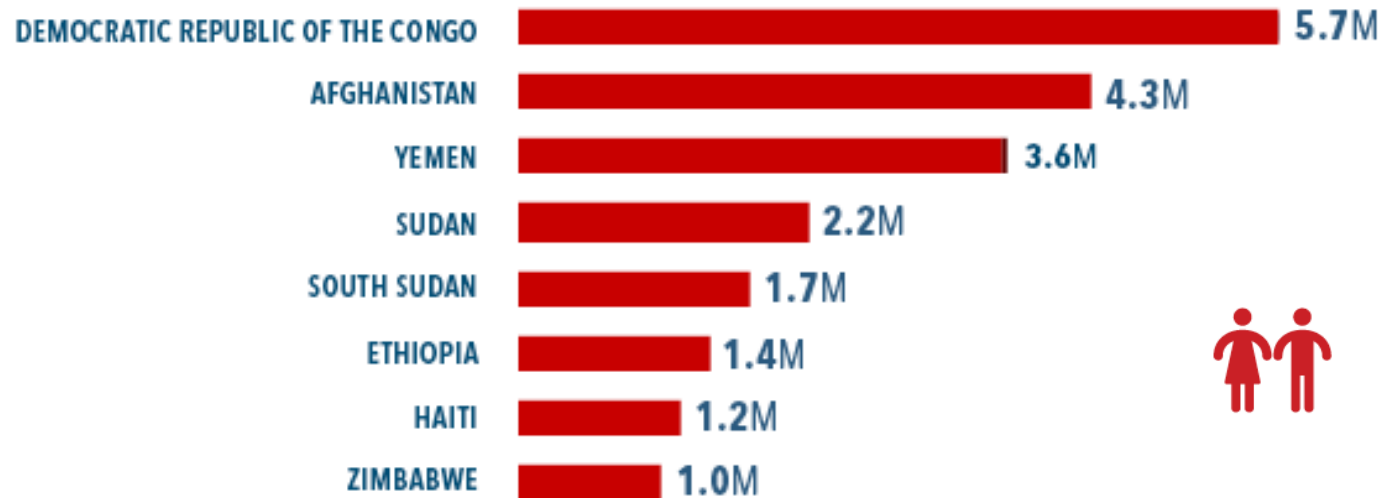
In 2020, 133 000 people were in **Catastrophe (IPC/CH Phase 5)** and needed urgent action to prevent widespread death and total collapse of livelihoods.



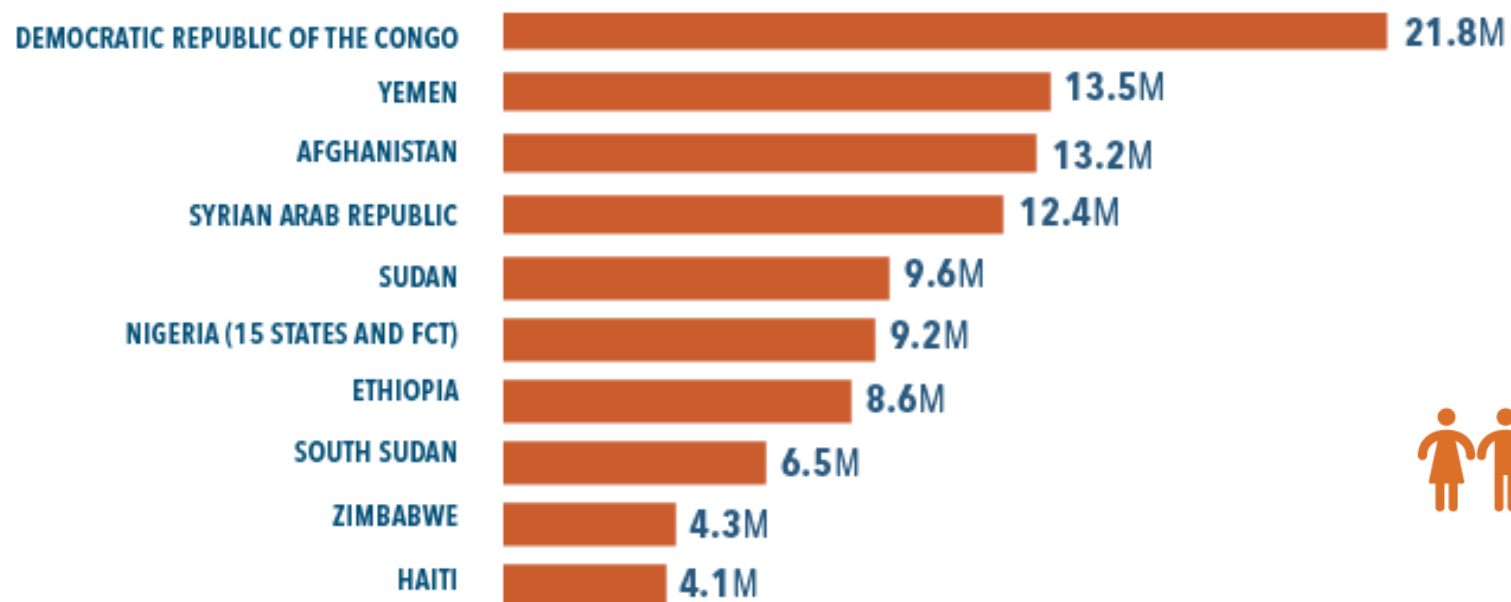
The IPC Famine Review Committee warned that four western payams of South Sudan's Pibor county faced **Famine Likely (IPC Phase 5)** in October-December 2020, while two other eastern payams were at Risk of Famine by December 2020.

In 2020, 28.4 million people were in **Emergency or worse (IPC/CH Phase 4 or above)** in 38 countries and needed urgent action to save lives and livelihoods.

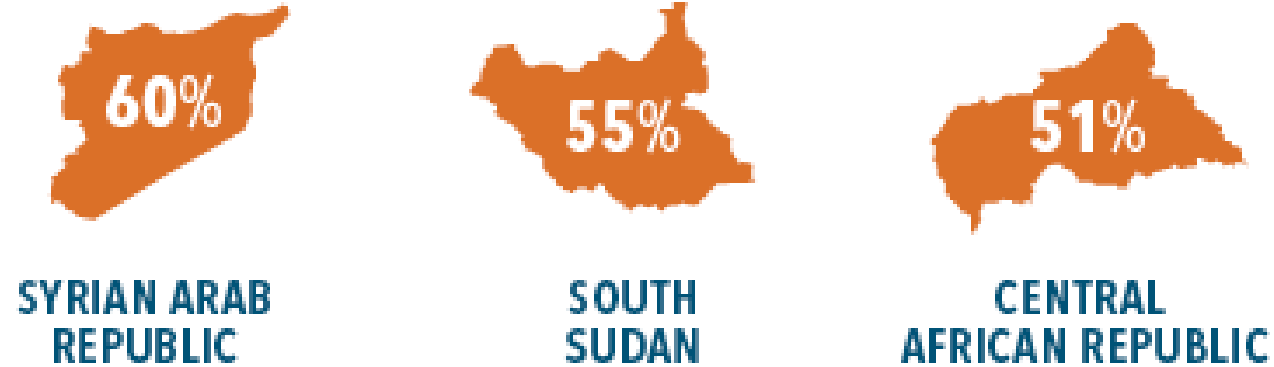
Eight of these countries each had more than 1 million people in **Emergency (IPC/CH Phase 4)**



66 percent of the 155 million people in **Crisis or worse (IPC/CH Phase 3 or above) or equivalent** were in 10 countries/territories



In three countries, more than half of the analysed population was in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) or equivalent



Conflict/insecurity was the main driver of acute food insecurity in 23 countries where nearly 100 million people were in **Crisis or worse (IPC/CH Phase 3 or above) or equivalent**



CONFLICT/INSECURITY

99.1M people
in **23** countries/
territories



ECONOMIC SHOCKS

40.5M people
in **17** countries



WEATHER EXTREMES

15.7M people
in **15** countries



In 2020, there were 46 million internally displaced people in the world. Nearly 65 percent were in the eight worst food crises.



In 2020, there were 30.5 million refugees and asylum seekers in the world. Nearly 38 percent originate from three food-crisis countries.

Child malnutrition levels continue to be concerning

In the 55 food-crisis countries/territories



15.8 million children under 5 years are suffering from wasting.



75.2 million children under 5 years are suffering from stunting.

In the 10 worst food-crisis countries/territories



7.2 million children under 5 years are suffering from wasting.

Malnutrition reveals other dimensions of these food crises.

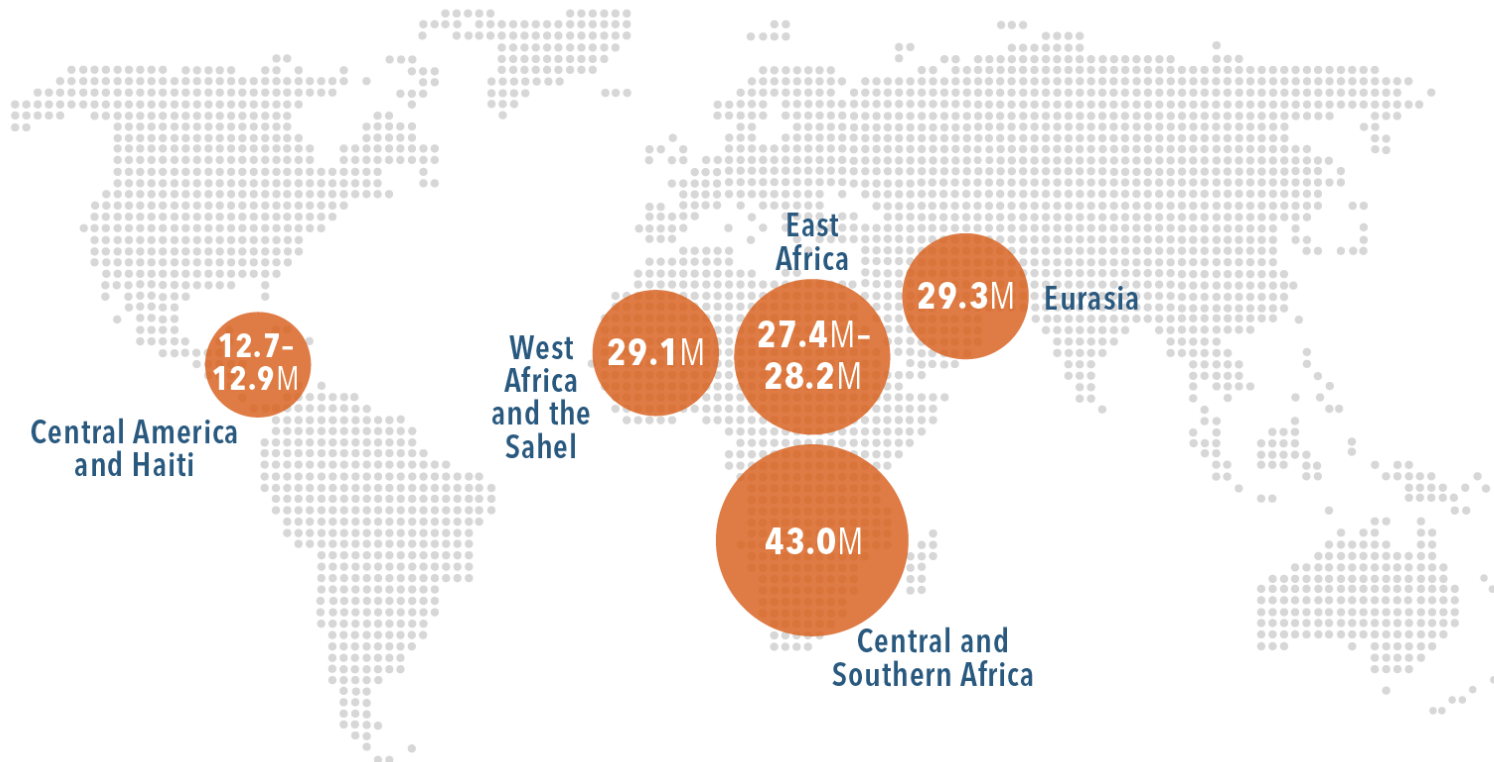


Many of the key health, water and sanitation, and social protection services that prevent food crises from turning into nutrition crises were significantly disrupted.



Key nutrition practices such as breastfeeding and complementary feeding to ensure proper growth are more difficult in crisis settings.

In 2021, around 142 million people are forecast to be in **Crisis or worse (IPC/CH Phase 3 or above)** or equivalent in 40 countries/territories



155 000 people
will likely face Catastrophe
(IPC/CH Phase 5) in South
Sudan and Yemen

Forecasts point to a grim food security and nutrition outlook for 2021, with the threat of Famine persisting in some of the world's worst food crises.

This will be driven primarily by:



Conflict/insecurity



The socioeconomic repercussions of COVID-19



Weather extremes



Increasing displacement



Global Network
Against Food Crises

 www.fightfoodcrises.net

 [@fightfoodcrises](https://twitter.com/fightfoodcrises)



Food Security Information Network

 www.fsinplatform.org

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 [@FSIN_News](https://twitter.com/FSIN_News)