

FOOD ASSISTANCE OUTLOOK BRIEF

September 2020

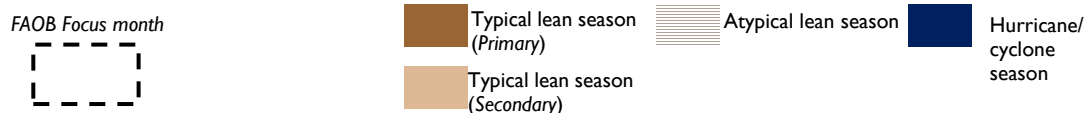
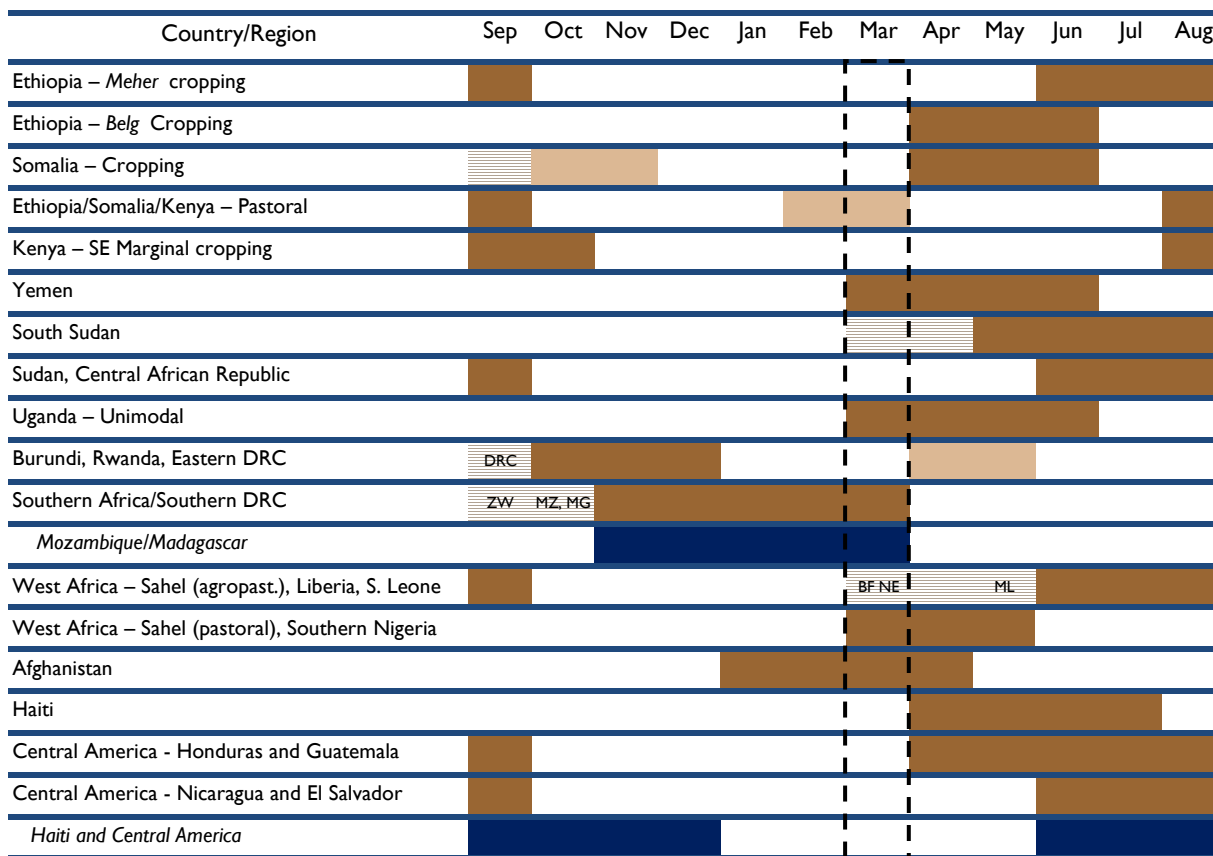
PROJECTED FOOD ASSISTANCE NEEDS FOR March 2021

This brief summarizes FEWS NET's most forward-looking analysis of projected emergency food assistance needs in FEWS NET coverage countries. The projected size of each country's acutely food insecure population (IPC Phase 3 and higher) is compared to last year and the recent five-year average and categorized as Higher (▲), Similar (▶), or Lower (▼). Countries where external emergency food assistance needs are anticipated are identified. Projected lean season months highlighted in red indicate either an early start or an extension to the typical lean season. Additional information is provided for countries with large food insecure populations, an expectation of high severity, or where other key issues warrant additional discussion. Analytical confidence is lower in remote monitoring countries, denoted by "RM." Visit www.fews.net for detailed country reports.

Country (In order of estimated food insecure population, MAR.)	External needs in MAR. ?	MAR. versus last year	MAR. versus 5-year avg.	Highest likely severity (area) in MARCH	Key upcoming lean season
15+ million	YEMEN	Yes ▲	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency & risk of Famine	March - June 2021
	Driven by the impacts of deteriorating macroeconomic conditions, already above-average food prices are expected to continue to increase through March 2021. This alongside continued constraints to income-earning is expected to lead to high assistance needs. Widespread Crisis! (IPC Phase 3!) outcomes are expected, with Emergency (IPC Phase 4) likely in worst-affected areas. Should food supply be cut off for a prolonged period, Famine (IPC Phase 5) would be possible.				
5.0 - 9.99 million	DRC	Yes ▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	NE/SE: August - November 2020
	Conflict and flooding led to another poorer than normal harvest in the northeast and central-east. The easing of movement restrictions has improved access to informal labor, but relatively higher levels of acute food insecurity are still expected in urban areas where purchasing power remains low. In Djuju territory of Ituri Province, conflict is driving displacement and limiting access to food, and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes are expected in the lean season.				
	ZIMBABWE	Yes ▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	September 2020 - March 2021
	COVID-19 restrictions are exacerbating the impacts of continued macroeconomic deterioration and poor production in 2019 and 2020. Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are expected in many areas through at least March 2021, the peak of the lean season. Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes are expected among some households in southern areas of the country.				
	SOUTH SUDAN	Yes ▶	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency & risk of Famine	March - August 2021
By March, household food stocks from the 2020 harvests will be already or nearly depleted, while declines in market supply will begin to drive a seasonal increase in food prices. Emergency (IPC Phase 4) is likely in many areas, including but not limited to conflict-affected areas in Jonglei, Warrap, and Lakes. Given already high levels of acute food insecurity, Famine (IPC Phase 5) would be possible in the event household movement is restricted from accessing typical food sources for a prolonged time.					
AFGHANISTAN	Yes ▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	January - April 2021	
By March 2021, Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are expected among an increasing number of rural households as well as some urban poor households. Precipitation in the 2020/2021 season is currently forecast to be below average. While this is not currently expected to significantly impact wheat production, a variety of outcomes remain possible and significantly below average precipitation would likely lead to below average wheat production.					
ETHIOPIA	Yes ▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	SE/S pastoral: February - March 2021	
COVID-19 related restrictions are lowering income earning opportunities. Conflict continues to displace households and disrupt livelihoods. The desert locust upsurge and forecast below-average Oct.-Dec. <i>deyr</i> season are expected to lead to below-average production in late 2020. In March, Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are anticipated in many southern and eastern areas.					
NIGERIA	Yes ▲	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency & risk of Famine	South: May to July	
Declines in oil prices and depreciation of the NGN is increasing staple food prices. Due to COVID-19 related movement restrictions, poor households are facing declines in income. These restrictions, alongside conflict in the Northeast, Northwest, and North-Central states, are expected to contribute to a below-average harvest in October. Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse area-level outcomes are					
2.5-4.99 million	SUDAN	Yes ▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	May - September 2021
Food security is expected to improve as harvests get fully underway in November and provide access to own-produced crops and cash and in-kind income. However, very high staple food prices and the restrictions related to COVID-19 are expect to maintain very high assistance needs during the harvest period.					

	Country (In order of estimated food insecure population, MAR.)	External needs in MAR. ?	MAR. versus last year	MAR. versus 5-year avg.	Highest likely severity (area) in MARCH	Key upcoming lean season
2.5 - 4.99 million	SOMALIA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency	Cropping: Oct. 2020 - Jan. 2021 Needs will be atypically high in early 2021, driven by consecutive seasons of below-average <i>gu</i> and <i>deyr</i> crop production; the effect of below-average <i>deyr</i> rainfall and the desert locust upsurge on livestock production; and the lingering economic impacts of COVID-19 on remittances, exports, labor demand, and imported food prices. Emergency (IPC Phase 4) is expected in Bay Bakool Low Potential Agropastoral livelihood zone."
1.0 million - 2.49 million	KENYA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	July-October 2020 Many poor urban households remain in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) due to a loss of income linked to COVID-19 restrictions. Due to the below average Oct.-Dec. short rains, Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are likely in some pastoral and marginal agricultural areas. Refugee settlements will likely be Stressed! (IPC Phase 2!).
	UGANDA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	Karamoja: January - June 2021 Due to underfunding, ration cuts for refugees are likely to persist in 2021; Crisis (IPC Phase 3) is expected in refugee sites. By Jan., some households in Karamoja may be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) due to the below-average 2020 harvest.
	MOZAMBIQUE	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	October 2020-March 2021 Drought in semi-arid southern and central regions and insecurity in Cabo Delgado is anticipated to drive area-level Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes in these areas in March 2021.
	GUATEMALA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	March - August 2021 Poorer households in the Dry Corridor have experienced consecutive years of shocks including poor rainfall and reduced labor opportunities due to movement restrictions. Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are expected at the atypical start of the lean season in March 2021 in the Dry Corridor.
	CAMEROON	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	Southern: March- June 2021 Flooding in the Far North will likely lead to a below-average harvest in October and sustain atypically high food prices. In March 2021, poor households in the southern part of the country will begin depleting their food stocks.
	Burkina Faso (RM)	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	Sahel: March - Sept. 2021 Conflict in the north is causing displacement and disrupting households' access to typical food and income sources. COVID-19 restrictions in urban areas reduced access to income for the urban poor, driving higher needs.
	NIGER	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	March - September 2021 Current flooding will likely lead to localized below-average harvests in October. By March, poor households in conflict affected areas will begin to deplete their household stocks and will likely face an early-onset to the lean season.
	MALAWI	Yes	▼	▼	PHASE 3: Crisis	December 2020 - March 2021 At the peak of the lean season in March, many poor households in areas that experienced production shortfalls are expected to face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes. Some urban households are expected to remain in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) due to lingering impacts of COVID-19 on the economy and income-earning in urban areas.
	1,095,000					
0.5 - 0.99 million	HAITI	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	March - June 2021 Inflation and high food prices are negatively affecting food access. Low income earned from the below average spring harvest is anticipated to drive below average second season production and contribute to Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes in March.
	Honduras (RM)	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	March - August 2021
	MADAGASCAR	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	October 2020-March 2021
	Central African Rep (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	East: April - August 2021
0.1 - 0.49 million	El Salvador (RM)	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 2: Stressed	March - August 2021
	Lesotho (RM)	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	December 2020-March 2021
	CHAD	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	April-September 2021
	BURUNDI	Yes	▲	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	October-December 2020
	Nicaragua (RM)	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 2: Stressed	March - August 2021
	MALI	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 2: Stressed	May - September 2021
	Mauritania (RM)	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 2: Stressed	Pastoral: February - July 2021
	Rwanda (RM)	Yes	▲	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	October-December 2020

LEAN SEASONS IN FEWS NET MONITORED COUNTRIES AND REGIONS



IPC ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY PHASE DESCRIPTIONS (AREA)

PHASE 1 Minimal	Households are able to meet basic food needs and afford essential non-food expenditures without engaging in atypical, unsustainable coping strategies.
PHASE 2 Stressed	For at least 1 in 5 households, food consumption is reduced but minimally adequate without having to engage in unsustainable coping strategies. However, these households are unable to afford some essential non-food expenditures.
PHASE 3 Crisis	At least 1 in 5 households face significant food consumption gaps with high or above usual acute malnutrition, or is marginally able to meet minimum food needs only with unsustainable coping strategies such as liquidating livelihood assets.
PHASE 4 Emergency	At least 1 in 5 households face extreme food consumption gaps resulting in very high acute malnutrition or excess mortality, or faces extreme loss of livelihood assets that will likely lead to food consumption gaps.
PHASE 5 Famine	At least 1 in 5 households have a near complete lack of food and/or other basic needs. Starvation, death, and destitution are evident.
!	Phase classification would likely be worse without current or programmed humanitarian assistance.

ESTIMATED ACUTELY FOOD INSECURE POPULATIONS

March

2021

Country	Pop. in IPC Phase 2		Pop. in IPC Phase 3 or higher		Total Acutely food insecure population	
	#	% of pop.	#	% of pop.	#	% of pop.
Yemen	5.0 - 9.99 million	20-40%	>15.0 million	>60%	>15.0 million	>60%
Ethiopia	2.5 - 4.99 million	<5%	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%
DRC	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%	>10.0 million	5-20%
South Sudan	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%	5.0 - 9.99 million	40-60%	5.0 - 9.99 million	>60%
Zimbabwe	5.0 - 9.99 million	20-40%	5.0 - 9.99 million	20-40%	>10.0 million	>60%
Afghanistan	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%	>10.0 million	20-40%
Nigeria	>10.0 million	5-20%	5.0 - 9.99 million	<5%	>10.0 million	5-20%
Sudan	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%	>10.0 million	20-40%
Somalia	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%	5.0 - 9.99 million	40-60%
Kenya	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%
Uganda	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%
Mozambique	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	5.0 - 9.99 million	20-40%
Guatemala	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%
Cameroon	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%
Burkina Faso RM	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%
Niger	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%
Malawi	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%
Haiti	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	40-60%
Honduras RM	1.0 - 2.49 million	20-40%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%
Madagascar	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
CAR RM	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	20-40%
Burundi	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Lesotho RM	0.1 - 0.49 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	5-20%	0.5 - 0.99 million	20-40%
Nicaragua RM	1.0 - 2.49 million	20-40%	0.1 - 0.49 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	20-40%
El Salvador RM	1.0 - 2.49 million	20-40%	0.1 - 0.49 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	20-40%
Mali	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%
Chad	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%
Mauritania RM	0.1 - 0.49 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	5-20%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%
Rwanda RM	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%