

# REGIONAL FOCUS

ON THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY ON DEVELOPMENT (IGAD) MEMBER STATES

## IN BRIEF

# 2023 GLOBAL REPORT ON FOOD CRISES

JOINT ANALYSIS FOR BETTER DECISIONS



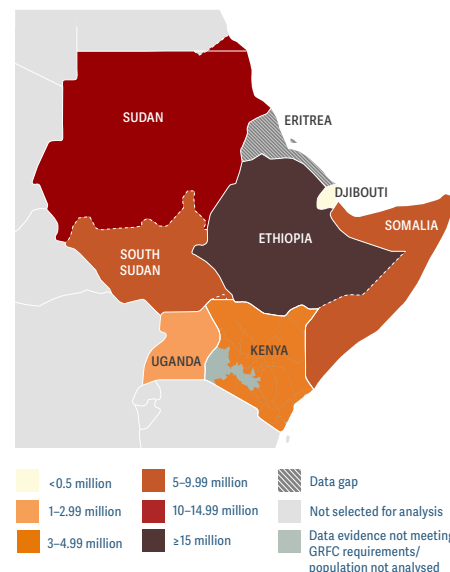
Djibouti | Ethiopia | Eritrea | Kenya | Somalia | South Sudan | Sudan | Uganda

### Acute food insecurity overview, 2022

**55.45M** people, or **22%** of the analysed population, in IPC Phase 3 or above or equivalent in seven of the eight IGAD member states, in 2022

**301 000** people faced Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) in 2022 in Somalia and South Sudan.

Number of people in IPC Phase 3 or above, or equivalent, 2022



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on these maps do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.  
Source: IPC TWGs, HRP (Ethiopia), FEWS NET (Uganda).

In 2022, the number of acutely food-insecure people in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) across the region was the highest in the five years of this Regional Focus.

This is attributable to an increase in the analysed population and compounding effects of multiple shocks:

**the unprecedented three-year drought** in the Horn of Africa and **record-breaking flooding** in South Sudan;

**macroeconomic shocks** linked to structural fragilities, protracted conflicts, COVID-19 and the war in Ukraine;

**conflict** in Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan and the Sudan, which disrupted livelihoods, markets and humanitarian access.

Since 2021, **Kenya** and **Somalia** saw the biggest increases in the numbers of people facing high levels of acute food insecurity. Year-on-year changes cannot be evaluated for Ethiopia due to different data sources.

The countries with the largest populations facing high levels of acute food insecurity were **Ethiopia** (23.6 million) and the **Sudan** (11.7 million). **South Sudan** had the highest prevalence with 63 percent of its total population in IPC Phase 3 or above.

Extremely severe levels of acute food insecurity plagued parts of the region with 301 000 people facing Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) in **Somalia** (214 000 people) and **South Sudan** (87 000 people).

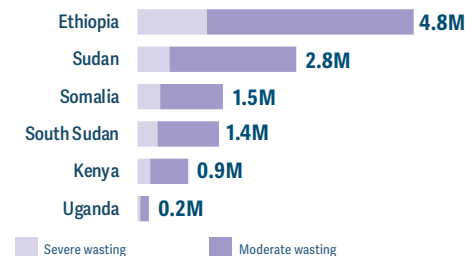
**The projected Famine** (IPC Phase 5) in October–December 2022 in **Somalia** for agropastoral populations in Baidoa and Burhakaba districts and displaced people in Baidoa town and Mogadishu **did not materialise** due to scaled-up assistance, a better-than-expected but still below-average October–December rainy season, and relative stabilization of very high food prices.

### Nutrition

**Acute malnutrition worsened significantly since 2021**, particularly in the Horn of Africa, due to acute food insecurity, limited access to clean water, infectious disease outbreaks and poor child-feeding practices.

**11.53 million children under 5 years old** were estimated to be affected by wasting in Ethiopia, the Sudan, Somalia, South Sudan, Kenya and Uganda. Around **2.76 million** were severely wasted.

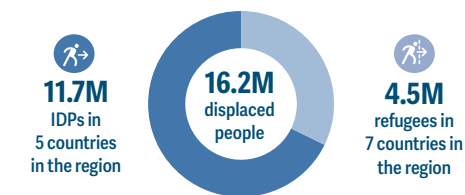
#### Children suffering from wasting, 2022



Source: Ethiopia Nutrition Cluster, 2022; IPC TWGs (Somalia, South Sudan, Kenya and Uganda); HNO 2023 (Sudan).

### Displacement

#### Number of forcibly displaced people, 2022



No data available for Eritrea. No IDPs in Djibouti or Kenya.  
Source: UNHCR; IOM, December 2022.

### Profound challenges in 2023

Out of the five countries with food security projections for 2023, **Kenya** and **Somalia** are again facing sharp deteriorations in acute food insecurity. Up to **30 million people**, or 22 percent of the analysed population are projected in IPC Phase 3 or above in 2023 in all IGAD member states except **Djibouti**, **Eritrea** or **Ethiopia**, for which no data were available. This projection does not account for the impact of the recent clashes in the **Sudan**. Around 7.5 million people are projected to be in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) in **Kenya**, **Somalia**, **South Sudan** and the **Sudan**, and around 83 350 people in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) in **Somalia** and **South Sudan**.

In the **Sudan**, the impact of the ongoing conflict on food availability and access is expected to drive a rapid deterioration in the food security and nutrition situation, with Khartoum and the region of Darfur worst affected. By mid-May, more than **1 million** people had fled their homes with around **843 000** newly displaced internally and more than **250 000** displaced to neighbouring countries. According to the 2023 Revised Humanitarian Response Plan, **19.9 million** people are expected to require emergency food and livelihood assistance in the June–September lean season if the conflict continues.

#### Drought recovery is not imminent

Despite the positive impact of the March–May 2023 rains in pastoral and agropastoral areas, recovery from the three-year drought will be slow given the magnitude of livelihood losses and population displacements – mainly in Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia. During the **June–September 2023** rainy season, an increased likelihood of **below-average rainfall is forecast for most unimodal northern and western parts of the region** – especially central and northeastern Ethiopia and parts of central and western South Sudan, as well as Djibouti, Eritrea, western Kenya, northern Uganda and the Sudan. In the northern parts of the IGAD region, this season contributes to more than 50 percent of annual rainfall.