OVERWHELMING LEVEL OF NEEDS
Globally, acute food insecurity is at a record high level and expected to increase further due to high food prices and inflation. Beside the ripple effect of the Ukraine crisis, other conflicts and economic and climatic factors are expected to worsen the alarming 2021 food insecurity trend. In 2021, numbers were already seven times higher than in 2016, with almost 40 million people facing IPC4 and above conditions. Out of these, 570,000 were languishing in IPC5 Catastrophe conditions, facing starvation and death — a number estimated to reach 750,000 in 2022, breaking new record levels since the 2011 famine in Somalia. Similarly, increases in food insecurity compared to the same period last year are already seen in all regions.

Levels of hunger are close to 193 million people acutely food insecure and in need of urgent assistance across 53 countries/territories. Countries from the Sahel to the Horn of Africa, and further East to Yemen and Afghanistan, are of particularly high concern with millions facing insecurity, mass migration, instability, some of them actually on the brink of complete destitution or famine.

TIME IS NOW, TO RISE UP AND ACT
The gFSC, led by FAO and WFP, with Food Security Clusters partners at global and field level are mobilising responders to get alignment on the priority actions required to address the alarming needs and overwhelming challenges.

In a highly constraint environment, where the needs for humanitarian assistance are spiraling, a coordinated response is more than ever key to respond to food security needs in an effective and efficient manner.

Food security cluster partners in the field are working together to ensure a strategic, complementary and harmonized response. The purpose is to bring the attention on the countries already facing famine/catastrophic conditions IPC5 or equivalent and those where the food security outlook is sharply deteriorating as a way to illustrate the most extreme needs and impact of the failure to respond: Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, Chad, Ethiopia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan and Yemen. Additional countries of concern with critical needs and large segments of the population in IPC 4 or equivalent (such as Syria or Sudan) will be considered and included in a second phase.

**Priority Objectives**

Saving lives and promoting livelihoods is the backbone of the Food Security Clusters, active in the selected countries. The objective is twofold. First, to coordinate immediate life-saving emergency food assistance to the most food insecure, enabling them to meet their basic food needs. Second, to provide emergency livelihoods support and season-specific cash transfers in order to avert further asset depletion and irreversible coping mechanisms as well as to protect, strengthen and restore livelihoods.

More particularly, the aim is to urgently assist the populations experiencing IPC 4 or above emergency & catastrophic conditions, as well as parts of population facing IPC3 conditions, with severe food consumption gaps and having to adopt emergency level coping. Most vulnerable populations are either conflict affected (IDPs, returnees), natural disaster affected (e.g. drought), those impacted by high food prices and households on the edge of destitution.

Currently, food security funding remains below 25% of the respective HRP requirements — this means partners would not have the required resources to address the original response targets, let alone the soaring increase of needs.

**Highlights | Sahel**

Countries of particular and immediate concern are Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Niger, and Nigeria. Overall, there has been soaring increases as follows:

- 5,7M increase in PIN, from 13,7 to 19,5 M
- 3,1M increase in HRP operational target, from 10,9M to 14,1M

In total 12M people require urgent and critical assistance to face their most urgent needs and this requires 564,4M USD.

Under current funding shortfalls, food security actors are proceeding to ration cuts - up to 75% in Burkina Faso, but also in Mali and Niger - and defining geographical areas where to focus the efforts (Chad, Nigeria).

For agriculture-based livelihoods, response situation is even worse because of very limited funding.

"In West Africa, estimates indicate a 42% increase of food insecure people, compared to the same period last year"
**HIGHLIGHTS | HORN OF AFRICA**

As they face the fourth consecutive drought, Somalia, South Sudan and Ethiopia have seen the level of food security deteriorate at frightening pace.

In Somalia alone, massive displacements have taken place (771,000 since Jan 22), and many remain unaccessible by the food security partners in conflict areas (900,000). In South Sudan, 38 counties have been identified as facing emergency and catastrophic food consumption gaps.

In Ethiopia, both conflict and extreme drought are driving factors for the alarming deterioration of food security and critical livestock asset depletion.

Recent food security analysis in Somalia indicated near doubling amount of people in need, both Somalia and South Sudan have identified among the already most vulnerable, population facing IPC5 phase conditions. As fundings remain significantly below the requirements to fulfill the assistance as per the response plan, some clusters are forced to consider up to 50% ration cuts in certain areas, increasing the risk of further deterioration and loss of lives (e.g. South Sudan) and livelihoods.

**HIGHLIGHTS | MIDDLE EAST & ASIA**

Yemen and Afghanistan have been identified as most urgently in need of scaling up the humanitarian assistance given the aggravated conditions people are currently facing. For the first time in the Afghanistan IPC history, 20,000 people have been identified as facing IPC5 catastrophe situation in the province of Ghor.

Timely assistance to these rural hard to reach areas for food, agriculture and livestock assistance will prevent further loss during upcoming hunger season. In Yemen, with current funding shortfalls, food security partners had to reduce food assistance, at times up to 75%, which means around 7M people are to find themselves one step away from famine and 161,000 facing IPC 5 conditions.

---

**TIMELY ASSISTANCE & SUPPORT REQUIRED, TO PROTECT PRODUCTIVE LIVESTOCK & AVOID MISSING CROP CYCLE.**

The partners are focusing on pastoral and agricultural lean seasons to provide adequate assistance so mostly around June-September, varying from region to region. Essential activities with monthly caseloads target are being set (see the country frameworks below for more information). The gFSC will monitor progress made on monthly-basis.
This is NO LONGER an early warning.

Food Security Partners are already active on the field to address the most pressing needs.

This will NOT be enough.

It is our responsibility to step-up, now.
FOOD SECURITY CLUSTERS COUNTRY-LEVEL RESPONSE
AFGHANISTAN

SCALE-UP REQUIRED TO AVERT EMERGENCE OF IPC5 CONDITIONS

REDEFINED PRIORITIES

The Food Security and Agriculture Cluster (FSAC) will meet urgent food needs, protect, and stabilize vulnerable households in IPC Phase 3+ through provision of timely and adequate nutritious food. Food assistance will be provided to prevent loss of life and support rehabilitation of local food and market systems. Food assistance will also be integrated with livelihoods protection and promotion to address urgent humanitarian assistance gaps, contain asset depletion and irreversible negative coping mechanisms. Livelihoods support will protect livelihood options, reduce sale of productive assets, and support the restoration of productive assets.

IDENTIFIED TARGET

POPULATION: vulnerable households facing IPC3+ conditions (March - May)
- Population facing IPC5 Catastrophe conditions in the Ghor Province: given the very high levels of acute food insecurity detected, in addition to recent restrictions, limiting the flow of aid to some vulnerable districts, IPC5 have been detected for 20,000 people in the province, for the first time in the Afghanistan IPC history.
- Population in IPC3 (4,119,510) and IPC4 (6,593,000) phases, IPC Phase 4 classified areas have the highest accumulation of food insecurity both in terms of numbers and severity. We estimate that all the IPC Phase 4 and 32% of IPC Phase 3 people who rely on unstable sources of income, remittances, a combination of irrigated and rain-fed agriculture and already faced multiple shocks will likely fall into catastrophic situation if they do not continue to receive humanitarian assistance. Many households in IPC Phase 3 are only in that Phase because of the sustained humanitarian assistance they have received and with the limited confirmed future funding, these households face high risks of falling into IPC5 if they do not receive humanitarian assistance in the coming months.

GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS: Badakhshan, Badghis, Balkh, Bamyan, Daykundi, Faryab, Ghor, Jawzjan, Kandahar Urban, Nangarhar Urban, Nimroz, Nuristan, Samangan, Takhar Urban, Uruzgan and Wardak

FSC STRATEGY

- **Food Assistance**: provision of 100% food basket to people in IPC5, 75% rations to people in IPC4 and 50% rations to people in IPC3 for 8-12 months.
- **Agriculture Inputs**: improved wheat seeds and fertilizers) during the autumn (Sept – Nov) and Spring cultivation seasons (March – April).
- **Livestock Assistance**: to protect the livestock during the winter time (livelihood assets), noting that women are strongly involved in livestock production.

IDAETIFIED CHALLENGES

- **Ration Cuts** required to provide immediate assistance to the largest number of people in need; further action is required to prevent the emergence of IPC phase 5 conditions.
- **Funds permitting, expected way forward:** assisting vulnerable households potentially at risk of adopting extreme negative coping actions and preventing distress sale of productive assets, gender-based violence, early marriage, and forced displacement pressures.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>CALENDAR</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>June</th>
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<tr>
<th>RESPONSE</th>
<th>ACTIVITIES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food Assistance</td>
<td>In-kind or cash food assistance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Livelihood Support</td>
<td>Livestock support, 10,7 M</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Agriculture inputs support to vulnerable farmers, cash for assets</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ACTIVE PARTNERS (34 provinces)</td>
<td>230</td>
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THE FSAC IS AIMING AT PROVIDING FOOD AND LIVELIHOOD ASSISTANCE TO AVERT THE INCREASED RISK OF IPC 5 PHASE CONDITIONS.
REDEFINED PRIORITIES

As the Cadre Harmonisé (CH) latest estimation indicates 3.45M people will face severe food insecurity during the upcoming lean season, with 630,000 at the brink of famine. This is an increase of 87% of CH4 population over a year and 40% increase of phase3+ in only a year. It is also the 3rd year in row with over/close to 3 million IPC 3+, reaching record high level of food insecurity since the implementation of the CH in 2013. Conflict is the main driver of need, coupled with rising food commodities, which are up 40-60% in comparison to 2021 March prices, exacerbated by the knock-on effects of the war in Ukraine. The As a result, the Food Security Cluster (FSC) has revised the HRP target from 2.3 M to 2.8M of people. The FSC is therefore aiming at addressing the alarming needs of the population in phase 3+ by providing full access to nutritious and healthy food to all 2,8m prioritized people in need and address the alarming food insecurity level they are facing. The FSC, in collaboration with Nutrition, WASH is adapting a Sword and shield strategy to address malnutrition in vulnerable areas where acute malnutrition is expected to significantly increase.

IDENTIFIED TARGETS

POPULATION: IPDs, Host Families, poor/very poor households, conflict affected with agro-pastoral profiles, drought affected.

FSC STRATEGY

- **PROVISION OF EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE** to ensure basic food and nutrition requirements are met for 2.8M people including 1.2 M IDP during the lean season and after conflict episodes.

- **PROVISION OF EMERGENCY AGRO-PASTORAL SUPPORT** to victims of insecurity and seasonal shocks to recover, to avoid negative coping strategies and to ensure food security is achieved, targeting 400,000 people for livestock, 560,000 for crops inputs and 240,000 people for other livelihood support such as nutrition gardens and income generating activities.

IDENTIFIED CHALLENGES

- **RATION CUTS**: due to funding constraints, only 50% to 75% rations will be provided, leading to increased malnutrition and negative coping strategies.

- **FUNDS PERMITTING, EXPECTED WAY FORWARD**: provision of standard food baskets, with 15-day ration distribution at initial move of population for the IDPs followed by 2 months of full ration; 3-month cash assistance covering 100 % of MEB food basket.

### TIMELINE

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>June</th>
<th>July</th>
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<td>Food aid</td>
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### RESPONSE

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Target</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food assistance</td>
<td>2,800,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Livelihood strengthening</td>
<td>1,200,000</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### ACTIVE PARTNERS

24

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THE FSC IS AIMING AT PROVIDING FULL ACCESS TO NUTRITIOUS AND HEALTHY FOOD TO ALL 2,8M PRIORITIZED PEOPLE IN NEED AND ADDRESS THE ALARMING FOOD INSECURITY LEVEL THEY ARE FACING.
CHAD

ALARMING RISK OF FALLING INTO FOOD SECURITY CRISIS

4,1 M HNO PIN  3,3 M HRP TARGET  216,7 M FINANCIAL ASK  1% RECEIVED (FTS)

REDEFINED PRIORITIES
The FSC aims at assisting 3,3 M people, providing both food assistance and livelihood support to ensure households can meet their food and nutrition requirements and build resilience, in order to reverse the alarmingly increasing trend of malnutrition and food insecurity.

IDENTIFIED TARGETS
Food assistance will be provided to all people in IPC3+ and IDPs.
Livelihood support will be provided to IPC3+, 50% of IPC2 in areas affected by population movement, IDPs and returnees (Southern Chad, Lake Chad), more particularly:
- Pastoralist households during the pastoral lean season.
- Vulnerable households with the preparation of the rainy season.
- Vulnerable households who have lost production from the previous rainy season.
- IDPs, returnees and victims of natural disasters (including epidemics with livelihood recovery activities).

FSC STRATEGY
- Provision of life-saving food support to 2,3M people with a food basket proportional to the vulnerability of each household.
- Preservation/restoration of livelihoods
  Distributing small animals and fodder, crops inputs and other livelihood activities to 2,2M.

IDENTIFIED CHALLENGES
- Prioritization of specific areas.
- Funds permitting, expected way forward:
  Emergency livelihood support provided to all vulnerable population to reduce the alarmingly high risk of facing crisis level next year and potential need for emergency food assistance.

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<th>TIMELINE</th>
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The FSC is aiming at preventing the food insecurity to scale up to crisis level, building resilience and providing assistance to all in need.

RESPONSE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>TARGET</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Food assistance</td>
<td>CVA IN-KIND 2,3M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livelihood support</td>
<td>Distribution small animals and fodder crops inputs and other livelihood activities 2,2M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ACTIVE FSC PARTNERS
6
**ETHIOPIA**

**ALARMING LEVEL OF ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY**

![Food Assistance](image)

1. **1,7 BILLION** financial ask
2. **9,7 M** priority target
3. **968,9 M** priority financial ask

![Agriculture](image)

1. **176 M** financial ask 15% received
2. **2,7 M** priority target
3. **20 M** priority financial ask

**REDEFINED PRIORITIES**

Among the over 20M people who are estimated to be acutely food insecure and expected to be targeted in the 2022 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), food cluster partners have noted the need to prioritize the food response to the most vulnerable people, following indications of alarming resource constraints.

While the specific prioritization criteria are under discussion, the Food Cluster will aim at providing emergency food assistance at least to those in the most severe situation (including those in the phase 4 and 5 of the Household Economy Analysis or identified as severely food insecure in the Emergency Food Security Assessment) as well as people in displacement situation (approx. 4.5M are reportedly displaced as of February 2022), whether due to conflict or drought, and the returnees (approx. 900k) who have gone back to some of the severely food insecure locations.

The definition of the prioritized geographical locations (up to zone/woreda level) will also be guided by additional elements, such as seasonality, existence of localized disasters (e.g. floods, landslides, desert locusts), nutrition data as relevant.

**IDENTIFIED TARGETS**

**POPULATION:** Pastoralists; internally displaced people (IDPs); Returnees.

**GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS** Drought affected regions, Southern and southeastern parts of the country (Somali; Oromia, Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples, South West).

**RESPONSE ACTIVITIES TARGET**

- **Food assistance**
  - CVA
  - IN-KIND
  - Approx. 20.4 M

**ACTIVE PARTNERS** 3

**RESPONSE ACTIVITIES TARGET**

- **Livelihood & Agriculture**
  - Cash plus seeds/tools 2 M
  - Livestock health (vaccinations, drugs) 2.2 M
  - Livestock feed 2 M
  - Multi-purpose cash 2.7 M

**ACTIVE PARTNERS** 19

The agriculture cluster in Ethiopia is focusing on the two main remaining seasons to support crop production:

- Cluster partners will support households with crop and forage seeds and tools.
- Pastoralists and agro-pastoralists will be supported with animal health services, slaughter destocking, and vaccination.

The cluster will prioritize immediate and short term lifesaving activities (6 months) with the climate/conflict affected populations in severity 4. Promote the use of cash where feasible, the Cluster will aim for a combination of cash and in-kind support, giving households cash plus feed or seed, in collaboration with the food cluster to ensure that the household receive both food rations and agriculture support.

**IDENTIFIED TARGETS**

**PARTICULAR AREA OF CONCERN:** Amhara (7 zones), Afar (5 Zones), Oromia (9 Zones), Somali (9 zones), Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples (4 zones), including conflict affected, drought affected people (IDP, returnees), and climate affected people.
**FSC Strategy**

- **Provision of Emergency Food Assistance** through a standard in-kind food basket of cereals, pulses, and vegetable oil, or cash transfers in areas where markets are functioning.
- **Prices Monitoring**: inform necessary cash transfer values adjustment depending on the inflationary environment.
- **Commodity Substitution** based on preferences and possibility of regional/local procurement is under discussion to mitigate the impact of the Ukraine-Russia conflict in terms of price increase (particularly cereals and vegetable oil).
- **Provision of In-Kind Food Assistance**: a standard food basket of cereals, pulses, and vegetable oil.
- **Cash Transfers and Top-ups**: in areas where markets are functioning, to ensure households are able to purchase a standard food basket.
- **Prices Monitoring**: inform necessary cash transfer values adjustment depending on the inflationary environment.

**Identified Challenges**

- **Ration Cuts** in drought affected areas, due to funding challenges.
- **Access Constraints** in conflict-affected areas, hindering the delivery of food assistance.
- **Funds Permitting, Expected Way Forward**: provision of standard food baskets to all targeted people in need, beyond the prioritized caseload. Provision of standard food baskets to all targeted people in need, beyond the prioritized caseload.

**Timeline**

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<td>Livestock (health/feed)</td>
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<td>Multi-purpose cash</td>
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**The FSC is aiming at providing standard food baskets to most vulnerable people affected by drought and conflict.**

**The Cluster is aiming at providing emergency livelihoods support to the most in need in drought and conflict affected areas.**

- **Production of Forage.**
- **Unconditional Cash Transfers** to ensure food access, reducing stress and avoid asset depletion.
- **Provision of Animal Health Services** for livestock treatment.
- **Rehabilitation of Livestock Watering Points.**
- **Distribution of Seeds and Tools, Fertilizers.**

**Conflicts and Drought** (fourth consecutive year): increasing food insecurity level and number of people in need drastically.

**Funds Permitting, Expected Way Forward**: the response will reduce the risk of facing extreme food insecurity across the regions, as well as livelihoods assets depletion and/or irreversible copy strategy.
**MALI**

**VULNERABLE HOUSEHOLDS AT RISK OF REACHING CRISIS LEVEL**

| 3.5 M HNO PIN | 2.8 M HRP TARGET | 294 M FINANCIAL ASK | 176.4 M PRIORITY FINANCIAL ASK |

**REDEFINED PRIORITIES**

The Food Security Cluster (FSC) is to focus on lean season, providing both food assistance and livelihood/agricultural support. An estimated budget of 176.4 million USD has been calculated, based on 60% of the HRP in order to cover food assistance mostly, for 1.8 M people in need. Another 2.8 M people will benefit from livelihood interventions. As early recovery activities must be implemented to strengthen the resilience of the affected communities, the FSC will request Access working group and MINUSMA to work closely with Government of Mali to improve access to affected people.

**IDENTIFIED TARGETS:**

*Due to funding issues, no CH data collection in March 2022 and therefore no revised PiN and target available.*

**POPULATION:** all people in IPC phase 3 and above (CH November 2021), with some inclusions of people in CH2 affected by several crises (drought, conflict, COVID 19, food price increase).

**GEOGRAPHICAL PRIORITIES:** Gao, Mopti, Timbuktu, Segou, Kayes.

**FSC STRATEGY**

- **EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE** for vulnerable people affected by population movements. Unconditional seasonal food assistance will be provided to people facing acute food insecurity (IPC 3-5 phases).
- **LIVELIHOOD INTERVENTIONS:** support to agro-pastoral IGAs to protect food sources, livestock, production support and protection.

**IDENTIFIED CHALLENGES**

- **RATION CUTS:** to provide a scaled emergency response to the ongoing unprecedented food and nutrition security crisis in Mali.
- **FUNDS PERMITTING, EXPECTED WAY FORWARD:** with the provision of emergency livelihood support, the FSC would alleviate the significantly high risk of reaching crisis level next year, and therefore for the most vulnerable to need emergency food assistance instead.

### TIMELINE

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**RESPONSE**

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<tr>
<th>ACTIVITIES</th>
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<tr>
<td>People affected by population movements</td>
<td>401 736</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unconditional seasonal food assistance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support for agro-pastoral IGAs</td>
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<td>Livestock support</td>
<td>2,106,268</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support for agriculture (with market gardening)</td>
<td>351,044</td>
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**ACTIVE FSC PARTNERS**

30

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**THE FSC IS AIMING AT RESTORING LIVELIHOOD & BUILDING RESILIENCE TO REDUCE RISK OF FALLING INTO EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE.**
**Niger**

**Warning & Early Response Needed to Avoid Deterioration**

---

**Redefined Priorities**

Given the drastic agricultural production deficit (40% compared to population food needs), the overall fodder balance deficit (46% of resident livestock needs) and the low level of market supply combined with a general increase of food prices, households have become utterly vulnerable. Immediate effects of acute food insecurity on the most vulnerable households need to be mitigated; an adaptive social protection system to shocks needs to be set; livelihoods are to be restored and safeguarded.

**Identified Targets:**

*Prioritization of activities and targeted people in need are to be confirmed with the development partners.*

**Population:** IDPs, the host population and returnees.

**Geographical Priorities:** all the regions in IPC 3+: Agadez, Diffa, Dosso, Maradi, Tahoua and Tillabéri.

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**FSC Strategy**

- **Emergency Food Assistance** (in-kind and CVA). Food basket have not yet been standardized between Government agency and FSC partners.
- **Multi-Year Social Safety Nets and Support Measures (MSSN).**
- **Livelihood/Agriculture Activities:** provisions of improved seeds and phytosanitary inputs to rain-fed crop producers and market garden crops producers affected by a shock (flooding, etc.) and livestock support (fodder, animal health, destocking).

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**Identified Challenges**

- The security situation may limit access to vulnerable people as well.
- **Ration cuts** have been necessary to ensure support to a higher number of people given the unprecedented food and nutrition security crisis.
- **Funds permitting, expected way forward:** the response would scale up adopting a full ration.

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**Timeline**

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<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>June</th>
<th>July</th>
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**Response**

- **Food Assistance**
  - Unconditional Targeted Food Distribution Unconditional Monetary Transfer

- **Livelihood (Agriculture Livestock)**
  - MSSN & support measures for chronically vulnerable households
  - Improved seeds & phytosanitary inputs for rain-fed crop, market garden crops shock-affected
  - Livestock food availability health protection & destocking

**Target**

- 4,4 M

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**Active Partners**

14

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**The FSC is alarmed by the looming crisis in Niger and willing to act and prevent further increase of food insecurity increase.**
NIGERIA
THE LARGEST FOOD SECURITY GAP SINCE 2016

REDefined PRIorities
The FSC Nigeria will be prioritizing both in terms of population and calendar season, in order to provide all people in CH phases 3 & 4 — special focus on the 14% (587,956 people) in Emergency Phase — with food assistance and agriculture livelihood support, during the most critical time of the year, which the rain season. For example, access to land for production to be able to meet the upcoming planting season is essential and will be a priority. While with current funding, the FSC is reaching 1,2 M with food assistance and 212,000 with livelihood support, it is necessary to scale up the response to reach at least the top-priority 2M people in order to avoid a catastrophic situation.

IDENTIFIED TARGETS:
Key locations and households will be prioritized for both food assistance and agricultural livelihoods.
POPULATION: IDPs, returnees and host community.
GEOGRAPHICAL PRIORITIES: Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States.

FSC Strategy
- **Scale up & Accelerate 2022 HRP Implementation** from 1,2 M to 2M people/food assistance; from to 200K to 1M/livelihoods to meet the immediate rain/planting season support needs.
- **Life-saving Food Assistance (Including Cooking Fuel)**: priority given to returnees, IDPs and Host Community, during the lean season (May to early October) more particularly on the peak (June- August).
- **Crop Inputs for the Rainy Season** from May to early October (Peak in July/August) to invert the reducing trend of agriculture assistance (at the lowest level now, since 2018) and assist vulnerable households with land access to produce their own food, representing a unique opportunity to improve food availability at household and community levels.
- **Multi Sectoral Lean Season Task Force**: collaboration with government agencies to foster complementarity and identify the hot-spot areas of priority concern and prioritization of the most vulnerable locations.

IDENTIFIED CHALLENGES
- **Reduced reach due to reduced fundings.**
- **Funds permitting, expected way forward: In a First Phase**, an additional 781,000 people would be reached with food assistance, 808,000 with livelihood support. Ideally, all 1,8 M people in need of food assistance and 2.1 M in need of livelihood support would be receive the most needed assistance.

<table>
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<th>May</th>
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**RESPONSE**

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</table>

**ACTIVE PARTNERS** 8

THE FSC IDENTIFIED 3 PRIORITY PHASES TO ASSIST ALL PEOPLE IN NEED WITH ADEQUATE FUNDING
REDEFINED PRIORITIES

Over the next 6 months, the FSC response strategy to prevent Famine will be two-pronged: aiming at a massive and rapid scale up of life saving food assistance targeting the populations most at risk of famine, and providing emergency livelihood assistance, i.e. providing unconditional cash in tandem with emergency livelihood inputs (cash+ approach) to enable vulnerable agro-pastoral and pastoral households affected by drought and at risk of Famine to get back into production to secure a harvest, sustain animal health, improve access to food, and avert further livelihood assets depletion.

IDENTIFIED TARGETS

**POPULATION:** all people in accessible areas experiencing severe to extreme food insecurity (IPC3+).

- New IDPs in camps in both rural and urban areas.
- Households with a malnourished under five child (SAM and MAM) and Pregnant and Lactating Women and Girls.
- Minority and marginalized populations and persons with disabilities, women headed households.

Emergency livelihoods support will also target 100% of IPC3+ populations in riverine, agro-pastoral and pastoral livelihood zones, in all accessible areas.

**GEOGRAPHICAL PRIORITY:** FSC priority districts with the highest levels of food insecurity (including populations in IPC Phase 5 Catastrophe), and inter-cluster sectoral needs.

FSC STRATEGY

- Addressing the immediate food needs to save lives, Cash+ approach: providing unconditional transfers (80% in cash and vouchers and 20% in kind).
- Protecting livelihoods and related food and income sources over the next 6 months.
- With a “No Regret” approach: 3-month assistance to all beneficiaries, 6-month assistance to refugees.

**IDENTIFIED CHALLENGES**

- Resource constraints leading to response gaps in locations with high needs.
- Insecurity 900,000 people living in non accessible areas.
- Massive population displacements: 771,000 have been displaced since Jan 22.
- Funds permitting, expected way forward: immediate life-saving food assistance and life-sustaining emergency livelihoods and cash assistance for all people facing destitution, displacement, and hunger and lack of income necessary to access food.

**MINIMUM INTER-SECTORAL RESPONSE PACKAGE**

All sectors focus on convergence of the aforementioned priority areas and efforts will be made to develop stronger referral mechanisms, to support households’ transition from unconditional food assistance and emergency livelihoods to regular programmes and services in the same areas. This will include safety nets, support for the sustainable recovery of agriculture and pastoral livelihood systems, health and nutrition interventions implemented by FSC, government and other actors. Furthermore, Wash, Nutrition and Health and FS clusters are developing a joint famine prevention strategy to inform the broader Famine prevention

**URGENT HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE**

**SCALING-UP REQUIRED TO PREVENT MASSIVE DISPLACEMENT, FAMILY SEPARATION, COLLAPSED LIVELIHOODS & EXCESS MORTALITY FOR ALL 6 M PEOPLE AT RISK OF FAMINE**
REDEFINED PRIORITIES

The Food Security & Livelihoods cluster (FSLC) aims to save lives, prevent famine, improve food consumption and dietary diversity, maintain food production in times of crises and enhance coping strategies of the most vulnerable populations.

IDENTIFIED TARGETS (THE TARGET PRIORITIZATION WAS BASED ON FSNMS+ SEVERITY MAPPING)

**Population:**
- In IPC 4 & 5, i.e. emergency & catastrophic food consumption gaps and having to adopt emergency level coping strategies.
- Flood, drought, high food prices and conflict affected locations with the most vulnerable IDPs, returnees & host communities at greatest risk of food insecurity.

**Geographical Priority:** 4.48M people concentrated in 38 counties (8 IPC 4 counties with presence of IPC 5 already with 70% rations, 30 IPC 4 counties with more than 30% or 50,000 people in IPC 4 with 50% rations).

**FSLC STRATEGY**

- **Emergency Food Assistance** in cash/hybrid/in kind.
- **Emergency Food Production:** complementary vegetable, crop livelihood inputs, fishing, livestock support.
- **Provision of Livelihood Support:** improved market access, provision of seeds and tools to stimulate production back to surplus levels, particularly in the greenbelt (Greater Equatoria).
- **Support to Small Scale Subsistence Producers** in locations with less favorable agricultural potential and include animal health support.
- **Unconditional Cash Transfers** for food and other critical needs; where markets are functional, providing vulnerable people with greater dignity and choice to meet their basic needs through local markets.

**Identified Challenges**

- **Access Challenges** due to flooding, severe localized conflict events & youth agitation disrupting delivery of humanitarian assistance.
- **Reduced Rations:** only few counties will receive 70% rations, other extreme and severe counties will at best receive 50%.
- **Funds Permitting, Expected Way Forward:** immediate scaling up of assistance to avert famine in counties of extreme level of concern.

**Timeline**

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**Inter-cluster Approach: Food Security, Nutrition, Health, WASH**

- Minimum packages for integration as agreed by the Famine clusters with joint advocacy for multi-sectoral programming.
- The clusters have created kitchen garden demo plots to promote holistic gardening, nutrition, hygiene and food preparation.
- According to the common integrated plan focusing on IPC phase 4 classified counties, the FSC supports vulnerable households in the catchment areas of health, nutrition, education and community WASH facilities.

**Response**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Target</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food Assistance</td>
<td>in-kind/hybrid/cash assistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livelihood Support</td>
<td>emergency crop kits, fishing kits, vegetable kits, small stock distributions &amp; livestock vaccinations and treatment 4.48 M</td>
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</table>

**ACTIVE FSLC PARTNERS**

78
REDEFINED PRIORITIES
The Food Security and Agriculture Cluster (FSAC) promotes the twin track approach of “saving lives and promote livelihoods”: delivering immediate life-saving emergency food assistance to the most vulnerable food insecure households, allowing them to meet their basic food needs, and providing emergency livelihoods support and season-specific cash transfers in orders to protect, strengthen and restore rural and urban livelihoods while stimulating economic recovery. This combination is key to ensuring household coping capacities are maintained and improved, lessening humanitarian needs and expanding sustainable interventions to build on the humanitarian-development nexus approach.

IDENTIFIED TARGETS
POPULATION: internally displaced people, socially and economically marginalized communities, female-headed households, people with disabilities, landless daily laborers, older people, and households with acutely malnourished children under five years of age and pregnant and lactating women.

FSAC STRATEGY

**EMERGENCY FOOD AND LIVELIHOOD ASSISTANCE**
- Provision of immediate life-saving emergency food assistance, 16,7M people (IPC5, IPC4, IPC3).
- Distribution of emergency agricultural, livestock or fisheries kits, 1,8M people (IPC3).

**LIVELIHOOD SUPPORT**
- Rehabilitation of community assets and infrastructure, provision of seasonal employment opportunities and increase of HH incomes through conditional and season specific cash transfer, 2,3M people.
- Restoring livelihoods assets, assistance in establishing micro-businesses and trainings to enhance employability, 0.6M people.

**IDENTIFIED CHALLENGES**
- The FSAC fears it will have to reduce food assistance up to 75% which would represent around 7 million people who are one step away from famine and 161,000 facing IPC 5 catastrophe.
- **Funds permitting, expected way forward:** assistance will be immediately provided to the people facing IPC 4+ conditions and extended to all population in need to reduce the risk of further destitution of livelihoods.

THE INTEGRATED PROGRAMMING FOR FAMINE REDUCTION FRAMEWORK (IFRR)
The IFRR framework combines FSAC, Nutrition, Wash and Health. Districts are prioritised according to a set of inter-sectoral indicators (from the FSAC perspective: districts with IPC5 pockets + districts with 30% or above of the population in IPC4). Standardized activity package has been developed.