

Building capacity for food security analysis for NGOs:

**a new opportunity
(OXFAM)**



OXFAM

The IPC

- The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is an innovative multi-partner initiative for improving food security and nutrition analysis and decision-making.
- By using the IPC classification and analytical approach, Governments, UN Agencies, NGOs, civil society and other relevant actors, work together to determine the severity and magnitude of acute and chronic food insecurity, and acute malnutrition situations in a country, according to internationally-recognised scientific standards.
- The main goal of the IPC is to provide decision-makers with a rigorous, evidence- and consensus-based analysis of food insecurity and acute malnutrition situations, to inform emergency responses as well as medium- and long-term policy and programming, and inform resource allocation by donors, government and NGOs.



- The IPC was originally developed in 2004 to be used in Somalia by FAO's Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU). Since then, a global partnership of 15 organizations is leading the development and implementation of the IPC at global, regional and country level. Zimbabwe was the first country in SAF to use IPC in 2008, its use has not been consistent since then.
- The tool has been used for over 10 years in 30 countries in Latin America, Africa and Asia including 14 of the 18 countries with extremely severe food crises.
- Among the organizations that are part of the IPC global partnership are four NGOs: Oxfam, Save the Children, CARE and Action Contre la Faim (ACF/ACH/AAH), excluding the UN family and other CSOs and Food security agents
- There is interest in the IPC from donors and other key stakeholders due to its nature and methodology-consensus from stakeholders



About Oxfam Initiative

- Oxfam secured funds from Sida to support and strengthen capacity of NGOs on IPC Acute food insecurity analysis in Zimbabwe and CAR.
- The project will run up to March 2022
- The project seeks to improve the use of the IPC analysis by NGOs as a tool for ascertaining food insecurity within a geographic area.
- The project targets food security actors and agencies that could and do engage in the IPC analysis process in their deliverables.

- The initiative focuses on improving the quality of the IPC analysis process by strengthening technical capacities of NGOs to meaningfully engage in the process, network and improve relationships with government in the analysis.
- This project is designed to strengthen IPC while contributing to the larger global IPC initiative by the GSU.
- Oxfam's approach will be complementary and in coordination with existing IPC structures i.e the FNC in Zimbabwe



Justification of the Initiative

- Oxfam has collaborated with the IPC Global Support Unit (GSU), ACF, Save the Children, and CARE to identify the areas where NGOs can further strengthen and expand their participation by complementing and adding value to the work of the IPC GSU and other stakeholders.
- From the findings, participation of Oxfam and other IPC global partner NGO staff, as well as other civil society organizations including local and national NGOs, across IPC processes at country level remains inconsistent.
- NGOs are encouraged to support the government data collection processes with staff and resources, creating potential constraints for local NGOs who may be unable to contribute-the project aims to assist with resources to support participation by NGOs



- NGO staff may have limited understanding of the technical complexities, protocols, and procedures of the IPC, especially due to frequent staff turnover, and do not have resources to consistently prioritize time to IPC capacity building opportunities.
- This limited understanding also means that NGOs are not always able to utilize the results of IPC analyses for management decisions, fundraising, and advocacy.
- At times, NGOs at country level are not even aware that IPC analyses are taking place.



- This inconsistent and inadequate participation and capacity reduces the effectiveness of the consensus-based technical process by not adequately representing the important quantitative and qualitative data, contextual knowledge, and technical skills of NGO staff.
- The current IPC Global Strategic Programme for 2019-2022 seeks to promote greater engagement and institutionalisation of the IPC
- It also seeks to strengthen the overall robustness of the IPC through its sector-specific expertise

Proposed activities

Project Objective

Support improved IPC Acute/chronic Food Insecurity and acute malnutrition analyses and their use by food security partners

Activities

- Conduct specific trainings (food security foundation, data collection and surveys, gender, etc.) for food security stakeholders at country level; bring together practitioners to improve the participation and quality of primary data and IPC analyses within informal communities.
- Facilitate IPC certification training for key NGO staff to build confidence and capacity in analysis process.
- Use or develop tools and mechanisms to collect high quality standardized food security and nutrition data to increase country coverage, reliability and use of qualitative data and fill knowledge gaps.



- Fund and advocate for local NGOs to participate and collaborate with the IPC partners at country level.
- workshops, trainings and meetings to build relationships with EW actors to link triggers to data collection, analyses, and updates, prioritizing at risk areas and data gaps
- Conduct webinars or interactive presentations on different uses of the IPC findings, tailored for different stakeholders (NGO CDs and senior management, Government and CSOs) to expand the stakeholders base for quality IPC analysis.
- Facilitate informal and ad hoc trainings that will contribute to increased awareness about the analysis and findings and promote knowledge that enables better use.



- Initiate development of new technical guidance on gender-sensitive IPC analyses.
- ad-hoc training on various potential topics, such as gender-sensitive IPC analyses, famine classification in urban and rural areas as well as use of qualitative data in IPC analyses, projections, etc.
- Conduct and document formal and informal lessons learned to encourage adoption of a learning culture and integration of best practices.



Next steps

1. working with 6-8 NGOs who are interested
2. Carrying out a baseline to benchmark IPC knowledge and tailor make the trainings in order to remain relevant
3. Engage FNC for support
4. NGOs to express interest through the food cluster lead.
5. Planning meeting and engagement with FNC on the feasibility of an IPC this season. The project hopes to invest in capacity building for future IPC processes if FNC advises that there won't be a IPC classification.
6. Draft a workplan that suits calenders of the interested NGOs
7. Provide regular updates to the food cluster on how the initiative will be progressing on a quarterly basis.

Your thoughts and ideas about this initiative are most welcome.



Thank
You!

