

# FOOD ASSISTANCE OUTLOOK BRIEF

March 2023

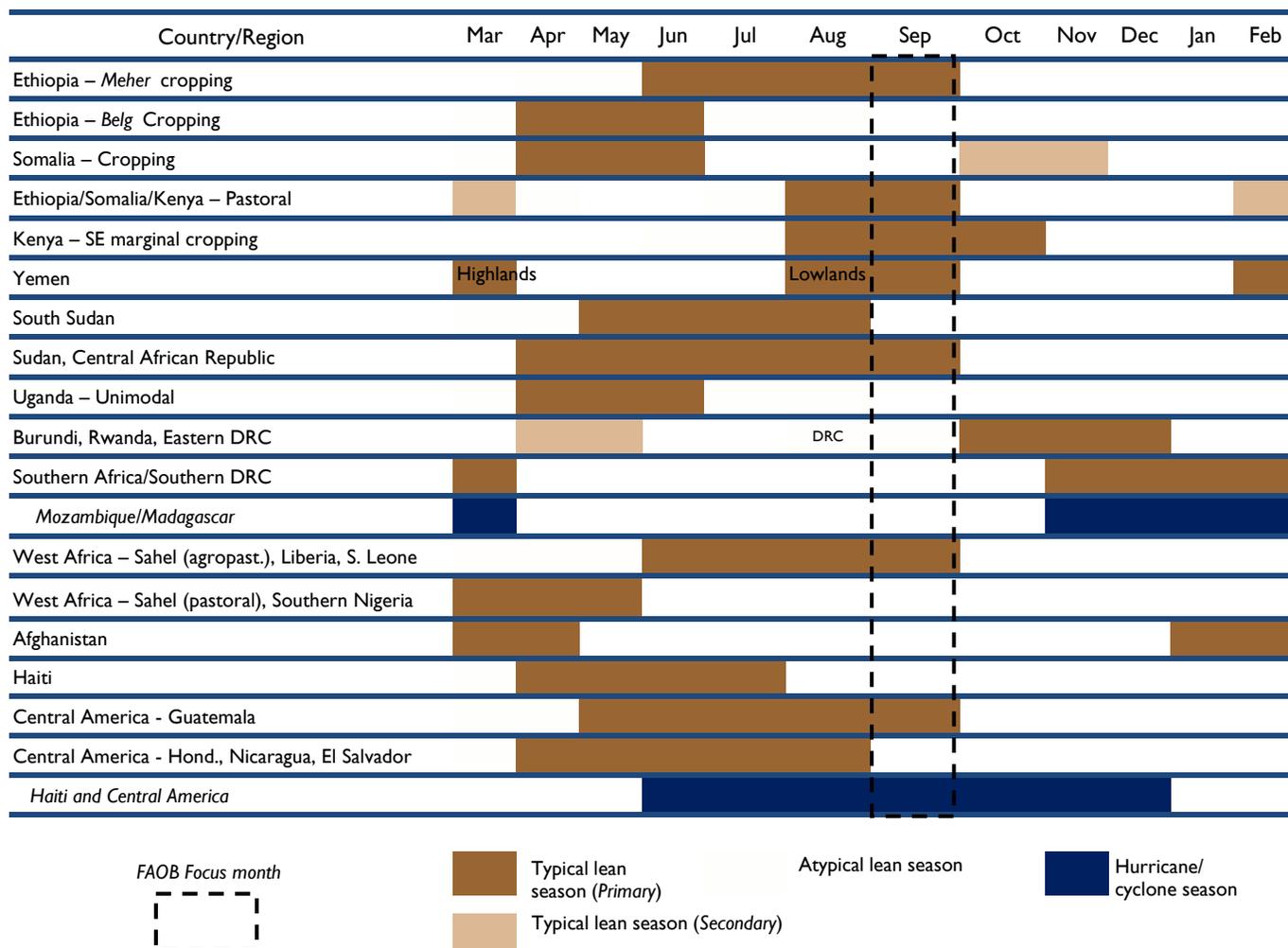
## PROJECTED FOOD ASSISTANCE NEEDS FOR SEPTEMBER 2023

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](http://www.fews.net) for detailed country reports.

Country (In order of estimated food insecure population, SEPT)	External needs in SEPT. ?	SEPT. versus last year	SEPT. versus 5-year avg.	Highest likely severity (area) in SEPTEMBER	Key upcoming lean season	
15+ million	YEMEN	Yes	▶	▲	<b>PHASE 4: Emergency</b>	Lowlands: Aug. - Sep. 2023 Conflict and poor economic conditions will continue to drive Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse outcomes, despite humanitarian aid. In IRG areas, the recent one billion USD financial deposit from Saudi Arabia will provide crucial but temporary support amid large declines in oil export revenue. In September, rural needs will be high given the agricultural off-season in the lowlands.
	ETHIOPIA	Yes	▲	▲	<b>PHASE 4: Emergency (!)</b>	SE/S pastoral: Dec. - Apr. 2023 The start of meher harvest in September will alleviate food insecurity in many areas by mitigating the size of food consumption deficits among households. However, Emergency (IPC Phase 4) and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes will likely remain widespread in drought- and conflict-affected areas in the south, southeast, and north, with some households likely in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5). A sixth below-average rainy season is forecast in March-May 2023 in the south/southeast, where the worst drought-affected areas could face worse outcomes if humanitarian aid substantially declines or is not delivered.
10.0 - 15.0 million	NIGERIA	Yes	▲	▲	<b>PHASE 4: Emergency</b>	North: April - September 2023 Food assistance needs are expected to reach an annual peak between July and September. Conflict and poor economic conditions will continue to reduce household access to food and income across the north, where Crisis (IPC Phase 3) is expected to be widespread. Emergency (IPC Phase 4) is expected to re-emerge in parts of the Northeast; there is also increasing concern for households in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) in parts of the Northwest.
7.5 - 9.99 million	DRC	Yes	▶	▲	<b>PHASE 3: Crisis</b>	NE/CE: August - December 2023 Crisis (IPC Phase 3) is anticipated in conflict-affected areas of the northeast. In North Kivu, the M23 rebellion is currently driving high levels of displacement and disrupting cultivation and other food and income sources. In September, worst-impacted households will have likely depleted their stocks from the season B harvest early and will depend on the market.
	SUDAN	Yes	▶	▲	<b>PHASE 4: Emergency</b>	June - September 2023 Millions of people will likely remain in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) due to the impacts of localized conflict, political instability, and high prices on household access to food; displaced and conflict-affected populations in Darfur, Kordofan, and Blue Nile states are of highest concern. Emergency (IPC Phase 4) is expected in Abyei, where conflict has caused food and income losses.
	SOUTH SUDAN	Yes	▶	▶	<b>PHASE 4: Emergency &amp; risk of Famine</b>	March - August 2023 Although the seasonal availability of green harvests and livestock products will likely begin to alleviate needs in September, Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes will most likely persist in several conflict- and flood-affected areas due to the loss of food and income sources and limited levels of humanitarian aid. Parts of Jonglei, Upper Nile, and Pibor remain of highest concern. There is a risk of Famine (IPC Phase 5) if conflict or flooding isolates households from food and income sources.
5.0 - 7.49 million	SOMALIA	Yes	▲	▲	<b>PHASE 4: Emergency (!) &amp; risk of Famine</b>	Cropping: March - June 2023 Millions of people remain destitute and/or displaced due to drought, and significant multi-sectoral assistance will remain crucial to preventing more extreme levels of acute food insecurity, acute malnutrition, and mortality. With a sixth consecutive below-average rainy season forecast in April-June 2023, Emergency! (IPC Phase 4!) and Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) outcomes are likely in the worst drought-affected areas. There is a risk of Famine (IPC Phase 5) in several southern rural areas and IDP settlements if poor gu rainfall results in crop failure and if food aid substantially declines or is not delivered.

Country (In order of estimated food insecure population, SEPT)	External needs in SEPT. ?	SEPT. versus last year	SEPT. versus 5-year avg.	Highest likely severity (area) in SEPTEMBER	Key upcoming lean season	
5.0 - 7.49 million	Afghanistan (RM)	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	November 2022 - April 2023 In September, the harvest in high-elevation areas will begin to improve household food availability and access, but it will be below average. Household purchasing power is also expected to remain below normal due to suppressed income from labor and livestock, driven by poor economic conditions. Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are expected in high-elevation areas.
	KENYA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency	June - September 2023 With a sixth consecutive below-average rainy season forecast in March-May 2023, drought-affected pastoral areas will likely continue to face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes amid very poor livestock production and high food prices. Turkana and Marsabit are of highest concern. Government safety nets and humanitarian aid will likely continue to mitigate the size of household food consumption gaps. Less severe outcomes are expected in marginal agricultural areas.
2.5-4.99 million	NIGER	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	Liptako Gourma: Mar. - Sep. 2023 Conflict is expected to continue to drive Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes in Tillabéry and Tahoua regions, where humanitarian access remains limited. Needs will likely peak in September, given depleted household food stocks, high food prices, and anticipated flooding in riverine and floodplain areas, based on forecasts of an average to above-average 2023 rainy season.
1.0 - 2.49 million	BURKINA FASO	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency & risk of Famine	Sahel: March - September 2023 Despite a slight decrease in total needs in September with the start of the green harvest, needs will remain atypically high in conflict-affected areas. Emergency (IPC Phase 4) will likely persist in Soum, Oudalan, and Yagha provinces, where household food and income sources are significantly disrupted. There is a risk of Famine (IPC Phase 5) in Djibo commune of Soum if an increase in conflict further restricts already low levels of crop cultivation, humanitarian aid, and market supply deliveries.
	UGANDA	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	Karamoja: January - August 2023 In Karamoja, supplies from the bimodal harvest will ease pressure on prices, but Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes will most likely persist. Crop production in Karamoja is expected to be below average, with some green harvesting starting in August.
	GUATEMALA	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	March - August 2023 Below-average rainfall and above-average temperatures are expected to negatively affect crop yields from the <i>primera</i> harvest among subsistence farmers, resulting in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes in September, mainly in the Dry Corridor.
	HAITI	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency	March - June 2023 The impacts of gang violence on the economy and of atypical dryness on crop production, along with very high food prices continue to limit poor households' ability to earn income and purchase food. Emergency (IPC Phase 4) will likely persist in Cité Soleil. Many rural areas face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes, with some households in Emergency (IPC Phase 4).
	MOZAMBIQUE	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	October 2022 - March 2023 Heavy rains and flooding from Cyclone Freddy, along with dry spells in January, are expected to result in a poor harvest in the southwest and in some localized central areas. In September, Crisis (IPC Phase 3) is likely in Gaza and Cabo Delgado.
	CAMEROON	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	Southern: March - May 2023
	ZIMBABWE	Yes	▼	▼	PHASE 3: Crisis	August 2022 - March 2023
	MALAWI	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 2: Stressed	November 2022 - March 2023
	MALI	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	Liptako Gourma: Apr. - Sep. 2023 Despite the start of the green harvest in September, needs will remain atypically high due to the impacts of conflict, especially in inaccessible areas of Ménaka; an elevated number of households will likely face Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes.
	MADAGASCAR	Yes	▼	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	September 2022 - March 2023
0.5 - 0.99 million	CHAD	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	April - September 2023
	Honduras (RM) 729,000	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	March - August 2023 Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are likely in the Dry Corridor given 2022 harvest losses and poor rainfall forecasts.
	BURUNDI	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	October - December 2023
	Central African Rep (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	South: April - June 2023
	Angola (RM)	Yes	▼	▼	PHASE 2: Stressed	September 2022 - March 2023
0.1 - 0.49 million	Mauritania (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	Pastoral: March - June 2023
	Lesotho (RM)	No	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	November 2022 - March 2023
	Nicaragua (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	April - August 2023
	Rwanda (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	October - December 2023
	El Salvador (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	March - August 2023

### 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

September

2023

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	40-60%	>15.0 million	>60%
Ethiopia	>10.0 million	5-20%	>10.0 million	0	>15.0 million	20-40%
Nigeria	>15.0 million	5-20%	>10.0 million	5-20%	>15.0 million	5-20%
DRC	>10.0 million	5-20%	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%	>15.0 million	20-40%
Sudan	>10.0 million	20-40%	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%	>15.0 million	20-40%
South Sudan	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%	5.0 - 9.99 million	>60%	>10.0 million	>60%
Somalia	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%	5.0 - 9.99 million	40-60%	>10.0 million	>60%
Afghanistan	>15.0 million	40-60%	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%	>15.0 million	>60%
Kenya	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%	>10.0 million	20-40%
Niger	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%	5.0 - 9.99 million	20-40%
Burkina Faso	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	5-20%
Uganda	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%
Haiti	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	40-60%
Mozambique	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%	5.0 - 9.99 million	20-40%
Cameroon	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	5.0 - 9.99 million	20-40%
Zimbabwe	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	5.0 - 9.99 million	20-40%
Malawi	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%
Mali	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%
Madagascar	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%
Chad	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Honduras RM	1.0 - 2.49 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%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
CAR RM	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	20-40%
Angola RM	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%
Mauritania RM	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	5-20%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%
Lesotho RM	0.1 - 0.49 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	5-20%
Nicaragua RM	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	20-40%
Rwanda RM	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
El Salvador RM	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%