

FOOD ASSISTANCE OUTLOOK BRIEF

September 2019

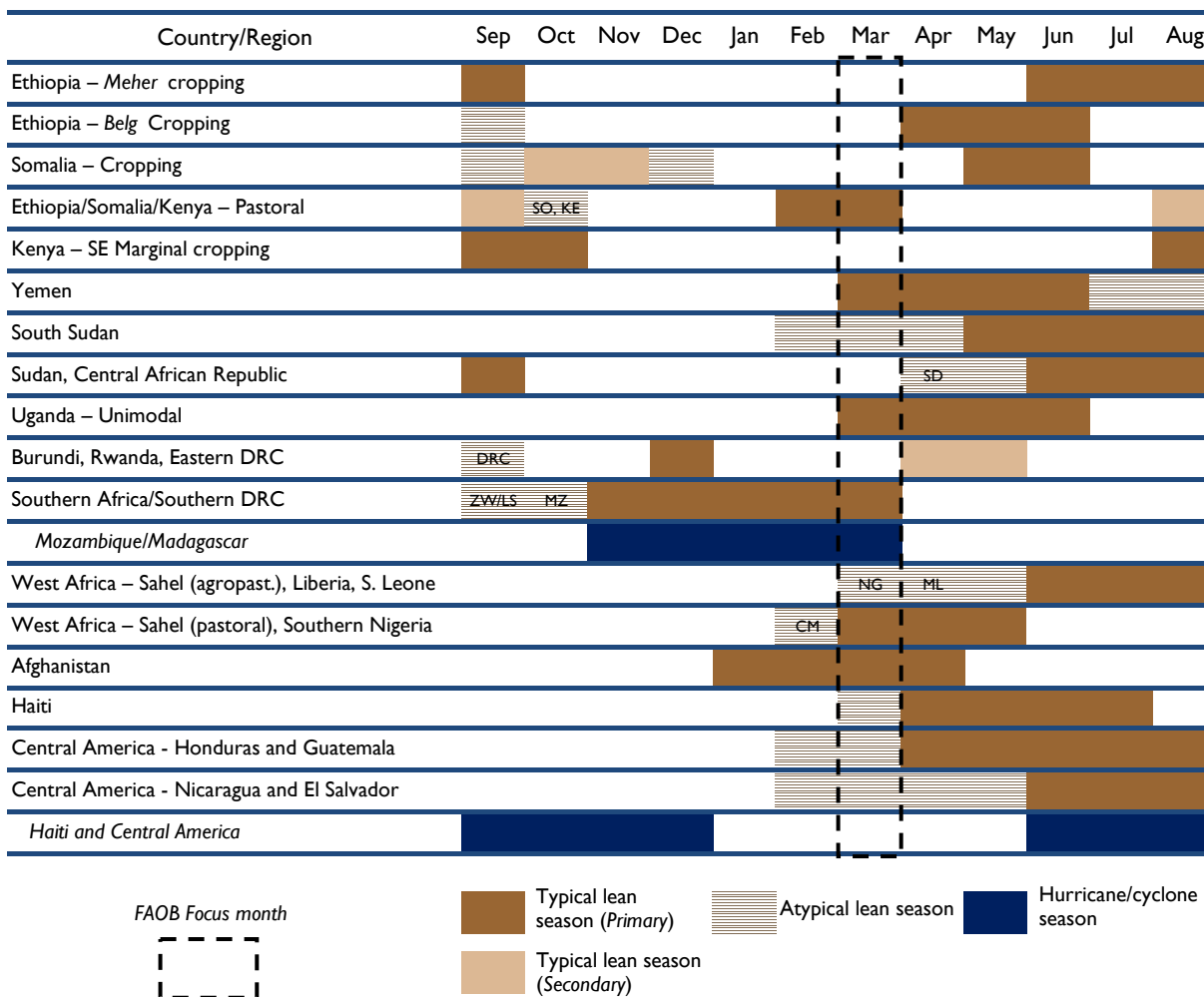
PROJECTED FOOD ASSISTANCE NEEDS FOR **March 2020**

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 - August 2020
	Increased conflict in Aden risks further instability, while flash floods in the west are impacting IDPs. In mid-August, WFP resumed distributions to Sana'a city; however, the severity of food insecurity may increase in the near term with temporary ration cuts. Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes are expected to persist, and Famine (IPC Phase 5) is possible if conflict damages infrastructure or cuts off trade and food assistance for an extended time.					
5.0 – 9.9 million	DRC	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	NE/CE: Aug. 2019 - Jan.2020
	Conflict in agricultural production areas of eastern DRC is expected to lead to below-average harvests for at least the two nearest seasons: Season B concluded in August 2019 and Season A concluding in March 2020. Price increases for staple foods in the east and south will also affect households' ability to purchase food. Many conflict-affected areas are expected to be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) through at least February 2020 due to low production and limited market access.					
2.5 - 4.9 million	SOUTH SUDAN	Yes	▼	▶	PHASE 4: Emergency & risk of Famine	February - August 2020
	The 2019/20 harvest will likely be somewhat better than last year given the decline in conflict events, and needs are expected to be somewhat lower in March 2020 compared to 2019. However, crop losses, continuation of very high food prices, and increased food demand from rising numbers of returnees are expected to constrain food access. Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) are expected in many areas, and a risk of Famine (IPC Phase 5) will persist.					
2.5 - 4.9 million	ZIMBABWE	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	August 2019 - March 2020
	In March, many households will likely have difficulty accessing food due to limited to no food stocks and poor macroeconomic conditions affecting market access. Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are expected to be widespread with some worst-affected households likely in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) as incomes cannot keep pace with price increases.					
	ETHIOPIA	Yes	▼	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	Belg Cropping: April to June 2020
	Many previously displaced households have returned or been returned to their places of origin, though it is expected many face difficulty reintegrating and have limited access to previously-owned livelihood assets. Crisis (IPC Phase 3) is expected to persist in some pastoral and northern and southern areas with below average Belg or Meher production.					
2.5 - 4.9 million	NIGERIA	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 4: Emergency & risk of Famine	March - September 2020
	Households impacted by the Boko Haram conflict in the Northeast are facing persistent disruption to their livelihoods. Most markets are functioning only partially and sources of income remain below normal. Many accessible areas are expected to be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or Emergency (IPC Phase 4), and outcomes are likely similar or worse in inaccessible areas. A risk of Famine (IPC Phase 5) also persists.					
AFGHANISTAN	Yes	▼	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	January - April 2020	
The recent uptick in conflict and its likely continuation will most likely affect the ongoing rice and maize harvest in areas of the country. Conflict is expected to continue displacing households and disrupting normal livelihood activities and market access. Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are expected in conflict affected and higher elevated areas.						

	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 - 4.9 million	SUDAN	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	April - September 2020
	In March 2019, many households will continue to access own foods and market purchases through livestock sales. However, macroeconomic difficulties and disrupted livelihoods in conflict-affected areas will continue to drive above-average numbers of households needing assistance. Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are expected in worst-affected areas.					
1.0 - 2.49 million	MOZAMBIQUE	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	October 2019 - March 2020
	In March, the green harvest will be available in areas of the country. However, many households will still face difficulty meeting their food needs due to the crop and livestock losses associated with tropical cyclones and two poor consecutive seasons in the south. Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes will likely persist in southern and central areas.					
	SOMALIA	Yes	▶	▼	PHASE 3: Crisis	Pastoral: July - October 2019
	In March, the <i>Deyr</i> off-season harvest will become available, but the <i>Jilal</i> dry season and pastoral lean season will be ongoing. Although needs are likely to be lower compared to late 2019, the impact of consecutive poor production seasons in 2018/19 is expected to sustain Crisis (IPC Phase 3) in the absence of food assistance in some areas.					
	KENYA	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed (!)	June - October 2019
	Needs are atypically high in the ongoing lean season, peaking in October. In March, with the start of the 2020 long rains, livestock production and short rains harvests will likely drive improvements to Stressed (IPC Phase 2). Some poor households with limited incomes will likely remain in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and refugees in Stressed! (IPC Phase 2!).					
0.5 - 0.99 million	MALAWI	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	November 2019 - March 2020
	Crisis (IPC Phase 3) is anticipated during the lean season in southern areas as the result of localized crop losses due to flooding associated with Tropical Cyclone Idai. Additionally, atypically high food prices as a result of unusually high demand from deficit areas and large-scale traders will reduce food access for the poor.					
	UGANDA	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	Karamoja: March - July 2020
	In Karamoja, Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are expected to improve to Stressed (IPC Phase 2) in September/October with the harvest. However, an elevated number of poor households are expected to be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) before the start of the lean season in March. In refugee settlements, Crisis (IPC Phase 3) is likely in the absence of assistance.					
0.1 - 0.49 million	GUATEMALA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	March - June 2020
	The poor and poorest households in the Dry Corridor will have depleted their food stocks and cash reserves, as the main casual labor season will end. Some households will reduce their food intake or resort to negative coping strategies in order to purchase food. They will be facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food security outcomes.					
	Cameroon (RM)	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	SW/NW: February - May 2020
0.1 - 0.49 million	Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes in the Northwest and Southwest Regions persist due to continued poor food access.					
	MADAGASCAR	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	South: Dec. 2019 - March 2020
	NIGER	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	Cropping: Jun. - Sep. 2019
<0.1 mill	Conflict affected areas in Diffa and Tillabery wwill be facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food security outcomes.					
	Burkina Faso (RM)	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	June - September 2019
	HAITI	Yes	▶	▼	PHASE 3: Crisis	March - June 2020
	Central African Rep	Yes	▼	▼	PHASE 3: Crisis	South: Apr. - Jul. 2020
	Lesotho (RM)	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	September 2019 - March 2020
	Burundi (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	October - December 2019
	CHAD	Yes	▶	▼	PHASE 3: Crisis	April - September 2019
	Honduras (RM)	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 2: Stressed	February - August 2020
	Rwanda (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	October - December 2019
	MALI	Yes	▲	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	March - September 2019
<0.1 mill	Nicaragua (RM)	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 2: Stressed	February - August 2020
	El Salvador (RM)	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 2: Stressed	February - August 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 2020

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%	>10.0 million	40-60%	>10.0 million	>60%
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	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%	5.0 - 9.99 million	40-60%
Ethiopia	2.5 - 4.99 million	<5%	2.5 - 4.99 million	<5%	5.0 - 9.99 million	5-20%
Nigeria	5.0 - 9.99 million	<5%	2.5 - 4.99 million	<5%	5.0 - 9.99 million	<5%
Afghanistan	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%	5.0 - 9.99 million	20-40%
Sudan	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%	2.5 - 4.99 million	5-20%	5.0 - 9.99 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%
Somalia	2.5 - 4.99 million	20-40%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	5.0 - 9.99 million	40-60%
Kenya	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%	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%
Uganda	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Guatemala	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Cameroon RM	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Madagascar	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Niger	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Burkina Faso RM	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%	0.5 - 0.99 million	<5%	1.0 - 2.49 million	5-20%
Haiti	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	20-40%	0.1 - 0.49 million	5-20%	1.0 - 2.49 million	20-40%
Lesotho RM	0.1 - 0.49 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	5-20%	0.5 - 0.99 million	20-40%
Burundi RM	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%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Honduras RM	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.5 - 0.99 million	5-20%
Rwanda RM	<0.1 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Mali	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
Nicaragua RM	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	<0.1 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%
El Salvador RM	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%	<0.1 million	<5%	0.1 - 0.49 million	<5%