



FSNWG

IPC GIS/Cartographic Protocols Training

24 - 25 May 2010,

FSNAU Somalia, Nairobi

Overview

Purpose

The purpose of the Eastern and Central Africa IPC GIS/Cartographic Protocols training is to strengthen IPC mapping capacity of select Government/partners country food security professionals at country level in order to achieve harmonized international agreed standards for IPC analysis reporting and further build consensus on this tool.

Background on the IPC

The IPC is a reference system that draws together multiple indicators to provide a consistent and meaningful classification of food security situations. Since being developed by FAO Food Security Analysis Unit in Somalia (FSNAU), the IPC is being further developed as an analytical tool in a global effort to improve food security analysis and analytical approach. The IPC classifies geographic areas (at national and sub-national levels) and social groups into one of five food security and humanitarian phases - Generally Food Secure, Moderately/ Borderline Food Insecure, Acute Food and Livelihood Crisis, Humanitarian Emergency and Famine/ Humanitarian Catastrophe. The five phases are general enough to accommodate a wide range of causes, livelihood systems, and political/ economic contexts, yet their distinction captures essential differences in implications for action (including strategic design, urgency, and ethical imperative). Central and Eastern Africa has been targeted as a key region for the development of the IPC owing to a strong humanitarian imperative.

The IPC tool has caught the attention of donors in the region, and now several countries through a multi-stakeholder approach, have started using the tool. In particular, IPC initiatives are currently supported in seven countries in the region (Burundi, DRC, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Ethiopia and Central Africa Republic) within the frame of the project "Consolidation of the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) in the volatile humanitarian context of the central and eastern Africa region", an ECHO funded project that stands as the second phase of the IPC regional project granted by ECHO-DFID-CIDA in 2007 and 2008. Different IPC projects are also currently being implemented in other countries in the region: Sudan (SIFSIA project), Ethiopia and Central Africa (FAO projects)

Background on the FSNWG

The regional Food Security and Nutrition Working Group was established as a forum for sharing information across the region for coordination purposes, to develop joint food security and nutrition tools, and to advocate for appropriate responses at the central and eastern Africa regional level. The group is currently composed by more than 20 organizations including, UN, NGO, International organizations, Research Institutions. The group's analysis covers 12 countries: Burundi, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda.

The group's objectives include the creation of consensus and information sharing; the development of joint food security and nutrition tools; and advocacy. The FSNWG is actively supporting the roll out of the IPC in the region through the IPC Technical Steering Group.

Background on the Regional Trainings

FAO together with core partners from WFP, CARE, Oxfam UK and Oxfam USA, FEWS NET, Save the Children and European Union - EC - Joint Research Centre (DG JRC) are working to further refine the IPC approach in identified countries in the region. Under the framework of this collaborative program, a new phase of country capacity reinforcement has begun.

Several IPC events targeting IPC analysts and IPC trainers have already been organized at country and regional level. In November 2010, a regional ToT course produced high level trainers who have already started playing a crucial role in the IPC national capacity building ongoing processes. This regional IPC GIS/IPC Cartographic Protocols training is a follow up to this key IPC project step. The training will be a combination of theory and practical work for participants with already established mapping skills. The participants will also have the opportunity to establish contact with the FSNAU GIS unit who has taken the lead in producing the most up to standard IPC maps.

Concepts of the IPC Cartographic Protocols

The Cartographic Protocols are standardized mapping conventions to convey essential Situation Analysis information. They communicate a vast amount of complex information in an accessible way (a map) to facilitate decision making and action. Through consistent use of the Cartographic Protocols, users can readily interpret complex information. Country adherence to the Cartographic Protocols enables longitudinal analysis to examine how food security situations improve or deteriorate from one point in time to another. It also enables international stakeholders to carry out quick cross country analysis because it summarizes the salient characteristics of food insecurity information for effective response. Cartographic Protocols for illustrating situation analysis information include: spatial delineation of IPC phases; risk of worsening phase; sustained conditions; and defining attributes of crisis areas.

Objectives

The main objectives of the training are:

1. To harmonize the IPC Cartographic Protocols across countries in order to facilitate decision making and action
2. To strengthen in-country capacity in IPC analysis reporting through the cartographic protocols and to produce high level country IPC Mapping experts/trainers.
3. To build capacity within government in order to facilitate transition of the IPC from a project activity into an institutionalized activity mainstreamed within Government food security programs
4. To constitute a regional pool of high level IPC Mapping experts and facilitate their networking

Participation

This GIS/IPC Cartographic Protocols training aims to form high level IPC Mapping experts/trainers able to produce superior quality IPC maps and to autonomously build capacity as needed. The course has been designed for country IPC level participants. It is open to up to 2 national participants from each of the 7 IPC project countries. Some selection criteria have been adopted in order to guarantee that the training's main objectives are achieved. The two country candidates taking part to the training have the following qualities:

1. International agency/organization staff with technical expertise in Arcview GIS or equivalent mapping software who is already involved in the application of the country IPC cartographic protocols, and

Government worker with technical expertise in Arcview GIS or equivalent mapping software who are or will be involved in the application of the country IPC cartographic protocols after the project transition.
2. Fair knowledge of IPC Technical Manual and IPC User Guide.
3. Commitment to act as an IPC technical focal point and trainer for IPC cartographic protocols at (sub) national level -willing and available to train other people upon return and to receive further trainings whenever required-.
4. Participation in at least one IPC national analysis workshop

Moreover, the following requirements should be fulfilled:

5. Participants should be user of either ArcGIS or ArcView (preferably ArcGIS); no other software will be used for the training.
6. Participants should bring their own laptops with the software installed.

Structure and Methodology

This practical training will consist of a two days course at which trainees will learn from experienced national, regional and FSNAU IPC mapping experts. Using a highly interactive approach, the practitioners will be guided through all steps of IPC map production and they

will have the possibilities to discuss and compare the cartographic protocols currently used in the different countries and ultimately harmonize and standardize their national maps. Main topics are reported in the annexed structure of the course.

Logistics

Location: The training will take place in Nairobi at FAO-FSNAU Somalia building in Ngecha Road Campus, from 24th to 25th of May 2010. The course will indicatively start at 8:30 in the morning and it will end at 17:45.

Accommodation and transportation: Accommodation is not provided for this training. However, participants will receive from FAO-REOA a list of accommodation options and they are encouraged to contact FAO-REOA for assistance in placing hotel reservations.

Structure of the Course

DAY 1	
<i>Session 1</i>	Welcome and Introductions Course overview Objectives/ expectations
<i>Session 2</i>	GIS and IPC Mapping
<i>Session 3</i>	Data Management for IPC Mapping
<i>Session 4</i>	IPC Maps review

DAY 2	
<i>Session 5</i>	IPC Map Quality Assurance and best practices
<i>Session 6</i>	Mapping Callout boxes
<i>Session 7</i>	Country IPC Map presentation IPC map cartographic standards discussion
<i>Session 8</i>	Regional Map Component