



Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC)

Review and Consultation Workshop

Overview

Thursday 25th –Friday 26th June 2009

Hotel Indaba

Johannesburg, Southern Africa

Purpose

The purpose of the workshop was to engage with and consult IPC practitioners, with a focus on Sub-Saharan Africa, and review IPC implementation to date in the regions. This focused on past experience, progress and lessons learnt. The expected outcome was to reach agreement on a framework for the future development of IPC in the sub-regions (East and Central Africa, Southern Africa, West Africa), looking at sub-regional strategies for IPC, potential governance mechanisms, lesson learning and quality control processes, as well as key national/regional/global partnerships etc.

Background

The IPC is an innovative tool to improve food security response strategies and decision-making by drawing together multiple indicators to provide a consistent and meaningful classification of food security situations. It classifies geographic areas and livelihood groups into one of five phases: Generally Food Secure, Moderately/Borderline Food Insecure, Acute Food and Livelihood Crisis, Humanitarian Emergency, and Famine/Humanitarian Catastrophe. The 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.

Since being developed by the Food Security Analysis Unit in Somalia, the IPC is being further developed as an analytical tool in a global effort to improve food security analysis and assessment approaches. Central and eastern Africa has been targeted as a key region for the development of the IPC owing to a strong humanitarian imperative but in total, the IPC has been piloted or is being progressively adopted in a total of 15 countries in the Great Horn of Africa, Western and Southern Africa and Southern Asia. An additional 13 national governments have been introduced to the IPC through training events and workshops.

The IPC has been adopted, with operational maps being produced on a regular basis in Burundi, Cote d'Ivoire, Kenya, Somalia, and Nepal. Several countries have undergone IPC technical training and are moving towards producing operational maps in Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda, and Tanzania.

IPC awareness-raising events to provide technical training and initial support in adopting the IPC has begun in several countries in East and Central Africa, Southern and Western Africa and Central and South-East Asia.

The IPC is being implemented at the regional level with multi-agency processes and established in coordination with food security inter-agency working groups or Regional Economic Communities to ensure regional ownership and mainstreaming into current approaches and processes. The introduction and roll-out of the IPC at the regional level to date, is done in partnerships, as follows:

- In East and Central Africa, IPC implementation is being coordinated by the Steering Committee of the Food Security and Nutrition Working Group (FSNWG).
- In the South African Development Community (SADC) within the Regional Vulnerability Assessment Committee (RVAC).
- In West Africa, with the Inter – State Committee for the fight against Drought in the Sahel *CILSS* works on the Cadre Harmonise (CH) initiative

At global level, a Steering Committee of the IPC was set up in 2007 consisting of Food and Agriculture Organization, World Food Programme, EC Joint Research Council, CARE International, Oxfam GB, FEWSNET and Save the Children UK/US. Supported by ECHO, a Coordination Unit at headquarters level and a global IPC Technical Working Group have also been formalized. Since that time, the eight IPC partner agencies have been actively engaged in developing the IPC at the global level by raising awareness amongst key global stakeholders, building institutional capacity and technical development of the IPC analytical approach tool, and protocols.

There is a strong need to review progress to date, and consult with key regional and country level stakeholders on the next steps to take in order that the IPC can fulfill its potential and be rolled out to other interested countries over the next 4-5 years. A two day workshop was therefore proposed, to fulfill this requirement.

Objectives

The overall aims of the workshop were twofold:

- a) Engage with and consult key practitioners on the key challenges facing the IPC roll-out process to date, and into the future
- b) Provide a venue for practitioners to exchange lessons with their counterparts in other African regions

Outcomes and workshop output

The workshop took place over 2 days and included:

- (a) Sharing lessons learnt to date from the roll out of IPC in East, West and Central Africa,
- (b) Discussion of current and future partnerships,
- (c) Consultation on key aspects of the IPC:
 - Quality control
 - Governance structure and function
 - Linkages between global, regional and country level
 - Capacity building of key stakeholders
- (d) Plan for the next phase of IPC roll-out in relation to donor funding and the development of proposals at regional and country level.

It was intended that the outputs from this workshop will be:

- Agreement on the IPC Governance Structure
- Agreement on communication and linkages between the Global – Regional – Country level initiatives
- Agreement on ways forward into the next Phase
- Outline action plans at global, regional and country level

Participation

IPC Practitioners with specific focus on East, Central, West and Southern Africa.

Venue and Programme

Location: The workshop took place at the Indaba Hotel in Johannesburg on Thursday 25th and Friday 26th June 2009. The final agenda of the workshop is provided below

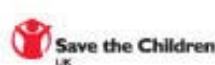
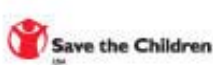
Methodology

The workshop was based around a series of presentations, updating participants on progress in each of the regions. Issues arising from these discussions formed the basis for in-depth group discussions in which participants mapped out ways forward. Countries were also encouraged to share lessons through individual stands, which made up a market style event in the afternoon of day 1. Further presentations and group discussions took place on the second day, focusing on key issues that face IPC in moving forward.

Agenda

Day 1	Day 2
Morning: Charting our progress	Morning: Working together effectively
09:00 Welcome, housekeeping, overview programme and opening speech.	08:30 Recap Day 1.
10:00 Regional and Global Review Presentation	09:00 Overview of challenges for the IPC stakeholders (including governance, roles, quality monitoring and capacity building)
	9:30 Q&A on issues arising
	10:00 Group works: Challenges facing IPC stakeholders
10:45 <i>Tea/coffee</i>	10:30 <i>Tea/coffee</i>
11:15 Regional and Global review presentations	11:00 Group exercise – Challenges facing IPC stakeholders
12:00 Plenary Discussion –Lessons Learnt	11:30 Feedback and Conclusions
13:00 <i>Lunch</i>	12:30 <i>Lunch</i>
Afternoon: Building on lessons learnt	Afternoon: Planning and moving forward
14:00 Market place of Posters Presentations	13:30 Presentation of External Partnerships Scoping Study
14:30 Plenary Feedback on key learning points and issues	14:30 Group work: Planning forward at the global, regional and country level.
15:30 <i>Tea/coffee</i>	15:00 <i>Tea/coffee</i>
16:00 Technical Challenges	15:30 Group work - continues
	16:00 Present back plans
17:00 Wrap up Day 1 with Q&A	17:00 Wrap up and overall conclusion.
Close 17:30	Close 17:30
17:30 IPC Refresh session (optional)	
Workshop dinner	

The IPC Global Partners:



For further information...

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