



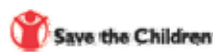
## Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Review and Consultation Workshop

# Workshop Report



Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> to Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2009  
Hotel Indaba  
Johannesburg, South Africa

The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Partnership



The workshop was made possible thanks to the support of the Humanitarian Aid Department of the European Commission (ECHO)



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## Summary of key issues and main recommendations

The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification IPC Review and Consultation Workshop held in Johannesburg in June 2009 was the second international meeting which brought together IPC stakeholders and practitioners from all over the world. It comes two years after the March 2007 IPC International Technical Workshop which marked the start of the IPC partnership approach. At this second international workshop, which focused on Sub-Saharan Africa, participants reviewed how the IPC has been implemented to date. They discussed progress made and lessons learned, as well as key issues for the future development and implementation of the IPC.

The workshop was held in Africa, the main continent for piloting and rolling-out the IPC. It brought together seventy-two practitioners with a longstanding experience in implementing the IPC and from the main institutions concerned with food security in the regions and countries where the IPC has been introduced or adopted (mainly from Sub-Saharan Africa). Participants also included the IPC Partners and, among the donors, the Humanitarian Aid Department of the European Commission (**ECHO**), which is one of the main contributors to the development and implementation of the IPC activities. The list of participants is provided in Annex 1.

The workshop underlined the progress made in developing and implementing the IPC and set the foundation for how different organizations - including governments, donors, UN agencies, and NGOs - will work together.

Presentations on specific countries and regions highlighted achievements made in:

- **East and Central Africa**, which has the longest experience in using the IPC. Presentations highlighted the need to continue to improve capacity and maintain key people to sustain IPC roll-out and implementation
- **West Africa**, where key components of the IPC tools and approach are being integrated into the CILSS Cadre Harmonise; the resulting analytical framework will soon be pilot tested in the field.
- **Southern Africa**, where opportunities have been identified for linking the IPC to the established of the Vulnerability Assessment Committee VAC system at regional and at national levels.

IPC partners discussed priorities for the technical development of the IPC.

The preliminary results of the “Scoping Study on the links between the IPC and related initiatives” were also discussed. Internal links could be strengthened by harmonizing the IPC with other food security information products. External links could be strengthened by aligning the IPC with SMART/SPHERE and encouraging proactive engagement by other UN partners such as UNICEF, WHO and OCHA. The presentation is summarized in Annex 2.

Overall, the workshop demonstrated there is interest in and progress has been made in developing the IPC at all levels. The meeting highlighted that there is an increased consensus on the IPC process by Donors, Regional Organizations, Countries as well as IPC partners. However this consensus needs to be sustained with concrete actions to improve coordination and transparency in needs-based food security analysis.

The key issues pointed out by the participants were:

- The need to improve the links between the various levels of governance of the IPC globally and at the country level.
- The importance of keeping the IPC consistently applied, while allowing for flexibility between contexts, in particular in developmental situation.
- The effectiveness of the IPC as process endorsed/established at institutional level for improving food security analysis and addressing the demands placed on it by decision makers.

Key factors for improving the implementation and development of the IPC include:

- **IPC Governance Structure:** The current structure needs to be adapted to the evolving context. Closer links between the global, regional and country levels need to be built. In particular the workshop suggested drawing a clearer line between the political and technical responsibilities in IPC global



coordination. It also suggested extending the participation in the Steering Committee (or political level) to key Donors and Regional Partners;

- **Role of Regional Partners:** the workshop presentations underlined the role that regional organizations can play in promoting the IPC. They might also be the right institution for coordinating the implementation of the IPC. However, meeting participants concluded that more work is needed to define the role of the Regional Economic Communities:
  1. The collaboration with regional bodies such as CILSS and SADC needs to be strengthened through specific agreements and joint action plans;
  2. A collaboration with NEPAD could also help to address some of the institutional shortcomings of the IPC process in regions (e.g. East Africa) where there are no solid regional partners;
  3. The active participation of regional bodies in the IPC governance structure should be considered.
- **Institutionalization** – this is a priority area not only at the global but also at the national level where national authorities should use the IPC as a framework for food security analysis and decision making in a flexible manner in order to consider the various organizational cultures of the stakeholders;
- **Capacity building** – there is limited capacity for IPC implementation and support; work is needed to address this issue by providing training in food security analysis and training of trainers at country level, and at global level enhancing the capacity of the focal points to better coordinate country/provincial level.
- **Technical challenges** remain important and the workshop highlighted some key strategic priorities on the basis of the consolidation work and advice of the TWG of the IPC. In particular, it is urgent to develop a quality control and monitoring system as it is the corner stone for ensuring that the IPC meets the demands placed on it.
- **Communication** – there is a need of a better communication and information circulation among the different levels, in particular among and between the countries and the global level, in order to inform on the IPC activities undertaken at field level, share best practices, request and receive technical support and improve the coordination of efforts. In particular the workshop suggested strengthening and increasing the use of the existing communication tools (such as the Online Forum) as well as establishing new and effective mechanism of communication and networking. It was pointed out that the regions could play a crucial role by filtering the information and facilitating the communication between the global and field level.

## Workshop 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 will focus on past experience, progress and lessons learnt. The expected outcome will be 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.

## Objectives

The overall aims of the workshop were to:

- 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 the following sessions:

- 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 would 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

## Setting the scene of the workshop

The workshop set the foundation for the coming years on how different organizations including governments, donors, UN agencies, and NGOs can better work together to address these questions.

It was divided into 4 parts:

### 1. Charting our progress:

Based on presentations from the regions and the Chair of the IPC Global Steering Committee a debate was held on the main issues concerning the participants.

### 2. Building on lessons learnt:

In an open forum countries presented their experiences and a opportunity for discussion was given

### 3. Working together effectively:

A series of group work were stimulated by a presentation from Save the Children

### 4. Planning and moving forward:

Compiling experiences from the 2 days and previous work group developed plans on regional levels.



## Key points from the opening speech

### Chris Leather

Steering Committee Chair and Oxfam International representative

There is a shared recognition of the need to work together to improve the quality of food security analysis; providing decision makers the information they need to put into place effective policies to eradicate hunger and the right to food for all.

The state of the global food security situation is not promising: FAO announced that the number of hungry people in the world has passed the one billion mark, due to the economic crisis, the HIV/AIDS

pandemic, conflict, global climate change and the number of people dependant on humanitarian aid to cope is also increasing. National governments and development partners are failing to deliver on what is necessary to reverse this trend.



Fig. 1 - Chris Leather's opening speech

Key questions that IPC practitioners should consider:

- Can we, as food security analysts and practitioners, honestly say that we are doing all we can to ensure that those who are responsible for addressing this crisis have the best possible information, on time in, an easily accessible format to be able to make good decisions about how to respond?
- Do we always speak with a common voice and provide decision makers with a consistent analysis of the situation and recommendations about how to respond?
- Because our organizations are in competition for scarce resources we sometimes forget that working together might be what is in the best interests of the hungry and food insecure?

*"The IPC provides the best hope that we have of addressing these problems. It provides a common technical approach to food security analysis and institutional principles, which can guide the way that we work together. If it is applied now it will contribute to better decisions about how to respond to food insecurity and food crises."*

## DAY 1: Charting our progress and lesson learnt

The first day of the workshop looked at raising issues of concern for the participants, highlighting experiences from each region and providing the opportunity for participants to discuss and get a more in-depth understanding of the issues and uses of the IPC in each country.

Key achievements from the first day were the identification of a number of critical issues by the participants that needs to be addressed. These issues range from clarifying the links between the global, regional and national levels to how reaching consensus among the parties involved in the IPC development and implementation.

The day also highlighted the achievements from the 3 regions in implementing the IPC and the progress made in the countries. One of the key learning in this respect is that the IPC needs being integrated into existing systems and that there are a number of processes already in place to reach the similar as well as common outputs.



## Key issues raised on day 1

A key component of the workshop was the identification of a number of issues that the participants felt needed resolving for the IPC to be improved. These are summarized below:

- a. **Global <-> Regional <-> national linkages:**
  - Support: documentation and advice including term of reference and step by step guides for organizing the whole process
  - Contacts (who?) Sharing of information and Representation on different bodies
  - Institutionalization
  - Harmonization of approaches
- b. Maintain consistency of IPC, whilst what flexibility is there in adapting it to different contexts; raising the issues of: oversight, quality control and monitoring
- c. Institutionalization within all stakeholders, identify the process, where we are at and the feasibility within the various organizational cultures of the stakeholders.
- d. Understand the donors' vision of the IPC and to improve their understanding of how it works as there is the need to advocate for longer-term funding. This is important because short term funding constrains activities such as institutionalization and capacity building.
- e. Determine the effectiveness of IPC so far in influencing decision and how to improve its impact.
- f. Create a balance between technical perfection vs results orientated approach
- g. Need to consider investments in improving existing information systems
- h. Develop a coordinated response based on coordinated analysis and to look at the links between humanitarian and development
- i. Clarify the process for reaching consensus during National Analysis meetings
- j. Assess the level of engagement with civil society, especially data collection/ analysis – representation.

## Regional and Global experiences – summary of the main points

### East and Central Africa Regional Activities

*Suleiman Mohamed and Aida Ndiaye for Francesco Del Re*

**Progress of the IPC in Central and Eastern Africa:** In mid-2005 a Food Security and Nutrition Working Group (FSNWG) was established with 20 member organisations, to create consensus, share information and develop joint food security and nutrition tools. The FSNWG oversees the implementation and steers the development of the IPC in the region.



Fig. 2 – Participants sharing information on activities in East and Central Africa

**Funding:** Received funding from different donors particularly ECHO who have funded the IPC since 2008, with a second set of funding due to carry on until June 2010.

**Activities:** An overview of regional activities was given particular emphasis around experiences in harmonisation of the IPC, advocacy and country activities.

**Challenges:**

**FSNWG** is faced by a number of challenges particularly the varying levels of commitment from participating agencies; the need for more involvement of partners; and improving communications with headquarters.

**Building capacity** on IPC and food security is seen a critical



issue for ensuring the IPC is properly implemented. There are a number of training material available, a foundation training established and plans to establish a training of trainers for the region.

**Technical issues:** in general, there is positive engagement in information sharing and performing joint analysis but there is a need to dig out hidden information; there is also a need to define a role for regional technical body to provide quick fix solutions for countries; data quality questioned & still insufficient use of data in country; the tool is outcome based, but information on nutrition, mortality rates, water is insufficient etc. at every level of analysis; and there is no sufficient guidelines on using proxy indicators.

**Use of IPC products:** different formats for outputs create difficulties in communicating results and there are doubts on quality expressed by stakeholders.

### West Africa – Status of the *Cadre Harmonisé Bonifié (Improved Harmonized Framework)*

*Ibnou Dieng*



Fig. 3 – IPC display stand

**Background:** The region has a number of food security or related institutions/actors, however they are using a number of different methodologies and a need for harmonization was identified at a regional technical steering committee in 1999; this led to the creation of the *Cadre Harmonise*. With the advent of the IPC there were discussions on how to best integrate the existing *Cadre Harmonise* with the IPC leading to the *Cadre Harmonise Bonifié*. The key milestone was a meeting held in June 2009.

**Recent Outcomes of the process:** a CH/IPC comparison table helped improve the cadre harmonise (CH) conceptual framework which was pre-existing. Niger will be pilot country for the CHB, process launched in 2008 but not really started.

**Issues for the CHB at regional level:** it was decided that the CHB needs to be a permanent system (not on project basis), to provide harmonized publications and be a regional methodological support framework, it needs to strengthen national units and to remain flexible.

**What is the IPC contribution to the CHB:** More flexible in terms of analysis, multi-sectoral approach ensuring the inclusion of complementary indicators (displacement, threats...), comparability, helps decision making.

**Next steps:** meeting in Dakar, July 13-17 to pilot the CHB in 5 countries (Mauritania, Senegal, Tchad, Niger and Mali), compiling analyses done so far; reviewing indicators; address funding gap.

### South Africa – IPC and SADC's programme to strengthen vulnerability assessment and analysis programme (RVAC programme)

*Bentry Chaura (Chair of RVAC)*

The presentation focused on the experiences in Southern Africa of merging the IPC and the existing VAC system.

The IPC is still new in Southern Africa with only one workshop being held in Zimbabwe in June 2009. During the presentation synergy was identified between the existing RVAC system and the IPC particularly making the process more demand driven and improving indicators.

### Overview of the IPC from a global perspective

*Chris Leather (Oxfam representative on the Steering Committee and Chair)*



**IPC vision...**“IPC should become the key reference for decision makers in analysing food security severity...by 2015”

**Emphasizes what the IPC is and what it is not.** In particular, it is not a response analysis tool but a common starting point to provide common analysis to decision-makers and help them designing responses.

The IPC at **global level relies on a partnership** to promote a common technical and institutional approach to food security analysis but Chris Leather underlines this group of eight is not an exclusive club and more partners are welcome to join.

A **strong global structure** representing the partner agencies is needed for technical consistency (to allow comparison over time and space), providing: quality assurance; technical support to regions and countries and serving as a reference for global food security analysis.

The **principle of subsidiarity** is at the core of the approach, **permitting the decentralisation** of the analysis and information collection to be as close as possible to the affected population.



Fig. 4 – Presentation of the IPC Vision

**Key challenges:**

- Not a perfect tool, no technical perfection
- Balance between common global approach and buy in
- Quality control
- A potential threat to the work of our own programmes and organizations
- Short term funding, but a long term process and initiatives
- Demonstrating impact on decision/responses

**Next steps:**

- Formalize our common vision
- Identify better plans at national and regional levels
- focus more on lessons learning from the field
- address priority technical issues
- establish a global quality control system
- support countries and regions to build capacity

**Sharing country experiences - “Market Place”**

The Market Place was an opportunity for countries to display their experiences not as a presentation to a large audience but by posters where the participants could circulate around the room and discuss with the countries where they would like to get more information.



Fig. 5 - Market stations: IPC in Ivory Coast and IPC in Burundi



## Update on technical revisions

The technical work plan and the status of the various technical developments (resolved, unresolved, being resolved) currently undertaken by the Global IPC team, under the leadership/coordination of the TWG were presented and are summarized below:

**Important issues that are being resolved at the moment include:** the clarification of the time dimension and risk factor; the revision of Nutrition and Mortality key reference outcomes; the Revision of the Coping key reference outcome; the merging of the Technical Manual and User Guide; clarify the conceptual framework behind the IPC; the revision of the template format; etc.

The **overall challenge** is to make the IPC comparable while allowing some specificity according to different contexts. There is a strong push from the international community for the IPC for coordination between stakeholders and comparability. IPC remains a live tool and it is very unlikely to be a finished perfect technical product.

## DAY 2: Working together effectively and planning the next steps



Fig. 6 – Working Group for Southern Africa

The objective of the day was to improve how the IPC partnership works and to plan the next steps.

There was an overall agreement on the importance of improving the governance structure, in particular to allow for a better support to and link with the implementing countries and regions. Provision of training and increase in capacity at both countries and regional level to support country level analysis is paramount. There has been a lot of work done already in building capacity, institutionalizing and ensuring quality but efforts should be sustained and scaled-up, to ensure the success of the IPC.

To achieve this goal, regions will be looking to improve on their process and planning and have expressed the need for improved support from the global level.

## Global and Regional Perspective: Challenges for the IPC Structure and Capacity Building

### 1. Strengthening IPC Governance Structure

- The overall IPC Governance Structure, in particular the key roles of the SC, CU and TWG needs to be better defined in order to address the challenges of building linkages and ensuring effective communication between the IPC bodies and the different levels (global, regional, country).
- There is the need to have a consistent vision for the IPC and the long-term implementation. (10 years).
- Other core four issues: structure (national, regional, global), quality monitoring/control, institutionalization, capacity building.



Fig. 7 – Working Group for West Africa

### 2. Strengthening capacity: challenges and possible solutions

Key recommendations to address the need to enhance of capacity building of IPC are:

- Streamline and more systematic approach;



- Identify more training food security analysis;
  - Improve quality of training by TOT training package;
  - Include simple training in GIS in the roll out;
  - Consider FS foundation training during the IPC roll-out;
  - Include “how to raise awareness”, among the audience to reach out.
  - Organize TOT at country level with the support of the regional level by mainstreaming within local training service, incorporating the IPC framework in academic institution’s curriculum.

Finally, at global level capacity of the focal points should be developed to coordinate country/provincial level.

### **National and Country Perspective: Challenges facing IPC stakeholders**

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Group work was organised around 4 key themes: Governance, Capacity Building, Institutionalization and Quality Monitoring. The team were asked to look at the different levels from Country to Regions and where relevant include the links with the Global level. Below is a summary of the key outcomes from the group work.

#### ***Improving the IPC Governance***

The groups proposed a revise structure for the governance structure highlighting the importance of making sure that it is manageable, flexible and realistic ensuring that communication between levels is clear.

#### Proposed structure:

1. **Working groups** for 3 African regions, Southern Africa, and Eastern/ Greater Horn.

2. **A Secretariat** for strategic planning, coordination, technical support and quality monitoring.

Composed by different sub-divisions including people working on ad-hoc basis, not a full-time person, according to the cycle/needs, like the Quality and Monitoring sub-unit. Fund raising and Communication should be rather present/permanent to coordinate/harmonize. The Secretariat should also give strategic planning directions. The Secretariat work should be reflected at regional level in order to ensure a bottom-up approach.

3. **A board for approvals and strategic decisions:** on the top, a political board composed by different actors, donors, UN, NGOs, regional representatives, leading political issues. Alex Rees commented that in the future the board could be reflected at regional and country levels.



Fig. 8 – Working Group for IPC Institutionalization in Southern Africa.

#### ***Capacity Building Activities and Resources need***

Country level: proposed activities for enhanced capacity building include: a capacity assessment would need to be carried out including existing capacity and resources; identification of target groups according to different country contexts trainers and trainees, with focus on nationals, so they remain for a long time and avoid capacity lost. Identify focal points to start the process. Resources needed include: improve trainers’ guide, organize food security refreshment sessions, financial resources should be made available to cover core elements. Roll-out is important; countries should be able to deliver the IPC independently

Regional level: according to the group work, there is a need to set up a core group of trainers within existing regional structures and support the establishment of focal points to support countries. Resources need to include guidelines and materials on specific tasks of regional IPC. The role of the region would be to support countries, compile lessons learning and cooperate with other learning initiatives.

Global level: develop of a distance learning course and creation of a pool of Trainers (trainers’ roster, and support to country and regional levels).



### ***Institutionalization main issues and solutions***

In the group discussion the common issues inhibiting the institutionalization of the IPC included: the lack of well structured information, lack of knowledge in key actors, lack of political leadership particularly for governments, and conflict with existing systems such as the RVAC.

To improve this situation there needs to be an improvement in the information available, start to sensitise key stakeholders and to do targeted training, clarify mandate of organisations rolling out the IPC (e.g. Technical Working Groups) and promote ownership of the IPC process to reduce conflict between groups.

Emphasis was also put on reinforcing existing structures so that they can better implement the IPC; also building on sharing of information, experiences and people between countries and regions would help to improve coherency and understanding of the IPC. There were discussions of different tools such as online forums that could help this.

### ***Quality Control and Monitoring***

The groups underlined the need for a Quality Control and Monitoring system. The main challenges they felt would be how to mainstream it at government level, document/assess the reliability of the reports and the analysis produced, and strengthen links between countries and regions to enable this process to happen. A discussion was also centred on the quality of the information presented and the credibility of sources.

### ***Planning the way forward at the global, regional and country levels***

The main outcomes of this session were to give the participants an opportunity to discuss at a regional level outside their usual environment permitting them to solve problems and issues slowing down the process.

## **Concluding Remarks**

### **Nick Maunder (ECHO)**

The IPC is not a new architecture but a tool for analysis of existing ones. The IPC needs to expand and can expand with the increasing demand, whilst addressing the challenge of ensuring quality. There is a movement from concentrating on the technical issues to institutionalisation with improving the governance as its core. To ensure that the IPC is successful, donors financing the IPC need to be diversified and better integrated into the food clusters and UN reform to promote a more supportive structure.



Fig. 9 – Concluding Remarks

### **Alexandros Yiannopoulos (Oxfam IPC Global Focal Point)**

Lots of organizations across countries have the capacity to address the issues outlined in the workshop. It is critical that everyone working on the IPC works together. Support can come from the Global bodies but it is important that regions and countries are proactive.

### **Luca Russo (FAO Steering Committee Representative)**

The IPC should not become a victim of its own success by becoming too widespread prior to resolving the key technical and institutional challenges. It was stressed the importance of regional organizations in IPC process, currently and in its future development.



## Annex 1: Participants list

Participant List Global IPC Forum			
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## Annex 2: External partnership scoping study – preliminary results

The External Partnership scoping study commissioned by the IPC global partners aims at engaging with a range of key IPC stakeholders to ensure that the process of institutionalizing the IPC within global information systems is as successful as possible; and ensure humanitarian response is increasingly effective because it absorbs and acts on IPC information. The key concepts were outlined in the identification of the linkages both nature, purpose of the linkage and how it fits in the food security context; harmonizing IPC with other food security information products such as those used by WFP and FAO and external linkages (e.g. aligning IPC with SMART/SPHERE and encouraging proactive engagement by other UN partners such as UNICEF, WHO and OCHA).

The core of the presentation outlined that linkages between IPC and other key stakeholders/initiatives could exist at four different levels :

- 1. Basic linkages:** internal and external: mainly looking at consensus building at national level, inter-country comparability and using the tool for chronic as well as transitory contexts.
- 2. Inter-country comparability:** these linkages describe the need for tailoring the IPC products to the information needs of the resource allocators.
- 3. The common tool in 50 countries:** The IPC is still in a humanitarian frame with many countries with only occasional food insecurity, therefore it is important to invest in capacity building and modification of current management.
- 4. A tool for chronic as well as transitory contexts:** Moving from emergency to development requires more phases, indicators and thresholds to better differentiate chronic food insecurity.

## Annex 3: Questions and answers from the sessions

### East and Central Africa Regional Activities

Q. How have doubts on IPC outputs been resolved? Information used in the analysis workshop/training is not always the most up to date.

A: Aida Ndiaye from FAO regional office replied that the reliability score on data and confidence level of the analysis indicated on the map would answer the question on the quality of the IPC outputs.

Q: How will non-availability and (poor) quality of data affect the analyses?

A: If data for reference indicators are not available, the analysis will need to rely on indirect evidence: i.e. if there's no GAM data, you use MUAC to guide you on acute malnutrition. IPC analysis calls for projection as well; process indicators are also considered.

Q: Where does the Chad data come from?

A: Chad map source is FEWSNET.

### West Africa – Status of the *cadre harmonisé bonifié* (Improved Harmonized Framework)

**Comment:** Complementary information on the role civil society could play (Oxfam Spain, West Africa).

Q. Why is it that the tool is named “Cadre Harmonisé Bonifié” instead of IPC? (Isaac, Burundi)

A. Because the region was not virgin of systems and protocols and the Cadre Harmonise was pre-existing; FAO was already involved in the implementation of the Improved Harmonized Framework. The CH name refers to an information system, which is not the case of IPC.

Q. What is the representation of governments for the application of the tool and the internalization? (Isaac, Burundi)

A. A core idea that this tool should not be another project. So many initiatives have lived and died because they were linked to a project. Countries involved since the beginning of the development of the CH.



### Technical session

- Q.** Assumption that data is available and of good quality
- A.** The use of indirect evidence is here to help when good quality data for measuring key reference outcomes directly is not available. This is at the heart of the IPC analytical specifications. So the issue of data shortage is kind of mainstreamed already.
- Q.** How is the effect of humanitarian assistance factored into the analysis?
- A.** Humanitarian assistance is taken into account; just have to make clear indications. Involve people who provide information/ lessons (i.e. the countries themselves)
- Q.** What about the issue of timing – cause usually this is a projection of 6-9 months?
- A.** The Phase classification is a projection already.
- Q.** Why chronic food insecurity would be removed?
- A.** Your food security situation is a combination of your structural situation and the impact of a shock. But here, in order to focus on a scale that deals with severity/intensity, we need to have a short time span and factor out the structural situation/conditions but what you observe is still a function of those elements including chronic elements.
- Q.** Besides Somalia, IPC is a framework to consolidate existing data but there are countries where is not sufficient information or not at all.
- A.** There is a need for the TWG to advocate for the collection of critical good quality data sets (e.g. proper nutrition surveys). The IPC is assessment methodology neutral but there should be rigour and this applied to assessments by advocating for improved data collection.
- Q.** Technical development is really important and it will be important to see how global technical development can link with regional and country levels

### Annex 4 : Refresher session (afternoon day one)

A short session was held at the end of the day to discuss some additional issues and clarify the principal of the IPC. Here are some of the issues discussed:

**Q.** IPC started differently in each and every country; in Sudan it took two years to launch the initiative and it will be useful to have clear operational guidelines on how to possibly expedite the process.

**A.** there won't be one way of doing it but there's a valid point about the need to consolidate lessons learned to carve out the essential sequence of an IPC process (e.g. advocacy + training + analysis etc.)

Government buy-in is critical. How to do awareness raising? How to get people involved? E.g. in Swaziland consistent data collection based on HEA and complementary HH level nutrition data (also, DevInfo / Swazi Info is regularly updated) but IPC will be useful at regional level so trying to market it but technical and funding support critical,

Who is the end user of the IPC? Donors and governments often question the legitimacy of the operational map and won't change decisions on resource allocation. It will serve the purpose of the IPC to do an evaluation of how the final analysis of an IPC product was taken further and followed up on.