IPC Newsletter
IPC Worldwide Quarterly News, Views and Information.

Global News and Quarter’s Features

IPC - 10 Years of Multi-partner Collaboration towards Better Food Security Decisions and Country Impact

This year IPC celebrates its 10th anniversary. The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification was developed in 2004 by FSANU, the former FAO Food Security Analysis Unit in Somalia, to respond to decision makers’ strong call for a consensual, rigorous and comparable food security analysis which enabled effective response to the Somalia food crisis. As of today, the IPC is regularly used in 29 countries worldwide and demand for IPC is still growing.

Why did IPC have and is it still having impact and appeal? IPC emerged from the everyday realities and challenges in conducting joint food security analysis and linking it to action, within the context of a complex emergency situation such as the Somali one. The practical strength of IPC is that its development and implementation within and outside Somalia’s context has always benefited from the technical feedback and contribution of hundreds of expert practitioners and high level decision makers.

All over the years, the multi-level and all-inclusive development of IPC has contributed to the release of improved versions of the IPC Technical Manual, the core reference guide for all IPC work, as well as triggered new initiatives that have expanded the frontiers of the IPC analytical approach. Initially designed to be used in crisis contexts, IPC has evolved to be applicable to different countries, focusing not only on acute food insecurity but also on malnutrition and chronic food insecurity.

Since its inception, IPC has also catalysed the attention of key food security agencies and resource partners who have joint their forces to support the gradual use of the IPC standards and procedures in East and Central Africa, Southern Africa, West Africa and, more recently, in Asia and Latin America. In particular, eight leading food security agencies (CARE, EC-JR, FAO, FEWS NET, Oxfam GB, Save the Children UK & USA, and WFP) formalized their partnership in 2008 and committed to promote IPC as a global standard for food security analysis, through a multi-partner governance structure and a multi-level coordination mechanism. The IPC Global Multi-Agency Partnership now consists of 11 partners, having ACF, CISSS, FSG, and SICA-PRESANCA joined the founding agencies in 2012-2014. In addition, existing Regional Coordination Bodies and National Food Security Working Groups have turned out to be the natural and enabling platform for hosting and leading the IPC multi-stakeholder analytical process.

The use of IPC at country level, the resulting improved analysis and the increased response effectiveness have encouraged several resources partners to believe in IPC and support its development and implementation throughout the years. Particularly crucial has been and still is the longstanding contribution from the European Union. More recently, the support from the UK Government and USAID has also been critical. Equally, it was important the involvement of the governments of Australia, Canada, Germany, the Netherlands, and Sweden.

With the support of the global food security community, IPC has been internationally recognized as the best common and scientific approach to food security analysis. By using IPC, countries have consistently proven to capture the complexity of food security, produce comprehensive and consensual analyses of the situation, and use the results to inform response planning. As multiplier effect, demand for application of the IPC is fast growing and has led to the formulation of a multi-year, results-based Global Strategic Programme, which will be guiding the implementation of IPC at all levels in the years to come.

Besides the achievements, the IPC mission is not accomplished yet. New challenges and initiatives were highlighted at the IPC side event organized in the context of the 41st Session of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), on 13-18 October 2014. The event served to celebrate the 10th anniversary of IPC, share the results achieved so far and inform on the new directions and priorities in the years to come: IPC integration in national and regional food security frameworks, capacity building in acute and chronic food security analysis, improved quality of IPC protocols, and increased impact on decision-making.
Roll-out of the IPC-Chronic Classification

Following the endorsement and official launch of the IPC Chronic Food Insecurity Classification in July 2014, a number of activities have taken place for the roll-out of the IPC-Chronic in 8 target countries: Bangladesh, Burundi, El Salvador, Kenya, Nepal, Philippines, Uganda, and Zimbabwe.

♦ First IPC-Chronic Level 1 Training of Trainers
In order to train the future IPC-Chronic trainers & facilitators, the first IPC-Chronic Level 1 Training took place in Rome, from 8 to 11 September 2014. The event gathered 25 professionals working in the field of food security analysis globally, including IPC Global Support Unit (GSU) members as well as representatives from FEWS NET, WFP, EC-JRC, FAO, CARE, PRESANCA, and Save the Children. The objective of the training was to capacitate IPC GSU staff and partners to facilitate IPC-Chronic Level 1 Trainings and Analyses in the eight target countries this year.

♦ Version 1.0 of Tools and Procedures for IPC Chronic Food Insecurity Classification
Thanks to the inputs received during the IPC Chronic Level 1 Training, the Version 1.0 of Tools and Procedures for the Classification of Chronic Food Insecurity has been finalized and endorsed by the IPC Global Steering Committee. The Addendum on IPC-Chronic is expected to be reviewed in light of the results and lesson drawn from the country roll-out. Once finalized, it will be inserted into the IPC Technical Manual v2.0.

♦ Roll-out of IPC-Chronic Classification in 8 countries
8 countries are currently rolling-out the IPC-Chronic. The roll-out consists of 6 steps, from introduction to actual production and dissemination of IPC-Chronic analysis findings. The following country-level activities have taken place:

- 2 countries have already completed step 3 (Collection of Evidence);
- 3 countries have already completed step 4 (IPC-Chronic Level 1 training);
- 3 countries have already completed Step 5 (IPC-Chronic Analysis).

The 6-step roll-out process will end in February 2015 in all target countries with a Lessons Learning Workshop and a Global IPC Chronic Working Group Meeting. > Read more

Progress in piloting the IPC Nutrition Phase Classification

The piloting of the IPC Nutrition Phase Classification is progressing well. Under the technical supervision and overall guidance of the IPC Global Nutrition Working Group – which is composed of 21 representatives from 17 leading food security and nutrition organizations/entities - the first round of IPC Nutrition Classification pilots was accomplished in Kenya and South Sudan and was completed in August 2014 (see the East and Central Africa section for details).

Following the two pilots, the first IPC Nutrition Working Group (NWG) meeting was organized at FAO Headquarters in September 2014. The lessons learned documented during the pilots in Kenya and South Sudan were discussed at the meeting and the prototype Nutrition classification was revised in light of the feedback received. Moreover, having tested the new tools and procedures, the IPC NWG focused on the ways in which the acute nutrition classification can complete and integrate the IPC acute food insecurity classification.

The 2nd round of Nutrition pilots begun in October 2014, in Bangladesh. There are plans to carry out 2 more pilots, in Niger and in Central African Republic, during this round. Discussion on possible piloting are also ongoing with the IPC National Technical Working Group in Pakistan. Another IPC NWG meeting is scheduled for February 2015 to review the outcomes of the 2nd round of pilot exercises and develop a work-plan for next year.

> Visit the IPC Nutrition Phase Classification Webpage
Enhancing IPC Global Technical Capacity

Technical Capacity Building at global and regional level is one of the Focus Areas of the IPC Global Strategic Programme (2014-2016) and it is at the heart of the IPC’s success worldwide. In this framework, the IPC Certification Programme represents the cornerstone of the IPC Technical Capacity. It aims at creating an expanded, enhanced and decentralized technical knowledge at country level and within regions, in order to ensure that there is a sufficient pool of professional IPC practitioners and trainers to sustainably meet the IPC technical support needs.

In order to help IPC practitioners meet the necessary certification requirements, the IPC GSU has implemented the Cross-Country Learning Exchange Programme. The initiative allows food security experts to travel and participate in IPC training and analysis workshops in other countries, to earn and share country practices and to gather cross-border information. So far, over 40 IPC analysts have participated in the CCLE.

Furthermore, the IPC GSU provides support to IPC Level 1 Trainings and Acute Analyses in countries with an insufficient numbers of IPC certified trainers, with decentralized sub-national training needs, and countries new to IPC. The IPC GSU also supports the organization and implementation of country and regional IPC Level 2 Trainings, targeting prospective IPC lead trainers at country level. In this framework, the IPC GSU is responsible for developing and disseminating at country and regional level normative publications and standardized IPC Training Materials.

Another tool developed to enhance technical capacity and quality of analysis is the IPC Information System Support (ISS). The ISS portal, available in English, French and Spanish, is fully operational for the conduction of IPC acute analyses at field level, based on countries’ interest and demand. An ISS training module is also a standard part of any IPC training and ISS training materials are fully integrated into the IPC Level 1 and Level 2 trainings. A Chronic version of the ISS portal has also been developed and is being used as an integral part of any IPC-Chronic roll-out. Currently, 18 ISS country portals have been created and are in use.

In the longer-term, aiming at further strengthening IPC capacity at regional and country level, the IPC GSU is planning to develop an IPC Course to be integrated into academic curricula of universities and centres of excellence.

IPC Global Awareness Raising for Decision Making

An IPC for Decision-Makers Package has been developed to raise awareness on IPC tools and procedures among individuals who are positioned to guide decisions related to food security policy, resource allocation and programming.

By adapting the length and content of the individual modules to the specific audience, IPC Regional Coordinators, Country Focal Points, and Partner representatives can illustrate the potential benefits of IPC information to different types and levels of Decision-Makers.

The package includes presentations and guidance notes for strategic delivery and is available in English, French and Spanish. For requesting and organizing an “IPC for Decision Makers” Awareness Raising event, contact: IPC@fao.org.

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Updates from the Regions and Countries

Recent and Upcoming Events

- Kenya IPC Nutrition Pilot, 4-8 Aug 2014
- Somalia IPC Level 1 Training, 4-7 Aug 2014
- South Sudan IPC Nutrition Pilot, 25-29 Aug 2014
- South Sudan IPC Acute Analysis, 1-7 Sep 2014
- CAR IPC Level 1 Training on Acute Analysis, 19-28 Oct 2014

Kenya Chronic Roll-Out:
- Steps 1 and 2, 22-25 Sep 2014
- Step 3, 26 Sep - 17 July 2014
- Step 4, 18-22 July 2014
- Step 5, 26-30 Jan 2015

Burundi Chronic Roll-Out:
- Step 2, 18-26 Sep 2014
- Step 3, 27 Sep – 31 Oct 2014
- Step 4, 1-5 Nov 2014
- Step 5, 6-10 Nov 2014

Uganda Chronic Roll-Out:
- Steps 1, 2, 5-6 Nov 2014
- Step 3, 10-21 Nov 2014
- Step 4, 1-5 Dec 2014
- Step 5, 6-10 Jan 2015 (tbd)

Relevant Resources

- Report on the IPC Analyses in Uganda, Sep 2014
- South Sudan: Current (Sept 2014) and Projected (Oct-Dec 2015) Acute Food Insecurity Situation
- Burundi Current Acute Food Insecurity Overview June-Sept 2014
- Sudan Current Acute Food Insecurity Overview Aug-Oct 2014
- CAR Current Acute Food Insecurity Overview Nov 2014-Mar 2015
- Brief on IPC in ECA 2014

IPC in East and Central Africa

IPC-Chronic Roll-out in the Region

The IPC-Chronic roll-out in East and Central Africa has started to be implemented in 2 out of the 3 target countries, Burundi and Kenya, while Uganda is starting the same activity in November. The roll-out activity involves 6 steps of implementation, namely: 1) introduction to IPC Chronic Analysis; 2) understanding of data requirement; 3) data gathering; 4) IPC Chronic Phase Classification training; 5) IPC Chronic Analysis workshop and validation; 6) Dissemination of findings.

In Kenya

From 22 to 25 September 2014, Kenya implemented Steps 1 and 2. The training workshop was attended by 17 members of the IPC Technical Working Group (TWG) from different institutions. The workshop was dynamic and generated a comprehensive discussion, characterized by proactive participation. The next step involves a three-week data gathering process conducted by a data analyst in close collaboration with the TWG and under the supervision of the IPC Regional Coordinator for Anglophone countries in East and Central Africa.

The use of the IPC Information Support System (ISS) was introduced for the first time in Kenya and all participants were able to practice and gave feedback for further improvements of the system, before the implementation of the imminent actual analysis.

It was decided that the same multi-stakeholders IPC Technical Working Group will be in charge of both Acute and Chronic Analyses.

In Burundi

On 19 September, the IPC Regional Coordinator for Francophone countries in East and Central Africa travelled to Burundi in order to provide technical support to the implementation of IPC-Chronic Steps 2. Technical support focused on the training of the National IPC Technical Working Group on data requirements for Chronic Analysis and on the collection of data compatible with the ISS.

The Training was successful and allowed the kick-off of the following IPC-Chronic steps. In particular, the Level 1 training took place from 17 to 21 November, and the analysis from 22 to 27 Nov. All the provinces were analysed and classified, and the dissemination of the findings will start during the first week of December.

IPC Nutrition Pilots in Kenya & South Sudan

Two IPC Nutrition pilots have been conducted in Kenya (4-8 August) and South Sudan (25-29 August). Both pilots were co-ordinated by the IPC Global Support Unit (GSU), which worked closely with the in-country IPC Technical Working Groups (TWG). In Kenya, UNICEF facilitated the analysis together with the Ministry of Health and the Nutrition Information Working Group, while in South Sudan FAO and UNICEF facilitated the analysis together with the Nutrition Cluster and the Ministry of Health.

The Kenya pilot covered 5 counties and the related sub-counties while the South Sudan pilot focused on 3 states. Nutritionists working with different organizations and MOH staff participated in the two analyses. Both pilots were successfully carried out at the same time as IPC food security analyses and in the same locations. Selected areas were classified into different phases based on the prototype IPC Nutrition classification. During the process, factors that are likely to contribute to malnutrition in the areas analysed were identified. Furthermore, projections were made based on the current analysis and seasonality. The analysis process culminated in the production of IPC Nutrition maps and communication briefs.

Lessons Learned

Availability of data proved to be one of the major issues when conducting IPC nutrition analyses. In the absence of recent data, analysts are obliged to look at old data: it is necessary to define the age of the data that can be used in the analysis and how to assign reliability scores for old data. The IPC analysts involved in the pilot exercises also agreed that it is useful to have an evidence repository so that all available data and reports can be recorded there prior to the analysis. This would also help identify data gaps, if any.

The in-country IPC TWGs proved to be the appropriate forum to co-ordinate the IPC nutrition classification, but IPC TWG needs to work closely with the Nutrition Cluster and MOH to get the necessary technical support and personnel to carry out the analysis.

Although it is useful to organise the nutrition and food security analyses together, it might be explored the opportunity to carry out each exercise separately. Nevertheless, co-ordination and collaboration between both sectors are essential.

> Read More
Recent Events

- **Swaziland IPC Level 1 Training and Acute Analysis**, 28 Aug - 4 Sept 2014
- **Regional IPC Level 2 Training in Johannesburg (South Africa)**, 15-19 September 2014
- **Mozambique IPC Level 1 Training**, 3-6 Nov 2014
- **Zimbabwe Chronic Roll-Out**:
  - Step 1, 23 Sep 2014
  - Step 2, 24-25 Sep 2014
  - Step 3, 29 Sep - 17 Oct 2014
  - Step 4, 20-24 Oct 2014
  - Step 5, 25-29 Oct 2014

Relevant Resources

- **Brief on IPC in Southern Africa 2014**

IPC in Southern Africa

**IPC in Swaziland**

In August, an **IPC Level 1 Training** was held in Pigg’s Peak, **Swaziland**. The Training was very successful and well absorbed by all participants. IPC practitioners from Namibia, Mozambique, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe also took part in the workshop thanks to the IPC Cross-Country Learning Exchange Programme.

The following **IPC Acute Food Insecurity Analysis** was also successful and culminated in the preparation of a draft of the IPC communication brief, which summarizes the key findings of the analysis exercises. Following the analysis workshop, a core team of the SwaziVAC organized a consensus building meeting to obtain inputs from stakeholders ahead of submission of the products for endorsement.

The success of the analysis exercise was mainly aided by the use of the IPC Information Support System (ISS), as it facilitated and speeded up the analysis process. The presence of several Cross-Country Learning Exchange participants enabled a fruitful **sharing of experiences and information**, which also played a significant role in the success of the exercise.

Overall, the training was well received and some participants provided feedback on the spot, stating that they gained a clearer understanding of IPC concepts and procedures. Those who had not used the ISS platform before were eager to try it and indicated that they will strongly advocate for the use of the ISS in their respective countries, as it clarifies the IPC analytical approach thanks to its clear and well organized structure.

**IPC Support to CH in West Africa**

**First Cadre Harmonisé Training of Trainers in Niamey, Niger**

Food security remains a critical concern in **West Africa and the Sahel**, due to the combined effects of population growth and its low resilience to the effects of climate variability and climate change. In this context, CILSS has developed a number of tools for a better understanding of the dynamics of the food and nutrition situation, in order to inform and assist decision-making.

The preparation of the next round of **Cadre Harmonisé** analyses is ongoing. CH is also expected to be introduced in **four new countries** which are now affected by Ebola outbreak: Sierra Leone, Liberia, Guinea Bissau and Benin. This would bring to a **total of 16 countries** that will be holding analysis workshops in a timeframe that varies from early October to November, depending on the country.

As part of the efforts to improve CH tools and procedures, several regional meetings were organized. The **first CH Training of Trainers** took place in Niamey, **Niger**, from 18 to 22 August, with the participation of the IPC Regional Coordinator for Francophone countries in East and Central Africa. In particular, the workshop was designed to:

- Strengthen the technical capacity of CILSS experts and partners on the use of the CH Manual;
- Finalize materials to train national experts on the use of the CH Manual;
- Create a pool of national training facilitators;
- Develop a food security analysis plan.

This IPC’s participation in the CH training of trainers was an opportunity for a cross-regional fertilization which increased the understanding of the CH within IPC staff.
Updates from the Regions and Countries

IPC in Latin America and Caribbean

Introduction of IPC trainings into academic curricula

From 1 to 3 September, over 50 students from the Regional Food and Nutrition Security Master of Science Programme attended the IPC Level 1 Training held in León, Nicaragua.

This Master’s degree is organized by PRESANCA and allows young professionals from different sectors to acquire the necessary academic background and work experience to perform duties related to food and nutrition security in different positions within Governments, NGOs and other organizations.

The introduction of IPC regular trainings into an academic curriculum represents an important milestone for the IPC initiative in the region.

As part of the evaluation mechanism and in line with the IPC Certification Programme requirements, PRESANCA required that all students passed the IPC Level 1 online Test, once the training was finalized. Moreover, PRESANCA is organizing a simulation of an IPC Acute Analysis in El Salvador to allow these students to practice the IPC tools and procedures and have a first experience in using IPC. After this participations, the students will fulfill all the requirements to be certified as IPC Analysts, thus increasing considerably the amount of certified analysts in the region.

During the training, 3 staff members from PRESANCA, who are in the process to obtain the Level 2 certification as IPC Trainers & Facilitators, co-facilitated several sessions of the workshop. As a result, PRESANCA plans to introduce an IPC Level 1 Training module for the next editions of the Master Programme.

Recent Events

- Regional IPC Level 1 Training for PRESANCA in Nicaragua, 1-3 September 2014
- Haiti IPC Level 2 Training, 6-10 October 2014
- Regional IPC Level 2 Training, 20-23 Oct 2014
- Regional IPC Level 2 Training in Haiti, 11-14 Nov 2014
- Guatemala IPC Acute Analysis, 25-26 Nov 2014
- Haiti IPC Acute Analysis, 8-12 Dec 2014
- El Salvador Chronic Roll-Out:
  - Steps 1 and 2, 17-19 Sep 2014
  - Step 3, 22 Sep - 10 Oct 2014
  - Step 4, 14-17 Oct 2014
  - Step 5, 27-31 Oct 2014

Relevant Resources

- Current Acute Food Insecurity Overview in Honduras May - Aug 2014
- Projected Acute Food Insecurity Overview in Haiti July-Sept 2014
- Projected Acute Food Insecurity Overview in Honduras Aug-Nov 2014
- Brief on IPC in Central America and Caribbean 2014

Students from the Food and Nutrition Security Master of Science during the IPC Level 1 Training held in León, Nicaragua - September 2014

IPC Advancing in the Region

- **El Salvador:**
  - First acute analysis conducted from 22 to 24 July. The analysis classified three municipalities affected by the coffee rust and the ongoing drought.
  - A training about information requirements for the IPC-Chronic Analysis was organized in San Salvador, on 18-19 September. In this framework, an awareness rising session for decision-makers was organized on 17 September.
- Save the Children, CARE and Oxfam joined the Regional IPC TWG.
- PRESANCA participated in the 1st IPC-Chronic Training for Trainers, held in FAO HQs, Rome, from 8 to 11 September.

> Read more
IPC in Asia and Near East

IPC-Chronic Roll-Out in the Region

This year, the major thrust in Asia has been to plan and roll-out the six steps of IPC-Chronic Classification in Bangladesh, Nepal and Philippines. These are the three countries of Asia where the IPC-Chronic prototype was piloted in 2012.

The actual roll-out of the IPC-Chronic started in August and, by November, steps 1 to 4 (from awareness raising to Chronic Level 1 Training) have been completed in all the three countries. Moreover, the IPC-Chronic Analysis has been conducted in Bangladesh in the second week of November. The Analysis workshop was facilitated by the IPC Regional Coordinator for Asia, the IPC Food Security Officer and the IPC Food Security Analyst from GSU. The IPC Data Analysis teams from Nepal and Philippines also attended the IPC Analysis in Bangladesh.

A separate data preparation training for the IPC-Chronic Analysis was also organized for the external participants. This training took place in parallel to the Chronic Analysis.

IPC in Afghanistan

The most recent IPC Acute Level 1 Training and Acute Analysis workshops were held in Kabul from 15 to 22 September. The Analysis was attended by the IPC Regional Coordinator of Asia.

The main objective of the workshop was to refresh and improve the national capacity in IPC analysis.

The draft results of the analysis were presented to representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock, UN agencies, donors and development partners.

IPC in Pakistan

On 15 June 2014 a new wave of internal displaced persons from North Waziristan, in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA), began, following the launch of military operations by the Pakistan Army against armed non-state actors. In this context, the results of the most recent IPC Acute Food Insecurity Analysis, produced in August 2014, have been useful for both UN Women and the National Disaster Management Authority to inform the response to the displacement crisis.

Moreover, in September the country was heavily hit by heavy monsoon rains and floods. Also in this situation, IPC products have been used by WFP, FAO, ACF and Oxfam experts to prepare project proposals for flood response in Punjab and Sindh, the country’s most affected provinces. >Read more

Other Highlights From the Region

◊ In Bangladesh, one IPC-Acute Analysis was conducted by the National IPC Technical Working Group in September. This was the first time that Bangladesh attempted to conduct a sub-district level IPC-Acute analysis in the northern flood prone areas.
◊ In Pakistan, the EC fund for IPC Acute activities ended in August 2014. WFP has agreed to fund the IPC activities in the country from 15 August to 30 Dec 2014. FAO Pakistan will carry on the IPC activities in the first quarter of year 2015 from its own fund.

FSIN Technical Series No. 2 - A Common Analytical Model for Resilience Measurement

Following the Resilience Measurement Principles - Toward an Agenda for Measurement Design, the FSIN Resilience Measurement Technical Working Group has published a second paper, titled A Common Analytical Model for Resilience Measurement. The new paper proposes a common analytical model that comprises six main components upon which resilience measurement may be based. To learn more and download the document visit: www.fsincop.net.
IPC Partners and Important Initiatives

New Communication Packet on the Achievements of the Improved Global Governance for Hunger Reduction Programme

The Improved Global Governance for Hunger Reduction Programme team has produced a new communication packet marking the successes and innovations in all the programme’s various projects, including IPC.

The publication details how, in the last three years, the programme has:

- Helped to ensure more coordination and policy dialogue on food security and nutrition governance at all levels, through bodies like the Committee on World Food Security (CFS);
- Increased the availability of high-quality information for evidence-based policy making through information systems and decision-making processes, including the Food Security Information Network and the IPC respectively;
- Supported the development and implementation of policies and programmes through such frameworks as the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme and the CFS Agenda for Action for Addressing Food Insecurity in Protracted Crisis; and
- Developed capacity at the country-level, with innovative approaches in categories like nutrition-sensitive agriculture, food safety and sustainable agriculture.

View and download it in its entirety online: http://bit.ly/1t9Ig18
Or view by topic at: http://www.fao.org/3/a-i3920e/index.html

Notices

> Video “IPC’s Origin, Present and Future”, released on occasion of the CFS 41 Side Event on the 10th Anniversary of IPC

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