



INTEGRATED FOOD SECURITY PHASE CLASSIFICATION THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN

DECEMBER 2015 UPDATE – COMMUNICATION SUMMARY

An estimated **2.8 million people (IPC Phases 3, 4 and 5¹)** or **23% of the population will face acute food and nutrition insecurity** between January and March 2016. The bulk of this acutely food insecure population (57 per cent) is located in the Greater Upper Nile states of Unity, Jonglei and Upper Nile. Unity State remains the most affected because of continued fighting that has displaced large populations and disrupted their livelihoods. This population has lost its livestock through looting and the sustained insecurity has limited their access to humanitarian assistance, further exacerbating the food insecurity situation. Based on the reconnaissance mission conducted in November 2015 by the IPC TWG, there is overwhelming evidence of a humanitarian emergency in Mayendit, Koch, Leer and Guit counties, where displaced communities are destitute and surviving using severe coping strategies such as water lilies. While it was not possible to conclude the presence of famine due to lack of access to some of the locations due to ongoing fighting at that time, the situation is likely to deteriorate further during the January to March 2016 period as the food sources would become scarce as water bodies where water lilies and fish are collected from dry up. As a result, the IPC TWG has estimated **that 40,000 people are likely to be facing Catastrophe** between January and March and are in need of urgent food and other humanitarian assistance to avoid any further deterioration and escalation.

An additional 200,000 people have moved from *Stressed* to *Crisis* classification in Northern Bahr El Ghazal (NBeG), Warrap and Eastern Equatoria states. The food security crisis in these states is caused by disrupted trade – also due to localized insecurity - and reduced crop harvests, which is contrary to what was forecasted during the September 2015 analysis. The primary reason for the deterioration is the prolonged dry spell, which was projected to cease by the end of September. Localized insecurity also affected agricultural activities, a main source of income in the Equatoria region, during the production season.

Market functionality throughout the country has been affected mainly due to the depreciation of the local currency, and most traders are not restocking resulting in scarcity of commodities with high prices. Recent trader surveys done between October and December show that, in Juba for example, many traders are going out of business as cereal prices hit record high prices (in December 2015, 3.5kg Sorghum sold at 100 SSP, compared to 9 SSP in December 2014). The recent change in local currency exchange rate policy warrants close monitoring with regard to its impact on food trade, markets and consumption.

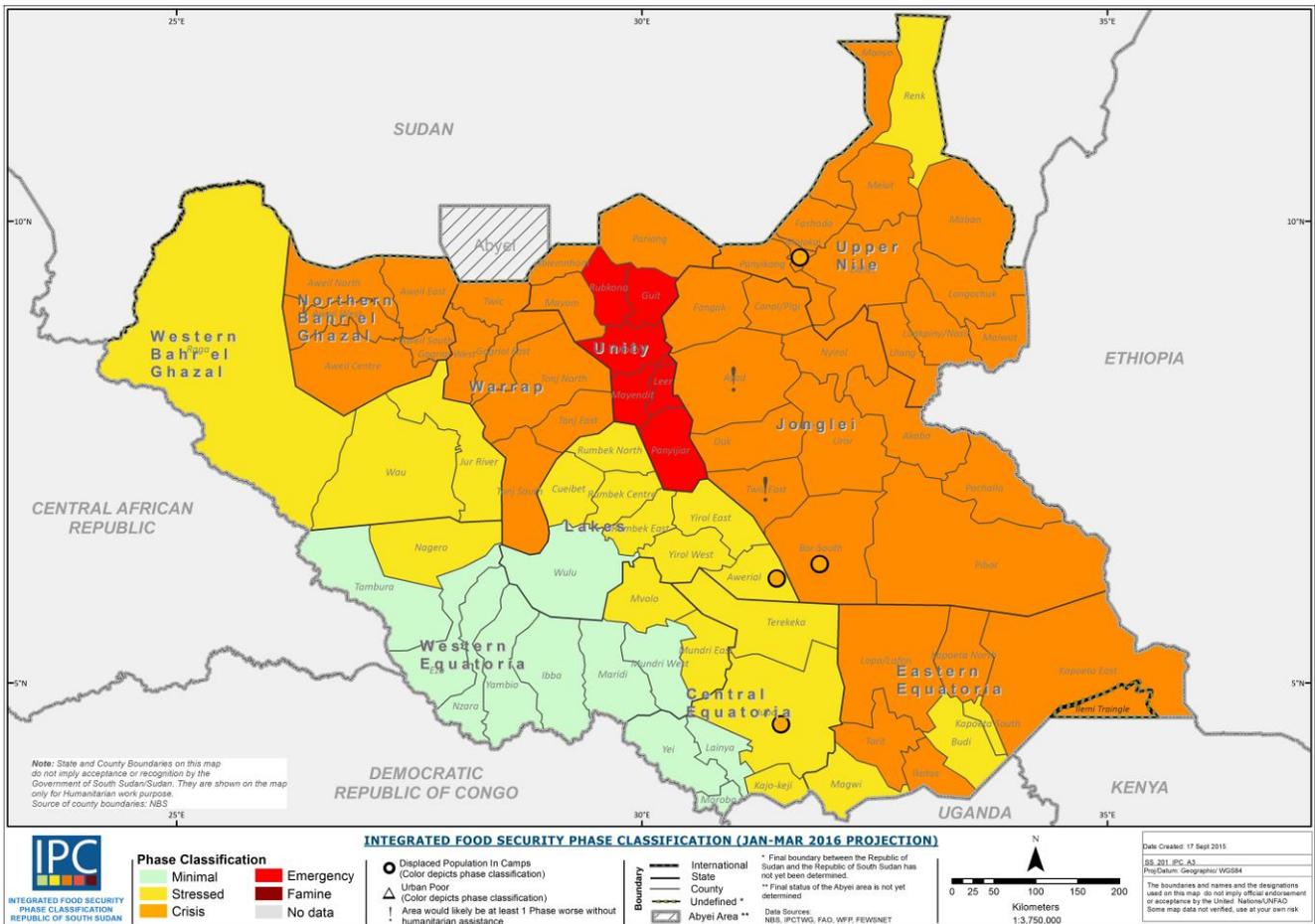
Analysis of humanitarian food assistance, shows that less than one fifth of the total population in the counties is receiving lifesaving food, and based on IPC cutoff criteria this is insufficient impact to upgrade the food security classification in most counties, apart from a few counties in Jonglei state. Moreover, in the other states where some humanitarian assistance has taken place, it has not been consistent due to insecurity limiting its impact on the livelihoods and food consumption of vulnerable households.

¹ Integrated Food Security Phase Classification, or IPC, describes acute food insecurity at the household and area level. At the **household level**, *Catastrophe* (IPC Phase 5) is described as: “*Even with any humanitarian assistance, household group has an extreme lack of food and/or other basic needs even with full employment of coping strategies.*” Famine (IPC Phase 5) applies to the **area level** and is declared when more than 20 percent of households are classified in *Catastrophe*, the prevalence of GAM exceeds 30 percent, and the Crude Death Rate exceeds 2/10,000/day.

Produced by the IPC Technical Working Group in South Sudan



UPDATED IPC CLASSIFICATION FOR SOUTH SUDAN FOR JANUARY – MARCH 2016



Note: State and County boundaries on this map do not imply acceptance or recognition by the Government of South Sudan and partners. They are shown on the map only for humanitarian work purposes. Source: NBS

This document updates the IPC projections phase made in September 2015, available here:

<http://www.ipcinfo.org/ipcinfo-detail-forms/ipcinfo-resource-detail0/en/c/379476/>

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POPULATION DISTRIBUTION FOR JANUARY - MARCH 2016

State	Mid-2016 Population (NBS)	Minimal	Stressed	Crisis	Emergency	Famine
Central Equatoria	1,581,765	1,325,000	345,000	115,000	10,000	-
Eastern Equatoria	1,142,503	415,000	450,000	235,000	40,000	-
Jonglei	1,790,579	425,000	690,000	410,000	125,000	-
Lakes	1,094,426	640,000	325,000	210,000	-	-
Northern Bahr el Ghazal	1,393,547	450,000	665,000	280,000	-	-
Unity	1,030,081	85,000	275,000	350,000	220,000 (40,000* individuals in Catastrophe(IPC Level5))	-
Upper Nile	1,236,597	305,000	465,000	455,000	60,000	-
Warrap	1,299,058	410,000	625,000	260,000	-	-
Western Bahr el Ghazal	536,115	270,000	200,000	65,000	-	-
Western Equatoria	798,416	705,000	95,000	-	-	-
Total	11,903,088	5,070,000	4,135,000	2,380,000	455,000	-

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