

OVERVIEW

Central America and the Caribbean is the latest region where the IPC has been introduced. The IPC introduction process started in Honduras, in May 2010. Since then, IPC trainings and analyses have taken place in four other countries: Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Haiti.

In all these countries, different food security institutions and partners, including national Governments, have expressed interest in the IPC as a way to strengthen decision making related to food security. The regional inter-governmental body of Central America, *Sistema de la Integración Centroamericana* (SICA), through its Regional Food Security and Nutrition Programme for Central America (PRESANCA), is supporting the IPC initiative in the introduction of and training on IPC in SICA countries. SICA-PRESANCA is also playing an important role in the development and roll-out of the new IPC Chronic Food Insecurity Classification. In August 2013, SICA-PRESANCA joined as an official member of the IPC Global Steering Committee, to help strategically set the vision and direction of IPC globally.

Since April 2013 the IPC initiative in this region has been overseen by a multi-agency IPC Regional Technical Working Group, which includes the following members: ACF, AECID, ECHO, FAO, FEWSNET, Oxfam, SICA, WFP and World Vision.

Regional IPC Activities, funded by EC and DIFID, cover 5 countries. The IPC activities started in 2012 and are on-going, with the support of regional partners and governments to the organisation of IPC workshops.

At the end of 2013, AECID confirmed a grant to support WFP in the implementation of the IPC activities included in the regional strategy.

The Region is strongly contributing to the roll-out of the IPC tools for **Chronic Food Insecurity Analysis**, after piloting the new classification scale in Honduras in March 2013 and in Guatemala in November 2013. SICA-PRESANCA is an active member of the IPC Working Group of Chronic Food Insecurity Classification, working towards the technical finalization of the tool.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS: LAUNCH OF THE LAC IPC REGIONAL STRATEGIC PROGRAMME (2014-2016)

In February 2014, The IPC Regional Technical Working Group validated the LAC IPC Regional Strategic Programme (2014-2016), which is linked to the IPC Global Strategic Programme (2014-2016) and sets the priorities, objectives and plans for IPC activities in the region over the next three years.

LAC IPC REGIONAL STRATEGIC PROGRAMME (2014-2016) AND FOCUS AREAS

IPC MULTIPARTNER OWNERSHIP AND INSTITUTIONALIZATION

- > Three IPC Regional Working Group Meetings are organized to plan and implement activities
- > IPC Multi-partner Country Working Groups are leading IPC country events
- > CARICOM became an active member of the IPC Regional Working Group

CAPACITY BUILDING AND PROFESSIONALIZATION OF IPC

- > IPC Cross-Country Learning Exchange programme for trainers implemented to create a regional community of IPC professionals (150 certified IPC Analysts and 25 IPC Trainers)
- > Three Level 2 Trainings organized at regional level
- > The IPC Level 1 Regional Training is integrated in the PRESANCA Food and Nutrition Security Master Degree
- > IPC Acute Analyses based on the IPC Information Support System conducted in 6 countries
- > IPC Awareness Raising activities conducted in 5 new countries

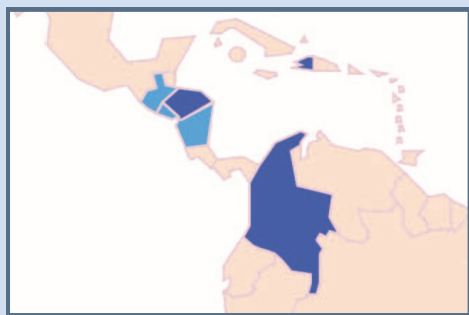
IPC TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT, QUALITY AND COMPLIANCE

- > Roll-out of the IPC V1.0 Chronic Food Insecurity Phase Classification Analysis in 6 countries
- > 2 Nutrition Pilots conducted in the region and related lessons learned are captured and contribute to the IPC technical development at global level
- > IPC country analysis is strengthened in quality and compliance
- > 4 IPC Meta Analysis Food Security Trainings conducted in 4 countries

IPC USE IN DECISION MAKING

- > IPC Baseline Use and Impact study conducted at country and regional levels
- > IPC Brief on the use of IPC in Decision-making published
- > IPC Decision Makers' Strategic Engagement Plan developed and implemented
- > IPC analysis results effectively communicated and disseminated

WHAT IS HAPPENING AND WHERE?



IPC Implementation Map - Central America and Caribbean, June 2014

- There are a number of typical IPC activities carried out at the country level, depending on the exposure and extent of experience in IPC in each country. These activities include:

- ◊ **Awareness raising exercises**, leading to IPC training and analysis in all 5 targeted countries
- ◊ **IPC Level 1 training at regional level**, held in Panama
- ◊ Identification and training of food security experts as **IPC Analysts (Level 1 Certifiable)** and **IPC Facilitators and Trainers (Level 2 Certifiable)**
- ◊ **IPC Chronic Food Insecurity Analysis** piloted in Honduras and Guatemala.

- Since 2012, there have been IPC activities in 5 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, these are: El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras and Nicaragua.

- ◊ In **El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua**, starting in February 2012
- ◊ In **Haiti** the IPC was introduced in February 2013; the first pilot analysis at departmental level were conducted in April. The first full IPC analysis was completed at the national level in June 2013.

- While IPC Acute Analysis remains pertinent to the Region, partners and stakeholders found that the Chronic Analysis is particularly relevant to provide information to decision makers in Latin American and the Caribbean. SICA-PRESANCA, IPC regional partner, is actively involved in the roll-out of the IPC Chronic analysis scale.

GOVERNANCE AND PARTNERSHIP

IPC governance coordination structures and support are quite new to the region. Since December 2012 an **IPC Regional Coordinator**, based in WFP Regional Office in Panama, has supported the coordination of IPC activities at the regional level and has provided coordination and technical assistance to countries. Additionally, the IPC Regional Coordinator works to ensure that IPC activities conducted in the region are consistent with the IPC Global Strategic Programme (2014-2016), through consultation with the IPC Global Support Unit (GSU).

In April 2013, a multi-agency IPC **Regional Technical Working Group (TWG)** was formed to guide and oversee the IPC initiative in the region. The IPC Regional Technical Working Group includes representatives of ACF, AECID, ECHO, FAO, FEWSNET, Oxfam, SICA, WFP and World Vision.

The *IPC Regional TWG* has validated an **IPC Regional Strategic Programme (2014-2016)** that is linked to the **IPC Global Strategic Programme (2014-2016)**. This programme defines priorities, objectives and plans for IPC activities in the region over the next three years.

Three countries in the region, **El Salvador, Haiti and Honduras**, have formed IPC TWGs, which are chaired by the government, with a multi-partner membership, and are leading the IPC work. In the other countries, country IPC TWGs are still under formation. However, IPC country activities have been undertaken with a mix of technical expertise found within already existing national frameworks and/or food security networks and bodies.

At global level, the regional initiative is represented by **SICA** through **PRESANCA**, which joined as an official member of the IPC Global Steering Committee in October 2013. The participation in the IPC Global Steering Committee will ensure that activities at the global level can be accurately informed by regional experiences and that the implementation of the IPC programme is responsive to the regional needs. The region has strongly contributed to the development of the IPC tools for Chronic Food Insecurity Analysis and PRESANCA is an active member of the IPC Working Group on Classifying Chronic Food Insecurity, working towards the roll-out of the tool.

IPC Partners in Latin America and the Caribbean:

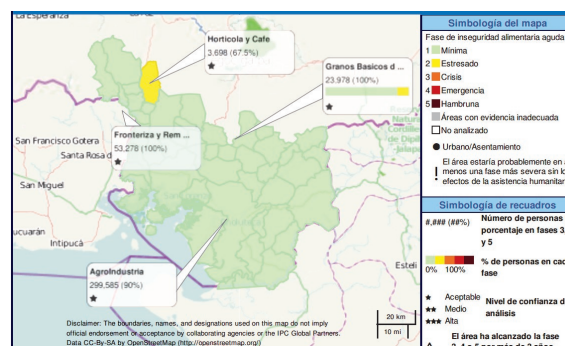


SUCCESS STORIES

IPC in Honduras

Honduras is the first country in the region where the IPC was introduced. The first training and acute analysis were led in Tegucigalpa in May 2010. The IPC is now being introduced at sub-national level by creating the necessary capacity in the *Mesas SAN* (Food and Nutrition Security Roundtables) to do analysis.

In Honduras, the strategic plan for development (Plan Nación) assigns the responsibility of food security matters to the sub-national *Mesas SAN*. Relevant stakeholders take part in the *Mesas* - including municipal governments, representatives from key National Government institutions at department level, international organizations and civil society.

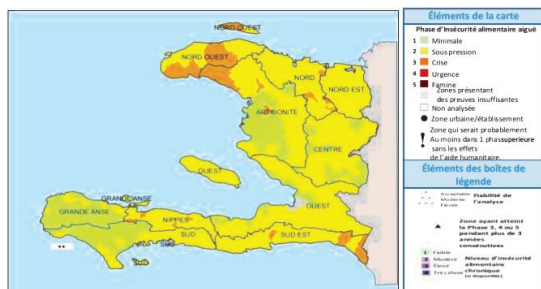


IPC Current Acute Analysis in Honduras , September 2013

For this reason, the IPC is being introduced at sub-national level by creating in the *Mesas* the necessary capacity to conduct analyses. So far, three *Mesas* have been trained in the IPC and one of them, the one covering the Golfo de Fonseca Region, is currently producing regular IPC acute analyses.

Mesas' work has contributed to convince the National Government on the potential usefulness of the IPC. The Government has expressed its intention of adopting the IPC as an add-on to its system of food security information.

IPC in Haiti



IPC Current Acute Analysis in Haiti, April 2014

Haiti was the first country in the Caribbean where the IPC was introduced, starting from February 2013. Since then, Haiti has become the most active country in the region regarding IPC activities. During 2013, a total of three L1 trainings and two acute analyses have taken place in the country.

The first analysis was conducted at departmental level and the second one at national level. The short term objective of the TWG is to take the IPC analysis to a higher spatial resolution level in order to classify sub-departmental units of analysis.

The long term objective is to produce timely analyses to be used in decision making processes in the country, providing a relevant tool that meets the needs of national stakeholders, within the framework of the *Group Technique de Sécurité Alimentaire et Nutritionnel* (GTSAN), the coordination group for organizations working in the food security sector in Haiti.



IPC Level 1 Training in El Salvador, December 2013

