

## OVERVIEW

Since the early 2000s, the **Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel** (CILSS) has been engaged in the development and testing of the *Harmonized Framework for the Analysis and Identification of Areas at Risk and Vulnerable Groups in the Sahel*, more commonly referred to as the *Cadre Harmonisé* (CH). Initially the CH was tested in six countries (Burkina, Chad, Senegal, Mali, Mauritania and Niger), with further on-going technical developments and refinement of the tools and process.

In the last two years, technical developments in the CH tools and processes have led to increased similarities and convergence between the IPC and the CH. The IPC Global Support Unit (GSU) and other IPC Global Partners are working closely with the **CILSS Technical Committee of the Harmonized Framework**, which is leading to cross regional lesson-learning and the harmonization of the *Cadre harmonise* (CH) and the IPC.

Ivory Coast initially took up the IPC and implemented it from 2007 to 2012. As a new member of the CILSS, Ivory Coast adopted the CH as its official methodology in 2013.

ECOWAS has selected the *Cadre Harmonisé* (CH) as the harmonised tool for food security analysis in the Sahel and West Africa, comprising of 17 countries. The CH provides tools for the classification, analysis, and reporting of food insecurity, as well as joint approaches for undertaking monitoring, assessments, data collection, and database management.

The IPC is currently supporting the technical development and testing of CH tools and procedures in the Region, including work on the CH Manual finalized in 2013. Recent technical developments have led to increased similarities and convergence between the IPC and the CH.

Over 300 people were trained in the CH in Burkina Faso, Chad, Senegal, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Togo, Guinea Republic, the Gambia, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Cape Verde, starting from October 2012.

This year, CILSS is planning to use the CH in 2 additional countries: Benin and Guinea Bissau.

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS: LAUNCH OF THE WEST AFRICA IPC REGIONAL STRATEGIC PROGRAMME TO SUPPORT CH (2014-2016)

In February 2014, the West Africa IPC Regional Strategic Programme to support CH (2014-2016) was launched and endorsed by the IPC leading partners in the Region. The Programme 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.

### IPC REGIONAL STRATEGIC PROGRAMME (2014-2016) TO SUPPORT CH IN WEST AFRICA

#### IPC MULTIPARTNER OWNERSHIP AND INSTITUTIONALIZATION

- > National CH TWGs generates comprehensive CH analysis that is effectively used in decision making.
- > The CH Technical Committee meets on a regular basis, consolidates CH products at national level and capitalizes on lessons learnt with a view to further improving the tool.

#### CAPACITY BUILDING AND PROFESSIONALIZATION OF IPC

- > Necessary technical capacity to train CH analysts and support facilitation of CH analyses exists in the focus countries and in the region.

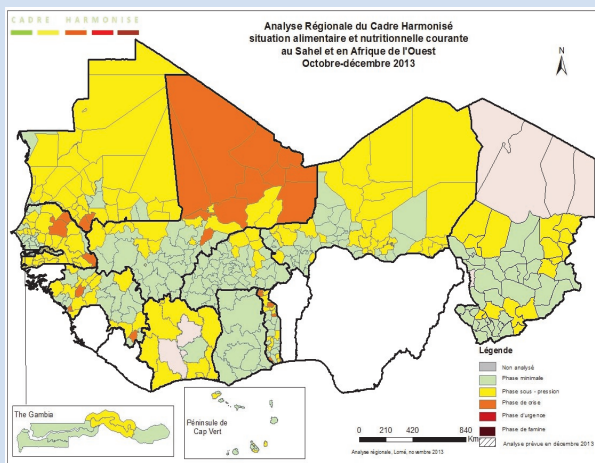
#### IPC TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT, QUALITY AND COMPLIANCE

- > CILSS countries in the region are implementing CH with rigor and high quality standards.
- > Inter-regional & country-level lessons learning from other regions are captured and feedback is provided to the CH.
- > Technical Committee and Steering Committee actively guide the CH implementation.
- > Stakeholders from WA region technically have contributed to further developing the CH and contribute to IPC technical developments.
- > The process for improved harmonization and learning between the IPC and the CH is on-going.

#### IPC USE IN DECISION MAKING

- > The CH, implemented by CILSS, is integrated in ECOWAS's relevant food security and nutrition frame-works.

## WHAT IS HAPPENING AND WHERE?



*Cadre Harmonisé Regional Current Food Security and Nutrition Analysis in Sahel and West Africa - October - December 2013*

There is convergence between the IPC and the CH tools and procedures, sharing the same Analytical Framework. The IPC is supporting the technical development and testing of CH tools and procedures in the region, specifically:

*Cadre Harmonisé* tools and procedures underwent validation tests in six CILSS countries (Burkina, Chad, Senegal, Mali, Mauritania and Niger) in October/November 2012 leading to the drafting of a *Cadre Harmonisé* Methodological Note.

Six further countries joined the CH, with training and analysis starting in June 2013. The countries are: Cote d'Ivoire, Republic of Guinea, Cape Verde, the Gambia, Ghana, Togo. These countries undertook their first analysis starting in October 2013 and two more countries will be included in 2014 (Benin and Guinea Bissau).

National Technical Working Groups were formed in 12 countries (6 initial countries plus the other 6 joining the CH in 2013), and 2 more will be included in 2014.

## GOVERNANCE AND PARTNERSHIP

Both CH and IPC are multi-partner initiatives, and regional members of the IPC Global partners participate in the CH process, including FAO, WFP, FEWS NET, Oxfam, ACF, Save the Children, and the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission. Similarly to the IPC, the *Cadre Harmonisé* aims to inform decision makers and guide action and response within the region. The CH has been selected by ECOWAS as the harmonised tool for food security analysis in the Sahel and West Africa, comprising of 17 countries and as the official tool to trigger ECOWAS regional food reserve mobilization, when this tool will be available.

The CH process is guided by a Steering Committee including regional IPC partners (such as WFP and

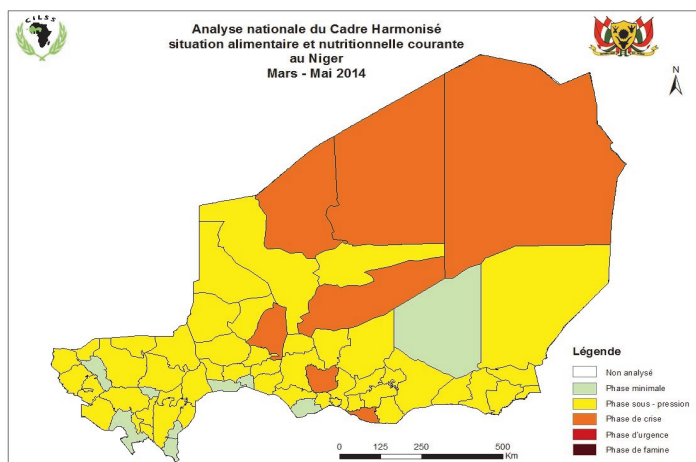
FAO) and since 2012 CILSS is a member of the *IPC Global Steering Committee*. Additionally, the IPC Global Support Unit (IPC GSU) is an active member of the CH Technical Committee, which works on the technical development of the CH including the finalization of the CH Manual.

Since October 2012 the CILSS aims at introducing the CH as a harmonized tool to present food security information within regional forums, namely in the Food Crisis Prevention Network in the Sahel and West Africa (RPCA) - a grouping of West African regional organizations, countries and international organizations and members of the OECD Development Cluster.



*Regional Consultation on Agricultural and Food Prospects in the Sahel and in West Africa, Niger 2010. Credit: UCID/AGRHYMET*

# SUCCESS STORIES



*CH Current Acute Food Insecurity Analysis in Niger, March 2014*

The IPC supports the CH in its achievements at regional level, including its use as a Harmonized Regional Tool to present Food Security Analysis.

The CH provides a shared language for food security analysis in the region. While CH analysis is carried simultaneously in all countries (therefore ensuring comparability over time and space), the CH provides decision makers with an integrated and shared approach to present and communicate food security information.

## Main achievements to date include:

- Ensuring comparability over time and space in the region through CH analysis: two cycles of CH analysis are held twice per year (February/March and October/November) in the 12 CH countries (**Burkina, Chad, Senegal, Mali, Mauritania and Niger, Togo, Republic of Guinea, the Gambia, Ivory Coast, Ghana, and Cape Verde**).
- Regular cycles of analysis, currently planned at least twice per year in 12 Sahelian and West African Countries (**Burkina, Chad, Senegal, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Ivory Coast, Republic of Guinea, Cape Verde, the Gambia, Ghana, Togo**) starting in 2013. Two more countries are planned to be included in: Benin and Guinea Bissau.
- CH will inform and, when needed, trigger the ECOWAS regional food reserves within the regional early warning system in case of national and/or regional food security crisis. The CH informs and potentially alerts regional mechanisms in case such reserves should be made available.
- CH analysis is used by the Food Crisis Prevention Network in the Sahel and West Africa (PREGEC/RPCA) for decision making purposes, to guide response and programme planning.



*PREGEC/RPCA Meeting, Niger 2010.  
Credit: UCID/AGRHYMET*



*CH Training Burkina Faso, February 2013*



## LOOKING FORWARD

The IPC will continue to support the CH in the region and work towards cross regional lesson-learning and the harmonization of the two tools. The Technical Committee of the Harmonized Framework (including representatives from CILSS, the IPC Global Support Unit, WFP, FAO, FEWS NET, ACF, Oxfam, Save The Children, and Joint Research Centre of the European Commission) are leading technical consultations, and a CH Manual Version 2.0 is being developed based on those discussions.

Following the technical development of the CH Manual Version 2.0 the CH will be used as a harmonized tool to present food security information and identify the number of population affected by food insecurity within the RPCA framework.

The main challenge in the region remains the estimate of vulnerable populations. The increasing integration of household economy analyses information in the analysis is a key issue to refine this estimate.



Meeting Bilan Céréalière, Niger 2012. Credit: UCID/AGRHYMET

IPC Global Steering Committee Members:



\*The EC in the global partnership is represented by the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission

The IPC development and implementation is made possible by the support of:



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