



# Evidence and Standards for Better Food Security Decisions

## THE INTEGRATED FOOD SECURITY PHASE CLASSIFICATION (IPC)

In East and Central Africa

December 2012

### CONTENTS

INTRODUCING THE IPC .....	2
What is the IPC – an overview.....	2
How does it work at global level .....	4
THE IPC IN EAST AND CENTRAL AFRICA.....	5
A regional initiative .....	5
A national process .....	8
ONE REGIONAL INITIATIVE, 12 COUNTRIES .....	11
Burundi.....	12
Central African Republic.....	13
Djibouti.....	14
Democratic Republic of the Congo .....	15
Kenya.....	16
Ethiopia.....	17
Rwanda .....	17
Somalia .....	18
South Sudan .....	19
Sudan.....	20
Tanzania .....	21
Uganda .....	22
LOOKING FOWARD WITH THE IPC IN EAST AND CENTRAL AFRICA.....	23
Achievements should be recognized .....	23
Looking forward: <i>relief meets development</i> .....	23
Looking forward: <i>role of IPC donors and partners</i> .....	24



# Evidence and Standards for Better Food Security Decisions

## INTRODUCING THE IPC

### Usefulness and global governance

## WHAT IS THE IPC – an overview

### *A set of protocols... but also a process*

The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a **set of protocols to classify the severity and causes of food insecurity** and provide evidence-based, actionable knowledge to decision makers.

The IPC is also a process for building technical consensus among key stakeholders from national governments, UN, NGO, and technical agencies.

The IPC provides **systematic and consistent answers to the following questions:**

- How severe* is the situation?
- Where* is there food insecurity?
- When* will there be food insecurity?
- Who* are the food insecure people?
- How many*?
- What* are the causes?

The IPC **tools and procedures** are compatible with whatever data collection systems, methodological approaches, and institutional arrangements exist in-country.

### *Classifying the severity and causes of food insecurity*

The IPC standardized scale categorizes **the severity of acute food insecurity into Five Phases**. Each of these phases has important and distinct implications for where and how best to intervene and therefore influences priority response objectives.

The IPC phases are determined by analyzing a range of outcomes based on international standards including **food consumption levels, livelihoods changes, nutritional status, and mortality**.

These are triangulated with several contributing factors (food availability, access, utilization and stability, vulnerability and hazards) and analyzed within local contexts.

Minimal
Stressed
Crisis
Emergency
Famine

- IPC makes a distinction between **acute** and **chronic** food insecurity.
- The IPC classifies the **current severity** of acute food insecurity situations as well as the **future projected** conditions to provide an early warning statement for proactive decision-making.

The IPC classification is based on a **convergence** of all of this evidence and functions essentially like a thermometer that takes the 'temperature' of how severe the food security situation is. But its more than just the temperature. The IPC indicates the changing of a food insecure situation and, critically, changes in the required responses.



# Evidence and Standards for Better Food Security Decisions

## Using the IPC...

The IPC approach is designed to be applicable in any context irrespective of the type of food insecurity, hazard, socio-economic, livelihood, institutional or data context.

Once fully implemented, it has a modest and efficient cost, and plays a unique and crucial role. Each IPC Phase is linked to **priority strategic response objectives** and indicates how severe the situation is, the exact area that is affected, what part of the population is food insecure, and the basic causes of the crisis.

The results are consolidated into the **IPC Acute Food Insecurity Overview** which includes the key findings of the analysis, the IPC map communicating in five phases the severity of the food insecurity situation and all the evidence in support of the classification.

**Trend Analysis to improve interventions programming and allocation of resources.**

**Comparability over space...:** Using international - standardized criteria to classify the food crises, the IPC will ultimately make possible to compare the severity of the situation in one place with the other. Thus, decision makers can allocate the resources to the populations in most need.

**...and comparability over time:** the IPC also helps to track the severity of crises over the time. Thus enabling decision makers to widen, reduce or change strategically the area of the interventions.

## ... to inform better food security decisions

The IPC contributes to greater **transparency, coordination, and accountability** of food security interventions.

Often decision-makers are forced to respond quickly to food security crises without enough information about the situation or the most appropriate actions in a country. The IPC is an innovative approach that fills a crucial gap in this regard by providing reliable accessible analysis of the developing stages of **food insecurity crises**.

The IPC also informs decision making for resolving **more long-term**, structural hindrances to achieving sustainable food security.

By following the IPC protocols, complex food security analysis is made more accessible and meaningful for decision makers at national, regional, and global levels; providing a common basis for resource prioritization, intervention design, and advocacy.

## Technical development of the IPC : from version 1.1 to version 2.0

The new IPC Version 2.0 has been released and introduced in countries in 2012. It aims at **meeting challenges that** emerged from IPC field applications since 2004. This latest version **offers new innovations** such as the IPC analytical framework and clear functions to guide the work of the IPC analysts from the beginning to the end of their work. The IPC Manual Version 2.0 also **reconciles key differences in approaches** to food security analysis among national governments and international agencies, thereby allowing for greater buy-in and collaboration.



# Evidence and Standards for Better Food Security Decisions

## HOW DOES IT WORK AT GLOBAL LEVEL

### *A Global partnership among major food security actors...*

The IPC is a **multi agency initiative globally led by ten partners**: Action Contre la Faim (ACF), CARE International, the Comité permanent Inter-Etats de Lutte contre la Sécheresse dans le Sahel (CILSS), the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission (JRC), OXFAM, Save the Children, and the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP).



The IPC works **at the global level** through:

- The Global Steering Committee composed of representatives of all the global partners, responsible for strategic management
- the Technical Advisory Group composed of technical experts involved in the continuous technical development of the IPC
- the Global Support Unit hosted in FAO Headquarters in Rome, responsible for normative development and global coordination of IPC activities

### *... supported by major funding agencies*

Since the instauration of the Global partnership in 2007, the IPC has been supported at the global level by **major funding agencies** such as the European Union, the governments of Australia, Canada, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States of America, both as users and partners in the development of the IPC.



For more information or to contact the GSU, please visit the IPC website [www.ipcinfo.org](http://www.ipcinfo.org).



# Evidence and Standards for Better Food Security Decisions

## THE IPC IN EAST AND CENTRAL AFRICA

What have we accomplished?

### A REGIONAL INITIATIVE

#### *A dynamic food security context with protracted crises*

Despite significant efforts to mitigate hunger and poverty, **food insecurity in Eastern and Central Africa remains of serious concern**. A combination of conflicts, climatic shocks, transboundary crop and livestock diseases and soaring food prices have contributed to extreme poverty in the region, destroying livelihoods and placing basic goods out of the reach of many households.

In a context of dynamic, complex and, in many cases, protracted crises such as that in Eastern and Central Africa, effective information exchange among all involved stakeholders is crucial **to assess needs, design effective interventions, prevent programme overlaps and help identify and stabilize financial resources**.

#### *The birthplace for the IPC and still the strongest regional initiative*

The IPC was developed in 2004 in Somalia by the Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU), and **the East and Central Africa was the first region to implement the IPC** outside its original context.

During a first phase of the regional initiative in 2007-2008, the IPC was introduced in Burundi, DRC, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda thanks to financial support from ECHO, DFID and CIDA.

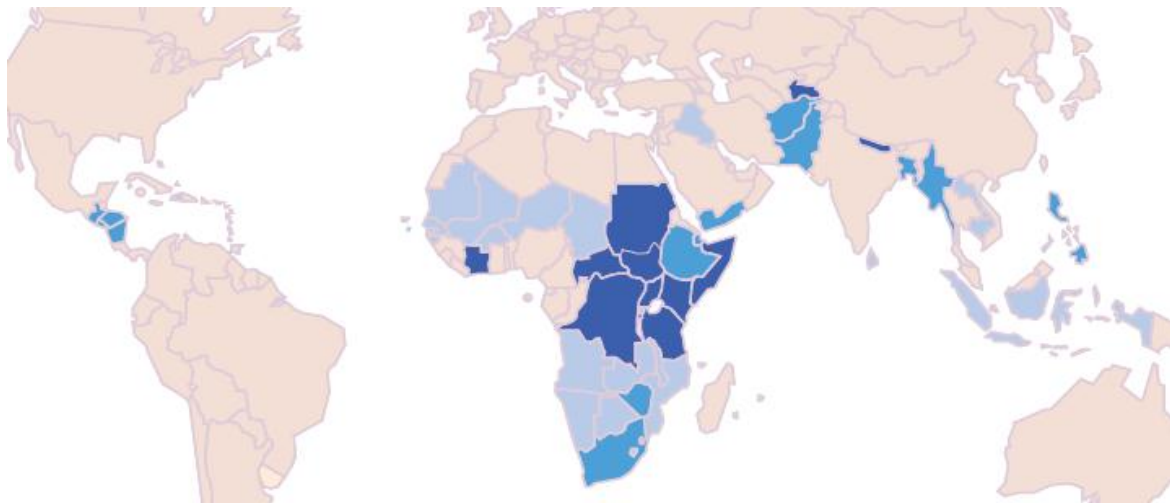
Then during a second phase in 2009-2011 funded by ECHO, the IPC was consolidated in these countries, discussed in Ethiopia and introduced in Central African Republic and in Sudan.

Progresses in the regional implementation have been ongoing since then in these countries, while Djibouti introduced the IPC at the end of 2011 through ECHO funding, and awareness raising and awareness activities have been led in Rwanda since 2008.

**IPC Global implementation map 2012**



## Evidence and Standards for Better Food Security Decisions



The IPC has been implemented or introduced in 12 countries in the region:

### Awareness-raising and consultations

Rwanda

### Initial in-country training and analysis

Ethiopia

### Ongoing training and analysis

Burundi, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda.

### *A tool that proved its value and usefulness in the region*

Considerable progress has been made in the region in terms of using the IPC tool, process and products to support governments and the humanitarian community in their efforts to **predict, prepare for and respond to food security crises**.

The IPC is now integrated into existing seasonal assessments and food security analysis systems in most countries, and IPC products are used to provide strategic information for donors, the humanitarian community and national governments, enabling them to monitor the relevance of their activities and increase the effectiveness of their response to emerging crises. The IPC has played a major role in raising awareness about the food security situation, including measures for **analysing the severity of food insecurity, its root causes and response objectives**. UN agencies and NGOs have used the information to adapt their programmes or projects, illustrate needs, justify geographical targeting and advocate with governments.

In particular in July 2011, during the food crisis in the Horn of Africa, the **IPC was used as a scientific reference to declare famine for some parts of Somalia in a common voice**. It ensured good coordination and targeting of humanitarian assistance, and a joint monitoring of the situation.

In addition in most countries the IPC has become the reference to inform decisions addressing food insecurity, **not only for humanitarian interventions but for Government planning and development policies**.

### *Working together at regional level through the FSNWG*

The **Food Security and Nutrition Working Group (FSNWG)** was established in 2005. It is a regional platform for sharing information on food Security and nutrition, building a consensual situation analysis,



## Evidence and Standards for Better Food Security Decisions

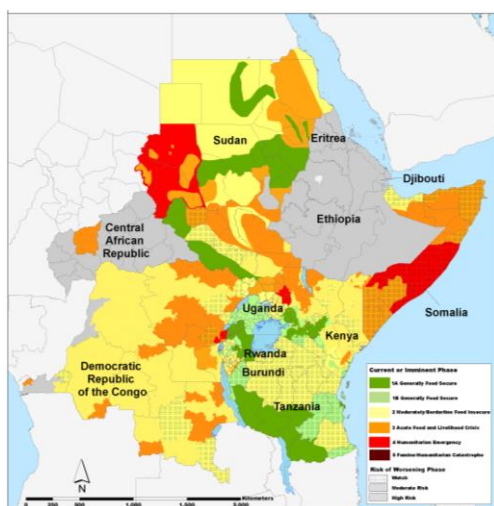
and bringing together a broad number of stakeholders for advocacy and response. Established by a group of international NGOs and UN Agencies, ACF, FAO, the Joint Research Center of the European Commission, Oxfam, Save the Children, UNHCR, UNICEF and WFP, it has been co-chaired by the **Inter-governmental Authority on Development (IGAD)** since December 2011, marking an important step towards institutionalizing food security coordination in the region.

FSNWG hosts a **Regional IPC Steering Committee** since 2007. Its main objectives are:

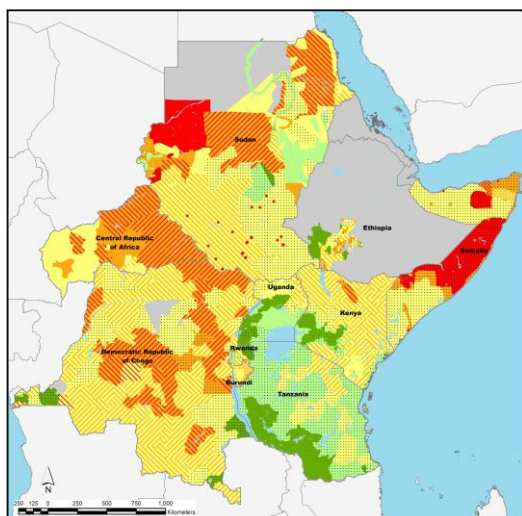
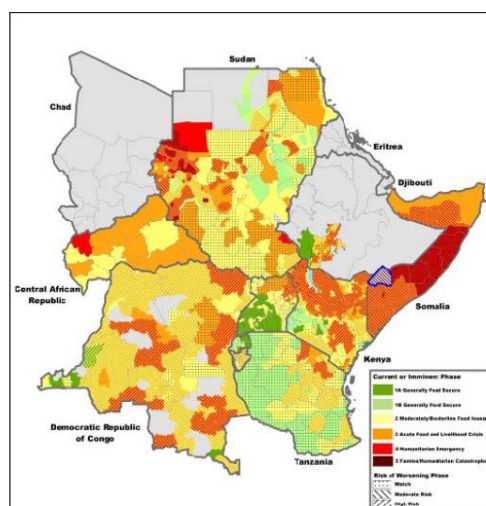
- Technical Support, Capacity building and Quality Control
- Regional Awareness and Advocacy
- Regional Coordination
- Regional Analysis
- Contribute to technical developments with the Global Support Unit

Every month, country analyses are consolidated into a regional map presented in the FSNWG to monitor the evolution of the food security situation and outlook in the region, and usually once a year a regional technical workshop discusses cross-border issues to produce a regional harmonized map, as per below.

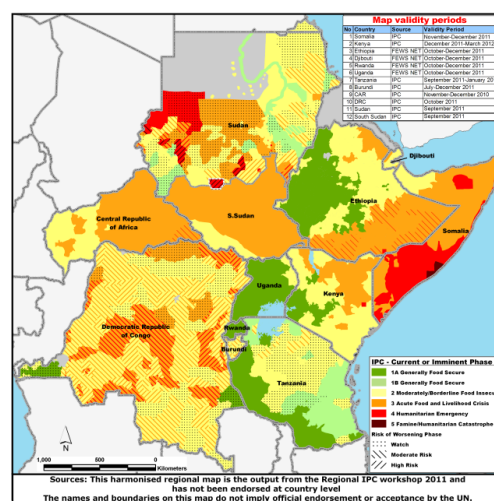
Regional harmonized map November 2008



Regional harmonized map October 2009



Regional harmonized map December 2010



Regional harmonized map December 2011

Regional consolidated maps updated monthly are available on the FSNWG website :

<http://www.disasterreduction.net/fsnwg>



# Evidence and Standards for Better Food Security Decisions

In addition to the support received through the global level, the region has received direct financial support from the European Commission and the Governments of Belgium, Finland, France and of the United States of America.



## A NATIONAL PROCESS

### *National coordination and role of the Government*

**Institutional arrangements and food security contexts vary greatly across the 12 countries** engaged in the IPC in the region, and the IPC implementation process has the flexibility to adapt to the needs and constraints of the different countries, although following the core standards and principles that ensure its technical rigor and neutrality.

The IPC does not create any additional structure but is hosted into and **strengthens existing institutions**, providing a **platform for sharing information** and enabling diverse stakeholders to work together.

The IPC implementation in countries is led by the **national IPC Technical Working Groups (TWG)**, which is chaired by the Government (except in Somalia). It is composed of technical officers from different institutions and agencies, with expertise in a field relevant to food security and trained in the IPC protocols. The TWG members are **committed to conduct IPC analysis in a neutral, evidence-based and consensus-building manner**.

**Governments have taken strong commitment** in the IPC process and **ownership** of the products, and are actively involved in leading the implementation, in coordination with the agencies and organizations members of the national TWGs. In some countries, such as Kenya and Tanzania, the IPC is fully embedded in the national food security information system and led by the Government. However in other countries, secretarial support is still provided by UN agencies and in particular by FAO who led the introduction of the IPC. Efforts are ongoing to ensure that more responsibilities are transferred to national governments.

The IPC Manual Version 2.0 is available in **English, French and Arabic**, to make it more accessible to the national participants, and some countries translate the IPC products into **local languages** to increase the impact on the population through the media.

### *Implementation processes*

The **typical activities** led through the TWG at country level include awareness raising and advocacy, planning, capacity building, data inventory, analysis, communication and lessons learned, with technical support from the regional and global levels.

In all countries the analysis workshops involve technical officers from the subnational level, which allows to make sure that all relevant **local information and expertise** is used to get the best picture of the



## Evidence and Standards for Better Food Security Decisions

situation. In some countries, in particular in reason of the geographical dimension, the implementation process is **decentralized** and subnational TWGs (e.g. at provincial level) lead the analysis at a first stage, which is then consolidated and harmonized at national level.

The **frequency of the analysis** of acute food insecurity varies across countries. In most countries the analysis of acute food insecurity is led twice a year after each main agricultural season, in some it is led four times a year. With the introduction of the Version 2.0, the analysis now provides a picture of the **current and project situations** based on the most likely scenario. In addition, the IPC map can be **updated whenever the situation changes**, including focusing on some “hot spots” as it is being done presently for Eastern DRC after the recent events.

Detailed information is provided on **the different country processes and accomplishments for each of the 12 countries** in the next section.

### Technical challenges and accomplishments

The IPC does not ensure the collection of primary data but makes the **best use of available secondary data, from a wide range of sources** (Government, UN agencies, NGOs, even collected at different levels and at different times). It has proved useful to ensure a better sharing of information, identify data gaps in quality and quantity, and advocate for data collection and for its better coordination.

Over the past years, considerable efforts and progresses have been led in increasing the technical rigour of the IPC analysis by building analytical capacity on decision making, at national and subnational levels. In 2012, the IPC succeeded in **introducing the Version 2.0** in all countries implementing the IPC in the region, by **training over 450 members of the national TWGs in the region**, who have then led the analysis at least 2 times.

### Costs and requirements

The financial costs vary greatly across countries due to the geographical dimensions and differences in implementation processes. Once fully implemented, the IPC has a **modest and efficient cost**. Typical costs cover the workshop costs for training and analysis, including participation of the analysts, venue, communication and administration and coordination costs.

In addition to the financial costs, the IPC relies on the **commitment of national partners** to share their data and make their staff available to participate in IPC activities.

### An unique value

Beyond the diversity of national contexts, the IPC is unanimously recognized by the countries for its unique value and the great achievements it brought in improving food security analysis and subsequent response. In particular it demonstrated its value in:

- **Providing a common currency** to define the severity of a food security situation
- **Identifying data gaps** in quality and quantity and advocating for better data collection
- **Building capacity** in food security analysis
- **Bringing together technical experts** from the different sectors relevant to food security
- **Building technical consensus** among national stakeholders



## Evidence and Standards for Better Food Security Decisions

- **Informing rapid response** through timely and evidence based analysis and allowing for better targeting and coordination of the interventions

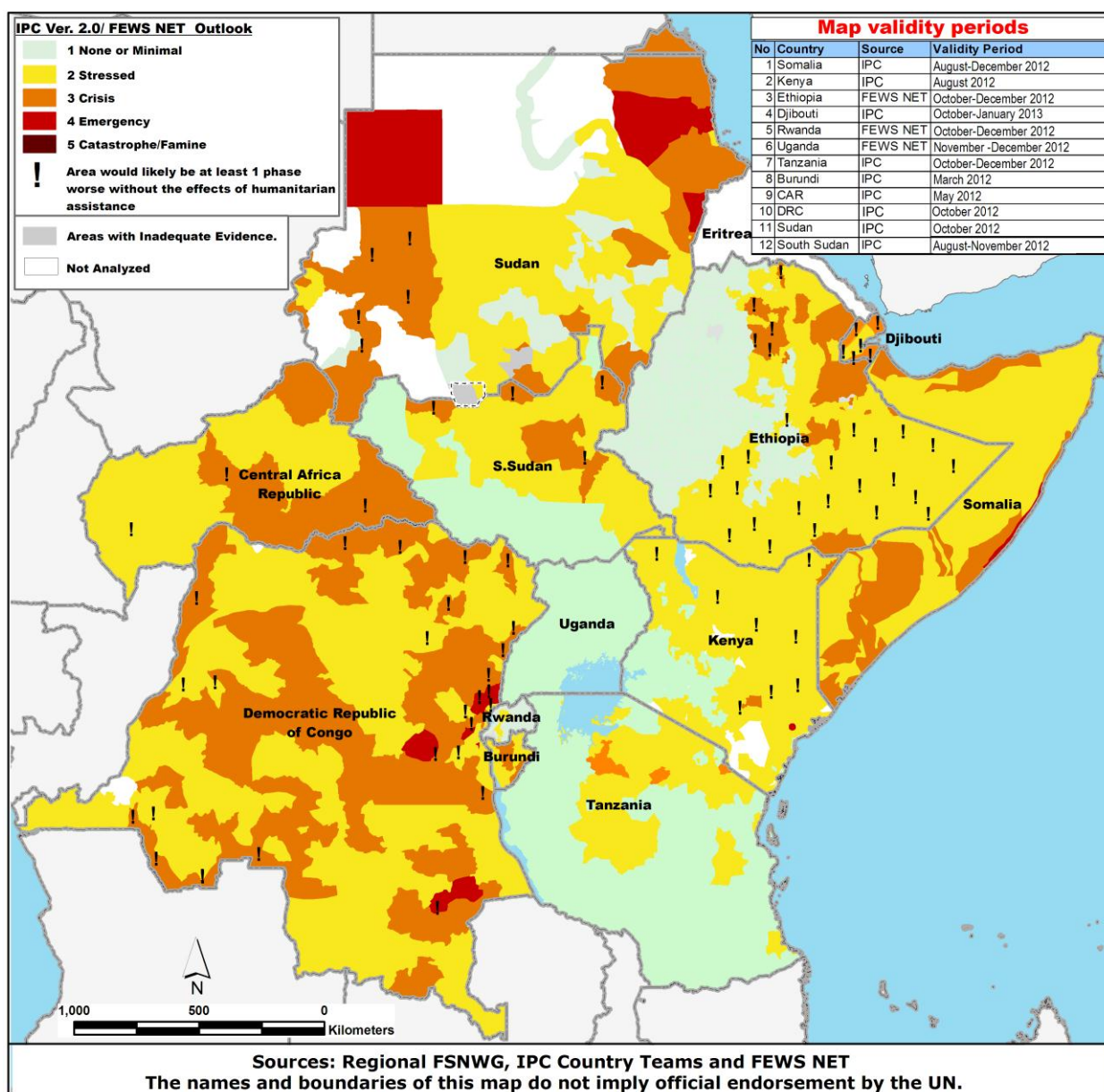


# Evidence and Standards for Better Food Security Decisions

## ONE REGIONAL INITIATIVE, 12 COUNTRIES

### The IPC in East and Central Africa

This information has been consolidated from the inputs provided by the representatives of national IPC Technical Working Groups from the 12 countries during the consultation held in Nairobi on November 29 and 30, 2012.



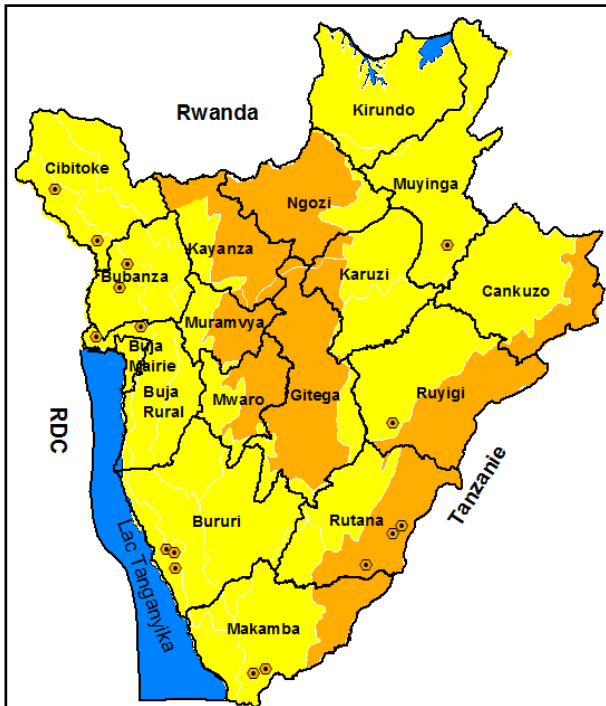
Regional consolidated map, November 2012



# Evidence and Standards for Better Food Security Decisions

## BURUNDI

### Implementation process



The IPC has been introduced in 2007 and the acute food insecurity analysis is led twice a year after each main agricultural season.

The Technical Working Group (TWG) counts 40 permanent members and around 90 food security officers from Government and different agencies involved in the IPC have been trained.

The introduction of the Version 2.0 in 2012 was successful in making the analysis of acute food insecurity more holistic, clear, rigorous and precise.

*Acute food insecurity analysis, August 2012*

### The IPC contribution to decision making

The recognized quality of the analysis and the technical consensus have earned the confidence of national decision makers. Strategic documents and projects on food security, implemented by Government and its partners, use information provided by the IPC.

The IPC has proved useful in guiding interventions, for example to build resilience to rain shortage in “Plaine de l’Imbo” and “Bugesera” regions, between 2009 and 2011. IPC products are now informing both development planning with the Government Investment Plan, and interventions focusing on most food insecure areas in IPC Phase 3 “crisis” through donor-funded projects such as the Belgian Fund Project for food security in the “Dépression du Moso”.

### The Partnership and role of Government

The IPC is hosted within the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock with technical and Secretariat support from FAO. The national TWG counts 40 members, in majority Government officers from different institutions (Premature, Agriculture and Livestock, Health, Environment, Plan/Finance), with participation from UN agencies (FAO, WFP and UNICEF), national and international NGOs, and technical agencies and Academics (University, FEWSNET).

The IPC in Burundi has received direct financial support from EU, Swedish and Belgium fund, and financial and technical support through the regional and global levels.

### The national TWG continues working towards

- Full ownership by the Government, including financial investment and ensuring the Secretariat
- Further refining the acute analysis through greater reliability of data and strengthened technical capacity
- Improving of Early Warning component by refining the analysis of the projected situation
- Conducting chronic food insecurity analysis

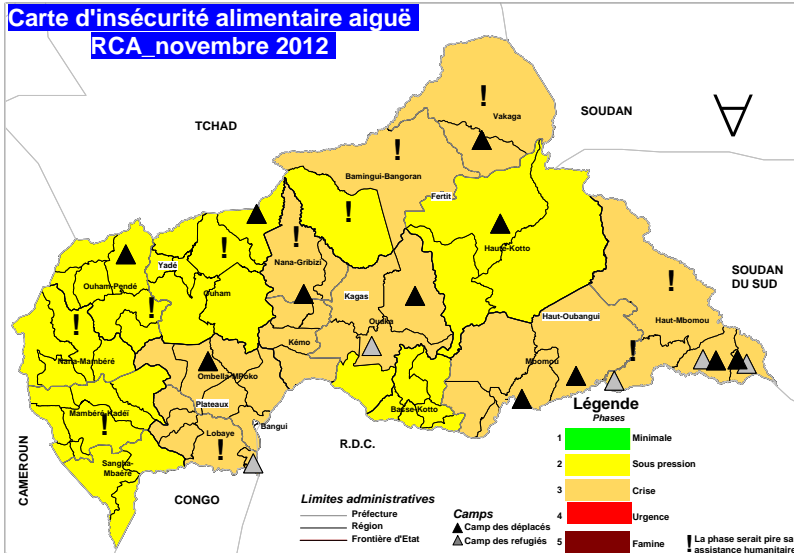


# Evidence and Standards for Better Food Security Decisions

## CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

### Implementation process

Carte d'insécurité alimentaire aiguë  
RCA\_novembre 2012



The IPC has been introduced in 2008, with irregularity in the implementation because of the lack of financial support.

The TWG counts 30 permanent members who have been trained on food security and livelihood concepts and IPC protocols.

The IPC V2.0 has been introduced in May 2012, all the members of the TWG have been trained and two acute analysis workshops have been led.

*Acute food insecurity analysis, November 2012*

### The IPC contribution to decision making

The IPC has allowed to identify gaps in the reliability of data and information, and could guide the development of an information system. The IPC classification is used in particular for emergency response to prioritize and focus on the regions classified in IPC emergency (phase 4) and crisis (phase 3) phases.

IPC products are now on the tables of strategic decisions: the Accelerated Framework of Millennium Goals, the National Program for Agricultural Investment and Food Security country program and the Common Appeal Program (CAP) developed in 2012 have been oriented by IPC products.

### The Partnership and role of Government

The IPC is hosted within the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development with technical and Secretariat support from FAO. The national TWG counts around 30 members from Government departments (Statistics Institute/ICASEES, Agriculture and Rural Development, Social Affairs, Environment, Plan and International Cooperation, Public Buildings and Urban, Mines-Energy and Hydraulics, Water-Forests-Hunting and Fishing), UN agencies (FAO, WFP, UNSIDA, OCHA, HCR), NGOs (ACF, TRIANGLE, G-H, DRC, CRS, CHOEB) and Academics (University of Bangui).

The IPC in Central African Republic has received direct financial support from AusAid, and financial and technical support through the regional and global levels.

### The national TWG continues working towards

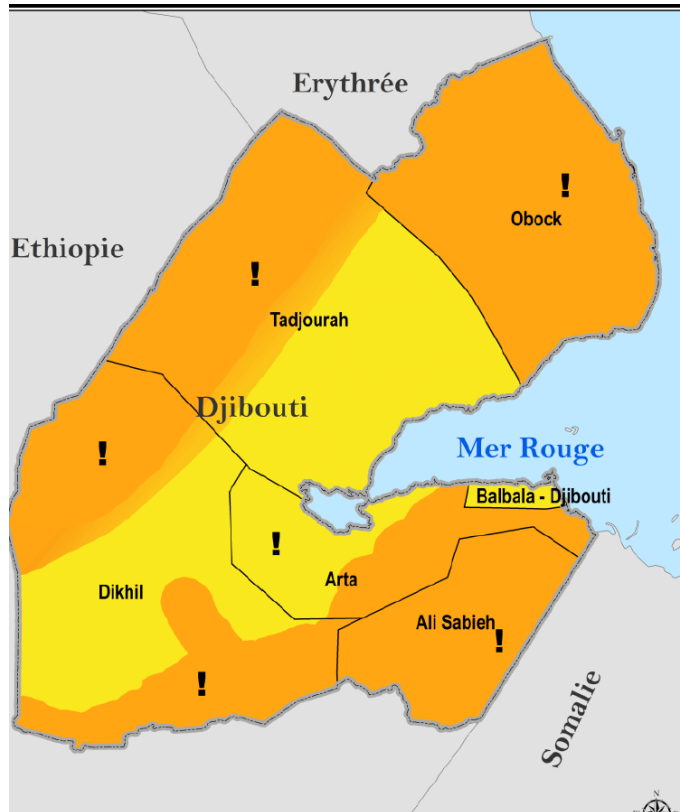
- Improving the ownership by the Government and other national decision makers through more awareness
- Strengthening the acute food insecurity analysis by building capacity and advocating to increase the reliability of the data
- Conducting chronic food insecurity analysis



# Evidence and Standards for Better Food Security Decisions

## DJIBOUTI

### Implementation process



The IPC has been introduced at the very end of 2011, and two acute food insecurity analyses have been conducted with the version 2.0, the first in December 2011 and the second in October 2012.

The Technical Working Group (TWG) counts around 40 permanent members who have been trained on food security and livelihood concepts and IPC protocols.

The awareness raised on the IPC and the release of the first IPC products have brought more interest on food security among decision makers.

*Acute food insecurity analysis, October 2012*

### The IPC contribution to decision making

The IPC products have shown the impact of the drought persisting since 2008 and orient the rehabilitation programs to the most affected areas, in particular the pastoralist livelihood zones.

Thanks to the first IPC analysis, the critical food insecurity situation of Obock has been informed and Government took much attention to it.

### The Partnership and role of Government

The IPC is hosted in the Ministry of Agriculture with technical and Secretariat support from FAO.

The national TWG counts around 40 members from governmental departments, UN agencies and NGOs. Ten of them constitute the steering committee, composed by Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Interior, FAO, WFP, FEWSNET and ACF.

The IPC in Djibouti has received direct financial support from ECHO, as well as financial and technical support through the regional and global levels.

### The national TWG continues working towards

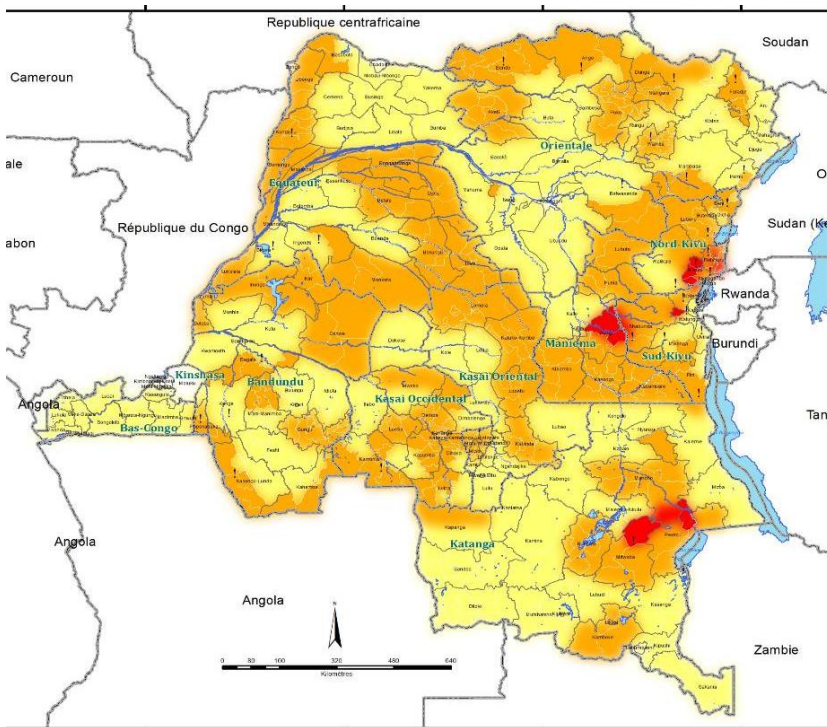
- Improving the ownership by the Government and other national decision makers through more awareness
- Strengthening the acute food insecurity analysis by building capacity and advocating to increase the reliability of the data
- As 75% of the total population live in urban area, the urban food insecurity analysis is strongly requested
- Conducting chronic food insecurity analysis



# Evidence and Standards for Better Food Security Decisions

## DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

### Implementation process



The IPC has been introduced in 2007 and the acute food insecurity analysis is conducted twice a year. The 8<sup>th</sup> analysis has been conducted in October 2012.

The Version 2.0 has been introduced in July 2012 and 45 members of the TWG have been trained. The Version 2.0 has increased the technical rigour of the analysis compared to Version 1.1.

*Acute food insecurity analysis, November 2012*

### The IPC contribution to decision making

IPC is now the decision making reference for the Government, Humanitarian community and for other actors: the annual "Humanitarian Plan" refers to IPC products.

The two last IPC analyses (July and October 2012) have highlighted the impact of civil insecurity on the food security situation, as most of the affected areas have been classified in phase 4 (Emergency). After the events that took place in the Kivus in November 2012, a prompt update of the analysis has been called for these provinces to assess the impact on the food security situation.

The Pool Fund 2012 identified height projects thanks to the IPC and the priority was given to the areas and households in the highest IPC phases (Phase 4: Emergency, and then Phase 3: Crisis).

### The Partnership and role of Government

The IPC is hosted in the National Department of Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture with technical and Secretariat support from FAO. The national TWG counts around 45 members from Government (Agriculture, Health and Plan), UN agencies (FAO, WFP, UNICEF, OCHA), national and international NGOs.

The data used in the acute analysis comes mainly from WFP food security monitoring system (FSMS), the Early Warning System (PRONANUT, UNICEF, PAM, FAO), Health statistics and ad-hoc assessments.

### The national TWG continues working towards

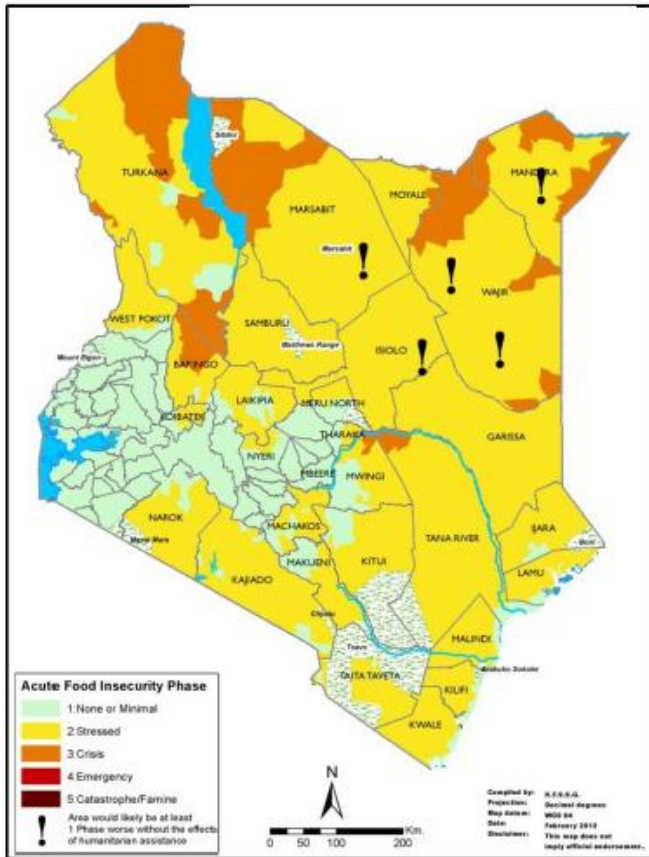
- Full ownership by the Government and financial sustainability of the process
- Building capacity, with the IPC level 2 training for members of the national TWG and representatives of provinces
- Improving the Early Warning component by refining the analysis of the projected situation
- Conducting chronic food insecurity analysis



# Evidence and Standards for Better Food Security Decisions

## KENYA

### Implementation process



The IPC was introduced in Kenya in 2007 to lead the analysis based on the Kenya Food Security Steering Group (KFSSG) food security assessment done twice a year - for the Long rains (July/Aug) and the Short rains (Jan/Feb). The Version 2.0 has been introduced at the end of 2011.

*Acute food insecurity analysis, February 2012*

### The IPC contribution to decision making

The IPC is fully institutionalized within the government and has become the main basis for decision making on food security and nutrition interventions.

The IPC classification enables prioritization of food security interventions by sector at district and national level by the Government, donors, UN and NGOs.

For example in 2011 the government declared a disaster due to the drought, ministry of Livestock provided funds for livestock off-take and ministry of agriculture provided funds for drought tolerant seeds. All schools in the affected area were exempted from fees payment for that period.

### The Partnership and role of Government

The IPC process in Kenya is hosted within the National Drought Management Authority (NDMA- formerly the Arid Lands Resource Management Programme).

KFSSG plays the role of the TWG with approximately 25 members drawn from UN agencies (FAO, WFP, UNICEF, OCHA, IOM), Government Ministries, NGOs (World Vision, Oxfam, ACF, Care K), and occasional participation from members from Universities (Tegemeo Institute of Egerton University), the National Disaster, Operation Center, the Crisis Response Center, Red Cross etc. In addition to these, Fewsonet and the field staff from the different Ministries play an active role in the IPC process.

### The national TWG continues working towards

- Improving the precision of the acute analysis, uniformity and rigor of data collection and to fully roll-out all the IPC V 2.0 at national and subnational levels (district).
- Assessment in high rainfall areas for a myriad of commodities is ongoing and needs to be factored in the IPC as well.
- The chronic food insecurity situation is an area that is still a major challenge. KFSSG will in the near future be working on the chronic food insecurity assessments methodology as provided for in the IPC 2.0, and a pilot will be led in January/February 2013 in cooperation with the GSU.
- Leading the IPC analysis in urban areas.



# Evidence and Standards for Better Food Security Decisions

## ETHIOPIA – initial exercises

### Foundation of IPC implementation

The IPC has been introduced in 2008, three training sessions have been conducted and an acute food insecurity analysis has been tested in some provinces.

The IPC is hosted in the Ministry of Agriculture, Disaster Risk Management Food Security Sector (DRMFSS) and 11 members from DRMFSS, CARE, WFP, FAO, FEWSNET, SC UK and UNICEF participated in IPC initial activities, constituting the basis of the TWG.

The results of the IPC exercises have been used by the Government and national TWG partners to develop some strategic documents.

### The national TWG vision

- Strengthen and expand the TWG and integrate IPC in the existing Early Warning System
- Mainstream and institutionalize the IPC process through enhancing capacity building on food security analysis
- Guarantee longer term funding to allow proper capacity enhancement of the government participants

## RWANDA – initial discussions

### Foundation of IPC implementation

Rwanda has been participating in IPC regional consultations and trainings since 2007 and has been represented by two government institutions: the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources and the Ministry of Health, and three non governmental agencies: WFP, FAO, and FEWSNET Rwanda.

Potential information to be used in IPC exists and can be compiled from : i) Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Analysis, ii) Food and Nutrition Security Monitoring System, iii) Integrated Household Living Conditions Survey, iv) Demographic Health Survey, v) Crop Assessment Survey.

### The national TWG vision

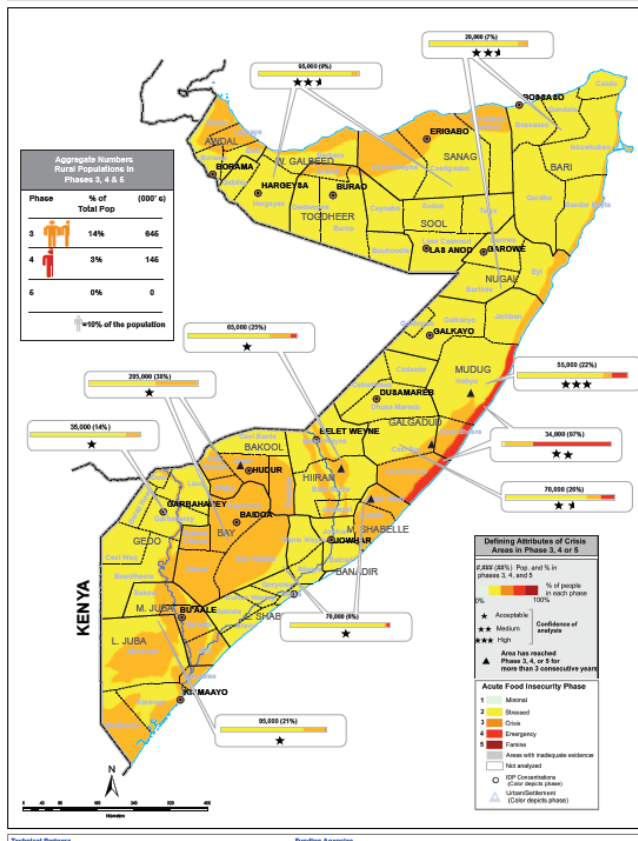
- Formalize the IPC TWG and raise awareness for the ownership by the Government and other national decision makers
- Start IPC activities, starting with building capacity of the TWG and leading acute food insecurity analysis
- Incorporate IPC in the national Early Warning System
- Make the IPC a reference for policy development on food security and nutrition in Rwanda



# Evidence and Standards for Better Food Security Decisions

## SOMALIA

### Implementation process



The Food Security Analysis Unit (FSNAU) pioneered and rolled-out the IPC in Somalia in February 2004 and it has been regularly applied since then, with two acute food insecurity analysis workshops done every year.

The Version 2.0 has been introduced in Somalia in 2012 and the acute food insecurity analysis was led in August.

*Acute food insecurity analysis, August 2012*

### The IPC contribution to decision making

IPC products are used regularly by response agencies, humanitarian country team and funding agencies to evaluate the type and geographic targeting of humanitarian response proposals to ensure needs based programming.

All clusters design their CAP project sheets based on priority areas identified through IPC analysis.

Especially, the famine was declared in July 2011 as a consensus among key humanitarian agencies, orienting the response and coordination of interventions, which allowed to save many lives.

### The Partnership and role of Government

The IPC analysis is led by FSNAU and partners, including FEWS NET, various humanitarian response agencies (WFP, OCHA, international and local NGOs), and de-facto governments of Somaliland and Puntland.

Key information used in IPC analysis includes primary data on nutrition situation, crop production, pastoral conditions, rainfall performance, market prices, wage rates, food expenditure, assets, livelihoods strategies, coping mechanisms, etc. Secondary sources of information include satellite imagery on rangeland conditions (FEWSNET and SWALIM), NOAA and ICPAC climate forecasts; government statistics, WHO health data; admission in health facilities; humanitarian interventions (FSC); population displacement (UNHCR, IASC); conflicts (OCHA).

### The national TWG continues working towards

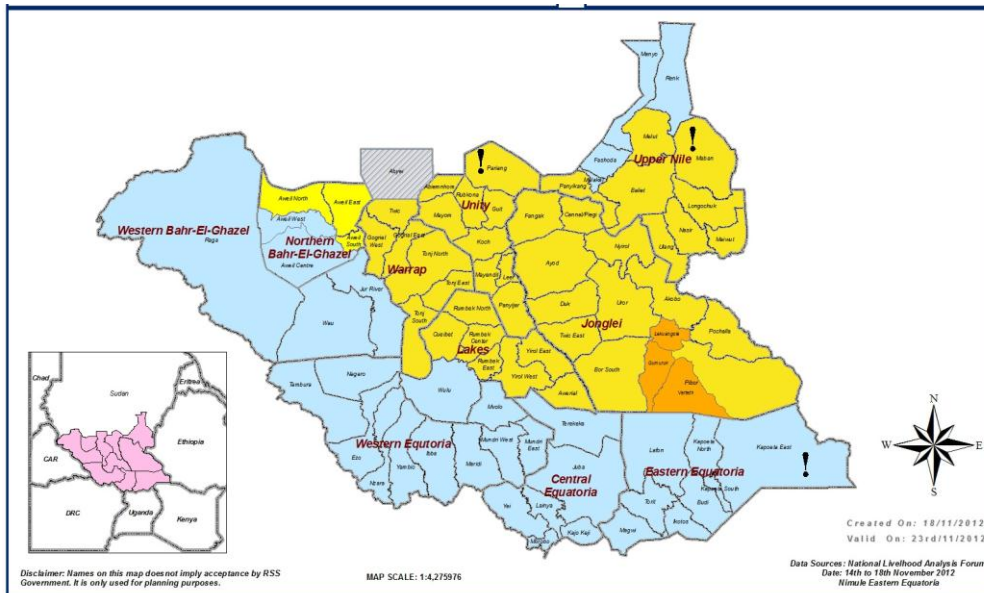
- Institutionalize and increase ownership of partners and government through awareness raising and capacity development
- Widen the use of IPC analysis by response agencies, for example by strengthening analysis through gender and other socio economic indicators
- Improve the early warning component by enhancing scenario development indicators and analysis
- Conduct chronic food insecurity analysis for improved decision making on resilience and disaster risk reduction programmes



# Evidence and Standards for Better Food Security Decisions

## SOUTH SUDAN

### Implementation process



The IPC has been introduced in 2007 and used since 2008 to classify the food security situation at national level. The acute analysis is led four times a year, at the national and state levels.

The version 2.0 has been introduced in 2012 and over 120 persons have been trained on IPC protocols in the ten states, improving their overall knowledge on food security and nutrition.

*Acute food insecurity analysis, November 2012*

### The IPC contribution to decision making

IPC is institutionalized and adopted by the Government as a reliable tool for early warning and decision making.

IPC products are used regularly for response analysis and coordination by FAO, WFP Government and other humanitarian NGOs, especially to target food aid (by WFP), seeds and tools distribution (by FAO).

IPC products feed into the weekly bulletin edited by the Food security Livelihoods Cluster and UNOCHA and it was included in the Humanitarian appeal in October 2012.

### The Partnership and role of Government

IPC is hosted within the National Bureau of Statistics and the chair of the technical working group (TWG) is in the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Cooperatives and Rural Development.

The national TWG is composed of 15 members from different ministries of the government, UN agencies and NGOs.

### The national TWG continues working towards

- Building strong relations with high state authorities will facilitate the full IPC ownership by the Government and all decision makers
- Increase the quality of the analysis by advocating to fill the data availability and quality gaps via line Ministries and National Bureau of statistics and by continued capacity building.
- Chronic food insecurity analysis for orienting long term food security response.



# Evidence and Standards for Better Food Security Decisions

## SUDAN

### Implementation process

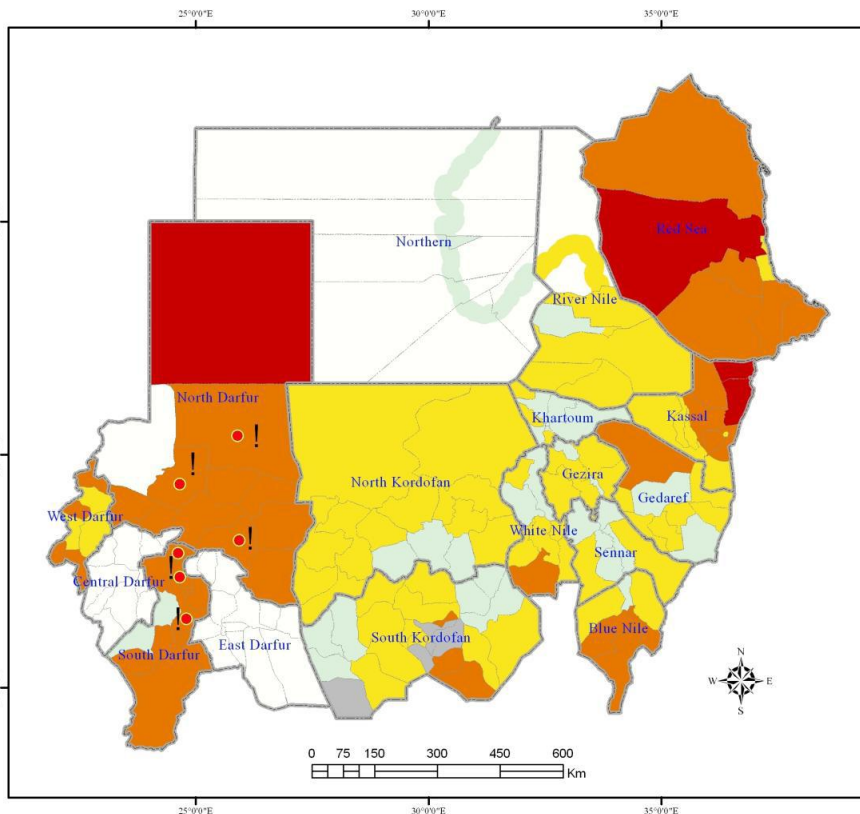
The IPC has been introduced in 2007. Since 2008 the analysis of acute food insecurity has been led four times a year, then twice since 2012.

The V2.0 has been introduced in 2012 and 225 persons have been trained (25 at federal level and 200 in all the 17 states). IPC is institutionalized at the national and state levels.

*Acute food insecurity analysis, August 2012*

### The IPC contribution to decision making

IPC constitutes the reference for decision making for the Government, UN agencies and NGOs. In particular the UN Work Plan 2013 refers to the IPC products.



The Zakat chamber uses IPC in addition to poverty criteria to identify beneficiaries for interventions such as restocking of shoats to venerable people in the East who lost their animals due to drought. The NGO ADRA used the IPC results to implement the creation of water points and interventions to improve pastures in Darfur and other areas, and some agricultural projects for the affected population in phases 3 and 4.

### The Partnership and role of Government

IPC is hosted in the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation via its Food Security Technical Secretariat. The success of the partnership is also emphasized with the support of Humanitarian Aid Commission, Ministry of Animal Resources, FAO, FEWSNET and WFP.

The TWG counts 225 members from different Ministries of the Government, UN agencies and NGOs (25 members at federal level and 200 from 17 states).

### The national TWG continues working towards

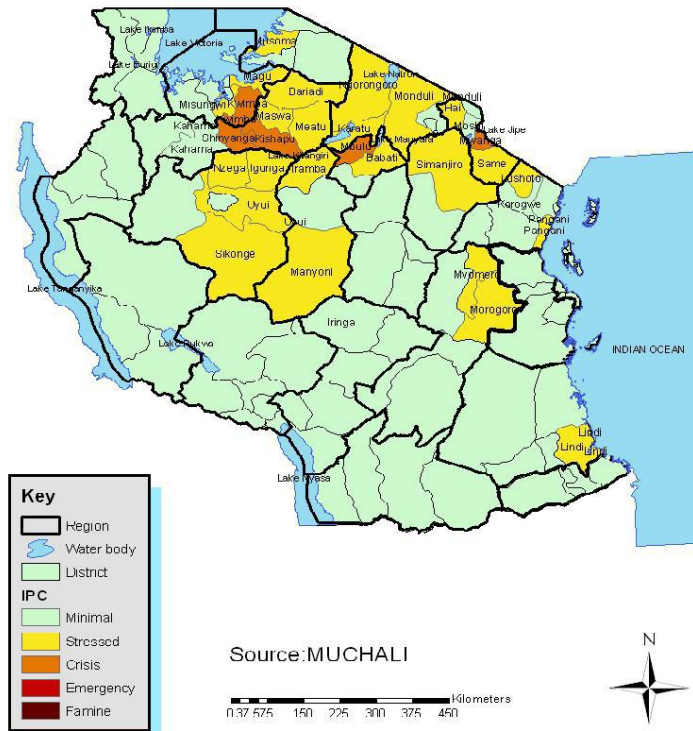
- Increase the quality of IPC analysis by informing on reliability and quality of data and further capacity building.
- Building strong ownership by decision makers will maximize the use of IPC products.
- Chronic food insecurity analysis to inform medium and long term food security response.
- Full ownership by the Government and financial sustainability of the IPC process



# Evidence and Standards for Better Food Security Decisions

## TANZANIA

### Implementation process



The IPC has been introduced in 2008 and the acute analysis is led twice a year at national level, with representatives from the regions.

The IPC V2.0 has been introduced in March 2012 and 32 persons have been trained from the national and regional levels.

The IPC has allowed to integrate multi-sectoral food and nutrition security analysis in a livelihood perspective. It is incorporated in the national food security and nutrition system, MUCHALI.

*Acute food insecurity analysis, October 2012*

### The IPC contribution to decision making

The IPC has been fully institutionalized by the Government and hence become the main decision making reference for food security and nutrition interventions. It is used as a basis for response analysis and coordination of interventions at national

and sub-national levels. For example food distribution to vulnerable populations, nutrition and food access interventions have been informed by the IPC. Furthermore it allowed to identify areas with recurring food and nutrition insecurity to orientate further assessments.

Tanzania National Disaster and Relief Committee (TANDREC), a high level Board composed of Principal Secretaries of relevant Ministries, has used IPC results to prepare responses regularly since 2008.

### The Partnership and role of Government

The IPC is hosted in the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Cooperatives. Prime Minister's Office and FAO are playing a critical role in building capacity and ownership of the IPC by all decision makers.

The TWG counts 44 members, it is composed in majority of members of the Government from different Ministries and national agencies, with participation from Universities, UN agencies (FAO, UNICEF, WFP) and NGOs (Oxfam, Save the Children, World Vision).

### The national TWG continues working towards

- Continuous improvement of the analysis through Livelihoods zoning and profiling
- Increase of the use of IPC for development decision makers (using the information on limiting factors for acute food insecurity, and underlying causes of chronic food insecurity)
- Scaling-out of the MUCHALI framework to all LGAs in the country (to decentralize the IPC process), requiring further capacity building at national and district levels
- Introduce chronic analysis



# Evidence and Standards for Better Food Security Decisions

## UGANDA

### Implementation process

The IPC was introduced in Uganda in 2007 by FAO. The analysis of acute food insecurity has been done twice a year at national level from 2007 to 2011, following the two main agricultural seasons, and on ad hoc basis whenever required or focusing on some areas such as the Karamoja province as needed.

A pilot exercise on the chronic analysis has been led in 2011 but due to a funding gap the acute analysis with Version 2.0 has not yet been introduced.

### The IPC contribution to decision making

IPC products have been very useful in Uganda. Uganda uses IPC products to report on the food security situation to the East African Community Office in Arusha. The IPC has contributed to improve the quality of information by identifying data gaps. As a result food security assessments have been led before the workshops to provide data to feed into the analysis.

In particular the IPC products are used by the relevant national commissioners to inform Members of Parliament on the food security situation.

### The Partnership and role of Government

The IPC is hosted within the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries.

The Technical Working Group (TWG) counts 20 members from Government institutions (Ministry of Water and Environment, Ministry Of Health, Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industries and Fisheries, Uganda Bureau Of Statistics, Office of the Prime Minister), UN agencies (FAO, WFP, UNICEF), NGOs (Save the Children International, World Vision International, OXFAM GB, URCS, Red Cross, ACDI-VOCA, Action Against Hunger), technical agencies (FEWSNET) and Academics (Makerere University, Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics).

### The national TWG continues working towards

- Resuming IPC activities and introducing the V2.0 acute and chronic analysis
- Increased quality of the analysis by further capacity building and by advocating for better data collection
- Increased impact on decision making through high level national dissemination meetings
- Full Government ownership, including transfer of the IPC Secretariat to the Government
- Commitment from relevant institutions
- Ensuring financial sustainability



# Evidence and Standards for Better Food Security Decisions

## LOOKING FOWARD WITH THE IPC IN EAST AND CENTRAL AFRICA

### Where are we going?

The following notes are distilled from a consultative meeting held with representatives from 12 IPC Technical Working Groups (TWG) in Nairobi from November 29-30, 2012. The meeting allowed the country level Technical Working Groups to articulate the direction for the IPC in their country over the coming years. It built on past achievements, challenges and bearing in mind similar plans made in previous regional consultative workshops. The detailed plans will be validated with the other members of the national technical working groups.

## ACHIEVEMENTS SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED

Building on years of implementation, the IPC has achieved to demonstrate

- IPC food security situation analysis products are now regularly developed and form an essential component of early warning systems and coordinated action;
- The IPC process can meet the growing demand for and capacity to deliver evidence based, food security analysis to inform interventions and policies;
- Governments, in particular, are increasingly incorporating IPC as parts of their tools and planning processes;
- IPC has become a true partnership between government, humanitarian, and development actors in building technical consensus around FS analysis;
- IPC has increased the level of professionalism through capacity building and setting international standards;
- IPC was an essential tool to plan the response of the 2011 Drought and Famine in Somalia.

**Ten years ago, comparable descriptions of food security and nutrition conditions were not available.** There was no mechanism to derive consensus on those conditions within countries, let alone an ability to compare conditions across countries. Those mechanisms, processes and products are now there. Moreover, it is now increasingly driven by national agendas.

## LOOKING FORWARD: *RELIEF MEETS DEVELOPMENT*

Despite the different country contexts and the uneven level of implementation amongst them, the 12 IPC TWG identified strategic directions framed around a common vision: ***IPC will be the reference to inform cross-sectoral decisions on food security at country level through enhanced institutionalization in government and partner processes.*** These objectives include:

- Influence decision making more effectively through **more frequent and timely analyses** that influence a broader audience of decision makers;
- Inform **developmental policy and decision making** (in particular through the analysis of chronic food insecurity);
- **Increase the credibility of IPC analysis** by improving the quality of the data used and by promoting stronger linkages to existing national management information systems (MIS);
- **Promote efficiency and reduce implementation costs**
- Increase **local ownership** and promote **decentralization** of the analysis processes

These detailed priorities represent a growing shift from a predominantly humanitarian process to one that is increasingly linked to developmental structures and issues.



# Evidence and Standards for Better Food Security Decisions

## LOOKING FORWARD: *ROLE OF IPC DONORS AND PARTNERS*

### *At the national level*

Opportunities exist for national partners to increase their engagement and support these processes by:

- Participating in TWG sessions on **strategic orientations and planning of activities**;
- Promoting **consensus and impartiality** by ensuring participation in IPC analyses at national or sub-national level;
- Ensuring **quality and comparability** by assisting TWGs to follow the IPC protocols;
- Encouraging **timely analysis and providing data** and information to feed into the analysis;
- Ensuring **continuity of the staff participation** to build expertise and avoid turn-over as much as possible;
- **Contributing technically** (preparation and data organization work) **and financially** (according to the national budget developed by the TWG) to the organization of trainings and analysis sessions;
- Seizing opportunities to participate in both **national and decentralised levels** of training and analysis;
- Participating actively to the **dissemination of results** at various levels **and advocating** based on the results of analyses;
- **Using IPC products** in decision making.

### *At the regional level*

**Strategic external support** is needed from the regional and from the global levels to build on and ensure the sustainability of achievements with a medium-term perspective. This support provided to the national TWGs has evolved to recognize increasing levels of capacity and autonomy and is tailored to the needs of each country. It aims at complementing and supporting the national TWGs to reach their own objectives in line with IPC functions.

The role of the regional level is in particular to ensure :

- **Capacity Building**– Level 1 and 2 certification workshops, implementation of IPC version 2.0 including the introduction of the chronic food insecurity analysis;
- **Quality and comparability** – assist countries to follow the IPC protocols;
- Provide a **regional overview** of food security conditions and facilitate discussion to reconcile analyses of **critical cross-border areas** (i.e. Karamajong cluster, Mendera Triangle, northern Uganda and South Sudan);
- Adequate **advocacy, awareness-raising and information** on the potential and added value of the IPC at the national and regional levels;
- **Targeted financial support** for countries still at initial implementation stages, for specific activities and for special events not budgeted by National Technical Working Groups;
- **Innovation** - explore the potential of IPC processes to contribute to issues such as the measuring changing resilience to drought or other crises;
- Support the **use of IPC information by IGAD** for advocacy, early warning and regional coordination and decision-making purposes;
- Ensuring the linkage between the national TWGs and the Global Support Unit.

This snapshot of the way forward reflects the discussions shared between key stakeholders and TWGs representatives end of November in Nairobi. Each country has prepared a plan, which is now being reviewed by the national TWG to be finalised and validated. Likewise, IPC partners such as ACF, CARE, FAO, OXFAM, Save the Children, WFP and others will consolidate a *roadmap to this way forward*, based on those validated national plans.