

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 is currently at varying stages of implementation in roughly thirty countries in Africa, Latin America, and Asia. The Version 2.0 of the IPC approach and tools has been recently released and implemented in various countries*.

IPC in Yemen – Improving Government Capacity in food security analysis

In Yemen, the **Version 2.0 of IPC was introduced and piloted by** FAO with the support of the IPC Global Support Unit (GSU) and funding from the IPC-ECHO project from November 2011 to December 2012.

Under this project, the IPC **created a coordination forum**, the IPC National Technical Working Group (IPC NTWG), that brings together governmental and non-governmental stakeholders to discuss and analyze food security situations in Yemen. The IPC NTWG was established within **the Food Security and Agriculture Cluster (FSAC)** to ensure multi-stakeholder participation. As a result, the IPC institutional set-up helped define the role of each ministry and organization in food securing monitoring and analysis.

By the creation of the IPC NTWG, the IPC played an important role in **facilitating the food security analysis work** in the country based on secondary data sources obtained from the various food security stakeholders. **IPC Trainings and Analysis Workshops** were organized, and the first analytical products, IPC map and food insecurity overview, were released in August 2012. It is worth mentioning that the analysis work was constrained by lack of data and information that can feed into the IPC analytical exercise. However, the Government stakeholders involved in the IPC process experienced and understood the importance of having adequate data and information, establishing and strengthening a data collection process in the country.

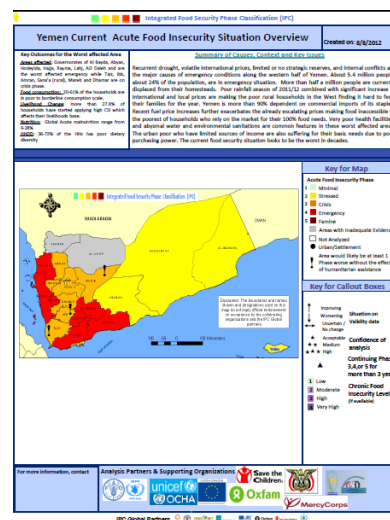
Under this project, Yemen also benefited from **the IPC cross-country learning exercise** with the organization of an experience sharing visit of selected national candidates in East African countries that include Ethiopia and Kenya.

Key Results and Way Forward:

Overall, the IPC pilot project in Yemen, led by FAO, contributed to improving the capacity of relevant Government institutions in food security analysis, specifically by:

1. Establishing a dedicated IPC National Technical Working Group (NTWG);
2. Implementing the strategy for the IPC roll out including identification of the institutional setting, assessment of existing in-country capacity, and organization of IPC training and analysis exercises.
3. Assessing available secondary data and information, and developing a comprehensive report with the recommendations to address the national data and information gap.
4. Raising awareness on IPC with key stakeholders (i.e. decision makers, including the relevant clusters, and technical experts).

At the end of the project, an **IPC roll out strategy was developed to provide the road map and recommendations for a second phase**. The strategy identifies the project components that need to be strengthened to further support IPC activities in Yemen. These include institutional issues, data availability, resource requirement, partnership, and capacity development. The strategy also points out the important role the government could play in coordinating the IPC activities in collaboration with humanitarian partners.



Acute Food Insecurity Situation Overview in Yemen (August 2012)

Full version available on the
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*The IPC is a multi-agency global initiative led by 10 agencies: ACF, CARE, CILSS, FAO, FEWSNET, FSC, EC-JRC, Oxfam, Save the Children, and WFP. FAO, through the Food Security Analysis Unit (FSAU) Somalia, developed and launched the IPC in 2004, and promoted its roll-out in other countries. It also helped form the IPC Multi-Agency Partnership in 2007 and continues to play a key role in steering and coordinating the overall development and application of the IPC. At present, the IPC is supported through a EUR 3.2 million project component out of a four-year grant from the European Commission, within the framework of the wider programme "Improved global governance for hunger reduction", and a 3-year grant of GBP 1.7 million from DFID.