

OVERVIEW

In Asia the IPC took off in 2011 thanks to a regional project funded by ECHO, which provided support in the implementation of country-level IPC trainings and capacity building. IPC was introduced in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Pakistan and Philippines and proved since the beginning its added value by assisting governments and partners in decision making to address food insecurity.

The country-level demand for IPC is currently growing in the Region. New partners have come on board to support the expansion and consolidation of the initiative in new countries and in countries where it has been introduced earlier.

The IPC in the region is coordinated and supported by the **IPC Regional Coordinator (RC) for Asia**, based in Bangkok, who is part of the *IPC Global Support Unit (GSU)* team. The Regional Coordinator also acts as the secretariat for the *IPC Asia Regional Steering Committee (RSC)*, which constitutes of members from the regional food security partner agencies (ASEAN, ECHO, FAO, Save the Children, UNICEF, USAID, WFP, and WHO).

The Region is a pioneer in the implementation of the top priorities of the **IPC Global Strategic Programme**, which has been recently extended until 2018. In particular, between July 2014 and January 2015, the **IPC Chronic Food Insecurity Classification** has been rolled out in Bangladesh, Nepal and Philippines; furthermore a first pilot of the **IPC Nutrition Phase Classification** took place in Bangladesh, in August 2014, while a second pilot will be conducted in Pakistan, in June 2015.

The national capacity on IPC analysis has grown over years through the **IPC Certification Programme**. So far, there are 30 certified **IPC Analysts** in the Region and some of them qualify to be certified as **IPC Trainers & Facilitators**. In addition, the **cross-country fertilization experiences** will enable IPC practitioners to compare procedures, learn and share country practices through participation in IPC analyses and lessons learnt workshops, and gather cross border information.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

> Roll-out of the IPC Chronic Food Insecurity Classification in the Region

In Asia, the IPC-Chronic Classification was rolled out in **3 countries**: Bangladesh, Nepal, and the Philippines. The findings of the chronic analyses are going through a validation process by decision makers. The final clearance will lead to the dissemination of the IPC Chronic Communication Briefs, around mid-2015. Through the IPC Chronic roll-out, the online **IPC Information Support System (ISS)** was also introduced in the Region.

> Piloting the IPC Nutrition Phase Classification in the Region

The IPC Nutrition Phase Classification was first piloted in **Bangladesh** from 13 to 17 October 2014. The pilot was attended by: Government agencies working on nutrition-related issues, FAO, UNICEF, WFP and relevant NGOs. The second IPC Nutrition pilot will be conducted in **Pakistan**, in June 2015.

> IPC Quality and Compliance Review missions in Nepal and Afghanistan

Following the requests from **Nepal** and **Afghanistan** stakeholders, the IPC Global Support Unit undertook a quality and compliance review of the IPC Acute Analyses conducted in the two countries, in mid-December 2014 and early February 2015 respectively. The reviews followed the new IPC Compliance Review Policy and Process recently endorsed by the IPC Global Steering Committee, on 5 December 2014. The IPC GSU is currently following up with the countries to implement the resulting recommendations.



1st IPC-Chronic Analysis Workshop
in Bangladesh, November 2014



NeKSAP/IPC Compliance Review in Nepal,
December 2014



IPC-Chronic Analysis Workshop in the
Philippines, January 2015

WHAT IS HAPPENING AND WHERE?



Countries using IPC in Asia, May 2015

- **Training and certification** of food security experts as **IPC Analysts** and **IPC Trainers & Facilitators** are ongoing.
- **IPC-Acute Level 1 Training** conducted in April 2015 in Bangladesh for the new members of the IPC National TWG.
- **IPC-Acute Level 2 Trainings** conducted in Bangladesh and Pakistan, in June and August 2014 respectively. The IPC Level 2 Training held in Pakistan was attended also by external participants from Afghanistan, Yemen and Tajikistan.
- **IPC Acute Food Insecurity Analysis:** So far, 6 countries in Asia have conducted IPC-Acute activities using the IPC Version 2.0. These are: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines and Tajikistan.
- **IPC Chronic Food Insecurity Analysis** introduced in Bangladesh, Nepal and Philippines, in 2014-2015. While Nepal covered all the provinces in the country, Bangladesh and Philippines covered the parts of the country that are vulnerable to food insecurity and plan to cover other areas in next phases.
- **IPC Nutrition Phase Classification** piloted in Bangladesh in November 2014. A second pilot is expected to take place in Pakistan, in June 2015.
- **Resource partners:** While Bangladesh, Nepal and Afghanistan are either funded by **ECHO** or **EC-DEVCO** for their IPC-related activities, the ECHO fund for Pakistan phased out in 2014. Recently, Pakistan has received funds for IPC activities for the year 2015 from the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) initiative *Delivering Results Together 2013-2016*.

GOVERNANCE AND PARTNERSHIP

The IPC is a multi-agency initiative and its strength lies in its partnership at global, regional and country levels.

At regional level, the IPC initiative in the Region is led by the **IPC Regional Coordinator for Asia** (RC), who is part of the **IPC Global Support Unit** (GSU). The IPC Asia RC, hosted by the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok, is responsible for supporting the implementation of IPC activities in countries, building capacity at national and regional levels and linking with the **IPC Global Support Unit** (GSU), based in Rome. The RC also contributes to the dissemination of IPC products and advocacy, and to the strategic orientation together with partners.

The **IPC Asia Regional Steering Committee** (IPC Asia RSC) is currently composed of eight major regional stakeholders: ASEAN/AFSIS, FAO, ECHO, Save the Children, UNICEF, USAID, WFP and WHO. The core objective of the IPC Asia RSC is to advise, endorse, oversee, support and advocate for the products and services described in the IPC Strategic Programmes at global and regional level, in order to ensure programme quality, sustainability and institutional ownership.

At country level, the **IPC Country Technical Working Groups (TWGs)** are the main driving force of IPC. They are all working in partnership to meet the IPC main goal: influencing decision makers, improving policies and programmes and promoting food security across Asia.

The national IPC TWG consists of food security analysts



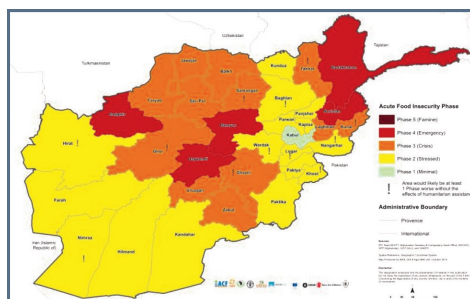
IPC-Acute Level 2 Training in Bangladesh, June 2014

from a variety of sectors and organizations, including Government, UN agencies, national and international NGOs, academic and technical agencies. It is usually chaired by the Government and embedded in relevant existing institutions and networks.

At global level, the **Association of Southeast Asian Nations** (ASEAN) closely collaborates with the IPC Global Partnership. Furthermore, discussion between the **South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation** (SAARC) and the IPC GSU on possible synergies took place in November 2014, with a positive note. However certain pre-conditions have to be met in order to formalize the membership of SAARC. This link at the global level would help ensure that specificities of the Asian context and interests of the regional and national partners contribute to the ongoing global normative development and strategic direction of the IPC.

SUCCESS STORIES

IPC in Afghanistan



Afghanistan Projected Acute Food Insecurity Analysis, November 2014 - March 2015

The IPC Version 2.0 was introduced in Afghanistan in August 2011 with the financial support from **ECHO** and led by FAO through the Food Security and Agriculture Cluster (FSAC). A Technical Working Group, named **Afghanistan Food Security Technical Team (AFSTT)**, was formed, including members from central and provincial agencies. With the shifting of funding source to **EC-DEVCO** in April 2014 and with the objective of institutionalize IPC within the Government, the IPC core team was moved to the Ministry of Agriculture Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL) of the Government of Afghanistan.

AFSTT has been carrying out IPC analyses since 2012 in all 34 provinces. So far, five **IPC-Acute Analyses** have been conducted in Afghanistan. The last national-level analysis took place in mid-

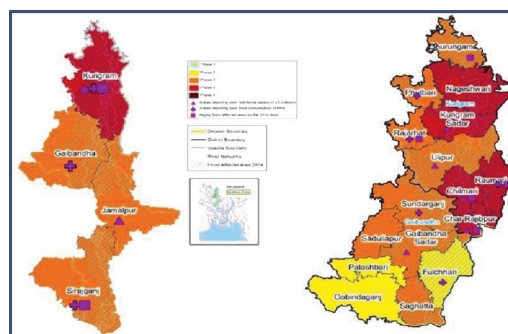
September 2014. Apart from the analyses, the IPC activities in Afghanistan also focus on strengthening of the **analytical capacity** of the AFSTT members using IPC global standards.

The IPC Global Support Unit is providing extensive support to the country to develop the **IPC Country Strategy 2014-2018**. The longer term goal of this strategy is that IPC is used in Afghanistan by decision makers and it becomes sustainable and institutionalized within the Government, linking with information systems.

IPC in Bangladesh

The IPC in Bangladesh is hosted by the Food Planning and Monitoring Unit (FPMU) of Ministry of Food, while the operational support is provided by FAO Bangladesh. IPC Acute activities in the country are funded by **ECHO**. Since the inception of the IPC V2.0, the country is conducting at least one round of Acute Analysis in the disaster and poverty prone districts during the agricultural lean season of the year or in post disaster situations.

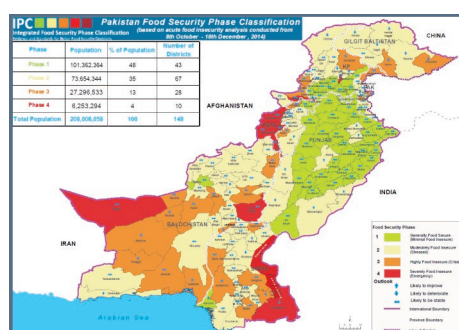
So far, Bangladesh has conducted four IPC-Acute Analyses. The most recent acute analysis was held in August 2014: it was a **post-flood analysis** in the northern parts of the country. For the severely flood affected areas, the analysis was carried out at district level. The findings from this analysis were used by INGOs and NGOs to promote post flood rehabilitation programmes.



Bangladesh Current Acute Food Insecurity Analysis, September - December 2014

Following the successful application of the IPC-Acute Analysis, the **IPC Chronic Food Insecurity Classification** was piloted in Bangladesh in November 2013 and the roll-out was initiated in June 2014. Bangladesh is also the first country in Asia where the **IPC Nutrition Phase Classification** was piloted, in September 2014.

IPC in Pakistan



Pakistan IPC Current Acute Food Insecurity Analysis, October - December 2014

The IPC activities in Pakistan are administered by FAO Pakistan with the support of the **Ministry of National Food Security and Research and National Disaster Management Authority** at federal level, while at provincial level it is led by the **Provincial Planning and Development Departments**.

The Technical Working Groups (TWGs) are formed at national and provincial/regional level and include members from various government departments, IPC Global Partners, local NGOs, and academia.

It takes few months to complete the analyses in all the provinces. The complete analysis is then reviewed and approved by the IPC National TWG. The **analysis results** are shared both at central and provincial

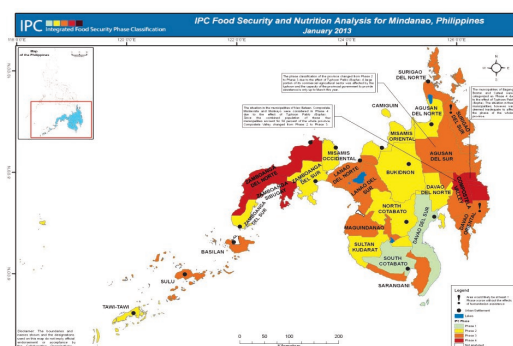
level and are widely used by Government departments and stakeholders in decision making at all levels. In 2015, Pakistan is also planning to conduct the **IPC Nutrition pilot** and the **IPC-Chronic Analysis**. Both activities will be supported by the IPC GSU.

IPC in Philippines

IPC in the Philippines is led by the National IPC Steering Committee and overseen by the **National Nutrition Council**, the institutional home of IPC.

The IPC Acute analysis in Philippines is need-based. Since the adoption of IPC, the Philippines have conducted 3 trainings back-to-back with acute analysis. The first IPC-Acute Analysis workshop was conducted in November 2012, starting with 25 of the most at-risk provinces located in Mindanao. This workshop was immediately followed by another analysis in February 2013, as **typhoon Bopha** severely hit some of the provinces of Mindanao.

After **typhoon Haiyan** hit 3 regions of the country in November 2013, IPC again provided the platform for objective food security analysis, aiding identification of the most at-risk provinces. The IPC analysis also highlighted the impact of humanitarian aid and response across various geographic areas in emergency situation. The IPC Acute Analysis and findings were also used by development organizations and donors in the preparation of their disaster assessment reports and helped design responses toward recovery and reconstruction. Philippines is also one of the three countries in Asia where the **IPC-Chronic Classification** was piloted, in 2013, and rolled out, in late 2014. The IPC-Chronic Analysis is ongoing.



IPC-Acute Analysis used in the response planning after typhoon Bopha hit the Philippines, January 2013

LOOKING FORWARD

Various country governments are utilising IPC analysis for response and programme planning, while also working to ensure that IPC becomes an integral part of existing national frameworks.

The IPC partnership has established strong linkages among various government ministries, agencies, local organizations, and academic institutions which are part of the country Technical Working Groups or the Regional Steering Committee. IPC activities are implemented in the framework of the **Asia IPC Regional Strategic Programme**, which is fully aligned with the **IPC Global Strategic Programme (2014-2018)**.

Institutionalization and sustainability of IPC tools and procedures still remain one of the major priorities of the IPC Regional Strategic Programme (2014-2018). The IPC Global Support Unit is strategically engaging with countries to address concerns and issues that may threaten the sustainability of IPC, both technically and process wise.

In particular, the IPC GSU is planning to focus its support to the region on three major areas: 1) **Technical and strategic guidance** for a sustainable application of IPC in the countries that are regularly conducting IPC Analyses (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan and Philippines; 2) **Introduction of IPC** in new countries, following the global standards and strategic guidelines; and 3) **Strengthening the IPC Asia RSC**, involving Regional Bodies.

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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