

## OVERVIEW

East and Central Africa Region was the starting point for the worldwide implementation of IPC. Currently, most of the countries in the Region conduct IPC Acute Food Insecurity Analyses, including: Burundi, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda.

Building on years of implementation, IPC has become a reference in the region for evidence-based and comparable food security analysis. This has been achieved through a partnership among government, humanitarian and development actors in building technical consensus. IPC products form an essential component of country early warning systems and are used by national Governments, donors and the humanitarian community for both emergency interventions and development policies. For instance, in 2014 IPC played an active role in building evidence-based technical consensus on the severity of the food insecurity crisis in South Sudan and Central African Republic, under specific emergency situations due to the civil war. This is critical as coordinated and unified messages help decision makers move forward and respond strategically, in a timely way.

IPC activities in countries are led by multi-partner IPC Technical Working Groups, chaired by governments, and technically supported by IPC Regional Coordinators. The IPC initiative in the region is guided by a multi-agency IPC Regional Steering Committee, embedded in the regional Food Security and Nutrition Working Group (FSNWG), and chaired by the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD).

After two regional projects funded by ECHO, the IPC has proved its relevance and sustainability as it continues to be implemented and institutionalized within Governments, thanks to the contributions from national and regional partners. The **IPC Certification Programme** is building in the Region a sustainable pool of IPC analysts and trainers. This is part of a strategic orientation, together with continuous progress in strengthening the partnership, institutionalization, and leadership of the Government, and increasing impact on decision-making both at national and regional levels.

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS

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

In the Region, the **IPC Chronic Food Insecurity Classification**, designed to complement the IPC-Acute Classification, was rolled out between July 2014 and January 2015 in 3 target countries: Burundi, Kenya, and Uganda. The 3 countries have completed their IPC-Chronic Analyses early this year. As part of the roll-out, the IPC team has been working with the governments and development partners of the selected countries to effectively link the results of the IPC-Chronic analysis with medium- and long-term programming and policy aimed at addressing chronic food insecurity.

### > Piloting the IPC Nutrition Phase Classification in the Region

The development agenda of the **IPC Nutrition Phase Scale** includes 3 rounds of country pilots. In ECA, the Nutrition Classification, which will be integrated in the IPC-Acute Analysis, was piloted in Kenya, South Sudan, and Central African Republic between August 2014 and February 2015.



IPC-Chronic Level 2 Training in Tanzania,  
May 2014

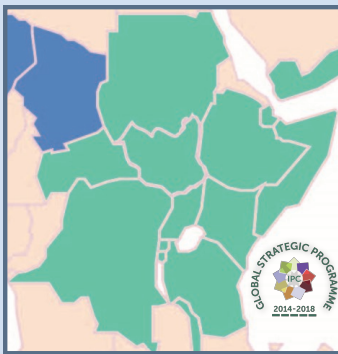


IPC-Acute Analysis in South Sudan,  
August 2014



IPC-Chronic Analysis in Uganda,  
January 2015

## WHAT IS HAPPENING AND WHERE?



Countries using IPC in ECA,  
May 2015

In addition to **Somalia**, where it was developed, IPC was introduced in **Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda** in a first phase in 2007-2008 thanks to financial support from ECHO, DFID and CIDA. During a second phase in 2009-2011, funded by ECHO, the IPC was consolidated in these countries, introduced in **Central African Republic, Sudan and South Sudan**, and piloted in **Ethiopia**. Progress in the implementation has been ongoing since then, and **Djibouti** introduced the IPC at the end of 2011. **Rwanda** made the first steps of implementing IPC in May 2014 by constituting and training the National IPC Technical Working Group. To date, Rwanda has conducted the first IPC-Acute Analysis in January 2015.

IPC activities conducted by National Technical Working Groups (TWGs) in the Region include:

- **Awareness Raising** events and consultations (at national and subnational levels)
- IPC Level 1 training for **IPC Analysts** (at national and subnational levels) and Level 2 training for **IPC Facilitators and Trainers**
- **IPC Acute Food Insecurity Analysis** (at national and subnational levels) on a regular basis (2 to 4 times a year) and updated as needed
- Roll-out of the **IPC Chronic Food Insecurity Classification Scale**
- Presentation and **discussion of results of IPC Acute and Chronic Analyses with decision-makers**
- **Cross-country exchange on IPC activities** such as IPC (Level 1 and 2) Trainings facilitation and IPC-Acute Analysis support
- Contribution to the improvement of **IPC product use for response analysis**.

## GOVERNANCE AND PARTNERSHIP

The IPC is led at regional level by the **East and Central Africa Regional Support Unit (RSU)** and the **IPC Regional Steering Committee (RSC)** embedded within the FSNWG based in Nairobi, and at national level by the IPC Technical Working Groups (TWGs). These three bodies are all working in partnership to meet the goal of the IPC: influencing decision makers, improving policies and programmes and promoting food security across the region.

The national IPC TWG is a group of food security analysts from a variety of sectors and organizations, including Government, UN agencies, national and international NGOs, Academics and technical agencies. It is usually chaired by the Government and embedded in relevant existing institutions and networks.

**At regional level**, two **IPC Country Technical Support Officers** are 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)* in Rome. It also contributes to the dissemination of IPC products and advocacy, and to the strategic orientation together with partners.

The IPC RSC is embedded since 2007 in the **Food Security and Nutrition Working Group (FSNWG)**, a regional platform for sharing information and bringing together a broad number of stakeholders for



IPC Analysis in Bangui Boukoko, CAR, May 2012

advocacy and response, and co-chaired by IGAD since December 2011. The RSC is currently composed of 9 major regional stakeholders: **ACF, CARE, EC-JRC, FAO, FEWS NET, IGAD, Oxfam, Save the Children, and WFP**. The main objectives of the RSC are high-level strategic advice, oversight and advocacy in order to ensure accountability, programme quality, sustainability, institutional ownership and participation.

**At global level**, the regional initiative is represented by **IGAD**. The collaboration between IGAD and the IPC Global Partnership helps ensure that specificities of the East and Central Africa context and interests of the regional and national partners contribute to the ongoing normative development and strategic direction of the IPC globally.

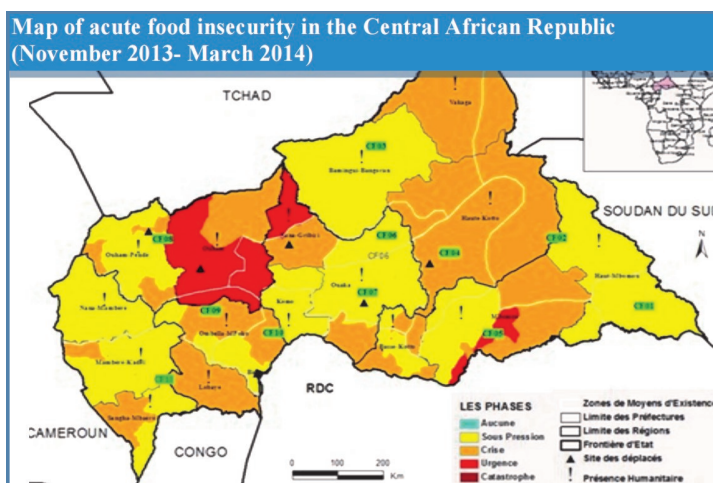
# SUCCESS STORIES

## IPC in Central African Republic

The IPC has been introduced in CAR in 2008. The Technical Working Group (TWG) conducts acute food insecurity analyses twice a year. Overcoming many challenges, including data availability and volatility of security situation, IPC products have become the reference for food security decision making for the Government, the humanitarian community and other stakeholders.

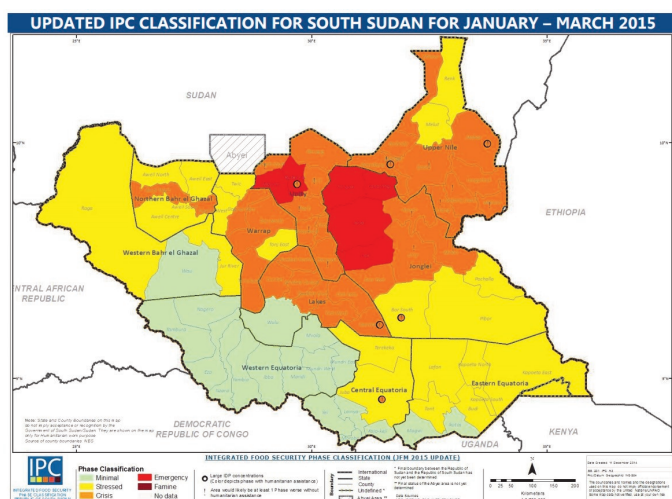
The Food Security Cluster uses IPC as its core tool for vulnerability assessment and several partners are using IPC products as a common language to respond to acute food insecurity issues. The IPC has proved its importance in providing timely early-warning information in a changing context.

Due to sharply deteriorating food security situation in CAR, decision makers requested to update the IPC analysis conducted in November 2014. IPC allowed **best use of available information** – but data gaps limited the confidence level of analysis and population estimates and led to the inability to classify certain areas. However, deterioration of the situation was clearly measurable and agreed by IPC National Partners.



IPC Current Acute Analysis in CAR, Nov 2014 - Mar 2015

## IPC in South Sudan



IPC Projected Acute Analysis in South Sudan, Jan-Mar 2015

In South Sudan, the IPC has been introduced in 2007 and used since 2008 to classify the food security situation at national level. The version 2.0 has been introduced in 2012. IPC is currently institutionalized and IPC products are used regularly for response analysis and coordination by FAO, WFP, Government and humanitarian NGOs, especially to target food aid, seeds and tools distribution. In particular, IPC is playing an active role in building **evidence-based technical consensus on the severity of food insecurity in South Sudan**.

In May 2014, the South Sudan IPC Technical Working Group (SS IPC TWG) led a month-long security analysis involving more than 60 members from State and National Levels. Due to the sensitivity and severity of the food and nutrition security situation, the IPC Global Support Unit activated a

panel of leading food security experts who conducted an independent review of the preliminary findings and provided recommendations to the SS IPC TWG. The results of the analysis were officially endorsed by the Government of the Republic of South Sudan through a Cabinet Resolution. Such coordinated and unified messages help decision makers move forward and respond strategically, in a timely way.



## SUCCESS STORIES

### IPC in Uganda

The IPC was introduced in Uganda in 2007. The TWG conducts the IPC Acute Food Insecurity Analysis twice a year or when required. The IPC implementation and the related capacity-building at decentralized levels have improved the overall knowledge of food security and nutrition within the TWG members. IPC is institutionalized and adopted by the Government as a reliable tool for early warning and decision making. The decentralization process started in Karamoja region, where food security is especially volatile. Four analyses have been conducted in this region to better orient decision makers.

Two pilots of Response Analyses linked to IPC have been conducted in the country. These pilots showed the comparative advantages of structuring the response analysis based on IPC results, which makes it easier to identify priorities and facilitate the coordination of strategic response efforts.

Uganda is also one of the 3 target countries in the Region that have conducted the **roll-out of the IPC Chronic Food Insecurity Classification**, in November 2014.

## LOOKING FORWARD

Over years of implementation, the IPC has proved its relevance in different national contexts, becoming a strong regional initiative. The IPC national and regional partners have developed a Regional Strategic Programme, which has been extended till 2018, to guide the development of the IPC over the next years. This includes in particular:

- ♦ **Further institutionalization and integration** of the IPC into existing institutions
- ♦ Roll-out of the new **IPC tools for chronic food insecurity analysis**, to contribute to a better linkage of relief and development interventions
- ♦ Enhancement of the **IPC Certification regional campaign** to establish a sustainable and autonomous capacity-building mechanism in countries
- ♦ Encourage **decentralization of the analysis process** and **use of the IPC Information Support System (ISS)** to facilitate both analytical process and dissemination of results
- ♦ Further **reduction and sharing of the costs** among national partners to ensure full sustainability of the IPC
- ♦ Explore **further opportunities to engage with decision-makers** in order to increase impact on emergency and development decisions and links with response analysis.

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.



With the support of  
THE BELGIAN  
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION



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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