

IPC in Asia 2013



IPC Brief

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Integrated Food Security Phase Classification Evidence and Standards for Better Food Security Decisions www.ipcinfo.org

OVERVIEW

After several past IPC consultations and exercises in the region, the IPC took off in Asia in 2012 with a regional project funded by ECHO which provided country level IPC training and capacity building support. This initiative proved successful as it demonstrated that the IPC was well suited to the Asia context and added value by assisting governments and partners in decision making to address food insecurity. As a result government and country demand for IPC is growing in the region and new partners have come on board to support the IPC initiative in the region.

The IPC initiative is now guided by a multi-agency *IPC Regional Steering Committee (RSC)* consisting of nine major regional food security partners and led by ASEAN. *The IPC Asia Regional Support Unit* (RSU) based in Bangkok, is part of the *IPC Global Support Unit* (GSU) network, and is providing technical coordination support to countries in the region and to the *IPC Asia Regional Steering Committee*. The *IPC Asia Regional Steering Committee* is currently working on the development of an IPC Asia Strategic Programme (2014-2016) that is linked to the IPC Global Strategic Programme (2014-2016) and will the priorities, objectives and plans for IPC activities in the region over the next three years.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- An *IPC Asia Regional Steering Committee* has been established, composed of 9 key regional stakeholders in the field of Food security (ASEAN, FAO, WFP, Save the Children, UNICEF, USAID and ECHO). Two new members (ADB and World Bank) are expected to join very soon.
- The Regional IPC Project funded by ECHO covering 6 countries started in 2012 was successfully completed in March 2013. IPC activities are continuing through other projects or through partners' financial contributions, including from Government.
- Asia is strongly contributing to the development of the IPC tools for Chronic Food Insecurity analysis and will have piloted the new classification scale in 3 countries by the end of the year.
- Achievements to date:
 - Key 9 countries have implemented IPC activities in Asia
 - 0 14 IPC Level 1 training workshops led with IPC V2.0
 - 0 12 analysis products released with IPC V2.0
 - **370 persons** trained in Level 1 (IPC analyst)
 - 0 27 persons trained in Level 2 (IPC trainer and facilitator)
 - 7 IPC Country Technical Working Groups (TWG) established



IPC Partners in Pakistan, September 2012



IPC Chronic Pilot in the Philippines, Feb-Mar 2013

IPC Partners in Asia:













WHAT IS HAPPENING AND WHERE?



• There are a number of typical IPC activities carried out at the country level, depending on the exposure and extent of experience in IPC in the countries. These activities include:

O Formation of IPC National Technical Working Group

IPC Awareness Raising Workshops (National & Provincial levels)
Identification and training food security experts as IPC Analysts (Level 1) and IPC Facilitators and Trainers (Level 2)
Study tour for IPC TWG members to other countries

◊IPC Analysis of Acute or Chronic Food Insecurity

IPC Implementation Map - Asia 2013

- Nine countries in Asia have had IPC activities with IPC Version 2.0 released in 2012, these are Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines and Tajikistan.
 - In Afghanistan the IPC was introduced in 2011 thanks to an ECHO funded project. It has been leading 3 analysis rounds and is continuing activities.
 - In Bangladesh, Cambodia, Pakistan and Philippines the IPC was introduced in 2012 thanks to an ECHO-funded regional project. All countries have established and trained a TWG and completed at least one analysis round. Activities are continuing.
 - In Tajikistan the IPC has been introduced in 2010 with the active lead of WFP and the Government, and regular analysis of acute food insecurity is usually led three times a year at decentralized level.
 - Nepal has also been using the IPC tools since 2010 under leadership of NeKSAP and WFP.
- Other countries have expressed interested in IPC and are engaging in IPC consultations and awareness-raising activities, including Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Lao PDR, and more recently India.

GOVERNANCE AND PARTNERSHIP

The IPC is a multi-agency initiative and its strength lies in its partnership at global, regional and national levels. In 2012, the IPC took off thanks to a regional project funded by ECHO and implemented by FAO, in consultation with the regional and national IPC partners.

The IPC is led at regional level by the IPC Asia Regional Support Unit (RSU) and the IPC Asia Regional Steering Committee, and at national level by the IPC Country Technical Working Groups (TWG). They are all working in partnership to meet the goal of the IPC: influencing decision makers, improving policies and programmes and promoting food security across Asia.

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 the IPC Asia RSU, hosted by FAO 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) in Rome. It also contributes to the dissemination of IPC products and advocacy, and to the strategic orientation together with partners.

The *IPC Asia Regional Steering Committee* (RSC) is currently composed of nine major regional



IPC Technical Working Group of Cambodia, October 2012

stakeholders: ASEAN / AFSIS, FAO, ECHO, Save the Children, UNICEF, USAID, WFP and WHO. In addition, the ADB and WB are expected to join by October 2013. The core objective of the IPC Asia RSC is to address the need for high-level strategic advice. endorsement. oversight. support and advocacy in order to ensure accountability. programme quality, sustainability, institutional ownership and participation.

At global level, the regional initiative is represented by ASEAN who will soon join as an official member of the *IPC Global Steering Committee*. This link and membership at the global level will help ensure that specificities of the Asian context and interests of the regional and national partners contribute in the ongoing normative development and strategic direction of the IPC globally.

SUCCESS STORIES

IPC in Philippines

The Philippines' first IPC exercise was successfully conducted in November 2012, led by the National IPC TWG and overseen by the National Nutrition Councill Philippines Government. Typhoon Bopha hit the east coast of Mindanao in the south of the Philippines a few days after the conclusion of the IPC acute analysis in Mindanao. As part of IPC's aim of providing rigorous and timely analysis of the food insecurity situation, the IPC TWG conducted a second round of analysis in February 2013 in the areas most affected by typhoon Bopha.



IPC Acute Analysis in the Philippines, October 2012

Due to the widespread destruction of assets, resources and the effect on agricultural production and water sanitation, it could have been reasonably expected that these areas would have been in Phase 4. However, the quick and efficient response, involving coordination and actions between the Philippine Government, UN agencies, NGOs and the donor com-munity resulted in assistance being provided early and in places where it was most needed. The IPC analysis also highlighted the impact of humanitarian aid and response across various geographic areas in emergency situation and the consequences of any change in assistance levels. The IPC analysis and findings was utilized by government agencies as well as development organizations and donors in their response planning and are also being currently utilized in development of longer term responses.

IPC in Nepal



IPC Chronic Analysis in Nepal, September 2012

The NeKSAP (Nepal Food Security Monitoring System) jointly developed by WFP and the Government of Nepal has been using the IPC version 1.1 based tools for analysing and classifying acute food insecurity in the country and is already well established across Nepal up to the district level. This district-level system is currently going through a review process to apply the new IPC Version 2.0 approach.

An IPC Chronic Food Insecurity Analysis for the whole country was conducted for the first time in September 2012 under leadership of the Ministry of Agriculture Development. The results

have provided feedback and lessons learned to further develop the IPC chronic food insecurity scale and tools.

IPC in Afghanistan

August 2011: the IPC was introduced in Afghanistan as part of an ECHO funded and FAO led action. An **Afghanistan Food Security Technical Team (AFSTT) was established** from a need to build a strategic approach to tackling emergency food security issues. AFSTT was able to carry out three acute IPC analyses which allowed to classify the rural food security situation in 16 provinces of Afghanistan.

Two months later, the FSAC's (Food Security and Agriculture Cluster) assessment results were integrated in the analysis, and the IPC map coverage extended to 26 provinces. During 2012, more than 60 experts were trained on IPC at national level as part



IPC Acute Analysis in Afghanistan, October 2012

of the AFSTT. More than 100 staff of various UN agencies, INGOs/NGOs and Government in IPC at regions and will be trained and be part of IRTGs. So far, 60 IRTG (IPC Regional Technical Group) members are trained in the 4 completed training sessions.



Across Asia, the IPC provides standardized analysis of food insecurity





Bangladesh Acute Analysis, December 2012

Pakislan Acule Analysis, March 201

Next Steps

The IPC has established **strong linkages** between various government ministries, agencies, country and regional level organizations, Academic institutions which are part of the country level Technical Working Groups or the Regional Steering Committee.

Various **country governments are utilising IPC analysis** in response and programme planning; while also working to ensure the IPC tool becomes an integral part of exiting national frameworks.

The Regional and national partners are developing a

Strategic Programme to guide the implementation of the IPC in the region over the next three years (2014-2016).

It includes objectives for the institutionalization and integration of the IPC into existing institutions and frameworks, the contribution to the technical development of the tool at global level, the continuous and autonomous strenghtening of technical capacity at national and decentralized levels, and direct engagement with decision makers to ensure impact on decisions and policy development.



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