

OVERVIEW

Central America and the Caribbean is the latest region where the IPC is being introduced. The process of introducing the IPC started with Honduras in May 2010. Since then, IPC trainings and analyses have taken place in four other countries: Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Haiti.

In all these countries, different food security institutions and partners, including National Governments, have expressed interest in the IPC as a way to strengthen decision making related to food security. The regional inter-governmental body of Central America, *Sistema de la Integración Centroamericana* (SICA), through its *Regional Food Security and Nutrition Programme for Central America* (PRESANCA), is supporting the IPC initiative regionally in the introduction and training of IPC in SICA countries, and as well is collaborating at the global level in the development of the new *IPC Chronic Food Insecurity Classification*. PRESANCA is an active member of the *IPC Global Chronic Working Group* which is leading the development of this tool, and SICA in August 2013 was invited to join as an official member of the *IPC Global Steering Committee*, to help strategically set the vision and direction of IPC globally.

The IPC initiative in this region is now overseen, since April 2013, by a multi-agency *IPC Regional Technical Working Group*, consisting of representatives of the participating agencies and IPC partners. The *IPC Regional Technical Working Group* is currently working on the development of an *IPC Regional Strategic Programme* (2014-2016) that is linked to the *IPC Global Strategic Programme* (2014-2016) and will set the priorities, objectives and plans for IPC activities in the region over the next three years.

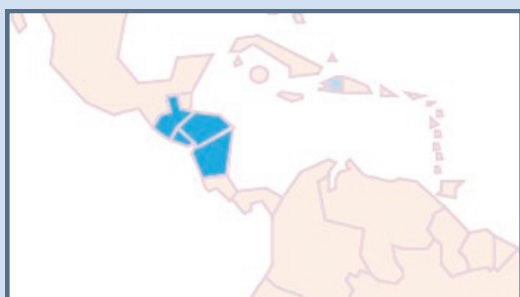
KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- *IPC Regional Technical Working Group* includes member of the Regional Working Group on Food Security (WFP, FAO, CARE, Save the Children, World Vision International, UNICEF) and other regional IPC partners, including FEWSNET, Oxfam, IFRC, ACF, Spanish Red Cross, INCAP, ECHO, AECID and PRESANCA.
- Regional IPC Activities, funded by EC and DIFID, cover 5 countries, started in 2012 and are on-going, with contributions from regional partners and governments in the organisation in IPC workshops.
- The Region is strongly contributing to the development of the IPC tools for **Chronic Food Insecurity analysis** and piloted the new classification scale in Honduras in 2013, with an additional pilot to be confirmed by the end of the year. SICA-PRESANCA is an active member of the *IPC Global Working Group of the Chronic Scale*, working towards the technical finalization of the tool.
- **Achievements to date:**
 - ◊ 7 IPC Level 1 trainings organized in the four Central American Countries: two in El Salvador and one training each in Nicaragua, Guatemala and Honduras.
 - ◊ 250 people from different organizations including Government, NGOs and UN trained in the IPC.
 - ◊ 5 IPC Acute analyses conducted: Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Haiti.



IPC pilot of the Chronic Food Insecurity Scale in Honduras, March 2013

WHAT IS HAPPENING AND WHERE?



IPC Implementation Map - Central America and Caribbean 2013

- 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:
 - ◊ **Awareness raising exercises**, leading to IPC training and analysis in all 5 targeted countries
 - ◊ **IPC Level 1 training at regional level**, held in Panama
 - ◊ Identification and training food security experts as **IPC Analysts (Level 1 Certifiable)** and **IPC Facilitators and Trainers (Level 2 Certifiable)**
 - ◊ **IPC Analysis of Chronic Food Insecurity** piloted in Honduras, and another is planned later this year
- Five countries in Latin America and the Caribbean have had IPC activities using IPC Version 2.0 released in 2012, these are El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua:
 - ◊ In **El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua**, starting in February 2012
 - ◊ In **Haiti** the IPC has been introduced in February 2013, with the first pilot analysis at departmental level in April. The first full IPC analysis was completed at the national level in June 2013.
- While Acute IPC Analysis remains pertinent to the Region, partners and stakeholders found that chronic analysis is particularly relevant to provide information to decision makers in Latin American and the Caribbean. Regional Partners (SICA-PRESANCA) are actively involved in the development of the IPC Chronic analysis scale.

GOVERNANCE AND PARTNERSHIP

IPC governance and coordination structures and support are quite new to the region, and are only now being set-up and form as the IPC activities progress from awareness raising and training, to actual IPC implementation and analysis. There is now an **IPC Regional Coordinator**, based in Panama, present in the region since December 2012. He is supporting the coordination of IPC activities at the regional level, and provides coordination and technical support to countries, including awareness raising activities, training and technical support to analysis workshops. Additionally, the IPC Regional Coordinator works to ensure consistency of IPC activities in the region with the Global Programme, through consultation with the IPC Global Support Unit (GSU).

In April 2013, a multi-agency IPC **Regional Technical Working Group (TWG)** was formed to guide and oversee the IPC initiative in the region. TWG, consisting of representatives of the participating agencies and IPC partners, is integrated with the work of the Regional Working Group on Food Security, based in Panama. IPC Regional Technical Working Group includes member of the Regional Working Group on Food Security (**WFP, FAO, CARE, Save the Children, World Vision International, UNICEF**) and other regional IPC partners, including **FEWSNET, Oxfam, IFRC, ACF, Spanish red Cross, INCAP, ECHO, AECID** and **PRESANCA**.

The *IPC Regional Technical Working Group* is

currently working on the development of an *IPC Regional Strategic Programme* (2014-2016) that is linked to the *IPC Global Strategic Programme* (2014-2016) and will define priorities, objectives and plans for IPC activities in the region over the next three years.

Two countries in the region, **Haiti** and **Honduras**, have formed IPC TWG, which are chaired by the government, with a multi-partner membership and that are leading the IPC work. In the other countries, Country IPC TWGs are still under formation; however, IPC country activities have been undertaken with a mix of technical expertise found within already existing national frameworks and or food security networks/bodies.

At global level, the regional initiative is represented by **SICA** through **PRESANCA** who were invited to soon join as an official member of the *IPC Global Steering Committee*. The participation to the IPC Global Steering Committee will ensure that activities at the Global level can be accurately informed through Regional experiences and that the implementation of the IPC programme is responsive to the regional needs. The region is strongly contributing to the development of the IPC tools for Chronic Food Insecurity analysis and **PRESANCA** is an active member of the *IPC Global Working Group* of the Chronic Scale, working towards the technical finalization of the tool.

SUCCESS STORIES

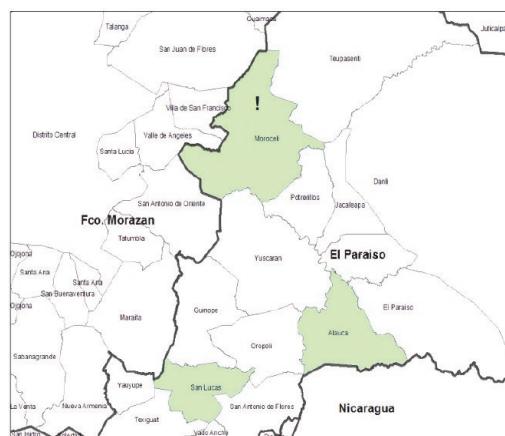
IPC in Honduras

Honduras is the country in the Region where the IPC process is most advanced, with the first training and acute analysis were led in Tegucigalpa in May 2010. The IPC is now being introduced at sub-national level by creating the necessary capacity in the *Mesas SAN* (Food and Nutrition Security Roundtables) to do analysis.

In Honduras, the strategic plan for development (Plan Nación) assigns the responsibility of food security matters to sub-national structures called *Mesas SAN* (Food and Nutrition Security Roundtables). Relevant stakeholders including municipal governments, representatives from key National Government institutions at department level, international organizations and civil society take part in the *Mesas*.

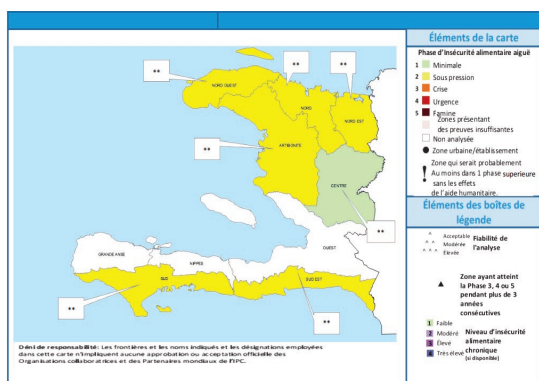
For this reason, the IPC is being introduced at sub-national level by creating the necessary capacity in the *Mesas* to do analysis. So far three *Mesas* have been trained in the IPC and one of them, the one covering the Golfo de Fonseca Region, is currently producing regular IPC acute analysis.

Their work has contributed to convince the National Government on the potential usefulness of the IPC. The Government has expressed its intention of adopting the IPC as an add-on to its system of food security information.



IPC Current Acute Analysis Honduras , February 2013

IPC in Haiti



IPC Current Acute Analysis in Haiti, July 2013

Haiti was the first country in the Caribbean where IPC was introduced, starting from February 2013. Two Level 1 trainings were completed in the country in 2013, between March and June.

In that same period, two acute analyses were carried in Haiti, both at departmental and national level. The short term objective of the TWG is to take the IPC analysis to a higher spatial resolution level and be able to classify sub-departmental units of analysis.

The long term objective is to produce timely analysis to use in decision making in the country, providing a relevant tool that meets the needs of national stakeholder, within the framework of the *Group Technique de Sécurité Alimentaire et Nutritionnel* (GTSAN), the coordination group for organizations working in the food security sector in Haiti.



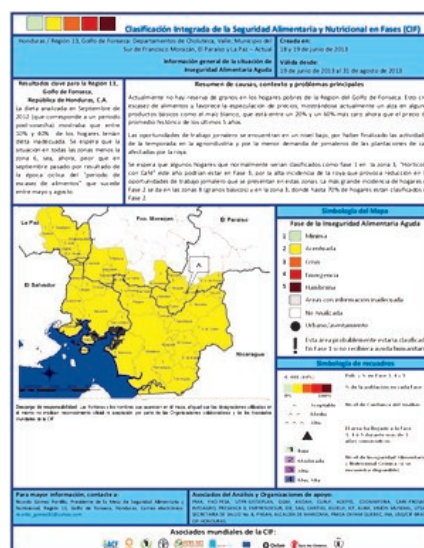
IPC pilot of the Chronic Food Insecurity Scale in Honduras, March 2013

LOOKING FORWARD

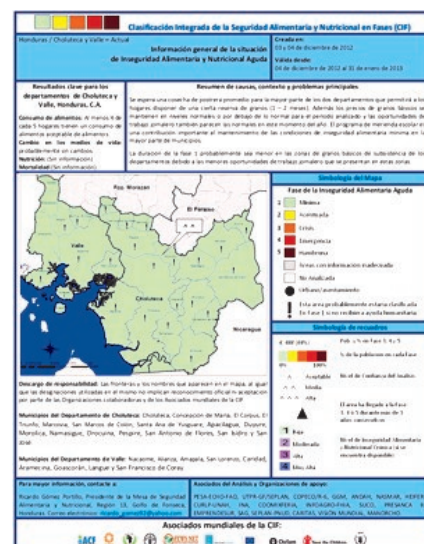
Being the latest region introducing the IPC, Central America and the Caribbean has quickly moved from an awareness raising phase to actual IPC implementation, with training, acute analysis and piloting of chronic analysis. As the region is still new to the IPC, IPC technical experience and capacity is still very limited and weak, therefore building this capacity and experience will be a high priority, as well as technically supporting countries to undertake IPC analysis and generate quality IPC products for use in decision making.

IPC Governance and coordination mechanisms will continue to be strengthened to ensure a multi-partner supported, owned and guided IPC initiative in the region. The *IPC Regional Technical Working Group* is working to finalize the IPC Regional Strategic Programme (2014-2016) that is linked to the IPC Global Strategic Programme (2014-2016) and this will set the priorities, objectives and plans for IPC activities in the region over the next three years.

SICA's strong collaboration at the Global Level on the development and roll-out of the IPC Chronic Food Insecurity Phase Classification will continue, thus ensuring the tool is applicable and relevant to the region. The Region will continue to contribute to the Technical Development of the IPC tools and procedure, as well as strengthening their links to the IPC Global Partner initiative through SICA membership to the *IPC Global Steering Committee*.



IPC Acute Analysis in Honduras, Dec 2012



IPC Acute Analysis in Honduras, Jun 2013

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 has been, and is, made possible by the support of:



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