

Key Outcomes for the Worst affected Area

Food Consumption: Food Consumption pattern is very poor for most of the four Districts under analysis: more than 30 percent of households consumed poor and borderline food against a national average of 15 percent.

Hazards: In Kurigram and Sirajganj Districts respectively over 80 and 40 percent area is adversely affected by the flooding occurred in August 2014. Riverbank erosion is another disaster affecting the livelihood of people living on the banks of the main rivers. Notably, these communities suffer from high level of chronic poverty and poor access to sanitation, especially in Kurigram District.

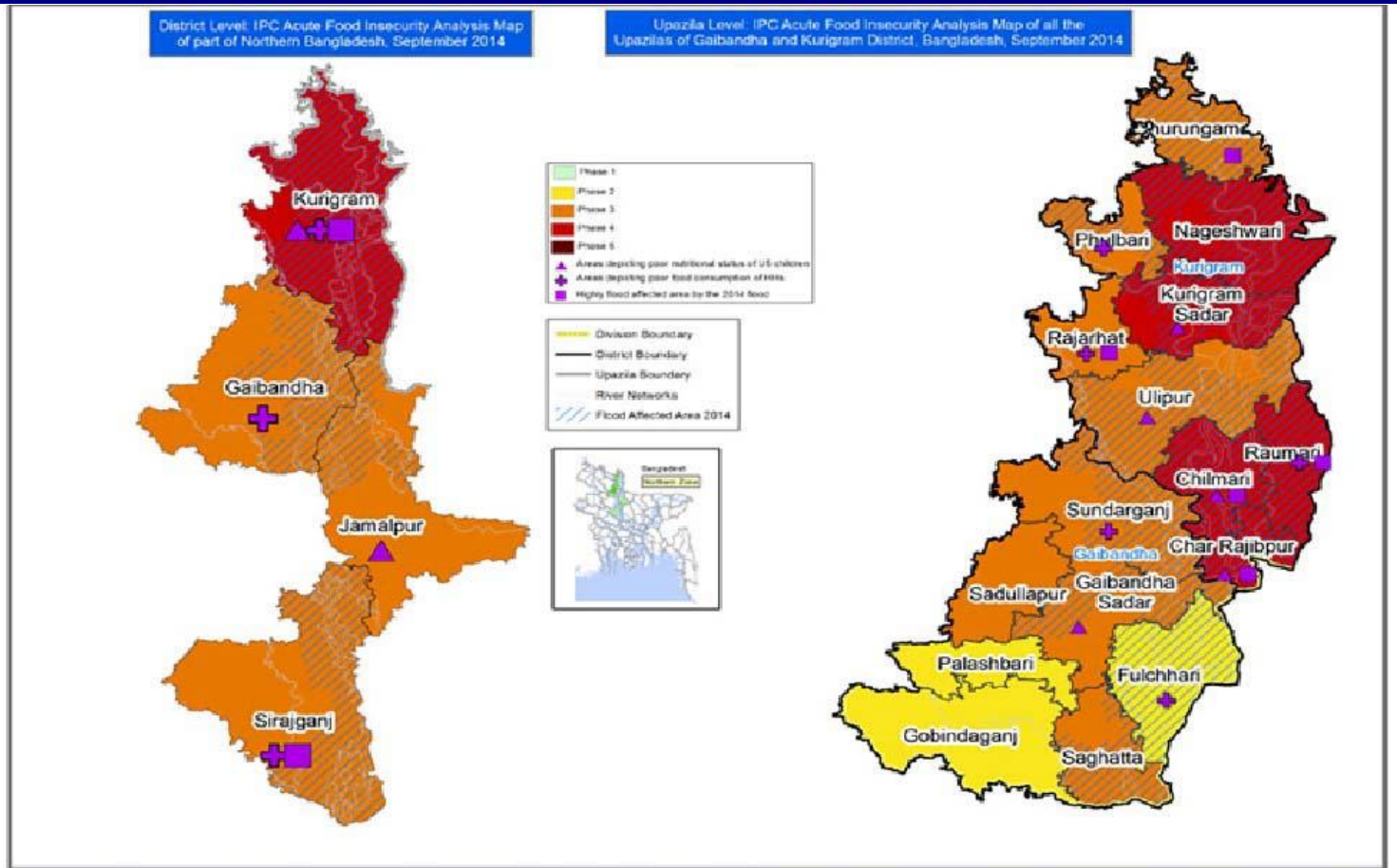
Child Malnutrition: Wasting is very high for Char Rajibpur, Chilmari, Kurigram Sadar and Ulipur Upazila, ranging from 15 to 18 percent.

Summary of Causes, Context and Key Issues

The IPC analysis of current acute food insecurity situation of September 2014 covered four riverine Districts in the Northern part of Bangladesh, namely Kurigram, Gaibandha, Sirajganj and Jamalpur, as they were the most adversely affected by the river flooding occurred in August 2014. Kurigram resulted as the worst affected District and is classified in Emergency phase 4 while Gaibandha, Sirajganj and Jamalpur are classified in Crisis phase 3.

This Analysis also covered 16 Upazilas, nine in Kurigram and seven in Gaibandha Districts. In the Kurigram District, five Upazilas, namely Char Rajibpur, Kurigram Sadar, Nageshwari, Chilmari and Raomari, are classified as Emergency phase 4; while four, i.e. Bhurungamari, Phulbari, Rajarhat and Ulipur are classified in Crisis phase 3. In the Gaibandha District, four Upazilas are classified in Crisis phase 3, namely Saghata, Gaibanda Sadar, Sadullapur and Sundarganj Upazila; while Palashbari, Gabindogonj and Phulchari are classified in Stressed phase 2.

Overall, food insecurity remains very high, especially in Kurigram, due to inadequate physical and financial access, extreme poverty, stressed livelihood.



For more information, contact
Mr. Feroz Ahmed,
National IPC Coordinator
(feroz.ahmed@fao.org),
Cell: +88 01681576971



IPC Global Partners: GACE, UNICEF, WFP, FAO, Oxfam, etc.

Part 2: Summary of Findings, Methods, and Next Steps

Key Findings and Issues

Availability and Access: Most of the Northern Districts and Upazilas have a surplus in rice production, while they have deficits in fish, eggs, meat and milk production. This suggests that while the availability of staple food (rice) is not an issue, diversification of food production represents a big challenge. Agriculture is the major source of employment within the Districts under analysis. In this context, seasonality in agricultural employment greatly affects income opportunities of day laborers and extreme poor. This couples with high price of non-rice food items such as fish, meat, egg and so. Food access is therefore an important concern for a huge number of low income groups, especially the day laborers.

Utilization: Access to improved sanitation facilities and clean water sources is very poor for most of the Districts. As a result, the people living in the areas suffer from high prevalence of water borne disease and worm contamination above national average. Lack of awareness, poor knowledge on nutrition and hygiene practices, and inherent gender discrimination within both households and society are among the main determinants contributing to poor food utilization status.

Livelihood change: During the flooding, crop land and homesteads deluged with water and cause severe damage to standing crops. Small and marginal farmers and agricultural daily laborers lose their income and employment. Flood water brings huge silt and sands and cultivable lands lose its productivity because of thick sand accumulation. As a result small and marginalized farmers are compelled to become day laborers. Households affected by flooding in the same north–west region in September 2012 reported the adoption of the following coping strategies: distressed assets selling; migrating to non-affected areas to find work opportunities (e.g. as agricultural day labor, rickshaw puller, household help and non-agricultural day labour); advance selling of labor; taking loans from NGOs and Mohajans (local moneylenders) and borrowing from relatives; reduction in meal frequency and size. Analysis revealed that income opportunities may be greatly hampered due to the 2014 flooding and consequent river erosion. Fish production is also negatively affected. Fully and partially damaged households create insecurity of the poor and extreme poor. The crops, household water, and sanitation facilities are damaged, and people are fixing the immediate losses. This proportion of extreme poor people will be in distress as they do not have their own land and might have to migrate to meet their emergency needs.

Child Malnutrition: The districts and upazilas analyzed structurally suffer from the alarming level of acute malnutrition, especially Char Rajibpur, Chilmari, Kurigram Sadar, Ulipur and Gaibandha Sadar. The current situation of acute malnutrition may further deteriorate since water and sanitation system damaged seriously.

Methods, Process & Key Issues

The IPC analysis took place during 14th September- 17th September 2014. The analysis used secondary information from various sources. The information was then organized according to IPC outcomes (Food consumption, livelihood change, Nutritional status & Mortality) and contributing factors as per the IPC analytical framework. Major secondary sources included Food Security and Nutrition Surveillance Project (FSNSP) findings, Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS), JNA Report 2014, Jamalpur Survey Report 2014, Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS), Terre des homes (TDH) reports and so on. Based on data availability, the analysis included experts from agriculture, livestock, nutrition, food security, statisticians, engineers, economists and other person familiar with IPC analysis. This map is produced through technical consensus between all members of the TWG. This IPC acute analysis is a snapshot of current situation, regardless of the causes, context or the duration. However, the findings can be valid for 3 to 6 months if there is no remarkable shocks or huge response.

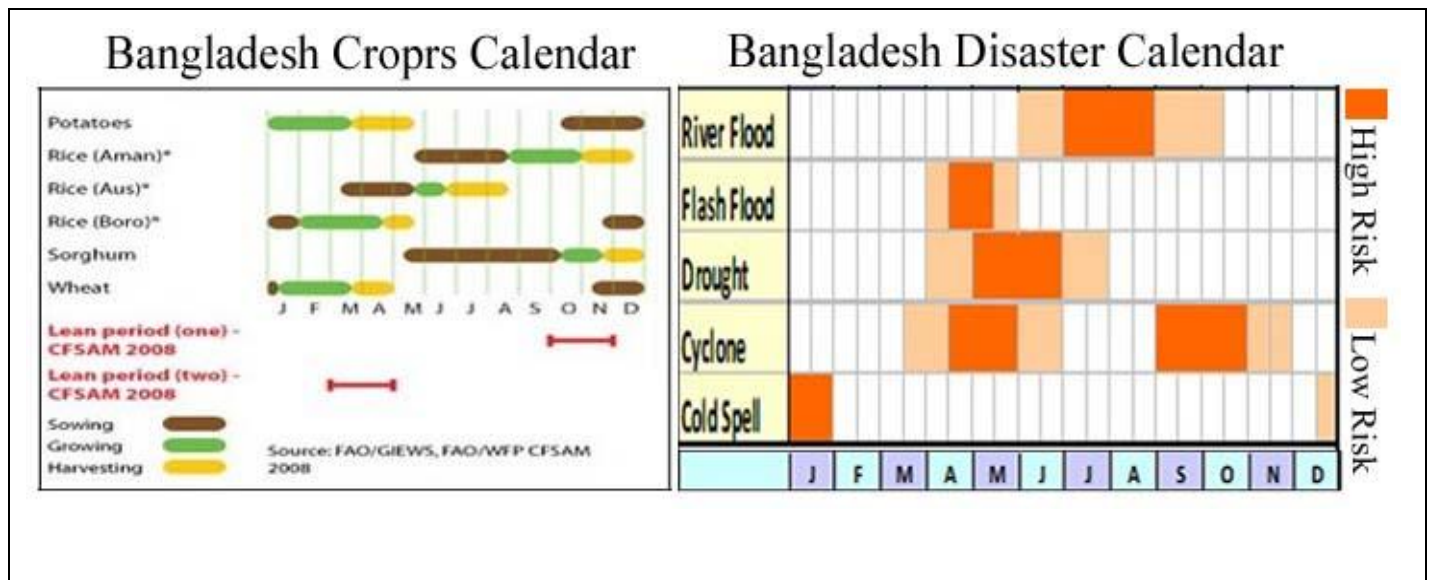
Limitations

- Inadequate and obsolete data at the time of the analysis on some indicators especially at Upazila Level.
- All relevant data was not available for Kurigram Sadar Upazila. So Kurigram district level data were considered for some of the indicators during analysis.

Food Security Seasonal Calendar and Monitoring Implications

Risk factors to monitor

- Market prices, which are expected to increase as stocks get depleted coupled with the poor purchasing power of the majority of households
- Human and livestock diseases expected to raise
- The availability of safe water and sanitation facilities, and the availability of health care services



Recommendations for Next Steps for Analysis and Decision-Making

- Standardize and harmonize the data collected by different partners. The coordination mechanism should clearly identify and set the timing
- Disseminate information to policy makers for action

Contact for Further Information

Mr. Feroz Ahmed, National IPC Coordinator (Feroz.Ahmed@fao.org), Cell: +88 01681576971
IPC Global Support Unit: www.ipcinfo.org

Part 3: Population Tables

Detailed Population Table by District and by Upazila

District	Upazila	Total # of People	Phase 1		Phase 2		Phase 3		Phase 4	
			# of PP	% of pp	# of PP	% of pp	# of PP	% of pp	# of PP	% of pp
Sirajgonj		3197402	639480	20	1119091	35	1119091	35	319740	10
Jamalpur		2366626	354994	15	1064982	45	709988	30	236663	10
Gaibandha		2456000	368400	15	859600	35	982400	40	245600	10
Kurigram		2136019	320403	15	534005	25	747607	35	534005	25
Upazilas of Kurigram	Kurigram Sadar	322485	48373	15	64497	20	112870	35	96746	30
	Nageshwari	406975	40698	10	142441	35	122093	30	101744	25
	Bhurungamari	239006	35851	15	71702	30	95603	40	35851	15
	Phulbari	165419	16542	10	57897	35	66168	40	24813	15
	Rajarhat	188883	28332	15	66109	35	75553	40	18888	10
	Ulipur	407955	40795	10	142784	35	183580	45	40795	10
	Chilmari	126803	19021	15	31701	25	44381	35	31701	25
	Raomari	202753	30413	15	50688	25	60826	30	60826	30
Char Rajibpur		75740	11361	15	18935	25	22722	30	22722	30
Upazilas of Gaibandha	Fulchhari	170667	34133	20	68267	40	42667	25	25600	15
	Gaibandha sadar	451373	90275	20	135412	30	157980	35	67706	15
	Gobindaganj	531298	79695	15	239084	45	132825	25	79695	15
	Palashbari	252688	37903	15	113710	45	75806	30	25269	10
	Sadullapur	296697	59339	20	103844	35	103844	35	29670	10
	Saghata	276458	55292	20	82937	30	110583	40	27646	10
	Sundarganj	476820	71523	15	166887	35	166887	35	71523	15

In total, 48% of the total population (4895094) is classified in Humanitarian phase that is phase 3 or worse, of which 35% are in crisis phase 3 and 13% in emergency phase 4 that is around 3559086 and 1336008 people, respectively.

Brief description of the Districts

Sirajgonj: Sirajgonj district is situated adjacent to the river Jamuna. The district is very vulnerable to river erosion and flood. Around 40 percent area of Sirajgonj district was affected by the 2014 flood. In Sirajgonj 39 percent of the population is poor and 23 percent is extremely poor. Around 35 percent of total population use improved sanitation. In the 2014 flood, around 68 percent crops have damaged severely and 29 percent moderately. Half of the population of Sirajgonj districts consumed poor and borderline food.

Jamalpur: Jamalpur district is surrounded by the river Jamuna and old Brahmaputra. Around 41 percent area of Jamalpur is prone to river flood and in 2014, 25 percent of the total population was affected by flood. Over 50 percent population lives below upper poverty line & 34 percent below the lower poverty line. The global acute malnutrition rate is 14 percent. Only 25 percent people have access to improved sanitation.

Kurigram: Kurigram District is located in the northern region of Bangladesh along the border of India. Heavy rainfall is usually observed during the rainy season in here. Total 98 percent of the area is prone to river flood. Over 82 percent of total land area affected by the September 2014 flood (Water supply damaged was 81 percent, Sanitation damaged 87 was percent and Crops severely damaged 62 percent). Poor people affected most by disaster, among of them 78 percent are Agriculture day labor. Over 30 percent households consumed poor and borderline food. Around 44 percent population is extremely poor and 64 percent of the population is poor.

Gaibandha: There are numbers of Chars in Gaibandha district, which stays inundated for a certain period of time every year. Moreover, scarcity of work in lean season is a problem for the district. Around 30 percent of the population lives below the poverty line and 31 percent households consumed poor & border line food. The acute malnutrition rate of Gaibandha is 11 percent.

Brief description of the areas classified in Phase 3 or worse

Upazila of Kurigram

Kurigram Sadar: In Kurigram Sadar, 58 percent is poor and 40 percent is extreme poor. The global acute malnutrition rate is 15 percent. Only 28 percent people use sanitary latrines, 47 percent of households do not have latrine facilities. Overall food production is not sufficient for the local requirement. Due to poor infrastructure and poor communication people face problems all the year round, especially in the period of natural disaster.

Nageshwari: Around 76 percent people depend on agriculture. In 2014, 89 percent of total areas have been affected by flood. 65 percent of the population is poor and 45 percent of the population is extremely poor. One third of total children of this upazilla are underweight. 29 percent population use improved sources of sanitation.

Bhurungamari: The whole Bhurungamari upazila is prone to river flood. 25,000 hectares of land has already been submerged in the recent flood. Around 73 percent crops of the 63 unions of Kurigram are severely damaged. In Bhurungamari, 65 percent are poor and 45 percent are extremely poor. 41 percent people have access to improved sanitation facilities whereas the national average is 56 percent. Household with poor and borderline food consumption is 27 percent. Wasting of under five children is 13 percent.

Phulbari: Main source of income is Agriculture (74 percent) and it is noteworthy that a considerable proportion of crops are damaged by recent flood which triggered the people to change their livelihoods temporarily. Here only 5 percent of the dwelling households have access to electricity. Improved sanitation it is worse only 20 percent use sanitary latrines & 48 percent of households do not have latrine facilities. In 2014 flood 63 percent area has inundated. At present 49 percent population lives below upper poverty line & 68 percent population under lower poverty line. As per the JNA report of kurigram the 40 percent fisheries and 20 percent livestock are damaged.

Rajarhat: Around 22 percent people have access to improved sanitation it is alarming that 39 percent of households do not have latrine facilities. The upper poverty line and lower poverty line is 68 percent and 49 percent, respectively. This upazila is historically under “Monga” affected upazila. Access to nutritious food items is very limited for the low income group.

Ulipur: Most of the people depend on agriculture, but they're 45 percent people who are landless, 46 percent is extremely poor. Around 31 percent of the population fall under poor and border line in food consumptions, 85 percent area of the upazila is affected by recent floods. Only 34 percent people have access to sanitary latrines and 47 percent of households do not have latrine facilities.

Char Rajibpur: Wasting is 18 percent, extreme poverty is 48 percent and upper poverty is 68 percent. In recent flood, affected population is 77 percent and affected area is 100. Only 13 percent households have access to improved sanitation, 22 percent of the households do not have latrine facilities, 3 percent of the dwelling households have access to electricity.

Chilmari: Around 61 percent people live in upper poverty line and 41 percent live in extreme poverty. Wasting is 16 percent. Only 31 percent people use improved sanitation. Most of the people depend on agriculture, after recent flood, people lose their crops and houses & livestock's. The natural disaster turns people from poor to very poor. Most of the people face malnutrition due to low income and lack of awareness. Overall food security is very bad in this area. Poor communication, illiteracy accelerates the process of deprivation from nutrition, health and sanitation.

Roumari: In recent year, 82 percent of land inundated. People losses their assets and life's. Here 57 percent people live in upper poverty and 36 percent live below the lower poverty line. Only 17 percent households have access to improved sanitation. Households with poor and board line food consumption in Roumari are 37 percent. Terms of Trade (ToT) is 6.5 in Roumari upazilla which is considerably low.

Upazila of Gaibandha

Gaibandha Sadar: Around 96 percent of this area is prone to river flood. However, 28 percent people live below the poverty line and 14 percent households have access to improved sources of sanitation and 86 percent have access to improved water sources. The low income group has limited access to nutritious foods. The proportion of households fall into the poor & border line FCS is 29 percent. Wasting rate is 14 percent, which is higher than national average.

Sadullapur: Over 50 percent population lives in upper poverty line and 31 percent population lives below the lower poverty line. The proportion of households fall into the poor & border line FCS is 21 percent. If any hazard occurs the situation may further deteriorate.

Saghata: In 2014, 75 percent area has affected by flood. Around 34 percent population live below the lower poverty line and 53 percent population live in Upper poverty line. Except the main staple food rice, there is a huge gap in production of main protein sources like Fish, Egg, Milk and Meat. Availability of all the protein sources is way lower than that of the National and District average.

Sundarganj: Around 60 percent of the area was affected by the 2014 flood. However, 37 percent of the households in Sundargonj Upazila are in poor and border line FCS group and 29 percent of its population living below the lower poverty line. Access to improve sanitation & drinking water respectively in Sundargonj Upazila is 58 percent & 74 percent, both of which are below national average.

General Recommendations

For Phase 3 and above urgent action required to:

- Protect livelihoods, reduce food consumption gaps, and reduce acute malnutrition (Phase 3)
- Save lives and livelihoods (Phase 4)