

OVERVIEW

Since the early 2000s, the **Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel** (CILSS) has been engaged in the development and testing of the *Harmonized Framework for the Analysis and Identification of Areas at Risk and Vulnerable Groups in the Sahel*, more commonly referred to as the **Cadre Harmonisé** (CH). Initially the CH was tested in six countries (Burkina, Chad, Senegal, Mali, Mauritania and Niger), with further on-going technical developments and refinement of the tools and process.

In the last two years, technical developments of the CH tools and processes have led to increased similarities and convergence between the IPC and the CH. The IPC Global Support Unit (GSU) and other IPC Global Partners are working closely with the **CILSS Technical Committee of the Harmonized Framework**, which is leading to cross-regional lesson learning and the harmonization of the *Cadre harmonise* (CH) and the IPC.

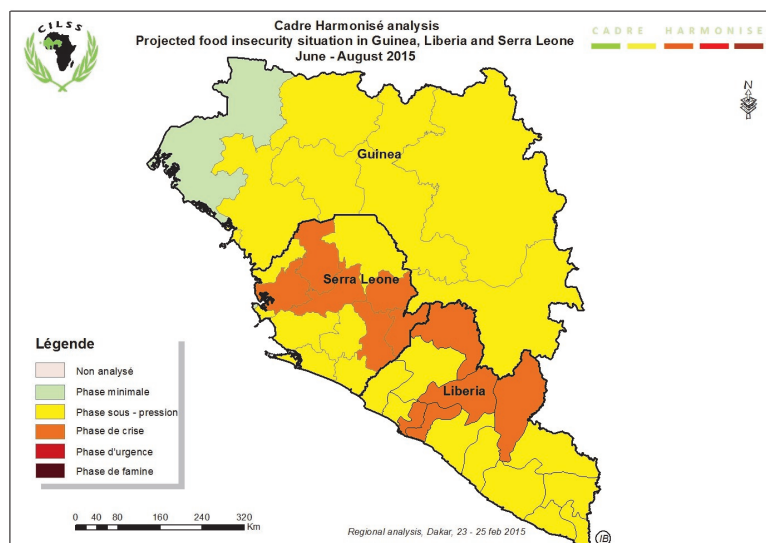
Ivory Coast initially took up the IPC and implemented it from 2007 to 2012. As a new member of the CILSS, Ivory Coast adopted the CH as its official methodology in 2013.

ECOWAS has selected the *Cadre Harmonisé* (CH) as the harmonised tool for food security analysis in the Sahel and West Africa, comprising of **16 countries**. The CH provides tools for the classification, analysis, and reporting of food insecurity, as well as joint approaches for undertaking monitoring, assessments, data collection, and database management.

The IPC is currently supporting the technical development and testing of CH tools and procedures in the Region, including the CH Manual finalized in 2013. Recent technical developments have led to increased similarities and convergence between the IPC and the CH.

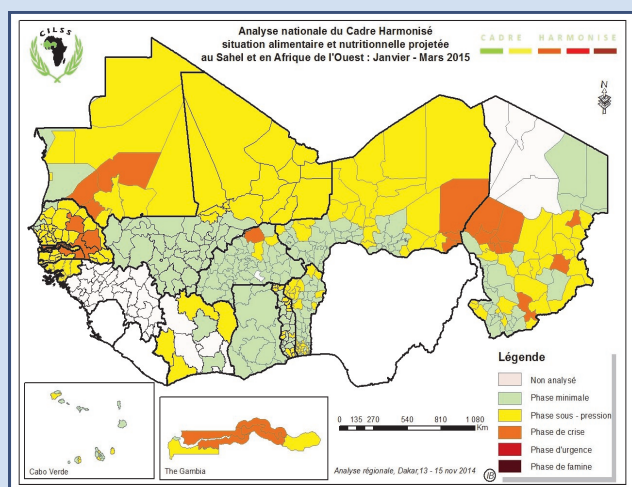
KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Over 350 people trained** in the CH in Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Chad, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Ivory Coast, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Republic of Guinea, Senegal, and Togo, starting from October 2012.
- Discussions initiated with **Nigeria** for further implementation of the CH in the states of the northern part of the country.
- CH has been used in 2015 to **assess food security** in countries hit by **Ebola virus**.



CH Food security analysis
in countries hit by Ebola,
June - August 2015

WHAT IS HAPPENING AND WHERE?



Cadre Harmonisé Regional Food Security and Nutrition Analysis in Sahel and West Africa – January - March 2015, projection made in November 2014

There is convergence between the IPC and the CH tools and procedures, sharing the same Analytical Framework. The IPC is supporting the technical development and testing of CH tools and procedures in the region, specifically:

Cadre Harmonisé tools and procedures underwent validation tests in **6 CILSS countries (Burkina, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, and Senegal)** in October/November 2012 leading to the drafting of a *Cadre Harmonisé* Methodological Note.

Since then, **8 further countries** joined the CH, with training and analysis starting in 2013 and 2014. The countries are: **Benin, Cape Verde, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Ivory Coast, Republic of Guinea, and Togo**. The CH analysis for **Liberia and Sierra Leone** were conducted in Dakar, with the support of key experts from the two countries, but proper National Technical Working Groups are not yet formed in Liberia and Sierra Leone.

National Technical Working Groups were formed in **14 countries** (6 initial countries plus the other 8 joining the CH in 2013 and 2014).

GOVERNANCE AND PARTNERSHIP

Both CH and IPC are **multi-partner** initiatives, and regional members of the IPC Global partners participate in the CH process, including FAO, WFP, FEWS NET, Oxfam, ACF, Save the Children, and the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission. Similarly to the IPC, the *Cadre Harmonisé* aims to **inform decision makers** and guide action and response within the Region. The CH has been selected by ECOWAS as the harmonised tool for food security analysis in the Sahel and West Africa, comprising of 16 countries and as the official tool to trigger ECOWAS regional food reserve mobilization. This reserve will be in place in 2015.

The CH process is guided by a **Steering Committee** including regional **IPC partners** (such as WFP and

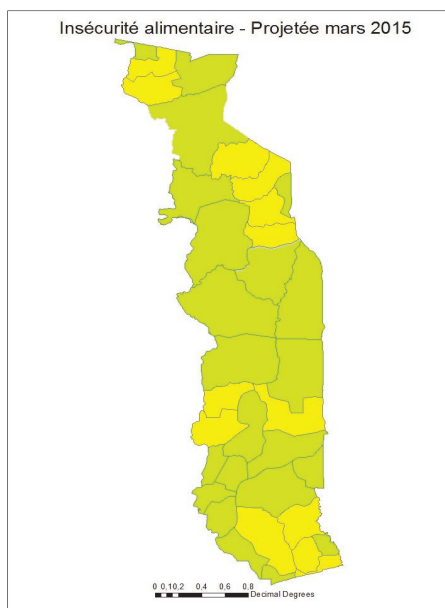
FAO) and since 2012 CILSS is a member **of the IPC Global Steering Committee**. Additionally, the IPC Global Support Unit (IPC GSU) is an active member of the **CH Technical Committee**, which works on the technical development of the CH.

Since October 2012 the CILSS aims at introducing the CH as a harmonized tool to present food security information within regional forums, namely in the **Food Crisis Prevention Network in the Sahel and West Africa (RPCA)** - a grouping of West African regional organizations, countries and international organizations and members of the OECD Development Cluster.



Regional Consultation on Agricultural and Food Prospects in the Sahel and in West Africa, Niger 2010. Credit: UCID/AGRHYMET

SUCCESS STORIES



CH Analysis for Togo, March 2015

The IPC supports the CH in its achievements at regional level, including its use as a Harmonized Regional Tool to present Food Security Analysis.

The CH provides a shared language for food security analysis in the Region. CH analysis is carried simultaneously in all countries (therefore ensuring comparability over time and space) and provides decision makers with an integrated and shared approach to present and communicate food security information.

Main achievements to date include:

- Ensuring **comparability** over time and space in the Region through CH analysis: two cycles of CH analysis are held twice per year (February/March and October/November) in the 14 CH countries.
- Regular cycles of analysis, currently planned at least twice per year in 14 Sahelian and West African Countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Chad, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Ivory Coast, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Republic of Guinea, Senegal, and Togo) starting in 2013.
- CH will inform and, when needed, trigger the **ECOWAS regional food reserves** within the regional early warning system in case of national and/or regional food security crisis.
- CH analysis is used by the **Food Crisis Prevention Network in the Sahel and West Africa** (PREGEC/RPCA) for decision making purposes, to guide response and programme planning.
- In 2015, CH has been used also to assess food security situation in **countries hit by Ebola virus**.



CH Regional Workshop, Dakar - Senegal, March 2013



CH Training Burkina Faso, February 2013

LOOKING FORWARD

The IPC will continue to support the CH in the region and work towards cross regional lesson-learning and the harmonization of the two tools. The Technical Committee of the Harmonized Framework (including representatives from CILSS, the IPC Global Support Unit, WFP, FAO, FEWS NET, ACF, Oxfam, Save The Children, and Joint Research Centre of the European Commission) are leading technical consultations, and a CH Manual Version 2.0 has been developed based on those discussions.

Following the technical development of the CH Manual Version 2.0 the CH is used as a harmonized tool to present food security information and identify the number of population affected by food insecurity within the RPCA framework.

The main challenge in the region remains the estimate of vulnerable populations. The integration of household economy analyses information in the analysis is a key issue to refine this estimate. It is especially true for coastal countries where the lack of HEA profiles is obvious, while in sahelian countries, HEA profiles are since last year the basis for the population estimate.

The new UE-ECOWAS project in support of the ECOWAS regional food security reserve will provide funds to do these updates.

Another important challenge is to develop CH analysis in Nigeria, country that gather half of the West African population. It is planned for the two coming years, at state level.



Meeting Bilan Céréalière, Niger 2012. Credit: UCID/AGRHYMET

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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