

# The IPC Information Support System

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

# OVERVIEW

The IPC Information Support System (ISS) is an new innovative web-based application which has been designed to efficiently create, store, and disseminate the IPC version 2.0 analyses and information. The ISS simplifies the IPC analysis process by the digitization of the IPC version 2.0 **core functions** (Building Technical Consensus, Classifying Severity and Causes, Communicating for Action, and Quality Assurance), **procedures** and **templates**.

The ISS has been developed for national stakeholders to utilize in building an IPC version 2 Acute Analysis. It is easy to use because it mirrors the IPC version 2 Acute Analysis Manual, and facilitates greater access to IPC analysis and results.

## **ADVANTAGES**

The ISS can enhance an IPC version 2 Acute Analysis in the following ways:

- Enhances the quality of the analysis by following a more structured tool.
- **Improves understanding** of the IPC because all Functions are packaged in a software.
- **Reduces the time and cost** of the analysis as the ISS automates IPC Functions including automating Communication Template creation.
- Lessens reliance on GIS experts by automatically creating the Map.
- **Increases transparency** by allowing technical partners and other stakeholders access to the analysis (where the country establishes permissions to do so).
- Enables a historical database of previous analysis per country.
- Enables regional and global comparison of national analysis on one screen
- **Improves public access** to country IPC analysis at the click of a button of the world map.



Example of Communication Template, Uganda 2013



Example of IPC ISS Analysis Map, Kenya 2013



September

2013

#### REQUIREMENTS FOR USAGE

The ISS was developed by the Global Support Unit (GSU) for countries to use for IPC version 2.0 Acute Analyses. The online application is supported by the GSU until December 2015.

Countries who opt-in to the system maintain their own portal at no cost. The ISS is user friendly so that the same capacities involved in the IPC analysis utilize the ISS (analysts, peer reviewers, others). Minimal technical capacity is required as the system is **online and secure** against unwarranted users.

A country must nominate a System Admin, ideally someone from the Technical Working Group, who has basic IT skills to create Users accounts and grant permissions. Analysts fill in the worksheets. A designated person completes the **Communication Template**.



#### DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

The ISS allows the harmonization of IPC analyses between countries and regions by the development of joint IPC Communication Maps.

In doing so, the ISS increases transparency and accountability, and enables historical review of



Example of IPC ISS Analysis Map, Zimbabwe 2013

IPC analyses conducted at national and regional levels.

The IPC Information Support System (ISS) beta version was completed in March 2013.

From May to end June, the beta version underwent further testing and modifications by using data from recent IPC analysis in Somalia and Uganda. **ISS pilot exercises** are also planned in up to 5 countries around the globe and, from September, the ISS will be deployed in an opt-in basis in countries that have asked to utilize the system.

The IPC Global Support Unit is overseeing the development of the ISS which will be an **integral part of the IPC website** once fully deployed. Awareness of the ISS is being raised by global, regional, and national stakeholders, as well as via the numerous **IPC trainings** which will occur in the coming months.

IPC Information Suppor	t System: Zimbabwe						
Analysis: Acute Analysis 2012							
Overview	Details						
WILDING TECHINICAL CONSENSUS Technical Working Group Matrix :LASSIFYING SEVERITY AND CAUSES Manicaland Matabeleland north Mashing Bulamayo Mashinghand east Mashinghand west Matabeleland south	Tile Analysis Date Is Current Current Period From To Add/Modify Analysis Areas (click map)	Acute Analysis 7/6/2012 1/1 4/1/2012 4/30/2012	s 2012	ls Proje Projected Period I	From 5/1/	2012 11/2012	
Mashonaland central Midlands	Administration						
COMMUNICATING FOR ACTION Communication Template (Current)	Partner Organizations Add	CARE		v	Remove		
Communication Template (Projected)		WFP		+   +	Remove		
UALITY ASSURANCE TWG Self Assessment		FAO FEWSNET		+ 	Remove		
Peer Review Assessment Feedback (Current)		OCHA			Remove		
Feedback (Projected)		FOOD AND NU	ITRITION COUN		Remove		

### **ISS PILOT EXERCISES**

The IPC Information Support System for IPC version 2.0 Acute Analyses is being **piloted** - and afterwards will be implemented - between July-September 2013.

So far, the ISS has been piloted in **Sudan**, **Honduras** and **Zimbabwe**, where data from the acute analysis of 2012 were successfully entered and shared. Feedback from participants was very positive.

Country IPC Technical Working Group (TWG) members commented on the ease of use of the application and the potential to improve quality of analysis due to the standardization

of the forms. Other analysts added that the ISS **simplified the data entry process** by automating certain processes, calculations, and steps such as the production of the Communication Template.

Further pilots are planned in Asia (Philippines) and Africa (Tanzania) until December.

Next year the ISS will be supported for countries opting in to utilize the system



IPC Analysis in Bangui Boukoko, Central African Republic, May 2012



# PUBLIC ACCESS TO IPC ANALYSES

When a country uses the ISS and publishes the analysis, it is **accessible by public users**. Different aspects of the ISS can be shared with the public.

The public map is 'clickable', meaning that it allows the user to click on analysis areas and see the popup box with more information.

To view the current version of the public map, follow the link: *http://iss.ipcinfo.org/public/map* 



IPC ISS Global public Map and Database of IPC analysis Worldwide

#### For more information on the IPC ISS please send an e-mail to: issproject@ipcinfo.org

