



JOINT FAO-WFP INFORMAL BRIEFING TO THE MEMBERS ON EMERGING AND ONGOING CRISES

FAO OFFICE OF EMERGENCIES AND RESILIENCE

WFP EMERGENCY OPERATIONS DIVISION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Food
Programme

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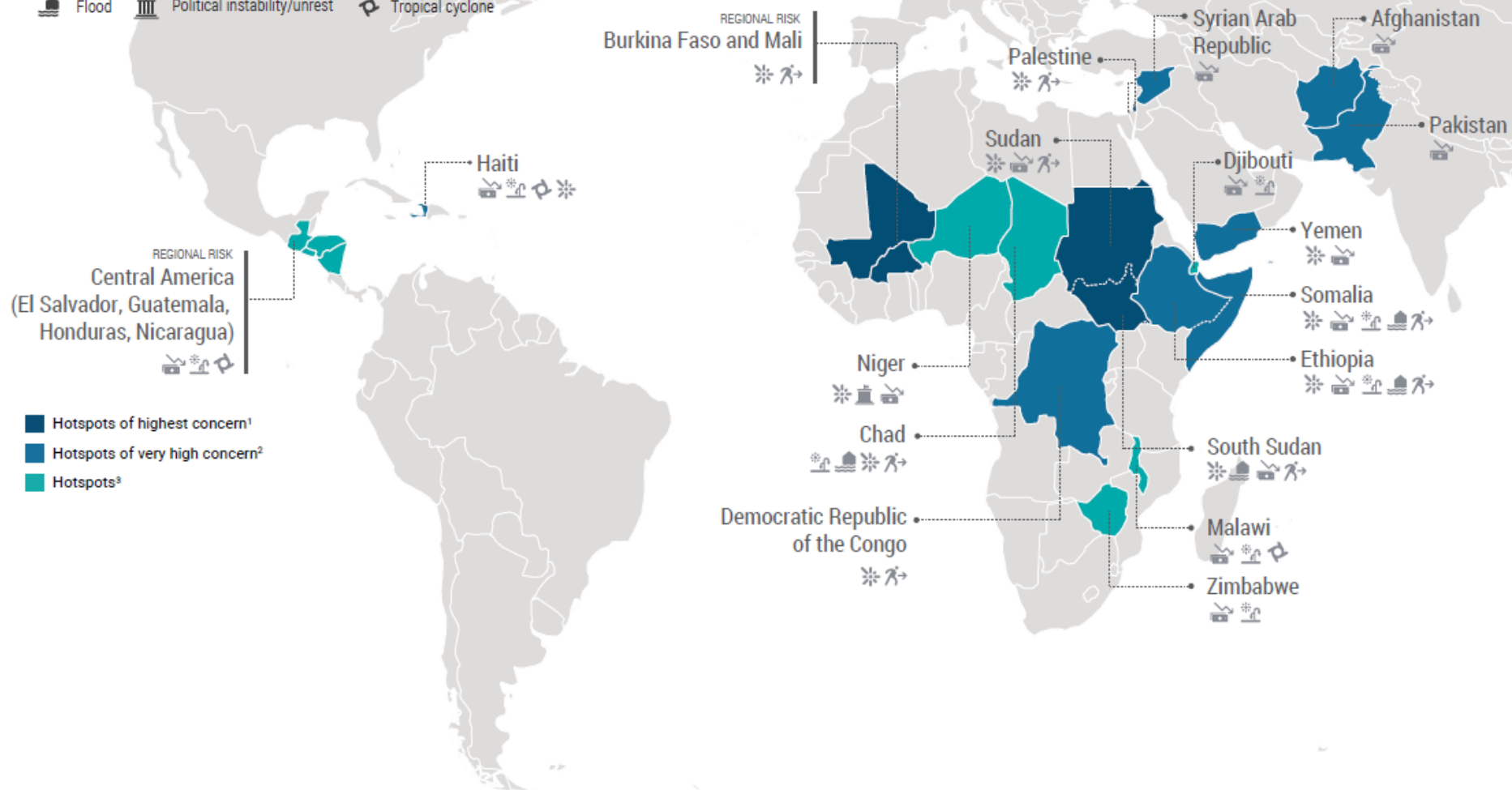


Early warning hunger hotspots

November 2023 to April 2024

Key drivers and aggravating factors

- Conflict/insecurity
- Displacement
- Dry conditions
- Economic shocks
- Flood
- Political instability/unrest
- Tropical cyclone



Focus one: El Niño Update

The El Niño event has over 80 percent chance to last until May 2024 with both negative and positive implications.

- Drought conditions to continue posing challenges to agriculture in **Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua** and **Honduras**, especially for bean crops.
- Should the forecast of below-average rainfall materialize in **southern Africa**, agricultural production negatively impacted, including in **Malawi** and **Zimbabwe**.
- Above-average rainfall in **eastern Africa** to contribute to recovery from the drought but leading to flood-related losses. Also in **Afghanistan**, higher precipitation to benefit the 2024 harvest, with a risk of flooding.



Focus two: Conflict in Palestine and Israel

- More than half of the population in Gaza and 11 percent in the West Bank were acutely food insecure in 2022.
- The severe escalation of the conflict in Palestine and Israel since early October 2023 is highly likely to result in a **dramatic deterioration** of the acute food insecurity in the coming months, **especially in the Gaza Strip**.
- As of 29 October, over 8 000 have reportedly been killed and over 1.4 million people displaced in the Gaza Strip. The **hostilities** and the lack of fuel have severely **disrupted food production and distribution networks in the Gaza Strip**.
- The conflict in Gaza is heightening the risk of a further increase in violence in the **West Bank**. Close monitoring of the regional situation is warranted, including **Lebanon**.



Trends in Drivers of Acute Food Insecurity

- **Conflict: Civilians are increasingly bearing the brunt of conflicts** and violence as they are being directly targeted and are subject to siege tactics; this trend is likely to further **contribute to the upward trajectory of global displacement in 2023**, after a record increase in 2022.
- **Economic shocks:** The **global economic slowdown** together with the **historically high borrowing costs** put many countries into **debt distress**, preventing governments from responding adequately to domestic food crises.
- **Volatile global food prices and weak domestic currencies** drive **persistently high domestic food inflation**, leaving many without access to food. Moreover, vulnerable people are unlikely to receive adequate assistance as humanitarian organizations struggle with **funding shortfalls**.

HIGHEST CONCERN HUNGER HOTSPOTS

The Sudan

20.3M

(IPC PHASE 3)

6.3M

(IPC PHASE 4)



Food insecurity drivers: conflict, economic crisis, and erratic rainfall.

Key messages:

- Almost **six million people displaced** by the conflict, of which 1.2 million seeking refuge in neighboring countries.

Outlook:

- Likely further intensification and expansion of conflict and the disruption the agricultural production to severely damper the typical seasonal improvement of food security.
- Supply disruptions and soaring arrivals to compound food insecurity in the region, particularly in **South Sudan** and **Chad**.

HIGHEST CONCERN HUNGER HOTSPOTS

Burkina Faso
and Mali

676 000

(CH PHASE 4)

45 500

(CH PHASE 5)



CH Analysis: June-August 2023

Food insecurity drivers: conflict

Key messages:

- Escalating violence and very high access constraints have resulted in the **highest figures of populations projected in catastrophic conditions in Burkina Faso**, and **the first time Mali had estimated population in these conditions**.

Outlook:

- Increase in violence affecting civilians in Mali**, reinforced by the requested withdrawal of MINUSMA.
- Expanding presence of NSAGs driving **increased casualties and displacement in Burkina Faso**.

STRATEGIC ASKS



Political Solutions

There is no end to world hunger without an end to conflicts and violence. Call on governments to influence and engage in finding political solutions



Humanitarian Access and Protection of Civilians

Ensure full and unimpeded humanitarian access and ensure protection of civilians



Free Trade and Movement of Goods

Advocate for the removal of all forms of trade barriers ensuring supply chains of all essential goods are unhindered.



Early Warning and Anticipatory Action Investment

Critical to invest in activities related to anticipatory actions, and early warning as they lead to significant time and cost savings



Resource Mobilization

The need for flexible and timely humanitarian funding cannot be overemphasized as resource constraints continue to be a major impediment to achieving the full impact of humanitarian interventions.



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Q&A

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