JOINT FAO-WFP INFORMAL MEMBERSHIP BRIEFING ON EMERGENCIES

FAO OFFICE OF EMERGENCIES AND RESILIENCE

WFP EMERGENCY OPERATIONS DIVISION

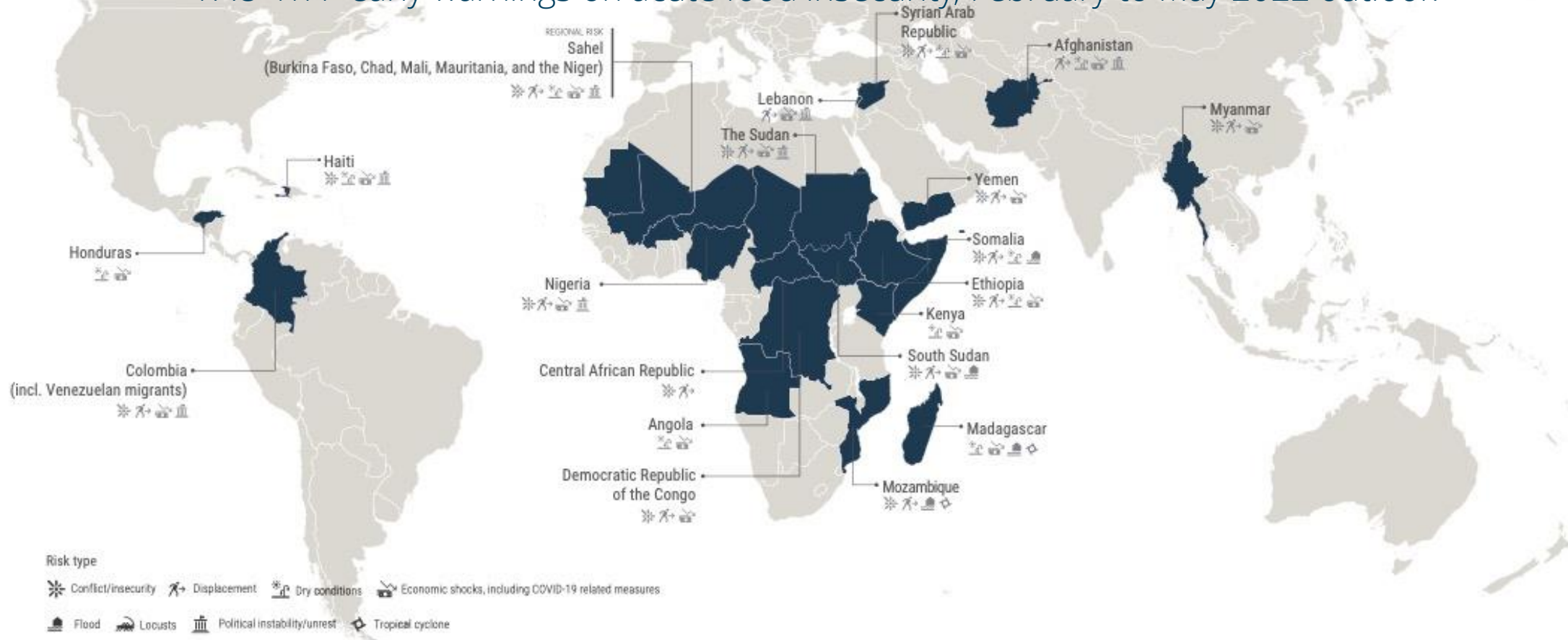Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

WFP World Food Programme

31 January 2022

HUNGER HOTSPOTS

FAO-WFP early warnings on acute food insecurity, February to May 2022 outlook

Global Network Against Food Crises | Integrated actions for lasting solutions

REGIONAL RISK
Sahel
(Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and the Niger)

Syrian Arab Republic

Afghanistan

Myanmar

Lebanon

The Sudan

Yemen

Haiti

Somalia

Nigeria

Ethiopia

Kenya

South Sudan

Central African Republic

Colombia
(incl. Venezuelan migrants)

Honduras

Angola

Madagascar

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Mozambique

Risk type

Conflict/insecurity   Displacement   Dry conditions   Economic shocks, including COVID-19 related measures

Flood   Locusts   Political instability/unrest   Tropical cyclone

31 January 202

UPCOMING TRENDS

- As 2022 begins, over **43 million people** are on the edge famine or famine-like conditions.

- **20 hotspots of hunger** projected globally.

- Highest-alert hotspots: **Ethiopia, Nigeria, South Sudan**, and **Yemen**.

- The report also identifies other countries of particular concern including **Afghanistan, Kenya, Myanmar, Somalia, the Sudan,** and the **Sahel** region, of which **Mauritania is a new entry**

- Main drivers of food insecurity are **conflict and insecurity, climate extremes, and economic challenges** of the COVID-19 pandemic, projected to continue to **increase food prices.**

- **Humanitarian access constraints** and complex security environments continue to pose extreme operational challenges.

COUNTRIES WITH HIGHEST ALERT LEVEL

SOUTH SUDAN

2.4 M
(IPC PHASE 4)

108 000
(IPC PHASE 5, projections April to July 2021)

Food insecurity drivers: Flooding, continued record food prices and sub-national conflict.

Key messages:

- Food insecurity has likely further deteriorated and is expected to **increase beyond the latest available IPC projections** from December 2020, which alerted about the risk of famine in parts of the country.

- Sectoral analysis show a **multiplication of areas of extreme concern** in the country in comparison to the past year.

Outlook: Above average rains in 2022. More recurrent and severe floods, causing widespread displacements, damages to agricultural livelihoods, and conflict over resources.

COUNTRIES WITH HIGHEST ALERT LEVEL

NIGERIA

620 000
(CH PHASE 4*)

13 550
(CH PHASE 5*)

*21 states + Federal Capital Territory
November 2021 CH analysis

Food insecurity drivers: Insecurity and inflation.

Key messages:

- **Access constrains** in the areas affected by insecurity continue to pose a severe challenge on the delivery of humanitarian assistance.

- The situation is of highest concern especially in **conflict-affected Borno State**, where parts of the population are projected to slide into **catastrophic acute food insecurity**.

Outlook: Persistent attacks in the northeast, coupled with banditry and intercommunal violence in the north-centre and north-west, are likely to continue to disrupt agricultural and market activities and new displacements.

COUNTRIES WITH HIGHEST ALERT LEVEL

ETHIOPIA

4.3 M
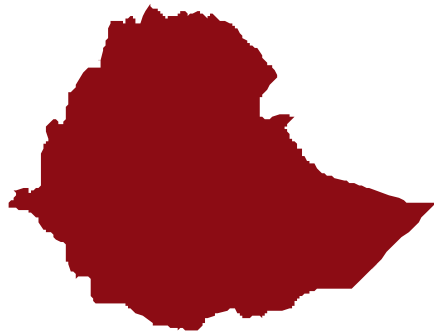**(IPC PHASE 4)**

401 000*
(IPC PHASE 5 in Tigray, projection: July-September 2021)

Food insecurity drivers: Conflict, macroeconomic challenges, and drought in southern areas.

Key messages:

- Since mid-July, **less than a third of the supplies** required to meet emergency food needs have entered Tigray.

- A **third consecutive below-average rainy season** has caused drought conditions in southern regions, severely impacting rural livelihoods.

Outlook: A **high Risk of Famine in Tigray** remains if conflict was to resume, and if humanitarian and commercial access remain sporadic. Another potential poor rainfall season could lead to **worsening food insecurity in southern areas**.

COUNTRIES WITH CATASTROPHIC OUTLOOK

YEMEN

5.1 M
(IPC PHASE 4*)

47 000
(IPC PHASE 5*)

Food insecurity drivers: Conflict and economic crisis.

Key messages:

- Half of all families are **consuming less than what is required**, while the price of the Minimum Food Basket has doubled since January 2021.

- **400,000 children** are at risk of dying of malnutrition if left without treatment, and **1.2 million** cases are reported among pregnant and breastfeeding women.

Outlook: Food insecurity could further deteriorate in some areas, as **conflict is intensifying, and the economic crisis is deepening**.

*Projections January to June 2021

HUNGER HOTSPOTS

AFGHANISTAN

Key message:

- **For the first time, urban residents are suffering from food insecurity at similar rates to rural communities** as a direct consequence of the economic crisis.
- **La Niña drought-induced conditions**, one of the drivers of the high levels of acute food insecurity, are **expected to continue at least through this spring.**

Outlook: 8.7 million people in Afghanistan **are expected to slide into Emergency acute food insecurity** hitting a record high for the country.

KENYA

Key message:

- Current drought conditions in Arid and Semi-Arid Lands of Kenya are leading to **extremely poor harvests and widespread livestock deaths**, depleting the livelihood assets of vulnerable rural households.
- The **nutrition situation is critical** in many of the affected counties, especially among children under 5.

Outlook: About 2.8 million people were highly food insecure through January 2022, an increase by almost half- a-million people from the previous IPC projections of September 2021. The **overall food security situation especially in the ASALs could deteriorate sharply if another poor season** was to occur.

HUNGER HOTSPOTS

SOMALIA

Key messages:

- Dry conditions are of the highest concern. About **sixty-two percent of the population live in areas with significant rainfall** or vegetation deficits.
- **Heightened insecurity** continues to drive high levels of displacement, with 731 000 people displaced in 2021.

Outlook: There is a **risk of another consecutive below-average rainy** season between March and May. Food security and malnutrition caseloads are very high with about 4.6 million people already projected in need of food assistance between February and May 2022.
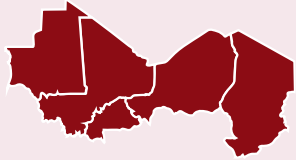
MYANMAR

Key messages:

- A **currency crisis and tumbling banking system** including cash shortages are severely affecting businesses and agricultural activities.
- The spread of armed conflict in several states and regions has escalated since September, leading to **increased displacement and access constraints**.

Outlook: **Economic crisis and conflict** are expected to cause a further increase of already soaring food insecurity, and **high input prices** will likely lead to low yields in 2022. 13.2 million people were already estimated to be food insecure in September 2021.

HUNGER HOTSPOTS

**SAHEL
(Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and the Niger)**

Key messages:

- **Poor performance of the main rainy season in 2021** has severely affected crop and pasture development across the region.
- **Deteriorating security situation** in eastern Burkina Faso, western Niger and northern and central Mali, and their expansion into previously more stable areas.

Outlook: A **very severe pastoralist lean season** is expected in the outlook period. Over 10.5 million people are projected to be in Crisis or worse (CH Phase 3 and above), including 1.1 million in CH Phase 4 (Emergency) between June and August 2022, a 20 percent increase compared to 2021.

31 January 2022

STRATEGIC ASKS

Extraordinary Resource Mobilization

FAO and WFP urgently need flexible, unearmarked and front-loaded resources to facilitate immediate action and avert catastrophic consequences.

Ensured Humanitarian Access

Advocate for unhindered humanitarian access both to communities and for communities such as in Haiti, northern Ethiopia, northern Nigeria, Syria, Myanmar and the Sahel.

Urgent Life and Livelihood Saving Assistance

Support with scaling up operations to meet increasing needs in order to prevent humanitarian catastrophes in the future by increasing the targets of the emergency responses in the identified countries.

Early Warning and Anticipatory Action Investment

Invest in activities related to anticipatory actions, and early warning and monitoring systems, so that our operations can systematically implement early actions designed to protect families and their assets ahead of a hazard.

Q&A

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