

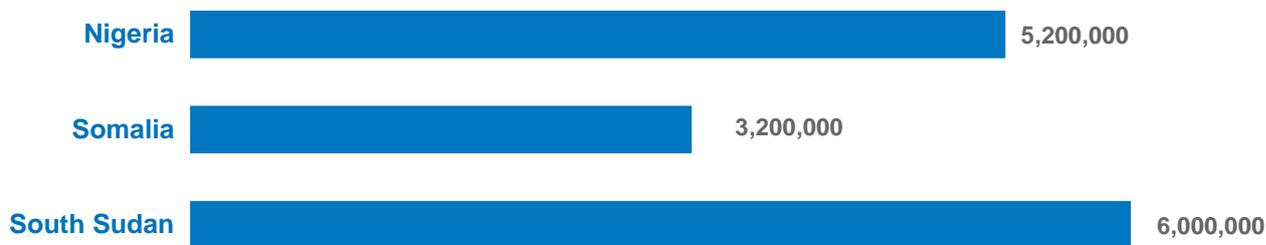
Famine Prevention

Nigeria, Somalia, and South Sudan Country Updates

The conflicts in Nigeria, Somalia, and South Sudan have led to an increasing number of displaced people who are facing food crises. There have been significant efforts to provide humanitarian aid to populations in need to prevent the occurrence of famine. However, prolonged violence in these countries, in combination with the environmental conditions continues to cause drought and exacerbate food insecurity for these populations. Security issues are preventing access to populations of concern and are blocking food and non-food aid. Consistent and timely funding and action must be taken to alleviate the food insufficiency. In addition to its country level activities, UNHCR is a participant in the Steering Committee on Famine Response and Prevention, a collaboration between the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), the U.N. Development Group, and the World Bank. In September, on the margins of the General Assembly, there will be a High Level Event on Famine Prevention and Response, co-hosted by the UN and the World Bank, following up on the previous joint High Level Event on Famine and Fragility in April 2017

PEOPLE IN URGENT NEED OF FOOD AND LIVELIHOODS ASSISTANCE

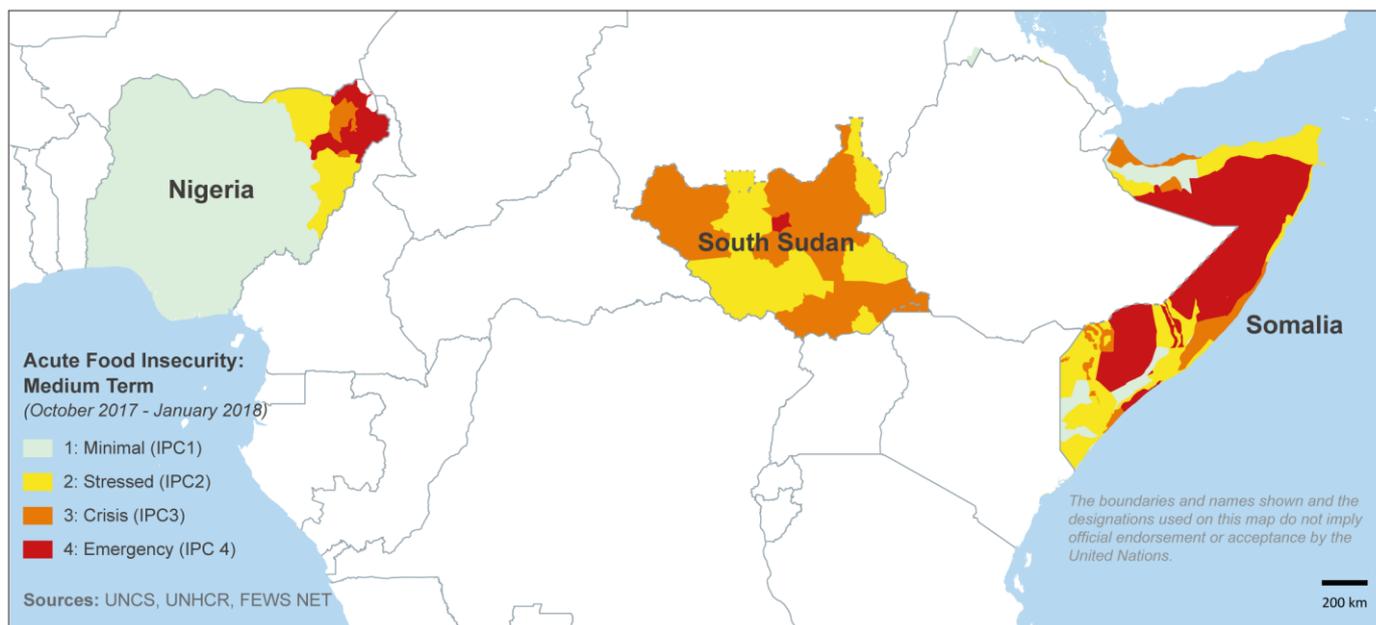
SEVERE FOOD INSECURITY



Source: OCHA's 2017 Humanitarian Needs Overview

REGIONAL MAP

COUNTRIES IN FOCUS



NIGERIA

KEY FIGURES

2,307,337

IDPs in Nigeria
(as of 31 August 2017)

Source: IOM/NEMA

202,787

Nigerian refugees in the subregion:
Cameroon, Chad, Niger
(as of 31 August 2017)

50,000

People experiencing famine-like
conditions equivalent to IPC 5
(as of August 2017)
Source: WFP

HIGHLIGHTS

- The most affected areas are Borno State in North-Eastern Nigeria, and the regions in Cameroon, Chad, and Niger bordering the Lake Chad Basin. Nigerian refugee returnees, some 13,000 to date, from Cameroon into Banki in Borno State have put an additional strain on limited food resources. Due to a high number of refugee returnees to Banki, where UNHCR and humanitarian actors are scaling-up our response, poses an additional humanitarian emergency that requires swift response.
- The area has been subject to extreme violence due to the Boko Haram crisis, causing blockages to food assistance and limiting the possibilities for agricultural and other livelihood activities. Humanitarian aid has been the only reliable source of food. Poor road conditions during the rainy season, which ends in September, and the worsening security situation in the north-east also continue to hinder access to persons of concern.
- As lead of the Protection Sector, UNHCR has co-led vulnerability screenings with partners in the six states in North-Eastern Nigeria to show the strong linkages between food insecurity and the challenges of protection with regards to displacement.
- In addition to UNHCR's inter-agency Regional Refugee Response Plan, UNHCR released a [Supplementary Appeal](#) in July 2017 for an additional US\$9.5 million to account for the deteriorating conditions for persons of concern in the areas of food security and nutrition, among others.
- In terms of positive response, recent monthly surveillance reports from four selected IDP camps in Maiduguri (El Maskin, EYN, NYSC and Dalori 1) indicate a reduction in both severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) cases of over 70 per cent when compared between June 2017 and November 2016 before WFP scaled up its nutrition support to these locations. In Dalori 1 alone, MAM cases identified monthly reduced from 900 in November 2016 to less than 100 in June 2017.

SOMALIA

KEY FIGURES

892,000

total drought displacements from 1
January to 31 August 2017

16,000

total drought displacement in
July 2017

1.6 million

Persons of Concern in Somalia
(as of 31 August 2017)

HIGHLIGHTS

- Al Shabaab-controlled areas are continuing to exacerbate food insecurity by blocking assistance to populations in need. In addition, there is continued violence against humanitarian actors by suspected Al Shabaab insurgents. According to WFP, 25% of food insecure people are in areas which are inaccessible. This month, there were reports of fighting in Lower Shabelle leading to new displacements in addition to the forced evictions of IDPs in Baidoa.
- The Gu rainy season from March to June 2017 produced less than average rainfall which is still continuing the long-standing drought and has affected agricultural and livestock opportunities. The Karan rainy season occurring now is forecasted to be average with a dry Haggaa season. Currently, Somalia is experiencing its lean season; however, there is hope for the current harvest which could provide some food relief.
- The UNHCR-led Protection & Return Monitoring Network (PRMN) identifies and reports on population displacement in Somalia as well as on protection incidents including internal displacements due to drought-related issues. The reports are uploaded in the [Horn of Africa Somalia Situation Operational Portal](#).
- **Returns from Kenya and Yemen:** The trend of Somalis returning from Yemen continued. Since the beginning of the crisis in Yemen in March 2015, a total of 38,289 arrivals (including 32,429 Somalis, 5,559 Yemenis and 343 third nationals) arrived to Somalia (3,529 in 2017, 2,954 Somalis, 587 Yemenis and 30 others).

SOMALIA

(CONTINUED)

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Assistance:** UNHCR provide 7,120 drought affected people with clean water and plastic sheets. In Bosaso, UNHCR allocated 3,500 NFI kits to two of its partners. The NFIS will be distributed to drought affected communities in Mudug and Galgaduud regions.
 - The UNHCR Somalia Drought Response provided assistance to 67,000 individuals in July 2017. Areas of assistance included providing drinking water, core relief items, mosquito nets, and gender based violence interventions. UNHCR also leads the Shelter Cluster and issued a drought operation strategy to strengthen its coordination system.
 - In June, WFP was able to assist 2.4 million people with food, nutrition, and cash-based assistance. Some 65% of its drought assistance was through cash-based transfers. In June, WFP was able to assist 2.4 million people with food, nutrition, and cash-based assistance. Some 65% of its drought assistance was through cash-based transfers.

SOUTH SUDAN

KEY FIGURES

45,000

People experiencing famine-like conditions equivalent to IPC 5 (as of 31 August 2017)

Source: [WFP](#)

1,986,025*

South Sudanese refugees in the subregion (as of 31 August 2017)

2,000,098

IDPs in South Sudan (as of 31 August 2017)

**The population is based on best available at the time of production. UNHCR continues to verify the numbers in all countries.*

HIGHLIGHTS

- Currently, South Sudan is having the worst food crisis in its history with six million people at food security levels of Crisis (IPC 3), Emergency (IPC 4), or Famine (IPC 5) categories. In February, famine was declared in parts of Unity State with an estimated 100,000 people having been affected. Swift humanitarian action averted a deterioration of the areas into famine.
- The political and ethnic conflict, currently in its fourth year, has resulted in vast numbers of displaced people. It is also hindering agricultural and other livelihood activities contributing further to food insecurity. There are efforts for a recommitment of the August 2015 Peace Agreement which would allow for a vast improvement in the food security outlook.
- For IDPs, UNHCR works within the IASC cluster system with a lead role in the Protection Cluster in establishing widespread protection practices, capacity-building, and advocacy.
- Across various refugee camps, UNHCR, with WFP and other partners, have distributed cereal, pulses, and oil, as well as nutrition supplies, seeds, tools, core relief items, and other non-food items. In June, WFP was able to provide assistance to 2.8 people nationwide.
- In July, over 670 metric tons of food aid was looted from warehouses and trucks in Eastern Equatoria, Lakes, Upper Nile, and Warrap States. Across the country, there were a total of 15 looting incidents during the month. Since January, the nationwide total has been 42 looting incidents of humanitarian entities.
- The rainy season, occurring until October, creates accessibility issues with a high percentage of road blockages. The situation is also expected to improve with a harvest in September except with household food stock issues reemerging in early 2018. There are also concerns about the population on remote islands of the White Nile who are not receiving humanitarian assistance in addition to the unavailability of data on them.

CONTACTS

Wendy Rappeport, Senior External Relations Officer

rappepor@unhcr.org, Tel: +41 (0) 22 739 8993, Cell +41 (0) 79 881 9183

LINKS

[UNHCR AFRICA WEBPAGE](#) – [UNHCR DATA PORTAL](#) – [UNHCR TWITTER](#) – [UNHCR FACEBOOK](#) – [UNHCR GLOBAL FOCUS](#)