

IFRC Situation Report: Regional Food Crisis in Africa – 8 October 2017



A child savours Plumpy Sup ready-to-use food supplement provided at one of the SRCS clinics in Somaliland/ Norwegian Red Cross.

Africa Food Crisis situation analysis

For **East Africa**, a [Food Security alert](#) was issued through Fewsnets on 29 September announcing the expectation of a fourth consecutive season of below-average rainfall over the Horn of Africa during the upcoming October to December 2017 Deyr season. This is linked to an increased likelihood of La Niña between October 2017 and February 2018. The increased likelihood for below-average October to December 2017 rainfall is a shift from long-range forecasts released in early 2017, which indicated an increased likelihood of above-average October to December rainfall over the Horn of Africa. Poor to very poor rainfall performance over the past three consecutive rainy seasons, beginning with the March to May 2016 Gu season has already contributed to large food assistance needs in the region and extreme levels of acute food insecurity in Somalia and Ethiopia. A risk of Famine (IPC Phase 5) persists in the sub-region given the extended drought, heavy livestock losses, disease outbreaks, and persistent challenges with provision of life-saving humanitarian assistance, without which outcomes would likely be worse. More details for current countries of intervention, **Ethiopia, Somalia, Kenya and South-Sudan**, can be found under their respective sections in this report. For further projections

into 2018, Fewsnet also published, mid-September, its [Food Assistance Outlook Brief](#) on projected food assistance needs for March 2018.¹

According to the latest UNOCHA's [Horn of Africa drought update snapshot](#), dated 22 September, 14.3 million people remain currently Food Insecure across **Ethiopia, Somalia** and **Kenya**, including 10 million severely food insecure. An estimated 5.4 million children are projected to be acutely malnourished this year. Across the horn of Africa region, over 121,000 people have been diagnosed with acute watery diarrhoea (AWD)/cholera and cases continue to be reported in Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia, although efforts in Somalia are making progress in containing the disease. There are currently 2.6 million people displaced by drought and conflict in Ethiopia, Somalia and Kenya; two million of whom are internally displaced persons (IDPs) and 600,000 refugees.

In [Southern Africa](#), minimal (IPC Phase 1) outcomes are expected to continue through January 2018 in most surplus-producing areas in the region, while deficit production areas are expected to start experiencing Stressed (IPC Phase 2) outcomes starting in October. The **Democratic Republic of the Congo** (DRC) is currently the only country in the region with areas currently in Crisis (IPC Phase 3), mainly due to conflict. In some parts of **Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique**, and **Zimbabwe**, poor households will be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) in January 2018, which coincides with the peak lean season period. In fact, that the following countries should in turns, experience Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes throughout the end of 2017 and beginning 2018: **Democratic Republic of Congo** (Oct-Dec 2017), **Mozambique** (oct 2017-March 2018), **Zimbabwe** (Nov 2017-February 2018), **Madagascar** (Oct 2017-March 2018), and **Malawi** (Sept 2017-Feb 2018). The situation is monitored closely by the Red Cross Red Crescent (RCRC) teams at regional, cluster and country levels.

In [West Africa](#), improvement of the food security situation is expected from October except in **Nigeria**, which continues to record the highest level of food insecurity in the region and **Chad** where the persistence of the security crisis in the Lake Chad Basin continue to disrupt main livelihoods and the normal functioning of markets, keeping the Lake Chad region of Chad Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and the Diffa region of Niger in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) until at least January 2018.

Conflicts and violence, extremisms, are known as key factors exacerbating vulnerabilities of population and impacting on food security in some of the most severely affected countries. At the economic level, the persistence of local or regional conflicts have been creating disruption to household livelihoods, production of food and trade. Another consequence of this violence is decreased access to humanitarian aid. The UN Development Programme just published a report, [A journey to extremism](#) to better understand the roots of such violence. Between 2011 and early 2016, some 33,300 people in Africa lost their lives to violent extremism. Factors driving the extremists include poverty, marginalization and perceived abuses of power by state authorities. The publication has retained much attention these last weeks.

The latest [African and Fall Armyworm forecast](#) (ETOP, 5th October) reports that **African armyworm** (AAW) outbreaks were not reported during September and that the pest will likely begin appearing in the southern outbreak region during the forecast period. However, **Fall armyworm** (FAW) outbreaks continued attacking maize crops in Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe during September. Although updates were not received from other maize growing countries across Africa, it is likely that the pest is causing problem to maize crops there as well. To complement information on FAW, see interesting coverage by [IRIN news](#) -14 September. To know more about specific operations per country, use following hyperlinks:

¹ Learn about scenario development, FEWS NET's methodology to develop food security projections eight months in the future, by [watching their new eight-minute video](#).

SUMMARY OF MAIN IFRC APPEALS², Response Plans and DREFs

Country	Appeal (CHF)	Cover ³ (%)	Funding Gap (CHF)	Targeted beneficiaries	Implementation on funding received	Start date	End date
Burkina-Faso (DREF) (MDRBF014)	189,679	100%	-	8,452	-	18 Aug 17	18 Nov 17
Chad (DREF) (MDRTD015)	233,017	100%	-	12,350	-	11 Aug 17	11 Nov 17
Ethiopia (MDRET016)	13,686,550	18%	11,238,426	318,325	90%	4 Jan 16	4 Jan 18
Kenya (MDRKE039)	25,062,572	22%	19,491,871	1,033,300	77%	23 Nov 16	23 Nov 17
Mauritania (DREF) (MDRMR008)	206,067	100%	-	9,750	-	11 Aug 17	11 Nov 17
Namibia (MDRNA009)	1,303,196	45%	712,501	16,500	94%	30 Sept 15	30 Sept 17
Niger (DREF) (MDRNE019)	261,041	100%	-	13,130	-	25 Aug 17	25 Nov 17
Nigeria	10,415,433	100% (2017)	-	300,000	13%	24 Apr 17	30 Sep 18
Senegal (DREF) (MDRSN015)	207,880	100%	-	9,893	-	11 Aug 17	11 Nov 17
Somalia (revised MDRSO005)	10,491,893	43%	5,946,262	150,000	27%	25 Mar 16	30 Jun 18
South Sudan (MDRSS006)	4,163,171	100% (2017)	-	60,000	-	8 July 17	31 Dec 18
Regional Food Crisis Africa ⁴ (MDR6003)	3,877,335	20%	3,091,125	-	39%	19 Apr 17	19 Oct 18

² This report covers activities up to 4 October. Appeal funding figures, updated to publication, do not capture bilateral contributions supporting implementation of the plans – available details in this regard are provided in the country-by-country section.

³ The response plans for Nigeria and South Sudan will be rolled out in two phases, the first one until end of December 2017 and the second one from 2018 on. Nigeria’s IFRC response plan for 2017 is funded under the One International Appeal launched by the ICRC, For South Sudan, the 2017 response plan is covered through the ICRC 2017 South Sudan Appeal. The Funding for the IFRC operations in 2017 is channelled through the ICRC. Both countries are therefore 100 percent secured for 2017.

For more detail on funding see [Donor’s Response](#).

COUNTRY-BY-COUNTRY PROGRESS – Main focus countries

ETHIOPIA (MDRET016)
Start Date: 4 January 2016
End Date: 4 January 2018
Targeted beneficiaries: 318,325 people
Total amount: 13,686,550
Home

Funding: 2,448,124 CHF (18 percent of total target in hard pledges)

Implementation: 90 percent (expenditures vs Funding)⁵

Indicator	Target	Progress
Livelihoods, nutrition, food security		
n° of children U5, pregnant and breast-feeding mothers provided with supplementary food- CSB and Oil;	93,975	82,811 ⁶
n° hhd's affected provided with livestock through Afar restocking program	1,000	1000
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion		
n° of households assessed by volunteers	4,447	4,447
n° of volunteers trained	75	75
n° of households benefiting from potable water.	36,000	24,509 ⁷
Health		
n° of children U5 registered with SAM and MAM case	9,500	2,415
n° households that go home with a food parcel;	100	20
n° of Pregnant Lactating Women registered for supplementary feeding;	3,700	770

Operating Context:

According to [Fewsnet September's Update](#):

- Delivery of humanitarian assistance remains delayed in parts of Somali Region in September, currently classified in Emergency (IPC Phase 4). At present, needs are likely greater than current humanitarian assistance programming. A sustained increase in humanitarian assistance is needed to prevent food consumption gaps from widening and to prevent households from moving into Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5).
- Based on recent model forecasts and an increased likelihood of La Niña development during late 2017, October to December 2017 *Deyr* rainfall is likely to be below average in southeastern Ethiopia. Following two consecutively very poor seasons, a poor *Deyr* 2017 season could lead to even further reductions in food access for many households, and drive further deteriorations in food security.
- In most high-producing areas of Ethiopia, Kiremt seasonal rainfall has been favourable for crop. However, infestations of Fall Armyworm (FAW) in western areas, as well as dry spells in some eastern and southern areas of the country may lead to below-average Meher production in some areas. Late and erratic rains, coupled with the ongoing Fall Armyworm infestation, are expected to lead to a significantly reduced harvest in October/November. The absence of locally- generated knowledge on FAW is reportedly one of the biggest challenges in eradicating the problem.

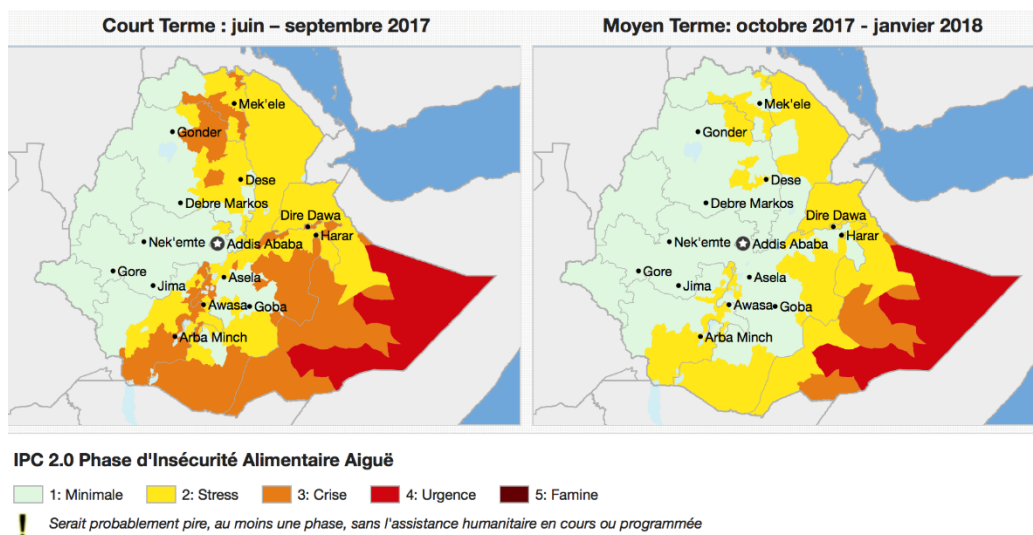
⁵ The Ethiopia appeal response is currently at 18 percent. 90 percent of the funds raised so far has been utilized. The needs on the ground remain, the IFRC and the Ethiopia Red Cross continue to fundraise to support the rolling out of the Emergency Appeal Drought response to its fullest.

⁶ 3,135 people have been supported by IFRC, the rest have been supported by ERCS' funding and PNS

⁷ 10,400 households were supported by Canadian Red Cross in Kindo Koysha while 14,109 households were supported by ERCS through IFRC Appeal in Moyale. In Ethiopia one household accounts for five people.

- Parts of Amhara, Tigray, north-eastern SNNPR, and eastern Oromia are expected to remain in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) until begin in October. However, Meher harvests, coupled with seasonal increases in labour income from cereal and cash crop harvests, should drive improvements in household food access and acute food insecurity outcomes to Minimal (IPC Phase 1) or Stressed (IPC Phase 2) levels between October 2017 and January 2018.

UNOCHA's [Horn of Africa drought update snapshot](#) and the [Weekly Humanitarian bulletin](#) report in September that 8.5 million beneficiaries are still identified in need of emergency food assistance in the second half of the year (August-December 2017)-up to the 5.6 million people identified in January 2017. An estimated 375,000 children may become severely acutely malnourished (SAM) by the end of 2017, while some 3.6 million moderately acutely malnourished (MAM) children and pregnant and lactating women (PLW) require supplementary feeding. Unconfirmed reports indicate that thousands of people have fled from the Somali region following violence between Oromo and Somali ethnic communities. Separately, flash floods following heavy rains since 28 August have displaced more than 13,400 people in four districts of Gambella region.



Other humanitarian issues of concerns:

Acute Watery Diarrhoea

The problem of drought and AWD still persists in the north east, east and south-eastern part of the Nation hence continuous need for periodic assessments and timely response. A 27 percent increase in the number of Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD) cases was reported nationwide during the last week in August, mainly due to spikes in new cases reported in Amhara and Tigray regions and a resurgence of the outbreak in Afar region. The outbreak is stabilizing in Oromia, SNNP and Somali regions. ([Horn of Africa drought update snapshot](#))

OCHA [weekly humanitarian bulletin](#), reports that the sixth round (July-August) of IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) has identified some 180,076 households/1,099,776 individuals in 568 displacement sites in Somali, Oromia, Afar, Gambela, Amhara, Tigray and Harari regions. The DTM revealed that over 80 per cent of all sites assessed host drought (43 per cent) and conflict (41 per cent) induced internally Displaced Peoples (IDPs). Overall, drought is the prime factor for the displacements across the country.

The Ethiopian Red Cross Society (ERCS) has continued assisting Ethiopian returnees from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) through ambulance services and phone calls. As of 17 September 2017, over 77,500 returnees had been received in Ethiopia; over 924 served through ambulance services and 16,304 served with phone call services.

Flooding: Rainfall attributed to the kiremt rains, which began on 8 September 2017, led to extensive flooding. The Ambeira zone in Afar region, and special zones surrounding Addis Ababa (the capital), Jima, South-east Shewa, and South-west Shewa in the Oromia region have been worst affected by the rains and flooding. It is estimated that a total of 18,628 households (HHs) (93,140 people) have been affected, of which 7,270 HHs (36,350 people) have been displaced. The IFRC is supporting the ERCS with a [DREF](#) to provide assistance to 2,103 HHs (10,515 people) through the provision of essential emergency relief and shelter assistance.

The situation has been complicated further by an escalation in civil unrest along the Oromo and Somali border, which stretches more than 1,000 Kms. [Ethnic clashes](#) have led to an estimated displacement of 50,000 people from Oromia and Somali regions, including the neighbouring Hareri region. Although the floods are affecting other areas not affected by the conflict, ERCS capacity has been overstretched responding to the two disasters in addition to the drought operation.

ERCS Operational highlights:

Animal re-stocking: With IFRC support, ERCS has successfully completed the goat re-stocking activity in the Bidu Woreda reaching the targeted 1,000 families with 5,000 goats (one male and four female goats per family) in 15 Kebeles. The animals were screened and vaccinated. 65,500 kg of fodder was transported to Bidu, of which 15,275 kg was distributed among goats' receiving kebeles. By the end of the operation, each beneficiary will have received fodder for a period of six months. In addition to the goat distribution the branch, together with the Headquarters' Disaster Preparedness and Response Department (DPRD) team, managed to finalize the purchase of a generator, which will be installed at Bidu health clinic. Due to the low Appeal coverage, some of the planned interventions could not be implemented, the operation focusing more on the most immediate needs of the affected population, specifically supplementary food distribution, water and sanitation as well as livelihood assistance.

Movement Coordination: Six Partner National Societies (PNSs) continue to operate in-country, including the Austrian Red Cross, the Spanish Red Cross, the Finnish Red Cross, the Netherlands Red Cross, the Swiss Red Cross and the Canadian Red Cross Societies implementing both on multilateral and bilateral projects with the ERCS. These PNSs, in coordination with ERCS and IFRC, continue to support the drought operation through the distribution of supplementary food, WASH, and livelihoods activities (provision of animal fodder) in Oromia, SNNPR and Somali regions, while ICRC and non-movement partners including UNICEF and IOM have focused on addressing the needs of conflicts induced internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Oromia and Somali regions. Efforts have been made to strengthen coordination of the PNS movement by conducting monthly based partnership meeting.

Documents of reference or key events to come:

Fewsnet: [A fourth consecutive season below-average rainfall expected Horn of Africa](#); (29 sept)

Fewsnet: [assistance needed to mitigate large food consumption gaps in Somali Region](#) (Sept key messages)

The Guardian: ['Hundreds' Dead In Ethiopia Ethnic Clashes](#) (25 September)

BBC: [What Is Behind Clashes In Ethiopia's Oromia And Somali Regions?](#) (18 September)

KENYA ([MDRKE039](#))

Start Date: 23 November 2016
End date: 23 November 2017
Targeted beneficiaries: 1,033,300 people
Total amount: 25,062,572

[Home](#)

Funding for the Appeal: Although the funding raised the IFRC emergency appeal still stands at 22 percent, total amount of funds raised through the three venues is approximately 68%. Below is a break down on amount raised.

- Movement Support - Multilateral CHF 5,570,704
- Bilateral Support CHF - 9,990,582
- Corporates and Individuals - CHF 1,418,602

Implementation rate: 77 percent (expenditures vs funding)

Programs: Livelihoods and food security, Watsan and Health

Indicator	Target	Progress
Livelihoods, nutrition, food security		
Number of households that received cash transfer	60,000	41,947 ⁸
Number of complaints and feedback documented	N/A	361
Number of feedback and complaint addressed in a timely manner	100%	71%
Total amount of Cash disbursed (In CHF.)	6,758,330	3,176,186
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion		
Number of people reached through Hygiene promotion activities	225,000	78,554
Number of target communities accessing safe water sources for drinking	225,000	143,160
Number of water supply schemes rehabilitated/equipped.	90	34
Number of hygiene related goods (NFIs) which meet SPHERE standards provided to the target population	N/A	1,624
Health		
Number of people reached with basic nutrition services	263,500	70,360
Number of CHWs sensitized on epidemic preparedness and community level surveillance	N/A	924
Number of nutrition outreaches conducted	N/A	469
Number of people reached through nutrition outreaches	263,500	70,360

Fewsnet key messages⁹: Following the Supreme Court ruling that nullified the August 8 presidential election results and ordered new elections that are currently slated for October 26, 2017, restricted market and humanitarian assistance operations persist as most actors, particularly at the donor level, have chosen to exercise caution. This has particularly affected food availability in remote, rural areas as market operations have slowed down and humanitarian assistance deliveries have been curtailed. The protests so far have not had a significant impact on KRCS activities. The IFRC in support to the Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) has approved the extension of the [DREF for the Election preparedness](#) that had been launched for the first turn of the 2017 elections, for the National Society to continue its support to the population in view of the October repeat of the presidential election.

⁸ The figure of 50,336 reached that was reported in the Sitrep 6 was an error by miscalculation. The correct figure is 41,947. To be noted that an additional 105,500 households have been reached through the Chakula Kwa Jamii cash transfer program funded by the Government and supported by WFP.

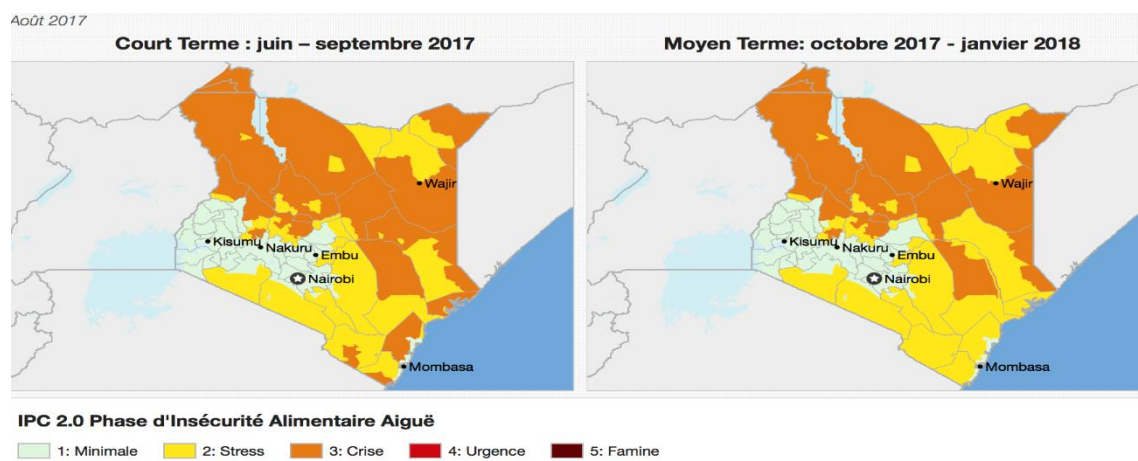
⁹ All IPC maps in this document come from Fewsnet website.

Substantial offseason rains experienced from July through mid-September in Turkana and parts of north-western Marsabit, West Pokot, and Baringo counties have significantly improved water and forage availability that have driven improvements in livestock body conditions but milk production remains negligible, except for camels. In other pastoral areas, food security continues to deteriorate with lower livestock productivity, restricting household income and milk availability. High malnutrition outcomes persist, and the three-month nationwide nurses' strike is exacerbating limited health access with 50 percent to 80 percent of health facilities non-operational in six drought affected counties.

Overall, most poor households in pastoral areas are facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes. In the marginal agricultural areas, widespread crop failure, particularly in the southeast, resulted in minimal crop harvests that will soon be depleted. Despite some available local harvests, staple food prices remain significantly above average, driven by low household stocks and high-priced cross-border imports, which continue to constrain household food access. Most poor households remain in Stressed (IPC Phase 2), with some worse off households in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) in Kilifi, Kwale, and Taita Taveta. Nationally, the maize subsidy program is expected to cease at the end of September, coinciding with the beginning of the long rains harvest season from Kenya's high producing areas in the western and Rift Valley regions. This harvest, however, is projected to be 20 – 30 percent below average, which will result in a significant supply shortfall and likely keep staple food prices persistently above five-year averages across the country, further constraining household food access.

UNOCHA's [Horn of Africa drought update snapshot](#) is a reminder that there are now an estimated 5.6 million people affected by the drought in Kenya, including 3.4 million people food-insecure. Of concern are the 2.6 million people now facing severe food insecurity and 800,000 facing Stressed food insecurity who are expected to fall into crisis from August to October 2017. A total of 47,986 children and 91,319 children have been registered for the treatment of SAM and MAM respectively. Five counties have active cholera outbreaks with 2,743 cases including 44 deaths reported. Most new cases are in Nairobi.

According to the [NDMA Early warning bulletin](#) (September 2017) priorities for response are: Counties where drought stress is already critical, and where essential services and interventions must be sustained, and if necessary expanded: Garissa, Isiolo, Kajiado, Marsabit, Samburu (East), Tana River and Wajir; Counties where the situation is either worsening, or where levels of vulnerability are high, such that modest shocks could have major consequences: Kilifi, Laikipia, Mandera, Narok and Turkana; Counties where inter-county action is needed to manage migration and conflict: Kitui, Meru and Nyeri; and Counties with localised hotspots, particularly in semi-arid areas



Operational Highlights:

KRCS continues to implement drought interventions in counties affected by drought. KRCS ended its response operations in Tana River (North) and Kilifi counties, following exhaustion of available resources, and in Kwale county, following significant improvements in the food security situation.





KRCS has launched a Cash Transfer operation targeting 20,566 households in six counties (Turkana, Samburu, Isiolo, Marsabit, West Pokot and Wajir) with support from ECHO. The transfers will be carried out in four disbursements from September to December 2017. KRCS is also supporting WFP with the implementation of the Chakula Kwa Jamii cash transfer program targeting 105,936 households in six counties (Garissa, Tana River, Lamu, Kwale, Malindi and Makeni). The initiative is funded by the Government of Kenya and has so far reached 105,500 households with the first disbursement. Other ongoing interventions include; livestock off-take and integrated health and nutrition outreaches in a number of counties. The number of people reached so far through KRCS interventions is 877,942 people:


- **Livelihoods and food security:** 664,422 people have been reached with cash transfer (251,682), food distribution (198,546) and livestock destocking (214,194) activities.
- **Water, sanitation and Hygiene:** 143,160 people have so far been reached with various activities such as hygiene promotion and water supply through rehabilitation of water facilities. A total of 34 water points has been rehabilitated out of the targeted total of 90.
- **Health:** 70,360 people were reached with health services specifically through community sensitization activities, psychosocial support, reproductive health services and epidemic prevention.

Movement Coordination update:

- KRCS and IFRC have continued coordinating with both Movement and Non-Movement partners through coordination meetings and regular sharing of information.
- KRCS has received support for the drought appeal from British Red Cross Society, Finnish Red Cross, Danish Red Cross and ICRC through bilateral support. Other PNSs have supported KRCS through the appeal.
- Joint monitoring visits have also been conducted.
- Coordination at county level is done through the County Steering Group (CSG) and brings together agencies involved in disaster response at county level.

A summary of various partners is shown in the table below:

Sector		Movement Partners
	Livelihoods	Danish Red Cross, British Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, ICRC, Netherlands RC and Canadian Red Cross
	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	Norwegian Red Cross, British Red Cross, ICRC
	Health	IFRC (appeal)
Sector		Non-Movement Partners
	Shelter	Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)

	Livelihoods and food security	National Drought Management Authority (NDMA), Hunger Safety Net Programme (HSNP), World Vision in partnership with World Food Programme (WFP), KRCS in partnership with WFP, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), German Agro Action, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of devolution, and ECHO
	Health	Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Ministry of Water, UNICEF, UNFPA, CBM
	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	Ministry of Health (MoH) at national and county level, UNICEF, WFP and civil society organizations (CSOs), Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs).

Documents of reference or key events to come:

Fewsnet: [A fourth consecutive season below-average rainfall expected Horn of Africa](#); (29 sept)

Fewsnet: [Persistent high staple food continue to drive food insecurity](#); (25 Sept)

SOMALIA (MDRSO005)	
Start Date: 30 June 2017	
End date: 21 December 2018	
Targeted beneficiaries: 352,800	
Total amount: CHF 12,204,893 (including ERUs)	Home

Appeal Budget: 10,491,893 (excluding ERUs)

Funding: CHF 4,545,631 (43 percent of total target in hard pledges)

Implementation rate:

27 percent (Expenditures vs Total Funding)

Operational Context:

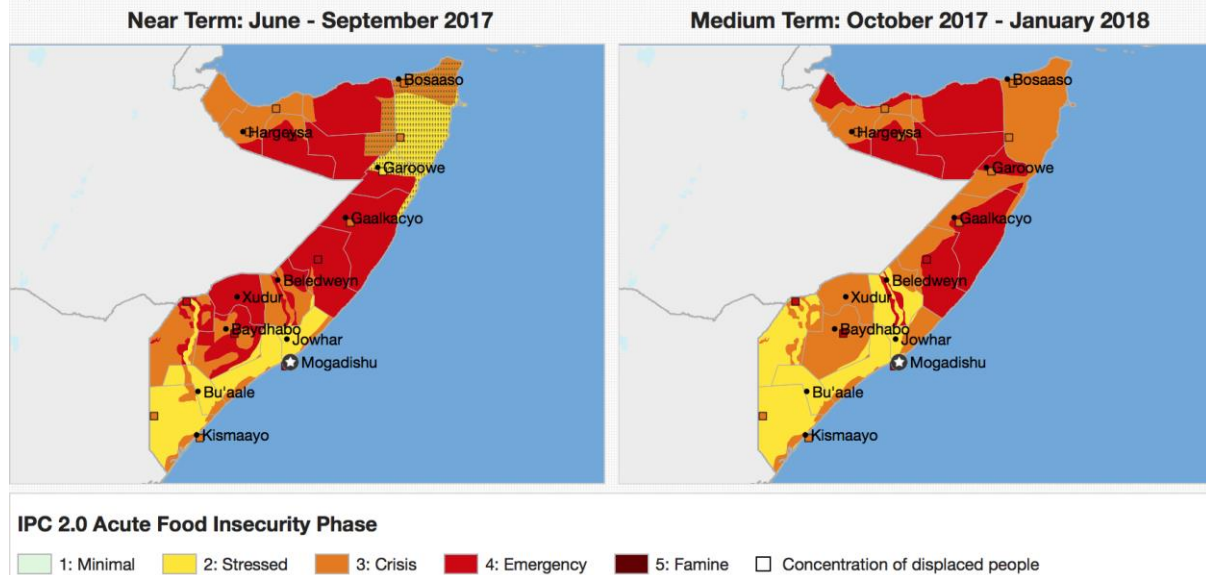
According to Fewsnet's [September key message Update](#), although August forecasts were more optimistic, the October to December 2017 Deyr season is now expected to be below average, based on recent model forecasts and an increased likelihood of La Niña development during late 2017. This will be the fourth consecutive poor season in Somalia and is likely to lead to below-average crop production and regeneration of pasture and water.

An estimated 2.34 million people are expected to be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and 802,000 in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) through December 2017. Food security may be worse than previously projected, though, as the above projections were based on an August forecast of average to below-average Deyr rainfall, and rainfall is now forecast to be below average. A risk of Famine (IPC Phase 5) still exists through at least early 2018 and continued, large-scale humanitarian assistance is needed to prevent the loss of life and livelihoods.

The number of new cases of cholera/AWD in Somalia has sharply declined from rates observed in late 2016 and early 2017. According to UNICEF, 22 new cases of cholera/AWD were reported between September 4 and 10, down from 137 cases reported the preceding week. A total of 77,538 cases of cholera/AWD and 1,118 resulting deaths have been reported in Somalia in 2017. Though there has been a significant decrease in the number of AWD/cholera cases in all regions, there remains a risk of flare ups during the upcoming rainy season in October as the water and sanitation conditions throughout the country remain largely the same as they were in October 2016 when many cases of AWD/cholera started appearing.

UNOCHA's [Horn of Africa drought update snapshot](#) of September reports that the nutrition continues to deteriorate, especially in the northern and central parts of the country. Some 1.2 million children are projected to be malnourished over the next one-year period, a 33 percent increase since the beginning of the year. This includes over 231,829 (including IDPs) who have or will suffer from severe acute malnutrition (SAM).

September 2017



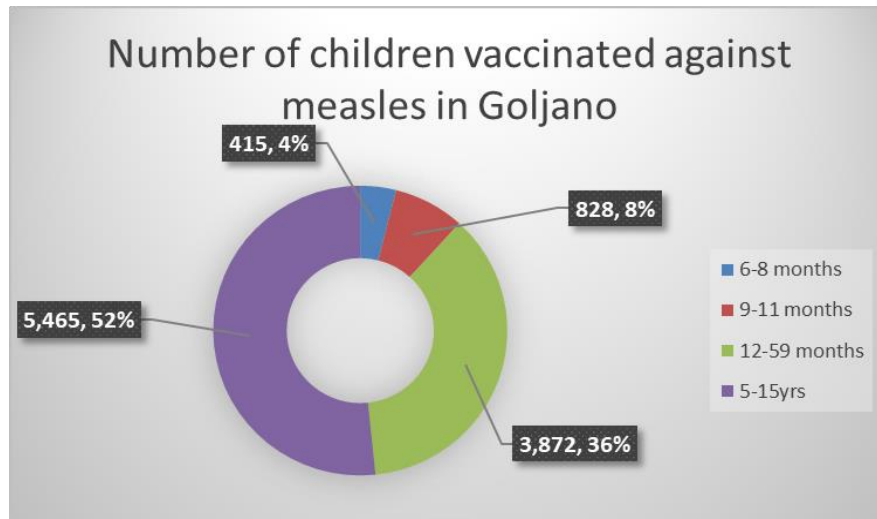
Operational highlights:

- The worst measles outbreak in four years is currently affecting Somalia, with over 14, 823 suspected cases having been reported in 2017 so far, a country-wide campaign is planned by MoH to start in November. SRCS with the support of the IFRC has vaccinated 10,540 children out of a targeted 11,000 in Goljano and surrounding villages in Lasanod Sool.
- A contingency plan for a likely AWD/cholera outbreak has been developed. Over the years, it has been observed that AWD/cholera cases increase during the rainy seasons. The *deyr* rainy season is coming in October hence the need of a comprehensive contingency plan to contain such a scenario.

Sector highlights:

Health and nutrition:

- A total of 10,540 children aged between six months to 15 years-old received measles vaccine in the Somalia Red Cross Society/IFRC supported campaign to respond to the measles outbreak in Goljano village and surrounding areas in Lasanod District, Sool region. The vaccines were provided by MoH/UNICEF. This situation with high cases and several deaths called for intervention prior to the nation-wide vaccination campaign planned by MoH/UNICEF for in November/December. A large part of the population in the area being nomadic, posed challenges to the intervention, as the teams had to be re-directed to areas further away in the district where many had moved.



A pictorial representation of the number of children who have so far received measles vaccination in Goljano, one of the outbreak hotspots in Somaliland

- The Canadian Red Cross (CRC) is preparing two CTU kits (donated by ERU) that can be deployed rapidly. In addition, two WHO Cholera kits enough to cater for 1,000 AWD/Cholera cases and 200 *Shigella bacteria* induced diarrheal cases are also being procured by CRC.
- Contingency planning is ongoing due to the risk of new AWD/Cholera outbreak during *Deyr* season. The month of October usually sees seasonal rise in AWD/Cholera cases, and the WASH situation remains largely unchanged since the last outbreak. Preparedness measures are underway, and an AWD/Cholera Emergency Preparedness and Response plan is being drafted to cater for the risk. Needs of contingency stocks to ensure readiness to respond are being assessed.
- Considering continued emergency food security situation, a decision was taken to extend the IFRC support under the Emergency Appeal with nutritional supplements enough to supply 22 SRCS Clinics for an additional 3 to 4 months.

Water, sanitation and hygiene promotion:

- Detailed technical assessments of berkerds is in progress in Maroodijeh region, to prepare scope of works that will be used to select contractors who will rehabilitate berkerds. The actual rehabilitation work is expected to start in October to be ready for the next rains.
- Aquatabs and PUR sachets have been received and will be distributed by end of October 2017 to clinics to ensure that they have safe water for infection control and drinking. The distribution will be done in phases and will be preceded by trainings in water treatment and storage.

Beneficiary Selection and Registration:

- Beneficiary registration began on the 7 August and 13,486 forms had been successfully completed and reviewed by the morning of the 30 September. This is summarised in the table below.
- Final beneficiary registration lists for Livelihoods and *berkerd* rehabilitation interventions have been prepared. These interventions are expected to begin this week

Region	Maroodijeh	Awdal	Sahil	Togdheer	Sool	Sanaag	Total
Wash Emergency_Registration	0	798	0	403	2,000	1,083	4,284
Wells Identification	0	0	3	0	0	2	5
Wash NFI Registration	1,433	1,080	1,060	4	1,630	1,313	6,520
Berked Registration	16	12	10	1	19	12	70
Latrine Identification	0	1	0	0	101	62	164
Livelihood Registration	1,000	800	0	0	0	475	2,275
Baseline Assessment	23	39	0	0	69	37	168
Grand Total	2,472	2,730	1,073	408	3,819	2,984	13,486

Logistics

- Local procurement for non-food items (NFIs) has been finalized and all quantities available in stock with local suppliers.
- ORS, PUR and Aquatabs shipments have been cleared and are now prepositioned at the SRCS Warehouse facility in Hargeisa.
- Contract with WFP for warehouse facility in Berbera completed.
- Six containers of NFIs expected to arrive in Berbera and cleared before end of September. To be stored in WFP warehouse for further distribution.
- Tendering for transport and distribution of NFIs and Nutrition products complete and trucking commencing
- Re-order of nutritional products for both Puntland and Somaliland has been placed with Logistics in Dubai (3x40' + 1x20' containers).

Relief

- NFIs' preposition plan (at branch level) shared with SRCS for their review. NFIs include tarpaulins, sleeping mats, blankets, jerry cans, buckets, body soap, laundry soap. Awaiting final feedback from SRCS.
- Goods are now being prepositioned for large scale distribution of wash and shelter NFIs across six regions.

Capacity building

- Logistics/relief training that brought together 26 participants from across the six SRCS branches took place in Burao from 10 to 12 September. The trained personnel will be used for the oncoming distributions.
- Plans on the construction of a warehouse in Burao are going on.

Coordination

- Coordination meeting to discuss joint planning took place at IFRC Hargeisa office. It was attended by German Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, IFRC and SRCS
- SRCS management meeting took place in Nairobi in the week commencing 11 September.
- Visit of the Secretary General of the Norwegian Red Cross in preparation of a national fundraising campaign in Norway for the Somalia crisis.

Documents of reference or key events to come:

- IFRC FACT/ERU Situation Reports and [Somalia Dashboard](#)
- IFRC Revised [Appeal](#)
- IFRC MDRSO005, [Drought and Food Security Ops Update no. 7](#)

- IFRC MDRSO006, [AWD DREF Ops Update no. 1](#)
- UN-OCHA [Drought Update 31 August 2017](#)
- UN newscenter: [Somalia facing complex immediate and long term challenge](#) (13 sept)
- The Guardian: [Somaliland's Women Show Kindness and Leadership in the Face of a Humanitarian Crisis](#) (7 Sept)

SOUTH SUDAN

Start Date: 08 July 2017

End date: 31 December 2018

Targeted beneficiaries: 10,000 Households (60,000 people)

Total amount: CHF 4,163,171

(CHF 1,115,991 in 2017 & CHF 3,047,180 in 2018). The 2017 amount is integrated into the ICRC current 2017 South Sudan budget as per the IFRC and ICRC funding modality agreement [Home](#)

Implementation rate: Implementation just started.

Funding: 100 percent for 2017, CHF 1,115,991 funded through the ICRC South Sudan budget

Programs: The Response Plan recognizes that the food security crisis cannot be taken in isolation and is intrinsically linked to the other challenges faced by the population of the country, including the risks relating to **health, water and sanitation and nutritional levels**. For this reason, the Response Plan focuses on the wider needs of the protracted crisis and is addressing the situation at community level, focusing on Health, WASH, Shelter, Nutrition, Livelihoods, and Psychosocial (PSS) needs. To guide implementation in 2017, the Response Plan has articulated three critical priorities:

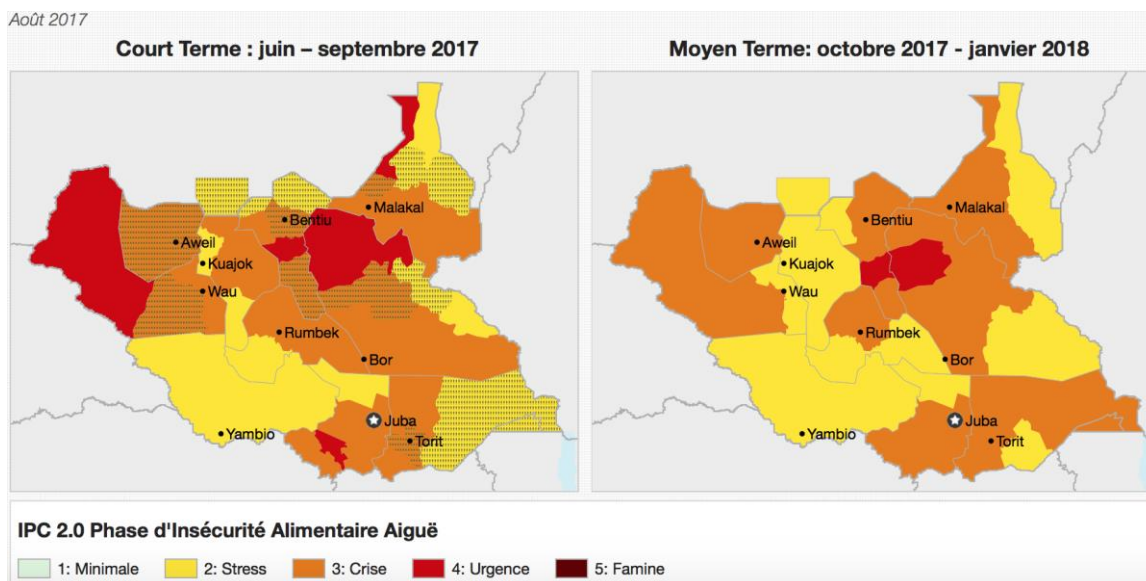
- **Priority 1:** Address standing critical needs of the target population in Aweil East, Yirol East, and Kapoeta East.
- **Priority 2:** Build the capacity of the SSRC across sectors to support preparedness and response capacity
- **Priority 3:** Conduct a detailed, multi-sectoral emergency needs assessment to inform the Response Plan for 2018

IPC global summary:

According to Fewsnet [Food Security Outlook](#) published in August¹⁰: “Extreme levels of food insecurity persist across South Sudan as conflict continues to limit access to typical food sources and, in some areas, the delivery of humanitarian assistance. Emergency (IPC Phase 4) or Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes exist in all states, despite the start of the harvest. Some households on isolated islands along the White Nile in Leer of Unity and Ayod of Jonglei could be in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) in the event they are unable to move in search of assistance. Food security has improved marginally with the ongoing first season harvest in Greater Equatoria and green harvest in Greater Bahr el Ghazal and Greater Upper Nile. However, national production is expected to be below the five-year average, which will lead to low domestic supply in 2018 and a continuation of extremely high food prices. At the household level, food availability is now expected to be lower than previously projected in Torit, Magwi, Budi, Juba, and Aweil Center due to crop damage from Fall Armyworm. According to SMART surveys conducted at the end of the 2017 lean season, acute malnutrition prevalence remains at ‘Critical’ (GAM (WHZ) $\geq 15\%$) levels across the country. Given the expectation of below-average production, continued very poor macroeconomic conditions, and low access to nutrition services, the

¹⁰ Situation has not been updated yet on Fewsnet for September

prevalence of acute malnutrition is expected to remain 'Critical' throughout the outlook period in all regions."



Context:

In recent years, the humanitarian situation in South Sudan has deteriorated considerably, leaving millions in need of food, access to health care, water and sanitation, and protection. Since the onset of the conflict in 2013 and subsequent devolution to complex emergency in the years since, millions have been affected and many have exhausted their already stretched coping capacities. One in four people have been uprooted by civil conflict—more than three million people—including 1.9 million who have been internally displaced. A stalled peace process and the fragmentation of major political parties has fueled further fighting between government and opposition forces and left some 7.5 million in need of humanitarian assistance. Endemic displacement has reduced access to land and crops while rising commodity prices and economic instability have deteriorated household purchasing power and disrupted markets. Depleted health and water and sanitation infrastructure has increased community risk and susceptibility to communicable and infectious diseases while fuel shortages and limited access to basic services have compounded the impacts of an already dire humanitarian situation. At the same time, many areas previously considered relatively stable have been impacted by war, which has led to significant access constraints, increased civilian risks, reduced coping opportunities, and the loss of lives and livelihoods. South Sudan is also experiencing a spike in endemic cholera with 5,081 cases reported across the country and 169 deaths. South Sudan is also experiencing a [spike in endemic cholera](#) with approximately 6,870 cases, the highest figure since 2014, reported from the beginning of the year until 11 June across the country, for a cumulative number of 10,832 and 248 deaths recorded between 18 June 2016 to 11 June 2017. The South Sudan Red Cross (SSRC) is responding to this crisis separately, under its Cholera Response Plan, however there are very clear links between the two interventions.

Operational Highlights:

- It is with great sadness that the team acknowledge the loss of an ICRC colleague, Lukudu Kennedy Laki, a local driver who was killed after unknown gunmen shot at a convoy of nine trucks and one vehicle in the Western Equatoria region. Following this saddening loss, the ICRC has suspended all operations in this Equatorias region for the time being. For the Response Plan, which targets

one area of Eastern Equatoria, this does pose access constraints for expatriate staff. However, as the Response Plan is primarily implemented through SSRC staff, who fall beneath different security regulations, operations have not been impacted thus far.

- On 25 September, the IFRC Country Office received technical authorization from the Geneva on the procurement of 5,000 Household kits—the Response Plan’s flagship intervention for 2017. As such, the distribution timeline for the delivery of the kits to beneficiaries remains for early November, which provides a two- to three-week contingency timeframe prior to the finalization of Phase 1 to accommodate any unforeseen challenges. Completion of this activity will expend nearly 50 percent of the 2017 Response Plan budget.
- Between 4 and 9 September, IFRC and ICRC jointly conducted a four-day emergency needs assessment training of trainers for SSRC Headquarters and Branch staff. Following the training, SSRC teams were deployed to the field to conduct branch level trainings with local enumerators in advance of data collection. Mobile data collection occurred from 18 to 25 September. Analysis and report writing is ongoing and will inform the response options analysis for Phase II of the project in 2018.
- The Operations Team has been in close contact with the Regional Office’s Food Security Communications delegate on profiling the response in South Sudan. Emergency Needs Assessment teams gathered photos from the field throughout the process to produce a photo story on the activity. To profile the distribution of the NFI kits, the Regional Food Security Communications delegate is expected to deploy in November to produce photo and video content on the response.
- The Operations Team is still looking for a suitable finance delegate to deploy to South Sudan for a period of two months between October and November 2017.
- On 10 October, the Phase II narrative and budget for the Response Plan will be shared with ICRC. The activities are informed by the ENA to ensure the plan for 2018 is strongly evidence-based.

Movement Coordination update:

Across the country, the National Society and its partners are working hard to address the multi-faceted needs arising from this complex crisis. In country, seven Partner National Societies (PNSs)—Austrian Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross, and Swiss Red Cross—are actively supporting programmes in community health, WASH, Psychosocial support (PSS), and disaster response and preparedness. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has one of its largest global operations in South Sudan, focusing on delivering its mandate in relation to the conflict and providing assistance in many areas.

The Response Plan comes out of a strong process of cooperation and coordination at the country level with these partners. Under the framework of Strengthening Movement Cooperation and Collaboration (SMCC), South Sudan is considered a pilot country or “country lab”. As such, the RP presents a good opportunity to show that a coordinated Movement response can be delivered in this complex environment. Adopting this approach, the Federation has taken a lead role in coordination and works closely with Movement partners to ensure the RP is supported and resourced and that capacity-building support is effectively delivered to the NS. This is coordinated through the mechanisms of the Movement Platform and other coordination meetings in Juba where decisions are taken on the response strategy, security and access, and communications. Throughout implementation of the RP, partners will adhere to the existing coordination agreements including The

Movement Coordination Agreement, the Security Framework and the Public Communications Agreement. The plan will also be supported by operational and technical level coordination meetings.

Coordination Highlights:

- The Country Team is working with the Regional and Geneva Offices to host a global teleconference for interested PNS' to address several questions that have surfaced in relation to the unique funding modality adopted for this Response Plan. The date for this telecon is still being determined but will be shared with partners as soon as possible.

Key Reference Documents

[MDRSS006-Response Plan](#) (found on FedNet through the Operational Plans database)

Fewsnet [Food Security Outlook](#) August 2017

All Africa News: [U.S. Vows to Punish South Sudan Peace Saboteurs](#) (27 Sept)

IRIN: [New Aid Plan Needed for South Sudan](#) (25 Sept)

NIGERIA

Start Date: 24 April 2017

End date: 30 September 2018

Targeted beneficiaries: 300,000 people (50,000 families)

Total amount: CHF 5,096,838 (2017 budget) *through One International Appeal launched by ICRC*

Targeted Beneficiary: 80,000 people in 2017 and 192,000 people in 2018.

Funding: 5,096,838 (for 2017) funded through One International Appeal launched by the ICRC

Programmes: The operation will support most vulnerable population in the North East with focus on the following sectors: food security and livelihoods, health, water and sanitation, shelter, DRR and NSD. Cash transfers will be one of the main modalities.

As of **10 September**, 32,554 people had been reached, among which 8,218 with Food Security, 7,931 with Livelihoods support, the same people had also been reached directly by WASH at distribution points by basic hygiene promotion sessions and demonstration of use of household water treatment kits. Together, beneficiaries received 3,170 buckets (two per each households) and 332,850 water purification tablets.

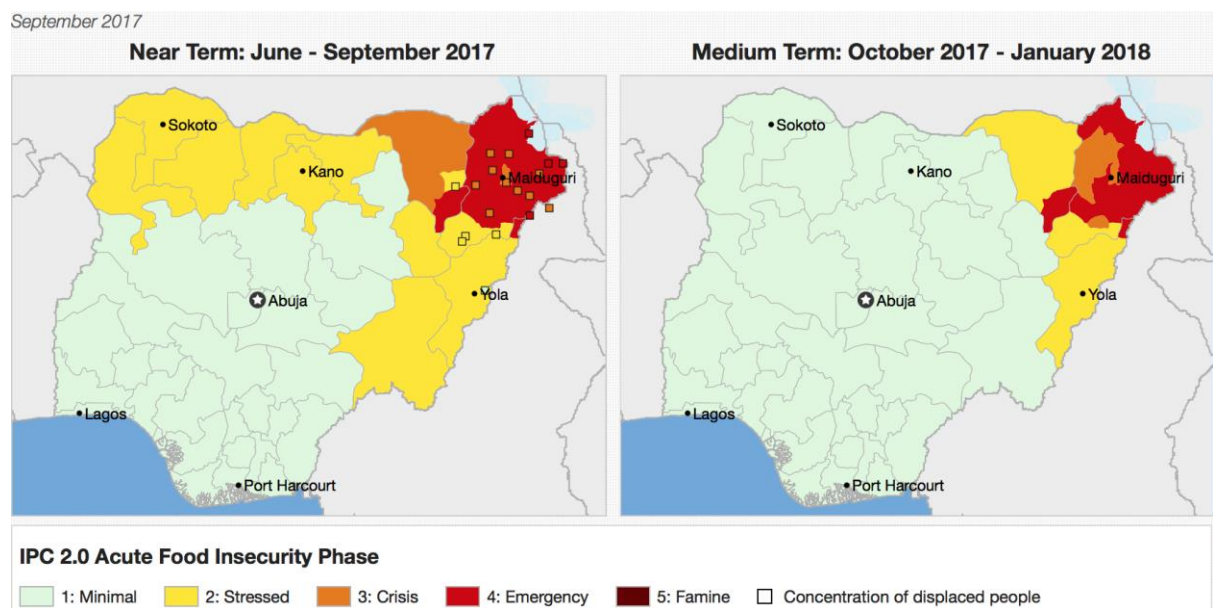
Context:

According to Fewsnet's [Food Security Outlook update](#) of September:

- Persisting insurgent activities in the northeast of Nigeria, coupled with trade restrictions, population displacements, restricted road access during the rainy season, and arrivals of refugees from Niger and Cameroon have continued to drive severe acute food insecurity and limit the efforts of humanitarian partners in assisting displaced persons in the region. A substantial proportion of the population in the northeast continues to face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or Emergency (IPC Phase 4) acute food insecurity, with an increased risk of high levels of acute malnutrition and excess mortality. Less accessible areas remain at risk of Famine (IPC Phase 5).
- As of September 27th, 4,114 cases of cholera have been reported in Borno State, with 56 deaths and a Case Fatality Rate of 1.4 percent. High concentrations of the outbreak have been reported in the Muna corridor of Jere LGA (1,991 cases), Dikwa LGA (687 cases), and Monguno LGA (1,396 cases), while cases in Maiduguri metropolitan area and Mafa stand at 34 and 6, respectively. Suspected cases

have been identified as being at 'high risk' in Bama, Biu, Kala Balge, Kukawa, Mobbar, Ngala, Hawul, Damboa, and Gwoza local government areas.

- Households outside of the northeast of Nigeria are engaged in early harvests of millet, maize, cowpea, groundnut, and cassava, and are consuming own-produced foods. Similarly, the favourable main season harvest which is underway in localized areas has led to increased availability and a decline in staple food prices, improving food access for poor households. Most poor households in these areas are engaged in normal income earning opportunities and are facing Minimal (IPC Phase 1) acute food insecurity.
- Heavy rainfall events and above-average cumulative precipitation in much of Nigeria and the neighboring countries of Niger and Cameroon led to flooding in at least 22 states in Nigeria, including significant impacts in Benue, Kogi, Niger, Ebonyi, and Delta States. In Benue and Kogi States, flooding led to the displacement of over 250,000 people who are currently living in camps. Similarly, some houses have been destroyed and cropped fields damaged. The government and humanitarian partners are currently providing food and non-food support, including access to water for the displaced persons.
- The preliminary results of a joint WFP/FEWS NET market survey showed that market functioning in conflict-affected areas of Borno, Yobe, and Adamawa States are gradually improving. However, staple food prices remain higher relative to the same time last year and well-above average price levels. Household demand remains elevated by 70, 63 and 64 percent, across Borno, Yobe and Adamawa States, respectively, relative to the same period of last year.



Operational Highlights:

Within an integrated approach, resources have been divided into two main planning lines for Early Response and Early Recovery.

The **Cash transfer** component has been completed successfully in Adamawa State. A total 4,298 unconditional and conditional (livelihoods support) cash grants have been provided to the victims of the Complex Crisis in Adamawa State. Some 70,234 people have been reached through emergency cash component in Adamawa State. *Source: ODK data collection for registrations between June-July 2017. A Post-distribution monitoring report is under development.*

The **Livelihoods component** completed provision of conditional grants to beneficiaries in Adamawa: 2,736 beneficiaries (61 percent) out of the targeted 4,500 have received conditional livelihoods grants

with 942 beneficiaries reached with conditional livelihoods grants of NGN 25,000 (appr. CHF 68)¹¹ each, 640 beneficiaries reached with unconditional grants of NGN 30,000 (appr. CHF 81) each, and a follow-up additional conditional livelihood grant of NGN 25,000 per family. Nigerian Red Cross has mobilised volunteers to support the community-managed livelihoods component. Terms of reference for the full market survey in three targeted Local Government Areas for the skills training and entrepreneurship development targeting the youth and farmers has been developed.

Shelter: 31 more community members and volunteers have been trained in masonry and carpentry in Hong LGA's eight communities. 4,200 blocks have been made in Hong and delivered to targeted communities. To-date, six model shelters have been erected in Gombi (Telabala, Sabongari and Guyaku) and pending installation of doors and windows. Seven of the most vulnerable families (40 people) have been provided with safe shelters. Six blocks making machines have been delivered by vendor to shelter project sites, further enhancing block production capacity and ensuring sustainability of the project.

WASH: Beneficiaries targeted through the Cash Transfer Program (CTP) component have been reached through WASH component with water containers and water purification tablets. Ten communities have been assessed in terms of their water facilities: The Operation is procuring building materials and parts to rehabilitate or retrofit water facilities. Works has started in these communities.

The **Health** component is adopting CBHFA approaches in the targeted communities. Eight communities have been sensitized through visits. The Operation will employ CBHFA tool to reach the communities through education, awareness raising and behaviour change education. A Training of Trainers (ToT) workshop has been organised at Adamawa Branch of NRCS. As such, 26 volunteers have been trained as CBHFA resource persons in their communities to promote health messages and support other activities related to increase the knowledge with respect to health challenges at the community level. This component also aims at improving health facilities in communities through provision of basics such as refrigerators and solar panels to be used to operate those as well as basic refurbishment and other needs in terms of furniture. community volunteers and CRC members trained to convey and implement CBHFA in their communities. Health components also targets schools with nutritional support to school children. Health component closely coordinates this work with local health divisions to ensure synergies and coordination. Inclusion of the interventions into local health development plans will also allow for better support from the government and makes the efforts sustainable in the future.

Disaster Management and Disaster Risk Reduction. A Concept note, a tentative agenda and other relative materials have been prepared for different training activities: for the forthcoming National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) Training, scheduled to take place in October (the last NDRT training was conducted some 10 years ago in Nigeria); the Adamawa/Yobe Branch Disaster Response Team (BDRT) training, developed to be organized in November for some 30 participants from the States of Adamawa, Yobe and Borno to further strengthen disaster response capacities of three branches implementing or to implement Complex crisis in North East Operation with support from IFRC. Finally, a Concept note and tentative agenda for the forthcoming Adamawa branch's Contingency planning workshop is being developed. Exact dates for the workshop are under discussion. Procurement of 100 Disaster Responders Kits is in progress.

Five communities in Song, Gombi and Hong have been assessed with their community mitigation measures evaluated and community DRR plans being developed. Mitigation works to in 2018, due to change in plans and budget. The delivery of pre-positioned stock for Adamawa State is in progress. Bill of quantities and design of the repairs needed to the NRCS's Adamawa DP centre has been finalized and pending selection of the constructor to start the works in anticipation of the soon arrival of

¹¹ Oanda: CHF 1 = 366 NGN

prepositioned stock. DRR key messages on floods have been finalized, translated into Hausa and will require the visualization in form of pictures/drawings. Designed has been contracted to provide sketches, design for this IEC. This will be in a form of a 2018 wall calendar.

Yobe Mission: A mission was deployed to Yobe for assessments and the setting of an operational base. It observed quite a large presence of humanitarian responders providing a range of services to affected populations. However, response continues to be hampered by major challenges, such as humanitarian access. The onset of rainy season has also caused flooding in several areas and many locations could only be reached by helicopters. Government social welfare and health sectors experience lack of manpower. There is an obvious shortage of doctors, teachers and social workers. Many humanitarians are trying to address those shortages through directly providing various allowances and hardship payments to attract specialists. Additionally, population movements make adequate and correct planning difficult for humanitarian actors.

According to the Secretary to the Government of Yobe, some 14,000 people have returned from Cameroon since the beginning of the year, new arrivals created additional pressure on the already stretched local resources, especially on water and sanitation facilities. Funding shortages are also becoming a big challenge to humanitarian actors. For example, WFP has reported that because of insufficient funds, they had to suspend food distributions in two LGAs; Nguri and Potiskum. A rapid food security assessment conducted under the UNOCHA coordination has shown that returnee families are eating less often and stretching their portions; many rely on emergency coping strategies such as begging and selling their productive assets such as livestock.

While some of the partners provide mental health services as part of essential minimum package at health facilities and through outreach services, mental health and psychosocial support remain a serious gap and need to be scaled up (including referrals and psychiatric care), given the massive need created by violence of conflict to support the healing and stabilisation of thousands of women, children and men. Also, almost all Key Informants have stipulated the need for Emergency Livelihoods support to help crisis-affected population to rebuild their lives in a dignified manner. In Yobe, some 1,000 families have been jointly reached by all partners with agricultural inputs, fisheries and economic development activities. But this number is a drop in a bucket compared to huge needs.

Movement Coordination update:

The implementation of this Operation is in accordance with the Movement Coordination Agreement for Nigeria signed on 11 December 2015, within the framework of the established mechanisms in Nigeria. To ensure an effective implementation and links between the different decision-making levels, a coordination mechanism has been agreed, established and respected by the partners at strategic, operational and technical level at Abuja HQ and NE States level. ICRC's Sub-office in Yola monitors and coordinates security and Safer Access aspects of field operations, including security clearances and field movements.

External communication is closely coordinated with ICRC to ensure the Movement to speak with one voice. The Operation is proactively participating in the humanitarian Cluster meetings such as Cash Cluster and Shelter Cluster to ensure coordination and inform approaches. Cash transfer cluster has requested IFRC to lead next meeting and provide basic training to aid agencies on how CTP component is being implemented within the Operation. The Operation took part in a joint, interagency integrated assessment in Hong LGAs. ICRC and IFRC shelter and wathab technical staff made mutual exchange visits to their project sites on 19-21 September. Exchanges have allowed to see the way interventions have been carried out, determine common approaches and challenges and capacities to maximise the impact.

West Africa/SAHEL

(Burkina Faso, Mauritania, Niger, Chad, Senegal - DREFs)

Start Date: August 2017

End date: November 2017

Cumulative Targeted beneficiaries: 53,575 people

Cumulative Total amount: CHF 1,095,684

Context:

In May 2017, National Societies of Sahel Countries with Movement partners (IFRC, ICRC, PNSs of Belgium, British, French, Spanish, Netherlands and Swedish Red Cross) met for a three-day workshop on Resilience and Food Security in Sahel. The workshop held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, aimed at defining a concerted, coordinated, multi-annual approach to recurring food security crisis, on which the Movement's partners will align themselves for the next five years. During the workshop, based on the [Cadre Harmonise](#) or Harmonized framework¹² analyses, alarming data were highlighted pointing immediate needs to be addressed for some countries where pockets of food insecurity crisis were expected. To know more about the Sahel food security context, click [here](#).

Following the workshop, **Sahel countries**, National Societies and Movement partners prepared **Response plans (DREFs)** for **Senegal, Niger, Mauritania, Mali, Chad** and **Burkina Faso** to address current localized areas of Food Insecurity and crisis within each country. Concomitantly, a **joint longer-term program** for these areas is being prepared to address the recurrent food insecurity problem through a preparedness and resilience perspective. The program would promote a coordinated, multi-annual approach to recurring food security crisis, on which the Movement's partners would align themselves for the next four years.

In August, DREFs for [Senegal](#) (MDRSN015), [Chad](#) (MDRDT015) and [Mauritania](#) (MDRMR008), [Burkina Faso](#) (MDRBF014) and [Niger](#) (MDRNE019) were approved and operations launched for a cumulative amount of CHF 1,097,684 and approximately 53,575 people. The responses comprise the following components: Cash Transfer Programming, Health, Water, sanitation and Hygiene promotion as well as Capacity-building of the National Societies and communities. Five RDRTs (one per DREF), with a team leader, specialized in Food security were deployed and are supporting the National Societies during the rolling out of the DREF responses in each country.

The countries of operations are facing numerous challenge among which recent **Caterpillar attacks**: According to the National Societies concerned, the caterpillars have been identified damaging crops in Burkina Faso, Niger and Mali. This is a worsening factor for these countries classified among the Food insecurity areas in the Sahel. The caterpillars though have not yet affected the areas targeted for the implementation of the DREF in the Sahel. Meanwhile, the situation should be monitored carefully. the Ministry of Agriculture in Burkina Faso is currently developing its response strategy.

Operations Highlights:

Overall, all distributions activities have been planned to end by 10 October 2017 except for Mauritania which will complete them by 15 October. The ToRs of the in-depth assessments are available and the data collection will start next week (9 October). It is worth mentioning that in general the lean season is lasting and that in some areas the crops are compromised by drought pockets as well as possible caterpillars' attacks and grain-eating birds as it is the case in Burkina Faso since some years now. The reflection and preparation of longer term solutions is progressing, see further ahead section "**Longer-term strategy and program for the operation**"

¹² The cadre harmonise provides analysis and identification of areas at risk and vulnerable groups in the Sahel (*Cadre Harmonisé*). To know more about the Harmonized Framework, see [here](#).

Countries' highlights:

Burkina Faso

In Tin-akoff in Oudalan province, the capacity building of the National Society has been ensured with the training of 30 volunteers (3 female and 27 men) in food Security, nutrition, phone data collection techniques with ODK system, cash Transfer, and the use of MUAC (PB). The following activities have also been conducted:

- Setting up of a joint team comprised of Burkina Red Cross Society (BRCS) and the Ministry of Social Action for the monitoring of the DREF response activities (beneficiary selection committees)
- Setting up of village beneficiary selection committees
- Discussions with shopkeepers regarding the signing of agreements
- Coordination of activities with ICRC, PNSs and other partners in the field.

Mauritania

Areas	provinces	Districts	Communes	Targets/people
Area 1	BRAKNAR	MAGTAALAHJAR	MAGTAALAHJAR	350
			SANGRAVE	250
			DJONABE	150
			OUAD AMOUR	150
Area 2	GORGOL	MOUNGUEL	MOUNGUEL	280
			BOUKOIL	250

Discussions are ongoing with Mauritania Red Crescent and with external partners (WFP, HCR, OXFAM) to ensure good coordination of activities. There were delays with the DREF operation, but following agreement on procedures between the National society and the IFRC Cluster, the activities are resuming with additional RDRTs deployed to ensure that the activities will progress normally. Two RDRTs will be deployed in Mauritania, one in charge of volunteers' briefing, selection of beneficiaries and distribution of activities; the other one will be dedicated to trainings and nutrition activities.

Senegal

In Goudiry's and Bambey's department the capacity building of the National Society has been ensured through the training of 30 volunteers including 11 females. The local leaders are being involved in the implementation of response activities. The selection of beneficiaries has started:

- In Bambey's department, precisely in five communes: Lambaye, Gawane, Baba Garage, Keur Samba Kane and Ngoye. These five communes are comprised of 69 villages.
- In Goudiry's precisely in six communes Goudiry, Bala, Kothiari, Sinthiou Bocar Aly, Sinthiou Mamadou Boubou and Boynguel. These six communes include a total of 71 villages.

The following achievements have been reported

- General assembly in Goudiri and the setting-up of beneficiary selection committees. The validation of the lists of the selected beneficiaries is ongoing
- Categorization of the population within the very poor, poor, middle and rich groups, according to the HEA methodology. A total of 434 households were identified as very poor, A total of 292 children and 82 women have been screened

- Assessments in households
- Measurement of the Brachial Perimeter for children, pregnant and lactating women
- Discussions with shopkeepers regarding the signing of agreements

Chad

The DREF target area is Wayi Department, comprising five communes (Ngouri, Baderi, Yalita, Didbinitchi and Ndjigdada) and 30 target villages. The lean period is still raging. It has been worsened by the rarity of rains and their poor distribution. Wayi Department is one of the most affected area by this situation. With longer dry periods (period between two rains) which caused drying of crops and pastures. Early stopping of rains could lead to a drastic harvest drop. This situation is alarming and should be followed-up very carefully.

- The selection of beneficiaries as well as the screening activities are ongoing and are supposed to be completed by 04 October
- The distribution of vouchers is being planned.

Niger

The DREF intervention areas are: Loga department in Dosso region including three communes comprising 22 villages. The following achievements have been reported:

- Identification of potential suppliers:
- Community structuring
- Training of 50 volunteers in WASH and Community Based Surveillance (CBS) and Epidemic Control for Volunteers (ECV)
- Training of 30 Food Security and Nutrition NDRT. The selection of beneficiaries is ongoing
- The distribution of vouchers is being planned

Mali

Mali is a particular case. Indeed, although not under DREF, the plan and budget have been developed and shared. Their validation is still pending as well as the project code to use for the effective implementation of activities precisely

- The capacity building of the National Society and the communities
- The deep assessments in Kayes and Mopti

Regional Coordination Food Crisis Appeal Support

Regional coordination Food Crisis in Africa ([MDR60003](#))

Start Date: 19 April 2017

End date: 19 October 2018

Total amount: 3,877,335 CHF



Funding: 764,572 CHF (20 per cent in hard pledges, but approximately 27% funded if account for soft pledges and in-kind/staff donations not registered in system)

Implementation: 39 percent (expenditures vs Funding)

Main Highlights:

- During this reporting period, the regional team provided support to developing and ongoing operations, with a reduced team of three members: the operations' Coordinator, the PMER and the Communications delegates.
- A CEA delegate dedicated to supporting the food crisis operations has been recruited and is due to start on 16 October. Operations in needs of support to scale up CEA activities and approaches may contact [Sharon Reader](#). The new delegate will be available to support operations from a few days to a few weeks depending on needs.
- The recruitment process for a Cash Transfer delegate and Information Management delegate is near completion with candidate identified.
- The Revision of appeal is planned to be completed before end of October.
- The regional food crisis team received a delegation from the Canadian Red Cross and Global Affairs Canada, in Nairobi to monitor progress on operations and discuss strategic development with partners.
- The revision of the **Nigeria** response is ongoing and the response plan will be shared with the Regional office for review on October 9.
- The **Namibia** operation was completed on 30 September 2017, pending final report due on 30 December 2017. The Mozambique Emergency Appeal ([MDRMZ012](#)) Final Report was completed and posted on 22 September.
- The Communications delegates has been deployed in Nigeria from 17 September to 8 October for National Society capacity building support and communications' content collection. The communications' delegate will participate mid-October in a Somalia media visit in correspondence with a global universal health care campaign, partnering with Devex, Philips, the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers and Associations, UNICEF and WHO.
- A regional communications plan is being drafted to support food crisis countries. This incorporates considerations for each country context as well as existing communication plans already developing at country level. Social media engagement covering food crisis snapshots across region were shared with national societies for further distribution.
- The Ops Coordinator is traveling to Nigeria, to support operations to be back in office on 17th.

Human Resources' current priority HR needs shared for the Food Crisis operations:

Country/Region	Operation	Position	Contract length (months)	Funding available	Position to be posted	Comment
Ethiopia	Drought	Operations Manager	6	no	yes	
South Sudan	Complex Emergency	Finance delegate	2	yes	no - surge	From September
Regional	Food Crisis	Food Security and Resilient Livelihoods	9 months	no		



Ethiopia Drought Operation: One of the community members, out of the 1000 beneficiaries from 15 Kebeles in Bidu, after receiving five goats as part of the support that was given to households that lost 75 percent of their animals due to drought. Source: ERCS

Contact information:

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How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in Disaster Relief and the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote, at all times, all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

www.ifrc.org
Saving lives, changing minds.



The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

- 1.** Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
- 2.** Enable healthy and safe living.
- 3.** Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.

List of communications materials produced by IFRC about the drought in Eastern and Central Africa:

Press releases and statements:

[Mobile cash reduces hunger, boosts local economies in Kenya](#) (10 Jul)

[“In preparedness and response, reaching communities should be ‘first mile’, not the last”](#) (23 Jun)

[“The most vicious of vicious spirals” – Cholera compounding famine risk in East Africa and Yemen](#) (21 Jun)

[Lifting of famine in South Sudan a “precarious victory”](#) (30 Jun)

[Tens of thousands of women and children are fleeing from South Sudan to Sudan](#) (30 May)

Web stories:

[Africa drought and hunger](#) (central webpage)

[Cash transfer programme puts Kenyans in charge of their recovery](#) (11 Jun)

[Ethiopia: helping pastoral communities cope with drought](#) (28 Jun)

[Kenya: Red Cross volunteers overcome natural barriers to response to drought](#) (22 May)

[Red Cross volunteer puts others first during Ethiopian drought](#) (12 May)

[Ethiopian drought pushes families into deeper cycle of vulnerability](#) (9 May)

[Ethiopia: Red Cross volunteer walks hours to feed her drought-stricken family](#) (5 May)

[Delivering emergency water to the drought-stricken in southern Ethiopia](#) (2 May)

Videos and social media assets:

[IFRC Twitter feed with all drought-related assets produced](#)

[Ethiopia: helping pastoral communities cope with drought](#) (28 Jun)

Facebook posts: [1 May](#), [16 May](#), [23 May](#), [25 May](#), [6 Jun](#), [16 Jun](#), [21 Jun](#), [28 Jun](#), [30 Jun](#), [4 Jul](#), [17 Jul](#), [28 Jul](#), [3 Aug](#),

Instagram posts: [23 May](#), [25 May](#), [26 May](#), [30 May](#), [5 Jul](#), [9 Jul](#)

Those interested are also invited to visit a dedicated [Food Security Dashboard](#) and a [webpage on the Food Crisis](#) on the IFRC website

The Press release for the Kenya CTP program generated reaction in the general media, as follow:

Kenya Red Cross (KRCS) Cash Transfer operation (CTP):

[Press Release: Kenya: Mobile cash reduces hunger, boosts local economies in Kenya, 10 July 2017](#)

Associated Press (AP): [KENYA DROUGHT - Red Cross providing a lifeline in Kenya drought. STORY NUMBER 4105916](#)
(Editor’s Pick)

SABC – Interview with KRCS

Business Daily Africa: [Mobile money effective in tackling hunger in Kenya: Red Cross](#)

Coast week: [Mobile cash efficient in curbing hunger in Kenya: charity](#)

The conversation: [East Africa: Droughts - Some Headway in Unpacking What's Causing Them](#)

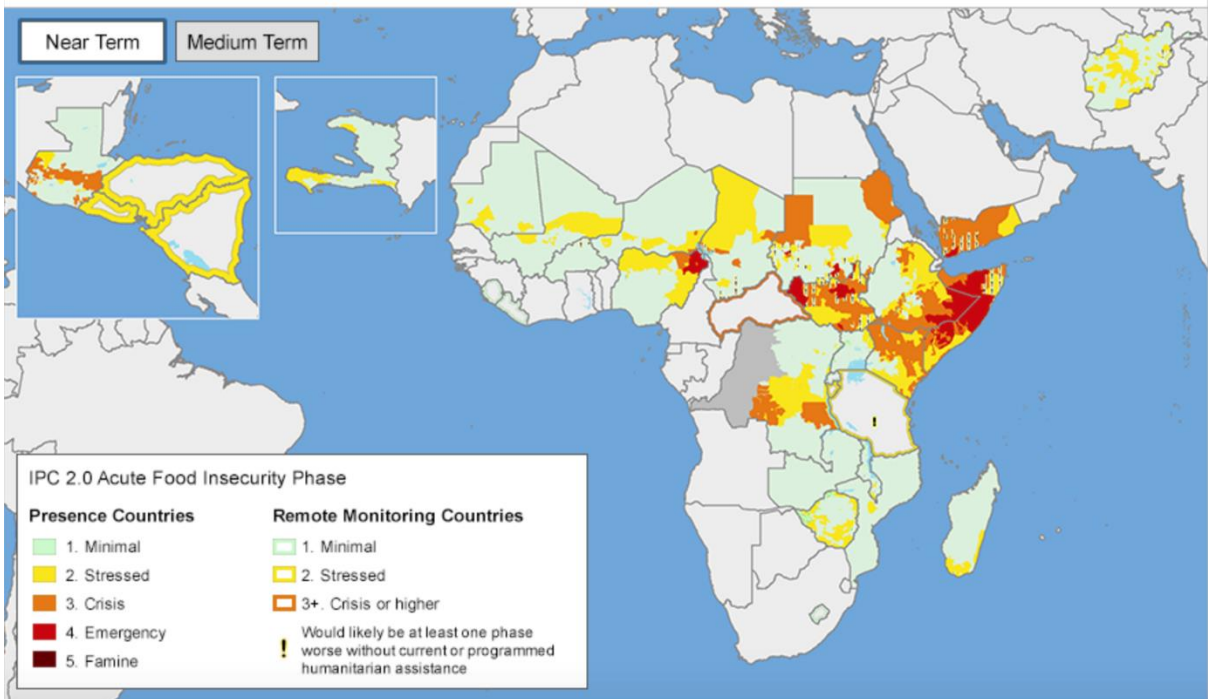
Other stories

1. [Mobile cash efficient in curbing hunger in Kenya: charity](#) - (Xinhua)
2. [Mobile money effective in fighting hunger, Red Cross says](#) – (Kenya News)
3. [Mobile money helps stave off food insecurity for 250 000 Kenyans](#) – (IT News Africa)
4. [Mobile money effective in tackling hunger in Kenya: Red Cross](#) – (World News Report)
5. [Mobile cash reduces hunger, boosts local economies in Kenya](#) - (Relief Web)
6. [Kenya: Mobile cash reduces hunger, boosts local economies in Kenya](#) – (Humanitarian News)
7. [Mobile cash efficient in curbing hunger in Kenya: charity](#) - (Asia Pacific Daily)
8. [Iniciativa de telefonia móvel ajuda a combater fome no Quênia](#) - (UN)
9. [M-pesa yaokoa wahanga wa ukame, Kenya](#) – (UN)
10. [Mobile cash reduces hunger, boosts local economies in Kenya](#) - (IT Web Africa)
11. [Mobile cash reduces hunger, boosts local economies in Kenya](#) - (Africa Business Communities)
12. [Mobile cash efficient in curbing hunger in Kenya: charity](#) - (Coast week)

Twitter

Kenya Red Cross mobile cash program – 2.3 percent engagement rate on [Twitter](#) (vs. monthly average of 0.9 percent).

Acute Food Insecurity: Near Term (August - September 2017)



Acute Food Insecurity: Medium Term (October 2017 - January 2018)

