Global report on food crises 2019
Key findings

“Food and agriculture in times of crisis”
Working better together for long term solutions

Brussels, 2 April 2019

An annual analytical product informing the Global Network against Food Crises, based on a highly consultative and consensus-based process facilitated by FSIN

A joint acute food insecurity and malnutrition analysis providing estimates of acute hunger
## INTEGRATED FOOD SECURITY PHASE CLASSIFICATION (IPC) & CADRE HARMONISÉ (CH)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase 1</th>
<th>Phase 2</th>
<th>Phase 3</th>
<th>Phase 4</th>
<th>Phase 5</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimal</td>
<td>Stressed</td>
<td>Crisis</td>
<td>Emergency</td>
<td>Catastrophe/Famine</td>
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- **Phase 1 (Minimal)**: Households are able to meet essential food and non-food needs without engaging in atypical, unsustainable strategies to access food and income.

- **Phase 2 (Stressed)**: Households have minimally adequate food consumption but are unable to afford some essential non-food expenditures without engaging in detrimental coping strategies.

- **Phase 3 (Crisis)**: Households have food consumption gaps with high or above usual acute malnutrition OR accelerated depletion of livelihood assets that will lead to food consumption gaps.

- **Phase 4 (Emergency)**: Households have large food consumption gaps resulting in very high acute malnutrition and excess mortality OR face extreme loss of livelihood assets that will lead to food consumption gaps.

- **Phase 5 (Catastrophe/Famine)**: Households have an extreme lack of food and other basic needs. Starvation, death and destitution are evident.

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**Action for disaster risk reduction and livelihoods protection**

**Urgent action required**
More than 113 million people across 53 countries faced Crisis (IPC/CH Phase 3 or above). This is a slight dip from last year.

Despite the slight decrease, over the past three years, the report has consistently shown that, year on year, more than 100 million people have faced periods of acute hunger.

Eight countries accounted for two thirds of the total number of people facing acute food insecurity – amounting to nearly 72 million people.

The worst food crises in 2018 were, in order of severity: Yemen, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Syrian Arab Republic, the Sudan, South Sudan and northern Nigeria.

More than 143 million people in a subset of 42 countries in Stressed conditions (IPC Phase 2).
Acute and chronic malnutrition continue to persist in countries affected by food crises, threatening the health and well-being of the population especially young children and women.
Conflict was the key driver of food insecurity for the majority of the 113 million acutely food insecure people.

- 74M acutely food-insecure people in 21 conflict-affected countries or territories
- 29M acutely food-insecure people in 26 climate-affected countries
- 10M acutely food-insecure people affected by economic shocks
More than half of those facing Crisis (IPC/CH Phase 3) or worse conditions were in 10 countries or territories affected by CONFLICT mainly in the Middle East, Africa and Asia.
African countries accounted for the overwhelming majority of acutely food-insecure people in countries affected by CLIMATE shocks.
MAIN DRIVERS: ECONOMIC SHOCKS

ECONOMIC SHOCKS were considered the primary driver of the acute food insecurity of 10.2 million people in Crisis (IPC/CH Phase 3) or worse mostly in three countries.

It was also the primary driver of displacement for migrants from Venezuela.
The limited access to the right quantity and quality of nutritious foods for children’s optimum growth and development remains a major challenge across all countries affected by food crisis.

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Niger, Somalia, Bangladesh (Cox’s Bazaar) and Malawi, less than 10% of the children under two have a minimum acceptable diet.

Cholera outbreaks in Uganda, Niger, Malawi and Nigeria; measles outbreaks in Chad and Madagascar increase the population’s vulnerability to malnutrition.

Limited access to basic health, nutrition and WASH services.
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<th>FORECAST IN 2019</th>
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<td><strong>Conflict and insecurity</strong> will remain the primary causes of food insecurity and contribute to persisting or increasing displacement, internally or towards neighbouring countries.</td>
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<td><strong>Weather shocks and extreme climate events</strong> will continue to have a severe impact on agricultural and livestock production in several regions (Central America Dry Corridor and Southern Africa, for instance).</td>
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<td><strong>Economic instability</strong> will continue undermining the food security status of vulnerable households in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Libya, South Sudan, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and Zimbabwe.</td>
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<td><strong>Continued cholera, measles and Ebola outbreaks</strong></td>
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THE WAY FORWARD

• Reinforcing safety-nets
• Investing in conflict prevention and peace
• Simultaneous action across the humanitarian-development nexus
• Investing in resilience
• Leveraging information and technology