

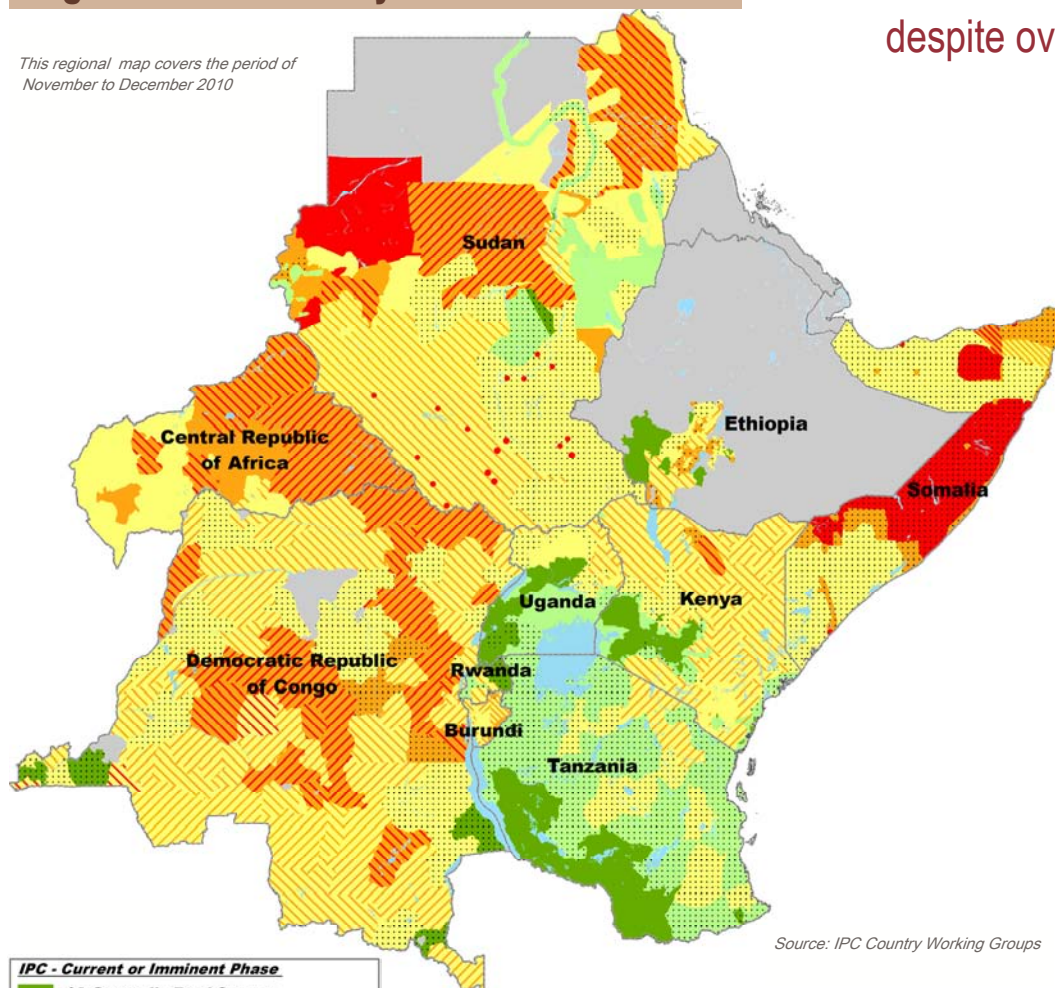
FSNWG Update

Food Security & Nutrition Working Group
Central and Eastern Africa

Central & Eastern Africa | December 2010

Regional food security situation

This regional map covers the period of November to December 2010



Source: IPC Country Working Groups

Areas of high concern persist despite overall regional improvement

Overall, **the food security situation in the region is still slightly improving**, confirming the trend registered over the past 3-4 months. Those improvements follow the above-normal to normal harvests from the past long rains season and good rangeland conditions.

However, despite those improvements, **areas of high concern persist in the region**.

In **Somalia**, civil insecurity and conflicts continue to be one of the main drivers to food insecurity. In particular in **South-Central** parts of the country, where high frequency of fighting between opposing groups and related population displacements persist, constraining food and livelihood security and contributing to a protracted situation of **Humanitarian Emergency** (phase 4, according to the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification analysis, IPC).

Other populations classified in a phase of **Humanitarian Emergency** are located in the Darfur States of Sudan. It is estimated that **more than half of the population in Northern Darfur** and approximately **20% of the population of Western Darfur** are currently facing this emergency situation, mainly due to poor food availability and access in the first State and to conflict, civil insecurity and displacements in the latter.

Food security situation threatened in countries affected by La Niña

There is critical concern that the food security situation could worsen in relation to the meteorological phenomenon of La Niña and its impact in the region, especially in Somalia, Kenya, Ethiopia, Burundi and Djibouti.

➔ Recommendations for action:

Southern Sudan Referendum:

The development and outcomes of the Southern Sudan referendum for cessation or unity scheduled for early January 2011 should be monitored closely as possible risks of insecurity and population movements may represent major hazards to food security in the region.

La Niña meteorological phenomenon:

In the view of the possible impact of la Nina phenomenon on the food security situation in the region the following actions are recommended:

- Assess current and planned response of national stakeholders
- Organize ad hoc meetings to **review IPC risk analysis** based on **new information**
- Feed information back to the concerned stakeholders (national governments, clusters, FSNWG La Niña Task Force etc.)

In **Somalia** rainfall performance and distribution during this short rainy season has been unusually below average so far and this has already led to early crop failure and to deterioration of grazing conditions in some areas.

In some areas of **Burundi** (North-East, East and South-East) the agricultural season started with a delay and currently, after 2 months into the season, it is estimated that less than 50% of the land has been cultivated.

Further Information:

- **Integrated FS Phase Classification** : www.ipcinfo.org
- **FSNWG La Niña Taskforce (forecasts)** : www.disasterriskreduction.net/La_nina
- **Disaster Risk Reduction website**: www.disasterriskreduction.net/eastandcentralafrica
- **FSNWG La Niña Alert Nov '10**: www.disasterriskreduction.net/La_nina
- **FSNWG Update Oct '10**: www.reliefweb.int
- **Food Insecurity in the HoA (FAO, April 2010)**: <http://www.fao.org/emergencies>

