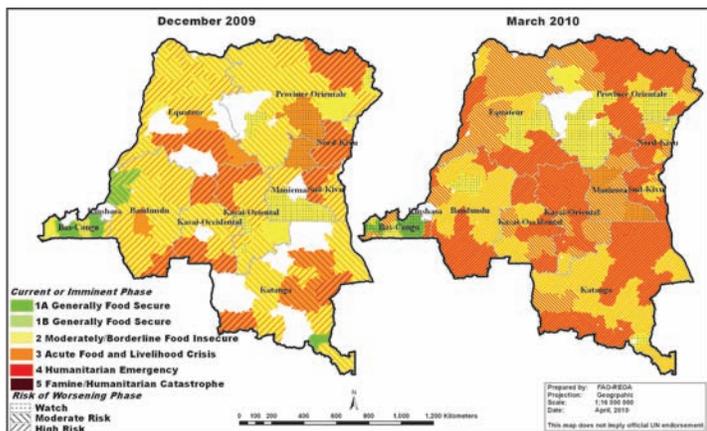


# FSN WG Update

Food Security & Nutrition Working Group

Central & Eastern Africa | April 2010

## Food security situation in decline...



DRC IPC maps Dec 09 - March 10

## Expanding Acute Food and Livelihood Crisis in DRC

Preliminary results of the DRC Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) from March 2010 indicate that the food security situation has worsened since 2009 in most parts of the country. Populations in several territories in the **Equateur province (northwest)** are in **Acute Food and Livelihood Crisis (AFLC - Phase 3)**, partly due to inter-tribal violent armed conflict centered around Dongo that forced nearly 200 000 civilians to flee their homes in the last six months. In forested territories, a large number of people have lost access to hunting and gathering grounds after being officially displaced for environmental protection reasons. In the **Oriental province (northeast)** where the Ugandan militant group LRA is active, the area already classified in AFLC phase with high risk of worsening phase has expanded considerably. The food security situation has also worsened in **South Kivu, Katanga, Central DRC (the two Kasai), Maniema and Bandundu**. Despite this negative trend, some improvements have been however reported for populations in Bas Congo and

in North Kivu provinces. Enhanced civil security combined with humanitarian interventions targeting returnees have played a key role in food security improvements in North Kivu.

## Further Information:

Regional rainfall forecast, March – May 2010: [www.icpac.net/](http://www.icpac.net/)

KFSSG Kenya Short Rains Assessment Report (Feb 2010):

[http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/RWFfiles2010.nsf/FilesByRWDocUnidFilename/VVOS-83VKKR-full\\_report.pdf?File/full\\_report.pdf](http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/RWFfiles2010.nsf/FilesByRWDocUnidFilename/VVOS-83VKKR-full_report.pdf?File/full_report.pdf)

Weather hazards Impact Assessment for Africa, 8-14 April 2010 (FEWS-NET)

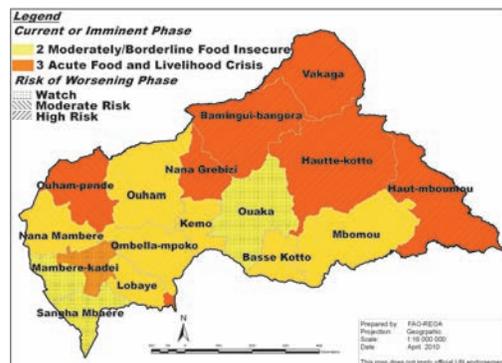
[http://www.fews.net/docs/Publications/afr\\_Apr08\\_2010.pdf](http://www.fews.net/docs/Publications/afr_Apr08_2010.pdf)

Markets & Trade in EA (FEWS-NET):

<http://www.fews.net/pages/marketcenter.aspx?loc=3&gb=r2&l=en>

## Final IPC map for CAR released

The multi-stakeholder technical working group under the Food Security Cluster has finalised the IPC map of CAR. **8 prefectures are in Acute Food and Livelihood Crisis (Phase 3)**. These include the **north eastern to south eastern parts of the country**, notably all prefectures bordering Sudan (Haut Mboumou, Haute-Kotto and Vakaga), two **northern** prefectures bordering Chad (Nana-Gribizi and Bamingui-Bangoran; less Ouham), and one **western prefecture** (Ouham-Pende). These high conflict areas have not only suffered from severely reduced access to land, high and volatile prices, low market supply, but also from irregular rains or prolonged dry spells. Also in Phase 3, populations living in the sous-prefecture of Carnot (Mambéré Kadéi), **western CAR**, are suffering from very high levels of acute malnutrition due to economic shocks caused by falling diamond prices and by the revision of the Central African Mining Code, which affected food access of thousands of households, particularly the artisans and traders. In Mongouma (Lobaye), **Southern CAR**, the number of refugees from DRC is increasing (5 000 as of March), thus exacerbating the already poor food security situation of local populations who, nonetheless, are opening their homes to them.



New IPC map for CAR, march - April 2010

## Coming Soon!

Food Security and Nutrition Stakeholder Database Website

**Aim:** to support the FSNWG in improving the coordination of food security and nutrition related activities, (such as trainings/workshops, assessments, analysis, methodological development, response analysis and interventions), in eastern and central Africa.

Demo site: <http://gha-demo.webfirst.com>



**Recommendations for Action:**  
ILRCSA recommends all MoAs concerned to be on **HIGH ALERT** and report any sighting of locust swarms to facilitate appropriate actions.

## Red Locust Alert in Tanzania

A locust alert issued on 15 April 2010 by the International Red Locust Control Organization for Central and Southern Africa (IRLCO-CSA) reported more than 520 Red Locust swarms (0.5 –

75 ha in size and 10 to 40 locusts/m<sup>2</sup>) in **Ikuu plains, North Rukwa**, the **Malagarasi basin** and the **Wembere plains** in **Tanzania**. Mixed populations of 5th-6th instar hoppers were also observed in several areas. 30 000 Ha of 70 000 Ha surveyed in March-early April 2010 by IRLCO-CSA in collaboration with the Tanzania Ministry of Agriculture Food Security and Cooperatives (MAFSC) were reported infested. Swarms were reported early April to be escaping from Ikuu to Kalema and Kabungu Divisions of Mpanda district and threaten to spread to cereal crops in Rukwa, Kigoma, and Kagera regions. Neighboring countries at risk of possible further spread include **Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi**.

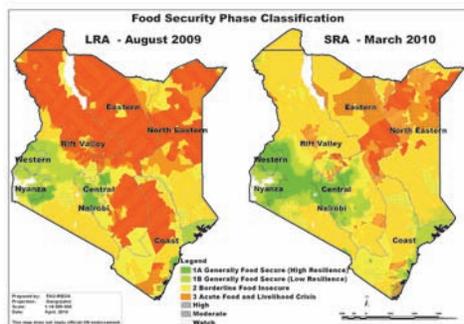
## On the watch ...

## Hunger Gap in Southern Sudan

As Southern Sudan is entering its seasonal **hunger gap (April to June)**, the food security situation in the country needs to be closely monitored. Areas of particular concern include **Jonglei, Warrap, Unity and Lake States, as well as Mvolo and Mundri East counties in Western Equatoria** suffering from lower crop and off-farm production (10% below 5 year average). Ethnic conflicts in the same states and Central Equatoria have caused mass displacement, further deteriorating the food security situation of the populations affected. These conflicts and possible tensions linked to the Sudan Presidential Elections (results pending) and the registration for the referendum for the self-determination of South Sudan in July-August 2010 threaten to exacerbate the hunger season, especially as now is the time for preparing the land for the June-September cultivation period.

**➔ Recommendations for Action:**  
Food assistance should continue until September to mitigate the impact of the hunger season in conflict affected areas – but the emphasis should be on government-led peace building.

## Improving situation in Kenya



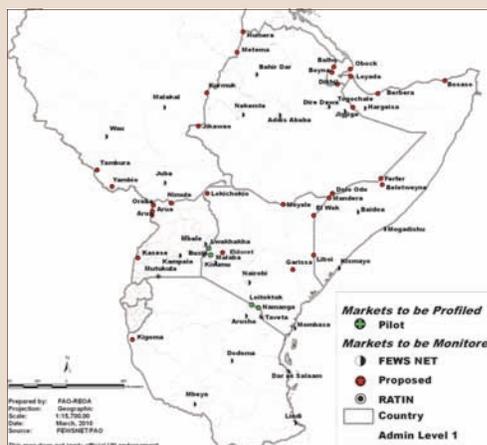
A Short Rains Assessment (SRA), conducted by the Kenyan Food Security and Steering Group (KFSSG) in February 2010, indicates that the deterioration of food security caused by a succession of poor or failed seasons since 2007 has been reversed significantly with improved short rains in many parts of the severely drought-affected pastoral and marginal agricultural areas. The **improvement of food security in the south-east** is particularly significant since the region accounts for the largest food insecure population in Kenya. Resurgence of environmental indicators in pastoralist areas affected by the drought is slowly translating into an increase in the availability of milk and other livestock products at household and market levels. The IPC shows **improvement in food security for most areas**, with a majority of districts classified Borderline Food Insecure with moderate risk of deterioration and a few district classified to be Generally Food Secure (low & high resilience).

However, **localized areas remain in Acute Food and Livelihood Crisis (Phase 3)** mainly in Mandera, Wajir, Isiolo and Marsabit districts. Besides improved livestock prices, current maize prices are still well above average, suppressing pastoral terms of trade. Malnutrition rates remain high in some areas despite recorded improvement of food production and livestock productivity. Furthermore, heavy off-season rains from mid-February through to beginning of April have resulted in **floodings**, exacerbating the food insecurity situation in many areas. Most affected are: Samburu, Mandera, Turkana, West Pokot, Baringo, Isiolo, Kajiado, Narok, Nakuru, Malindi, Tana River, Taita Taveta, Nyando, Kisumu, and Rachuonyo.

**➔ Recommendations for Action:**

- Integrated cross-sectoral interventions to sustain the food security improvements.
- Concurrent relief food interventions are required in areas of continued and accentuated food insecurity.

## Cross-border trade & market monitoring



The regional Cross-border trade monitoring initiative is a joint regional activity led by **FEWS NET** in collaboration with **WFP** and **FAO** through the Market Analysis sub-Group (MAS) of the regional FSNWG.

**Main objective:**  
To strengthen market-related programmatic and response decision making and support food security policy making.

To reach this objective the initiative aims to:

- Expand the existing coverage of cross-border trade monitoring and analysis of the seasonality, direction and magnitude of cross-border trade flows and price differentials throughout the region;
- Strengthen our understanding of the role of formal and informal trade in regional food security;
- Enhance early warning;**
- Harmonize methods across boundaries, and provide a detailed written documentation essential to expand the system to other regional countries.

This initiative is planned to cover **17 cross-border sites in seven countries: Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda**. The sites and commodities monitored were identified and prioritized through an on-going consultative process which started in November 2008, during the regional consultative workshop on cross-border market trade monitoring held in Nairobi. Both formal and informal cross-border trade data are collected by monitors trained and supervised by FEWS NET using daily trade volumes and price datasheets. Currently, six sites have been established and monitors transmit weekly coded data by SMS to the regional FEWS NET office. The sites include: Lwakhakha (UG-KE); Malaba (UG-KE); Tarakea/Loitokitok (TZ-KE); Namanga (TZ-KE); Moyale (ET-KE) and Lawayyada (DJ-SO). A joint FEWS NET/WFP team is establishing three cross-border monitoring sites along the Ethiopian-Sudan border in Benshangul Gumuz, Gambela, Amhara and Tigray Regional States.

Also part of the regional cross-border monitoring initiative a **regional market profiling activity funded by FAO**, will start mid-April 2010 in four pilot sites (see regional map). It intends to consolidate the historical cross-border trade data and other contextual information necessary for regular **monitoring and early warning** and for **in-depth analysis of the role of cross-border trade in regional food security**. It will provide basic descriptions of sources, destinations of key commodities traded, seasonal patterns of traded volumes and price variations as well as basic highlights of the elements of the Structure-Conduct-Performance model. It will cover estimates of the number of individuals involved, local traders associations, physical market infrastructure, trader behavior and strategies including, market integration and typical margins and factor shares (transport, purchase price, storage, fees, profit, etc.), as well as key policy issues.

## Coming Events...

Date	Event	Location
26-30 April	IPC analytical workshop	Uganda
28 April	IAWG Annual Meeting	IFCR, Nairobi
24-25 May	Regional IPC-GIS mapping training	FSNAU, Nairobi