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| **Cadre Harmonisé (CH) Identification and Analysis of Areas at Risk and Populations Affected by Food and Nutrition Insecurity in the Sahel and West Africa – Regional Analysis of the Situation of Acute Food Insecurity – Current Situation (March-May 2016) and Projected (June-August 2016)** |
| **Main Points**  The 2015-2016 agricultural and pastoral campaign was globally satisfactory with a cereal production estimated at 63,630,000 tons (revised data from March 2016) an increase of 5% compared to the previous year and an increase of 12% compared to the 5-year average. Nevertheless, decreases in cereal production were registered locally in Chad, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau and the north-east of Nigeria. Tuber crops registered an 18 % increase compared to the 5-year average.  Regarding the pastoral situation, pasture and watering conditions of livestock are satisfactory and better compared to the previous year during the same period despite fodder deficits registered notably in Niger, Chad and localized areas in Mauritania, Burkina Faso, Mali and Senegal. Transhumance movements remain normal except in conflict zones, especially in the Lake Chad basin and fodder deficit zones.  Globally, markets remain well supplied with stable or lower food prices compared to the 5-year averages, except in Chad, the Lake Chad basin, The Gambia, Ghana, Benin and Togo. For cash crops, prices are generally higher compared the 5-year averages, especially for groundnuts and cashew nuts. However certain products such as cowpeas and sesame, significant price decreases are observed in Burkina Faso, Niger and Chad. Concerning livestock markets, livestock prices are stable on the whole compared to the average except in Chad and in certain markets in Burkina Faso and Niger where decreases are observed. This could be linked to not only the depreciation in the local currencies (Ghana Cedi and Nigeria Naira) but also to the the border closures Chad/Niger, Chad/Nigeria, Chad-CAR and the closure of certain localized markets in north-east Nigeria. In the countries affected by the Ebola Virus Disease epidemic (Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea), we are assisting to the gradual resurgence of commercial exchanges.  The food and nutritional situation in the region continues to sustain the impacts of persistent civil insecurity in the Lake Chad basin, the north of Mali, Libya, Central African Republic, Sudan and South Sudan. In addition to this is the deterioration of the living conditions of refugee populations, internally displaced especially in inaccessible areas to humanitarian programs and in host areas. The current food and nutritional situation are explained by the following results indicators:  food_NFI_rice_100px**Food Consumption:** The majority of households have a satisfactory food consumption supported by good production, normal supplies of markets and revenues drawn from habitual sources. However, the level of food consumption remains concerning for poor and very poor households in certain areas in north-east Senegal, in the Sahelian band and especially in the Lake Chad basin in Niger, Nigeria and Chad.  socioeconomic_livelihood_100px**Evolution of Livelihoods** : In general, livelihoods remain preserved. However, assets of poor pastoral and agro-pastoral households in Chad, Mauritania, Mali and Senegal remain under pressure due to the residual impact of the last two successive years of cereal and fodder deficits aggravated locally by high livestock deaths. Populations living in areas of civil insecurity continue to face a deterioration in their livelihoods, particularly in the Lake Chad basin. In the areas affected by the Ebola epidemic, the rehabilitation of livelihoods continues.  cluster_nutrition_100px**Nutrition** : The nutritional situation in the post-harvest period remains concerning in certain regions as indicated in the results of the latest assessment in Senegal, Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Nigeria and Chad. In these countries, several areas show Global Acute Malnutrition prevalence above the crisis threshold of 10% and emergency threshold of 15%. This situation could worsen during the 2016 lean season due to the deterioration of food consumption, access to potable water and the emergence of certain seasonal diseases.  ***Contributing factors***  **Dangers and Vulnerabilities:** Civil insecurities in the Lake Chad basin, northern Mali, CAR, Sudan, South-Sudan, and Libya constitute a concern for the region. This situation has led to the displacement of nearly 4.2 million people (OCHA, March 2016).  The reappearance of new cases of the Ebola Virus Disease risk affecting the normalization of activities and commercial trade between neighboring countries.  **Food Availability:** is satisfactory in markets normally supplied in agricultural products in view of the good production observed in 2015-2016. However, certain areas under the hold of civil conflicts suffer certain difficulties in the supply of markets due to routes becoming long and security measures taken by governments to thwart off insurgents. Concerning livestock, the supply levels are normal in the West basin and some parts in the Center basin, but remain disrupted in the East basin. The level of commercial stocks is average to good in markets in the region. Moreover, it is to note that stock levels vary depending on speculations which result in an important flow of imported products such as rice and cash crops (groundnuts, cowpeas and sesame).  **Food Access:** the capacity to access foodis acceptable for most households who have in addition to food reserves, other sources of revenue and food. Prices, remained stable with a downward trend for most cereals, facilitates households’ access to food products on local markets.  **Utilisation – Nutritional situation still alarming:** access to potable water and sanitation remain insufficient in certain areas in rural habitats of the region. This factor combined with inappropriate care and feeding practices of infants and young children, poor access to health services and an inadequate sanitation environment strongly contribute to the deterioration of the nutritional state. |

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| **Phase 1** | **Phase 2** | **Phase 3** | **Phase 4** | **Phase 5** |
| **Minimal** | **Stressed** | **Crisis** | **Emergency** | **Famine** |
| At least four in five households are able to meet their food and non- food needs without engaging in atypical coping strategies or relying on humanitarian assistance | Even with humanitarian assistance, at least one in five households in the area have the following or worse: reduced and minimally adequate food consumption but unable to afford some essential non- food expenditures without engaging in irreversible coping strategies. | Even with humanitarian assistance, at least one in five households in the area have the following or worse: large food shortages and acute malnutrition at high or higher-than-normal rates; OR are marginally able to meet minimum food needs by depleting livelihood assets, which will lead to food consumption gaps. | Even with humanitarian assistance, at least one in five households in the area have the following or worse: extreme food consumption gaps resulting in very high acute malnutrition or excess mortality; OR extreme loss of livelihood assets that will lead to food consumption gaps in the short term. | Even with humanitarian assistance, at least one in five households in the area have total lack food and/or other basic needs and are clearly exposed to starvation, death and deprivation. (Note: Evidence for all three criteria of food consumption, wasting and CBR are required to classify Famine). |

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| activity_information_management_60px | **Principal results of the analysis** | | |
| **Current situation (March - May 2016) and projected (June - August 2016)**  Of the 536 zones to analyse in the 17 countries of the Sahel and in West Africa, 501 were analysed for the current situation and 527 for the projected situation, broken down as such:  **Table 1**: breakdown of zones analysed by severity phase of the food insecurity and nutrition.   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Period | Total zones to analyse | Non analysed | Phase 1 | Phase 2 | Phase 3 | Phase 4 | Phase 5 | | Current : March-May 2016 | 536 | 35 | 321 | 159 | 21 | 0 | 0 | | Projected : June-August 2016 | 536 | 9 | 275 | 228 | 24 | 0 | 0 |   **Breakdown of populations by severity phase of food insecurity and nutrition:**  **Phase 4 – Emergency and Phase 5 – Famine**   * **Current situation: population estimated at 235,000 people**, essentially in Nigeria and to a lesser extent in Niger, the Lake Chad basin, are in emergency phase. * **Projected situation: population estimated at 360,000 people**, essentially in Nigeria and to a lesser extent in Niger, in the Lake Chad Basin, and the north-east of Senegal are in emergency phase.   **Phase 3 – Crisis**   * **Current situation: populations in this phase are estimated at 6,457,000 people.**  They will need immediate assistance**.** They are spread out throughout all the countries and particularly in the Lake Chad Basin (Chad, Nigeria, Niger and Chad). * **Projected situation: populations estimated at 9,171,000 people** concentrated essentially in the Sahelian band of Chad, Niger, and Nigeria. They are equally spread out in all 17 countries of the Sahel and West Africa.   **Phase 2 – Stressed:**   * **Current situation: 30,964,000 people** spread out in all 17 countries of the Sahel and West Africa. Without protection of their livelihoods, these populations could spill over to a crisis situation**. The reinforcement of their resilience capacities is essential.** * **Projected situation: 38,412,000 persons** spread out in all 17 countries of the Sahel and West Africa. These populations could spill over to a crisis situation if certain actions to protect their livelihoods are not undertaken before and during the lean season.   Table 2 below presents the estimations of populations classified in crisis phase and above in current and projected situation.  **Table 2**: breakdown of population in food insecurity in the Sahel countries and Gulf of Guinea countries in current situation (March – May 2016) and projected (June – August 2016)   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  |  | **Estimation of populations in phase 3 to 5** | | | | **Sahel Countries** | **Total population zones analysed** | **March - May 2016** |  | **June - August 2016** | |  | |  | | Burkina Faso | 18 936 011 | **233 319** |  | **478 746** | | Capo Verde\* | 531 239 |  |  | **10 829** | | The Gambia | 1 920 098 | **64 287** |  | **98 764** | | Guinea Bissau | 1 177 782 | **29 731** |  | **25 917** | | Mali | 18 343 082 | **240 661** |  | **423 246** | | Mauritania | 3 861 577 | **93 084** |  | **179 389** | | Niger | 17 483 556 | **677 553** |  | **1 020 536** | | Senegal | 11 537 912 | **265 899** |  | **484 478** | | Chad | 12 903 715 | **1 047 995** |  | **1 052 436** | | **Total Sahel Countries** | **86 694 972** | **2 652 530** |  | **3 774 341** | | Benin | 11 138 551 | **69 369** |  | **52 679** | | Côte d'Ivoire | 19 433 500 | **102 071** |  | **352 006** | | Ghana | 28 563 423 | **233 943** |  | **277 275** | | Guinea | 8 861 680 | **90 707** |  | **148 410** | | Liberia | 4 197 432 | **22 422** |  | **24 991** | | Sierra Leone\* | 6 348 356 |  |  | **392 874** | | Togo | 5 455 484 | **84 712** |  | **112 454** | | **Gulf of Guinea Countries** | **83 998 425** | **603 223** |  | **1 360 689** | | **Nigeria** | **48 546 294** | **3 436 465** |  | **4 395 966** | |  |  |  |  |  | | **Total region** | **219 239 692** | **6 692 218** |  | **9 530 997** |   \* : *non analysed for the current situation* | | | |
| **Pictogram_Further Reading** | **Methodology and difficulties in the analysis** | |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | The analysis of the Cadre Harmonisé is based on the four results indicators of food security and nutrition (food consumption, nutritional state, evolution of livelihoods and mortality). Also taken into consideration is the inference drawn by contributing factors (dangers and vulnerabilities, availability, access, utilisation including access to water and stability) which can impact positively or negatively the results of food security and nutrition.  The preparations of the present cycle were concluded during the meeting of the CH Technical Committee in Abidjan in January 2016. This meeting validated the composition of the coaching and facilitation teams by country as well as the planning of the national analysis planned in February and March 2016. Following this, the services of the national coordinators from the CH technical analysis centers in each country took the lead for the preparations.  With the goal of producing a regional analysis of the food and nutritional situation, a workshop of the consolidation of analysis done in each country was organized from March 21 to 26 in Accra, Ghana. It regrouped the institutions and organizations members of the CH technical committee (CILSS, FAO, FEWS NET, WFP, Oxfam, ACF, Save the Children).  Generally speaking, these analyses were conducted on the basis of recent data, notably the vulnerability assessments, the household economy assessments (HEA) and nutritional surveys, assessment reports of agro-pastoral production, the reports of information systems on agricultural and livestock markets, the data on nutritional admissions, the data on access to potable water, etc. The meeting proceeded with the critical analysis of results by country by following recommended procedures from the CH manual to verify conformity, coherence and pertinence of results.  It appears that the analysis process is improving progressively, notably when it comes to the quality of the coaching and the coverage of the zones in the 17 countries. However, more efforts are needed to reinforce the process and the development of the Cadre Harmonisé in the region and its internationalisation by the national experts.  Nevertheless, due to the absence of current direct and indirect evidence for nutrition in certain countries, the analysis followed the new CH guidelines which consists of referring to the medians of historical data available on nutrition.  In the majority part of the Gulf of Guinea countries, the absence of direct evidence of the results indicators for food security remains a concern which can impact the level of confidence of the analyses. | | | **activity_reporting_100px** | **Recommendations to countries and its partners** |   **To countries and its partners**   * Accelerate the process of formalisation of national cells for analysis of the Cadre Harmonisé (CH); * Reinforce the national systems of food security and nutrition; * Align national food security and nutrition assessments with the analysis cycles of the CH.   **To CILSS and its partners**   * Pursue the capacity reinforcement of national CH analysis cells on ownership of the CH tool; * Pursue advocacy to accelerate the setting up and institutionalisation of national CH analysis cells; * Support countries in the implementation of food security and nutrition assessments to inform the analysis cycles of the CH; * Mobilise additional financial resources to support the development and the implementation of the CH tool in the region. | | | |
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