JOINT FAO-WFP INFORMAL BRIEFING ON FOOD SECURITY

Overview of the latest Hunger Hotspots Report

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

WFP World Food Programme

13 June 2023

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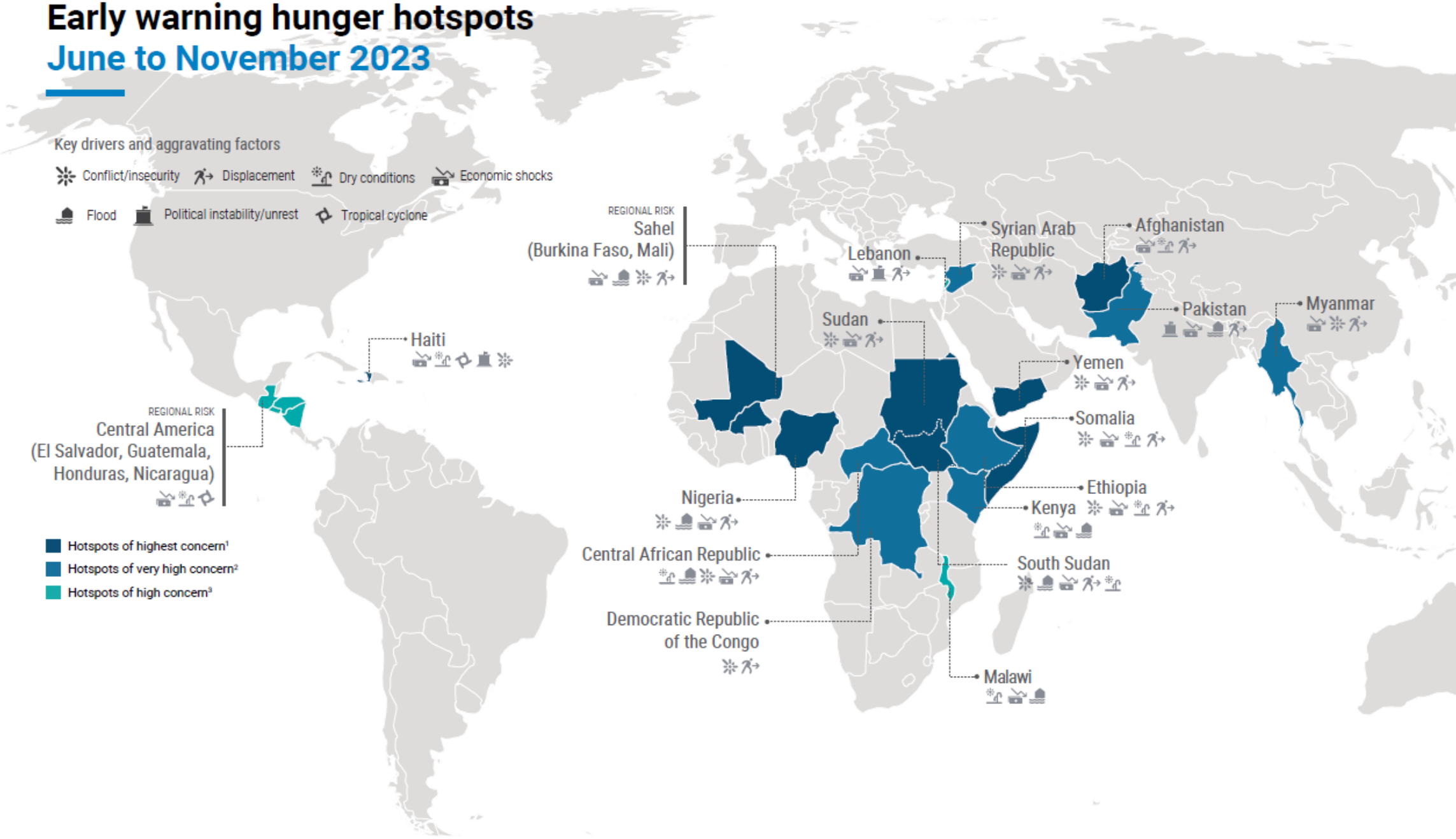
WFP World Food Programme

Early warning hunger hotspots

June to November 2023



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Focus: Sudan crisis & regional implications

- **Almost half a million people have fled** to neighbouring countries, many of which are already in the grips of underfunded and protracted refugee crises, compounded by social, political and economic stressors.

- The conflict has disrupted **critical supply routes for commercial and relief goods in and out of Port Sudan**, putting in jeopardy humanitarian assistance flows and regional relief efforts, **for Sudan and neighbouring countries**.

- In Sudan, **a minimum of 19.1 million people** are expected to be acute food insecure in the coming months, **representing a 14 percent increase** from early 2023.

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Trends in Drivers of Acute Food Insecurity

- **Conflict**: increased use of **siege tactics** deprive populations from access to humanitarian assistance.

- **Economic shocks:** Global **economic slowdown and credit costs risk debt** distress in several developing countries, on top of persistently **high domestic food prices**, amidst **reduced donor support**.

- **Natural hazards:** Weather extremes and increased climate variability significantly impact food security in the hotspots.

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Focus: El Niño

- The latest forecast indicates that **El Niño conditions are now present** and expected to reach its peak between September 2023 and February 2024.
- This shift in climate patterns has significant implications for several hotspots, including below-average rains throughout the ongoing *Primera* and *Postrera* season (August-October) **in the Dry Corridor of Central America.**
- Risk of **consecutive extreme climatic events hitting areas such as the Sahel and the Horn of Africa.**
- Continuous **monitoring of seasonal forecasts and update anticipatory actions** is critical.

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HIGHEST CONCERN HUNGER HOTSPOTS

SAHEL (BURKINA FASO AND MALI)

680 000
(CH PHASE 4)

45 200
(CH PHASE 5)

Food insecurity drivers: conflict, high food prices, and potential flooding.

Key messages:

- **Siege tactics caused the highest figure of people in catastrophic conditions** ever projected for Burkina Faso, and projected populations in Mali in Catastrophe (CH Phase 5) for the first time.

Outlook: Risk of spill over into neighbouring countries Benin, Ghana, Togo and Côte d'Ivoire; risk of flooding.

CH analysis : June-August 2023

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HIGHEST CONCERN HUNGER HOTSPOTS

HAITI

1.8 M

(IPC PHASE 4) entire country

Food insecurity drivers: organized violence, economic deterioration, reduced rainfall, hurricanes

Key messages:

- Urban population remain highly vulnerable to siege by armed groups and **at risk of extreme lack of food**.

Outlook: Escalating insecurity; flooding and crop damage in low-lying areas due to hurricane season.

IPC Analysis: March-June 2023

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VERY HIGH CONCERN HUNGER HOTSPOTS

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC)

Northeastern provinces

3.4 M

(IPC PHASE 4) entire country

Food insecurity driver: conflict

Key messages:

- Increase of armed clashes driving **displacement.**
- **Insecurity and violence** affect humanitarian assistance.
- Limited agricultural production and market access to result in a **surge of food prices.**

Outlook: Intensification of the conflict in the northeastern provinces of North Kivu and Ituri to result in a deteriorating food security situation.

IPC Analysis: January-June 2023

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VERY HIGH CONCERN HUNGER HOTSPOTS

PAKISTAN

2.1 M

(IPC PHASE 4) 43 rural districts

Food insecurity drivers: economic and political crisis, repercussions of 2022 floods

Key messages:

- **Economic and financial crisis** driving steady food inflation.
- **Political instability and civil unrest** to worsen, amid growing insecurity in the northwest.

Outlook: Acute food insecurity likely to deteriorate as the economic, political crises reduce purchasing power.

IPC Current Acute Food Insecurity Situation April - October 2023 in the process of government approval

Q&A

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