



In September 2014, the South Sudan IPC Technical Working Group projected that 2.5 million people would face Emergency (IPC Phase 4) and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food insecurity levels between January and March 2015. **This latest IPC Update confirms the earlier projection, but the distribution of food insecurity across the country has shifted.** Key contributing factors to the country's food insecurity are conflict-related population displacement, disruptions in livestock and crop-based production, high staple food prices, and high malnutrition.

In the Greater Upper Nile region, conflict has resulted in large scale population displacements within and outside South Sudan, which has adversely affected livestock and crop production, and markets. This in turn has increased cereal prices by up to 300 per cent and reduced cereal stocks. **In some counties, as much as 80 per cent of the population has been unable to cultivate staple crops** in the last agricultural season and staple foods remain limited in many local markets. Overall, **staple food stocks are projected to deplete within the first quarter of 2015.**

Humanitarian assistance in the Greater Upper Nile region has resulted in a **downgrading of the projected food insecurity classification from Emergency (Phase 4) to Crisis (Phase 3) in 12 counties.** The current projections **depend on the delivery of planned interventions** during the dry season in these conflict-affected states. Despite the willingness of humanitarian agencies to support food insecure households, the IPC Technical Working Group is **especially concerned about food insecurity in the Jonglei counties of Duk, Ayod, Canal/Pigi and Fangak, and the Unity counties of Rubkona and Mayom.** These areas are in a food insecurity Emergency (IPC Phase 4) because of **extremely limited humanitarian access due to ongoing conflict.** The food insecurity could worsen if humanitarian assistance is disrupted or is not scaled up, and/or if agreements to cease hostilities are not upheld in the tense dry season, when conflicts usually escalate.

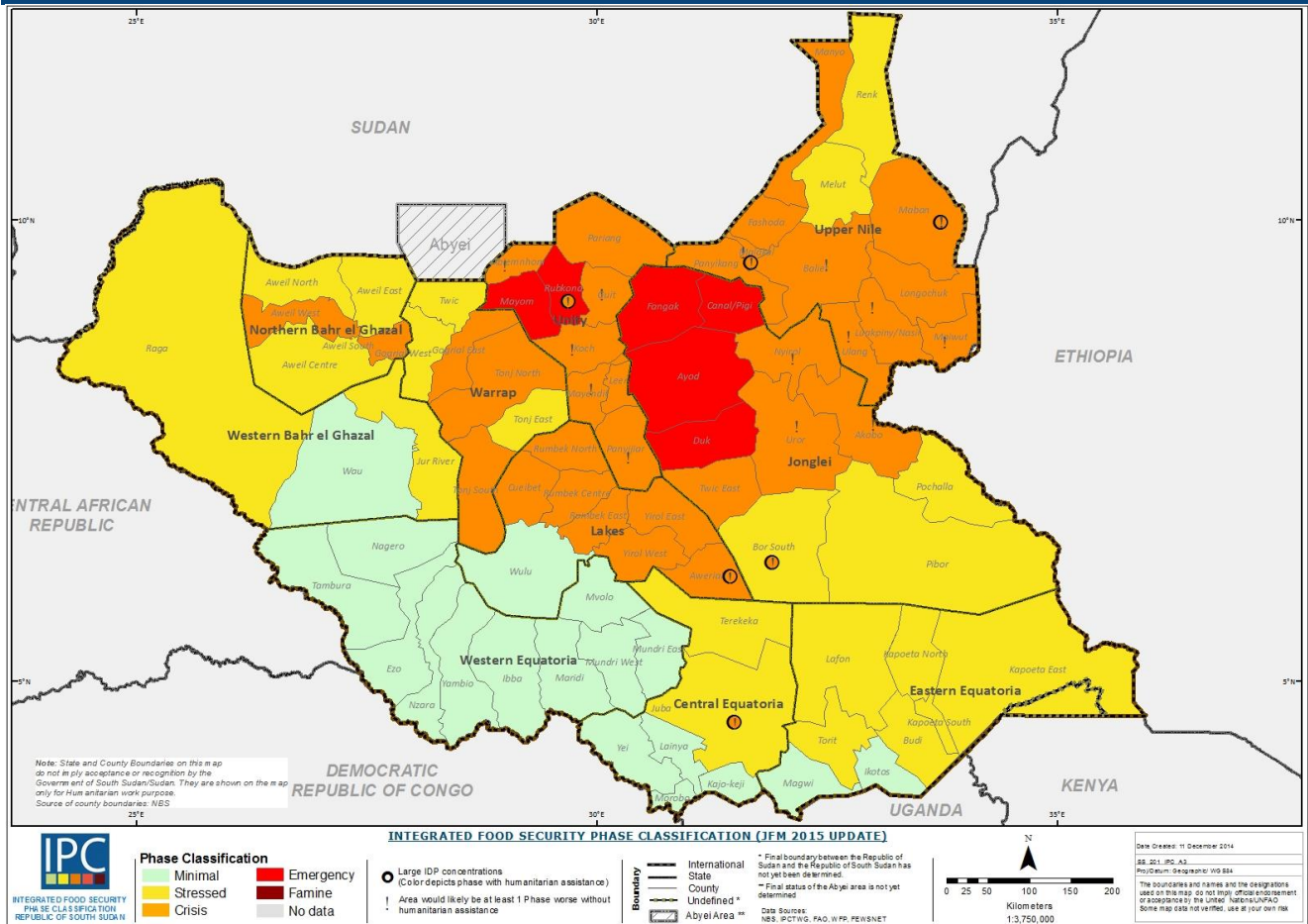
Additionally, six Protection of Civilians (PoCs) and IDP sites across the country are projected to depend on humanitarian assistance in order to remain in the Crisis phase. Without assistance, the sites would likely slip into Emergency.

Another key update to the projections of September 2014 is the **worsening of food insecurity in Lakes and Warrap states.** The region experienced **above normal flooding**, which affected crop harvests and livestock migration and disease patterns, which in turn have created some conflicts. There were also **unprecedented levels of inter-clan conflict and cattle raiding**, especially in Lakes state, which significantly affected the stability of livelihoods. As a result, Lakes and Warrap have experienced a sharp deterioration in food insecurity in recent months, and this trend is expected to persist through March 2015.

In Greater Equatoria, Western Bahr el-Ghazal and parts of Northern Bahr el-Ghazal, good crop production this year has resulted in a **more positive outlook for the coming quarter.** The regions have also been relatively stable, benefiting from good seasonal rains, functioning markets, and low conflict. Food consumption in the coming months will depend on household-produced food stocks and low staple food prices.

Recent nutrition assessments show that the nutrition situation **remains above the emergency threshold (GAM>15%),** especially in the conflict-affected states. Central Equatoria, as well as parts of Northern Bahr el-Ghazal, Western Bahr el-Ghazal and Eastern Equatoria states, have seen improvement due to good post-harvest consumption. In three counties of Unity state, and one county in Upper Nile State, improved nutrition is attributed to **increased humanitarian food and nutrition support services.** Despite these gains, nutrition is likely to remain critical in January to March 2015.

# UPDATED IPC CLASSIFICATION FOR SOUTH SUDAN FOR JANUARY - MARCH 2015



This document updates the IPC projections made in September 2014, available here:  
[http://www.ipcinfo.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/ipcinfo/docs/IPC\\_SouthSudan\\_Sept%202014\\_Communication\\_Summary.pdf](http://www.ipcinfo.org/fileadmin/user_upload/ipcinfo/docs/IPC_SouthSudan_Sept%202014_Communication_Summary.pdf)

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