



IMPROVING EVIDENCE-BASED DECISION-MAKING ON FOOD INSECURITY AND MALNUTRITION AT GLOBAL, REGIONAL AND COUNTRY LEVELS

Despite significant progress made in recent decades, millions of people around the world are still affected by food insecurity and acute and chronic malnutrition. The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic has exacerbated these issues globally. Early warning information allows for the detection of crisis “hotspots” and leads to anticipatory action, which has been shown to save lives, preserve livelihoods, and increase the cost-effectiveness of humanitarian resources.

In order to inform evidence-based decision making for early intervention when crises hit, a set of standardized tools known as the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) was developed in 2004 to assess the severity and magnitude of food insecurity in a given country or area. This project was formulated within the framework of the IPC Global Strategic Programme (GSP) 2019–2022. It supported: the overall structure of the IPC Global Support Unit (GSU); activities for the technical development, quality assurance and institutionalization of IPC; and the achievement of project-specific deliverables for IPC capacity development and quality assurance at field level.



WHAT DID THE PROJECT DO?

The project achieved or exceeded all of the targets set during formulation. In particular, it led to (i) an increase in IPC-certified capacity at country, regional and global level; (ii) an enhancement in the technical development of IPC, owing to new resources and training materials that were developed by the IPC partnership; (iii) more synergies and avenues of collaboration between IPC partner agencies with resource partners and other stakeholders in the humanitarian community that aim to increase the coverage, frequency and relevance of IPC; and (iv) an improvement in the level of access and dissemination of IPC findings that support the development of key sources of information, including the Global Report on Food Crises (GRFC), updates for the United Nations (UN) Security Council, FAO/World Food Programme (WFP) Hunger Hotspots reports, and other publications by UN agencies, Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs) and resource partners.

KEY FACTS

Contribution
USD 1 416 431

Duration
March 2021 – September 2021

Resource Partner
Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Partners
FAO Representations at country level, Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) partner agencies

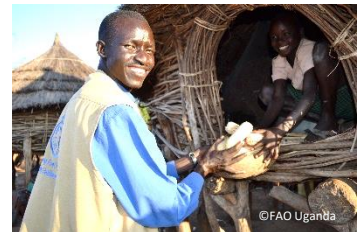
Beneficiaries
Global, regional and national food security stakeholders, including resource partners, host governments, United Nations (UN) coordination structures, UN agencies, and Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs)

IMPACT

Immediately measurable progress towards the higher-level Impact and Outcome of the GSP was not foreseen for this project, owing to its short duration. That being said, overall, there was an increase in the use of IPC analysis findings for decision-making in fighting hunger and malnutrition. Based on figures from the GRFC, the IPC and the *Cadre Harmonisé* (CH), the companion of the IPC in West Africa and the Sahel, provide information for more than USD 7 billion of humanitarian assistance every year.

ACTIVITIES

- A total of 1 830 IPC practitioners were certified at different levels, exceeding original targets.
- Four training/learning events were held.
- Three Cross-Country Learning Exchanges (CCLEs) took place.
- Five IPC/CH analyses on Acute Food Insecurity (AFI), Chronic Food Insecurity (CFI) and Acute Malnutrition (AMN) were facilitated and technically supported.
- Two thematic areas were identified for the development of related IPC protocols.
- Three IPC resources were developed/updated.
- Two training packages were created.
- One online learning system was developed.
- The IPC Information Support System (ISS) was updated.
- A document was produced on the potential use of Advanced Technologies and Artificial Intelligence (ATARI) in support of IPC analysis.
- Four high-level and resource partner meetings were held.
- Three global reports were produced with inputs from the IPC GSU.
- Thirty-two notifications were sent to users on new information uploaded to the IPC Global Platform.
- The findings of five analyses were communicated and disseminated.
- A briefing for decision-makers was held.



Project Code

FAO: GCP/GLO/494/UK

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Project Title

Towards improved evidence based decision making at global, regional and country levels in response to food insecurity and malnutrition

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