



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

JOINT COMMUNIQUE

Government of Ethiopia, European Union (EU), and Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Ethiopia makes commendable strides to integrate food security information systems

22 January 2020, Addis Ababa - The Government of Ethiopia released the first [Integrated Food Security Phase Classification \(IPC\) analysis report](#) in November 2019, thanks to funding support from the European Union (EU) through the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). The IPC analysis revealed that about 8.5 million people would face severe food insecurity in six regions between February and June 2020 unless stakeholders implement timely and appropriate interventions.

The IPC provides a set of standardized tools and procedures as a common language for the analysis and classification of the severity and causes of food insecurity. The IPC is also a multi-stakeholder process for sharing information and building technical consensus within an IPC Technical Working Group (TWG). This is the starting point; the IPC will be updated with new information on a yearly basis.

“As it is a government-led initiative, the sustainability of the IPC is hinged on continued collaboration among stakeholders. We appreciate the funding and technical support provided by the EU and other development partners. We call upon all development partners to support the strengthening of the IPC processes,” said **Commissioner Mitiku Kassa of the National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC)**.

The IPC is also a forum for food security technical dialogue that results in joint analysis and consensus of the food security situation, which is fundamental in designing coordinated and coherent interventions. The NDRMC, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Central Statistical Agency, and the National Meteorology Agency represent the government on the IPC TWG. Other members of the IPC TWG are United Nations agencies (FAO, UNICEF, WFP and OCHA) and Non-Governmental Organizations (Action Against Hunger, CARE International, Catholic Relief Services, FEWS NET, GOAL, OXFAM and World Vision).

Ms. Fatouma Seid, the FAO Representative in Ethiopia said, *“The adoption of the IPC approach to food security analysis is commendable and a key step in efforts to address the determinants and the dynamic nature of food insecurity in Ethiopia. The IPC will contribute towards the development of a single government-owned harmonized early warning system that is able to trigger the Productive Safety Net Program and the regional Disaster Risk Management contingency funds as well as appropriate responses for the food insecure population classified in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) and IPC Phase 4 (Emergency)”*.

The EU Head of Cooperation to Ethiopia, Mrs. Erik Habers said, *“This type of funding is part of our strategic support to the government of Ethiopia to enhance food security information, national social protection and disaster risk management systems within the framework of our cooperation. We hope the government can achieve regular food security analysis using the IPC approach every year.”*

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