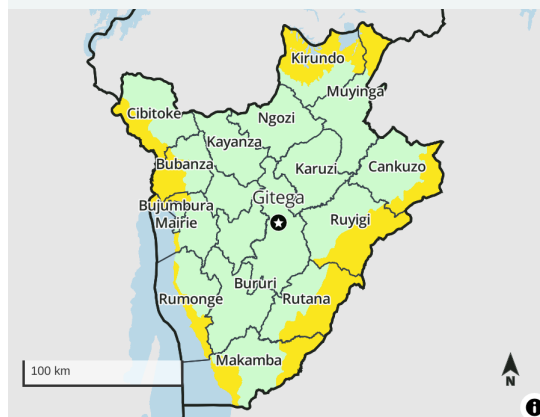


Low income, high prices, dry spells, and displacement drive need, particularly in North

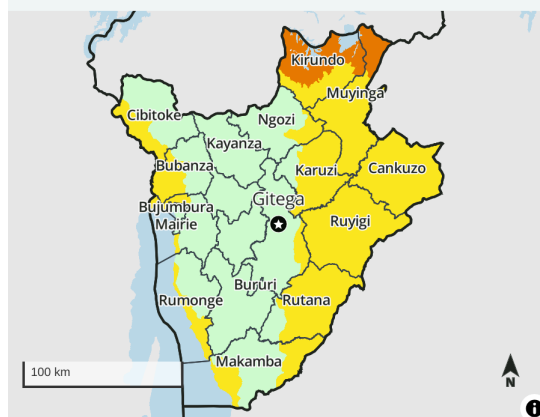
Key Messages

- **FEWS NET estimates 500,000–749,999 people** will require humanitarian food assistance during the Season B harvest and immediate post-harvest period from June–September, increasing to **750,000–999,999** between October–January, by which time stocks from Season B harvests will be exhausted. Need is expected to peak during October–November, the typical height of the lean season, when Season B stocks are exhausted but Season A green harvests are not yet available. The populations of highest concern are refugees, returnees, IDPs, and poor households who experienced crop losses.
- **Ongoing Stressed (IPC Phase 2) outcomes in the Eastern Lowlands, Northern Lowlands, and Imbo Plains are expected to continue through September.** Below-average Season B harvests, driven by localized dry spells in March and April, will provide modest boosts to food stocks, allowing households to meet their minimum food needs, but necessitating continued coping to meet non-food needs. The large presence of refugees and returning Burundians continues to place pressure on market demand in the east, while ongoing border closures with the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Rwanda are disrupting market supply and reducing income-generating opportunities in the west and north, respectively.
- **The October–December lean period will drive deterioration of the Northern Lowlands to Crisis (IPC Phase 3), and sustain Stressed (IPC Phase 2) in the Eastern Lowlands and Imbo Plains. The Eastern Dry Plateaus zone is also expected to deteriorate to Stressed (IPC Phase 2) during this period.** In the north, limited income-earning opportunities, anomalously low local wages, and continued erosion of coping capacity will constrain food access. In the Eastern Dry Plateaus, the continued presence of the large refugee population will sustain atypical demand pressure on food prices and heighten competition for income earning opportunities during the lean period, forcing most poor households to adopt stress-coping strategies.
- **Forecasted strong El Niño and positive Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) conditions are expected to bring above-average rainfall during the September–December 2026 short rains season,** supporting opportunities for agricultural labor. However, high rainfall is also likely to increase the risk of flooding, particularly in the Imbo Plains livelihood zone.

Projected area-level acute food insecurity outcomes, June - September 2026



Projected area-level acute food insecurity outcomes, October 2026 - January 2027



IPC 3.1 acute food insecurity classification

Sub-national level data

1: Minimal	3: Crisis	5: Famine
2: Stressed	4: Emergency	

Symbols

! Would likely be at least one phase worse without current or planned humanitarian food assistance

FEWS NET classification is IPC-compatible. IPC-compatible analysis follows key IPC protocols but does not necessarily reflect the consensus of national food security partners. For full disclosure, see endnotes.

Source: FEWS NET

The analysis in this report is based on information available as of June 30, 2026.



FEWS NET is a United States Government-funded activity. The content of this report does not necessarily reflect the view of the United States Government.

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Food security context

Burundi is one of the most densely populated countries in the world, with a population of approximately 12.3 million, nearly 86 percent of whom engage in smallholder agriculture. As of 2018, the average household farm plot was [0.71 hectares](#), limiting overall household production potential even in above-average seasons. Household food production is susceptible to weather hazards, especially in the semi-arid livelihood zones of the Northern and Eastern Lowlands, where lower water availability limits production.

The annual agricultural cycle consists of three seasons (A, B, and C). Seasons A and B, accounting for 35 and 50 percent of annual production, respectively, align with the bimodal rainy seasons, while Season C accounts for 15 percent. Season A production is driven by the short rainy season from October to December, while Season B aligns with the long rainy season from February to May. Lean seasons typically occur in October to November and March to April in the lead-up to the respective harvest periods, during which time households run low on food stocks from the previous season while awaiting the new season harvest. Season C, planted during the dry season from June to July and harvested in October, supplies just 15 percent of national production, and is localized to marshland areas where the flow of water from higher-altitude areas makes up for the lack of rainfall. Though acute food insecurity in Burundi is typically less severe than in many other geographies in sub-Saharan Africa, the country has a high prevalence of chronic food insecurity. A 2024 SMART survey by UNICEF and the Burundian government found [53 percent](#) of children under five were malnourished.

Burundi's economy is among the least developed in the world and is characterized by high rates of poverty and unemployment, limited industrialization, and poor infrastructure. As of 2023, its [Human Development Index](#) score was 0.439, ranking 187 out of all 193 countries and territories, and its [GDP per capita](#) of 250.62 USD was the lowest among all countries recorded. Agricultural day labor is the main source of income for poor households, who constitute about 55 percent of the total population. High inflation in recent years has further diminished households' purchasing capacity, making it difficult for many poor households to access sufficient food. For the past several years, shortages of both foreign currency and fuel have driven a decline in Burundian capacity to export cash crops and minerals, as well as a decline in imports of staple foods and non-food essentials, driving increased prices.

In 2015, Burundi faced a political crisis when then-president Pierre Nkurunziza announced he would run for a third term, which many argued was unconstitutional. The resulting instability and violence lasted into 2018, during which time hundreds of thousands of Burundians fled to neighboring countries, with the majority going to Tanzania. **Since the end of the conflict, many Burundian refugees have elected to return. Returnees continue to arrive in 2026, with most resettling in the Eastern Lowlands livelihood zone.**

Since 2024, conflict in neighboring Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) has driven an influx of approximately 230,000 refugees into Burundii, more than 100,000 of whom arrived since December 6, 2025. In mid-December, the Burundian government closed its border with the DRC in response to the influx of refugees and escalating conflict. The Kavimvira border crossing was reopened on February 23, and around 40,000 Congolese refugees opted to return. However, other border crossing points remain closed and continue to severely restrict cross-border labor and trade opportunities in the DRC, historically a key source of income for poor households in the Imbo Plains.

Every year, localized [floods](#) and landslides, particularly in the provinces abutting Lake Tanganyika, destroying assets of households in the affected areas and causing some to become internally displaced. Flooding is generally worst from October through May, driven by seasonal rainfall. As of March 2026, the total number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) was estimated at approximately [101,820](#) people.

Learn more

Follow these links for additional information:

- Latest [Burundi Food Security Outlook: February to September 2026](#)
- Latest [Burundi Food Security Outlook Update: April to September 2026](#)

- Latest [Burundi Key Message Update: May 2026](#)
- Overview of [FEWS NET's scenario development methodology](#)
- FEWS NET's approach to estimating the [population in need](#)
- Overview of the [IPC and IPC-compatible analysis](#)
- FEWS NET's approach to [humanitarian food assistance analysis](#)

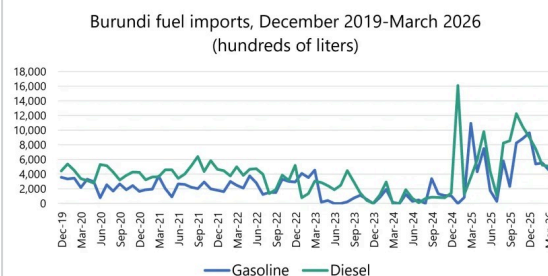
Current anomalies in food security conditions as of June 2026

National:

- **Interruption of rainfall** from late March to mid-April resulted in significant losses to Season B bean crops, estimated **at 25–30 percent of total national production and 35–40 percent in the north**, the country's main bean-producing area. The rainfall deficit mainly affected the semi-arid Northern Lowlands, where crop losses are estimated at around 30 percent of expected production, reaching 80 percent in most-affected areas, while the Eastern Lowlands recorded losses of approximately 15–20 percent of expected production. In addition, elevated prices for **fertilizer**, caused by import disruptions linked to the Middle East conflict, forced many farmers to apply little or no fertilizer during Season B, reducing yield potential.
- The **conflict in the Middle East** is disrupting imports of key commodities, particularly fuel and fertilizers. Gulf countries accounted for 31 percent of Burundi's **imports in 2023**, mainly petroleum products and fertilizers. The Gulf region also received 37 percent of Burundi's exports, largely minerals, tea, and coffee, which are also likely being affected by the conflict, though limited information is publicly available on the extent of the disruptions. The conflict is also affecting labor opportunities for Burundians abroad for the estimated **21,642** Burundian migrant workers employed in Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.
- **Fuel shortages have worsened since March 2026**, aggravated by the Middle East conflict, increasing fuel and transportation costs that are passed on to food and non-food prices. In March, only around 13.5 million liters of petrol and 9 million liters of diesel were supplied, covering about 35 percent and 56 percent of countrywide needs, respectively. The sharp decline in fuel imports since the beginning of the conflict in late February (Figure 1) has further raised transport costs and created atypical regional price disparities, with lower prices in surplus-producing areas and higher prices in urban and peri-urban deficit areas. **Charcoal** prices, notably, have doubled or tripled in some locations.
- **Staple food prices remained elevated, though stable, across the country as of May.** Prices of tubers (cassava and sweet potatoes) and maize were generally stable compared to the same period last year in surplus-producing areas but remained more than 10 percent higher in deficit areas, including urban centers. This price disparity is largely driven by high transportation costs associated with persistent fuel shortages. Bean prices were approximately 45 percent above last year's levels due to limited carryover stocks following the below-average 2026 Season A harvest. Despite the recent stability, prices remain 20 to 80 percent above the five-year average. Consequently, the minimum food basket cost is increasing (Figure 2), and is around 10 percent above last year and nearly 120 percent above four years ago.

Figure 1

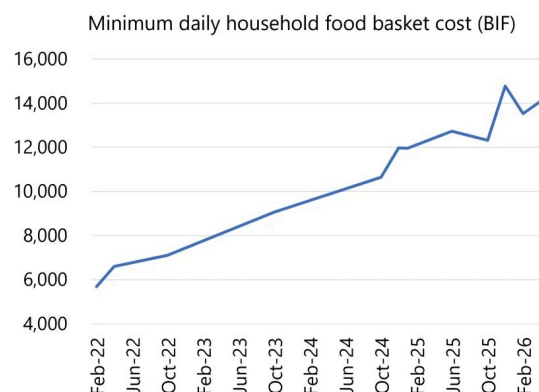
Burundi fuel imports (in hundreds of liters), December 2019–March 2026



Source: FEWS NET

- **Conflict-related displacement remains a key driver of vulnerability, particularly among refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), as well as Burundian returnees** from Tanzania and Rwanda who fled the 2015 political crisis. Of the **351,532** Burundians who have returned since 2017, approximately 142,980 have arrived within the past three years and have not yet re-established normal livelihood activities or adequate access to food and income. Around 107,235 (75 percent) of these recent returnees are in the Eastern Lowlands livelihood zone.

Figure 2

Minimum daily household food basket cost (BIF)

Source: FEWS NET

Regional:

- The **Northern Lowlands livelihood zone** was affected by interrupted **rainfall** in April, leading to below-average Season B production. The situation is further aggravated by the continued closure of the Rwanda border, which is restricting access to cross-border trade and labor opportunities, and by the lowest labor wages of any region; in April, daily labor earnings in Northern Lowlands averaged 4,300 BIF as compared to the national average of 8,300 BIF. As a result, typical monthly earnings for households in Northern Lowlands relying on casual labor could afford only around 30 percent of the minimum food basket cost, while the national average wage covered approximately 60 percent.
- In the **Eastern Lowlands livelihood zone**, significant Season B bean losses, estimated at 10 to 20 percent, have limited replenishment of household food stocks, leaving poor households atypically dependent on market purchases. Additionally, approximately 100,000 returnees and 78,000 Congolese refugees are facing limited food access driven by limited land for own production and below-average income due to high competition for labor opportunities.
- In the **Imbo Plains livelihood zone**, insecurity in eastern DRC is restricting cross-border trade and labor activities. Additionally, shortages and high prices for fuel have disproportionately affected Imbo Plains due to its more urban environment. Flooding of Lake Tanganyika also displaced around **22,000** people in March, increasing the number of IDPs to approximately **102,000** people.

Humanitarian food assistance

In **May** 2026, the World Food Programme (WFP) assisted 860,000 people and provided humanitarian assistance to 178,728 people, including 139,500 refugees, 25,800 drought-affected people in northern Burundi, 8,968 Burundian returnees from Tanzania. Nutrition interventions reached 8,366 beneficiaries, with 853 admissions for acute malnutrition treatment and 114 recoveries. However, severe funding shortfalls have reduced both refugee and returnee food assistance to only about half of minimum food needs, which, for returnees, ends after 3 months. Assistance for drought- and flood-affected populations, as well as nutrition programs, remains critically underfunded, with needs expected to increase during September-December.

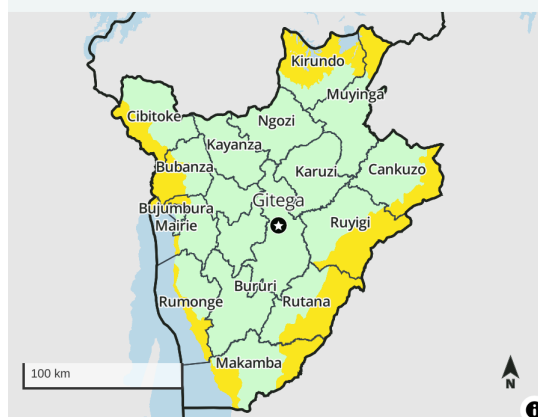
Current acute food insecurity outcomes as of June 2026

In June, the Northern Lowlands livelihood zone is experiencing Stressed (IPC Phase 2), with a proportion of households in Crisis (IPC Phase 3), driven by consecutive below-average production seasons and weak purchasing power that continue to limit access to food. Due to rainfall deficits during the critical flowering stage of beans, the ongoing Season B harvest is expected to be below average, with crop losses in the most-affected areas estimated to range from 30 to 80 percent. The populations of highest concern are recent returnees (approximately 10,000 people) who have not yet re-established stable livelihoods and poor households who experienced large crop losses during Season A (around 240,000 people), for whom this will be a second consecutive below-average season. Food access is also being constrained by limited labor opportunities and low wage rates. The continued closure of the Rwanda border has eliminated cross-border trade and labor activities that would normally provide an important alternative source of income for poor households during poor harvest years. In addition, low labor wages of just 4,300 BIF per day — only around half the average national wage of 8,300 BIF per day — have driven sharp declines in household purchasing power. As a result, many poor households are atypically dependent on market purchases, but their ability to afford food is limited.

Stressed (IPC Phase 2) outcomes continue in the Eastern Lowlands, with pockets of predominantly returnee and refugee households facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3), driven by the combined impacts of below-average Season B production due to poor temporal distribution of rainfall, persistently high food prices, and localized inflation driven by atypically high market demand due to the presence of large returnee and refugee populations. Notable Season B bean losses, estimated at 10 to 20 percent, have limited the replenishment of household food stocks, leaving poor households atypically dependent on market purchases. In addition, high need persists among the refugee and returnee populations; nearly 100,000 returnees and 78,486 refugees are estimated to be facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes even after receiving emergency food assistance (as of May, 75 percent of minimum food needs for refugees, and cash equivalent to 50 percent of food needs for returnees). The use of cash assistance in lieu of food in-kind at a large scale has also had the unintended effect of driving high localized inflation. Together, the combined effects of localized below-average agricultural production and increased demand on local markets have contributed to elevated food prices, constraining food access for poor households, driving stress-coping strategies including reliance on less-preferred foods, reducing meal sizes, and prioritizing feeding children.

In the Imbo Plains, Stressed (IPC Phase 2) outcomes are ongoing in as of June, with some households in Crisis (IPC Phase 3), driven primarily by limited cross-border opportunities due to the ongoing conflict in the DRC, crop losses due to poor rainfall distribution in both Seasons A and B, and flooding of Lake Tanganyika which has internally displaced some households. Food access is primarily constrained by limited income opportunities and weak purchasing power, and exacerbated by below-average own production locally. Restricted cross-border trade and labor opportunities with the DRC, combined with persistent fuel shortages, continue to reduce income generation, disrupt market access, and drive up prices for food and non-food essentials. The presence of approximately **102,000** IDPs — nearly 10 percent of the area population — is also contributing to pressure on local resources within the communities hosting those displaced, particularly as displaced households are currently receiving little or no food assistance due to funding shortfalls.

Current area-level acute food insecurity outcomes, June 2026



IPC 3.1 acute food insecurity classification

Sub-national level data

1: Minimal	3: Crisis	5: Famine
2: Stressed	4: Emergency	

Symbols

! Would likely be at least one phase worse without current or planned humanitarian food assistance

FEWS NET classification is IPC-compatible. IPC-compatible analysis follows key IPC protocols but does not necessarily reflect the consensus of national food security partners. For full disclosure, see endnotes.

Source: FEWS NET

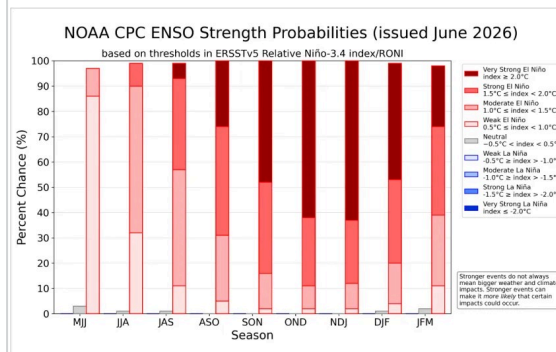
Key assumptions about atypical food security conditions underpinning the most likely scenario through January 2027

Between June 2026 and January 2027, the projected food security outcomes are based on the following assumptions:

- The **2026 Season B harvest** will be cumulatively below-average in the semi-arid regions of the country (Imbo Plains, Northern Lowlands, and Eastern Lowlands), but cumulatively near-average nationally due to tubers and perennial crops balancing out large losses of beans.
- **Household food stocks** are expected to be depleted earlier than usual, likely by September rather than October as typical, in the Northern and Eastern Lowlands, Imbo Plains, and Eastern Arid Plateaus livelihood zones.
- Rainfall during the **September to December 2026 short rains season** is expected to be above average, influenced by forecasted strong **El Niño conditions** (Figure 3) and anticipated strong positive Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD).
- Given the already **elevated water levels** of Lake Tanganyika (Figure 4), the forecasted above-average rainfall is likely to trigger additional **flooding**, resulting in further population displacement and an increase in the number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) beyond the **101,820** reported in June. Localized landslides, erosion, and crop losses are also likely in the Congo Ridge Millet livelihood zone.
- **Season A crop production in 2027** is expected to be near average overall, supported by forecasted above-average rainfall from September to December 2026, which is likely to favor the production of tubers (cassava and sweet potatoes), bananas, and cereals. However, bean production, which is highly sensitive to excess moisture, is expected to be below average. In addition, localized crop losses are likely in flood-prone areas, particularly in the Imbo Plains livelihood zone and along major river basins.
- **Agricultural labor opportunities** are expected to remain below average from June to September, constrained by limited access to cross-border employment opportunities due to the conflict in eastern DRC and continued closure of the Rwanda border due to ongoing political tensions between Burundi and Rwanda. Labor demand is likely to improve slightly from October to December with the start of Season A agricultural activities, supported by forecasted above-average rainfall. However, cross-border labor opportunities are expected to remain notably below average throughout the outlook period. As a result, overall household income is expected to remain below average.
- Burundi's **widening trade deficit and persistent foreign exchange shortages** are expected to continue exerting pressure on the Burundi franc (BIF) and constraining the country's import capacity. Exchange rates are likely to remain broadly stable at current levels through January 2027, with the official exchange rate remaining

Figure 3

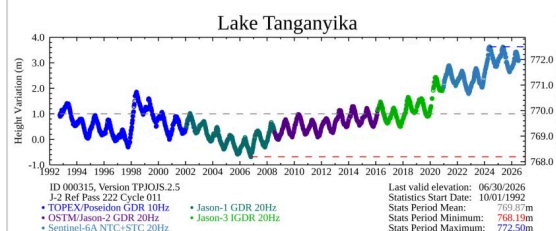
NOAA El Niño probabilistic forecast, issued June 2026



Source: NOAA

Figure 4

Level of Lake Tanganyika between 1992 and 2026



Source: NASA

close to 3,000 BIF per USD, while parallel market rates are expected to hover around 6,000 BIF per USD.

- **Fuel and diesel** prices are likely to ease slightly, but shortages are expected to persist throughout the analysis period due to continued above-average fuel prices globally and limited foreign exchange reserves within Burundi, with limited supplies likely sourced from the informal market at prices two to three times above the typical rate.
- **Staple food prices** are expected to be slightly above last year's June to September, following seasonal trends while remaining elevated above five-year averages. However, beginning in September — the start of the main lean season from September to December — prices are expected to rise above both last year's levels and the historical average.
- The **refugee population**, primarily from the DRC, is expected to remain stable throughout the projection period barring any major shift in the front lines, as voluntary returns remain few due to the ongoing conflict in eastern DRC, particularly in territories bordering Burundi.
- **Access to cross-border trade and labor opportunities** is expected to remain constrained by the conflict in eastern DRC. Meanwhile, the border with Rwanda is likely to remain closed to the movement of both people and goods throughout the projection period due to political tensions.
- **The number of additional returnees is expected to remain low throughout the projection period**, as most returnees have now already repatriated from Tanzania following the closure of Nduta and Nyarugusu camps which concluded in June. Following the large-scale repatriation of approximately **80,000** Burundian refugees between January and June 2026, primarily from Tanzania, only about 30,000 Burundian refugees remain there.

Humanitarian food assistance

As of **June**, humanitarian food assistance is planned and funded through mid-August only; however, based on similar past situations, FEWS NET's projections assume a continuation of humanitarian food assistance programming through January 2027 at the same or similar levels as since February 2026. Assistance for drought- and flood-affected populations is expected to remain critically underfunded, despite humanitarian needs expected to increase between September-November.

Projected acute food insecurity outcomes through January 2027

The Northern Lowlands livelihood zone is projected to remain in Stressed (IPC Phase 2) during the harvest and post-harvest period from June to September 2026, before deteriorating to Crisis (IPC Phase 3) during the peak of the typical lean season from October to December 2026. From June through August, food access will improve due to ongoing harvests and income from harvest-related labor opportunities, providing sufficient food and income to meet basic food needs, but remain insufficient to support basic non-food needs, driven by the below-average 2026 Season B harvest, increased dependence on markets amid weak purchasing power, and elevated food prices. As the limited food stocks from the 2026 Season B harvest become exhausted, food access is expected to decline beginning in September, with the early exhaustion of Season B food stocks. This deterioration will be compounded by very low agricultural wages, restricted access to cross-border income-generating opportunities, and limited local labor opportunities, causing the area to deteriorate to Crisis (IPC Phase 3) during the peak lean season from October to December. The situation will be particularly severe for the approximately 240,000 people (21 percent of the area's population) who experienced consecutive losses in both the 2026 Seasons A and B harvests. Having already depleted most of their coping capacities and facing inaccessibility to the cross-border livelihood opportunities they typically rely on during difficult periods, these households are expected to access to adopt crisis coping strategies which will deplete their essential livelihood assets, such as the sale of productive assets, reduced spending on health and education, and the accumulation of debt, removing children from school, and consuming seeds reserved for the next agricultural season.

Stressed (IPC Phase 2) outcomes are anticipated to persist in the Eastern Lowlands livelihood zone through January 2027, with some households likely to experience Crisis (IPC Phase 3). The anticipated below-average 2026 Season A harvest is expected to be depleted atypically early, with food stocks coming under additional pressure from the high concentration of refugees and returnees in the area. Consequently, poor households are expected to rely on markets earlier and more heavily than usual through January 2027, particularly during the October–December 2026 lean season, when below-average 2026 Season B food stocks are expected to be exhausted. Acute food insecurity among returnees is also likely to increase as temporary food assistance packages — already reduced by half since early 2026 — are depleted, as well as for refugees, who are currently receiving 75 percent of daily food needs.

In the Imbo Plains, Stressed (IPC Phase 2) outcomes are expected to continue through January 2027, with Crisis (IPC Phase 3) persisting among the most vulnerable households, driven primarily by the ongoing conflict in the DRC and expected flooding leading to a surge in IDPs from October to January. Food security conditions are expected to remain challenging as households continue to rely on already-limited food stocks from the poor 2026 Season A and B harvests. Ongoing conflict in eastern DRC and the **Ebola** outbreak are likely to continue to constrain access to cross-border trade and labor opportunities, while persistent fuel shortages will continue to disrupt transport-dependent livelihoods and reduce income-earning opportunities, particularly for poor households. Health screening of travelers crossing into Burundi to protect against the spread of **Ebola** from the DRC is also adding hassle and apprehension for would-be travelers, further discouraging cross-border trade and labor. At the same time, increased reliance on markets for food amid persistently high and rising food prices is expected to limit food access. Food insecurity is projected to deteriorate further during the October–December lean season, compounded by the anticipated increase in flooding. The floods are likely to damage livelihoods, disrupt income-generating activities, and trigger additional displacement, increasing the number of IDPs.

In Eastern Dry Plateaus livelihood zone, conditions are expected to improve to Minimal (IPC Phase 1) from June to September, supported by near-average local 2026 Season B harvests. However, typical depletion of household food stocks is expected to drive the Eastern Dry Plateaus livelihood zone into Stressed (IPC Phase 2) during the October–December lean season. During the post-harvest period from June to September, the near-average 2026 Season B harvest is expected to improve household food availability and reduce dependence on markets, supporting Minimal (IPC Phase 1) outcomes at the area level. Nevertheless, some poor households —particularly refugees and returnees— are likely to remain in Stressed (IPC Phase 2), while the most vulnerable households are expected to continue facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes. Deterioration to Stressed (IPC Phase 2) is projected during the October–December lean season as household food stocks are depleted following localized bean production shortfalls. Increased reliance on markets for food, together with seasonally rising and above-average food prices, is expected to further erode household purchasing power, leading to an increase in the number of households experiencing Stressed (IPC Phase 2) and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes compared with the preceding post-harvest period.

Annex 1: Key sources of evidence used in this analysis

Evidence	Source	Data format	Food security element of analysis
Livelihoods profiles	FEWS NET	Qualitative	Typical sources of food and income by livelihood zone

Evidence	Source	Data format	Food security element of analysis
Weather monitoring and forecasting	FEWS NET Agroclimatology Team (NOAA Climate Prediction Center , USGS, the Climate Hazards Center at University of California Santa Barbara , International Research Institute at Columbia University , and NASA)	Quantitative and qualitative data on climate and weather indicators forecast products	Weather patterns, which impact households' food and income sources, particularly in rural areas
Human Development Index	UNDP	Quantitative and qualitative data on Human Development Index and Gross national income per capita.	Macroeconomic patterns, related impacts on trade, income-earning and the business environment
Political issues monitoring and Human Rights analysis	ACAT Burundi and Ligue Iteka NGOs, SOS and Iwacu media reports	Reports; qualitative and quantitative information on human rights violations, insecurity, and political issues	Patterns of political and security issues (type, intensity, affected locations), which are used to analyze their impact on households' access to food and income
Population displacement and refugees	IOM , OCHA , UNHCR	Quantitative data on displacement and refugees' trends, assistance and outlook, partner reports	Trends in displacement and refugee movements—including numbers, areas of origin and destination—as well as the underlying causes of displacement, living conditions, and priority needs are analyzed to assess levels of acute food insecurity among internally displaced persons (IDPs)
Macro-economic indicators	National Institute of Burundi Statistics (INSBU) , Central Banks of Burundi and key informants	Burundi qualitative macro-economic performances and exports and imports trend, quantitative data on exchange rates	Overall economic health and related impacts on trade, inflation, business activity, income-earning opportunities trends in exchange rate impact importation costs, food prices, other costs of living, and the small business environment
Food and cash crop production, exports, and prices	MINEAGRIE , Bank of the Republic of Burundi , and WFP	Quantitative data; partner reports; key informant information	Crop production levels directly influence food availability at both household and market levels, as well as the extent of income-earning opportunities within the agricultural sector, including cash crop marketing value chains

Evidence	Source	Data format	Food security element of analysis
Labor wage rates, household access to income, food assets, and resources	WFP, CFSVA	Quantitative data; partner reports	Food and income access at the household level, including food security contributing factors, shocks, income, assets, expenditures, WASH, and food consumption outcome indicators. All of these are important for understanding poor households' access to income and overall purchasing capacity
Food security outcome indicators (FCS, HDDS, HHS, rCSI, LCSI) and acute malnutrition data	WFP Data from Food Security Monitoring System (FSMS), Burundi Ministry of Health , Nutrition Cluster, and UNICEF	Quantitative data; partner reports	These indicators are standard proxy measures of dimensions of acute food insecurity, used in combination with evidence on contributing factors (e.g., crop production, food prices) to classify the severity of acute food insecurity
Humanitarian food assistance distributions	Food Security Cluster and WFP	Quantitative data on monthly assistance distributions; partner reports; assistance distribution plans from non-WFP partners	Levels of humanitarian assistance are factored into the analysis of households' overall ability or inability to meet their basic needs
Oil and availability, price trends, and outlooks	National Institute of Burundi Statistics (INSBU) , and Iwacu media reports	Qualitative and quantitative	Oil availability remains a critical factor, increasing the cost of food and non-food items, and contributing to rising food prices.
Fertilizer availability, price trends, and outlooks	Iwacu media reports	Qualitative and quantitative.	Shortages and high prices for fertilizer prevent timely and adequate application, limiting yield potential. This reduces food availability at both household and market levels, while also limiting agricultural labor opportunities, which are the main source of income for poor and very poor households.

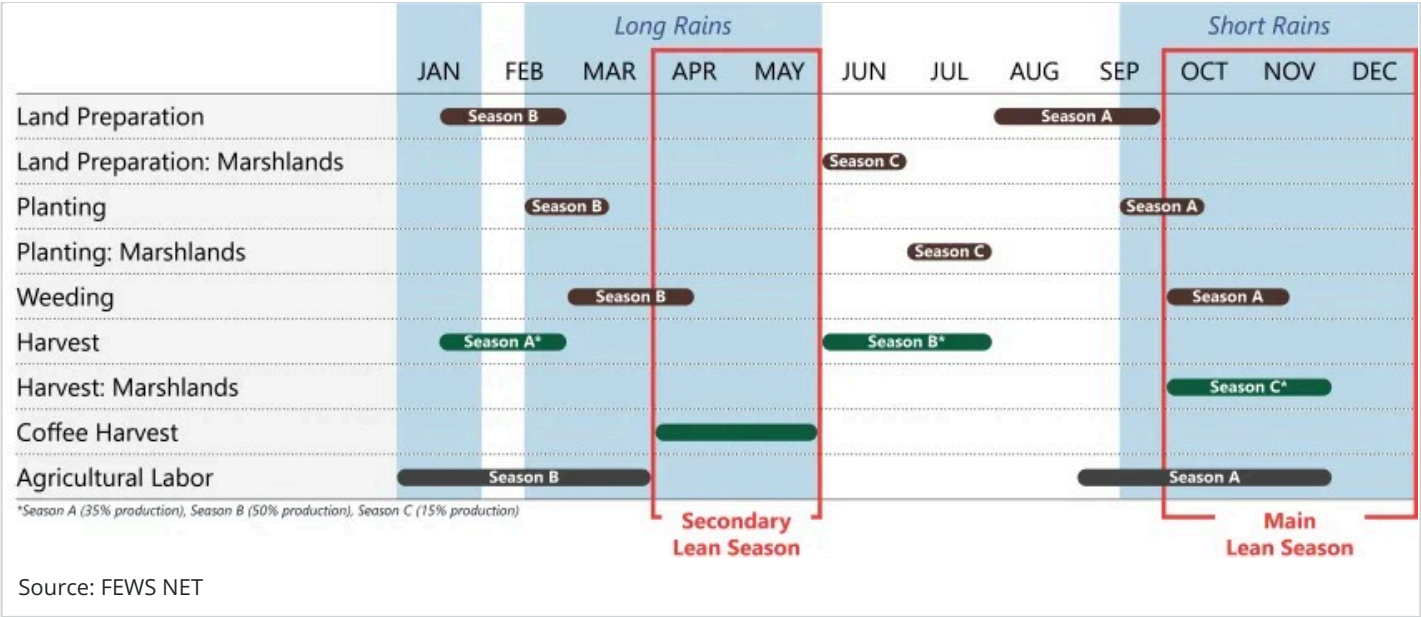
Annex 2: FEWS NET's analytical approach explained

Early warning of acute food insecurity outcomes requires forecasting months in advance to provide decision makers with sufficient time to budget, plan, and respond to expected humanitarian crises. However, due to the complex and variable factors that influence acute food insecurity, definitive predictions are impossible. [Scenario Development](#) is a methodology that allows FEWS NET to meet decision makers' needs by developing a "most likely" scenario of the future.

FEWS NET's scenario development process applies the Disaster Risk Reduction framework and a livelihoods-based lens to assess acute food insecurity outcomes. A household's risk of acute food insecurity depends not only on hazards (such as drought) but also the household's vulnerability to these hazards (e.g., the level of dependence on rainfed crop production for food and income) and coping capacity (which considers both the household's ability to cope with a given hazard and the use of negative coping strategies that harm future capacity). To evaluate these factors, FEWS NET bases this analysis on a strong foundational understanding of local livelihoods. FEWS NET's scenario development process also accounts for the Sustainable Livelihoods Framework; the Four Dimensions of Food Security; and UNICEF's Nutrition Conceptual Framework, and is closely aligned with the [Integrated Food Security Phase Classification](#) (IPC) analytical framework.

- **How does FEWS NET analyze current acute food insecurity outcomes?** FEWS NET assesses the extent to which households can meet their minimum caloric needs. This analysis converges evidence of current food security conditions with available direct evidence of household-level food consumption and livelihood change. FEWS NET also considers available area-level evidence of nutritional status and mortality, focusing on whether these reflect the physiological impacts of acute food insecurity. FEWS NET uses the globally recognized five-phase [Integrated Food Security Phase Classification \(IPC\) scale](#) to classify current acute food insecurity outcomes, and the analysis is IPC-compatible. In addition, [FEWS NET applies the "!" symbol](#) to designate areas where the mapped IPC Phase would likely be at least one IPC Phase worse without the effects of ongoing humanitarian food assistance.
- **How does FEWS NET develop key assumptions underpinning the most likely scenario?** A key step in FEWS NET's scenario development process is the development of evidence-based assumptions about factors that affect food security. These include hazards and anomalies in food security conditions that will impact the evolution of household food and income during the projection period, as well as factors that may affect nutritional status. FEWS NET also develops assumptions about factors expected to behave normally. Together, these assumptions form the foundation of the "most likely" scenario.
- **How does FEWS NET analyze projected acute food insecurity outcomes?** Using the key assumptions that underpin the "most likely" scenario, FEWS NET projects acute food insecurity outcomes by assessing the evolution of households' ability to meet their minimum caloric needs over time. FEWS NET converges expectations of the likely trajectory of household-level food consumption and livelihood change with area-level nutritional status and mortality. FEWS NET then classifies acute food insecurity outcomes using the IPC scale. Lastly, FEWS NET applies the "!" symbol to designate any areas where the mapped IPC Phase would likely be at least one IPC Phase worse without the effects of planned – and likely to be funded and delivered – food assistance.
- **How does FEWS NET analyze humanitarian food assistance?** Humanitarian food assistance – defined as emergency food assistance (in-kind, cash, or voucher) – may play a key role in mitigating the severity of acute food insecurity outcomes. FEWS NET analysts always incorporate available information on food assistance, with the caveat that such information can vary significantly across geographies and over time. In line with IPC protocols, FEWS NET uses the best available information to assess where food assistance is "significant" (defined by at least 25 percent of households in a given area receiving at least 25 percent of their caloric requirements through food assistance). In addition, FEWS NET conducts deeper analysis of the likely impacts of food assistance on the severity of outcomes, as detailed in FEWS NET's guidance on [Integrating Humanitarian Food Assistance into Scenario Development](#).

Annex 3: Seasonal calendar



Recommended citation: FEWS NET. Burundi Perspectives sur la sécurité alimentaire Juin 2026 - Janvier 2027: De faibles revenus, hausse des prix, épisodes secs et déplacements de population accentuent les besoins humanitaires, notamment dans le Nord, 2026.

* FEWS NET classification is **IPC**-compatible with limited exceptions. IPC-compatible analysis follows key IPC protocols but does not necessarily reflect the consensus of national food security partners. As of IPC 3.0, the IPC no longer assesses the impact of food assistance on classification and thus no longer maps the (!). However, FEWS NET continues to produce food security maps inclusive of the (!) as well as maps compatible with IPC 3.0/3.1, which include the mapping of food security assistance bags. In rare cases, FEWS NET classification is IPC-aligned but not IPC-compatible. IPC-aligned analysis is evidence-based but some types of evidence required for IPC-compatibility were not available.

Food Security Outlook

To project food security outcomes, FEWS NET develops a set of assumptions about likely events, their effects, and the probable responses of various actors. FEWS NET analyzes these assumptions in the context of current conditions and local livelihoods to arrive at a most likely scenario for the coming eight months. Learn more [here](#).