Key messages

- Millions of people are at increased risk of famine or catastrophe in South Sudan, Somalia and Ethiopia. FEWSnet, an international early warning system, stated that South Sudan, Somalia and Ethiopia could be looking at famine or catastrophic levels of food insecurity in various parts of their countries in the new year due to climate change, conflict and political instability.

- Children are the worst hit, with their health and development drastically impacted. Already, too many children are going hungry. More than 1.5 million children in Ethiopia, Kenya, South Sudan and Somalia are struggling to have enough to eat. 5.5 million children in Ethiopia, Kenya, South Sudan and Somalia are projected to be malnourished. Already, more than 1 million children under age 5 are expected to be severely malnourished and at risk of death by the end of 2017 without urgent action. Increased hunger will drive ever younger girls into early marriage, and force children out of school, into child labour and into other dangerous ways of surviving.

- Children are on the move. The hunger crisis is exacerbated by drought, conflict and political instability and is forcing people to flee areas affected by conflict, where children are at risk of violence, exploitation and abuse. 4 million people in South Sudan have been displaced, both as refugees and internally. In Somalia, 1.9 million have been displaced, both as refugees and within the country; in Ethiopia, more than 1 million have been displaced internally.

- Large-scale, long-term lifesaving assistance is needed to avoid spikes in malnutrition and death. World Vision is appealing for an additional $68 million to increase its response across South Sudan, Somalia, Ethiopia and Kenya.
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Situation overview

- **Ethiopia:** The January nutrition hotspot classification identified 463 districts nationwide as priority areas for humanitarian response in 2018, of which 216 are in greatest need - Priority 1 (P1), 161 Priority 2 (P2) and 86 Priority 3 (P3). The geographic footprint remains the same as in 2017, with few additional P1 districts identified in northern and north eastern Amhara and in Afar regions.

- **Kenya:** FEWSNET predicts that household purchasing power is likely to be constrained by low incomes and are likely to receive below average rains in March to May season. Ten counties have been categorised by the NDMA to be in critical stage, with six remaining in the alarm phase (IPC Phase 3) and four in alert stage (IPC Phase 2). There is general agreement between government and humanitarian actors, that these counties require support for the next six months, which coincides with the long rains season of 2018.

- **South Sudan:** Roughly 5.1 million individuals experiencing IPC phases 3, 4, and 5, and represent the greatest proportion of South Sudanese to ever experience such levels of hunger and malnutrition. If the status quo remains, famine is likely to be present in many locations across South Sudan in the coming months.

- **Somalia:** While 2 million people have been displaced in Somalia since January 2017 according to IOM’s Displacement Tracking Matrix of December 2017, a significant reduction in the monthly average of new displacement has been recorded since July 2017.

Response achievements

Reporting period February 01-February 28, 2018

**KENYA**
- **229,508**
- Food assistance: 140,130
- Health and nutrition: 229,508
- Water, sanitation and hygiene: 143,450
- Food security and livelihoods: 23,741
- Education and protection: NFI 2,400

**ETHIOPIA**
- **206,527**
- Food assistance: 530
- Health and nutrition: 21,507
- Water, sanitation and hygiene: 963
- Food security and livelihoods: 7,059
- Education and protection: NFI 176,918

**SOMALIA**
- **250,472**
- Food assistance: 19,601
- Health and nutrition: 159,313
- Water, sanitation and hygiene: 58,703
- Food security and livelihoods: 431
- Education and protection: NFI 12,424

**SOUTH SUDAN**
- **449,495**
- Food assistance: 119,104
- Health and nutrition: 165,595
- Water, sanitation and hygiene: 117,732
- Food security and livelihoods: 42,213
- Education and protection: NFI 4,851

**1.13M**
- Water, sanitation and hygiene
- Health and nutrition
- Food security and livelihoods
- Education and protection
- Non-food items
- Food assistance

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on these maps do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the World Vision International.

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