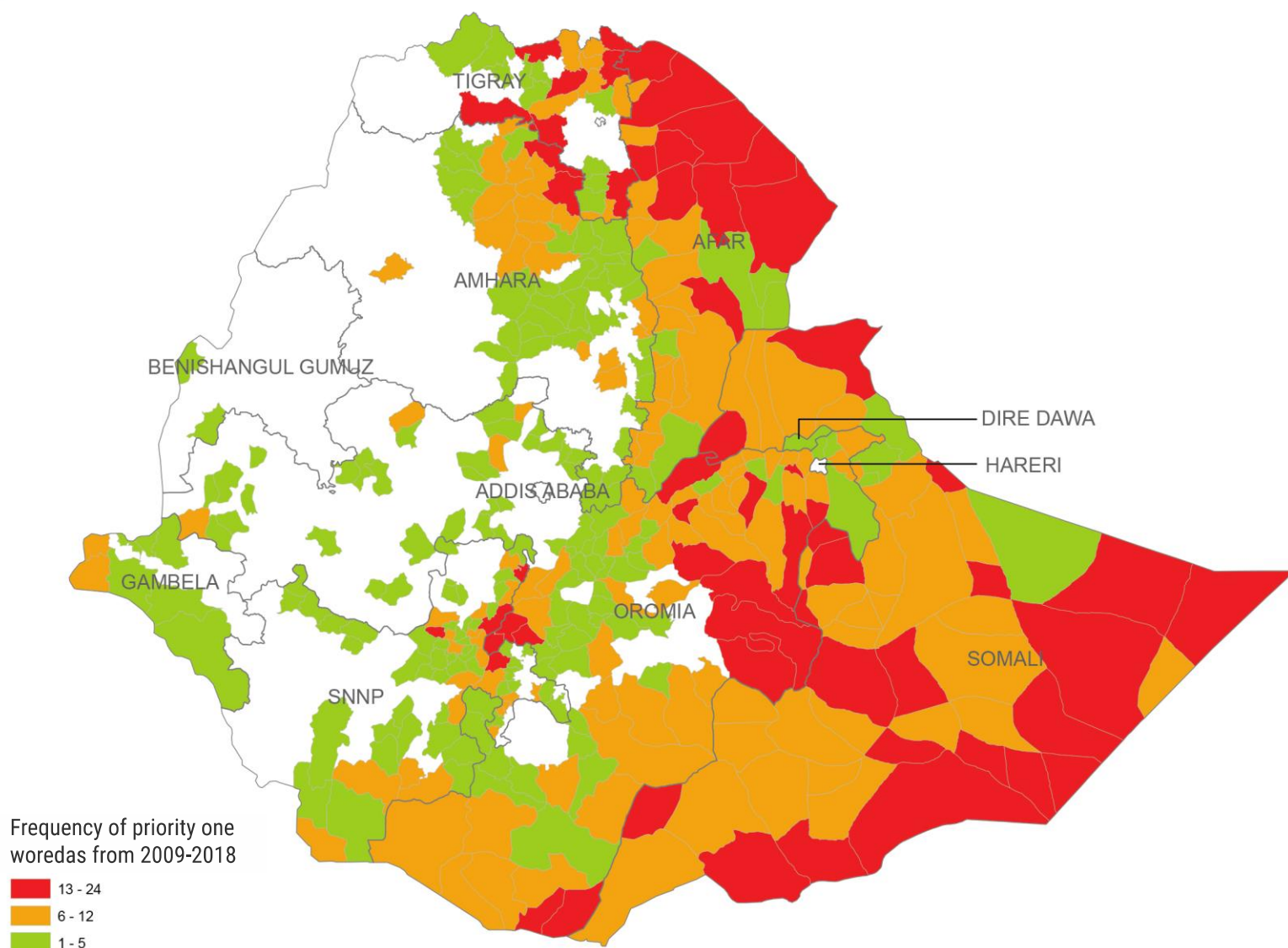


HOTSPOT WOREDAS (AREAS OF CONCERN) CLASSIFICATION GUIDELINE



Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, April 2019



Early Warning and Emergency Response Directorate (EWERD)
of the National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC)

Foreward

The National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC) has developed a number of guidelines through time to improve its delivery of preparedness, response, and rehabilitation and reconstruction performance in the country. The Hotspot *Woredas* Classification Guideline which was developed in May 2014 is primarily intended for stakeholders involved in hotspot *woredas* classifications at the *woreda*, zonal, regional and federal levels. It is also intended to broaden the understanding of humanitarian actors supporting nutrition, WaSH, education, child protection, agriculture, health and food security-related assessments and responses in terms of the process and indicators identified in the hotspot classification exercises across the country. The productive safety net program (PSNP) is the major beneficiary of the Hotspot classification for identifying needy population at the times of shocks. It was found important to revise the existing hotspot guideline to address issues including the need to incorporate the Protection sector. Besides, the lack of hotspot *woredas* classification analysis guidance for some sectors, and to avoid subjectivity in the classification requiring a review process. To this end, the National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC) in consultation with key stakeholders engaged in the hotspot *woreda* classification at national and sub-national levels has finalized a revised guideline.

This revised version provides stakeholders with enhanced parameters to address the gaps and challenges that partners and early-warning actors used to encounter in the classification process. Additionally, the revised tool helps to harness the hotspot classification with Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) and the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO). The revised guideline also provides hotspot *woreda* classification analysis guidance notes and data sources. It is important for all stakeholders to note that the recommended indicators in the hotspot classification guideline are multi-sectoral drawing on indicators from Health, Nutrition, Agriculture, Food Security, Market information, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, Child Protection and Education among others. As the levels of these indicators differ significantly nationwide, considering the diversity and context of the area (*woredas*) is critically important in the understanding, interpretation and classification of the hotspot *woredas*.

While NDRMC acknowledges that technical knowledge and expertise continue to evolve in the area of hotspot classification through time, the effective use of this revised guideline marks an important milestone. In that regard, NDRMC calls upon all stakeholders to continue with the technical discussions for the purpose of further improvement as considered appropriate.

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Glossary of Acronyms

CMR	Crude Mortality Rate
CP	Child Protection
CSA	Central Statistical Agency
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
NDRMC	National Disaster Risk Management Commission
ENCU	Emergency Nutrition Coordination Unit
EWERD	Early Warning and Emergency Response Directorate
FEWS-NET	Famine & Early Warning System-Network
FOA-FSAU	Food and Agricultural Organization Food Security Assessment Unit
GAM	Global Acute Malnutrition
GBV	Gender Based Violence
HCT	Humanitarian Country Team
HEA	Household Economic Approach
HNO	Humanitarian need Overview
HSWC	Hotspot Woreda Classification
IPC	Integrated Phase Classification
NMA	National Metrology Agency
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MoH	Ministry of Health
MSF	Médecins Sans Frontières
NPDPM	National Policy on Disaster Prevention and Management
PSNP	Productive Safety Net Program
RHB	Regional Health Bureau
TFP	Therapeutic Feeding Program
TOT	Terms of Trade
U5MR	Under-Five Mortality Rate
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WFP	World Food Programme
Woreda	Equivalent of District
WFP	World Food Programme

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1. Background

Ethiopia has been using hotspot *woredas* classification guideline since May 2014 to classify drought, crop disease and pests, human disease, flood and conflict affected *woredas* into priority one, two and three categories. The original version, however, had limitations related to subjectivity of some indicators and inclusion of all relevant sectors. The revision of the guideline was important particularly to revisit the relevance of existing indicators against emerging priorities considering the country's current humanitarian portfolio, inclusion of other sectors, to review the classification thresholds based on revised sectoral cut-off points, to explicitly include in the guideline sector-specific data collection and analyses methodologies as part of the reference material to minimize, if not avoid, subjectivity in identifying the sectors that contribute to determine priority levels, to provide guidance on the timeline of the analyses during the reporting period, and to provide a brief reference and guidance on how best to utilize national forecasts and projections for building objective scenarios.

More specifically, the revised guideline includes CP/GBV as part of the classification criteria, separates the Health and nutrition sectors as two specific sectors of classification, provides a revision of cut-off points such as the nutrition cut-off points, ensures inclusion of key focus areas in the guidance note, provides tips and guiding notes for each sector, and includes tips on linkages between sectoral data collection and analyses.

The hotspot classification process is not a smooth undertaking. Various challenges continue to affect the process including regions not adhering to the hotspot classification guideline and late submission of hotspot classification results, linking hotspot classification with TSF implementation instead of the evolving situation on the ground, variations in hotspot classification results among similar hotspot status *woredas* within the same region and across regions. As a result, there were several occasions where survey results contradicted with the hotspot status of certain locations hotspot status were solely taken to justify emergency nutrition response in non-hunger season and also hotspot status misinterpretation by some stakeholders without taking the *woreda* context into consideration.

In view of the above challenges, this document is meant to outline a common and standard framework of classifying and prioritizing nutrition, livelihoods and food insecurity in the country for improved early warning and programme response, thereby supporting effective resource allocation. The standard framework will build upon the multi-agency seasonal (*meher and belg*) needs assessments, the HEA baselines, regular food security and early warning monitoring verification assessments, and disaster area assessment - linking to appropriate decision-making. The guideline will then recommend the system that will be applied in hotspot analysis and classification in Ethiopia.

Having one of the earliest early warning systems dating back to 1977, Ethiopia developed a number of food security monitoring systems that have been developed and tested by different agencies to meet specific agencies' information needs. The Government established several nutrition and food security data collection and classification systems through the ENCU with financial and technical support from UNICEF. WFP also established a system of programme monitoring and food security classification of areas of concern. Moreover, FEWS NET also set up its own market and food security monitoring system and food security classification. Globally, a number of analytical frameworks have been developed to classify areas of concern. FOA-FSAU for example prepared the IPC from which lessons could be drawn in the classification of hotspot. MSF Holland has also done some classification of food insecurity based on the UNICEF conceptual framework, which as well can be used in Ethiopia. Lastly, the CUNY Pre-famine indicators have generally formed the basis for the classification of hotspot. Recently the Government has revised its early warning guidelines in line with the new DRM approach. However, there has been no standard procedure of classifying hotspot (areas of concern) that could be used by all decision makers. All systems attempt to classify areas as 'very severe', 'severe', 'moderate' or 'food secure' with a range of terminologies being used. There are, however, some commonalities in the indicators used by the different systems allowing for complementarities in the revision of these guidelines.

2. Rational for Revision of the Hotspot Woredas Classification Guideline

Some of the key triggers for the revision of the national Hotspot *Woreda* classification guideline could be summarized as follows.

- To review the relevance of the existing indicators against emerging priorities considering the country's emergency/humanitarian portfolio.
- For inclusion of new sectors as classification criteria. To revise the classification thresholds based on revised sectoral cut-off points.
- To explicitly include in the guideline sector-specific data collection and analyses methodologies as part of the reference material to avoid subjectivity in deciding which sectors contribute to priority levels.
- To provide guidance on the timeline of the analyses that needs to cover the reporting period.
- To provide brief reference and guidance on how best to use national forecast and projections for building objective scenarios.

3. What is New in the Revised Hotspot Classification Guideline

The following points newly included in the hotspot *woreda* classification. These points are summarized as follows.

- Inclusion of protection/CP/ GBV as a classification criterion.
- Segregation of Health and Nutrition Sectors as two separate sectors of classifications.
- Revision of cut-off points for Nutrition, WASH, Education, Agriculture and Market.
- Inclusion of tips and guiding notes for each sector in the guidance note of key focus areas.
- Tips on linkages between sectoral data collection and analyses.

4. Definition of Hotspot or *Woreda* of Concern

The definition of hotspot should be grounded in the understanding of the broader definition of food security. The concept of food security¹ has evolved extensively overtime. There are approximately 200 definitions and 450 indicators of food security (depending on the level of aggregation). One volume on household food security by Maxwell and Frankenberger (1992) lists 25 broadly defined indicators. Riely et al (1995) lists 73 indicators, somewhat more disaggregated than those found in Maxwell and Frankenberger. Chung et al. (1997) noted that

¹'Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life' (FAO, 1996).

even a simple indicator such as a dependency ratio can come with many different permutations (John Hoddinott, 1999). The methodological problem for practitioners is which indicators are appropriate for the context being dealt with. Consequently, a number of methods and tools have also been developed to analyze food security. In fact, whichever methods and indicators are selected, they should be grounded on the context of a particular location, resource and capacity constraints, while at the same time providing adequate information for decision-making. The indicators should provide the required information for programme response, complemented with a robust analysis that links the analysis to programming as well as to a monitoring system where necessary.

Defining an area of concern requires setting up certain parameters and context and requires a working definition of areas of concern in food security. The definition of an area of concern should encompass measurements of food and non-food security components. The concept of vulnerability² also needs to be considered, including vulnerability looking at a future state by examining the *likelihood* of households being unable to cope with shocks/hazards. A frequent occurrence of hazardous events in a certain area where the livelihood of the population depends on agricultural activities can affect the overall way of life of the population exposed to these hazards and force them to deplete their assets, thus eventually degrading their capacity to cope with the impact of hazards. Therefore, the severity level of the impact of a hazard to the livelihood of a population depends on their level of vulnerability (exposure, sensitivity and resilience or capacity). The risk to be food insecure will be higher or more severe if the vulnerability is also high. A small shock in areas where vulnerability is high (meaning high exposure, high sensitivity with low resilience or capacity) can result in severe negative food security outcomes such as high food consumption gaps, depletion of livelihood assets or strategies, increase of malnutrition and mortality. Taking into account vulnerability while analyzing acute food security is therefore very important to better understand the nature of chronic situations as they are not mutually exclusive.

Based on these concepts the following will be a working definition of an area of concern or a hot spot.

²Vulnerability to food insecurity is defined as the probability of an acute decline in food access, or consumption, often in reference to some critical value that defines minimum levels of human well being (WFP, VAM Guidelines 2002).

“Area of Concern or Hotspot is defined as an area or population affected by any undesirable events or situations that have an immediate or in the near future direct bearing on food, livelihood and nutrition insecurity and require immediate attention or intervention that could be assessments, close monitoring or appropriate food or non-food response (related to Nutrition, Health, Agriculture, Market, WASH, Protection/CP/GBV and Education)”.

While the above definition is intended to provide a general concept, there is need to set up criteria for defining the severity of conditions and standardize identification of hotspot across regions. In general, three levels (first priority, second priority and third priority) are considered in the classification. In this guideline, in identifying an area as a hotspot, the severity level might be different; hence it is important to select the most appropriate indicators and criteria for defining the severity level of existing food insecurity for an area. The severity level of food insecurity is categorized into three classes. These are shown below with the corresponding color coding.

Table1: Hotspot classes and their description

Code of Severity	Area of Concern/ Hotspot level Classification	Class Description	General IPC Equivalent
Priority1	Very severe	Hazards of high damaging level have occurred and affected the lives and livelihoods of the population with very severe lack of adequate food security and may include excess mortality, very high and increasing malnutrition, and irreversible livelihood asset depletion.	Humanitarian Emergency
Priority2	Severe	Hazards of high damaging level have occurred and affected the lives and livelihoods of the population with high stress and lack of adequate food security which resulted in high level of malnutrition and accelerated depletion of livelihood assets.	Acute Food and Livelihood Crisis
Priority3	Moderate	Hazards have occurred and affected the lives and livelihoods of the population moderately so that most households are at risk to adequate food security in a stable manner.	Moderately Food Insecure or Chronically Food Insecure

To avoid differing interpretations of the levels leading to subjective classification, standards or thresholds are required to ensure uniform understanding and response. The recommended classes to be used are **very severe, severe, and moderate**.

5. Purpose of the Hotspot Woredas Classification

The hotspot classification is intended to outline a systematic yet simple method for classifying food insecurity to highlight areas that require close monitoring and also to support emergency resource allocation and prioritization of *woredas* in case of resource shortages. Given the new Government direction where seasonal assessment results do not necessarily result in entitlements, resource allocation needs to be primarily guided by sound analysis. The specific purpose of the hotspot classification is to:

- Provide analysis that feeds into decision-making for an effective and timely resource allocation.
- Provide guidance to prioritize areas according to severity of Nutrition, Health, Agriculture, Market, WASH, Protection/CP/GBV and Education insecurity, hence allowing identifying areas that need emergency nutrition related interventions and close monitoring.
- Given resource limitations, provide advice for allocating resources.
- Inform decision-makers to implement appropriate interventions that include non-food sectoral needs.
- Identify areas requiring nutrition surveys and/or disaster area assessments, and
- Establish mechanisms to build consistency and consensus on food security classification.

6. Linkage of Hotspot Woredas Classification with IPC, HNO and Other Assessments

6.1. Linkage of Hotspot Woredas classification with integrated food security Phase Classification (IPC) & Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO)

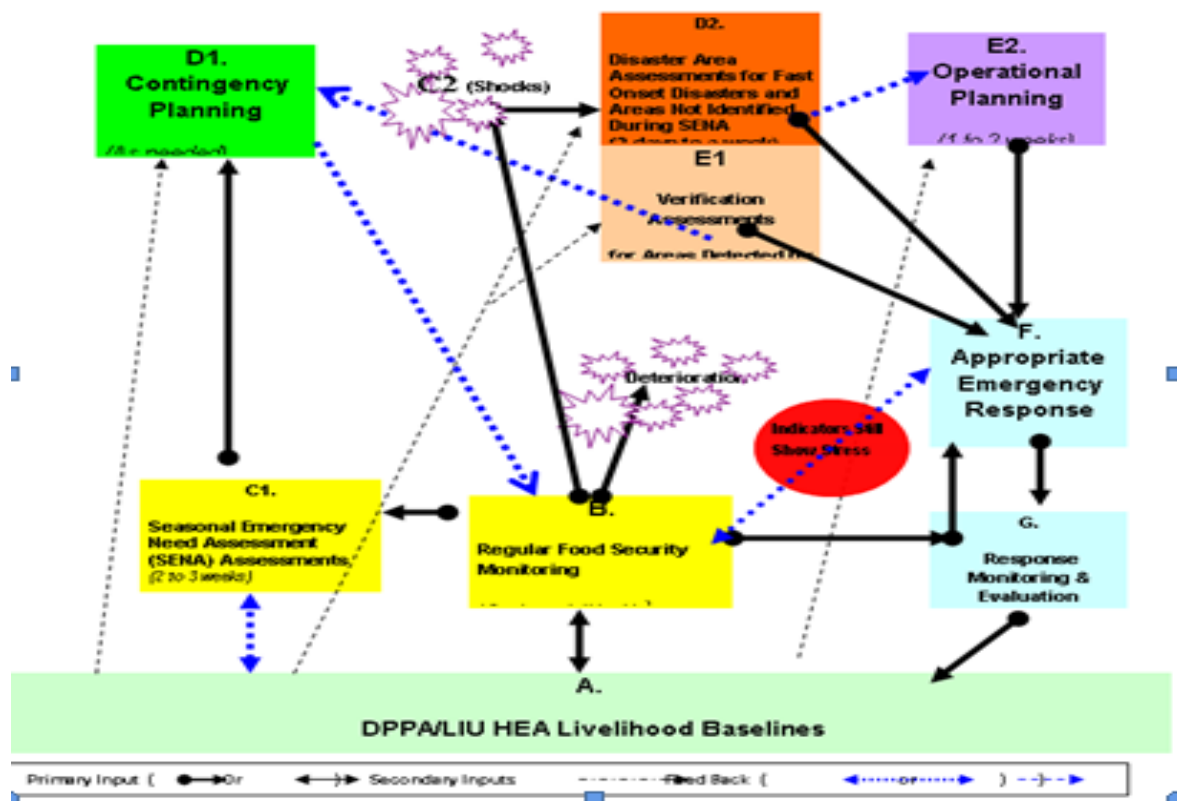
- **Integrated food Security Phase Classification (IPC)** – is a tool for improving food security analysis and decision-making. It is a standardized scale that integrates food security, nutrition and livelihood information into a statement about the nature and severity of a crisis and implications for strategic response. It also serves as an input to the justification of food security in Hotspot Woredas classification.
- **Humanitarian Needs Overview**-is produced to support the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) in developing a shared understanding of the impact and evolution of a crisis and to inform response planning.

- This document presents a comprehensive analysis of the overall situation and associated needs. It also uses hotspot *woredas* classification result as an input for comprehensive analysis.

6.2. Linkage of Hotspot *Woredas* classification with Other Assessments

A sound conceptual framework that grounds the hotspot analysis framework in the Ethiopian context is required. As shown in figure 1, hotspot classification has to be linked to different food and nutritional assessments conducted within different agencies. Regular monitoring reports, multi-agency seasonal assessment findings and progress reports on short and medium-term project interventions are important sources of information for hotspot classification exercises. The main objective of hotspot classification analysis is to inform decision-makers and planners to undertake proper contingency planning leading to operational planning for appropriate emergency response.

Figure 2: Linkage between assessment, Early Warning, Monitoring and Response



Hotspot guidelines should be developed under overall framework of the different types of assessments undertaken in the country. How they feed into the assessment processes and decision making is illustrated in the diagramming showing the linkage between seasonal assessments, early warning, monitoring and response. Food security monitoring is conducted on monthly basis within the government system. Seasonal multi-agency needs assessments are initiated twice a year in both cropping and pastoralist areas.

Usually, a multi-agency assessment team is deployed to conduct seasonal assessments using the HEA and traditional approaches in addition to specific sectoral methods. Early warning and monitoring information are used to inform the hotspot analysis so as to trigger either verification assessments or appropriate emergency nutrition-related responses. Various efforts have been made in Ethiopia to improve the hotspot *woredas* classification system. Common contextual, institutional and other constraints to undertaking robust analysis and to linking analysis to response need to be taken into account when selecting methods and tools.

The hotspot *woredas* classification should capture the spectrum of food insecurity in the country that range from chronically food insecure areas currently targeted through the PSNP and the acute food insecure areas due to a range of hazards/shocks affecting the population including floods, droughts, hailstorms, pests and human and livestock diseases. The spectrum of movement between acute food insecurity and chronic food insecurity is wide and responses required will also differ across the spectrum.

7. Proposed Hotspot Woredas Classification Indicators

Two categories (hazard and outcome) of indicators have been used in the hotspot *woredas* classification process. These indicators are briefly described and summarized below.

7.1. Definition of Indicators

Indicators are usually defined as variables used to monitor the progress or change in status towards a specified outcome. The indicators should therefore be able to: a) Provide a solid

framework for cross sub national comparisons; b) Conform to nationally/internationally acceptable standards or thresholds; and c) Meet the priorities of decision-makers.

For practical implementation of the area of concern (hotspot), the proposed indicators should:

- Generally be readily collectable or available across the regions;
- Generally, allow for minimal use of resources (human and financial) and time constraints due to scarce government/donor financial resources;
- Recognize the current capacity constraints around data-collection and analysis of unique areas such as pastoral locations;
- Provide a legitimate scientific sub-regional comparison. In this regard, quantitative indicators were chosen as being more relevant as good comparative regional indicators. This approach does not undermine or overshadow the use of qualitative indicators at sub-national levels that may help inform or reinforce the core common indicators;
- Provide a sense of the nature of vulnerability by disaggregating the population according to chronic and transitory food insecurity;
- Capture the natural and human-induced hazards associated with the country's diverse geo-climatic and socio-economic conditions. Disasters arising from some of the hazards have caused widespread damage and loss, while others remain potential threats. Natural hazards in Ethiopia include drought, flood, landslides, hailstorms, human and livestock diseases, crop pests, and seismic and volcanic activities;
- Understand that the vulnerability of the country is aggravated by poor agricultural and livestock practices, a fragile and degraded natural environment, extensive poverty, limited communication infrastructure, uneven settlement patterns, inefficient markets, inconsistent climatic conditions, high population growth, lack of good governance, competition over scarce resources and border issues. The frequency, severity, and impact of some hazards are likely to increase in the future, especially due to climate change and other exogenous factors.

The suggested set of core indicators, used in the hotspot should be able to differentiate the uniqueness of the pastoral areas versus the cropping areas, while at the same time be able to

have the severity of these areas compared across. The indicators selected should also take into consideration the HEA baseline indicators recommended for monitoring and include outcome indicators not considered in the HEA. Moreover, the framework for collecting data should be agreed and shared across agencies for monitoring purposes and be linked to the national systems of the Monthly Food Security Monitoring and Early Warning system. In each of the selected indicators there is a need to establish and agree on description of thresholds for triggering response such as resource allocations and assessments.

7.2. Categories of Indicators

In order to define an area as a hotspot, certain parameters have to be used for follow-up on the situation and measure the level of affectedness of the community/population due to hazard occurrence. The indicators have to be selected based on the hazard – vulnerability relationship. The indicators can be categorized into the following two major groups.

- i. Hazard information,
- ii. Outcome indicators

7.2.1. Hazard information

In the Ethiopian context, the most common hazards are drought and other weather adversities, flood, land slide, crop pest, human and livestock disease outbreaks, price instability, market disruptions, and internal displacement. The details of hazard information included in the hotspot identification analytical spread sheet are shown below. These can be taken as part of the “Early Warning Indicators”, which are events that occur well before food insecurity conditions manifest. The event normally occurs or impacts the three pillars of food security (availability, access and utilization) some weeks or months before food insecurity sets in. The event could have a sudden or slow impact as disasters set in a community; some are slow onset whilst others are fast onset. The early warning indicators could be generic such as rainfall as it affects cropping and pastoral areas.

7.2.2. Outcome Indicators

The impacts of hazards can be expressed in terms of the positive or negative changes in the livelihood of the population due to the occurrence of the hazards in the areas. The negative impacts of hazards encompass early and/or late outcomes including poor seasonal agricultural

activities, disruption of markets and prices, poor health and nutritional status, disrupted educational systems, increased shortages of water for both human and livestock consumption, and intensification of coping mechanism that threatens the livelihood of households in the area.

If the impact level of the hazard is getting worse, the coping strategies of households are potentially deteriorating. The most common types of early or late outcome indicators of food insecurity are increased sales of firewood and charcoal, unusual livestock death, disrupted Terms of Trade (ToT), increased school absenteeism, consumption of health threatening foods, seed consumption, increased begging, increased request for external assistance, switching in livelihood protection expenditure for food purchase and so on. These indicators show how the hazard-affected population is struggling to survive.

Once coping mechanisms have been exhausted, the households are moving into humanitarian food and livelihood crises with high and above usual malnutrition and accelerated depletion of livelihood assets that, if continued, will slide the population into humanitarian emergency/famine. The common types of late outcome food insecurity indicators would be high GAM and SAM, unusual migration and displacement, and increases in morbidity and mortality. These indicators depict the severity of the current food insecurity situation in the area.

The analysis of hazard impacts has to be seen from the context of its ultimate effect on lives and livelihoods of the vulnerable population in time. Depending on the impact of the hazard, classification could range from moderate food security concern to very poor or worrying condition that shows the area is a priority to either to follow up or to respond immediately to protect lives and livelihoods.

As shown in the following tables (Table 7.4.1 – Table 7.4.7), the main criteria (outcome indicators of food security) for classifying hotspot *woredas* are selected in order to measure the level of severity of the problem and classify areas in three major priority categories as 1st priority, 2nd priority and 3rd priority; with the highest concern for the 1st priority *woreda* and least for the 3rd.

In each sector, at least 50 per cent of the indicators should fulfill the criteria to be categorized as 1st priority, 2nd priority or 3rd priority. For the overall rating, 50 per cent of three or more sectors should be fulfilled.

Table 7.4.1: Nutrition sector hotspot priority indicators and their thresholds

No.	Indicators	Priority1	Priority2	Priority3
1	U5MR	>2/10,000 /day; or CMR 1-2/10,000/day	U5MR 1- 2/10,000 /day or CMR 0.5- 1/10,000/day	U5MR < 1/10,000 /day or CMR <0.5/10,000 general population/day
2	GAM by WHZ	> = 15% OR GAM by WHZ >= 10% with aggravating factors	10-14% OR GAM by WHZ = 5 – 9% with aggravating factors	GAM by WHZ 10- 14% OR GAM by WHZ < 5 %
3	U5 children admitted to Therapeutic Feeding Program (TFP) during the reporting month	>=30 for Health Post OR >=40 for Health Centre	15-29 for Health Post OR 30 - 39 for Health Centre	10 - 14 for Health Post OR 15 -29 for Health Centre
4	GAM by MUAC	> 10% (U5 % Prevalence of MUAC < 12.5) or bilateral pitting oedema (+, ++, +++)	5 – 9.9 % (U5 % Prevalence of MUAC < 12.5) or bilateral pitting oedema (+, ++, +++)	< 5% (U5 %Prevalence of MUAC < 12.5)
5	%age change of TFP admission within the past quarter	>= 40%	20 - 40%	10 - 20%
6	% of vulnerable people requesting for external relief food assistance	>= 40% in PSNP <i>woredas</i> (PSNP + emergency beneficiaries) or >= 30% in non-PSNP <i>woredas</i> (only emergency beneficiaries).	20 - 40% in PSNP <i>woredas</i> (PSNP + emergency beneficiaries) or 15 - 30% in non-PSNP <i>woredas</i> (only emergency beneficiaries).	< 20% in PSNP <i>woredas</i> (PSNP + emergency beneficiaries) or < 15% in non-PSNP <i>woredas</i> (only emergency beneficiaries).

Table 7.4.2: Health sector hotspot priority indicators and their thresholds

No.	Indicators	Priority1	Priority2	Priority3
1	An outbreak of AWD	One case	NA	NA
2	An outbreak of measles	When there have been 3 lab confirmed cases or 5 suspected cases	NA	NA
3	Maternal mortality rate	>305 deaths per 100,000	200 – 340 deaths per 100,000	<200 deaths per 100,000

Table 7.4.3: Agriculture sector hotspot priority indicators and their thresholds

No.	Indicators	Priority1	Priority2	Priority3
1	Seed consumption as food	Significant seed reserve consumption as food	NA	NA
2	Crop Condition / or % estimates of production losses	Very poor crop condition or estimates of very high ($\geq 30\%$ of the of the production loss of the last five years average)	Poor crop condition or estimates of high (20% - 30% of the production loss of the last five years average)	Poor crop condition or estimates of (10% -20% of the production loss of the last five years' average)
3	Water availability/% pasture shortage	Very severe water and/or pasture shortage affecting $>40\%$ of livestock population	Severe water and/or pasture shortage affecting 20% - 40% of livestock population	Moderate water and/or pasture shortage affecting 10% - 20% of livestock population
4	Livestock Body Condition	Emaciated livestock body condition (skinny body with almost all ribcage visible)	Thin livestock body condition (thin body with more than three ribs visible)	Moderate livestock body condition (smooth body with at least two ribs visible)
5	% Livestock deaths and/or % herd size reduction from last 5 years average	Very high ($\geq 15\%$ death of total population) and/or herd size reduction by about $\geq 30\%$	High (10% - 15% death of total population and/or herd size reduction by about 20-30%)	Moderate (5% - 10% death of total population) and/or herd size reduction by about 10%-20%
6	% Reduction in milk yield compared to average yield	Very high ($\geq 50\%$)	High (25% - 50%)	Moderate (10% - 25%)

Table 7.4.4: Market sector hotspot priority indicators and their thresholds

No.	Indicators	Priority1	Priority2	Priority3
1	Sale of productive or non- productive livestock sale	Significant sale of productive livestock (oxen, milking cows, female camels) and/or excessive sale of non-productive livestock	High sale of non-productive livestock	Moderate sale of non-productive livestock
2	% price increase of staple foods over the previous month above the average change of last 5 year for this specific month or % decline in price of livestock below the average from last 5 year for this specific month	Very high price increase of staple food ($\geq 15\%$) or Very high decline in price of livestock ($\geq 15\%$)	High price increase of staple food (10-15%) or high decline in price of livestock (10-15%)	Moderate price increase of staple food (5-10%) or moderate decline in price of livestock (5-10%)
3	Market supply of staple food or livestock	Very low market supply very high market supply of livestock	Low market supply of staple food or high market supply of livestock	Moderate decline in market supply or moderate increase in market supply of livestock
4	Decline in TOT- (price ratio; livestock vs. grain; labor vs. grain, cash crop vs. grain % of the last 5 years average of the month	Very high decline ($\geq 25\%$)	High decline (15-25%)	Moderate decline (5 - 15%)
5	Increase in the number of daily laborer looking for work or decline in wage rate	Very high increase in daily laborer/very high decline in wage rate	High increase in daily laborer/high decline in wage rate	Moderate increase in daily laborer/moderate decline in labor opportunity

Table 7.4.5: WASH sector hotspot priority indicators and their thresholds

No.	Indicators	Priority1	Priority2	Priority3
1	% of the population are dependent on surface water sources (ponds, streams and rivers) that dry up earlier than 2 months	> 50% of the population	40 - 50% of the population	< 40% of the population
2	% of the population travel distance single trip to fetch water .	> 50% of the population travel >=10km distance	50- 40% of the population travel >=10km distance	> 40 % of the population travel >=10km distance
3	% of the population with queue (waiting) period to fetch water because of low coverage of water supply	> 50% of the population has more than 4hrs queue	50 – 40 % of the population has more than 4hrs queue	>= 40 % of the population has more than 4hrs queue
4	% potable water coverage and non-functionality rate of existing water supply schemes	< 50% potable water coverage and >=35% of non-functionality rate	50- 60% potable water coverage and 20-35 % of non-functionality rate	<= 60 % potable water coverage and <20 % of non-functionality rate
5	% of the population who use very poor water quality (highly turbid water, having odor and taste water source, may or may not verified through biological water test).	>=50% of the population	50-40% of the population	< 40 % of the population
6	% of the initial populations who are Internally Displaced Peoples or Retune back/ relocated	> 15%	10 - 15%	< 10 %

Table 7.4.6: Protection sector hotspot priority indicators and their thresholds

No.	Indicators	Priority1	Priority2	Priority3
1	Extent of Displacement of population	> = 2000	> 1000 &< 2000	< 1000
2	% unaccompanied and separated children in a given area	>= 2%	> 0.5% and < 2%	< 0.5 %
3	% vulnerable groups (elderly, those without care givers, persons with disability) in the in a given area	> 4%	> 1% &<4%	NA
4	Lack of multi-sectoral responses' services for GBV survivors-including absence of referral pathways, access to health and clinical management of rape measured through safety audits, safety perceptions assessments and other FGDs	for GBV survivors	NA	NA

Table 7.4.7: Education sector hotspot priority indicators and their thresholds

No.	Indicators	Priority1	Priority2	Priority3
1	% of primary and secondary schools are closed and damaged due to emergency	> 10 %	1- 10 %	NA
2	% of schools are displaced in the <i>woreda</i>	> 10 %	3- 10 %	<3 %
3	% of individual students unable to buy learning stationary	>= 50%	20-50 %	< 20 %
4	% of primary and secondary schools that do not have safe water with 500 m from school premises	>=50%	15 -50 %	< 15 %
5	% of primary and secondary schools that do not have latrine	>=50%	15 -50 %	< 15 %

8. Reporting Hotspot Woredas Classification Results

The hotspot classification report is produced two times a year, January and July, following *meher* and *belg* assessments, respectively. The result of hotspot *woreda* classification available in January following *Meher* Assessment and in July following *Belg* Assessment. However, if situations evolve faster, the worst affected *woredas* which were not considered in January or July hotspot classifications may be reported to NDRMC with a tangible justification (Table 8.1). The format consists of the location (region, zone and *woreda*), P-code, Previous Hotspot classification result, Justification for Nutrition, Health, Agriculture, Market, Water, Education, Protection/CP/GVB, and summary of hotspot *woredas* by zone and region.

Using Table 8.2, the hotspot classification team at the regional level completes *woreda* level information such as:

- Sector of concern (Nutrition, Health, Agriculture, Market, WASH, Protection/CP/GBV and Education); as priority one, two and three
- Beneficiary population (emergency and PSNP) as a percentage of *woreda* rural population.

Note: ***Although information from different sectors is used in the hotspot woreda classification process, the intention is to triangulate and identify woredas that should be prioritised for food and nutrition-related humanitarian interventions.***

Table 8.1: Hotspot Information Reporting Format: Justifications

The Justification table gives information about why a given *woreda* is classified as priority one, two or three based on the indicators.

S/N	Region	Zone	Woreda	P-Code	Previous HS result	Nutrition	Health	Agriculture	Market	Water	Education	Protection/CP/GBV	Final Hotspots

Table 8.2: Hotspot Woredas Classification Information Reporting Format

The Hotspot *Woredas* Classification table gives information whether a given *woreda* is priority one, priority two or priority three and the overall rating (Hotspot *Woredas*). The reporting sequence of region, zone and *woreda* should be the same for Tables 8.1 and 8.2.

S/N	Region	Zone	Woreda	P-Code	Previous HS result	Relief Beneficiaries Pop	PSNP Beneficiary Pop	% Total Relief + PSNP	Nutrition	Health	Agriculture	Market	Water	Education	Protection/CP/GBV	Final Hotspots

Table 8.3: Hotspot Information Reporting Format: Hotspot Woredas Summary

The Hotspot *Woredas* summary table gives information on the number of hotspot priority one, two and three *woredas* by zone, region and total.

S/N	Region	Zone	Priority One	Priority Two	Priority Three	Total
		1				
		2				
		3				
		.				
Region Total						

9. Intended uses of hotspot *woredas* classification

Although the hotspot classification process involves a number of indicators from different sectors, it is intended primarily for food security and nutrition sectors. The following uses are foreseen:

- Prioritizing emergency nutrition responses (TSF in priority one (WFP); relief food in priority one in case of resource shortages; initiation of TFP responses in situations of increased cases of malnutrition and limited capacities;
- Mobilizing partners to strengthen responses especially in priority one and two *woredas*;
- Allocation of funding by donors especially for priority one and two *woredas*;
- Nutrition situation monitoring by comparing number of hotspot *woredas* at the regional and national levels during the same period or from one classification round to another and also changing hotspot status (improving, worsening, stable);
- Tracking of emergency nutrition response coverage and gaps in responses;
- Prioritizing emergency nutrition assessments especially in hotspot priority one *woreda* and partially in priority two *woredas*;
- Tracking of Who, What, Where (3Ws);
- Mapping of vulnerability as is the case in the humanitarian needs overview. Some of the *woredas* for example were classified as hotspot priority one 23 times out of 25 rounds of classification in nine years pointing to high vulnerability;
- Selection of *woredas* for biannual survey;
- An input for humanitarian needs overview (HNO).

10. Measuring Outcomes

No specific model is available to directly measure food and non-food security outcome indicators. Food security indicators are a mix of qualitative and quantitative types that make the analysis more difficult. Qualitative indicators are usually measured based on subjective judgment while quantitative indicators can be measured more objectively. As discussed above, the scale of measurement of indicators used in this hotspot guideline is categorized in to three levels. The levels are represented by priorities run from Priority1 to 3. Priority3 means that the situation is relatively close to normal conditions whereas priority1 stands for worse/bad situations in terms of food security. Each priority level has to be discussed and determined by local experts who know the area well after having completed their analysis at the grass-root level.

Changes in priority status can be detected using updated and triangulated information obtained from regular (monthly) early warning monitoring system and information from partners' operational areas, to establish a new hotspot *woreda* classification. Monitoring information

indicating the development of situations can be used to support decision-making processes in planning, prioritizing and allocation of resources and coordination of emergency assessments and interventions for affected *woredas*.

The classification of an area therefore depends on the level and number of outcome indicators observed in one community and how they impact the livelihoods of that community. For example, severe flooding that has occurred in a grazing land or a human settlement area has little impact on livelihoods and should not be considered for classification. The same event in a densely populated residential area or crop field will have an immediate impact on livelihoods hence the extent and severity of the impact will determine the classification of the area as ‘Very Severe’, ‘Severe’ or ‘Moderate’. In principle, occurrence of outcome indicators at *highly above-normal* to *critical* level can result in an area being classified as ‘Very Severe’. On the other hand, if the outcome indicators are *low* to *moderate* then close monitoring will be recommended, and the area can be classified as ‘Moderate’. The following steps provide guidance.

Step1: Identify and organize the variables or outcome indicators and list them by sectors and by *woredas*.

Step2: From the indicators/ variables, based on (i) secondary information, (ii) baselines (e.g. Livelihoods baseline) and (iii) expert opinion of the *woreda* or area under consideration, estimate the impact of hazards on livelihoods and determine whether the change is normal.

Step3: If the hazard has impacted the area and resulted in below-normal or above-normal conditions, determine the extent of abnormality through better understanding of what normal or average condition is for that indicator as it relates to livelihoods in the particular area under consideration.

Step 4: Classify the area (*woredas*) based on the indicator severity level as outlined in Tables 8.1 to 8.3 shown under section 8 above and based on the experts’ recommendations of the actual or likely impact of the hazard (s). The areas will then be classified as ‘Moderate’, ‘Severe’ or ‘Very Severe’ representing Priority 3, Priority 2, and Priority 1 *Woredas*, respectively.

11. Organizational Roles and Responsibilities

11.1. Federal NDRMC and Federal Level Multi-Agency Co-ordination Group

- Establish federal level Multi-Agency Co-ordination Group including federal partners.
- Coordinate and lead the Multi-Agency Co-ordination Group's activities.
- Develop guidelines, tools, procedures and other necessary technical manuals for hotspot classification and circulate to relevant stakeholders and partners at national and regional levels.
- Collect feedback on a continuous basis on the use and effectiveness of the guideline, tools, procedures and other necessary technical manuals and make the necessary amendments.
- Ascertain the credibility of the information obtained using the tool.
- Provide technical support as needed to the regional multi-agency Co-ordination Groups.
- Monitor the quality of regular monitoring information collected by regions and provide feedback on the problems identified to regions on quarterly basis.
- Share to regional counterparts available information at the federal and global levels on current situation and future developments.
- Regularly analyze monitoring information and identify hotspot areas, prepare National Monthly Early Warning Bulletins and disseminate the report to all relevant bodies at federal and regional levels.
- If deterioration in food security situation is detected during the analysis, provide timely and adequate warnings to decision-makers at regional and federal levels to take appropriate measures and conduct verification assessments in the hotspot areas as per the implementation strategy.

11.2. Regional Level (DRMC/DPPB and/or DPFSB)

- Establish regional Multi-Agency Co-ordination Group including regional partners.
- Coordinate and lead the Multi-Agency Group's activities.

- Provide technical, financial and logistical support to the zonal and *woreda* Early Warning Units.
- Coordinate the collection of regular monitoring information at the *woreda* level on a monthly basis, control the quality of information and provide feedback and training to improve the quality of information.
- Send a copy of the regular monitoring information to the Federal Government (NDRMC).
- Regularly analyze monitoring information and identify hotspot areas, prepare Regional Monthly Early Warning Bulletins and disseminate the report to all relevant bodies at federal, regional and zonal levels.
- When the situation rapidly changes communicate the information immediately to the relevant bodies at regional and Federal Government (DPP/DPPFSB and NDRMC).
- If deterioration in food security situation is detected during analysis, cross-check the information with other sources and immediately consult zones and *woredas* for verification.

11.3. Zonal Level (DRMO/DPPO and/or DPFSO)

- Establish Zonal Multi-Agency Co-ordination Group including zonal partners.
- Coordinate and lead the Multi-Agency Group's activities.
- Coordinate and closely follow-up regular monitoring data collection by the *woreda* Early Warning Units on a monthly basis and submit the copy of the regular monitoring information to the Regional and Federal early warning units simultaneously.
- Control the quality of information and provide feedback and training to *woredas* Early Warning staff to improve the quality of information.
- Regularly analyze the regular monitoring information, identify hotspot areas, prepare Zonal Monthly Early Warning Bulletins and disseminate the report to all relevant bodies at regional, zonal and *woreda* levels.
- When situation rapidly changes communicate the information immediately to the responsible authorities at regional, zonal and *woreda* levels.
- Provide feedbacks about the effectiveness of hotspot classification tool to the region.

11.4. Woreda Level

- Establish *Woreda* Multi-Agency Co-ordination Group including *woreda* partners.
- Coordinate and lead the Multi-Agency Group's activities.
- Collect monitoring data on a monthly basis and submit the copy of the regular monitoring information to the zonal early warning unit.
- Controls the qualities of information collected by the data collectors and regularly provide feedback to staff to improve the quality of information.
- Regularly analyze monitoring information, identify critical problems, prepare *woreda* monthly early warning bulletin and disseminate the report to all relevant bodies at zonal and *woreda* levels.
- When the situation rapidly changes communicate the information immediately to the responsible authorities at zonal and *woreda* levels.
- If deterioration in food security situation is detected provide appropriate advice to the *woreda* authorities and launch rapid assessment in the areas concerned.
- Provide feedbacks about the effectiveness of the verification and disaster area assessment tools to the zone.

11.5. Stakeholders/partners

- Actively participate in the Multi-Agency Co-ordination Groups at various levels (*woreda*, zone, region and federal).
- Participate in guideline, procedure and technical manual development/revision.
- Report and share information available in their respective operation areas and institutions to the Multi-Agency Co-ordination Group.
- Participate in the full process of verification assessment and hotspot classification at all levels (*woreda*, zone, region and federal) i.e. from planning of the field work up to report production.
- Provide all rounded capacity building support at all levels (i.e. training, logistics, manpower and financial) to implement the verification and disaster area assessment tools.
- Disseminate and advocate for rapid response based on the results of the verification and disaster area assessment.

12. Sectoral Hotspot Priority Analysis Guidance Notes and Data Sources

12.1. Nutrition Sector Hotspot Priority Analysis Guiding Notes and Data Sources

a. U5MR >2/10,000 /day; or CMR 1-2/10,000/day and this is for first priority; look for second and third priorities in the indicators tables.

- Data Source: Ad-hoc and bi-annual nutrition assessments.
- Results: Guideline on Emergency Nutrition Assessment, 2002. Death in children under five/10,000 children under five/day, page 118.

b. GAM by WHZ > = 15% OR GAM by WHZ >= 10% with aggravating factors

and this is for first priority; look for second and third priorities in the indicators tables.

- Data Source: Guideline on Emergency Nutrition Assessment, 2002. Page 128.

c. U5 children admitted to Therapeutic Feeding Program (TFP) during the reporting month: >=30 for Health Post OR >=40 for Health Centre. This is for first priority; look for second and third priorities in the indicators tables.

- Public health Framework for Analysis and Interpretation of key nutrition, health, early warning and food security data based on monthly TFP data at health post and health centre levels.

d. U5 children admitted to Therapeutic Feeding Program (TFP) during the reporting month: >=30 for Health Post OR >=40 for Health Centre. This is for first priority; look for second and third priorities in the indicators tables.

- Public health Framework for Analysis and Interpretation of key nutrition, health, early warning and food security data based on monthly TFP data at health post and health centre levels.

e. GAM by MUAC > 10% (U5 %Prevalence of MUAC < 12.5) or bilateral pitting oedema (+, ++, +++) and this for first priority; look for second and third priorities in the indicators tables to be assigned.

f. Percentage change of TFP admission within the past quarter >= 50% and this is for first priority; look for second and third priorities in the indicators tables to be assigned.

- The percentage change of TFP data within the past quarter at regional and federal levels

$$F(y_1, y_2) = ((y_2 - y_1)/y_1) * 100.$$

- The number of vulnerable people requesting for external relief food assistance $\geq$ 40% in PSNP *woredas* (PSNP + emergency beneficiaries) or $\geq$ 30% in non-PSNP *woredas* (only emergency beneficiaries). December/July NDRMC Multi-Agency assessment results each year. $F(x, y) = \text{Food Aid Needy and PSNP Population } (x) / \text{Total rural Population } (y) * 100$

12.2. Agriculture Sector Hotspot Priority Analysis Guiding Notes and Data Sources

The following six indicators are selected for Agriculture sector to monitor seasonal progress and impacts on food security.

1. **Seed reserve consumption as food:** If reports start coming from the rural areas where most households are consuming seed reserves, it is a clear indication of the worst condition where seasonal agricultural cultivation is not possible soon.
2. **Crop condition and Production:** Current crop situation in agrarian and agro pastoral areas is totally dependent on the seasonal rainfall performance, adequate land preparation, timely planting, input utilization and proper field management practices mainly controlling of weeds and pests. If one or more of these factors perform atypical, crop condition, yield and finally production will be affected.
3. **Water and Pasture availability:** This outcome is entirely dependent on the performance of seasonal total rainfall amount and distribution. In Ethiopian context, most pastoral households are from Afar and Somali regions where annual total rainfall ranges between 200 to 300mm which is a much lower performance than the total annual rainfall in the Western part. Therefore, slight changes in amount and distribution will have a significant impact on water and pasture availability for livestock husbandry.
4. **Livestock herd size changes and /or livestock death:** Changes in livestock herd can be caused by different factors including low birth in the current season due to low conception during the previous season, shortage of pasture and water, livestock disease outbreak, looting during conflict, and excessive sale. Following a severe disaster that causes significant livestock herd reduction, the period of recovery for different animal species is different based on their normal pregnancy and lactating period. Camel has longer while shoats have shorter time of recovery.

5. **Livestock body condition:** Normal livestock body condition, production and productivity continue under normal water and pasture availability, health condition, number of animals sold. However, thin or emaciated livestock body condition is likely due to animal feed shortage, water scarcity, poor health condition, and weight loss due to long distance travel in search of pasture and water. Livestock body condition is physically observable. Meat production is highly affected when animal body condition reaches the emaciated level.
6. **Livestock production mainly milk:** Milk production also depends on the livestock physical condition. During good years when adequate moisture is available, and pasture and water availability is improved then milk production improves unless there is livestock disease outbreak. On the other hand, during drought years, availability of milk production is unlikely unless the owners have the capacity to feed their female animals at home.

Indicator 12.2.1. Seed Consumption

Priority1	Priority2	Priority3
Significant seed reserve consumption as food	NA	NA

If reports indicate that **seed consumption is being** practiced by most of the household in a monitoring geographical area, it is an indicator of **household response to severe food shortage**. Therefore, it is understandable that most households are facing food and seed shortage to continue to the next agricultural season. This indicator applies only to **priority 1** areas.

This indicator is a Yes or No answer for the direct or related question to know whether a

household is consuming the seed reserve or not. No matter how large or small the seed reserve



is consumed, it's significant existence in enough to assume most of the households are in a bad situation. It is very important to understand what causes farmers to consume seed as food. The challenging question is that how to measure whether it is significant or not.

Guidance to set a priority

- Conduct interviews with representative households. Development Agents (DAs) are the most appropriate source of such information.
- Take the proportion of households who answered 'yes' for the question "Have you started eating your seed reserve?" The assessors might not directly ask this leading question but can present an indirect question such as "What is your current source of food?" and see if seed consumption is in their list.

If the proportion indicates that significant number of households started consuming their seed stock as food, this indicator can be used to classify the area as Priority1. Otherwise, not applicable.

12.2.2. Crop Production loss/Yield Reduction

Priority1	Priority2	Priority3
Very poor crop condition or estimates of very high production losses ($\geq 30\%$ of the last five years average)	Poor crop condition or estimates of high production losses (20% - 30% of the last five years average)	Poor crop condition or estimates of production losses (10% -20% of the last five years average)

To understand the current and projected status of crop condition and production, it is important to follow-up how the rainfall onset, amount distribution, dry spells, and weather-related adversities and cessation performs. In addition, land preparation, timeliness of planting and types of crops being cultivated compared to average, utilization of inputs, crop pest and disease management, weed infestation and overall crop production prospects are the most important information needed.



It is also important for the analyst to understand the harvesting and consumption period in a year and identify which season's production to monitor and collect data for.

Guidance to set a priority

- Define the analysis period for the specific areas. Analysis period might consider validity time of hotspot classification and then which season's production the households are consuming within the period of analysis.
- Make sure that the last 5-year average production is available by season by geographic unit of analysis (mainly *woreda*).
- If the period of analysis is within the first few months after harvest and before the start of the second season harvest, compare the total production obtained from recent season/s and that of the last 5-year average production correspondingly. For example, in preparing a hotspot analysis in January for SNNPR, it is advisable to consider annual production from previous *belg* and *meher* seasons and compare to the last five-year average annual production as both season's production can be consumed between January and June. However, if the analysis is done in July, compare the recent harvest from *belg* with the last five-year average production.
- In the event that the period of analysis is after the seasonal agricultural activity started but before the harvest, it is important to assume the extent to which the current seasonal progress will affect the harvest later at the end of the season. In this regard, to estimate yield and total production, adequate information is required about the onset of the season, land preparation and planting progress and the seasonal weather forecast provided by the National Meteorological Agency (NMA) for the remainder of the season. Soon after the planting window is over, information on area coverage will be available. Using the area coverage and the assumed (estimated) yield by crop, it is possible to estimate the total production is likely to be as **production=f (Area, Yield)**. Finally, based on seasonal performance report (monitoring data), project the estimated percent of production loss or gain compared to the last five-year average production.
- Once the percentage of the current production compared to the last five-year average is obtained, classify the areas based on the threshold presented in the table above.

Indicator 12.2.3: Shortage of pasture/Water Availability

Priority1	Priority2	Priority3
Very severe water and/or pasture shortage affecting >40% of livestock population	Severe water and/or pasture shortage affecting 20% - 40% of livestock population	Moderate water and/or pasture shortage affecting 10% - 20% of livestock population

The proportion of livestock number facing water and pasture shortage from the total herd size estimated for the geographic unit of analysis (*woreda*) is very important to see the severity. Shortage of pasture and water is directly related to the availability of soil moisture which in-turn is dependent either on the availability of water body in the area (like swampy areas around lakes and perineal rivers) or amount of rainfall during the season.

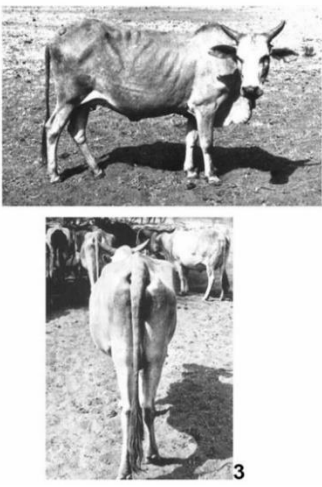
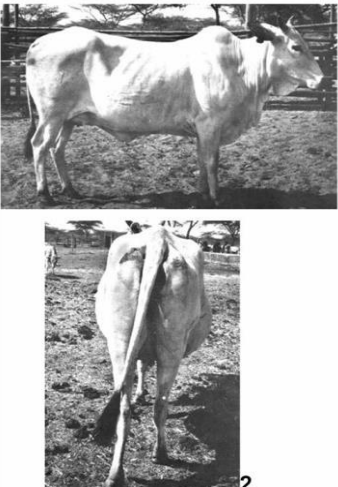


Guidance to set a priority

- Obtain the current and last five-year average livestock population by *woreda*. During the estimation of current year livestock population, it is advisable to refer to the recent seasons and ‘bad year’ when significant reduction in livestock held size was reported.
- Try to see the impact of both the past and the current seasonal weather performance (rainfall, temperature/cloud coverage) on pasture and water availability as well as birth and conception of different animal species.
- Identify parts of geographic unit of analysis (*woreda*) where seasonal rainfall is below average and moisture stress persisted and then the livestock number that are facing water and pasture shortage in these areas.

- Roughly estimate the proportion of livestock affected by the current pasture and water shortage, if any.
- Based on the threshold given in the table above, classify the area. The proportion might give an indication on the spatial extent of the problem.

Indicators 12.2.4: Poor Livestock Body Condition

Priority1	Priority2	Priority3
Emaciated livestock body condition (skinny body with almost all ribcage visible) 	Thin livestock body condition (thin body with more than three ribs visible) 	Moderate livestock body condition (smooth body with at least two ribs visible) 

The physical appearance of cattle shown in the pictures under each priority level portray show the poor livestock body condition looks like due to pasture and water shortage and/or disease infestation. This rating of cattle body condition has been used by PRIME project managed by CARE, Mercy Corp and SC International (<http://www.lmiset.net>) in pastoral areas until the project is phased-out. Though the pictures are only for cattle, it is recommended to use similar physical appearance for other livestock species.

Current livestock body condition can also be influenced by the seasonal performance of the recent rainy season and its conduciveness to regenerate pasture and water. Livestock body condition varies between wet and dry seasons. During wet season some time after the start of the rains and where pasture and water regenerate adequately, livestock body condition improves whereas during the dry period livestock body condition usually deteriorates.

If the period of analysis falls after the start of the rainy season, it is possible to estimate the likely condition through the end of the season or during the following dry season by observation of livestock physical condition and based on the rainfall forecast for the period. . However, if the analysis is planned at the end of the wet season or start of the dry season, the estimation of the likely impact on livestock physical condition can be done by looking at the pervious seasonal performance and its impact on pasture and water availability during the upcoming dry period.

Guidance to set a priority

- Undertake closer **physical observation/inspection** on livestock body condition. Different animal species might have different appearance. For example, the browsers (camel and goats) might look good while the grazers (cattle and sheep) are tin and weaker than average even during below-average seasonal rains.
- **Reach to subjective judgment** in which of the three categories each animal species falls in.
- **Tally all animal** on the spot by categories of priorities during the assessment. This information will later help to calculate the proportion of the number of animals inspected under each priority.
- Identify the category in which the highest **proportion** of the number of animals tallied fall in and that will represent the overall livestock body condition of the area.

Indicators 12.2.5: Reduction in Livestock Number/Herd Sizes

Priority1	Priority2	Priority3
Very high livestock deaths ($\geq 15\%$ death of total population) and/or herd size reduction by about $\geq 30\%$ from last 5 years average	High livestock deaths (10% - 15% death of total population and/or herd size reduction by about 20-30% from last 5 years average	Moderate livestock deaths (5% - 10% death of total population) and/or herd size reduction by about 10%-20% from last 5 years average

Reduction in herd size is usually caused by livestock death due to shortage of pasture and water particularly in the northeastern and southeastern pastoral areas of



Ethiopia. The other reasons for reduction of herd size can be associated with disease prevalence, looting/raiding, and massive sales. Herd size also declines because of low conception and significant abortion rate during the previous season that caused low birth during current season.

To estimate reduction in livestock number owned, information is required on the last five-year average livestock population, estimated percent change (decline or increase) in number of livestock due to new born based on previous seasons' progress, and number of livestock death reported in the geographic unit (*woreda*) in the last 12 months in the area.

Guidance to set a priority

- Usually communities report to PA leaders about livestock death in the village including main causes of livestock death (disease outbreak, flood, land slide, looting/raiding or killing during conflict, etc.). *Woreda* livestock experts regularly collect and archive information received on the number of livestock death information from PA leaders.
- Collet information from *woreda* livestock expert about the impact of previous seasons on the rate of conception before 5-6 months for shoats, 9 months for cattle and 12 months for camels. In addition, if there was abnormally high abortion rate during the pregnancy period that will also help to understand how it will affect the number of new borns. Finally, it will be essential to assess how conducive the current situation is for the new born animals.
- The **proportion of death and decline in new borns from the total holding** gives a probable understanding on the herd size changes.
- Finally compile this information by *woreda* and reach at the best estimate for reduction of livestock number/ herd size in percentage.

Indicators 12.2.6: Reduction in Milk Production

Priority1	Priority2	Priority3
Very high decline in livestock milk production ($\geq 50\%$ reduction in milk yield compared to average yield)	High decline in livestock milk production (25% - 50% reduction in milk yield compared to average yield)	Moderate declined in livestock milk production (10% - 25% reduction in milk yield compared to average yield)

Total milk production is a function of daily milk yield per animal, number of lactating animals and lactating period. Milk production normally improves after the start of a season following improved pasture and water availability. However, it usually declines during the dry period when shortage of pasture and water availability decline leading to traveling long distances in search. Poor health condition of milking animals also causes reduction in milk yield. It is also good to note that milk production declines as of the time progresses from birth to gestation period of pregnancy.



Guidance to set a priority

- Obtain an **average daily milk yield/animal**, average number of lactating animals in the **season, and their total lactating period**. This information can be extracted from HEA baseline. Then, estimate **average total milk production** = $f(\text{daily milk per animal, \# lactating animal, lactating period})$
- Estimate current daily milk yield/animal, number of lactating animals in the season, and their total lactating period based on the current and previous seasonal progress, livestock health condition, conception, pregnancy and birth condition of animals and **current total**

milk production= f(daily milk yield per animal, # lactating animal, lactating period with in the period of analysis)

- **Calculate the % change** of current milk production compared to the average total milk production and assign the priority class based on the threshold shown in the table above.

Details of data Requirement to run hotspot analysis and classification for Agriculture

Seed Consumption	Crop Production Loss / Yield Reduction	Shortage of Pasture/Water Availability	Poor Livestock Body Condition	Reduction Livestock Number / Herd size	Reduction in Milk Production
– Estimated number of households who are consuming their seed (Yes) – Estimated number of households who are not yet start consuming their seed	– 5Year Average Area (ha) – 5Year Average Prod (qt) – 5Year Average yield (qt/ha) – This Year Total Area planted (ha) – Areas of Crops damaged due to hazards (ha) – Damage level of crops due to hazards (%) – This Year Total Production (qt) – This year Average Yield (qt/ha) – % change in Area planted – % change in Yield over 5YAverage – % change in Production 5YAverage	– Last seasons1 rainfall condition (poor/average/above average) – Last seasons2 rainfall condition (poor/average/above average) – Current season rainfall condition (poor/average/above average) – Pasture availability (Very Severe/Severe/moderate shortage, or adequately available) – Water availability (Very severe/Severe/moderate shortage, or adequately available) – Estimated livestock population in the woreda – Parts of the woreda where livestock population concentrated – Parts of the woreda where pasture and water availability is average – Parts of the woreda where Shortage of pasture and water availability is very severe/severe – # of Livestock in areas where pasture and water are reported – # of Livestock in areas where pasture and water are reported but owners can provide feed for their livestock – % of livestock located in areas where pasture and water shortages are reported compared with woreda total livestock (%)	– Total number of animals by species tallied under each priority classes – Estimated % of sample proportion of livestock of SKINNY body with almost all ribcage visible – Estimated % of sample proportion of livestock of THIN body with more than three ribs visible – Estimated % of sample proportion of livestock of SMOOTH body with at least two ribs visible	– Number of livestock death reported in the woreda in the last 3 months – % of proportion of number of animals died compared to the total estimate of livestock in the woreda	– Reference Year (last 5 year) average number of lactating animals (#) – Reference Year (last 5 year) average daily milk yield/animal (litter) – Reference Year (last 5 year) average lactating period (in days) – Reference Year (last 5 year) average total milk production (litter) – Current Year (last 5 year) average number of lactating animals (#) – Current Year (last 5 year) average daily milk yield/animal (litter) – Current Year (last 5 year) average lactating period (in days) – Current Year (last 5 year) average total milk production (litter) – % proportion of Current year milk production compared to the Reference Year (last 5-year average)

12.3. WaSH Sector Hotspot Priority Analysis Guiding Notes and Data Sources

In broader terms, the following points provide tips on information and data required to carry-out Hotspot Classification Analysis for WaSH Sector.

- Availability, safety, proximity and sustainability of sufficient quantity of water.
- Need for and feasibility of water treatment, whether bulk or at household level.
- Social, political or legal factors affecting the control of water sources might be controversial, especially during conflicts.
- Sanitary survey of the water point (where applicable).
- Observation of use of separate containers for water collection and storage.
- Observation of clean and covered drinking water containers.

- Water quality testing, when and if appropriate/affordable.
- *Woreda* department of water data

12.4. Protection/ CP/ GBV Sector Hotspot Priority Analysis Guiding Notes and Data Sources

The protection sector principles indicate that data collections, review and analyses of protection needs should be guided by the Protection Principles, even if agencies and/or organizations do not have a distinct protection mandate or specialized capacity in protection.

These include understanding the context and taking steps to prevent, limit or end violations and risks to people's safety. Providing information and supporting the ability of people to make informed decisions about their own situation and recovery is essential. The protection sector work focuses on specific areas of concern such as, child protection; gender-based violence; housing, land and property rights; mine action; rule of law and justice; legal counseling; human rights advocates and defenders; internally displaced populations; and refugee rights.

12.5. Education Sector Hotspot Priority Analysis Guiding Notes and Data Sources

Education Sector's hotspot data collection, review and appraisal of information to determine the level of priority in a given area needs to consider the following key tips. These include among others:

- Access and learning environment: focuses on partnerships to promote access to learning opportunities and inter-sectoral linkages with, for example, health, water and sanitation, food aid/nutrition and shelter, to enhance security and physical, cognitive and psychological well-being.
- Teaching and learning: focuses on critical elements that promote effective teaching and learning: 1) curriculum, 2) training, 3) instruction and 4) assessment.
- Teachers and other education personnel: focuses on the administration and management of human resources in the field of education, including recruitment and selection, conditions of service, and supervision and support.
- Education policy and coordination: focuses on policy formulation and enactment.
- Planning and implementation, and coordination.

- *Woreda* Education office data.

12.6. Market Sector Hotspot Priority Analysis Guidance Note and Data Sources

Markets significantly affect food security by affecting physical and economic access to adequate food in the market and access to income from cash crops and labor. Access to food is affected because of decrease in wages, increase in staple food prices, and decline in prices of cash commodities. Market analysis for food security monitoring and intervention design is broad. It requires understanding the following.

- Market system (price setting mechanisms, extent and aspects of government control & regulation etc.).
- Market structure (producers, assemblers, wholesalers, retailers, consumers etc.).
- Market concentration (degree of control by a trader or group of traders).
- Access to markets for traders and buyers.
- Market connection and integration with other markets.
- Policies and regulations that affect market functioning.

Although the purpose of market monitoring and analysis in the hotspot prioritization process is not to conduct such comprehensive assessment and analysis, it is necessary to understand how markets are organized and how they operate to analyse impact of markets on household food security. As a first step, relevant *Woreda* Bureaus and stakeholders are encouraged to collect basic information on the market structure, how it functions and its impact on household food security.

For the purpose of the hotspot guideline, the focus is on few aspects of market analysis and the objective is to understand the impact of supply and prices of food and cash items on household food security.

Elements of market analysis for Hotspot *Woreda* Classification include price analysis and looking at the supply or availability situation and changes in demand. Key indicators and concepts used for the analysis are first defined as below.

Consumer Price Index (CPI): Measures the market cost of a basket of goods relative to the base year. It is a measure of cost of living/inflation.

Terms of trade (ToT): Ratio of price of primary income goods to primary expenditure goods. Relevant ToTs include - Livestock to cereal prices, Wage to cereal prices, Cash crop to cereal

prices, and Cereal to cereal prices. ToT shows the relative value of one commodity (for instance a sack of maize) to another commodity (for example goat).

Nominal prices: Nominal prices denote the current monetary value of a good or service i.e. as seen or observed by the monitor in a shop or at market stall.

Real prices: are prices adjusted for inflation using a consumer price index of the corresponding year. The process of adjusting for inflation is called deflating by a price index to determine the real value of some monetary magnitude in reference to a “base period”.

12.6.1. Price Analysis

Prices are relatively easier to monitor as they can be regularly collected at lower levels. Price stability analysis is advised to avoid making conclusion on a spot price analysis as it does not account for seasonality. To address this and to check if prices are volatile, it is necessary to build price data overtime and make a trend analysis. Trend analysis can be made from 3 years or 5 year price data depending on data availability. A difference from the 3 year or 5 year average is one such analysis. Analyzing volatility using coefficient of variation etc. is beyond the scope of this guideline and can be done through capacity building and other guidance given.

Price Analysis Indicators and sources of data

Indicator	Sources of data	Purpose of indicator
Retail prices	Woreda market	Indicates access
Whole sale price	Wholesalers in Woreda or EBTC office	Indicates availability
Terms of Trade (ToT)	Calculated using retail prices	Purchasing power
Consumer Price Index	CSA	Purchasing power

12.6.2. Supply or Availability

In addition to price analysis, it is crucial to examine food supply and availability in the market, in relation to demand. Current availability should be complemented by information about traders’ expectations on future supply. Supply analysis also can look at physical access to markets and connectivity which refers to the type of infrastructure (roads and transport mode)

for consumers and producers to access markets and for traders to connect to other markets. The ease or difficulty with which producers, traders and consumers can connect determines price levels. Trade barriers caused by conflict are the other aspect that needs monitoring and reporting in the hotspot classification.

12.6.3. Market Regulations

It is important to monitor and consider the impact of different regulations on markets and by implication on food security. Regulations include export bans, the lifting of such bans such as in 2017 maize export, previous livestock export bans to the middle east, and so on. Such regulations affect prices both for food purchase and for cash income items.

Indicators and sources of data

Indicator	Sources of data	Purpose of indicator
Retail prices	<i>Woreda</i> market	Indicates access
Whole sale price	Wholesalers in <i>woreda</i> or EBTC office	Indicates availability
Terms of Trade (TOT)	Calculated using retail prices	Purchasing power
Consumer Price Index	CSA	Purchasing power

- NDRMC/Regional DRMC/DPPB *woreda* level market data

13. References

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