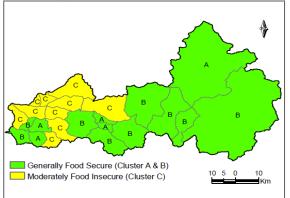
Mugu

District Food Security Network Bulletin Issue: 11



Reporting period: January - March 2012 Outlook period: April - June 2012

Food Security Phase Classification Map



Phase classification indicators*

Indicator	VDC Cluster		
	Α	В	С
Availability			
1 st main crop (Wheat) growing	1	1	1
2 nd main crop (Barley) growing	1	1	1
Household Food stock	1	2	2
Market stock	2	2	2
Accessibility			
Food prices	1	1	1
Wage rate	1	2	2
Employment	1	2	2
Non Timber Forest Products	1	2	2
Natural disasters	1	1	1
Civil unrest	1	1	1
Migration trends	1	1	1
Coping strategies	1	1	2
Utilisation			
Acute malnutrition	3	3	3
Disease	1	1	1
Overall classification	1	1	2
3 month outlook			

Estimated number of food insecure Estimated population (Phase 3 Food insecure VDCs (Phase 3 and 4) and 4 Total population at risk 0 Total population in district 55,311

See food security phase classification key below.

Food security statements

Current food security situation

• Ten out of 24 VDCs in the north-western belt (Cluster-C) are classified as moderately food nsecure (Phase-II), where some 21,555 people (39% of the district population) live. Likewise, 14 VDCs (Cluster A and B) having population 33,756 are generally food secure (Phase-I).

In the moderately food insecure VDCs, household food stock is sufficient for 2-3 months from the harvest of summer crops (paddy and millet), and also from the WFP Food for Asset (FFA) activities (in Hyanglu, Bhie, Dhainakot, Natharpu, Shreekot, Photu, and Jima VDCs). Market and NFC food stocks have depleted due to disruption in supply for more than two weeks in January and February following heavy snowfall in Karnali highway: wage employment opportunities have decreased by upto 30% due to less presence of development activities compared to last year; imited wage opportunities are available at the periphery of DHQ in the construction works. Income from the sale of NTFPs like Chiraito, and Kakarsingi is limited as the collection remained less and price went low this year. People are coping with limited wage labour works, borrowing money and food, and consuming less preferred food.

In the generally food secure VDCs, level of household food stocks varies between clusters--in Custer A, the stock is sufficient for more than 3 months due to good harvest of summer crops and access to NFC rice, whereas in Cluster B, the stock is suffcient for 2-3 months only. NFC food stock is not sufficent in Cluster B. Almost all households in the Cluster B have access to food in Tibet market. Households are engaged in wage labor, and selling of cash crops like beans, potato, and vegetable

Acute malnutrition rate remains at 10-15% (Action Contre la Faim) in the district, which is eportedly due to an insufficient food intake (quantity & quality) and poor caring practices.

Overall security situation is peaceful. There is no incidences of disease outbreak

Food security outlook

 The situation is expected to improve in almost all VDCs in Cluster C, and it is likely to remain ame in Cluster A and B in the next guarter.

Households food stock will be replenished in Cluster C once after the harvesting of winter crops (wheat and barley), the crop is growing well; market and NFC food stock will be increased as the traders keep sufficient stock before monsoon season. Likewise, households' income will increase from the sale of NTFP (Guchchi mushroom and Yarchagumba); wage labor opportunities will be available in Karnali Rojgar programme; and most likely WFP supported FFA programme will ontinue as well.

Most likely WFP supported FFA programme will be started in five VDCs in Cluster A and B (Karkibada, Pina, Shreenagar, Rara, and Ruga). NFC will continue to sell rice in Cluster A and B with subsidies in transportation cost. As a regular trend, Tibetan border will be opened in end lune onwards

Security situation is expected to remain normal across the district.

* VDCs are clustered based on general similarities in food security. Classification of each indicator is based on agreed thresholds of the reference indicator. Detailed information on these indicators can be found at:

http://n o.googlegroups.com/web/FoodSecurityPhaseClassificationIndicators.pdf

Food security classification:

Phase 1. Food Secure - household has secure access to food.

Phase 2. Moderately Food Insecure – household does not have secure access to food and is likely to be reducing consumption and undertaking coping mechanisms such as borrowing money and selling non productive assets

Phase 3. Highly Food Insecure - household does not have secure access to food and is likely to be skipping meals and adopting irreversible coping strategies such as selling productive assets, removing children from school, consuming seed stock etc.

Phase 4. Severely Food Insecure - household does not have secure access to food and consumption is significnatly less than adequate. The household has adopted severe levels of irreversible coping mechanisms (as mentioned above) and few options remain

Phase 5. There is no opportunity for the household to gain access to food, leading to starvation if no intervention is made.

Outlook: ▲ improve, > stay the same, ▼ decline

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This District Food Security Bulletin and other publications relating to food security in Nepal, can be accessed through the Nepal Food Security Monitoring System (NeKSAP) Google group: https://sites.google.co



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