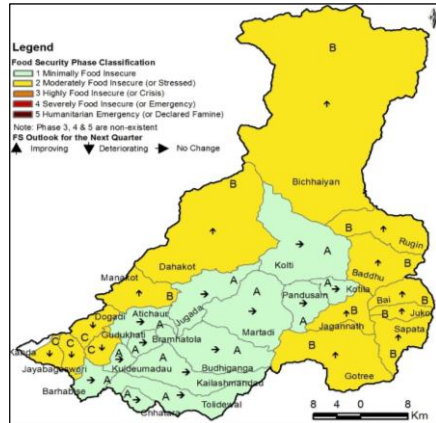


Reporting period: Mangsir - Falgun 2070 (mid Nov 2013 - mid March 2014)
Outlook period: Chaitra 2070 - Ashadh 2071 (mid March - mid July 2014)

Food Security Phase Classification Map



Phase classification indicators*

Indicator	VDC Cluster		
	A	B	C
Area Outcomes			
Food Consumption (Food and dietary diversity, food groups)	1	2	2
Livelihood Change (and Coping strategies)	1	2	2
Acute child malnutrition (6-59m) - Wasting	2	2	2
Availability			
Production:			
1 st main crop Wheat for all Cluster	1	1	2
2 nd main crop Barley for all Cluster	1	1	2
3 rd main crop NA			
Household food stock	1	2	2
Market stock	1	1	1
Accessibility			
Food prices of main staples (rice, wheat flour, and others)	1	1	1
Employment opportunities within and neighboring districts	1	2	2
Non Timber Forest Products (NTFP), Cash/high value crops, and small enterprises	1	1	1
Income from meat, milk, egg, fish, honey	1	1	1
Remittances	1	1	1
Utilisation			
Human disease incidences, and epidemics	1	1	1
Water supply for drinking, sanitation	1	1	1
Stability			
Out-migration (stress induced)	1	1	1
Civil security (social violence, and bandh/blockade)	1	1	1
Hazard and Vulnerability			
Climatic hazards: floods, landslides, dry spell, snowfall, hailstorm, and strong wind	1	1	2
Disaster: Earthquake, Fire	1	1	1
Overall classification	1	2	2
4 months outlook	▶	▲	▼

* VDCs are clustered based on general similarities in food security. Classification of each indicator is based on agreed thresholds of the reference indicator.

Food security classification:

- Phase 1. Minimally Food Insecure – Households can meet food and non-food needs without shifting or changing livelihood strategies. These households are capable of adjusting to small scale stresses caused by hazards, disasters, shocks, epidemics, conflicts and/or violence by means of existing social, natural and economic capital.
 - Phase 2. Moderately Food Insecure (or Stressed) – Households can meet minimal food needs with traditional coping strategies, but are unable to afford some essential non-food expenditures without engaging in irreversible coping strategies.
 - Phase 3. Highly Food Insecure (or Crisis) – Households have high food consumption gaps, have above usual levels of acute malnutrition, or can meet minimal food needs only with accelerated depletion of livelihood assets, leading to food consumption gaps.
 - Phase 4. Severely Food Insecure (or Emergency) – Households are unable to meet food and non-food needs without losing livelihood assets. This induces very high levels of acute malnutrition leading to high morbidity, mortality and shortened life expectancy. Probable high level of violence and movement restriction due to conflict. Some immediate interventions and assistance required.
 - Phase 5. Humanitarian Emergency (or Famine) - Almost all households have an extreme lack of food and other basic needs where starvation, destitution, irreversible loss of capital resources and/or loss of lives are evident. Households of the whole areas are challenged by acute shortage of food and other basic needs, hazards, disasters, epidemics, destruction of infrastructure, or disturbances of services. Immediate humanitarian assistance is required.
- Outlook: ▲ improve, ▶ stay the same, ▼ decline

District Food Security Network affiliated members: GOs: DAO, DPO, DADO, DDC, DLSO, DFO, WDO, DEO, DPHO, NFC, CCI, INGOs - RWRMP, DACAW, SUAHARA, CARE Nepal, WFP, NRCS, NGO Federation, NGOs: WDF, SAPPROS Nepal, PEACEWIN, GIFT Bajura, MISS Bajura, and Farmers Network.

This District Food Security Bulletin and other publications relating to food security can be accessed through the Nepal Food Security Monitoring System Google group:

<https://sites.google.com/site/nepalfoodsec/home>

Estimated number of food insecure

Food insecure VDCs (Phase 3 and 4)	Estimated population (Phase 3 and 4)
Total population at risk	NA
Total population in district (2011 census)	134,912

Food security statements

Current food security situation
The District Food Security Network (DFSN) Bajura classified 14 out of 27 VDCs (Cluster B and C) of the district as moderately food insecure (Phase 2) , which are located in the eastern, western and northern belts of the district. The moderately food insecure VDCs are: <i>Rugin, Bichhya, Sappata, Jaganath, Wai, Jukot, Gotri, Bandhu, Dahakot, Manakot, Dogadi, Gudukhati, Kanda</i> and <i>Jayabageshowary</i> . February-March is a typical winter lean period in the district.
The food security situation in this period has deteriorated compared to the earlier cycle when the district was minimally food insecure. Key reasons for the deterioration include poor food consumption resulting from depleting summer crop stocks and limited income opportunities to meet food and non-food needs. The DFSN reported a 20-30 percent drop in wage labor opportunities with the phasing out of some asset creation development programmes. Affected households were reported to have followed coping strategies like borrowing money and food on credit, consuming less preferred food, reducing the size of meal and selling of small livestock.
The District Health Office (DHO) reported a prevalence of underweight children at 7 percent. However, the report is based on the number of children reporting for health services at health posts and hospitals and is not representative of the whole population in the district.
The DFSN classified 13 centrally located VDCs (Cluster A) as minimally food insecure, where average household food stocks were reported at 250-350 kg, which is adequate to meet food needs for four months. In these VDCs, approximately 2,000 households received wage employment opportunities worth NPR 20,000/ HH through the Rural Access Programme (RAP- 3). Additional 300 households were able to earn NPR 8,000- 12,000 by selling vegetables, livestock and dairy products and firewood in the district headquarters and adjoining VDCs.
The Nepal Food Corporation (NFC), through its depot in Martadi and Kolti, supplied 650 mt subsidized rice that helped increase household access to food. Similarly, market supply was also reported adequate with normal price hikes. However, in the case of the moderately food insecure VDCs, market access was reportedly problematic, both physical access (it's 2-3 days' walk) as well as economic access.

Current food security outlook
The overall food security situation of the district is expected to improve, largely because of winter crop harvesting in April/May. In addition, employment opportunities will be created through District Development Committee (DDC), RAP-3 and Decentralized Rural Infrastructure and Livelihood Project (DRILP) activities. However, the situation in 4 VDCs of Cluster C (Dogadi, Gudukhati, Kanda and Jayabageshowary) is anticipated to further deteriorate as the DADO Bajura has estimated losses of wheat production of 30-40 percent due to hailstones.
In Cluster B (<i>Bandhu, Wai, Jukot, Sappata and Jaganath</i>), additional wage employment opportunities are expected through Rural Community Infrastructure Works (RCIW)/WFP; it is expected that about 468 mt of food will be provided to those VDCs.
In Cluster C, food prices are expected to increase due to monsoon induced road disruptions and a decrease in the supply of food.



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