Gorkha District Food Security Bulletin
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नेपाल खाद्य सुरक्षा अनुगमन प्रणाली
Nepal Khadhya Surakshya Anugaman Pranali (NeKSAP)
Nepal Food Security Monitoring System

Area Outcomes

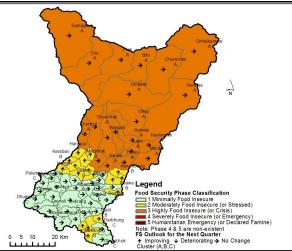| Food Consumption	Livelihood change and coping	Acute Child Malnutrition
The District Food Security Network (DFSN) estimated that only 50 percent of house-holds (HHs) in cluster A, 70 percent of HHs in cluster B and 80 percent of HHs in cluster C were able to meet their basic food needs. The DFSN attributed poor food consumption to agricultural seasonality and food stock loss due to the earthquake. In the post-earthquake period, HHs in cluster A and B relied largely on relief to meet their consumption needs.	The District Disaster Relief Committee (DDRC) reported that 92 percent of HHs were affected by the earthquake and 13,046 houses were damaged. The DFSN reported significant impact of the earthquake on traditional livelihood activities, like tourism, livestock and Non Timber Forest Products (NTFPs). HHs in cluster C were reported to have resumed their traditional livelihood activities, whereas in cluster B and C, HHs were increasingly using remittances and relying on external support for day-to-day needs.	The District Health Office (DHO) reported that routine data on wasting was not available. However, according to a mass MUAC screening, global acute malnutrition was 2.2% of children under five (out of 12,967 screened children). The health and sanitation situation was reported as poor due to damage to the water supply system and sanitation facilities.

Food Security Phase Map and Estimated Food Insecure Population

Legend
Food Security Phase Classification
1 Minimally Food Insecure
2 Moderately Food Insecure (or Stressed)
3 Highly Food Insecure (or Crisis)
4 Severely Food Insecure (or Emergency)
5 Humanitarian Emergency (or Declared Famine)
Note: Phase 4 & 5 are non-existent
FS Outlook for the Next Quarter
↑ Improving ↓ Deteriorating → No Change
Cluster (A,B,C)

0 5 10   20 Km

Summary of causes, context and key issues: Gorkha, the epicenter of the 25 April earthquake, was one of the worst affected districts. According to the District Disaster Relief Committee (DDRC), roughly 90 percent of households (HHs) were affected and 467 people lost their lives.

The District Food Security Network (DFSN) attributed the deterioration in the food security situation to the earthquake and classified 20 northern VDCs in cluster A as highly food insecure (Phase 3). The DFSN classified an additional 17 VDCs in cluster B as moderately food insecure (Phase 2). The remaining areas (23 VDCs and 2 municipalities) were classified as minimally food insecure (Phase 1). *See the map above.*

The DFSN reported that in cluster A most HHs lost almost 70 percent of their food stock due to the earthquake and affected HHs relied on relief support for food consumption and other daily needs. The DFSN also reported that key livelihood activities, like tourism, livestock and Non Timber Forest Products (NTFPs), were affected. Likewise, local markets were also not fully functional because of road and trail damage.

The VDCs and municipalities in cluster A were also affected by the earthquake. But the DFSN reported that livelihoods in those areas had resumed to normal and most HHs were consuming their own produce and relying on local markets, which had resumed normal function. Wage opportunities in agriculture and construction work were also reported to have recovered.

VDCs in Phase 3	Projected population for 2015	Estimated population in Phase 3
Warpak	5,342	5,300
Samagaun	647	600
Lho	762	700
Prok	616	600
Chumchet	994	900
Chhaikampar	1,053	1,000
Sirdibas	2,690	2,600
Kashigaun	1,969	1,700
Keraunja	3,481	3,000
Laprak	2,316	2,300
Uhiya	1,990	1,800
Gumda	2,468	2,200
Bihi	656	600
Lapu	1,954	1,800
Manbu	6,447	5,500
Ghyachchok	2,140	1,900
Kharibot	2,629	2,200
Saurpani	6,385	5,400
Swara	3,979	3,400
Thumi	4,802	3,800
Total	**53,320**	**47,300**
Affected population (% of district's 2015 projected population-**288,208**)		**16%**
Source: District Food Security Network (DFSN)		

Outlook: For the mid-July to mid-November 2015 period, the DFSN projected an improvement in the food security situation with the expectation that all 17 VDCs (in cluster B) currently classified as moderately food insecure will likely improve to minimally food insecure. However, the DFSN anticipated that the 20 VDCs currently classified as highly food insecure are likely to remain the same during mid-July to mid-November.

In the northern VDCs, maize will be harvested during September and will contribute to increased HH food stock, but, due to the monsoon, poor road connectivity might create supply offsets in remote VDCs. The DFSN also forecasted poor income from NTFP during this period. Hence, the DFSN anticipated that the 20 VDCs classified as highly food insecure will continue to remain in the same phase. On the other hand, the DFSN anticipated a potential improvement in VDCs in cluster B due to the maize and potato harvests and income from agricultural commodities and NTFPs. The DFSN also forecast a possible supply offset due to road disruptions during the monsoon. In cluster C the DFSN anticipated increased HH food stock due to early paddy and maize harvest and regular income from agriculture and livestock products; hence, these areas are likely to be classified as minimally food insecure.

For further information, please contact:
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DFSN affiliate members: DAO, DDC, DADO, DLSO, WDO, DFO, DEO, DTO, DHO, District Irrigation Office, ADBL, FNCCI, NRCS, NFC, NEA, MCAP-Gorkha, NEA, NGO Federation, District Cooperative Federation, Farmer representatives, Entrepreneur, FECOFUN, NGO Network and WFP.