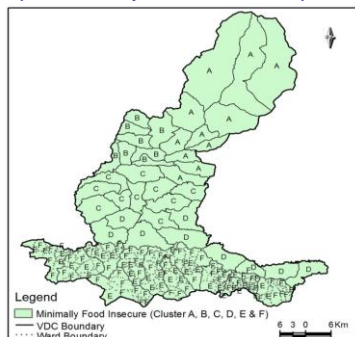


Map 1: Food Security Phase Classification Map



Phase classification indicators*

Indicator	VDC Clusters					
	A	B	C	D	E	F
Area Outcomes						
Food Consumption (Food and dietary diversity, food groups)	1	2	1	1	3	1
Acute child malnutrition (6-59 month) - Wasting	1	1	1	1	1	1
Livelihood Change and Coping strategies	1	1	1	1	1	1
Availability						
Production: Summer Crops 1 st main crop (Maize)	1	1	1	1	2	1
2 nd main crop (Paddy)	NA	1	1	1	NA	1
3 rd main crop (Millet)	1	1	NA	NA	1	NA
Food stock at household level	1	1	1	1	2	1
Stock of main staples in key markets (food availability in the market)	1	1	1	1	1	1
Accessibility						
Food prices of main staples (rice, wheat flour, and others)	2	2	2	2	2	2
Employment opportunities within and neighboring districts	1	1	1	1	1	1
Income through sales: NTFPs, cash/high value crops, and small enterprise	1	1	1	1	1	1
Income through sales: meat, milk, egg, fish, honey	1	1	1	1	1	1
Remittance	1	1	1	1	1	1
Utilization						
Human disease incidences, and epidemics	1	1	1	1	1	1
Drinking water supply and sanitation	1	1	1	1	1	1
Stability						
Out-migration (stress induced)	1	1	1	1	1	1
Civil security (social violence, and bandh/blockade)	1	1	1	1	1	1
Hazards and Vulnerability						
Climatic hazards: floods, landslides, dry spell, snowfall, hailstorm, thunderbolt, and strong wind	1	1	1	1	1	1
Disaster: Earthquake, fire, etc.	1	1	1	1	1	1
Overall classification						
4-month 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 Phase 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: CDO, DAO, DLSO, DFO, DPHO, DWSO, WCDO, District Cooperative Office, NRCS, District Chamber of Commerce and Industries, NGO Federation, SBO, WFP, NRCS, NGO Federation, UMN, FECOFUN, FIAN Nepal, Right-to-Food Network, and HMS (NGO) -- all members had participated in the meeting.

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

www.nfsms.org.np/

Estimated number of food insecure population

Food insecure VDCs (Phase 3 and 4)	Estimated population (Phase 3 and 4)
None	n/a
Total population at risk	
Total population in district (2011 census, CBS)	
	336,067

Food security statements

Current food security situation: Shrawan - Kartik (mid Jul - mid Nov 2013)

Overall, the district was classified as minimally food insecure during the period of mid July to mid November 2013.

The DFSN divided the district in six clusters (A, B, C, D, E and F) based on the cropping patterns, livelihood strategies and market access. Ward-level analysis was done for 12 VDCs in the south, and ward-level clusters (E and F) were created to allow for greater scrutiny. Cluster E is largely inhabited by ethnic groups, like Chepangs and Tamangs, and small holders, who rely on cereal (maize and millet) production from marginal land, selling of bamboo products and daily wage labour for sustenance. In Cluster F, which is dominated by Brahmins and Chhetris, cereal production (paddy, maize) leads to 9-10 months of food self-sufficiency and greater income is also available through the sale of vegetables and livestock products.

In Cluster E, it was reported that around 50 percent of households have food stock sufficient for up to three months only; this is because maize, the main summer crop, decreased by about 15 percent due to strong winds. Households are consuming mainly cereals (maize and millet) from their own stock, or purchasing food from the markets through their regular income or livelihoods. Households' livelihood strategies have not changed so far.

A majority of households are adopting traditional livelihood strategies. For instance, the main livelihood strategy in the northern belt VDCs (Cluster A) are Non Timber Forest Products (NTFPs), like setan, nirmasi, chiraito and nagbeli, cereals (maize, millet) and livestock products (goat, sheep, wool and woolen products), whereas the main livelihoods in the southern and central belt VDCs connected to the Prithvi highway are commercial vegetable production and sale of livestock products (meat and milk).

Except for the households in Cluster E, most of the households in the district are reported to have food stock available for more than 4 months due to the normal production of maize, millet and paddy.

Income from the sale of vegetables and livestock product and wage labour remained significant. Households, mainly in Clusters B, C, and F, generated income worth NPR 150 million (1.5 million USD) and NPR 320 million (2.3 million USD) from the sale of livestock products and vegetables respectively. Similarly, some 22,000 households received remittances of approximately NPR 890 million (8.9 million USD) in the district. All markets are functioning well with adequate food supplies. The market price of coarse rice and wheat flour increased by 12-16 percent compared to last year.

Wage labour opportunities were sufficiently available in the district. Factories (crusher, concrete, brick and cement), poultry farms, transportation (especially vegetable transportation to the road head) and development activities notably created wage employment opportunities. Some 1,800 households earned NPR 3.2 million (0.032 million USD) from construction work in the development and private sectors.

According to the District Water Sanitation and Hygiene Coordination Committee (DWASH CC) and District Development Committee (DDC), the proportions of households with access to protected drinking water and toilet facilities were 68 and 44 percent respectively. With two VDCs (Maidi and Jogimara) declared Open Defecation Free (ODF) during this trimester, the total number of ODF declared VDCs has reached four (out of 50).

Food security outlook: Mangsir - Falgun (mid Nov 2013 - mid Mar 2014)

The district is expected to experience a stable food security situation (i.e. minimally food insecure) in the next reporting cycle except for some areas in 12 VDCs in the south (Cluster E). Key factors contributing to the anticipated situation are as follows:

- Household food stocks maintained through the recent harvest of paddy, maize and millet.
- Regular income from sale of agricultural products (winter potato and other vegetables), NTFPs and livestock products.
- Smooth functioning of markets with adequate food stocks and normal price behavior.

Nevertheless, in some areas in 12 VDCs in the south (Cluster E), a seasonal deterioration in food security is expected. These areas include: Kiranchowk (ward no- 4, 5, 6), Baireni (ward no - 2, 5, 6), Jogimara (ward no - 4, 7, 8), Dhussa (ward no - 4, 8, 9), Benighat (ward no - 3, 4, 6), Mahadevsthan (ward no - 4, 3, 6), Bhumisthan (ward no - 1, 2, 5), Gajuri (ward no - 7, 8, 9), Pida (ward no - 6, 7, 8, 9), Thakre (ward no-6, 7, 9), Tasarpu (ward no-5, 6, 8, 9), and Naubise (ward no - 1, 3, 8).

Households in Cluster E are likely to experience a depletion of food stocks, and are expected to depend on borrowing money/food or eating less preferred food/reducing the size of meals.