





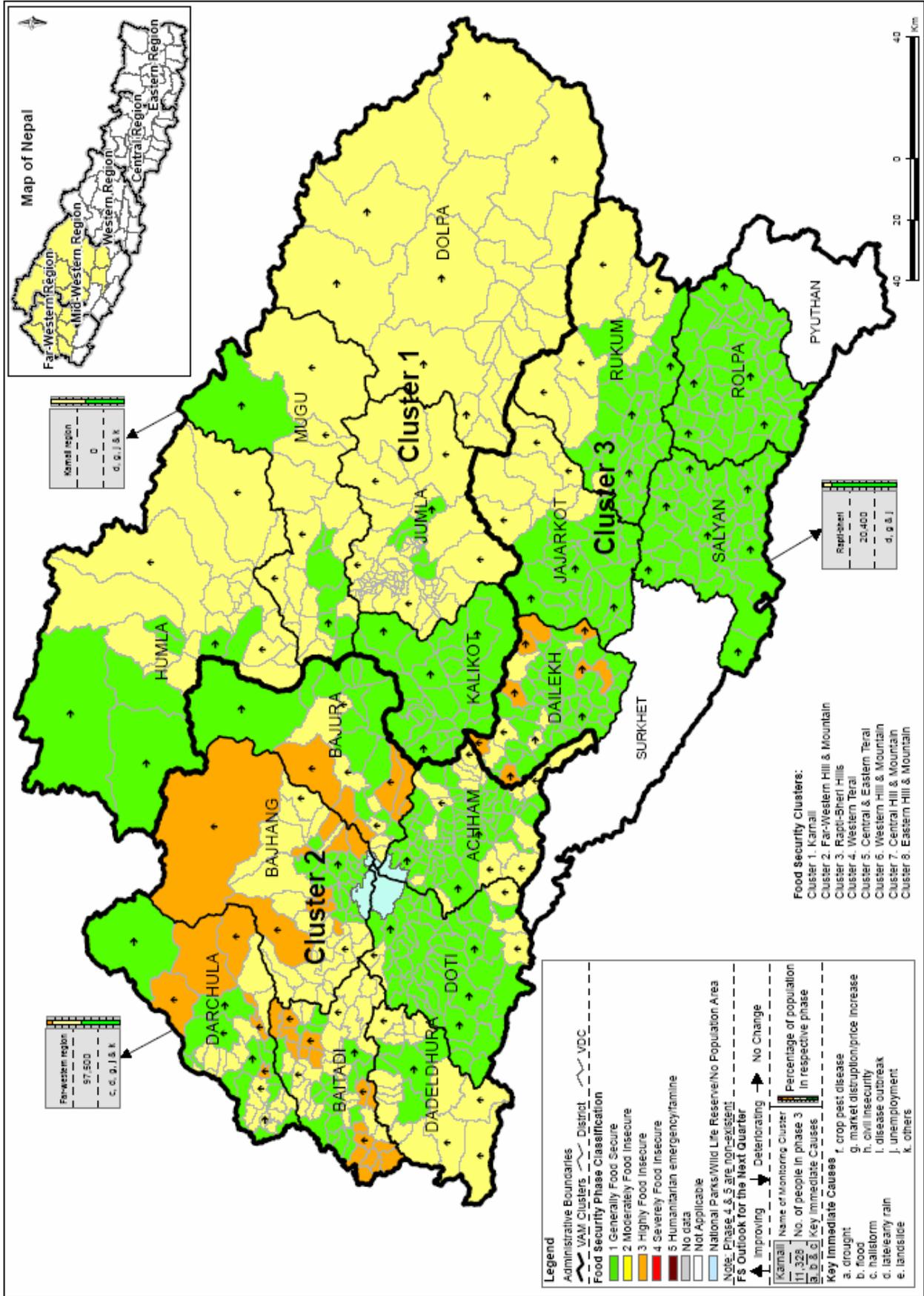
# Nepal Food Security Bulletin — Issue 31

## Food Security Phase Map

### Nepal Food Security Map

January—March, 2011

Map 1.



An A3 size Food Security Country Map is available for download from the NeKSAP Google site: <https://sites.google.com/site/nefoodsec/home/food-security-phase-classification-maps>



नेपाल खाद्य सुरक्षा अनुगमन प्रणाली  
Nepal Khadiya Surakhya Anugaman Pranaali (NeKSAP)  
Nepal Food Security Monitoring System

Jointly Produced by:  
MoAC: Food Security Monitoring Unit  
WFP: Food Security Monitoring and Analysis Unit





# Nepal Food Security Bulletin — Issue 31

## Highly & Severely Food Insecure Populations

### Highly and Severely Food Insecure Populations

Across the Mid and Far Western Hill and Mountain (MFWHM) and Rapti-Bheri Hill districts, the population of highly and severely food insecure is estimated by WFP to be 0.5 million\*. The number has significantly increased compared to the previous quarter (Food Security Bulletin, Issue-30) because of reduced household food stocks. In addition, households reported that local employment opportunities decreased by 10-30% and market food prices rose by 10-20 percent during the period.

The table below provides estimated figures of concentrated populations experiencing a high or severe level of food insecurity in 45 VDCs in the Karnali, Far Western Hill and Mountains and Rapti-Bheri Hills (reported by the NeKSAP District Food Security Networks). At these levels of food insecurity, households consume a poor and inadequate diet and are resorting to severe and often irreversible coping strategies such as reducing the size of meals, opting for less preferred food, heavy borrowing and selling of assets.

District/VDCs affected	Highly Food Insecure	Severely Food Insecure	% of total district population
	Phase 3	Phase 4	
<b>Cluster 2. Far-Western Hills and Mountains</b>			
<b>Bajhang:</b> Sunikot, Maulali, Kailash, Gadaraya, Mashta, Byashi, Kandel, Kanda, and Dahabagar	26,000	0	13.5%
<b>Darchula:</b> Rapla, Ghunsha, Khandeshwori, Tapoban, Seri, and Ranisikhar	8,900	0	6.3%
<b>Bajura:</b> Dahakot, Manakot, Dogadi, Kailashmandu, Chhatara, and Tolidewal	31,500	0	25.5%
<b>Baitadi:</b> Amchaur, Shivanath, Maharudra, Kulau, Udayadev, Pancheshwor, Mahakali, Sarmali, kotpetara, Nwadeu, Mahadevsthan, Mathairaj, Talladehi, Malladehi, Bijayapur, Sakar, and Kaipal	31,000	0	11.7%
<b>Cluster 3. Rapti-Bheri Hills</b>			
<b>Dailekh:</b> Awalparajul, Pipalkot, Singandi, Dwari, Kansikandh, Jagannath, and Badabhairab	20,300	0	7.8%
<b>TOTAL THIS QUARTER</b>	<b>117,700</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>TOTAL LAST QUARTER</b> (Mid & Far-Western Hill & Mountain Region only)	<b>11,300</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>TOTAL LAST YEAR THIS PERIOD</b>	<b>445,400</b>	<b>14,100</b>	
<b>DIFFERENCE:</b>			
<b>COMPARED TO LAST QUARTER</b>	<b>+942%</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>COMPARED TO LAST YEAR THIS PERIOD</b>	<b>-74%</b>	<b>-100%</b>	

#### Food security classification:

- Phase 1. Food Secure – household has secure access to food.
- Phase 2. Moderately Food Insecure – household members have reduced their consumption, calorie and nutrient intake of household members is borderline sufficient. In addition, the household is undertaking coping mechanisms such as borrowing money and selling non productive assets.
- Phase 3. Highly Food Insecure – household members have significantly reduced their consumption, calorie and nutrient intake is highly deficient. In addition the household is undertaking irreversible coping mechanisms such as selling productive assets and taking children out of school.
- Phase 4. Severely Food Insecure – household members have significantly reduced their consumption, calorie and nutrient intake is highly deficient. The household has limited coping mechanisms left and is likely to be selling final assets/ land.
- Phase 5. Humanitarian Emergency - there is no opportunity for the household to gain access to food, leading to starvation if no intervention is made.

\*The food insecure population estimates are based on the 2009 projected population. A detailed description of methodology used by WFP to calculate food insecure population is provided on the NeKSAP google site:

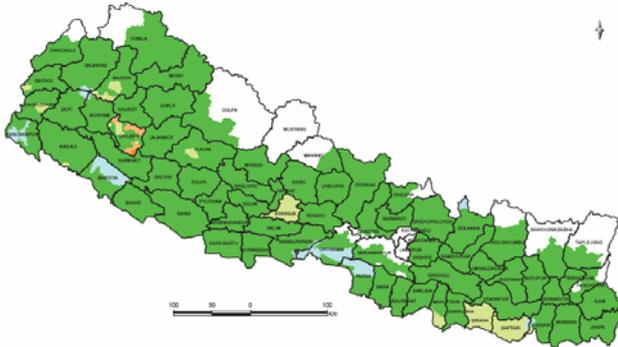
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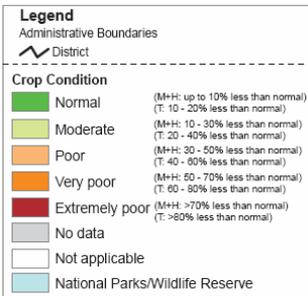
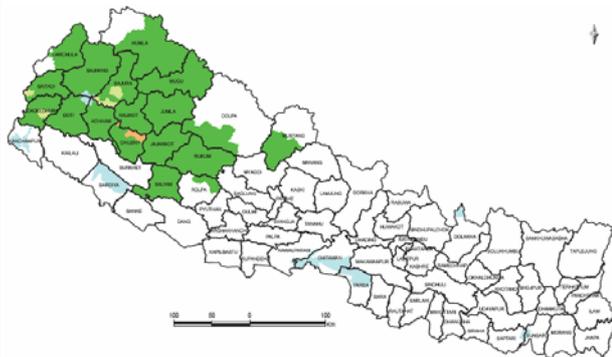


### Crop production

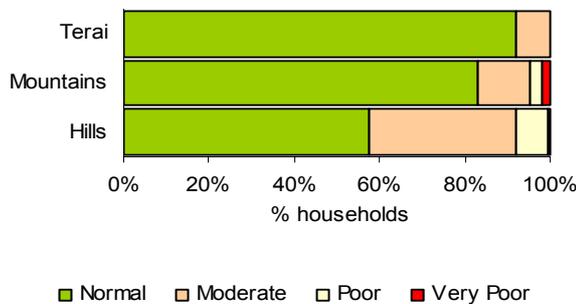
**Map 2. Wheat Production Outlook**



**Map 3. Barley Production Outlook**



**Figure 2. Household perception of wheat crop production outcome by eco-belt**



#### Domestic Situation

- Wheat and barley are the main winter crops in Nepal; mostly cultivated during October-November and harvested during April-June (with the exception of a few mountain districts where cultivation is a little later). The District Agriculture Development Offices (DADOs), and NeKSAP District Food Security Networks (DFSNs) have predicted a generally normal production for 2011 (Map 2 and 3). This follows a good summer crop production in 2010/11.
- Approximately 92 percent of households in the Terai reported that they expect a normal harvest, 58 percent in the Hills, and 83 percent in the Mountains (Figure 2). Most households reported adequate and timely rainfall/snowfall during the plantation and growing of the crop and continue to experience favorable conditions.
- However, localized severe weather events in recent months will lead to crop losses in some areas. For instance, hailstorms and increased crop disease severely affected wheat production in parts of Dailekh, Baitadi, Bajura, Rukum, and Syangja. In Saptari and Siraha, the wheat harvest is expected to be moderately impaired (<20-40%) compared to normal; but better than last year. The decrease in production is expected to impact marginal subsistence farming households and landless daily wage laborers who are reliant upon agriculture based employment. The year-on-year increase in the price of main cereals indicates a serious concerns. On an average the price of coarse rice and wheat flour rose by NPR 2.7 (8.5%), and 4.15 (12.6%) in the month of March compare to the same period last year (Figure-3 in page 5).

#### Regional/International Situation

- India expects a strong wheat harvest in 2011; a recent forecast by FAO suggests India wheat production to be 81.5 million MT up by 0.9 percent compare to the good production year of 2010.
- FAO's revised estimate of the world cereal production in 2010 stands at 2,237 million MT (including milled rice), 1.1 percent below the bumper output in 2009. A decline in world production in 2010 in the face of growing demands is expected to deplete the world cereal stocks. As an indication international cereal prices of major grains have increased sharply up over 70 percent compare to last year this time ("Crop Prospects and Food Situation", FAO, March 2011).

### Migration

- In line with standard trends, rural seasonal migrants started to return home the end of March to undertake the winter harvest and to plant summer crops during April-June. As migrant workers typically return home with some cash this has improved the overall food security situation for many households.
- Remittance is one of the main sources of income in the Mid and Far Western Hill Mountain (MFWHM) districts. For instance, it is reported that 30% of households in Jumla and Kalikot received remittance from seasonal migrants. It is reported that around 20% of income in MFWHM households is from remittances.





### Food security outlook

- The winter crop production outlook is generally positive, this is expected to contribute to an improved food security situation in April-June. However, the food security situation in the Karnali and the Far Western Hill and Mountains is likely to deteriorate between July and September as the 'normal' level of winter production will only be sufficient for about 1-2 months in these food insecure areas.
- Pre-monsoon rainfall has been good and the early outlook for the main **summer crops** of maize and paddy is good. Plantation of maize is ongoing and conditions are also favorable.
- Migrants from rural areas are continuing to return home and are bringing remittances which is improving household food security in many areas.
- **Income** from **NTFP collection**, sale of **cash crops** and **livestock** products, and **tourism** are expected to increase household income during April and May.
- **Bandhs and strikes** are expected to increase in the coming months and this could have an impact on food security. This will include: problems in transportation and the proper functioning of food markets and a reduction in wage labor opportunities.
- Markets in remote areas are also likely to suffer from disruption to supply routes because of monsoon rains. Seasonal landslides will likely impact hill and mountain districts—particularly in the Mid and Far West of Nepal.
- The impact of fluctuating international food prices on local markets also needs to be monitored closely—particularly in relation to cereals and other staples.

### Detailed district food security information

The Nepal Food Security Monitoring System (NeKSAP) currently monitors 72 districts across Nepal. The information collected forms the basis for this bulletin. Detailed food security bulletins are available for download in English and Nepali\* from the NeKSAP google group <https://sites.google.com/site/nefoodsec/home>. Reports for the most food insecure districts are provided as an appendix to this report.

#### Cluster 1.Karnali

Dolpa\*  
Humla\*  
Jumla\*  
Kalikot\*  
Mugu\*

#### Cluster 2.Far-Western Hill & Mountain

Achham\*  
Bajhang\*  
Bajura\*  
Baitadi\*  
Dadeldhura\*  
Darchula\*  
Doti\*

#### Cluster 3. Rapti-Bheri Hills

Dailekh\*  
Jajarkot\*  
Pyuthan  
Rolpa\*  
Rukum\*  
Salyan\*  
Surkhet

#### Cluster 4. Western Terai

Kanchanpur  
Kailali  
Bardiya  
Banke  
Dang  
Kapilbastu  
Rupandehi

#### Cluster 5. Central and Eastern Terai

Chitwan  
Parsa  
Bara  
Rautahat  
Sarlaha  
Mahottari  
Dhanusha  
Siraha  
Saptari  
Sunsari  
Morang  
Jhapa

#### 6. Western Hill and Mountain

Gorkha  
Lamjung  
Tanahu  
Arghakhanchi  
Gulmi  
Palpa  
Syangja  
Parbat  
Baglung  
Myagdi  
Mustang  
Manang  
Kaski

#### 7. Central Hill and Mountain

Sindhuli  
Ramechhap  
Dolakha  
Sindhupalchok  
Kavrepalanchok  
Nuwakot  
Rusuwa  
Makawanpur

#### 8. Eastern Hill and Mountain

Taplejung  
Panchthar  
Sankhuwasabha  
Ilam  
Okhaldunga  
Khotang  
Dhankuta  
Udayapur  
Solukhumbu  
Bhojpur  
Terhathum

*This Food Security Bulletin is based on (i) data collected from 1046 households (Hill: 417 households; Mountain: 300 households and Terai: 329 households) during January-March 2011 as a part of the Nepal Food Security Monitoring System (NeKSAP), (ii) NeKSAP District Food Security Network Meetings across 17 districts and other information sources as referenced.*



This product is funded by the European Union Food Facility. The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Commission.

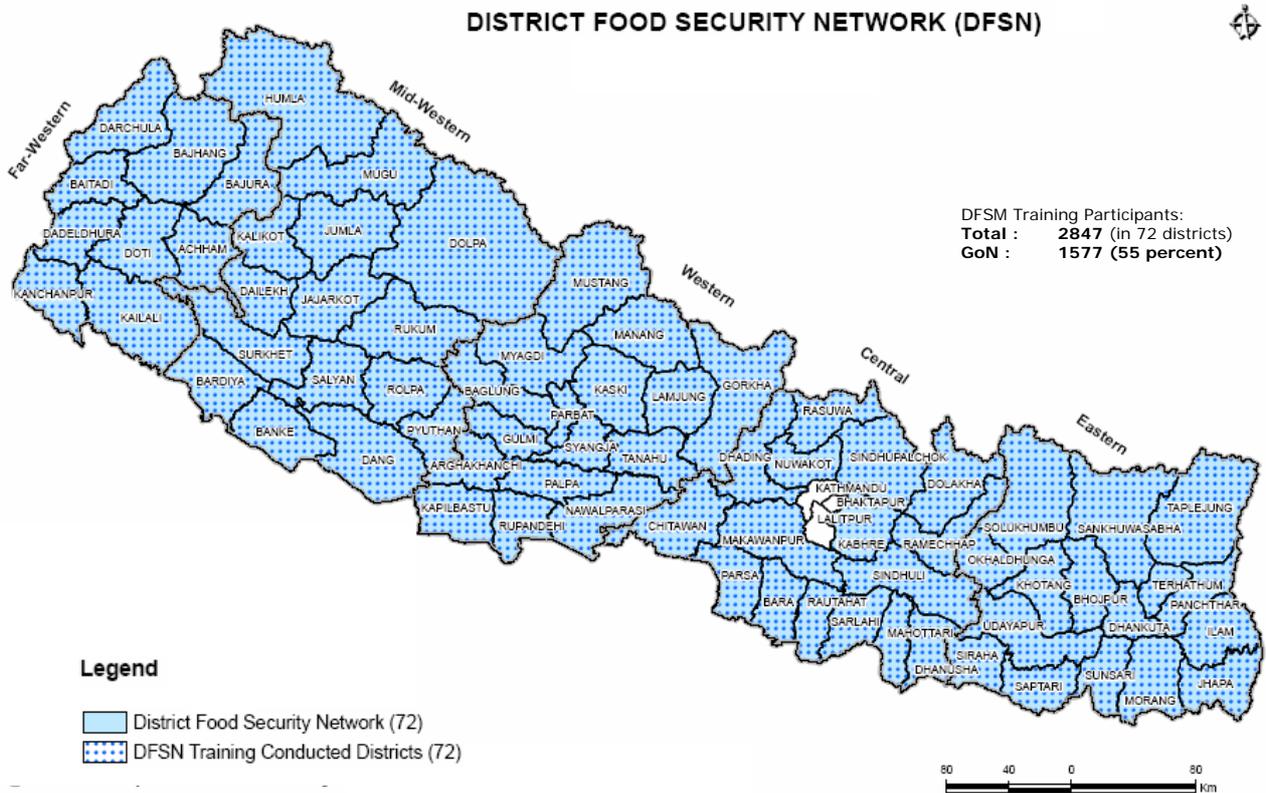




### Joint MoAC/WFP project to strengthen the Nepal Food Security Monitoring System

The NeKSAP District Food Security Networks (DFSNs) have been expanded to 72 districts across Nepal as of end March 2011. Likewise a District-Based Food Security Monitoring and Analysis training has been provided to 2,847 participants from 72 DFSNs (Map 4). This included a total of about 1,577 participants from government agencies; remaining other participants were from I/NGOs, UN agencies and civil society. Expansion of DFSNs to 72 districts and the organization of a District-Based Food Security Monitoring training for the DFSN members were the major activities planned to strengthen the Nepal Food Security Monitoring System (NeKSAP).

Map 4. NeKSAP Activities Update



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