



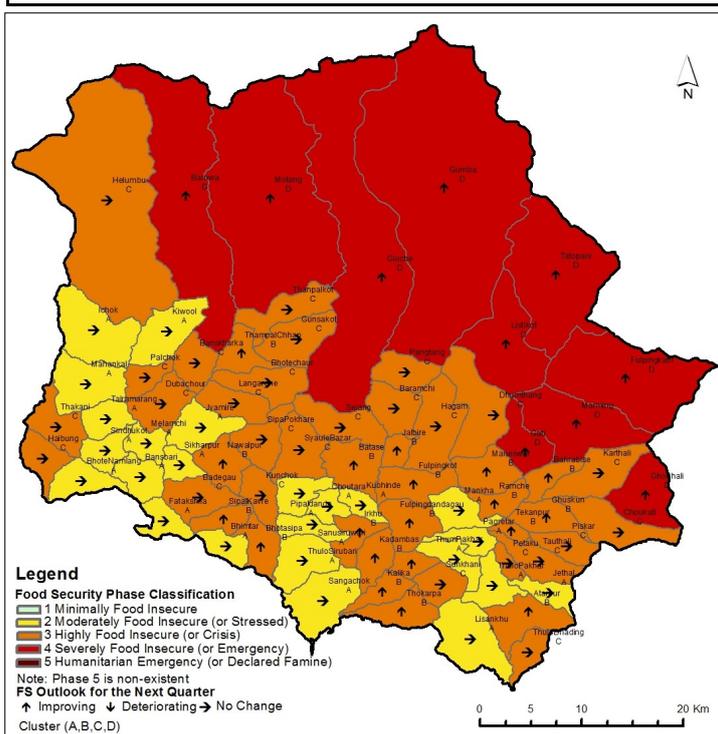
**Sindhupalchok District Food Security Bulletin**  
**Period: 16 March to 15 July 2015**  
**DFSN meeting date: 29 July 2015**



**Area Outcomes**

Food Consumption	Livelihood change and coping	Acute Child Malnutrition
The District Food Security Network (DFSN) reported poor food consumption in the district and attributed it to earthquake and agricultural seasonality. The DFSN estimated that only 20-25 percent of households (HHs) in cluster D, 30-40 percent of HHs in cluster B and C and 60-80 percent of HHs in cluster A were able to meet basic food needs.	The DFSN reported that 64,595 out of 67,385 houses were completely damaged, income from agriculture and livestock was highly affected and wage labour opportunities reduced by 25-40 percent because of the earthquake. Affected households relied on external support for food and non-food needs and adopted coping strategies like livestock selling, borrowing money and food and reducing the size and frequency of meals.	The District Public Health Office (DPHO) reported that routine data on wasting was not available. However, according to a mass MUAC screening, global acute malnutrition was 3.6% of children under five (out of 19,533 screened children). The health and sanitation situation was reported to be poor because up to 70 percent of the water supply system and sanitation facilities were damaged.

**Food Security Phase Map and Estimated Food Insecure Population**



VDCs in Phase 3 and 4	Projected population for 2015	Estimated population in phase 3 and 4
<b>Phase 3</b>		
<b>Cluster B (19 VDCs):</b> Irkhu, Kadambash, Nawalpur, Bhotshipa, Thangpaldhap, Sipapokhare, Batase, Fulpinkot, Fulpingdanda, Jalbire, Maneshwara, Ramche, Barhabise, Dhuskun, Tekanpur, Yamunadanda, Kalika, Thokarpa and Attarpur	80,684	41,100
<b>Cluster C (26 VDCs):</b> Pangtang, Selang, Baramhi, Ghumthang, Kunchok, Syaule, Helambu, Palchok, Baskharka, Dubachaur, Lagarche, Bhotenamlang, Gunsakot, Thangpalkot, Badegau, Thakani, Karthali, Chokati, Tauthali, Piskar, Pethukhu, Thulodhading, Sunkhani, Haibung, Haggam and Singpalkavre	107,043	72,300
<b>Phase 4</b>		
<b>Cluster D (10 VDCs):</b> Baruwa, Motang, Gumba, Goche, Tatopani, Listi, Fulpinkatti, Marming, Gati and Ghorthali (10 VDCs)	35,819	28,700
<b>Total</b>	223,546	142,100
<b>Affected population (% of district's 2015 projected population-306,246)</b>		46.4%

Source: District Food Security Network (DFSN)

**Summary of causes, context and key issues:** Sindhupalchok was one of the worst earthquake affected districts. The District Disaster Relief Committee (DDRC) reported 3,532 deaths due to the 25 April earthquake and major aftershock on 12 May.

The DFSN concluded that all VDCs and municipalities were affected by the earthquake and classified 10 VDCs as severely food insecure (Phase 4), a situation where households are unable to meet food and non-food needs without losing livelihood assets and hence some immediate interventions and assistance is required (see the table above for the VDCs and affected population). In those VDCs, 60 percent of households (HHs) lost 90 percent of their food stock; as of the end of July, 50 percent of HHs only had food stock for 20 days. These VDCs are remote and have difficult access to nearby markets. During the post-earthquake period, the DFSN reported that wage employment opportunities were reduced by 40 percent and income from livestock also dropped by 30 percent.

The DFSN classified an additional 45 VDCs as highly food insecure (Phase 3), a situation where food consumption gaps are higher than normal and households are able to meet minimum food needs only through the accelerated depletion of livelihood assets. In those VDCs 50 percent of HHs lost roughly 80 percent of their food stock; as of the end of July, 50 percent of HHs had sufficient food stock for 1-2 months.

The DFSN classified 13 VDCs and 2 municipalities as moderately food insecure (Phase 2). In these areas, more than 60 percent of HHs had sufficient food stock to sustain them for 1-2 months, largely because of the recent wheat harvest and the relief support from different agencies. With post-earthquake rehabilitation, the DFSN reported that wage opportunities and remittance inflow increased by 25-30 percent.

**Outlook:** For the mid-July to mid-Nov 2015 period, the DFSN forecast an improvement in the food security situation and projected that none of the VDCs are likely to be classified as severely food insecure.

As such, the DFSN projected that 10 VDCs currently classified as severely food insecure (in cluster A) and 26 VDCs currently classified as highly food insecure (in cluster C) are likely to be classified as highly food insecure and the remaining 42 VDCs and 2 municipalities will be classified as moderately food insecure.

The DFSN attributed the potential improvement to the upcoming maize harvest, relief and livelihood recovery activities and income from livestock and remittances. Nevertheless, the District Agriculture Development Office (DADO) estimated a possible 20 percent production loss in maize due to the dry spell.

Moreover, in the VDCs expected to be classified as highly food insecure, the DFSN foresaw possible road disruptions and landslides during the monsoon and as a result the impact on market function and prices might further exacerbate the situation in those VDCs.

For further information, please contact:  
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DFSN affiliate members: DAO, DADO, DDC, DLSO, DFO, WCO, DEO, DPHO, WFP, FAO, NRCs, DPO, DSCO, DPO etc.

