



Highlights

- The current food security situation is worrisome and has deteriorated significantly compared to the same period last year. Despite significant food assistance to the Karnali region, most of the districts in the Karnali and Far West are currently classified as highly food insecure.
- The maize crop that is due to be harvested next month is expected to be poor leaving hundreds of thousands of families with no respite from the food scarcity caused from the winter drought. Summer paddy production is likely to be significantly affected by the late monsoon rains, with areas of the Mid and Far West likely to experience severe paddy crop loss.
- An early estimate by the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives indicates a food grain shortage of 400,000 Mt for this year.
- Food supply is further challenged in the Mountain and Hill areas because of transport disruptions because of the monsoon. Food prices of major commodities continue to remain high and are expected to increase until the paddy harvest.

Overview

Following the steep winter crop losses of wheat (-14.5%) and barley (-17%), the current food security situation in many part of the country is worrisome and in comparison with last year has deteriorated sharply (see Map 3).

WFP estimates that the winter drought has added approximately 700,000 to the 2.7 million people who were already identified as needing immediate assistance due to the impact of high food prices and previous natural disasters. This brings the total number of food insecure people to 3.4 million people.

The traditional lean season should be coming to an end with the harvesting of the maize crop. However, as the expected maize crop is poor, the food security outlook in many parts of the country is expected to remain dismal or decrease further due to the poor maize harvest (see Maps 1 and 2).

It is still too early to make reliable predictions on the outcome of summer paddy production (paddy is harvested in November/December); however, as a consequence of the late planting and insufficient monsoon rains, production is likely to be much lower than normal – especially in the Mid and Far Western districts. Preliminary estimates on the overall food grain shortage from the

Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives are provided in Table 1.

Crop	Deficit (Mt)
Wheat and barley	130,000
Maize	120,000
Paddy	150,000
Total	400,000

Table 1

The Ministry is planning a special relief programme that aims to boost the upcoming winter wheat production by 220,000 Mt to partly offset the expected shortage.

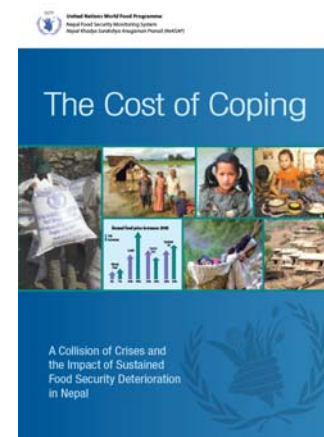
In addition, the current drought conditions in India, caused by the *El Niño* phenomenon, are expected to result in substantially lower production in the South Asian continent. Lower than normal paddy production in the region will put upward pressure on cereal prices which continue to be much higher than the same period last year. Poor production in India may result in the extension of the non-basmati rice export ban which has now been in place since late 2007.

The region most vulnerable is the Far and Mid West Hills and Mountains. This is where WFP's food assistance is concentrated. In many VDCs it has mitigated the impact of the drought on household food security. A joint evaluation assessment is currently being conducted with the Nepal Development Research Institute to assess the extent of the impact of WFP's operations. The results of the

evaluation are expected to be available at the end of this year.

This bulletin provides the latest update on the food security situation in 47 districts, which are covered by the Nepal Food Security Monitoring System (NekSAP).

Box 1 – The Cost of Coping: A Collision of Crises and the Impact of Sustained Food Security Deterioration in Nepal



Nepal has been hit by a collision of crises, the intertwining effects of: the *World Food Crisis*, the *International Economic Crisis*, and the *Global Climate Change Crisis*. These crises come on top of serious domestic food challenges, high rates of poverty and 10 years of civil conflict and ongoing political instability. This recently published report by WFP warns that Nepal's food security situation has suffered considerably due to the collision of crises over the past three years.

A softcopy of the report is available at:
<http://groups.google.com/group/NeKSAP/web/publications?hl=en>



Food Security Phase Classification Map

The food security phase classification map for the second quarter of 2009 is presented on page 3 and 4. It is based on the latest information provided by the District Food Security Networks in 47 districts. The classification of the food security status is based upon a set of reference indicators. A description of the indicators and their threshold levels for each phase are provided on the last page of this bulletin. Details of the analytical procedure are explained in the handbook for District-based Food Security Monitoring (see Box 2).

MAPPING THE FOOD INSECURE

Using the reference indicators and their agreed thresholds, each VDC is classified into their respective food security phase: severely food insecure (phase 4), highly food insecure (phase 3), moderately food insecure (phase 2) and generally food secure (phase 1).

Maps 1 and 2 show the current food security phase classification for 47 districts in West and East Nepal.

A detailed description for each district is provided on pages 9 to 18, ranked according to their overall phase classification. The table describes the underlying causes of food insecurity and the likely food security outlook for each district. More detailed information by districts as compiled by the District Food Security Networks is available upon request from WFP. A summary by region is provided on page 6.

Map 3 on page 5 compares the current food security phase classification map of West Nepal with the map from the same period last year. There are currently 17 districts in West Nepal (3 in East Nepal) with VDCs in phase 3 or above¹ compared to only 12 VDCs with the same classification last year. Currently 200 VDCs are highly or severely food insecure compared to 131 last year. On the positive side, severe food insecurity has so far been contained to only 12 VDCs in Dailekh as compared to 14 VDCs last year.

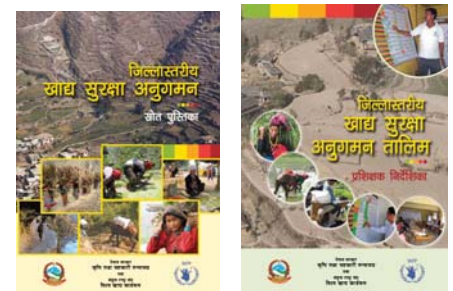
THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE FACING ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY

WFP's current estimate of the number of food insecure people in Nepal in need of assistance is **3.4 million**². Although most of these people live in the Mid and Far West, many live scattered in small, isolated communities outside of these areas making food assistance interventions difficult. Using the food security phase classification approach provides a means of identifying areas where food insecure households are more concentrated.

The District Food Security Networks identified a total of 580,900 food insecure people in VDCs currently classified as highly or severely food insecure. The table on page 19 presents these estimates by VDC.

Box 2: District Food Security Monitoring Handbook, MoAC/WFP

The Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives (MoAC) and the World Food Programme (WFP) jointly published a Handbook on District-based Food Security Monitoring as well as a Trainers' Manual in Nepali. These publications are a part of WFP's ongoing efforts to increase the capacity of the District Food Security Networks to conduct food security monitoring and analysis at the district level.



The Handbook provides step-by-step guidance on how to monitor and analyze food security at the district level. It presents a set of tools, based on the global Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) approach, to track and analyze the food security situation by the members of the District Food Security Networks which include local representatives from MoAC, MoLD, department of health, local NGOs and civil society.

The Trainers' Manual explains how to organize and deliver food security monitoring and analysis training to the District Food Networks.

Both publications can be downloaded from: <http://groups.google.com/group/NeKSAP/web/district-food-security-networks?hl=en>

Food Security Bulletins are produced by WFP Nepal as part of the Nepal Food Security Monitoring System (NeKSAP).

All information products produced by the NeKSAP are available on <http://groups.google.com/group/NeKSAP?hl=en>.

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This project is funded by the European Union

The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Commission.



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¹ This includes Kalikot for which no VDC level data is available for this round.

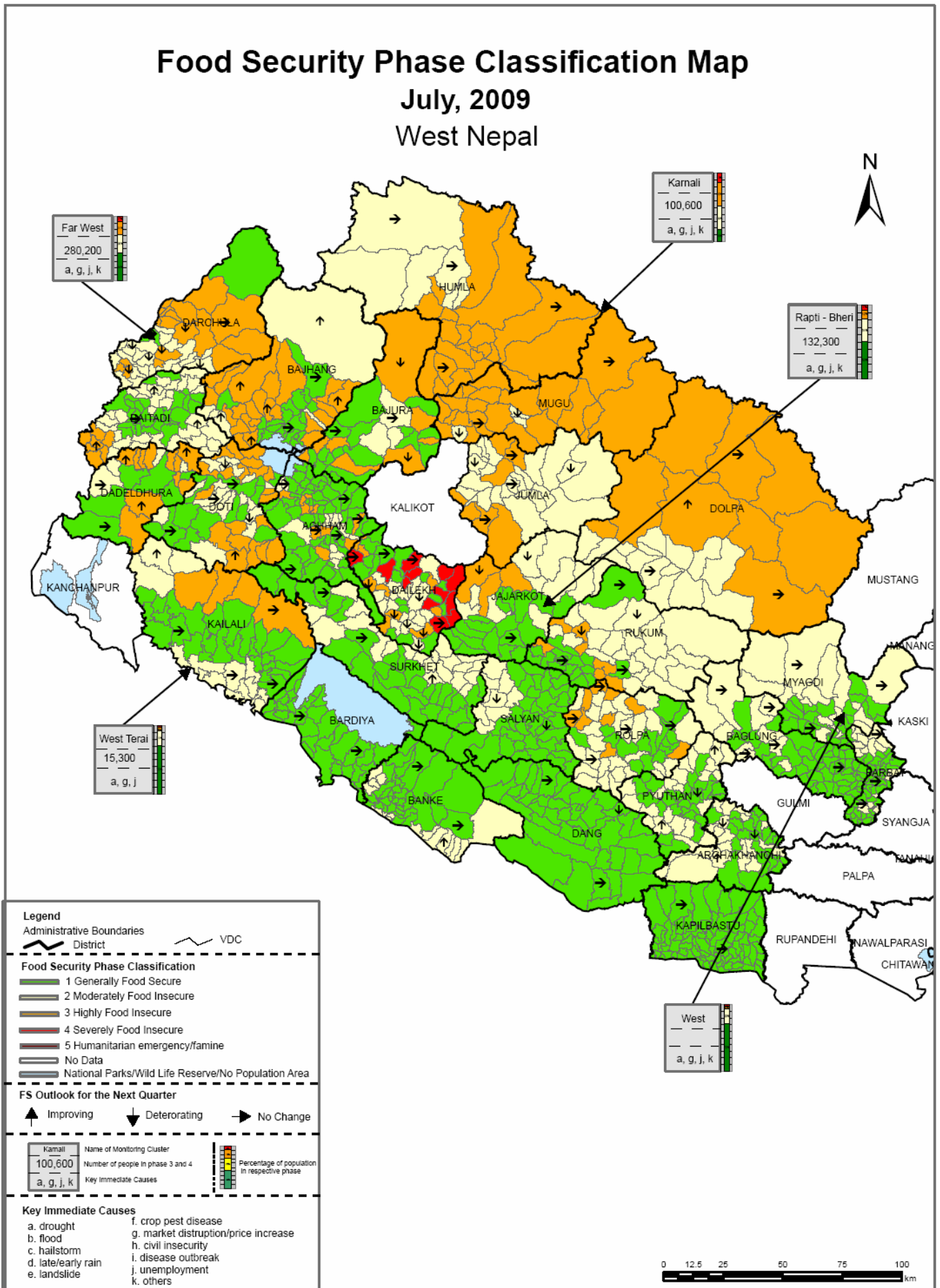
² See Cost of Coping, WFP 2009



Food Security Phase Classification Map

July, 2009

West Nepal



Map 1-Food Security Phase Classification, West Nepal



World Food Programme
 Food Security Monitoring and Analysis System

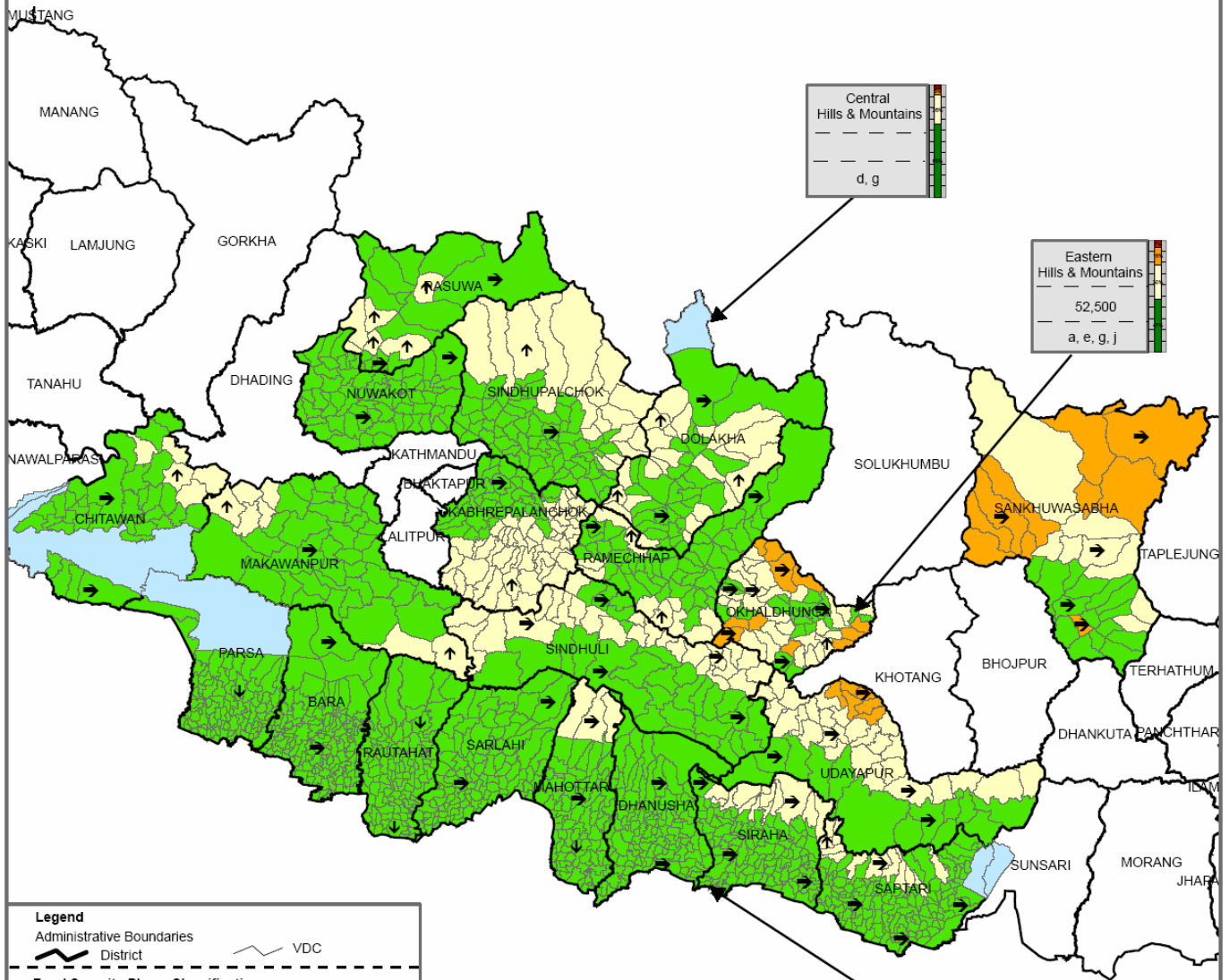




Food Security Phase Classification Map

July, 2009

East Nepal



Legend

Administrative Boundaries
 District (thick line) VDC (thin line)

Food Security Phase Classification

- 1 Generally Food Secure (green)
- 2 Moderately Food Insecure (yellow)
- 3 Highly Food Insecure (orange)
- 4 Severely Food Insecure (red)
- 5 Humanitarian emergency/famine (dark red)
- No Data (grey)
- National Parks/Wild Life Reserve/No Population Area (blue)

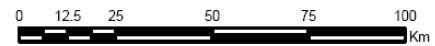
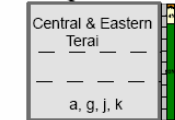
FS Outlook for the Next Quarter

- Improving (upward arrow)
- Deteriorating (downward arrow)
- No Change (rightward arrow)

Eastern Hills & Mts 52,500 a, e, g, j	Name of Monitoring Cluster Number of people in phase 3 and 4 Key Immediate Causes	
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Key Immediate Causes

a. drought	f. crop pest disease
b. flood	g. market disruption/price increase
c. hailstorm	h. civil insecurity
d. late/early rain	i. disease outbreak
e. landslide	j. unemployment
	k. others



Map 2- Food Security Phase Classification, East Nepal



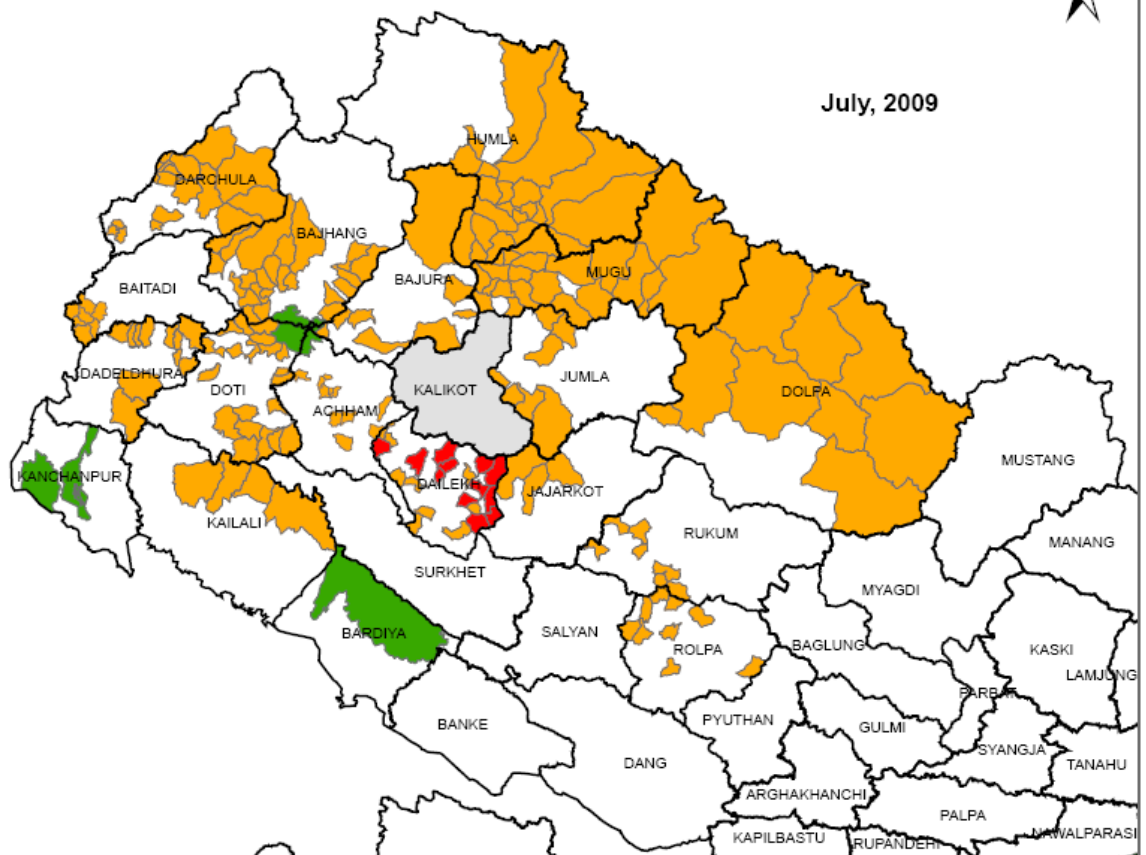
World Food Programme
 Food Security Monitoring and Analysis System



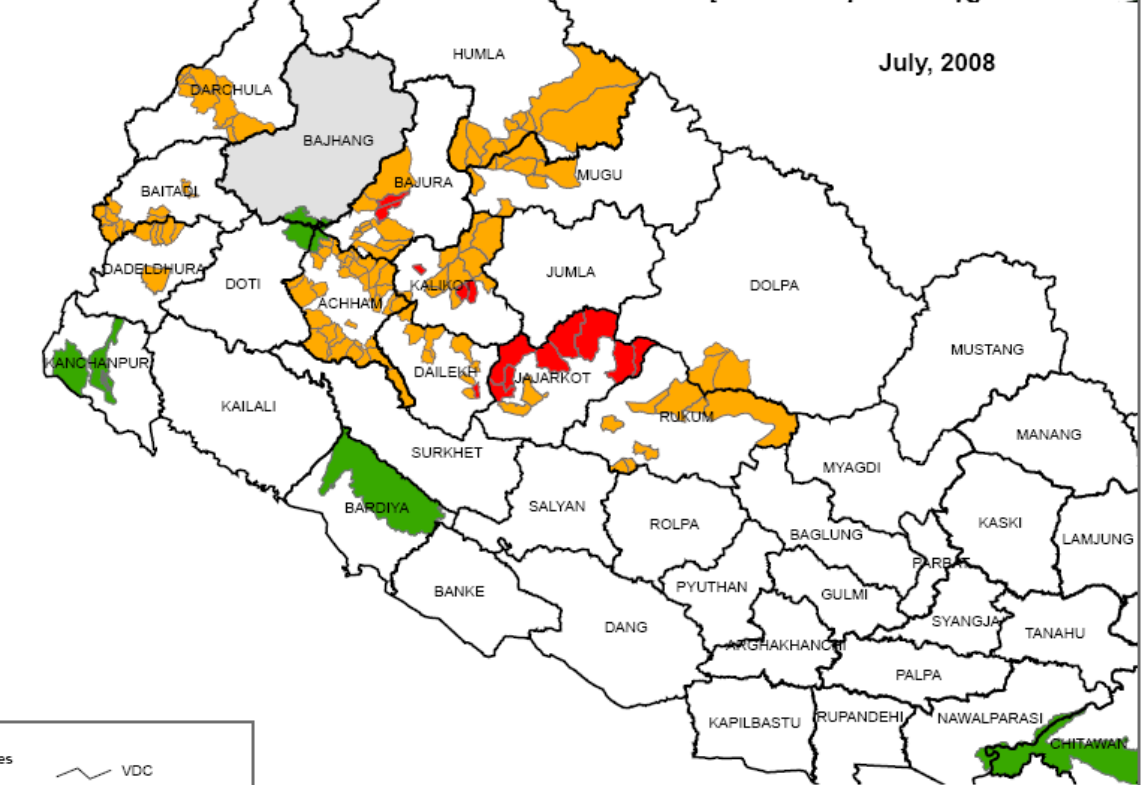


Comparing Food Security in July from 2008 and 2009

West Nepal



July, 2009



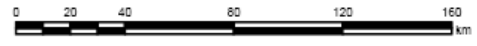
July, 2008

Legend

Administrative Boundaries
 District VDC

Food Security Phase Classification

- Highly Food Insecure
- Severely Food Insecure
- No Data
- Not Applicable
- National Parks/Wild Life Reserve/No Population Area



Map 3 : Comparing Food Security situation, West Nepal July 2008/2009

August, 2009





Regional Food Security Summary

Karnali

Most of the Karnali region is currently highly food insecure (Phase 3) and this situation is not likely to improve over the next few months. Household food stocks are only expected to be adequate for less than 1-2 months. Coping strategies including excessive borrowing of money for food consumption, selling of livestock, reduction in the quantity of food consumed and consumption of less preferred foods are widely practiced among Karnali households.

The price of *Yarsagumba* was down by about 50-60%, which significantly reduced household income this year for the thousands of families that rely on *Yarsagumba* sales to meet their basic needs.

The closure of the Tibetan border has resulted in significant income loss for households that normally rely upon trade with Tibet to meet their basic needs.

The food security outlook for people in the Karnali is worrisome as the maize crop is likely to be very poor because of the ongoing drought.

Far-Western Hills and Mountains

The food security situation has deteriorated in the Far West Hills and Mountains. The immediate causes of the decline are the decrease in winter crop production by some 70%; increase in food prices; decrease in the income generated from *Yarsagumba*

collection and sales.

People are coping by borrowing money, selling livestock, consuming less preferred, and/or consuming food items collected from forests.

The outlook for maize and paddy is worrisome; consequently, the food security situation is unlikely to improve.

Rapti-Bheri Hills

Twelve VDC in eastern and northern Dailekh are in a critical condition and classified as severely food insecure. Approximately 80% of the population in these areas is at high risk. Household food stocks are depleted, a very high rate of wasting among children under five is reported, and the out-migration rate has increased by more than 40%.

Drought has not only led to food insecurity, but to deterioration of water sources especially in Jajarkot, Dailekh and Rukum. Poor water resources, lack of hygiene practices and underlying levels of poor nutrition led to a diarrhea outbreak in this area. Many of the districts in this region will either face continued levels of food insecurity or decreased food security over the next few months.

Western Terai

The area of concern is the northern part of Kailali (Sugarkhal, Pandaun, Mohanyal and Khairala VDCs). In these areas the wheat crop was extremely poor, and employment

opportunities are limited. The situation is not likely to improve because of rising food prices expected during the monsoon season. Most other areas in West Terai are generally food secure with a stable outlook.

Central Hills and Mountains

Most areas are generally food secure or moderately food insecure with a stable or improving outlook.

Eastern Hills and Mountains

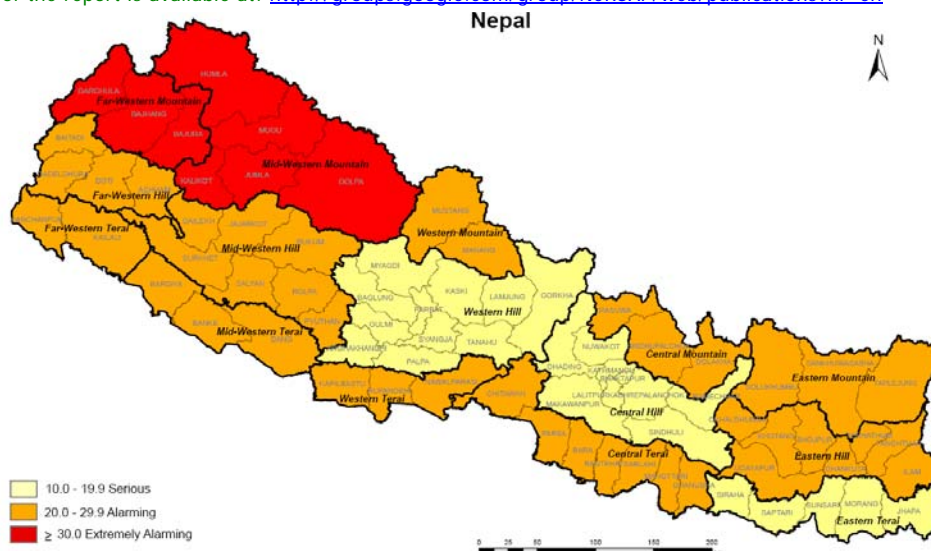
The situation has deteriorated in northern and southern VDCs in Okhaldhunga, northern VDCs in Udayapur, and northern and western VDCs in Sankhuwasabha districts. It is mostly the marginalized communities that are affected. Local production is not sufficient due to marginal land. There are few income opportunities and many of the affected VDCs are located far from main food markets. The outlook for these VDCs is not expected to change.

Central and Eastern Terai

Northern VDCs of Mahottari, Siraha, and Saptari are reported to be moderately food insecure. However, the availability of agricultural wage labour opportunities and the upcoming maize harvest at the end of August may improve the situation. Other areas are generally food secure with a stable outlook.

Box 3 – Sub-regional Hunger Index

A sub-regional hunger index was developed by WFP by applying the Global Hunger Index methodology developed by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). Results show that all sub-regions in Nepal are categorized as serious to extremely alarming in terms of hunger. The highest prevalence of hunger was found in the Far- and Mid-Western Hill and Mountains. The hunger indices for these parts of the country are close to or above 30, pointing to an extremely alarming situation. The Mid-Western Mountain region of Nepal ranks one from the bottom if compared with the 88 countries for which IFPRI has calculated the hunger index - just above the Democratic Republic of Congo. A softcopy of the report is available at: <http://groups.google.com/group/NeKSAP/web/publications?hl=en>





Household Food Security Indicators

During the period April to June, a total of 688 households were interviewed in 39 districts. Stratified by food security phase, households were randomly selected by WFP field monitors. This allows verification of the food security phase classification as we would expect average household conditions to deteriorate in VDCs classified in phase 3 or 4 compared to phase 1 or 2. It also provides immediate insight on the severity of the food security situation in each phase and would provide a justification for humanitarian action, if required.

HOUSEHOLD SHOCKS

Figure 1 shows the main shocks reported by food security phase. Drought is the overwhelming issue that is currently faced by households in all phase classifications. It is especially severe in VDCs classified as phase 3 and 4. Food price increases is the second most reported shock, followed by human disease which is especially prevalent in phase 4 VDCs.

More than 70% of interviewed households reported that the combined shocks had caused a food shortage in their households. Unsurprisingly, the percentages are highest among the households under a higher food security phase: 94% among the phase 4 population, 92% for phase 3, 72% for phase 2, and 51% for phase 1.

Compared to the same time period last year the food security situation is reportedly more severe: 56% of the interviewed households reported that the food security situation this year was more severe (see Figure 2) than last.

FOOD AVAILABILITY

Figure 3 shows the average level of household cereal stocks by phase. Overall, households have less than 2 months supply of food. Because the August/September maize harvest is expected to be poor, it may result in an extended lean period up to October/November when paddy is harvested.

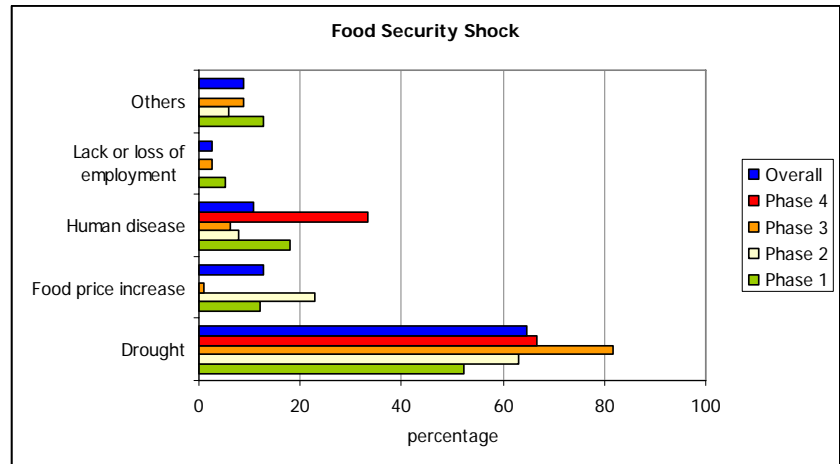


Figure 1 - Food Security Shocks

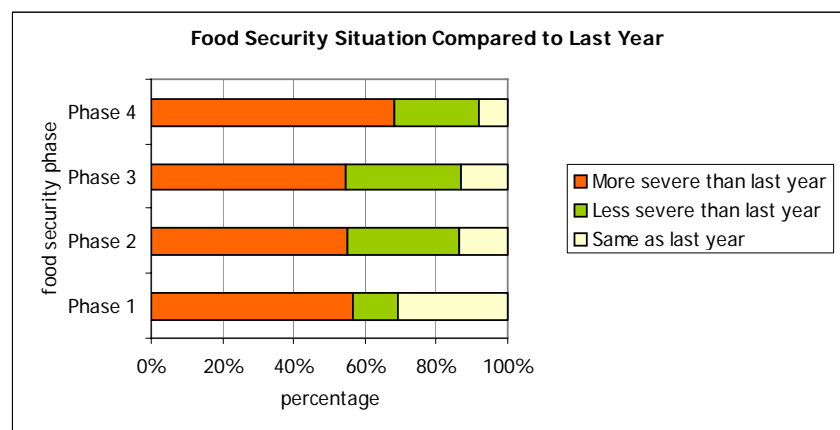


Figure 2 - Situation Compared to Last Year's

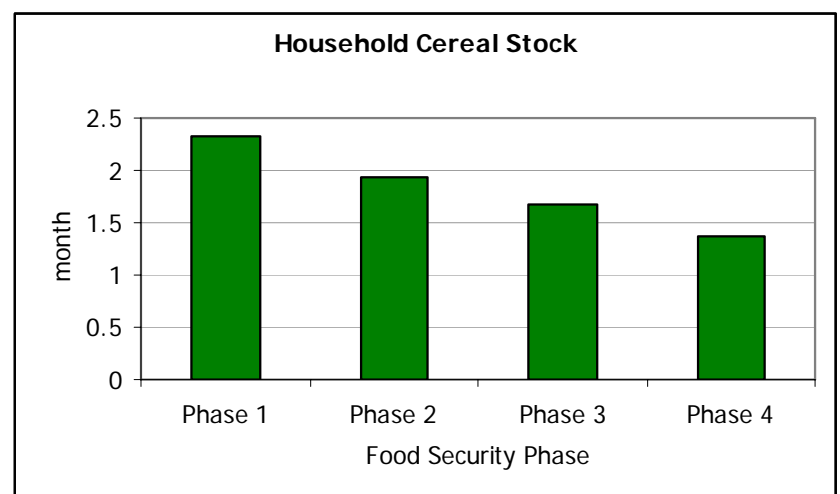


Figure 3 - Household Cereal Stock



FOOD ACCESS

The most common household income sources are (in order of importance): daily wage labour, sales of crops, sales of livestock/livestock products and foreign remittances. According to information received from the District Food Security Networks (DFSNs), wage labour opportunities are limited especially in VDCs under food security phase 3 and 4.

Overall, cereal prices are reportedly higher than during the same period in the previous year (see Market Watch #15, #16) and food prices are not expected to decrease until the next paddy harvest in October/November. Due to the winter drought, the cereal supply situation is reportedly worse than usual particularly in the remote Hill and Mountain districts (ibid.).

COPING – AT WHAT COST?

Households adopt various coping strategies to mitigate the impact of the various shocks and to provide food for the family throughout the lean period. Households in phase 3 and 4 are more likely to adopt severe and irreversible coping strategies such as sale of assets (household assets and/or agricultural assets), and consumption of seed stock. Figure 4 shows the average coping intensity by phase classification as measured by the coping strategy index. The index combines all coping strategies adopted by households and their frequency of use. More severe coping strategies receive a higher weight in the calculation of the index. Average coping intensity is almost 2.5 and 5 times as high for households in phase 3 and 4 compared to households in phase 1.

IMPACT ON FOOD INTAKE

Figure 5 shows the percentage of households in each phase with poor food intake. More than 60% of households in Phase 4, 22% in phase 3, 11% in phase 2 and 5% in phase 1 have poor food intake.

Figure 6 shows the daily consumption of food items during a one week period. Cereals and oils are consumed almost on a daily basis. Pulses and vegetables

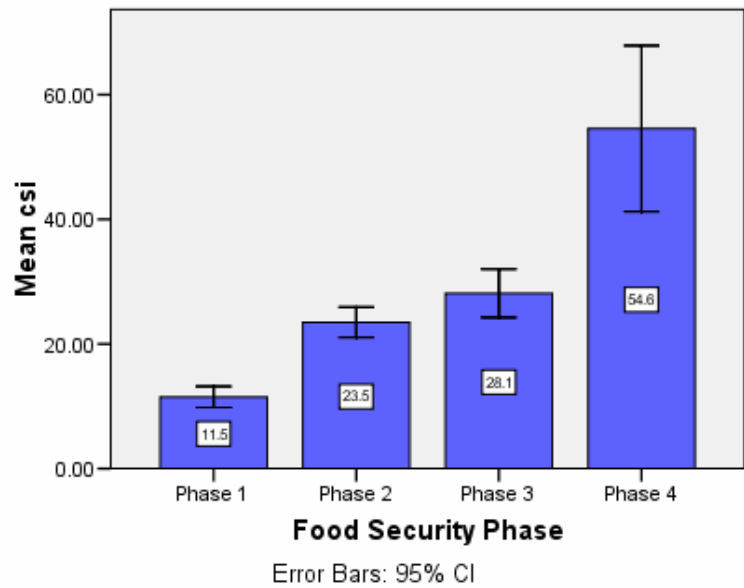


Figure 4 - Coping Strategy Index

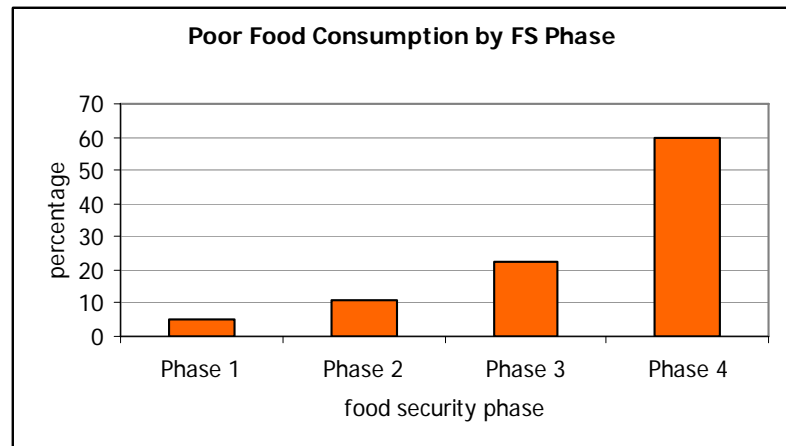


Figure 5 - Poor Food Intake

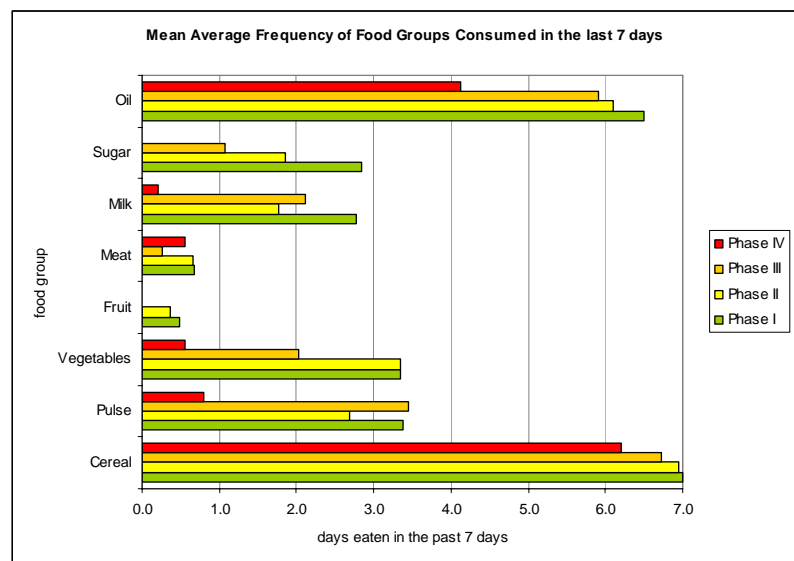


Figure 6 - Average Food Intake in Past 7 Days






are only consumed about 3 days a week, and fruit and meat are seldom consumed. The frequency of

consumption of different food items decreases by phase classification.



District Situation and Outlook³

July 2009

District/VDC ⁴	Situation report	Immediate/Underlying causes	Outlook (Jul-Sept 2009)	Remarks on assigned Outlook
Severely Food Insecure VDCs (FS Phase-IV)				
Rapti-Bheri Districts				
Dailekh	Sigaudi (1-9) Chamunda (1-9) Kasikandh (1-9) Raniban (1-9) Bansi (1-9) Dwari (1-9) Kalika (1-9) Jagannath (1-9) Katti (1-9) Salleri (5-9) Meheltoli (1-9) Bindhabasini(1-9)	More than 80% of households have run out of food stocks. People depend on heavy borrowing of money, selling of livestock, and consumption of wild foods and seeds. Cases of diarrhoea, vomiting and fever are seen in the area, eight persons have already died in Jagannath, Salleri, Katti, Chamunda, and Kalika VDCs. Around 20% of under five children are acute malnourished. Food supply in the markets is not sufficient to meet the demand due to the frequent <i>bandh</i> . Out-migration has increased by more than 40%.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wheat and barley production decreased by more than 70% due to drought. No employment opportunities available. No presence of development projects. High market price has increased by 20-40%. NFC food stock is not sufficient to meet the demand. Limited agricultural land available and no irrigation facilities. 	 Alternatives do not exist for immediate recovery until the next harvest at the end of August. Market prices are likely to increase further during the monsoon.
Highly Food Insecure VDCs (FS Phase-III)				
Karnali Districts				
Dolpa	Phoksundo (1-9) Kaigaun (1-9) Rimi (1-9) Mukot (1-9) Bhijer (1-9) Tinje (1-9) Saldang (1-9) Dho (1-9) Chharka (1-9)	Bartering of livestock for cereal food has been practiced in many places. The closure of the Tibetan border has hampered trade and reduced household's incomes depending on trade. Six VDCs in upper Dolpa—Mukot, Bhijer, Tinje, Saldang, Dho, and Chharka—were severely food insecure in last monitoring cycle, but the condition has now a little improved, albeit that people are still highly vulnerable, due to 350 Mt of NFC rice distribution.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No winter crop production Employment opportunities are limited or non-existent. <i>Yarsagumba</i> collection decreased by 50% compared to last year. Market price of herbs decreased by some 50-60%. 	  There is no stock from winter crops in upper Dolpa. The collection and market price of <i>Yarsagumba</i> have declined sharply. NFC rice distribution has slightly improved the situation. People in Rimi, Kaigaun, and Phoksundo are expecting WFP project activities to start soon. Hence the situation is expected to improve with the implementation of the project.
Jumla	MalikaBota (1-9) BumraMadichaur (1-9) Sanigaun (1-9) MahabePatakhol (1-9) GhodeMahadev (1-9) Malikathanta (1-9) Tamt (1-9)	Household food stocks are sufficient for less than a month, including WFP food support. People are coping with borrowing money and consuming less preferred food. Some VDCs are located in most remote parts of the district and depend on very limited wage opportunities not sufficient to feed the family.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barley and wheat production decreased by 50-70% due to the drought. Stock of foods in the market is sufficient. Prices are stable, but people have no capacity to purchase food in the market. No significant income from NTFP. 	 Food stock is depleting; limited employment opportunities available. No perspective of income from NTFP. Market price might go up in the monsoon period. Situation seems to remain similar till the next harvest in September-October.
Mugu	Shreekot (1-9) Kotdanda (1-9) Dhainakot (1-9) Sukhadhik (1-9) Kalai (1-9) Pina (1-9) Rowa (1-9) Mugu (1-9) Rara (1-9) Sheri (1-9) Khamale (1-9) Natharpu (1-9) Photu (1-9) Mangri (1-9)	Household food stocks are only sufficient for 1-2 months, including WFP food support. People are coping with borrowing money to buy food, and depend on less preferred food. WFP support has prevented further deteriorated in the food security status.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wheat harvest decreased by 50-70% in the western and north-western VDCs and by 30-50% in remaining 5 VDCs⁵ in the north-east. Food stocks in the markets are insufficient to meet demand. Limited agricultural land and irrigation facilities. Closure of Tibetan border. Collection and price of <i>Yarsagumba</i> was low. 	 Household food stocks are low. NFC food supply is not sufficient and mostly limited to DHQs. People in Sukadhik, and Kotdanada areas could not plant paddy due to damage of irrigation canal by landslide last year.

³ More information is available on request from WFP-FSMAU and the district secretariats of the Food Security Networks (for each district locally completed analysis templates and a district synthesis table are available).

⁴ Ward level information on 'Highly' and 'Severely' Food Insecure population for 20 districts are provided in separate table in this report.

⁵ Dolphu, Mugu, Kimri, Pulu, and Mangri VDCs (Mugu)



	Pulu (1-9) Kimri (1-9) Bhie (1-9) Ruga (1-9) Hyanglu (1-9) Jima (1-9) Dolphu (1-9)				
Humla	Syada (1-9) Dandaphaya (1-9) Thehe (1-9) Kharpunath (1-9) Chhipra (1-9) Lali (1-9) Raya (1-9) Sarkideu (1-9) Barain (1-9) Saya (1-9) Gothi (1-9) Rodikot (1-9) Melchham (1-9) ShreeMashta (1-9) Darma (1-9) Mimi (1-9) Jaira (1-9) Shreenagar (1-9) Madana (1-9) Kalika (1-9) Maila (1-9)	Household food stocks are sufficient for up to 1-2 months thanks to WFP support. However, food stocks in the markets are low and available for less than a month. People are coping with heavy borrowing, selling of livestock, and depending on less preferred food.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wheat and barley production decreased by 50-70% in Maila, Madana, Kalika, Shreenagar, and Jaira VDCs Likewise the crop decreased by 30-50% in most of the remaining VDCs. Sale of NTFP has dropped by 30-60%. Wage employment opportunities decreased by 10-30%. NFC food supply has been irregular. Situation in Limi and Muchu has improved due to the opening of the Tibetan border. 		WFP activities will continue and help prevent the situation from further worsening. Income from NTFP will decrease further. With the monsoon, access to markets will be difficult.
Kalikot	<i>(There was no field surveillance this cycle, however the situation of last cycle has been repeated for the reference)</i> <i>Dhoulagaha (1,2,5-7) Khina (1-3,5,6,9) Nanikot (1,3-5,7-9) Thirpu (1,3,6-8) Ramnakot (3,5,7,-9) Badalkot (3-8) Malkot (1-9) Lalu (1-9) Kotbada (1-9)</i>	<i>(Some 38,700 people are at high level of food insecurity. Household food stock is sufficient for less than a month; however the stock at market is sufficient for more than 2 months. People have started borrowing money and food from neighbors. Some of the households have sold livestock for buying food.</i> <i>15 VDCs in the south, central and western belts are moderately food insecure with negative outlook)</i>	<i>(Main winter crop wheat decreased by 30-50% due to drought; summer crops, maize and paddy, were lost by 10-30% last year. There area has less fertile with less access to irrigation facility. Income opportunities are limited or not available in most of the areas; and markets are far away from most of these VDCs.)</i>		<i>(Food stock is depleting; no immediate income opportunities coming up. Next harvest will be ready in August. Market price will go up during the rainy season. If no external assistance is catered to the area, situation will deteriorate further.)</i>
Rapti-Bheri Districts					
Dailekh	RakamKarnali (1-9) Tilepata(1-9) LayatiBindrasaini (1-9) Padukasthan (1-9) Malika (1, 5-9) Khadkabada(1-9) Toli (1-9) Pagnath (1,2,3,4,8) Awalparajul (1,2,4,6,7)	More than 60% of households have depleted their food stocks. People are coping with borrowing money and food, selling of livestock, consuming wild food, seed and less preferred food. Acute malnourished children are being observed; diarrhoea and vomiting epidemic has spread into the area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wheat production decreased by more than 70%. No employment opportunities available Market price of rice has increased by 40-80%. NFC food stock is not sufficient meeting the demand of people. 		No income opportunities available to mitigate the shock. If external support is not provided, the situation will deteriorate during the upcoming period.
Jajarkot	Daha (3-7, 9) Garkhakot (1-9) Paink (3, 5-9)	More than 50% households have depleted their food stock. Supply of food at the market center is however sufficient. People are coping with borrowing money and food, selling household assets, and depending on less preferred food. 25 Dalits' families from Garkhakot have migrated to India.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wheat crop decreased by around 70%. No employment opportunities available. Food supply to markets is sufficient however people do not have financial means to purchase the food. 		There is no immediate prospect of income opportunities. Food prices are likely to go up during the monsoon season.



Rolpa	Pachhawang (1-9) Rank (1-9) Bhawang (1,4,6-9) Rangkot (1-9) Bhirul / Mirul (5-9) Pang (1-9) Jinabang (1-9) Wota (1-9) Kareti (6-9)	Household food stocks are only sufficient for less than a month (2-3 weeks). People are coping with borrowing money, food, and sale of livestock and utensils. Consuming less preferred food has been a common practice. Some 10 households from Pachhawang VDC have migrated to India due to the food crisis. The situation in Whama VDC has now improved from highly to moderate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited and less productive agricultural land. Wheat crop decreased by 70% or more. Employment opportunities do not exist because of the absence of development activities. Market price increase in food items is not high compared to last year, however people do not have means to purchase the food. Due to FAO and PAF programme the situation in Whama VDC has improved. The situation in other VDCs has worsened however as the proposed road construction project was postponed. 		There is no prospect of employment opportunities in immediate future. Limited income from the remittance will be used for paying back loans.
Rukum	Chunbang (1-9) Chaukhabang (1-9) Sankh (1-9) Purtimkanda (1-9) Jhula (1-9) Magma (1-9) Athbishdandagaun(1-9)	Household food stocks are sufficient for 1-2 months only. People are coping by borrowing money and bartering livestock and utensil for food. Consuming less preferred food has become a common practice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marginal and less productive agricultural lands. Wheat production was down by 60%. No employment opportunities available. No income from the collection and sale of NTFP. 		No income or employment opportunities available. No presence of development activities. No immediate prospects of food availability. Next harvest will come in end August-September.
Far-Western Districts					
Bajhang	Dahabagar (1-9) Lekgaun (1-9) Bhamchaur (1-9) Sainpasela (1-9) Surma (1-9) Daulichaur (1-9) Gadaraya (1-9) Kaphalseri (1-9) Dangaji (1-9) Dantola (1-9) Kailash (1-9) Melbisauna (1-9) Rilu (1-9) Parakatne (1-9) Deulikit (1-9) Pipalkot (1,3-5,7-9) Mashata (1-9) Banjh (1-4,7,9) Rayal (5-9) Bhairabnath (5-9) Byansi (1-9) Kandel (1-9) Maulali (1-9)	More than 30% of households have less than 1 month food in store. People are coping with borrowing money, and consuming less preferred food. Some families rely on remittance. Compare to previous cycle, the food security condition deteriorated in three additional VDCs (Byansi, Kandel, and Maulai) to highly food insecure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wheat production down by more than 70%. Last year's summer crops, paddy and maize, declined by 10-30%. No employment and or income opportunities are available. The advance delivery of WFP food aid at the end of April prevented a further deterioration in the food security situation. 		Food stock is not sufficient and potential income opportunities are very limited. Advance delivery of WFP aid has prevented further deterioration.
Darchula	Rapla (1-9) Ghunsa (1-9) Khandeshwori (1-9) Sunsera (1-9) Sitola (1-9) Guljar (1-9) Dhaulakot (1-9) Huti (1-9) PipalChauri (1-9) Eyarikot (1-9) Dhuligada (1-9) RaniShikhar (1-9) HunaiNath (1-9) Dandakot (1-9) Kharkada (1-9) Hikila (1-9) Dhari (1-9) Brahmadev (2-6)	More than 90% of the total population are highly food insecure in 18 VDCs in the northern, central, and southern belts of the district. Household food stock is sufficient for 1-2 months. People are coping with borrowing money, selling of livestock, depending on less preferred food, and selling of the meager harvest of <i>Yarsagumba</i> in five VDCs in Rapla, Ghunsa, Khandeshwori, Guljar, and Sitola. Food stock at markets is unusually low.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wheat yields decreased by 50-80% in most of the areas. Market price of rice increased by around 40%. Employment opportunities decreased compared to last year. Outmigration rate increased by 20% or more. Due to prolonged winter drought, production of <i>Yarsagumba</i> decreased by 40% in northern VDCs (Rapla, Ghunsa, Guljar Khandeshwori, and Sitola). The price dropped by 60% compared to last year. 		Production and price of <i>Yarsagumba</i> decreased. The situation is expected to remain similar in five VDCs ⁶ till the next harvest in October.
Bajura	Bichhiya (1-9) Bandhu (1-9) Jukot (1-9) Gotri (1-9) Kanda (1-9) Dogadi (1-9) Dahakot (6, 8, 9) Brahmatola (3) Gudukhati (4, 6, 9) Antichaur (1,3-5, 8) Kailashmandu (9) Martadi (1-3)	Household food stocks only sufficient for less than one month. Out-migration rate has increased by 20-30% compared to last year. People are depending on food from markets and are consuming grassy wild foods. They are borrowing money and sell livestock for the food. NFC food stock has depleted in the market.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wheat crop loss by 50-70%. Market price increased by 20-30% and supply of food has become difficult with the onset of monsoon. Employment opportunities are not available. No collection of NTFP due to strict (pre-approval) procedures put on place by District Forest Office. 		Market price is increasing and there is a lack of potential employment opportunities. Outlook for paddy and maize is moderate. Situation is likely to remain similar until the next harvest in August-September.

⁶ Rapla, Ghunsa, Guljar, Khandeshwori, and Sitola



Achham	Nawathana (1-9) Marku (1-9) Timelsen (1-9) Janalikot (7-9) Chandika (1,3,4,6,8) Ridikot (3-7, 9) Pullatola (1-9) Kalikasthan (1-9) Ghodasain (1-9) Birpath (1-9) Janalibandali(2,5,6,9)	Household food stocks are sufficient for only 2-3 weeks. People are coping by borrowing money for food consumption. They are selling livestock and household assets. Out-migration rate increased due to lack of employment opportunities in the district.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wheat crop loss by more than 70%. Limited presence of development activities in the area. Market price increased by 20-25%. 		Market price likely to increase further during the monsoon season. New employment opportunities are not likely to emerge. Outlook of maize and paddy is not good.
Doti	Chhapali (1-9) Girichauka(1-9) Toleni(1-9) Warpata (1-9) Lanakedareshwor (1-9) Kanachaur (1-9) Ghangel (1-9), or (Dhanglagaun) Simchour (1-9) Gaguda (1-9) Pokhari (1-9) Gairagaun (1-9) Kedarakhada (1-9) Wagalek (1-9) Khatiwada (1-9) Daud (1-9) Kalikasthan (1-9) Tijjali (1-9) Ganjari (1-9) Mannakapadi(1-9) Dhirkamandau (1-9)	Food stocks at the household level are sufficient for only 2-3 weeks. People are mostly depending on borrowing money, and consuming less preferred food. Buying food on credit is practiced as well.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wheat crop loses of up to 70%. Limited irrigation facilities available. No employment opportunities available. Market price increased by 20-25%. Located far from the market center. 		No prospects of new income opportunities. Market price is increasing gradually with the onset of monsoon.
Baitadi	Amchaur (1-8) Shivanath (1-8) Udayadev (1-4,7,8) Pancheshwor (1-9) Kulau (1-5, 7-9) Mahakali (1-6) Sarmali (1,4-6,8,9)	Household food stock sufficient for less than a month. Remittance has helped a bit to maintain the stock. People are coping with borrowing money, consuming less preferred food, and selling of livestock.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Main winter crop wheat and barley decreased by some 50%. Employment opportunities not available at the local level. 		Out-migrants are returning back and household food stocks are likely to increase due to remittance. Maize will be ready by the end of August. People are expecting WFP PRRO project to start in next cycle.
Dadeldhura	Gangkhet (1-9) Ajayameru (1-9) Chipur (1-9) DewalDibyapur(1-9) Koteli (1-9) Manilek (1-9) Belapur (1-9) Kailpalmandu (1-9) Ganeshpur (1-9) Bhadrapur (1-9) Alital (1-9)	Household food stocks are sufficient for less than a month. People are coping with borrowing money and food, consuming less preferred food, and selling of livestock.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wheat production decreased by more than 50%. Income opportunities are limited. Market price has gone up. 		Household food stocks might increase due to the inflow of remittances. WFP PRRO project likely to start in next cycle. Situation is expected to improve after the harvest of maize in September.
Western Terai Districts					
Kailali	Sugarkhal (1-9) Pandaun (1,2,4-8) Mohanyal (1-9) Khairala (1-9)	About 60% of the total populations are highly food insecure. Household food stocks are available for about one month only. People depend on wild foods, sale of livestock, borrowing money/food, and reducing the size of the meals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wheat losses up to 40%. No presence of development activities. Market price has increased by 60%. 		Food stock is depleting rapidly. Potential income opportunities do not exist. Market price might go up further.
Eastern Hill and Mountain Districts					
Okhaldhunga	Rawadolu (1-9) Bhusinga (1-9) Patle (1-9) Jantarkhani (1-9) Palapu (1-9) Kalikadevi (1-9) Phediguth (1-9) Madhavpur (1-9) Taluwa (1-9) Bhadaure (1-9) Diyale (1-9)	Household food stocks are only sufficient for 1-2 months. Marginalized communities are most affected. People are coping with borrowing money and food, and selling household assets and livestock. Many have reduced their food intake.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marginal and less productive land. Wheat crop decreased by around 10-20%. Limited income opportunities available through wage labour and cash crops/NTFP. Market price has increased by 30%. Food stocks in market is less than normal 		Market prices likely to go up during the monsoon period. Income/employment opportunities are limited. People might have to sell livestock for food.



Udayapur	Thanagaun (1-9) Baraha (1-9) Bansbote (1-9) Tamlichha (1-9) Jante (1-9) Balamta (1-9)	Household food stocks are sufficient for only 1-2 months. Selling of assets, livestock, and skipping meals are coping mechanisms people are using.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located far from the district main market centers. Market price of coarse rice has increased by 30% compared to last year. Income opportunities are limited from the sale of cash crop and NTFP. 		Few people will get employment in agricultural wage labour and portering. Market price is likely to increase further during the monsoon. No immediate harvest expected.
Sankhuwasabha	Keemathanka (1-9) Hatiya (1-9) Chepuwa (1-9) Pawakhola (1-9) Baneshwor (1-9) Yafu (1-9) Mangtewa (1-9) Tamku (1-9) Bala (1-9) Sisuwakhola (1-9)	Household food stocks are sufficient for 1-2 months only. Borrowing food, money, and selling of non-productive assets are the coping strategies that people have adopted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local production is not sufficient to feed the population. Located far from the market centers. Price of food (rice) has increased by 25%. Wage employment opportunities have decreased by 40%. 		No likely improvement in income opportunities. Price of food likely to increase further due to monsoon.

Moderately Food Insecure VDCs (FS Phase-II)

Situation update of the VDCs with deteriorating or similar outlook for July-September 2009

This monitoring cycle represented one of the worst post winter harvest period in the country. Many VDCs/areas have been classified as food insecure. Increase in market prices and the lack of income opportunities have limited or further aggravated people's capacity to respond to shocks. People are using traditional coping strategies. The food security may deteriorate further until the harvest at the end of August, beginning of September. The VDCs/areas of concern are listed below.

Dolpa	14 VDCs in the middle and lower Dolpa (Raha, Lawan, Sahartara, Dunai, Tripurakot, Jufal, Majhfal, Suhun, Pahada, Likhu, Laha, Kalika, Narku, and Sarmi). Household food stocks are sufficient for 2-3 months thanks to WFP PRRO project. Outlook is same.
Humla	Six VDCs around the DHQ and in the north-west of the district (Khagalgaun, Hepka, Simkot, Bargaun, Limi, and Muchu). Household food stocks are sufficient for 2-3 months. Situation seems to remain similar in the next monitoring cycle.
Jumla	Altogether 13 VDCs, eight in the north-east, and five in the eastern half are moderately food insecure with negative outlook (Birat, Kanakasundari, Pandawgufa, Dhapa, Badki, and Kalika, RaraLhi, Patmara, Dillichaur, Chumchaur, Patarasi, and Guthichaur). Household food stock is sufficient for 2-3 months thanks to WFP support. People in these areas mostly depend on local production, NTFP collection, and wage labour activities, however this year these opportunities did not exist mainly due to drought. The remaining nine VDCs near the district headquarters are also moderately food insecure, however the outlook is stable as they are located nearby the market center.
Mugu	Three VDCs in and around district headquarters and in the south-west (Shreenagar, Karkibada, and Gamtha). Household food stocks are sufficient for 1-3 months.
Kalikot	<i>There was no field surveillance this in the district. However in the previous cycle, seven VDCs in the western belt and eight VDCs in the south and east were moderately food insecure due to loss of winter crop wheat (Rupsa, Mehelmudi, Sipkhana, Phukot, Syuna, Kumalgaun, Ranku, Daha, Pakha, Chhapre, PhoiMahadev, Ranchuli, Mugraha, Gela, and Odanaku).</i>
Darchula	21 VDCs in the central and southern areas (Chhapari, Kante, Khar, Shankarpur, Malikarjun, Gwani, Sipti, Seri, Tapoban, Latinath, Dhapa, Dattu, Uku, Lali, Bhagawati, Sharmali, RithaChaupata, Boharigaun, Gokuleshwar, Dethala, and Shikhar). The outlook is negative for the period July-September '09 as food stocks are being depleted and market prices are likely to go up.
Bajura	Some ward of six VDCs (Pandusain, Jugada, Kolti, and Kotila). Household food stocks are sufficient for 1-2 months. Market prices have increased by an average 20% and employment opportunities have decreased by approximately 30%. Outlook seems to remain similar for the next cycle.
Achham	12 VDCs scattered in northern and central areas (Duni, Pipalkot, Kuntibandali, Bannatoli, Kalagaun, Malatikot, Chaphamandu, Binayak, Layati, Muli, Dhamali, and Tosi). Household food stocks are sufficient for 1-2 months. People are coping with less preferred food. Situation seems to remain similar until the next harvest in August-September.
Doti	17 VDCs in the northern, central, and southern areas (Kalena, Bajhkakani, Dahakalikasthan, Mahadevsthan, Lamikhal, Ghanteshwor, Barchhain, Satphari, Tikhatar, Basudev, Ranagaun, Kapalleki, Mudhegaun, Mudhbhara, Pachanal, Jijodamandu, and Sanagaun). Household food stocks are sufficient for 1-2 months. Market supply has been disturbed due to monsoon rain. Situation is likely to remain similar until the next harvest in August-September.
Baitadi	31 VDCs mostly scattered in the north and south. Household food stocks are sufficient for 1-2 months. Remittances are flowing in, however and will help to maintain the food security. The situation is expected to remain similar until the next harvest at the end of August.
Dadeldhura	Four VDCs in the western, and northern belts (Bhageshwar, Rupal, Samaji, and Nawadurga). The situation is likely to remain similar until the next harvest in September. Currently people are coping with consuming less preferred food and borrowing money.
Kailali	11 VDCs in the southern belt of the district (Fulbari, Hasuliya, Pawera, Ratnapur, Khailad, Joshipur, Thapapur, Bhajani, Lalbojhi, Narayanpur, and Dansinghpur). Household food stocks are available for 1-2 months, however the areas are close to the market centers. Wage labour employment is available in agricultural activities. Outlook is same.
Dailekh	17 VDCs, and one municipality in the northern, central, and southern belts (Baluwatar, Kharigaura, Badakhola, Narayan municipality, Badalamji, Rawatkot, Jambukandh, Nepa, Dullu, Naulekatuwal, ChhiudiPusakot, Belpata, Badabhairab, Lakuri, Gauri, DandaParajul, Baraha, and Piladi). Household food stocks are sufficient for 1-2 months. People are coping with borrowing money and consuming less preferred food. Market price has increased by 20-40% and out-migration has increased by 10-20%. Outlook is negative. The situation is most vulnerable in Badalamji, Piladi, ChhiudiPusakot, Badabhairab, Gauri, and Baluwatar (6-9).



Jajarkot	10 VDCs in the north, west, and south (Bhagawati, Ragda, Sakla, Nayakbada, Rokayagaun, Ramidanda, Kortang, Pajaru, Majhkot, and Dandagaun). Household food stocks are sufficient for 1-2 months thanks to WFP PRRO support. Situation is likely to deteriorate.
Rukum	20 VDCs in the eastern half, central, and western belts (RanmaMaikot, Hukam, Taksera, Kol, Jang, Sisne, Pwang, Rangsi, Kankri, Mahat, Morawang, Kanda, Pokhara, Pipal, Syalapakha, Banphikot, Syalakhadi, Duli, Ghetma, and Athbishkot). Household food stocks are sufficient for 1-2 months including the supports from WFP, GTZ, and NRCS. WFP PRRO is due to complete by July 2009. The situation might deteriorate as significant income opportunities do not exist.
Rolpa	26 VDCs mostly scattered in the southern, and northern belts (Masina, Dubidanda, Dubaring, Jhenam, Sakhi, JauliPokhari, Jedwang, Ghodagaun, Nuwagaun, Budagaun, Gairigaun, Khumel, Sirpa, Ghartigaun, Talawang, Pakhapani, Eribang, Rangsi, Kureli, Jankot, Whama, Dhawang, Jailwang, Thawang, and Gaam). Household food stocks are sufficient for about two months. People are coping with borrowing money and food. There is possibility of employment opportunities in the areas.
Salyan	Eight VDCs in the north-eastern belt (Bame, Devisthal, Mulkhola, GhanjariPipal, ChandeKarenji, Kupindedaha, Majhkanda, and Nigalchula). Household food stocks are sufficient for a month due to the losses in the wheat crop of 60-80%. Employment opportunities are limited.
Pyuthan	23 VDCs mostly scattered in the northern, southern, and western belts (Syauliwang, Rajbara, Arkha, Ligha, Puja, Damri, Liwang, Khung, Phopli, Jumrikanda, Majhkot, Barjiwang, Swargadwari, Kochiwang, Dhobaghat, Ramdi, Markawang, Tiram, Dhuwang, Pakala, Hansapur, Dangwang, and Chuja). Mostly upland areas. Wheat production was normal to moderate. Household food stocks are sufficient for 1-2 months. People are depending on food from market and own stock. Employment opportunities are available in construction activities. Next harvest will come in end August, however maize condition is moderate due to lack of rainfall.
Arghakhanchi	20 VDCs in the district (Grkhunga, Hansapur, Khandaha, Khan, Dharapani, Argha, Chhatraganj, Asurkot, Khilji, Nuwakot, Dhanchaur, Jukena, Juluke, Siddhara, Khanchikot, Sitapur, Narapani, Subarnakhal, Khidim, and Pali). Marginal agricultural land. Wheat production decreased by 10-50%. Household food stocks are sufficient for 1-2 months. Less employment opportunities available.
Baglung	10 VDCs in the western area (Bowang, Nisi, Boharagaun, Bongadovan, Sunkhani, Khunga, Sisakhani, RanaSinkiteni, Rajkut, and Darling). Wheat production decreased by 50%. Wage employment opportunities not adequately available. Market price has increased by more than 20%. Household food stocks are sufficient for 1-2 months only and market is located far from the area. People are coping with borrowing money and food, and consuming less preferred foods.
Myagdi	17 VDCs scattered mostly in the northern and central belts of the district (Gurjakhani, Lulang, Mudi, Muna, Marang, Malkwang, Kuinemangale, Chinkhola, Narchyang, Dowa, Dagnam, Jhin, Kuhun, Pulachaur, Baranja, HisthanMandali, and Ramche). Wheat production decreased by 30-50%. Household food stocks are sufficient for 1-2 months only. Limited employment opportunities are available. <i>Yarsagumba</i> collection is the potential income during this season; however the collection remained low due to the winter drought this year. People are coping with borrowing money and food.
Parbat	16 VDCs in the north, east, and southern belts (Banskharka, Lekhfant, Salija, Bhuktangle, Deurali, Kyang, Banou, Dhairing, Nagliwang, ArtharDandakharka, KhaulaLakuri, Falamkhani, Balakot, Bhoksingh, Hosrangdi, and Bhorle). Wheat crop decreased by around 30%. Household food stocks are available for less than a month. Limited employment opportunities available. People are coping with borrowing money and consuming less preferred food. Households are expecting remittance and next harvest is at the end of August.
Sindhuli	26 VDCs in the north (Ratnawati, Solpathana, Mahadevdada, Khangsang, SunamPokhari, Kholagaun, Bahuntipung, TosramKhola, DudhBhanjyang, BhitijorBagaiya, Tinkanya, BhuwanesworGwaltar, Baseshwor, RatanChura, Bhimeshwor, Bhadrakali, Amale, Bastipur, Tamajor, KuseshworDumja, Netrakali, SanteshworiRampur, Kapilakot, MahendraJhayadi, Pipalmadi, and HariharpurGadhi). Wheat crop was cultivated in very limited area due to lack of irrigation facilities. The production decreased by about 20-30%. Household food stocks are available for about a month only. Some employment opportunities are available in VDC funded constructed projects. Market prices have gone up by more than 10% as the areas are located far from the market centers and transportation of food items is difficult. People are coping with borrowing money and remittance.
Udayapur	26 in the north and central areas of the district (Lekhani, Mayankhu, Hardeni, Sorung, Sirise, Limpatar, Okhale, Tawashree, Lekhganu, Rupatar, Iname, Barre, Dumre, Nametar, Bhuttar, Laphagaun, Pokhari, Rautah, Anptar, Khanbu, JalpaChilaune, Saune, Siddhipur, Chaudandi, KatenjeBabla, and Mainamaini). People have food in stock for up to two months. Normal employment opportunities are however available. Market prices have increased by about 25%.
Okhaldhunga	26 VDCs in the north-east, south, and central belts (Kaptigaun (Khigikati), Khiji Chandeshwori, Ragani, Pokali, Yasam, Narmadeshwor, Raniban, Bilandu, Khiji Phalate, ShreeChaur, Rangadeep, Katunje, Chyanam, Mulkharka, SisneriMahadevsthan, Balakhu, Manebhanjyang, Ketuke, Ubu, Baksa, Moli, Thulachhap, Andheri (Narayansthan), Mamkha, Ratmata, and Kuibhir). Household food stocks are sufficient for 1-2 months. Some income alternatives such as wage labour and portering exist.
Sankhuwasabha	Nine VDCs mostly in northern, central, and southern parts of the district (Makalu, Pathibhara, Num, Diding, Matsyapokhari, Barhabise, Sabhapokhari, Nundhaki, and Mawadin). Household food stocks are sufficient for 2-3 months. Market prices have increased by 10-20%.
Mahottari	Three VDCs in the north (Gauribas, Maisthan, and KhayarMara), located at the foot hills of <i>Chure</i> hills. Agricultural land is limited and irrigation coverage is limited. Many households are landless. The wheat production was normal. Household food stocks are sufficient for 1-2 months only. People are mostly depending on collection of boulder, sand, and firewood, selling of livestock like goats, and remittance. Maize will be harvested in August, however only those households having land will have availability of food.
Saptari (12 VDCs in the north) Siraha (12 VDCs in the north)	Saptari —Theliya, Prasabani, Sitapur, Terahota, KhoksarParbaha, Bhangaha, Khojpur, Kushaha, Madhupatti, Daulatpur, Pipra (west), and Hardiya VDCs. Siraha — GobindapurTergana, Dhodhana, Bishnupurkatti, Muksar, Lalpur, Jamadaha, ChandraLalpur, Chandrodapapur, Fulbariya, RamnagarMirchaiya, RampurBirta, and Karjanha VDCS. Settlements of landless and marginal communities. Very limited irrigation facilities available. Wheat crop production decreased by about 40%. Household food stocks are sufficient for about one month only. Mango production, an important source of income, decreased this year. Collecting and selling of firewood is ongoing. People have limited employment opportunities in agricultural activities. Early paddy will be harvested in July/August.
Moderately Food Insecure VDCs (FS Phase-II) Situation update of the VDCs with improving outlook for July-September 2009	
Bajhang	Kanda VDC in the north, and Syandi, Deulek, Sunkuda, and Kotdewal in the south-west and south-east. The outlook for the next cycle is positive due to WFP food aid (Syandi, Deulek, and Sunkuda), Kotdewal (income from the sale of vegetables), and Kanda (income from <i>Yarchagumba</i>).
Surkhet	Twenty-one VDCs in the north and the south-west (Matela, Ghoreta, Ranibas, Kaphalkot, Agrigaun, Bajedichaur, Dandakhali, Khanikhola, Rajena, Neta, Pamka, Awalchhing, Garpan, RatuDevisthan, GadiBayalkanda, Lekhgaun, Pokharikanda, Salkot, Chhapre, Tatopani, and Taranga). Wheat crop decreased by 10-50% and household food stocks are sufficient for 1-2 months. GTZ PASRA programme has been contributing to prevent a further deterioration. Some people are coping with borrowing money, selling livestock and depending on remittance for accessing to food. Next harvest is expected in mid August and the food security situation is expected to improve.



Makwanpur	Seven VDCs in the north-west, and the south-east (Kankada, Raksirang, Khairang, BhartaPunyadevi, Dandakharka, Dhimal, and Raigaun). More than 50% of people have depleted their food stocks due to low winter wheat production. Employment opportunities are available through WFP programme and agricultural activities. Situation is expected to improve in Kankada, Raksirang, BhartaPunyadevi, Dhimal, and Raigaun VDCs as they expect the next harvest in August. However in Khairang and Dandakharka VDCs, the food security situation is anticipated to remain the same as the maize harvest will be delayed to September.
Rasuwa	Six VDCs in the western, the southern and the central belts (Dandagaun, Thulogaun, Haku, Ramche, Yarsa, and Bhrim). Household food stocks are sufficient for 1-2 months. Limited wage employment opportunities are available through road construction projects. People are coping with eating less preferred food and borrowing money. Maize and potato will be harvested in July-August, which is expected to improve the food security situation.
Dolakha	Twenty-three VDCs spread across the district (Alampu, Bigu, Chilankha, Khopachagu, Kalinchowk, Orang, Khare, Marbu, Chankhu, Syama, Jhyaku, Mali, Lapilang, Sundrawati, SuspaChhemawati, LakuriDanda, BhusaPhedi, Katakuti, Dudhpokhari, DandaKharka, Chyama, Hawa, Thulopatal). Household food stocks are sufficient for 1-2 months as the wheat production decreased by 20-50%. Employment opportunities are limited in the area. Maize and potato harvest is expected in July-August period, which will improve the food security situation.
Ramechhap	Ten VDCs in the north-west and the south (Goswara, Dadhuwa, Khaniyapani, Rakathum, Maluwajor, Ramechhap, Sunarpani, Sukajor, Rampur and Himganga). There was no wheat production in Himganga, Rampur, and Sukajor areas, while in other VDCs the production decreased by 30-50%. Household food stocks will last for about one month only and no employment opportunities are available in the area. People are coping with eating seeds, selling livestock, and reducing their food intake. Situation is expected to improve in next cycle as the maize harvest is expected to take place in July-August.
Sindhupalchowk	Seventeen VDCs in the north and the east (Helambu, Baruwa, Motang, Gloche, Gumba, Tatopani, Listikot, Dhuyang, Fulpinkatti, Marming, Gati, Maneshwor, Karthali, Ghothali, Choukati, Piskar, and Tauthali). Wheat production decreased by 30% or more and household food stocks are sufficient for 1.5 months. Employment opportunities are available in agricultural activities. Eating less preferred food is the common coping mechanism. Food security situation is expected to improve after the maize harvest at the end of August.
Kavre	Fifty-three VDCs in almost all of the southern, the eastern and the central areas of the district. Wheat crop production was low in these areas: 50-70% loss in the central areas (Shyampati, Mathurapati, Methinkot, KanpurKalapani, PuranoGaun, Chhetrebanjh, DaraunePokhari, and Khanalthok VDCs), 30-50% loss in the north-eastern VDCs (Saping, Bhumlutar, Falante, Chaubas, Simthali, BekhSimle, SanoWangthali, NagreGagarche, KolatiBhumlu, SalleBhumlu, Gothpani, Dhuseni, Majhiped, Pakharichauri, BirtaDeurali, KattikeDeurali and MadanKudari). Food is supplied to market on a regular basis and cereal prices did not show any significant increase. Sufficient employment opportunities were available through development and agricultural activities. Outlook for the next cycle is positive.
Kailali	Three VDCs in the north-east (Nigali, Sahajpur, and Godawari). Wheat production decreased by 20-40%. Household food stocks are sufficient for 1-2 months. Food is supplied to the markets regularly. WFP PRRO programme is expected to start in Sahajpur and Nigali VDCs from July onwards. Maize harvest is expected in August-September and the food security situation is expected to improve.
Banke	Sixteen VDCs in the east, the south and the west (Khaskusma, Kathkuiya, Laxmanpur, Kalaphanta, Narainpur, Matahiya, Gangapur, Holiya, Piparhawa, Bhwanipayur, Jaispur, Saigaun, Udarapur, Sonapur, Ranipayur and Titihiriya). Wheat crop decreased by some 40% and household food stocks are not sufficient to cover own consumption. Local wage employment and out-migration are the main sources of income. The situation is expected to improve, provided no flooding during the monsoon.
Chitwan	Five VDCs in the north-east (Dahakhani, Kaule, Siddi, Korak, and Lothar). Household food stocks are available for less than a month due to a low winter crop production. The population in the VDCs is ethnic including Chepang and Tamang. The main coping strategies adopted by the population are: eating less preferred food, borrowing money and food, sale of livestock, herbal collection. The food security situation will improve in the next cycle after the maize harvest.
Generally Food Secure VDCs	
Bajhang	Twenty three VDCs in central and southern parts are in general food secure. Wheat production was moderate to poor but due to a good road access, food supply remains normal. Household food stocks are sufficient till the next harvest. Major livelihood activities during the reporting cycle are sale of vegetables, livestock, milk and milk products. Employment opportunities are available in development activities. Maize harvest will take place in September.
Darchula	Khalanga (DHQ) and Byas VDCs are food secure because of the income from the sale of NTFP and small trade with the Indian and Tibetan border cities. Employment opportunities are available and in the DHQ food is supplied regularly. The population of VDCs neighbouring DHQ earn a good income from the sale of milk products and vegetables.
Baitadi	Twenty five VDCs in the central, northern and eastern belts are general food secure. Wheat production was moderate to poor. Wage employment opportunities are available and people are earning good income from the sale of vegetable, milk products and fruits. Household food stocks are expected to last for 2-3 months and maize harvest is anticipated in September. Food security situation is expected to remain stable in coming months.
Bajura	Eighteen VDCs are food secure reportedly due to the WFP PRRO Programme support. Wheat production was decreased by 30-70% but the Household food stocks are sufficient for 2-3 months because of the WFP food aid. Maize production is anticipated by end August-September. Food security situation is expected to remain stable in coming months.
Achham	Fifty one VDCs are food secure. Household food stocks is sufficient for 2-3 months because of the WFP PRRO programme support and own production. There is a strong presence of other development agencies in the area. Food is supplied to the market regularly. Situation will remain similar until the next cycle.
Doti	One Municipality and 13 VDCs scattered in the central and western belts are food secure. Household food stocks are sufficient for 2-3 months. Wheat crop production was normal to moderate. Employment opportunities are available due to continuous and strong presence of development agencies. Food is supplied regularly to the markets. Food security situation will remain stable in coming months.
Dadeldhura	Five VDCs and one Municipality are food secure. Wheat crop production was normal and household food stocks are sufficient for 2-3 months. Wage employment opportunities are available in construction and agricultural activities. Food is supplied regularly to the markets and food commodity prices are normal. Maize will be harvested in September. The food security situation will remain stable in coming months.
Jajarkot	Sixteen VDCs in the south and central areas are food secure because of ample household food stock from wheat production and employment opportunities available in Jajarkot-Dolpa Road Project and other Rural Road projects in the district. Outlook is expected to be stable throughout the next cycle.
Salyan	All VDCs, except eight VDCs in the north-west, are food secure. Wheat crop was decreased by 30-50% but household food stocks are sufficient to cover the period up to July. Wage employment opportunity is normal. Market prices were increased by 5-10% but people have capacity to access food. During the rainy season the food supply might be disrupted which may result in raising food prices in market. There is a possibility that the situation could deteriorate in the coming months.



Pyuthan (26 VDCs in the central, western, and southern areas) Arghakhanchi (22 VDCs mostly in the central, and eastern areas)	Wheat production was normal. Food is supplied to market regularly and food prices were increased moderately. Employment opportunity is available at local level. The food security situation is normal with stable outlook.
Dailekh	Altogether 17 VDCs in the north-west, south, and central areas are food secure due to the WFP PRRO programme support, remittances and income from the sale of potato. Food security situation is expected to be stable over the next monitoring cycle.
Surkhet	Thirty VDCs in the west, south, and south-east of the district are food secure, because of the food stock available from local crop production and PASRA programme supported by WFP and GTZ. Wheat production was not good, however the PASRA programme helped to maintain the food security at a normal level.
Rolpa	Sixteen VDCs in the central and eastern belts are food secure due to the WFP PRRO programme support. Food security outlook is reportedly stable.
Rukum	Fifteen VDCs in the south-west and one VDC in the north are food secure. Household food stocks are sufficient for 2-3 months. Sufficient employment opportunities are available through road projects and other development activities. Situation seems to be stable.
Baglung	Forty eight VDCs and one Municipality are food secure. Food commodities are supplied regularly to markets and household food stocks are sufficient for more than 2 months. The population has some good livelihood options: sale of NTFP products and vegetables; agricultural wage labour and portering and regular flow of remittance. Maize harvest is expected to take place in August. Food security situation is expected to be stable in coming months.
Myagdi	Twenty four VDCs in the south and central areas are food secure. Wheat crop production was normal to moderate and household food stock is sufficient for more than 2 months. Food is supplied regularly to markets. Employment opportunities are available in construction, portering and agricultural activities. The remittance flow is regular though less than normal. Maize will be harvested in August-September. The food security situation is expected to be stable in coming months.
Parbat	Thirty-nine VDCs in the south and central areas are food secure. Wheat crop production was moderate to poor. Household food stocks are available for 2 months or more. Food is regularly supplied to markets. Employment opportunities are available in construction and agricultural activities. People sell vegetable and fruits from own production. Maize will be harvested in August. Food security situation will continue to be stable.
Rasuwa	Twelve VDCs in the northern, southern and central belts are food secure. Food supply to markets is regular and household food stocks are available for 2-3 months. Wage employment opportunities are available through road maintenance and construction projects. Regular income source is the sale of Yak milk to cheese factories. Maize and potato will be harvested in August-September. Food security situation will continue to be stable.
Nuwakot	Almost all VDCs and one municipality in the district are food secure. Household food stocks are sufficient for 2-3 months due the harvest of wheat, spring paddy and maize, and from the sale of NTFP products, vegetables, and fruits. Wage employment opportunities are easily available, and remittance flow is regular. Situation will continue to be stable after the harvest of maize and potato in August.
Sindhupalchowk	Sixty-two VDCs in the southern half of the district are food secure. Wheat production was moderate to poor. Spring maize was harvested during this cycle. Household food stocks are sufficient for 1-2 months. Employment opportunities are available through development and agricultural activities. Income from the sale of milk and livestock products is ongoing.
Kavre	Thirty-five VDCs and 3 Municipalities in the northern half of the district are food secure. Wheat production was moderate to poor and household food stocks are sufficient for 1-2 months. Wage employment opportunities are available through construction and agricultural activities in addition to other income generating activities including the sale of milk and vegetables. Remittance flow is reportedly stable and continuous.
Dolakha	Twenty-eight VDCs and one Municipality in the north, south, and central belts are food secure. Employment opportunities are available in wage labour and portering. The market price is normal compared to last year. Household food stocks are sufficient for up to 3 months. Situation will continue to be the same in the next cycle.
Ramechhap	Forty-five VDCs in the north, east, west and central belts are food secure. Wheat production decreased by 30-50%. Household food stocks are sufficient for 2-3 months due to wage labour opportunities available through construction work and flow of remittance from third countries. Maize and potato harvests are in July-August. The food security situation is expected to remain stable over the coming months.
Makwanpur	All VDCs, except five VDCs in the north-west and two VDCs in the south are food secure. Household food stocks are sufficient to cover own consumption for coming months. People are engaged in wage employment opportunities and sale of vegetables. Development assistance provided by aid agencies such as PLAN International has contributed to the stable food security situation.
Sindhuli	All VDCs in the south (except 26 VDCs in the north) are food secure. Wheat crop production was normal as most of the VDCs have access to irrigation facilities. Household food stocks are sufficient for 2-3 months. Employment opportunities are available through development works. Remittances are another good income source. Physical access to market is good and food prices are normal. Food security situation is expected to remain stable in coming months.
Udayapur	Twelve VDCs, and one Municipality in the south are food secure. Household food stocks are sufficient for 2-3 months. Income generating activities are available including sale of vegetables and fruits, wage employment in the construction and agricultural sector. Maize will be harvested from end of August onwards. Food security situation is expected to remain stable over the next cycle.
Okhaldhunga	Ninety VDCs in most of the central and parts of the rest of the area are food secure. Household food stocks are available for 2-3 months from own harvest of wheat and potato. Employment opportunities are available through construction and agricultural activities as well as other income generating activities including small trade, sale of vegetables and livestock. Maize will be harvested in August. Food security situation will remain similar as is now.
Sankhuwasabha	Fourteen VDCs and one Municipality in the south are food secure. Wheat crop production was moderate. Household food stocks are sufficient for 2-3 months. Good income from wage employment, sale of NTFP products (<i>Khair</i>) and cash crop such as cardamom are available. Remittance flow is regular. Food security situation will remain stable in coming months.
Kailali (24 VDCs and 2 Municipalities in the central belt, stretched	Generally food secure with more than 3 months of food stock available in most of the households. Food stock in markets is sufficient and rice prices have shown a minimum increase. Wheat crop production was normal in all of these districts. A normal production of spring paddy supplemented household food stocks in Kapilbastu, Chitwan, Parsa, Bara, Rautahat and Mahottari districts. Income generating activities such as



<p>east to west)</p> <p>Bardiya</p> <p>Banke (except 16 VDCs in the south and west)</p> <p>Dang</p> <p>Kapilbastu</p> <p>Chitwan (except five VDCs in the north-east)</p> <p>Parsa</p> <p>Bara</p> <p>Rautahat</p> <p>Sarlahi</p> <p>Dhanusha</p> <p>Mahottari (except three VDCs in the north)</p> <p>Saptari (except 12 VDCs in the north)</p> <p>Siraha (except 12 VDCs in the north)</p>	<p>wage labour, sale of vegetables and fruits (mango, water melon) and firewood are available in these districts.</p> <p>Food security outlook is expected to remain stable over the coming months in most of the areas except five VDCs in the north-eastern part of the Dang district. One warning factor is that the paddy plantation was late due to the late start of the monsoon and only 25% of plantation had been completed by mid-July. A further delay of rainfall or flash flood can cause a critical problem not just in these districts but also in the country as a whole given that fact that surplus production of these districts supply cereals to deficit districts in the Hills and Mountains.</p>
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Food Security Phase Classification: Reference Indicators

Reference Indicators			Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5	Observations
			Generally Food secure	Moderately food insecure	Highly food insecure (starting affecting livelihood assets)	Severely food insecure (acute food and livelihood crisis)	Humanitarian emergency/famine	
a. Food availability	1	<i>crop production / situation</i>	T: up to 10-20% less than normal M+H: up to 10% less than normal	T: 20-40 % less than normal M+H: 10-30% less than normal	T: 40-60% less than normal M+H: 30-50% less than normal	T: 60-80 % less than normal M+H: 50-70% less than normal	T: >80 % less than normal M+H: >70% less than normal	Normal yield is based on 5 years average in the district (M=mountains, H=hills, T= Terai)
	2	<i>HHs food stocks</i>	> 50% HHs with more than 3 months food stocks	T: > 50% HHs with 1-3 months food stocks M+H: > 50% HHs with 2-3 months food stocks	T: > 30% HHs with < 1 month food stocks M+H: > 30% HHs with 1-2 months food stocks	T: 30-50% HHs with depleted food stocks M+H: 30-50% HHs with < 1 month food stocks	>50% HHs have depleted food stocks	(HH=households)
	3	<i>stock of main staples in key markets</i>	Stocks are at normal level (reserves levels are good and supply is sufficient to meet demand)	Stocks are reducing but still sufficient to meet demand	Very low stock levels, partially able to meet demand	stocks depleted	stocks depleted / markets not functioning	In phase 2 and 3 it is also possible to quantify the % reduction of stocks (i.e up to 40% lower and more than 40% lower)
b. Food access	4	<i>wage employment opportunities within district</i>	as per normal situation	10-30 % fewer opportunities compared to normal situation	30 - 50 % fewer opportunities compared to normal situation	Opportunities decreased by > 50 % or no opportunities	no opportunities	normal employment condition is based on people's perception
	5	<i>sale of NTFP, cash crops and other agr. products</i>	income as per normal situation	income decreased by up to 30 % compared to normal situation	income decreased by 30 - 60 % compared to normal situation	income decreased by > 60 %	no sales	Normal income earnings from these products are based on people's perception
	6	<i>market price of rice</i>	Decreased, constant or up to 10% of normal price	increased by 10-20% of normal price	increased by 20-40% of normal price	increased by more than 40-80% of normal price	increased by more than 80% of normal price	compared to average price during same period last 5 years
c. Hazards	7	<i>natural disasters</i>	no natural disasters or occurrence causing <20 % loss of food stocks and assets	occurrence of natural disaster causing 20-30 % loss of food stocks and assets	occurrence of natural disaster causing 30-50 % loss of food stocks/assets and causing human casualties	occurrence of natural disaster causing >50% loss of stocks and assets and causing human casualties	occurrence of large scale devastating natural disasters (i.e. earthquake) causing complete destruction, significant human casualties, displacement	Assets include land, agricultural tools, cattle, houses
d. Out-migration	8	<i>out-migration</i>	up to 10% increase of traditional seasonal out-migration	10-20% increase of traditional seasonal out-migration	up to 20-40% increase of traditional seasonal out-migration	>40% increase of traditional seasonal out-migration	large scale out-migration	Traditional seasonal out-migration is based on people's perception
e. Coping strategies	9	<i>coping strategies</i>	Traditional coping mechanisms that are part of livelihood strategy (migration, wage labour, sell NTFP, consumption of wild food)	change in regular food habits (reduce quantity food, less preferred food), borrowing food/money, selling of non-productive assets	HHs adopt irreversible coping strategies (selling of productive assets - livestock, land, seed) and skipping meals	HHs adopt a high level of irreversible coping strategies including, increased sale of productive assets, looting, and high dependence on wild foods	no more coping mechanisms, starvation and death	
f. Food utilization	10	<i>acute child (<5 years) malnutrition (wasting)</i>	x	x	10-15% of prevalence	> 15% of prevalence	>30% of prevalence	to measure and consider only if the other indicators give evidence of being in phase 3, 4 or 5 (random measurement of MUAC by FMs)
	11	<i>disease</i>	no significant cases of disease	significant cases of diseases under control	epidemic outbreak; increasing	pandemic outbreak	pandemic outbreak	
g. Civil security	12	<i>civil security</i>	general peaceful situation	security situation deteriorating (bandhs and roadblocks 7-15 consecutive days / 3 months)	movement restricted (bandhs and roadblocks 15-30 consecutive days / 3 months)	movement restricted (bandhs and roadblocks > 30 consecutive days / 3 months)	high intensity conflict situation, displacement	

