



RETURNEES' FOOD SECURITY ASSESSMENT

Batticaloa District, Sri Lanka

November 2007



Supporting agencies: British Red Cross Society, ILO, UNOCHA

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

BRCS	British Red Cross Society
CEF	Cash Equivalent for Food
CSB	Corn Soya Blend
DHS	Demographic and Health Survey
DPDHS	Deputy Provincial Director of Health Services
DS	District Secretariat
EFSA	Emergency Food Security Assessment
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FFE	Food for Education
GA	Government Agent
GFD	General Food Distribution
GoSL	Government of Sri Lanka
GS	Grama Sevaka
HEB	High Energy Biscuit
HH	Household
ICRC	International Committee for the Red Cross
IDP	Internally Displaced Person(s)
ILO	International Labour Organization
IOM	International Office of Migration
IRC	Irish Red Cross
JRS	Jesuit Relief Service
LKR	Sri Lankan Rupee
MCHN	Mother and Child Health and Nutrition Programme
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MNBEID	Ministry of Nation Building and Estate Infrastructure Development
MoH	Ministry of Health
MPCS	Multi-Purpose Co-operative Society
NGO	Non-Government Organization
NRP	Nutrition Rehabilitation Programme
OFC	Other Field Crops such as ground nuts, green gram, cowpea, maize
PLW	Pregnant and Lactating Women
RDHS	Regional Director of Health Services
SLAF	Sri Lankan Armed Forces
UNHCR	United Nations High Commission for Refugees
UNOCHA	United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization

1 Summary

This Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA) was conducted over two weeks in November 2007, five months after the large scale return process started in Batticaloa district. The principal objectives of the assessment were to:

- Describe and assess the current food security situation and risk to lives or livelihoods for those (households) who had returned to their home divisions within Batticaloa district following the cessation of hostilities, comparing the food availability, access and usage among different livelihood groups.
- Determine how different livelihood groups are coping with the situation and what progress has been made to re-establish their livelihoods;
- Estimate likely food production from the current *maha*¹ agricultural season.
- Estimate the number of people likely to need food and non-food assistance after January 2008 when the current household entitlements for returnee food rations end.

A total of 804 households were randomly selected from the four returnee divisions². The households were stratified into four different groups; returnees in Paddipalai, Vaharai, Vavunatheevu and Vellavelly. Key informant interviews were included as part of the assessment.

The population in Batticaloa district is approximately 500,000 with some 33,860 IDPs as of 22 October 2007³. At the same time, out of this population some 94,000 people were classified as returnees.

While the assessed households have lost significant quantities of assets including livestock, they have mostly received some livelihood tools as a donation. Overall households have returned to their pre-displacement livelihood activities; however 71 percent of households reported reduced income. Farming, fishing and daily labour were the dominant main income sources.

If food or cash assistance were to cease, this survey would indicate that 37 percent of households can not cover the value of current assistance with their current monthly earned income. Alarmingly, 76 percent of households would not have access to a healthy food basket based on their current income level.

Only 70 percent of paddy land has been cultivated for *maha* season and rain fall has been less than previous years. The percentage of land cultivated under Other Field Crops (OFC) is some 50 percent.

Food insecure households were largely those that earned their main income from daily labor, begging, borrowing, selling of natural resources or those relying on the cash assistance scheme. Some 15 percent of petty traders and small business owners were also moderately food insecure. Further, adopted severe coping strategies put 20 percent of households at risk to lives and 36 percent at risk to livelihoods.

Access to a toilet facility was alarmingly low.

Recommendations

- GoSL poverty alleviation programmes should be strengthened by increasing the value to allow households to receive sufficient food commodities, improved targeting and regular deliveries.
- Food or cash for work for 4,020 households who are at risk to lives for initial three months.
- Food or cash for work for 7,240 households who are at risk to livelihoods for initial three months.
- NRP and supplementary feeding programmes for malnourished children under five and pregnant and lactating women should continue as this is a safety net for these vulnerable people.
- Blanket coverage of school feeding is recommended in the return DSs as this will provide one nutritious meal for children and save household food expenditure.
- Toilet construction for the some 14,000 households who do not have a toilet facility.
- Livelihood tool and livestock distribution to the households who have identified this need.

¹ Sri Lanka has two agricultural seasons: October to March known as the *maha* (wet) season and April to September known as the *yala* (dry) season.

² Paddipalai, Vavunatheevu, Vellavelly and Vaharai

³ Government Agent

2 Background

Returns to Vaharai DS started in March 2007 and to Paddipalai, Vavunatheevu and Vellavelly in May 2007. However Batticaloa returnees have received different kinds of assistance:

Vaharai - In March 2007, when the first returns started to Vaharai DS, WFP was committed to assisting the displaced. The British Red Cross Society (BRCS) therefore investigated the possibility to assist these returnees. They deemed a Cash Equivalent for Food (CEF) scheme the most appropriate response option for these returned households and the programme was instigated in June 2007 and the first payments were made in late June/early July for an initial three months. However it was later extended until January 2008. The CEF ration was calculated to provide a cash equivalent to ICRC food ration recommendations and to be in line with WFP's General Food Distribution (GFD) ration. The CEF also includes an additional family allocation for transport⁴.

Paddipalai, Vavunatheevu and Vellavelly - at the time of these returns (May 2007), the GoSL approved a general return package. The packet consisted of food and non-food items as shown in *annex 1*. From August onwards WFP, GA and I/NGOs have provided food and non-food assistance (GFD) to the returned households. The dry food ration provides some 1,900 kcal / person / day and it is distributed according to the household size with a monetary value is 39 Rs/person/day based on Batticaloa market prices. This assistance is planned to continue until the end of January 2008⁵.

All divisions - have received livelihood assistance from FAO, ILO and various I/NGOs.

As the CEF and GFD assistance schemes mentioned above will end in these areas at the beginning of February 2008, a food security assessment was initiated to identify how the returned households have re-established their livelihoods and whether they would need further assistance. This assessment also provides some information on the impact of food versus cash assistance giving some information on the suitability for such return assistance in a Sri Lanka context.

2.1 Geography and overall information of the district

The Batticaloa district is situated in eastern Sri Lanka, covering an area of 2,854 sq km⁶ of which 229 square km are inland waters and lagoons. The district is divided into 14 administrative divisions with an estimated population of 500,000 people. The long-standing conflict and the 2004 tsunami have caused large-scale population displacement within Batticaloa district as well as creating tension both between communities (such as displaced and resident populations) and along the district border where communities can come from different ethnicities. A very large majority of the Batticaloa population are Tamils. In 2005 some 11,300 people left the district for foreign employment. Approximately two thirds were male and one third female. This trend for foreign employment has increased since 1998⁷.

Until December 2006, 80 percent of Batticaloa district was under the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) control and 20 percent under the Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL). After five months of intense fighting, the whole district is now under GoSL control and administration.

2.2 Political/Security

The Batticaloa district has suffered the consequences of the internal conflict between the GoSL and LTTE since 1983. The district faced intense fighting from August 2006 until May 2007 and displacement of more than 160,000 people, many from neighboring Trincomalee district. The Karuna faction, once part of the LTTE has brought new security-related concerns especially their split into two factions. Investments in infrastructure in the rural, formerly LTTE controlled area is minimal.

At the time of the assessment, 15,500 people had returned to Vaharai division in the North of the district after February 2007 and some 80,000 had returned to South West Batticaloa divisions (Paddipalai, Vavunatheevu, Vellavelly) from May 2007⁸.

⁴ BRCS Project Review document & info sheets, 2007

⁵ Due to delays in distribution assistance will continue until end of February in Vavunatheevu and Vellavelly DSs

⁶ Department of Census and Statistics

⁷ Central Bank of Sri Lanka: Economic and Social Statistics of Sri Lanka, 2006

⁸ Divisional Secretary

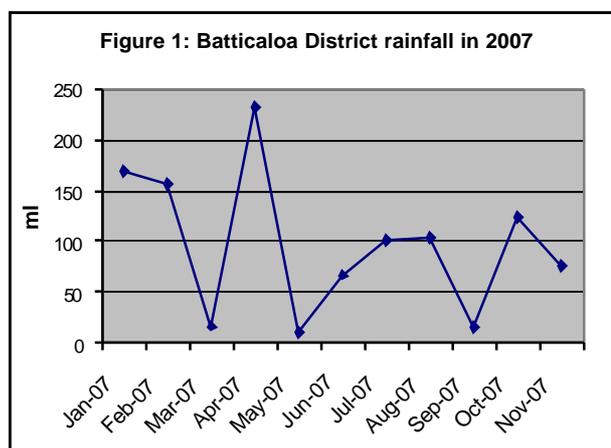
2.3 Agriculture

Around 30,000 families in the district depend on agriculture for their household income. Paddy, Other Field Crop (OFC), and vegetables are cultivated in the district during the *maha* (September-January) and the *yala* (April-August) season. The most common OFC and vegetables planted are ground nut, maize, green gram, cow pea, chili, okra, aubergine, bitter melon, long bean and 'leafy vegetables'. For each season, crops can be cultivated under irrigated or rain-fed conditions, depending on the crop requirement and climatic conditions. Exotic vegetables (cabbage, carrot, beetroot), and cash crops (red onion, betel, cashew) can also be cultivated in the *maha* season and under irrigated conditions in the *yala* season.

The maximum area for paddy cultivation in the district is around 58,378 ha. In addition to the *maha* and *yala* cultivations, an inter-seasonal cultivation called late *yala* is practiced (February-May) by some farmers in Batticaloa using water from minor irrigation tanks. Depending on the requirement of the farmer, crop diversification programs can also be carried out during these periods, to make maximum use of scarce resources for income generation. Around 49,339 ha of land are utilised for OFC, home garden/vegetable trees production and trees. These activities are widespread throughout the district.

The rainfall recorded in November 2007 was 77 ml. This is significantly lower than the average over the past years (350 ml)⁹. Farmers have therefore had difficulties in assuring sufficient water for their fields with potentially severe implications for the coming harvest.

The common pests reported for paddy, OFC and vegetables are weevils, trips, white flies, mites, legume pod borers, beetles, butterflies, caterpillars, fruit borers, diamond back moth, mealy bug, webbers, rollers, paddy bugs and brown plant hoppers. The main diseases include leaf spot, stem rot, rust, bud necroses, anthracnose and purple blotch.



2.4 Livestock

Official figures from the Department of Animal Health and Production regarding the numbers of livestock in the district have not been released since 2005. Significant numbers of livestock were lost during the conflict period when many households were displaced, though FAO along with I/NGOs have distributed some livestock to the displaced, host families and returned households.

Table 1: Livestock figures for Batticaloa - 2005¹⁰

Livestock Type	Number
Neat Cattle	134,575
Buffalo	63,378
Goats	38,323
Poultry	263,214

2.5 Fisheries

Batticaloa district has a fishing population of approximately 77,000 scattered over 172 fishing villages. Lagoon fishermen (11,382) make up over 50 percent of the 22,217 active fishermen in the district. Nearly 60 percent of the active fishermen are members of 108 Fishery Cooperative Societies operating in the district under the umbrella of 13 Fishery Cooperative Unions and two Fishery Cooperative Society Federations. Fishing used 3,658 coastal fishing boats including over 1,300 lagoon canoes. Production in the district reached 10,856 Mt in 2006. Unfortunately during the assessment there was no more recent information available.

However since currently only coastal and inland fishing is allowed the catch is estimated to be less than the 2006 figures.

⁹ FAO Batticaloa

¹⁰ Department of Animal Production and Health

2.6 Minimum cost for a healthy food basket in Batticaloa district

The assessment tried to estimate how households would access healthy food both now and when the current assistance schemes cease. The basket value was calculated for four members; adult male, a mother (not pregnant or lactating), school age child and a child under five. This assumption for household size is based on the assessment household size findings and should therefore be reliable. Healthy food basket composition was calculated by using locally available food items that would provide an adequate proportion of macro (protein, fat) and micro nutrients (iron, Vitamins A and C). Vitamin C is especially important as it improves non-haem iron absorption. The energy and nutrient requirements were calculated by using NutVal software.

Table 2: Household nutrient needs for Batticaloa returnee family of 4 members

	ENERGY	PROTEIN	FAT	IRON	VIT. A	VIT. C
	kcal	g	g	mg	µg RE	mg
Mother	2230	49.6	42.5	24	570	30
Adult male	2230	49.6	42.5	24	570	30
Child 10-14	2210	50.0	42.1	24	550	25
Child <5	1290	25.5	43.0	9	390	20
Total family / day	7960	175	170	81	2080	105

Source: Author's calculations

The price for a healthy food was estimated at 2,228 Rupees per person per month (Table 3). However, it is expected that some food items can be produced by households and therefore the actual monetary value required for the basket is less.

Table 3: Composition and price for a healthy food basket

Item	g/family/day	Price/kg	Rs/family/month	Rs/pp/month
RICE, LIGHTLY MILLED, PARBOILED	900	58	1,566	392
WHEAT FLOUR, WHITE	400	68	816	204
FISH, DRIED, SALTED	120	250	900	225
LENTILS	350	110	1,155	289
SUGAR	60	52	94	23
EGGPLANT (AUBERGINE)	120	70	252	63
COCONUT, RAW	110	70	231	58
ONION	80	70	168	42
OIL, VEGETABLE, UNFORTIFIED	90	250	675	169
MILK, COW, WHOLE	200	229	1,374	344
LEAVES, DARK GREEN, e.g. SPINACH	400	100	1,200	300
PAWPAW	200	80	480	120
Total			8,911	2,228

Food prices used for food basket were WFP November monitoring data and Batticaloa based staff purchases. Price for milk was estimated that 1 dl of milk will need 30 g of milk powder. Coconut was estimated as average weight 50 g.

2.7 Health and nutrition

Sri Lanka has very low mortality levels (Crude Death Rate 6.5 / 1,000) when compared to other developing countries, especially when taking into consideration its GDP. The Batticaloa district health indicators from after the 2002 Cease Fire Agreement are well in line with national average and MDGs¹¹. Table 4 below presents indicators for Batticaloa district.

Table 4: Health indicators in Batticaloa District

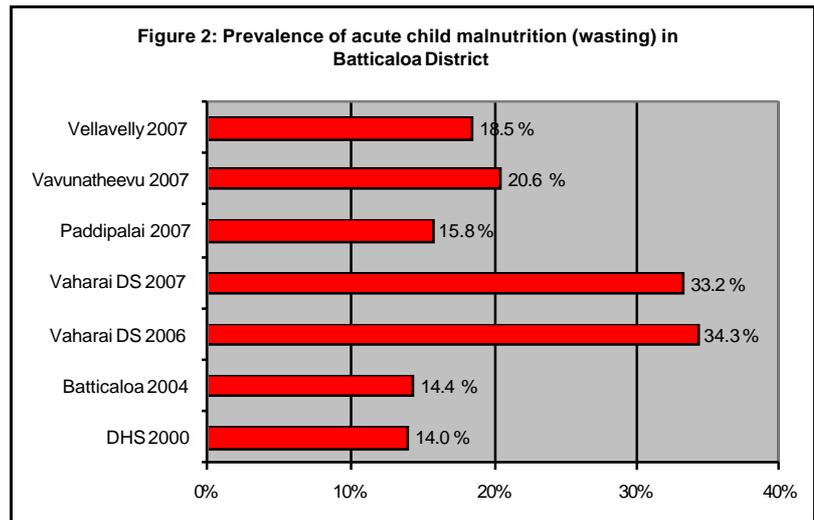
Indicator	Statistics	Year	Source
Crude Death Rate (per 1,000)	8.2	2005	Central Bank of Sri Lanka, 2006
Crude Birth Rate (per 1,000)	20.6	2005	Central Bank of Sri Lanka, 2006
Measles vaccination coverage	81.5%	2004	UNICEF: Child Health and Welfare report
Exclusive breast-feeding for 4 months	33.1%	2004	UNICEF: Child Health and Welfare report
Children received at least 1 Vitamin A mega doze	55.9%	2004	UNICEF: Child Health and Welfare report

¹¹ MDG report

The prevalence of child acute malnutrition in Batticaloa district has increased from the 2004 level. As seen in the Figure 2, child acute malnutrition in Vaharai DS was double the national prevalence in the 2000 Demographic and Health Survey (DHS). Alarming, 6.2 percent of the under five year old children in Vaharai DS were severely wasted in 2007.

A UNICEF survey in Batticaloa district in 2004 found low birth weight at 7.9 percent, underweight 38.2 percent and stunting 24.7 percent compared with the 2000 DHS which found 17 percent low birth weight, 29 percent underweight and 14 percent stunting. Longer term child and mixed malnutrition prevalence is much higher in Batticaloa district than the national average¹².

UNICEF and DPDHS have started a joint nutritional rehabilitation programme (NRP) for severely wasted children in Batticaloa district. When children are admitted to the NRP, they receive special nutrients until they reach a moderate malnutrition level, after which they are re-admitted to the regular supplementary feeding programmes (WFP / GoSL MCHN, GoSL Thriposha programme¹³). The thriposha programme provides some 200 kcal per day with the WFP / GoSL MCHN programme giving up to 500 kcal per day. Two months after the NRP programme started in South West Batticaloa resettled areas, the prevalence of severe acute malnutrition had reduced from 2.33 percent to 0.33 percent¹⁴.



3 Methodology

This assessment is based largely on primary data extracted from interviews with households and traders. Five teams of 15 enumerators carried out the data collection following a three-day training period on field work and questionnaire testing¹⁵ in South West Batticaloa divisions and an additional 12 enumerators collected data from Vaharai division after a one-day training. The questionnaire was then translated into Tamil. Interviews were conducted in Tamil.

The assessment aimed to identify differences between up to four sub-groups, thus the assessed households were stratified into the following:

- Returnees in South West Batticaloa (Paddipalai, Vavunatheevu, Vellavelly)
- Returnees in Vaharai

¹² DHS 2000, UNICEF Child Health and Welfare Survey 2004, DPDHS/UNICEF 2006 & 2007

¹³ The Government supplementary feeding programme for pregnant and lactating women and children under 5 years who are not growing properly. Ration is fortified corn soya blend at 50 g/day/person.

¹⁴ UNICEF, December data

¹⁵ EFSA team composition as Annex 2, questionnaire found as Annex 3

The sampling universe for the assessment covered four DS divisions¹⁶ in Batticaloa district to which people have returned after being displaced. The South West Batticaloa (Paddipalai, Vavunatheevu, Vellavelly) data was collected using a two-stage cluster sampling method. At the first level, 25 clusters were randomly selected based on Grama Sevaka (GS) returnee population size. The second level random sampling was done by going to every X household. Each cluster contained 24 households. Samples in Vaharai were collected from 12 divisions and enumerators selected every X household in the divisions.

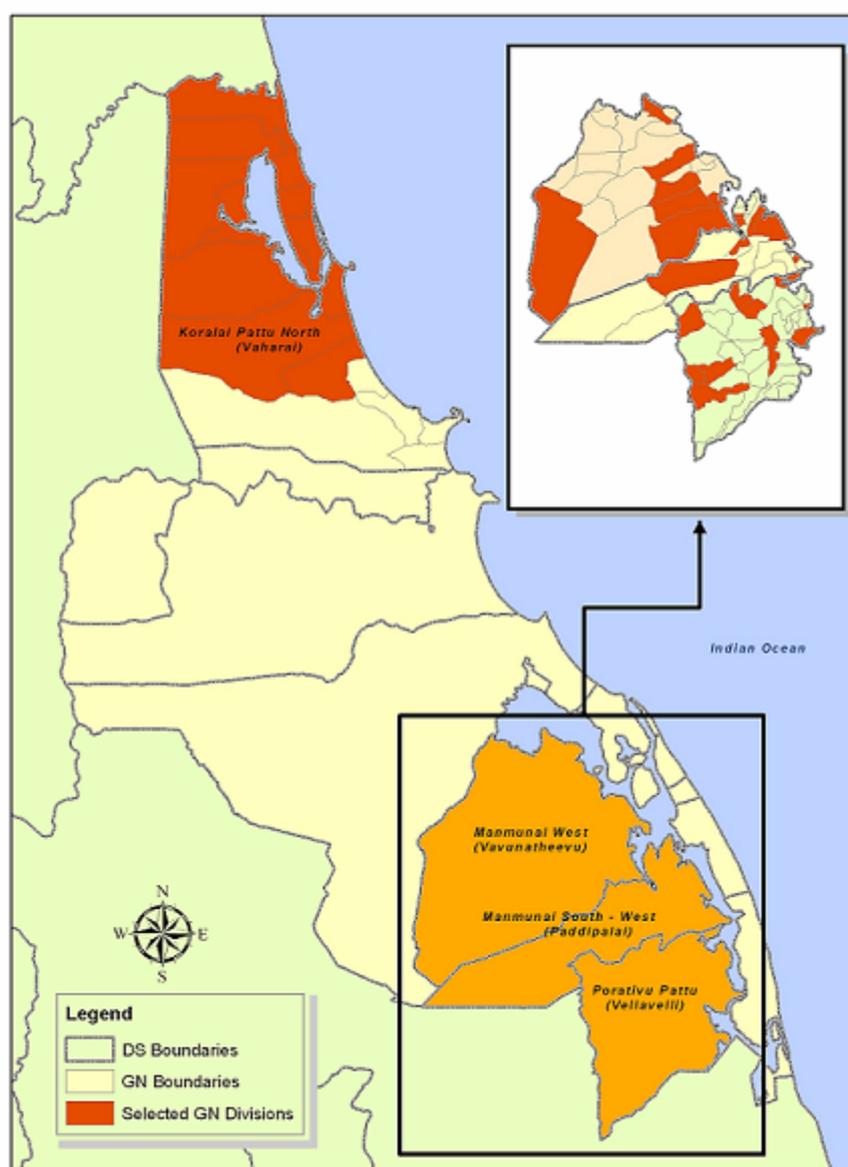


Table 5: Assessed sub-groups

	Number of households	% of sampled households	% of households in DS
Paddipalai DS	168	20.9%	2.6%
Vavunatheevu DS	192	23.8%	2.5%
Vellavelly DS	240	29.9%	2.6%
Vaharai DS	204	25.4%	4.5%
Total	804	100.0%	

The Access database was prepared by WFP staff in Colombo. The supervisor checked all questionnaires after data collection and came back with clarifications the next morning prior to travel to the survey sites. The data was entered into the database on the following day by four data entry personnel. After data was entered, the database was sent to WFP Colombo for cleaning and analysis. All data was analyzed using SPSS computer software.

The assessment was presented to the GA and all DS/GS involved were informed.

Participation of households in the assessment was voluntary and the enumerators asked for the households' consent prior to interviewing. Households were also informed in brief who the agencies collecting the data were and why the survey was being conducted. The households could also stop the interview at any time.

¹⁶ Division: a geographical sub-district area in Sri Lanka

3.1 Limitations

Although Vaharai enumerators were trained only for one day, they had a supervisor who participated in the two-day training. The training did not contain field testing of the questionnaire as return locations were too far away. However, enumerators practiced interviews by interviewing each other. This should not present a discrepancy as some enumerators had participated in the WFP/FAO assessment in May 2007 and the questionnaire was based on prior questionnaires used in Sri Lanka.

Households may have overestimated their monthly expenditure and most probably some food and construction material assistance was converted into currency.

The questionnaire did not include a query regarding possible damages to a house. However, some information regarding house damages can be drawn from expenditure on house repairs.

Healthy food basket price estimation was difficult as some food can be produced by households. The actual basket price could be lower and therefore access may be better than suggested in this report.

4 General Results

The average household size was 4.3 members, with the actual size ranging from one to 13 members. There were not too many significant differences within assessed divisions, however families in Vaharai tended to be somewhat smaller (3.7 members) while those in Vavunatheevu were bigger (4.6 members).

Table 6: Age distribution per sub-group

	Paddipalai	Vavunatheevu	Vaharai	Vellavelly	All
Children under 5	11.9 %	12.6 %	10.1%	8.2 %	10.5 %
5-17 years	27.7 %	31.9 %	26.6 %	31.5 %	29.5 %
18-59 years	56.1 %	49.0 %	58.6 %	53.6 %	54.4 %
60+ years	4.3 %	6.5 %	4.7 %	6.7 %	5.6 %
Total	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %

19 percent of the households were female-headed. Interestingly 27 percent of households in Vaharai DS were female-headed which was significantly higher ($p < 0.001$) than other DSs.

It is estimated that more than 22,000 houses in the conflict-affected districts are totally damaged or need serious repair¹⁷.

4.1 Assets

The most common assets owned were bicycles (80 percent), livelihood tools (65 percent) and jewelry (57 percent). 32 percent owned fishing nets, 13 percent fishing boats and one percent had an engine for a boat. Ownership for these assets has reduced from the pre-displacement period as assets were left behind during displacement and were looted.

55 percent of households have received livelihood tools as a donation while 3 percent have received nets, two percent a boat and one percent an engine.

4.2 Livestock

Currently 47 percent of households own livestock with ownership highest in Vaharai DS (*Table 7*). This is an interesting finding taking into account that in May-June 2007, only 17 percent of Vaharai DS households had livestock¹⁸.

Currently 19 percent have cattle, mostly less than five animals, significantly less than the pre-displacement period when 38 percent had cattle. Nine percent have goats (again less than five animals), again reduced from 38 percent before displacement. Poultry is owned by 26 percent of households now whereas 67 percent had chickens before. Ownership of other kind of livestock was very low.

¹⁷ Ministry of Resettlement and Disaster Relief Services: Draft Plan of Emergency Assistance and Early Recovery for Resettled areas in Batticaloa District, September 2007

¹⁸ UNOPS: Emergency assessment in Vaharai, May-June 2007

Table 7: Household ownership of livestock

Division	Owens currently livestock	No livestock currently but they had before displacement	No livestock owned
Paddipalai	46%	34%	20%
Vellavelly	45%	37%	18%
Vavunatheevu	43%	43%	14%
Vaharai	54%	36%	10%
All	47%	38%	15%

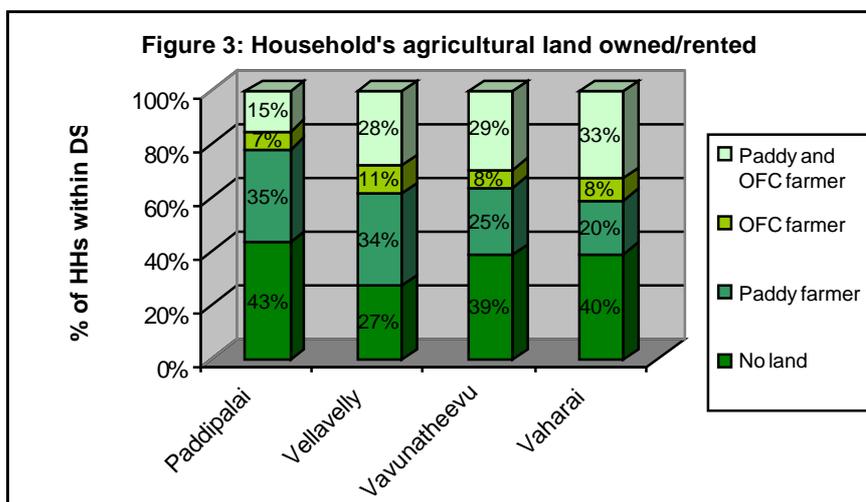
Veterinarian's services were reported to be available by 32 percent of households, most frequently in Vaharai (47 percent) and particularly scarce in Vellavelly (23 percent).

5 Food Availability and Production

5.1 Ownership of agricultural land and seasonal cultivation

54 percent of households had a kitchen garden. This was highest in Vellavelly DS (63 percent) and lowest in Paddipalai DS (35 percent).

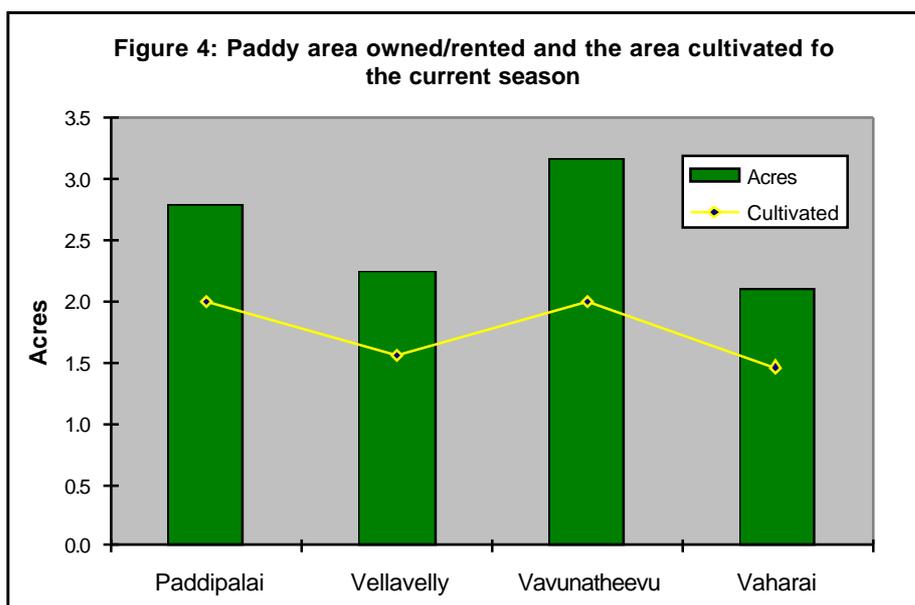
Paddy or OFC land was available more frequently in Vellavelly DS than other assessed DSs. 15 to 33 percent of assessed households had both paddy and OFC land. Some 10 percent were engaged merely in OFC cultivation. Paddy cultivation was highest in Paddipalai and Vellavelly DSs (Figure 3). These two DSs are locations where people return last.



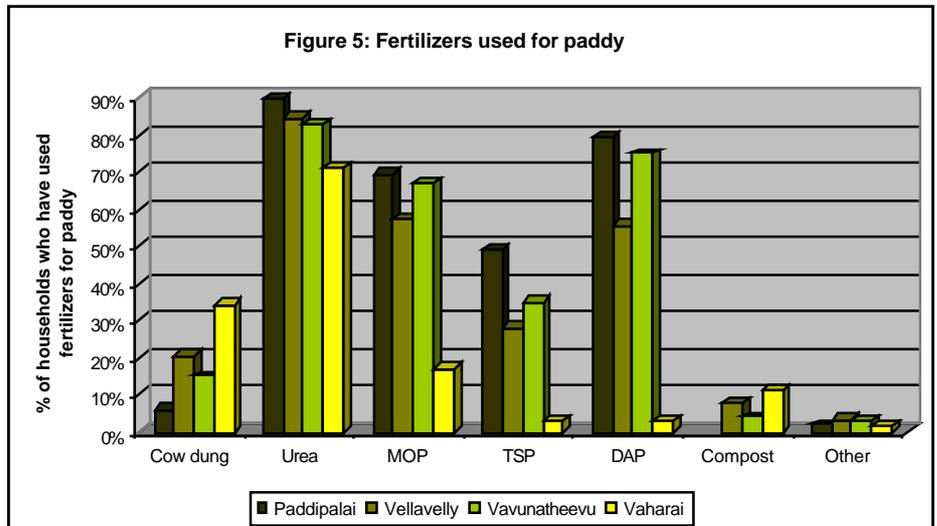
Paddy

The average paddy land owned or rented was 2.6 and 1.7 acres respectively. Only some 70 percent of the paddy land available for the assessed households is being cultivated for the current *maha* season.

Usage of land was lowest in Vavunatheevu DS which may have a significant effect on rice availability in the district after harvest as this DS has the largest average area of paddy land per household amongst these DSs (Figure 4).

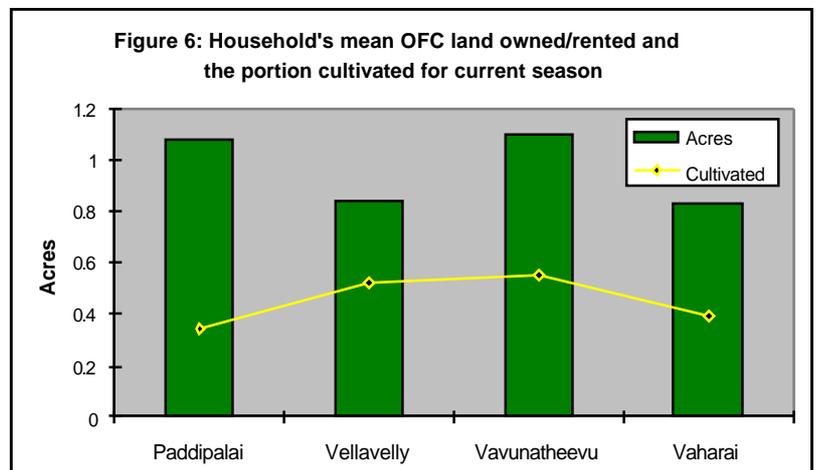


Overall, some 20 percent of paddy farmers have not used any kind of fertilizers for rice in the current *maha* season. In Vaharai, 30 percent of paddy farmers have not used any kind of fertilizers. Furthermore, some farmers have only made partial use of fertilizers (22 percent in Vaharai, 13 percent in Vavunatheevu, 7 percent in Vellavelly, and 8 percent in Paddipalai). The most frequently used fertilizers in South West DSs were urea, DAP and MOP. Urea was the dominant fertilizer in Vaharai followed by cow dung (Figure 5).

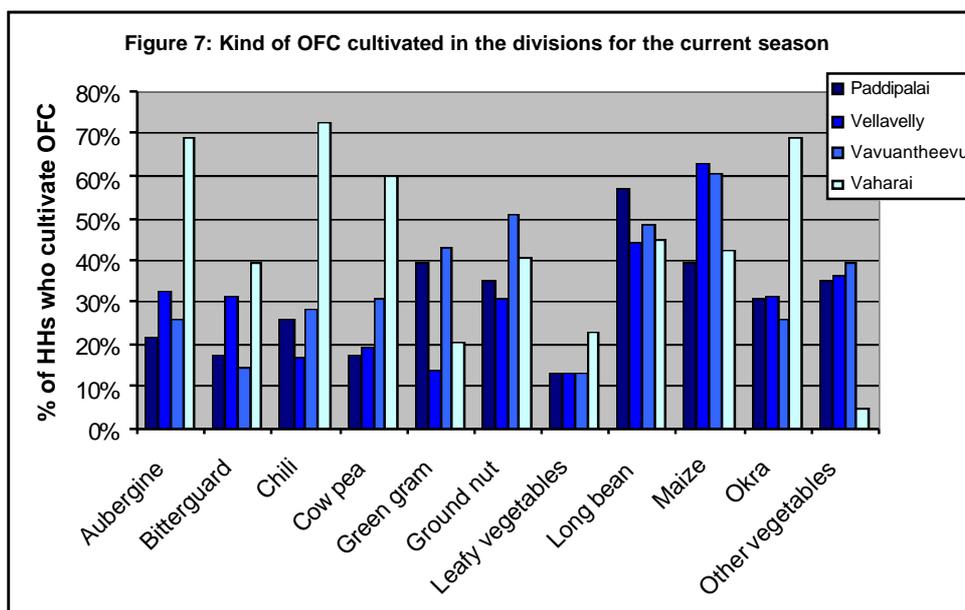


OFC

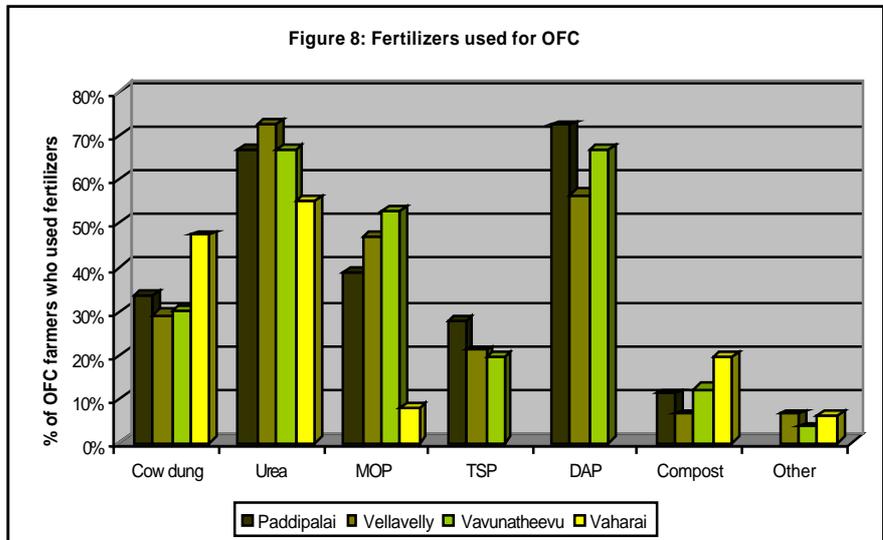
The sampled households who had OFC land had, on average, 0.95 acres of land. The size for owned or rented land was larger in Vavunatheevu and Paddipalai DS households compared with Vellavelly and Vaharai DSs. Alarmingly only 31 to 62 percent depending on division of the land is currently cultivated which will have an effect on OFC availability in the district (Figure 6).



The most frequently cultivated OFC varied by DS, however, the crops most often cultivated in all DSs were maize and long bean. Vaharai had significantly more farmers who have cultivated okra, chili, aubergine and cow pea (Figure 7).



Households were also asked how much fertilizer they utilized for OFC during the current season. Full usage of fertilizers for OFC was highest in Paddipalai (67 percent) and Vellavelly (68 percent), followed by Vavunatheevu (59 percent) and Vaharai (55 percent) farmers. Total non-usage of fertilizers was higher in the South West DSs than in Vaharai (24-30 percent vs 16 percent). The most frequently used fertilizers were DAP and urea for South West DSs and urea and cow dung for Vaharai DS farmers (Figure 8).

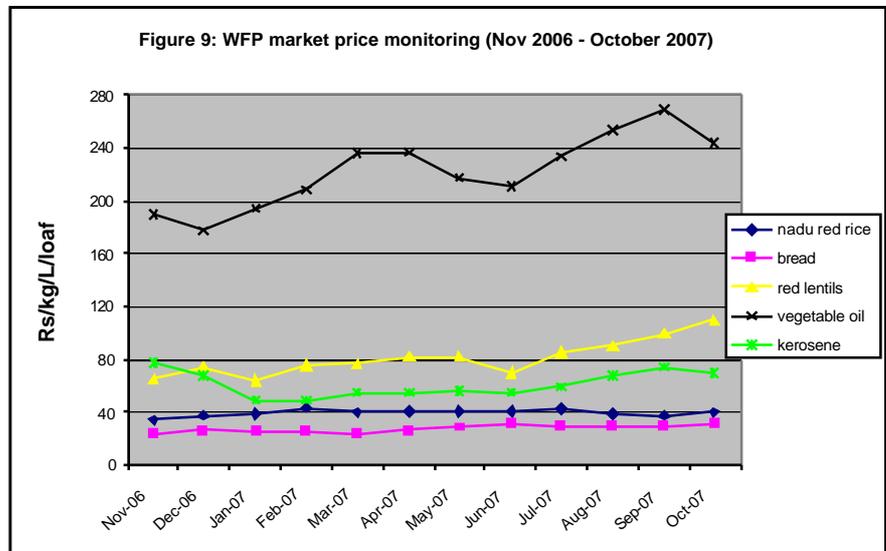


Overall 38 percent of the farmers who did not use fertilizers mentioned that they were too expensive and 27 percent of households replied that fertilizers were not available.

5.2 Markets

WFP collects market prices every two weeks in the North and East of Sri Lanka for monitoring purposes.

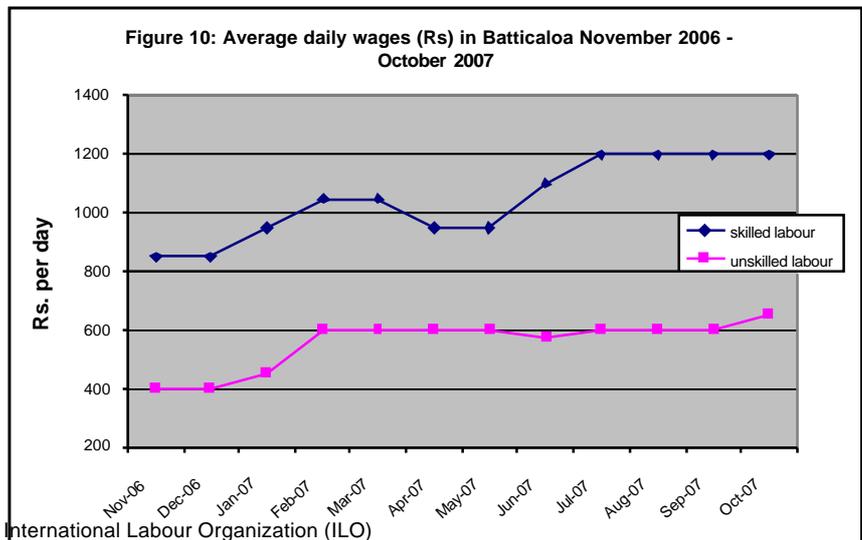
The price of a loaf of bread and red rice has been somewhat stable while the price for lentils has increased steadily. Prices of vegetable oil have been volatile with prices increasing by more than 40 Rupees during the one year monitoring period. Kerosene price reduced in the late 2006 but started to increase again in June 2007 (Figure 9). The market price trends are in line with prices from other monitored districts.



6 Food Access

6.1 Income

According to the joint UN monitoring reports¹⁹, the average daily wages for skilled and unskilled workers in Batticaloa district have increased significantly during this one year monitoring period. Interestingly, especially wages for skilled laborers increased right after the first returns to South West Batticaloa started in May 2007. From July onwards, the wage levels have remained stable (Figure 10). When comparing Batticaloa salaries to other districts,

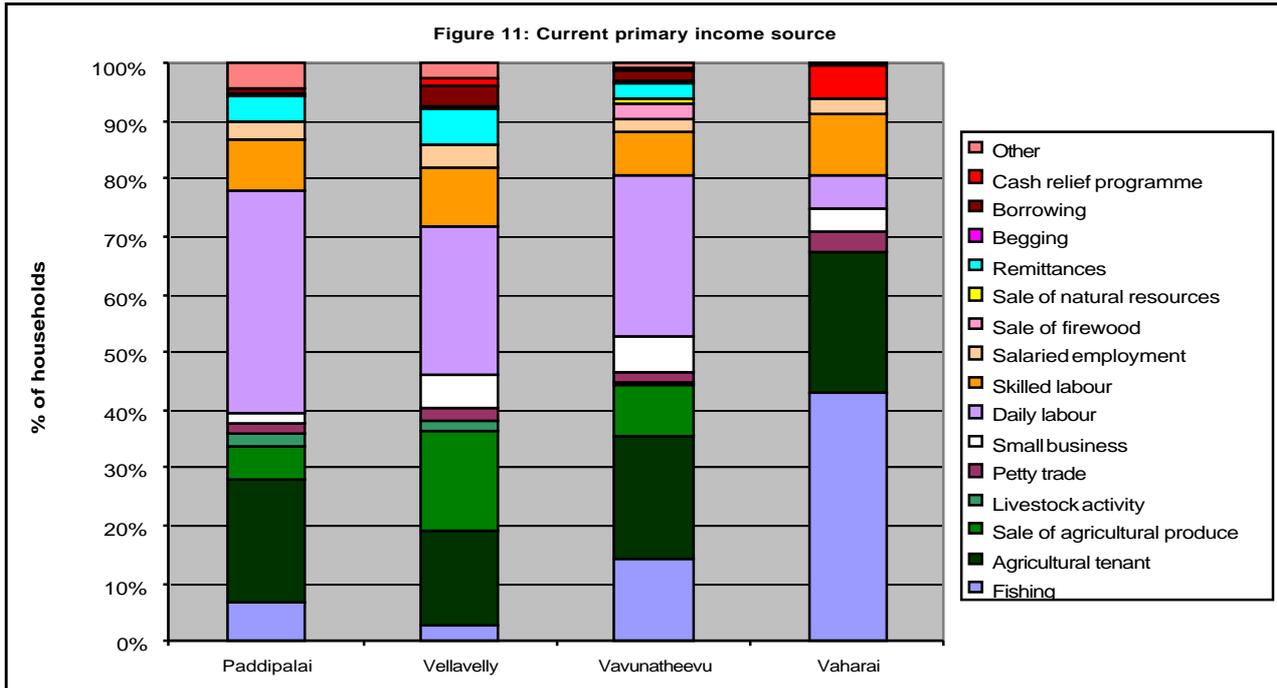


¹⁹ Wage information collected by United Nations International Labour Organization (ILO)

the salaries are at the higher end of the scale .

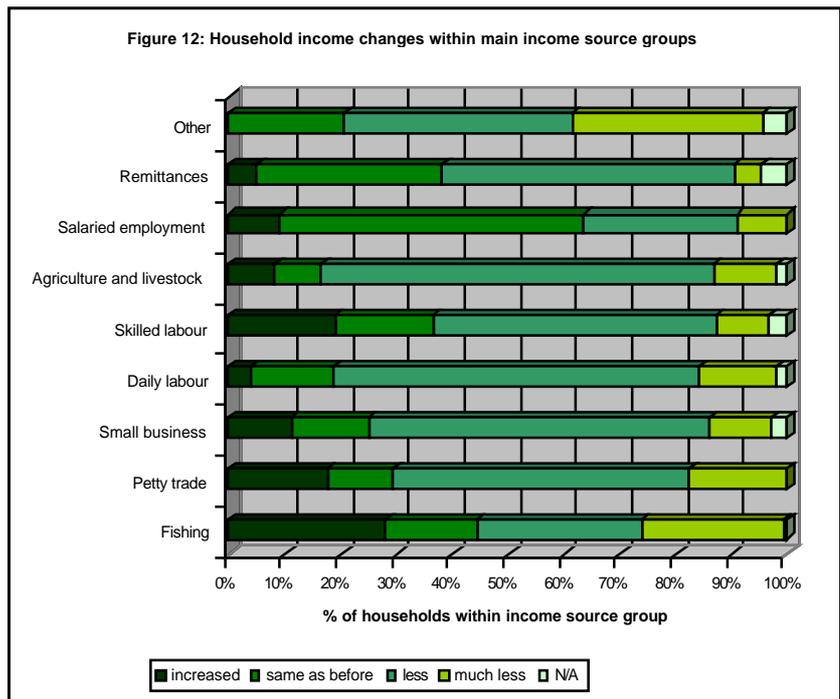
Household primary source of income

Daily labour was the primary income source in the South West DSs while fishing was the dominant source in Vaharai DS. Agriculture was the second most frequent primary income source, almost as important as daily labour in Vellavelly and Vavunatheevu DSs (Figure 11).



The population assessed had mostly re-established their regular pre-displacement main income source, but their actual current income was less than pre-displacement. The largest changes found in household primary income source were in Vaharai DS where there are now seven percent more fishermen and seven percent less farmers. Paddipalai DS has seen a four percent increase in daily labour. When compared with May - June 2007, the situation has improved drastically with 84 percent of households in Vaharai DS now earning their main income from the “old” income source²⁰ compared with only 15 percent five months ago.

76 percent of households had a secondary source of income which was mainly farming and then fishing activities. Interestingly, 42 percent had also a third source of income and two percent had a fourth source. This indicates that households were not that dependant on their primary income which gave some degree of flexibility if the primary source income was less than expected. Only four percent of Vaharai households had only one income source, though this was some 30 percent for the South West returnee households. This may be due to time as the earlier returnees to Vaharai have had longer to re-establish themselves.



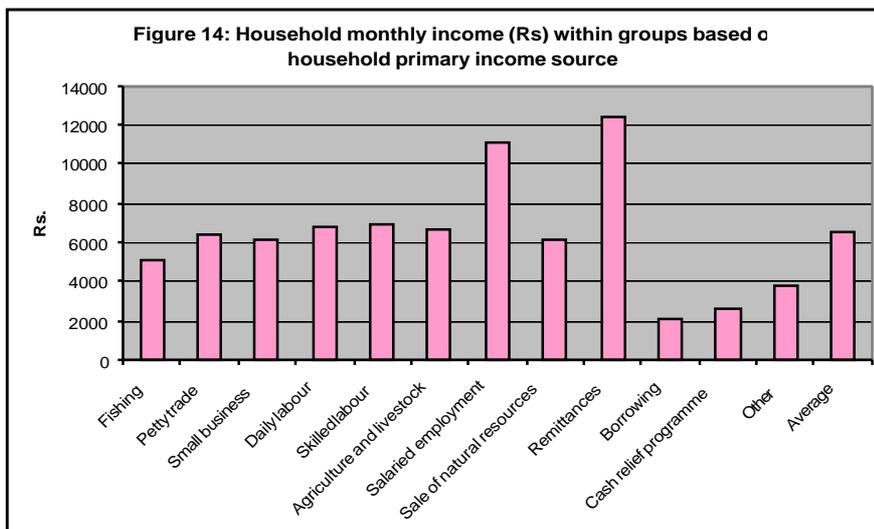
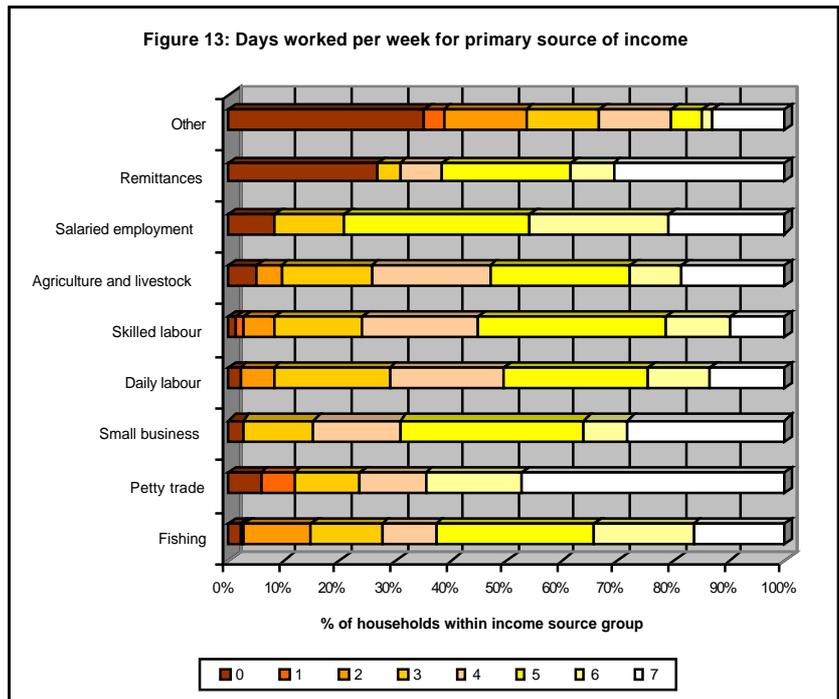
²⁰ UNOPS: Emergency assessment in Vaharai, May- June 2007

While 12 percent of households reported increased income compared to the time prior to displacement, 55 percent claimed that their income had reduced, 16 percent stated that it was much reduced and 16 percent suggested that their income was at the same level. A few households replied that income comparisons were not applicable (Figure 12).

When the households were asked why they did not earn as much as before displacement, the most common reason was loss of assets.

Households were asked how many days they had worked in the week prior to the assessment on their primary source of income. Petty traders and small business owners most frequently worked seven day per week. More findings are presented in Figure 13.

The average household's monthly income was some 6,500 Sri Lankan Rupees. The highest monthly income came from remittances, which however were not a stable source of income followed by salaried employment. Borrowing and cash relief programmes were the lowest income sources for the households (Figure 14).



Fishermen

The most frequently reported fishing activities were working as a crew member (44 percent), fish vendor (43 percent) or a boat owner (27 percent). 15 percent were engaged in net mending and 10 percent were lagoon fishermen. Other activities were reported by very few households.

The average number of days in the past month that fishermen were able to fish was 13 days. 60 percent of fishermen indicated that this was less than normal for this season though 40 percent felt this was the normal amount. Reduced fishing days were observed everywhere, both in the coastal division of Vaharai (64 percent) as well as Vellavelly (63 percent), and some 50 percent in Vavunatheevu and Pallipalai which though not on the coast, have lagoon fishing.

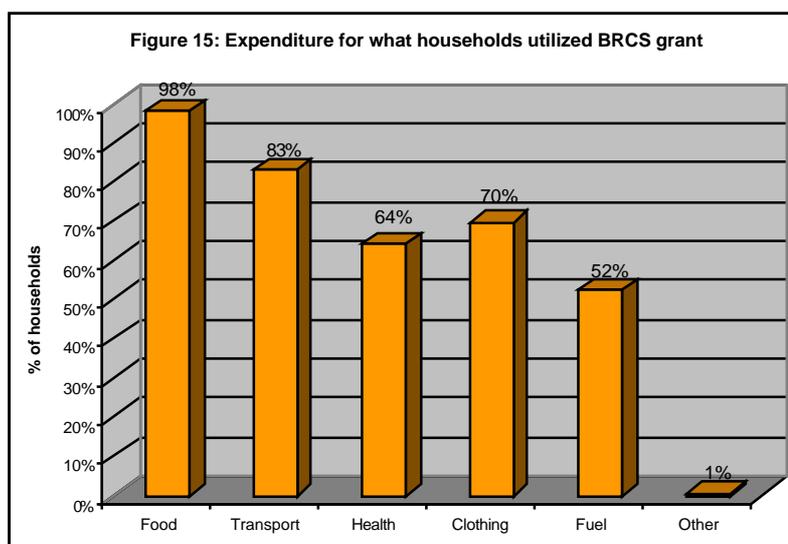
6.2 British Red Cross grant

Based on the household interviews, 100 percent of households in Vaharai have received BRCS grant.

Almost all households used the grant to buy food and more than 80 percent used it for transport. 70 percent reported using cash for clothing and 54 percent for health costs. Every other household also spent part of their grant on fuel.

The only difference in grant utilization was in regard to transport which differed depending on the sex of the head of household; male-headed households spent more on transport than female-headed households (87 percent vs 72 percent).

The value for BRCS grant is fixed as Rs 900 per person per month dependant on household size, with an additional Rs 360 per month per household for transport costs. Based on the findings the average grant received was 3,650 Rupees per household per month.



6.3 Household expenditure

Households were asked how much money they had spent in October 2007 and what proportions they spent on food and non-food items both in October and before displacement. The average total expenditure for October was 12,300 Rupees. Food and house repairs were the biggest expenses incurred.

Table 8: Household October 2007 expenditure proportions

Expenditure item	Oct-07	Pre-displacement
House repairs	21%	37%
Food	45%	37%
Non-food	9%	7%
Education	7%	6%
Cooking fuel	3%	3%
Transport	7%	5%
Medicine	5%	4%
Other	3%	1%
Total	100%	100%

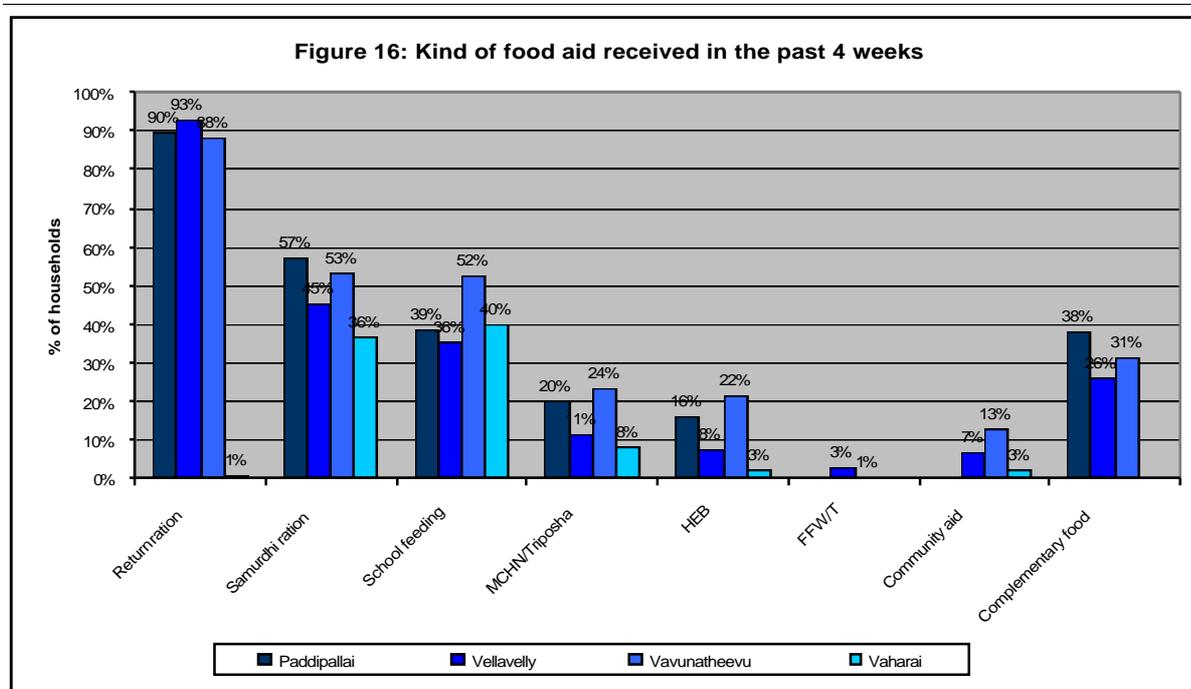
6.4 Food aid

88 percent of households have received at least one kind of food aid in the past four weeks. As Vaharai DS is not covered by the return food assistance scheme, only 61 percent of households have received food while the coverage of food aid was more than 95 percent of households in the South Western divisions, mostly through the WFP / GoSL distribution and the *Samurdhi* programme²¹.

Interestingly, the coverage of complementary food assistance was only some 30 percent while it was double that in May 2007²² for the displaced households in Batticaloa district. Since this assistance was then a major contribution to adequate household food consumption, it is an important safety net for vulnerable households.

²¹ Salaried Government employees are excluded from GFD for the returned IDP households

²² WFP/FAO EFSA in Batticaloa District, May 2007



The monetary value of the WFP food basket for returnees is 39 Rs/person/day based on WFP market price monitoring data. The average value for households' food assistance was therefore 5,170 Rupees per month, equating to a substantial percentage of the household average monthly income (6,500 Rs). A logical conclusion could be that many households may not have the sufficient money to buy an equivalent food basket once they do not receive food aid.

The GFD ration provides 95 percent of the daily energy, 123 percent of daily protein and 58 percent of daily fat requirement for an average household of four persons (adult male, female, school child and child under five).

6.5 Food stock

Households on average had a food stock sufficient for a 7.5 days, with individual responses ranging from zero to 90 days. Interestingly those households whose main income came from other sources (begging, borrowing, sale of natural resources, cash assistance) had only 4.3 days stock, much lower than the average

64 percent reported that their food stock was either less or considerably less than before displacement although 27 percent had similar stocks as before.

6.6 Food sources

Household food sources were mostly purchase and food aid. However, it was good to observe that more than 30 percent produced their vegetables and some 17 percent produced rice and coconuts. Food aid was a very important food source for the food basket commodities (rice, wheat flour products, pulses, oil and sugar).

Table 9: Food sources

Food item	Number of HHs consuming the food item in the past week	Percentage of these HHs where first or second source of food item was:		
		purchase	food aid	own production
Rice	803	80.4%	42.2%	17.1%
Bread/Chapti/Rot	703	47.4%	72.1%	4.0%
Pulses	767	44.5%	76.5%	0.8%
Fish	725	88.6%	1.5%	16.3%
Meat (beef, pork, chicken)	395	94.9%	0.0%	4.3%
Eggs	569	91.7%	0.2%	9.3%
Curd	448	85.0%	2.0%	10.9%
Milk	480	91.5%	6.3%	6.7%

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Oil, fats	622	77.2%	65.9%	1.0%
Coconut	772	90.3%	8.4%	16.8%
Vegetables	791	87.4%	3.2%	34.5%
Fruits	685	89.6%	0.6%	16.4%
Sugar/Jaggary	791	91.9%	65.1%	1.0%
Alcohol	246	93.5%	0.0%	0.4%

6.7 Household food access

Household food access was calculated by cross tabulating household income sources and ownership of assets²³:

Table 10: Food access cross tabulation

Assets ownership	Poor	Average	Good
Income sources			
Poor	Poor food access	Poor food access	Average food access
Average	Poor food access	Average food access	Good food access
Good	Average food access	Good food access	Good food access

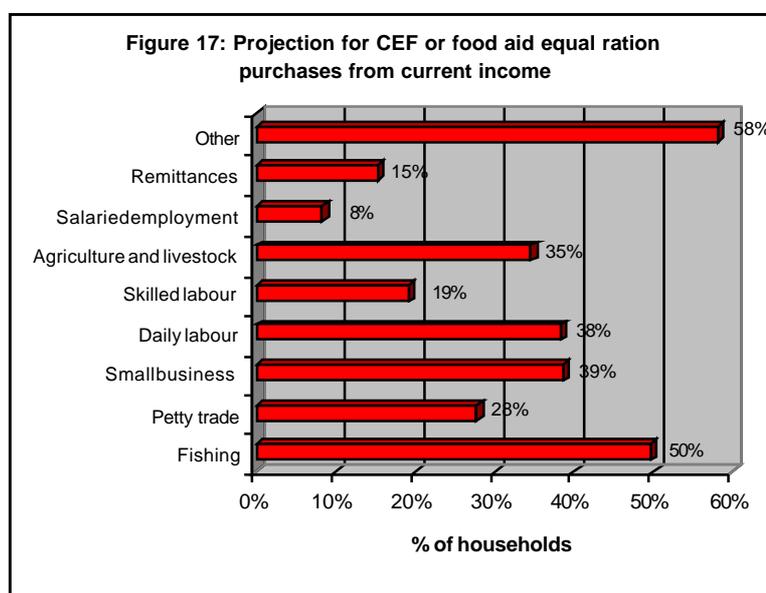
Based on this cross tabulation **49 percent of households had good food access, 39 percent had average and 12 percent had poor food access.**

Overall food access was the best in Vaharai (63 percent had good food access) and the worst in Paddipalai DS (17 percent had poor food access). Food access also correlated slightly with household size as households with more than four members had poorer food access. There was no difference in food access depending on whether households had one or more income sources.

6.8 Household food and healthy food basket access without current assistance schemes

Projected household food access was also analyzed if GFD or CEF should cease. This was done by subtracting the monetary value equivalent to these assistance schemes from household monthly income. The rationale behind this approach is that households would have to cover the “free food” value (whether given as food or cash meant for food) as well as their other regular expenditure from their “normal” income. Based on this analysis, **37 percent of households do not currently have an equivalent income to compensate for the loss of assistance under GFD or CEF when these schemes terminate if all items are bought from the market.** Alarming 50 percent of Vaharai households do not currently have sufficient income from work to meet the CEF value, while some 32 percent of South West DS households face the same situation if food equivalent to the GFD assistance has to be bought from a market. One explanation for the higher figure in Vaharai is that the value of the CEF grant is slightly higher than that of the GFD as it also includes an allocation for non-food items.

The households who would have problems to meet the additional expenses currently covered by this assistance are mostly those households whose income comes from other sources (begging, borrowing, sale of natural resources, cash assistance scheme) and fishing. The proportion of fishermen can be explained as these households are mostly from Vaharai DS. Salaried employees, households receiving remittances and skilled labourers were the better off as their monthly income was higher than the assistance value (*Figure 17*). When compared by gender of the head of household, 50 percent of female-headed and 33 percent of male-headed



²³ See annex 4 for details

households could not cover the value of their current assistance which indicates that female-headed households may be more vulnerable.

Another comparison was made by further deducting the value for the **healthy food basket** described earlier in this report from household current income. Based on the current households' total income, **only 24 percent of households would have access to the healthy food basket if all items are bought from the market**. Moreover, 69 percent of households have an access gap of more than 1,000 Rs and 59 percent have a gap of 2,300 Rs. Therefore, even assuming that the household can produce some of these food items, the access gap is likely to be too high for many households.

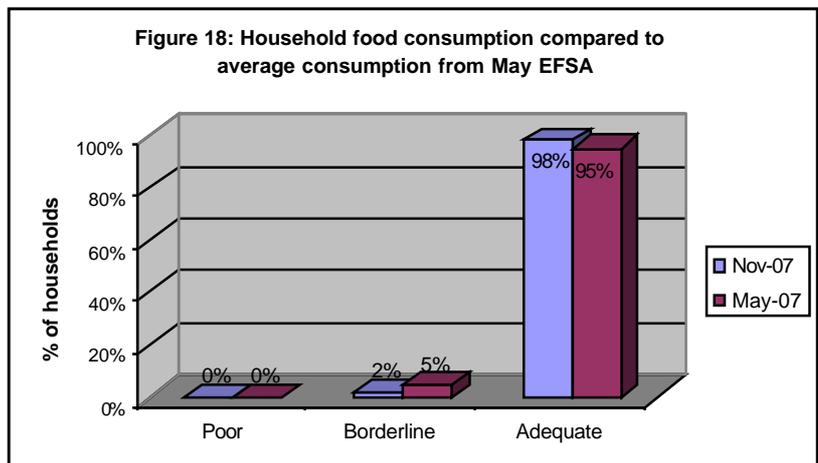
Both female and male-headed households had equal access problems for this healthy food basket. The most fortunate were salaried employees (only 39 percent had an access gap) and those households receiving remittances (48 percent had an access gap) while the gap for those households depending on all 'other' main income sources was more than 70 percent.

7 Food Consumption, Utilization and Health Status

7.1 Household food consumption patterns

The survey included a seven-day food consumption recall to understand dietary frequency and diversity. However, this recall does not provide information on quantities per person (*i.e.* one egg per family or one egg per person). Classification into adequate, borderline or poor level food consumption was calculated against a table dividing food items into nutritional groups (*see annex 5*).

The returned households' food consumption was found to be adequate as only two percent of the households fell into borderline or poor consumption categories. This finding correlates with the WFP/FAO EFSA from May 2007 in Batticaloa district (*Figure 18*).



The main income sources for those households with **poor or borderline food consumption** were other sources (borrowing, begging, cash assistance scheme, selling of natural resources) or daily labour. Interestingly, 67 percent of these households were from Vavunatheevu DS.

7.2 Number of meals

All age groups ate three meals and two snacks a day. Some 24 percent of all household members, except children under five, are however now eating fewer meals than pre-displacement.

7.3 Cooking fuel

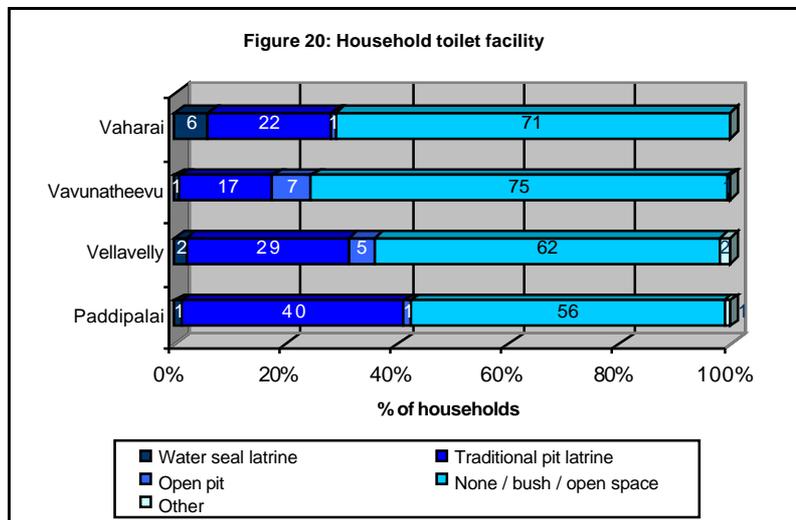
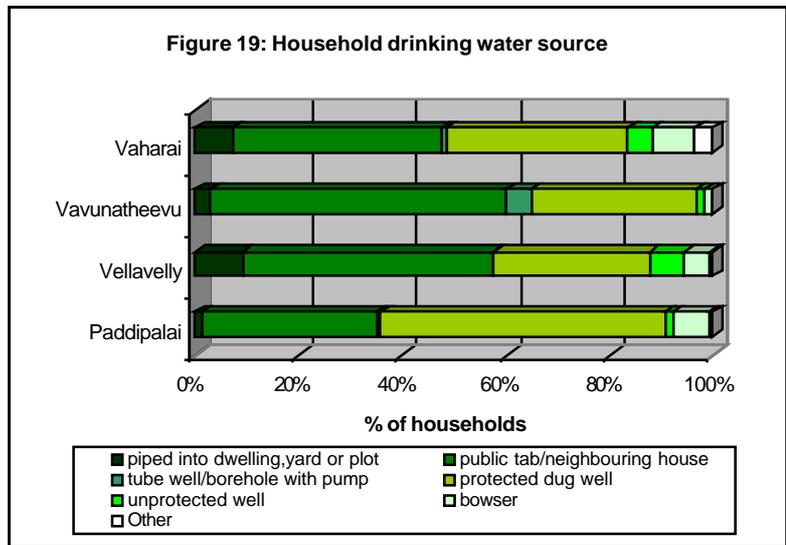
36 percent of households reported reduced availability of cooking fuel when compared to the situation before displacement, particularly for households from Paddipalai and Vaharai DSs (some 50 percent for both DSs).

7.4 Water and sanitation conditions

In 2004 in Batticaloa district, 94 percent of households had access to safe drinking water and 57 percent had a toilet facility²⁴. Only 35 percent of households in Vaharai DS now have a toilet facility²⁵.

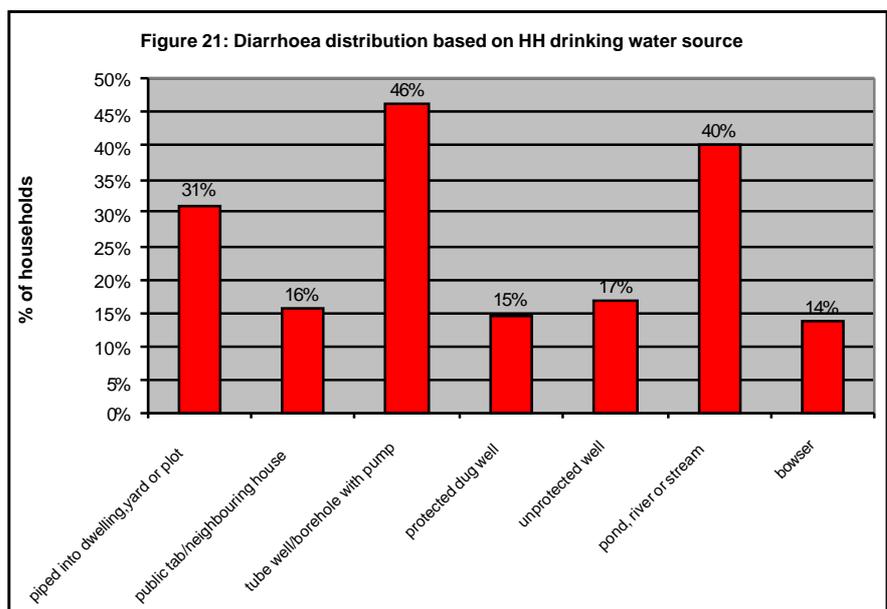
A May 2007 survey in other divisions shows that unprotected wells and protected dug wells were the two most reported drinking water sources for host families. This could be used as a basis for comparison when considering the source of water utilised within the Batticaloa district. Public tap was the most frequently reported drinking water source in the returned areas in the assessed divisions, followed by protected dug wells. There was some variation within the assessed DSs as Paddipalai households utilized water from protected dug wells more often while Vavunatheevu households had better access to public tap.

Toilet availability in the assessed DSs is very alarming as an average of 63 percent do not have a toilet facility. The situation was worst in Vavunatheevu DS and best in Paddipalai DS. Based on feedback from the enumerators, a toilet facility was mentioned as a need.



7.5 Diarrhoea

The prevalence of diarrhoea was 27 percent with the highest incidence in Vellavelly division (30 percent). Children under five years had a prevalence of 16 percent, slightly higher in Vaharai and Vellavelly DSs. The prevalence found for diarrhoea is the same as it was in May 2007 for host families (25 percent) and IDPs living with host families (31 percent) but significantly lower when compared to the IDPs staying in welfare centers (45 percent) with in Batticaloa district²⁶.



²⁴ UNICEF: Child Health and Welfare series, 2004

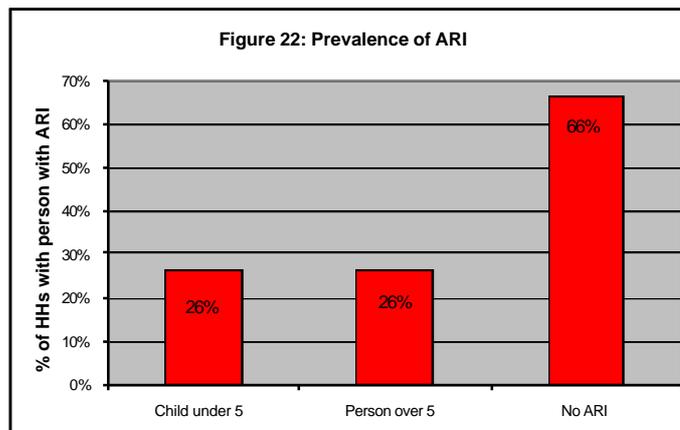
²⁵ UNOPS: Emergency assessment in Vaharai, May- June 2007

²⁶ WFP/FAO EFSA in Batticaloa district, May 2007

Diarrhoea prevalence was higher amongst households who utilize water from tube wells. The prevalence of diarrhoea for households who drank water from ponds, rivers or streams was also high but only very few households drank from this kind of a water source. More findings are shown in Figure 21.

7.6 Acute Respiratory Infection (ARI)

The prevalence of ARI (indicated by fever and cough) at household level in the past two weeks was 34 percent. Interestingly, both those under five and older had the same prevalence. There was not much difference on the prevalence of ARI within the assessed divisions. The current prevalence was lower than that in May 2007²⁷ (43 percent for host families, 55 percent for IDPs living with host families, 71 percent for IDPs living in welfare centers).



8 Food Security

To further assess the depth of food insecurity, household food consumption and household food access figures were cross tabulated.

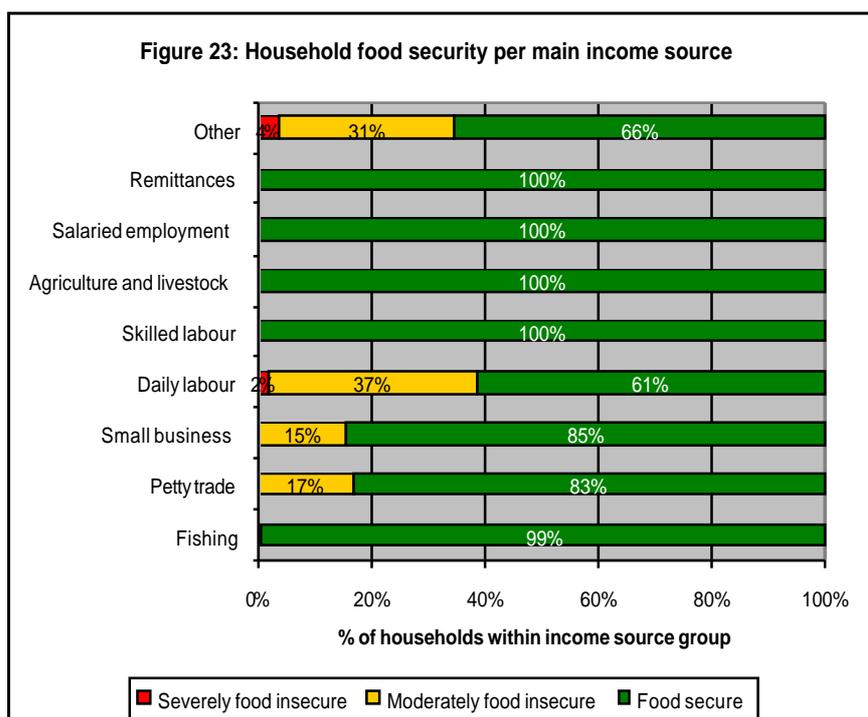
Table 11: Food security cross tabulation

Food consumption	Poor	Borderline	Good
Food access	0.2%	1.6%	98.2%
Poor 12%	1. Severely food insecure	2. Severely food insecure	3. Moderately food insecure
Average 39%	4. Severely food insecure	5. Moderately food insecure	6. Food secure
Good 49%	7. Moderately food insecure	8. Food secure	9. Food secure

Based on the cross tabulation, **one percent of people were currently severely food insecure, 12 percent were moderately food insecure and 87 percent were food secure.**

8.1 Who is food insecure?

The severely food insecure households obtain their main income from other sources (begging, borrowing, sale of natural resources, cash assistance) or daily labour. Other households from the above mentioned income source groups as well as households who are small business owners or petty traders were found to be moderately food insecure (Figure 23). The findings also indicate that households with two income sources are slightly more food insecure than households with one or three income sources.



²⁷ WFP/FAO EFSA in Batticaloa district, May 2007

There was not much difference in food security levels based on the gender of the household head. However, the proportion of severely food insecure households was slightly higher amongst female-headed households while those that were male-headed were more frequently moderately food insecure. However, the number of severely food insecure households is small and therefore one should be careful when analysing the results based on the sex of each head of household.

Interestingly the food security level decreased when the size of household increased (Figure 24).

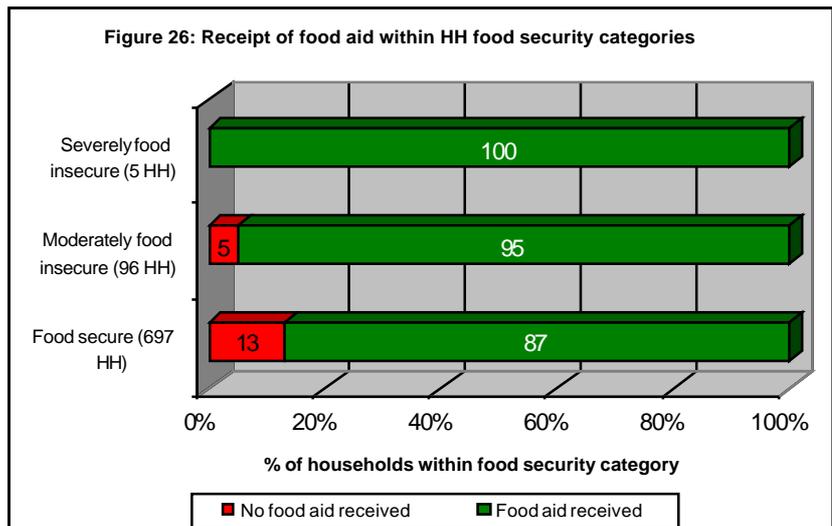
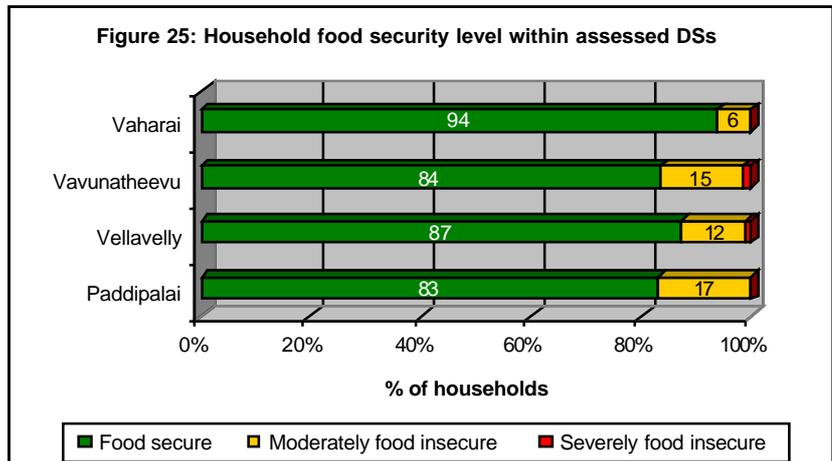
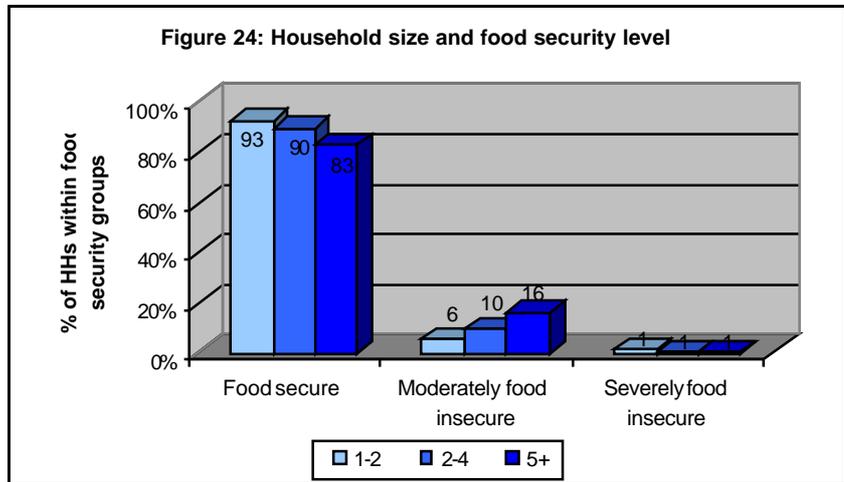
Household food security correlated with ownership of kitchen gardens as 90 percent of households with such a garden were deemed food secure while 85 percent of households without kitchen gardens were food insecure.

Food insecure households were more frequently from the South Western DSs than from Vaharai DS (Figure 25). This can be explained

as returns to Vaharai started a few months earlier than those to the South Western DSs.

The current food assistance has been very successful in reaching the food insecure households, as only five percent of moderately food insecure households have not received any food aid. Also, 87 percent of food secure households have received food aid due to blanket coverage²⁸ adopted for returnee food assistance.

As the BRCS CEF program has blanket coverage in Vaharai DS, all food insecure households in the DS have received CEF rations to meet their food and other needs.



8.2 Coping strategies

Households were asked about the coping strategies they had adopted in the past month to understand how they were coping with the current situation.

23 percent of the households were using coping strategies before the displacement period. This practice was significantly higher in Vaharai DS (49 percent), which indicates a long-term vulnerability that existed before

²⁸ Government employees only excluded from return food assistance

displacement. This is an understandable finding considering that prior to displacement, the DS was moderately isolated and humanitarian agencies did not have normal access to the DS.

In the past month more than half (53 percent) of the households were forced to adopt coping strategies with little difference between the DSs. The most common coping strategies were the 'normal' mechanisms such as borrowing money or food, selling or pawning of jewelry and eating less preferred food.

Table 12: Coping strategy classification based on the main coping strategies adopted

Coping Strategies adopted in Batticaloa, November 2007	Never	1-2 per week "Once in a while"	3-6 per week "Pretty Often"	"Daily"
1. Borrowing money	56.2 %	31.2 %	11.7 %	0.9 %
2. Using savings	81.9 %	12.0 %	5.4 %	0.6 %
3. Reduced meal size	77.2 %	17.7 %	4.8 %	0.4 %
4. Eating less preferred food	75.9 %	16.7 %	6.4 %	1.0 %
6. Borrowed food	61.4 %	27.5 %	9.7 %	0.5 %
7. Skipped days without eating	84.2 %	13.6 %	2.1 %	0.1 %
8. Restrict consumption for adults	79.3 %	17.2 %	3.4 %	0.1 %
9. Reduced health & education expenditure	87.3 %	11.3 %	1.3 %	0.1 %
10. Purchase of food on credit	62.6 %	24.6 %	12.2 %	0.6 %
13. Sold HH articles/furniture	92.7 %	6.9 %	0.4 %	0%
11. Consumed seeds held for next harvest	91.2 %	6.9 %	1.9 %	0%
12. Sold HH jewelry	70.5 %	27.2 %	2.3 %	0%

Green = alert, yellow = moderate, red = severe coping strategies

Based on the findings 19 percent of households had adopted severe, 31 percent moderate and 50 percent alert level coping strategies. Households in Paddipalai and Vavunatheevu had adopted severe strategies significantly ($p < 0.001$) more often than Vaharai returnees. The households which adopted severe coping strategies most frequently had two income sources (48 percent) rather than one (21 percent) or three income sources (31 percent). This indicates that the income level may have reduced and therefore households are forced to have more, smaller income sources.

16 percent of households had taken loans from banks; this is much more than found in previous ESFAs in Sri Lanka. The differences in frequencies of borrowing between DSs were not significant. However, households from Vavunatheevu and Vaharai DSs had taken slightly more frequent loans. As household expenditure, especially for housing, was very high it is possible that the loans are partly used for housing as well as for "normal daily living costs" until the households' regular livelihoods are re-established.

9 Risk to Lives and Livelihoods

To determine how many households are at risk to their lives or livelihoods²⁹, household food security and the adoption of coping mechanisms were cross-tabulated. These new categories for households at risk require different types of intervention with different timelines.

Table 13: Risk cross tabulation

Food security category	Food secure 87%	Moderately food insecure 12%	Severely food insecure 1%
Coping strategy category:			
Alert 50%	Not at risk	At risk to livelihoods	At risk to lives
Moderate 31%	At risk to livelihoods	At risk to livelihoods	At risk to lives
Severe 19%	At risk to lives	At risk to lives	At risk to lives

²⁹ New WFP terminology. At risk to lives: signifies that the household is food insecure due to poor income, high food expenditure and / or inadequate food consumption compounded by the use of life-threatening coping mechanisms. At risk to livelihood signifies the household has not yet adopted life-threatening coping strategies, but is food insecure.

The total percent of households in the sample who were **at risk to lives** was **20 percent**, while those who **faced a risk to livelihoods** was **36 percent**. **44 percent** were not at risk.

9.1 Who is at risk to lives and livelihoods and where are they?

The households who are **at risk to lives** earn their main income from other sources (borrowing, begging, selling of natural resources, cash assistance scheme), daily labour, small business or fishing. The fishing households were food secure but their adoption of coping strategies classifies them at risk to lives. Interestingly, 47 percent of the households who are at risk to lives had two income sources. The risk was lower for households who had only one (27 percent) or three (25 percent) income sources.

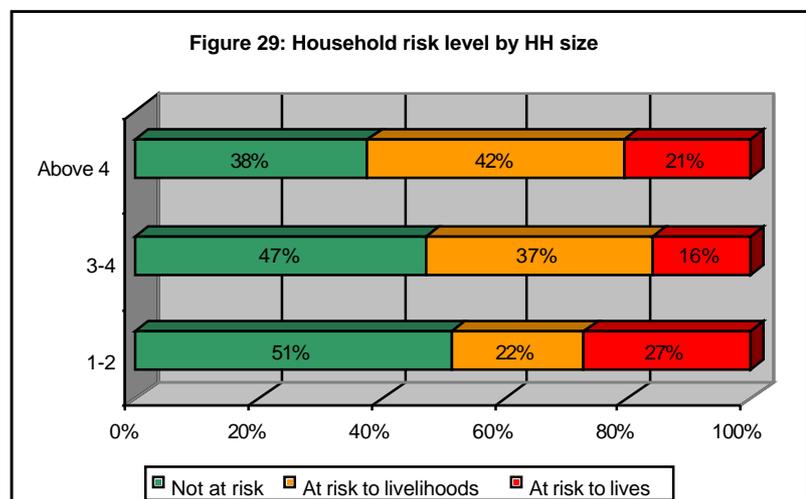
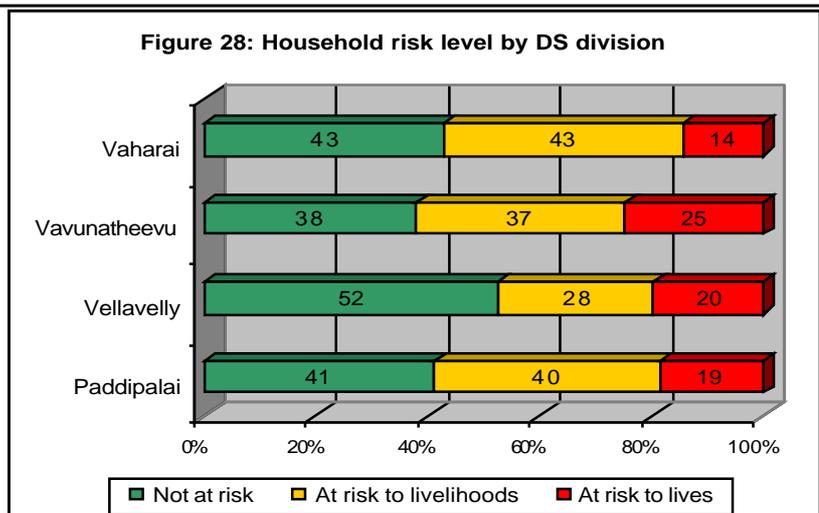
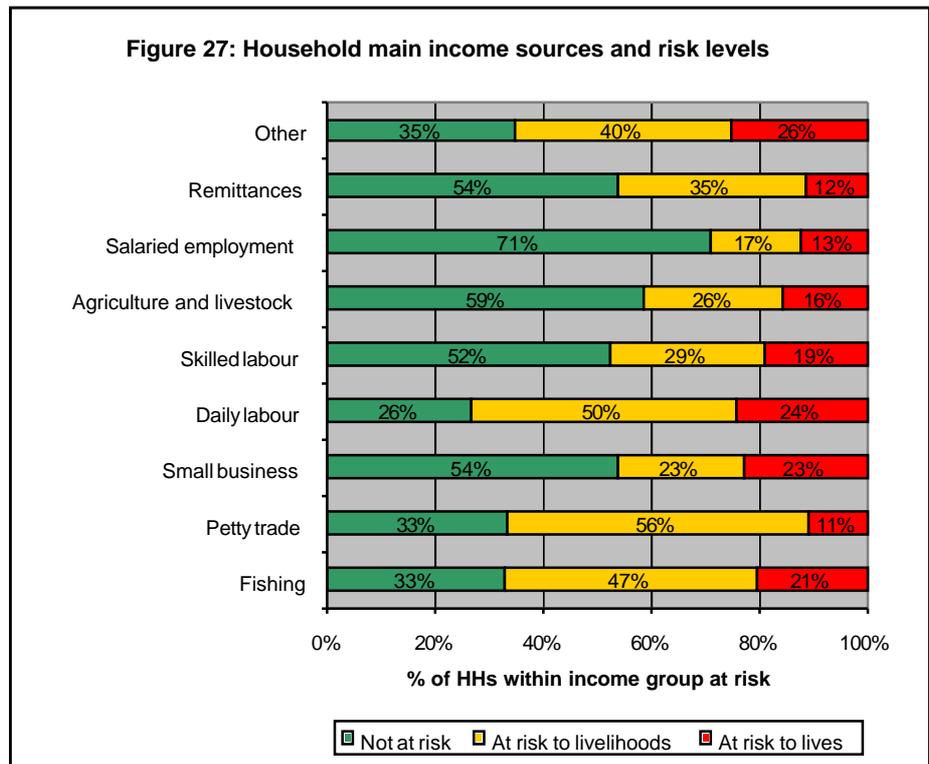
Female-headed households were more at risk to lives than male-headed (26 percent vs 18 percent). A small household (one or two members) was more often at risk to lives than a larger household. There was no difference whether the household had an elderly household member or not.

Households at risk to lives were most frequently located in Vavunatheevu DS (25 percent), followed by Vellavelly and Paddipalai households (Figure 28).

The households who were **at risk to livelihoods** obtain their main income from petty trade, daily labour, fishing or from other sources (borrowing, begging, selling of natural resources, cash assistance scheme).

44 percent of the households at risk to livelihoods had three income sources and the risk reduced when income sources were fewer though as stated above, households with two income sources were then more often at risk to lives.

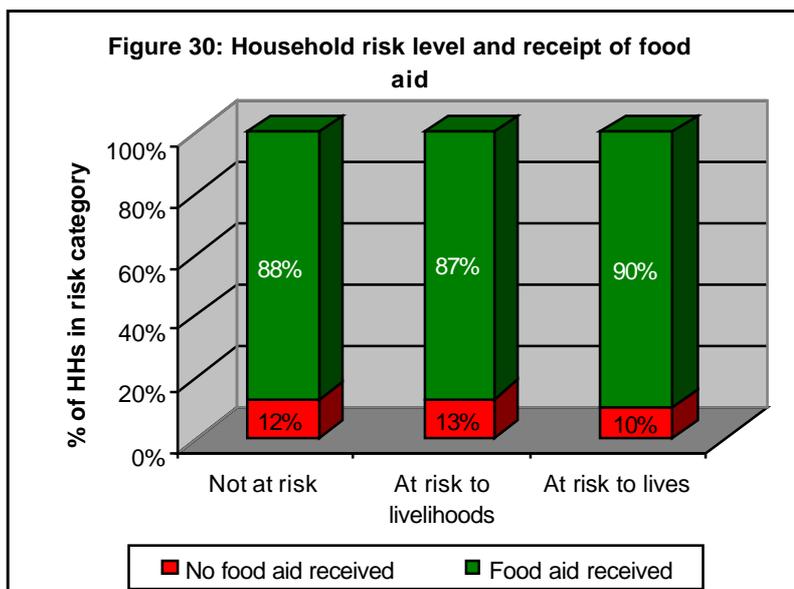
There is no difference in the results between households with different genders of heads of



household, as 37 percent of both household types are at risk to their livelihoods. Interestingly households with more than four members were most at risk to livelihoods (42 percent) but the risk to lives increased when household size reduced.

Food aid had been well received by all households in risk groups (Figure 30). However, 10 percent of households who are at risk to lives had not received assistance although these households are from Vaharai DS and should therefore have received CEF ration.

If food aid and CEF ration assistance should cease by end of January 2008, it is possible that the percentage of households at risk to lives and livelihoods will increase. If food aid is stopped for households that currently receive aid, then the proportion of their income spent on food would have to increase as they would have to purchase from markets the commodities that are now provided for free. This will most likely decrease the level of food security of these households.



10 Transitory and Chronic Food Insecurity

Food insecurity and the associated risks to lives and livelihoods in the Batticaloa resettled areas are a result of both chronic and transitory causes. Chronic causes are understood here as those which have been present for a long time. Transitory factors refer to events that may affect specific areas or population groups within the district and which have come into play for a shorter period of time, most likely compounding the severity of the existing chronic food insecurity.

Table 14: Chronic and transitory factors of food security

Chronic factors contributing to food insecurity	Transitory factors contributing to food insecurity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender of the head of household (female-headed households) • Displacement history including multiple displacement: loss of assets, including livestock • Structural constraints for crop cultivation: difficult access to inputs in some areas (quality seeds, chemical fertilizers, pesticides), fuel, water shortages • Food import and export problems • Structural constraints on income sources: limited employment opportunities • Lack of investment in developing the divisions (infrastructure, roads, water sources, sanitation) • Lack of professional health staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place and duration of displacement • Conflict-related constraints on fishing: restricted fishing locations, days and hours to fish • Conflict-related constraints for crop cultivation: loss of land and agricultural tools, insecurity • Rainfall less than required • Conflict-related lack of access to agricultural land impacting ability to cultivate during planting season • Conflict-related constraints on other income sources: insecurity (remittances, livelihood activities), lack of opportunities for daily labour, competition for reduced labour opportunities • Conflict and elephant damage to houses • Loss of livestock (looting and death during household displacement period) • Border closures, travel insecurity for people (former LTTE controlled areas) • Resettled areas are not fully de-mined • Family members killed, injured, abducted or recruited

11 Caseload

The sample population reflects information on some 20,100 households or 94,000 individuals located in the resettled areas in Batticaloa district. Based on the results, we can extrapolate that **4,020 households are at risk to lives and 7,240 households are at risk to livelihoods.**

We can also impute that 7,440 households do not currently have adequate income to cover their food needs once food aid or cash assistance ceases. While at the time the assessment was undertaken, predictions indicated a good harvest of rice and OFC, the heavy rain during the *maha* harvest period has reduced the yield considerably. This will have an impact on farmers' income generation and they may need further assistance at a later date. **Therefore in reality, the number of households in need of assistance may be higher than that stated in the report.**

12 Scenarios

These scenarios take into account the conflict setting of Batticaloa district which makes it more dependent on economic, market, political and security variables. A time line of one year from the EFSA is considered reasonable to take account of the security situation and upcoming local and provincial elections in March 2008.

Scenario 1 (Cautiously optimistic, less likely): Fast economic recovery with significant impact on poverty reduction and infrastructure rebuilding

Assumptions

- The GoSL and the LTTE will agree on peace.
- Continued improvement in the security situation characterized by minor violence between factions (no significant use of weapons)
- High export of agricultural products and fish to lucrative markets
- High capital and infrastructure investment.

Impact

- High economic growth (more than 5 percent) due to demand and income effects of public investment on traditional rural activities.
- No more IDPs.
- Overall number of households with poor income decreases due to employment creation.
- Reduced humanitarian assistance.
- Continued insecurity but at lower scale.

Scenario 2 (Optimistic, most likely): Slow economic recovery with some impact on poverty reduction

Assumptions

- Political scene remains tense through out the forecast period of 2008 due to local and provincial elections resulting in coalitions at local level.
- Volatile security situation with occasional localized unrest lasting up to two days.
- Current IDPs will remain in camps for an additional six months (until such time as their lands are demined).
- UN and I/NGO access to resettled areas will remain at the same level. However, security incidents hamper daily humanitarian operations.

Impact

- Armed civilian presence in IDP camps and town areas continue with ongoing (but decreasing) abductions, recruitment, harassment, robbing and killing.
- Farmers re-establish their income after the harvest in early 2008.
- Fishing community will have limited access to deep sea fishing grounds and they can export their catch outside the district.
- Daily labor opportunities return to pre-displacement level.
- Overall number of households with poor income remains almost at the same level as pre-displacement.
- Food imports to the district are regular with minor delays to remote areas.

- Continued humanitarian assistance supports those food insecure households in need until they have re-established their livelihoods.

Scenario 3 (Pessimistic, unlikely): Significant deterioration of the conflict situation.

Assumptions

- Peace negotiations fail and the LTTE makes serious efforts to regain control of their former controlled areas in Batticaloa district. Factions such as Karuna cause additional civil unrest.
- Deterioration of the security situation characterized by several weeks of violence (with significant use of weapons).
- Humanitarian access worsens; access impossible to some areas so local populations do not receive any kind of assistance for short time periods.

Impact

- Increased armed civilians presence in IDP camps and town areas with more abductions, recruitment, harassment, robbing and killing incidents.
- Economic downturn (negative GDP growth) in the district due to further damage to infrastructure (buildings, roads and transport),
- Disruption of import / export and markets,
- High inflation offsetting the positive demand effect of increased humanitarian presence.
- Increased IDP numbers (up to 100,000)
- Increased poverty rate
- Insufficient Government response capacity.
- Decreased humanitarian space with access denied to some areas.
- Increased humanitarian assistance required.

In the most likely scenario, no significant reduction is expected in the number of households at risk to lives and at risk to livelihoods in the short term until the security situation allows people to have free access to sea fishing areas and farmers can sell their produce. The number of IDPs is likely to remain stable for the coming months until they have secure access to their homes.

However, updated contingency plans need to be maintained to prepare for the worst case scenario, which could occur if the security situation deteriorates further. In the worst case scenario, the numbers of household at risk to lives and at risk to livelihoods will increase along with the number of IDPs due to loss of assets and income.

13 Response Options

13.1 Summary of the main findings

The findings can be summarized:

- Households who have gone home have returned to their pre-displacement main income source very well. However, their income levels have reduced which could be one explanation why households have taken out loans from banks.
- Ownership of productive assets and livestock has reduced though some households have received livelihood tools as a donation.
- Food insecure households get their main income from begging, borrowing, sale of natural resources, cash assistance schemes or from daily labour. They are more frequently from South West DSs than from Vaharai DS. Also larger households are more likely to be food insecure than smaller ones.
- Petty traders, daily labourers, fishermen, beggars, borrowers, natural resources sellers, cash assistance scheme beneficiaries are most at risk to livelihoods.
- Most households whose income comes from begging, borrowing, sale of natural resources, cash assistance schemes or fishing will face problems when the current assistance ends and they have to cover the equivalent value from their income.
- 74 percent of households do not have an adequate income to meet a healthy food basket if all food items are bought from a market.
- Food availability may be a problem as only 70 percent of paddy land and less OFC land has been cultivated during this *maha* season and rain fall has been less than previous years.
- The prevalence of diarrhoea amongst households was 27 percent.
- More than 60 percent of houses do not have a toilet facility

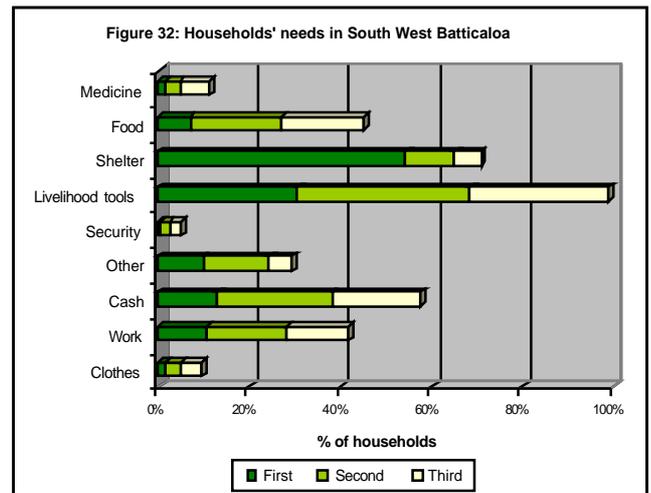
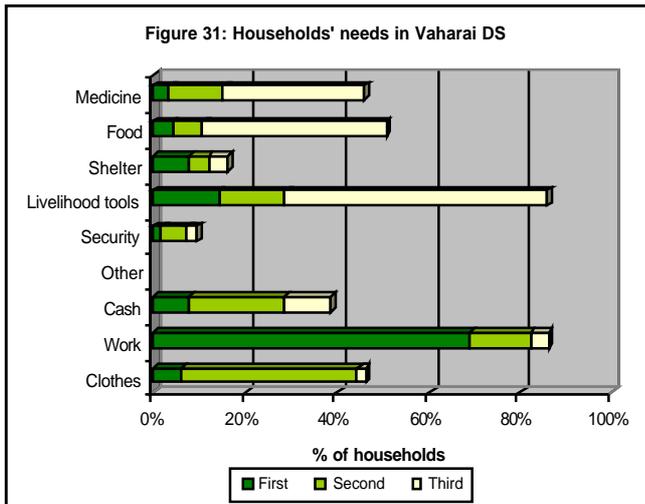
13.2 Response options

The following response option could be considered for this assessment setting:

- As GoSL has various poverty alleviation programmes for poor households, these initiatives should be strengthened by revising the assistance value and deliveries should be regular. They serve as an important safety net for these households.
- Cash/food for work could be an option after January 2008 as it is self-targeted. Possible projects would be for example restoration of irrigation channels or water tanks, construction of toilets, re-building of damaged houses, small infrastructure building, or construction of roads in the rural areas to improve access to markets, schools and health care.
- Nutrition rehabilitation/supplementary feeding programs for children under five and pregnant and lactating women. Child undernutrition is still high and they should therefore receive supplementary or therapeutic food. Women's supplementary feeding is needed due to amount of low birth weight babies.
- In terms of school feeding, school children would benefit from this safety net programme and poor households do not have to worry about one meal for these household members.
- Health education regarding drinking water and overall hygiene may be needed as the prevalence of diarrhoea was high.
- Households reported significant loss of productive assets and livestock. Therefore, it would be important to replace these lost assets.
- Many households have taken loans and there could be interest for low-interest micro credits.
- Possible support for farmers who will have less harvest due to unexpectedly low rain fall.
- Support for fishing households in Vaharai as they will have a serious gap to fill in when CEF assistance cease.

13.3 Households' priorities

Households were asked about what kind of assistance they would need. Work was the first priority in Vaharai while it was shelter in South West DSs. Obviously there is also a need for livelihood tools, food, cash, medicine and clothes (*Figures 31 & 32*).



13.4 Government response capacity

The GoSL has developed a draft plan to assist returned households to which they are committed. However, UN and other humanitarian agencies have remained as significant aid providers and assistance is expected to continue also in the future, though the type of assistance should change as the situation moves from relief to recovery.

The GoSL's *Samurdhi* assistance scheme for poor households has been criticized for its current targeting. Their supplementary feeding programme, *Thriposha*, has a 30 year history but the capacity of the factory to produce sufficient quantities of *Thriposha* is insufficient to meet the national needs. WFP's Development Programme 2008-2012 aims to build the capacity of the factory so it could meet the needs in the future. One weakness for this program is the current ration which only provides some 50 g of *Thriposha* per day (equivalent to only some 2 00 kcal / day) which is not in line with international supplementary food standards.

Deliveries of *Thripasha* to remote areas and / or areas affected by conflict have been irregular, weakening the intended effect of the programme.

13.5 Planned and ongoing assistance

The returned households have received assistance from several sources and these are presented below.

Government assistance:

- The GoSL provided a return assistance package³⁰ (food and non-food items) for returned households to Paddipalai, Vavunathveevu and Vellavelly divisions at the time of main return.
- *Thripasha*, a supplementary feeding programme targets pregnant and lactating women and undernourished children under five in Batticaloa district. Beneficiaries should receive 50 g of *Thripasha* per day and this provides some 200 kcal per day. However, the assistance is not regular and coverage is low.
- The *Samurdhi* programme provides food stamps for poor households in Batticaloa. The food stamp value depends on household size. The programme has been criticised for having irregular distributions, the targeting needs to be revised and the value of food stamp is low especially in the context of the increasing food prices.

Food assistance:

- *GFD* - Working through the GoSL, WFP currently provides return rations giving some 1,900 kcal / person / day for 78,400 people in Paddipalai, Vavunathveevu and Vellavelly divisions. This assistance scheme started in August 2007 and will continue till the end of January 2008. All newly returned households are included in this assistance for six months. The regular salaried government employees are excluded from this assistance scheme.
- *WFP MCHN* programme has blanket coverage for pregnant and lactating women and children under five in the resettled areas in Batticaloa district; 4,300 in Vellavelly, 3,000 in Vaharai, 3,200 in Paddipalai and 3,700 in Vavunathveevu.
- *WFP FFE* programme also has blanket coverage for schools in the resettled areas. A total of 5,000 children in Paddipalai, 5,200 in Vaharai, 5,600 in Vavunathveevu and 7,800 in Vellavelly receive mid-morning meals through this programme. Also 1,350 voluntary cooks receive a FFW ration as part of this programme.
- *WFP FFW/T* programme has a plan to assist some 4,000 households in Batticaloa district in 2008
- *ICRC* has provided a complementary food basket for some 5,000 households located in four GSs in Paddipalai, seven in Vavunathveevu and 10 in Vellavelly from October 2007 until end of January 2008.
- *Help From Germany* has provided complementary food baskets for some 770 households in two GSs in Vavunathveevu from September 2007 until the end of January 2008.
- In addition some NGOs and faith-based organizations have provided additional complementary food for the returned households but distribution has not been regular.
- *BRCS* has provided their CEF ration for 15,700 people in Vaharai division from June 2007 until January 2008.

Nutrition and health programmes:

- UNICEF plans to provide Vitamin A supplement for pregnant and lactating women in the district in 2008.
- High Energy Biscuits have been distributed for children under five years and pregnant and lactating women in the IDP camps and resettled areas.
- UNICEF provides funds to the MoH for mobile health clinics in the district. These mobile clinics cover IDP camps and resettled areas.
- UNICEF has established 12 health centers with plans to establish three more.
- UNICEF has trained MoH and health staff on breastfeeding, nutrition, home gardening etc.
- UNICEF will continue their partnership with the teaching hospital for NRP

Agricultural support:

- *Home gardens*. FAO has distributed seeds and tools to cover some 350 households in Paddipalai (10 GSs), some 500 in Vavunathveevu and 430 in Vellavelly. OFFER plans to support home gardening in Vavunathveevu and Vellavelly DS. IRC plans to support farming households in Vellavelly.
- *Vegetable seeds, fertilizers and tools*. FAO has distributed seeds and tools to cover some 600 households in Vavunathveevu, 450 in Vellavelly.
- *OFC production*. FAO plan to support 500 households in Vavunathveevu.

³⁰ GoSL return packet content found as annex 1

- *Vegetable and OFC production.* FAO plan to support 500 households in Vellavelly.
- *Paddy cultivation.* Oxfam GB supports 800 households in Vavunatheevu. IRC supported poor farmers with paddy seeds for 9 acres in Vellavelly DS. JRS supported households in Paddipalai with paddy seeds and fertilizers.

Other kind of assistance:

- Save the Children has a plan to provide a cash grant to households in Vellavelly to support livelihoods.
- OfFER has a plan to support small business activity in Vavunatheevu and Vellavelly DS. Oxfam GB plans to support small business activity in Vavunatheevu DS. IRC plans to support small business activity in Vellavelly.
- Assets replacement. World Vision: 1,400 households in Paddipalai.
- UNOPS has constructed toilets in Vaharai DS.

14 Recommendations

4,020 Households are currently at risk to lives and will most probably need assistance after 31 January 2007. An additional 7,240 households also need assistance as they are at risk to livelihoods. Some 7,440 households can not cover the value of the assistance they are receiving now from their current income however the majority of these households are included in the groups considered under the at risk to lives or livelihoods categories.

As many households are not at risk, the EFSA team does not recommend blanket coverage food or cash distribution. Food or cash for work are the most suitable programmes as these are self-targeted and will target the vulnerable households best. Suitable projects could be home gardening, water tank rehabilitation, irrigation channel construction / repair / maintenance, road and toilet construction. One possible targeting criteria is to exclude *Samurधि* beneficiaries from food or cash for work schemes if there is no possibility to assist all identified households.

The EFSA team does not recommend a follow-up assessment unless the situation should deteriorate drastically. However, the EFSA team recommends monitoring of the following indicators to understand how resettled households can meet their food security needs: harvest estimates, fishing limitations, daily unskilled labour wages, essential commodities market prices, child undernutrition levels. If these indicators show longer-term devastating change, the situation should be assessed further.

The following programmes are therefore recommended to meet the needs for these households:

- GoSL poverty alleviation programmes should be strengthened by increasing the value to allow households to receive sufficient food commodities, improved targeting and regular deliveries.
- Food or cash for work for 4,020 households who are at risk to lives for initial three months.
- Food or cash for work for 7,240 households who are at risk to livelihoods for initial three months.
- NRP and supplementary feeding programmes for malnourished children under five and pregnant and lactating women should continue as this is a safety net for these vulnerable people.
- Blanket coverage of school feeding is recommended in the return DSs as this will provide one nutritious meal for children and save household food expenditure.
- Toilet construction for the some 14,000 households who do not have a toilet facility.
- Livelihood tool and livestock distribution to the households who have identified this need.

Annex 1: The Sri Lankan Government's Relief Package (per family) for re settled

Food Items

Rice	10 kg
Rice Samba	10 kg
Sugar	2 kg
Tea leaves	500 g
White flour	5 kg
Milk powder	400 g
Dhal	2 kg
Potato	1 kg
Green gram	1 kg
Dry fish	1 kg
Coconut	10 pcs
Salt	1 packet
Big onion	1 kg
Onion	1 kg
Chili powder	500 g
Bottle of coconut	1 pcs
Pappadam	200 g

Kitchen Utensils

Aluminium saucepan (8")	2 pcs
Aluminium pot (1 kg)	1 pcs
Stone strainer	1 pcs
Plates (silver)	3 pcs
Plastic jug (1.5 litres)	1 pcs
Rice spoon (silver)	2 pcs
Tea spoon	2 pcs
Tea cups (silver)	2 pcs
Iron knife	1 pcs

Clothes

Towel	1 pcs
Sarong	1 pcs
Fabric (2.5 m)	1 pcs
T-shirt	1 pcs
Frock	1 pcs
Sanitation bag	1 pcs
Toilet soap	1 pcs
Laundry soap	1 pcs
Shaving razor	1 pcs
Toothbrush	3 pcs
Toothpaste	1 pcs
Panadol	12 tbls
Antiseptic loation	200 ml

Annex 2: EFSA team

EFSA Team – Batticaloa Resettled Households, November 2007		
1	Ms Anna-Leena Rasanen	Supervisor, team leader
2	Mr Daminda Solangaarachchi	Assistant supervisor
3	Mr Robert James	Field team leader, trainer
4	Ms A.Tharishinie	Field team leader, trainer
5	Ms I.Yumuna	Field team leader, trainer
6	Ms G.Thusiyanthinie	Field team leader, trainer
7	Mr K Muralitharan	Field team leader, trainer
8	Mr K Partheepan	Field team leader
9	Mr Perumal Uthayachandran	Enumerator, SW Batticaloa
10	Mr Muthulingam Umakanth	Enumerator, SW Batticaloa
11	Mr Enit Jayanth Ponniah	Enumerator, SW Batticaloa
12	Mr Sithravelautham Sutharsan	Enumerator, SW Batticaloa
13	Mr Thiruchelvam Thananchayan	Enumerator, SW Batticaloa
14	Mr Muthaih Pody Ragunathan	Enumerator, SW Batticaloa
15	Mr Balanathan Sabaskaran	Enumerator, SW Batticaloa
16	Ms Suwathika Thirugnanaselvam	Enumerator, SW Batticaloa
17	Ms Rasanayagam Sumithra	Enumerator, SW Batticaloa
18	Ms Antony Judy Miruthula	Enumerator, SW Batticaloa
19	Ms Tharmalingam Kamalahini	Enumerator, SW Batticaloa
20	Ms Kalaivany Shanmuganathan	Enumerator, SW Batticaloa
21	Ms Nanthini Kanthaiiah	Enumerator, SW Batticaloa
22	Ms Piriyaatharsini Shanmuganathan	Enumerator, SW Batticaloa
23	Ms Hindujaah Yogarajah	Enumerator, SW Batticaloa
24	Ponnaiah Suthaharan	Enumerator, Vaharai DS
25	Kanapathypillai Kantha	Enumerator, Vaharai DS
26	Subramaniam Thasikumar	Enumerator, Vaharai DS
27	Thavapalasingam Geerthyandandan	Enumerator, Vaharai DS
28	Sivakumar Thayalini	Enumerator, Vaharai DS
29	Nimalathasan Vickneswary	Enumerator, Vaharai DS
30	Pusparaj Mehala	Enumerator, Vaharai DS
31	Sinnaiah Vasanthini	Enumerator, Vaharai DS
32	Vairamuthu Ramesh	Enumerator, Vaharai DS
33	Ramamoorthy Sulosanathevi	Enumerator, Vaharai DS
34	Sivapirahasam Sivayogam	Enumerator, Vaharai DS
35	Selvaretnem Kalaichelvi	Enumerator, Vaharai DS
36	Mr Navaratnarajah Kamalathasan	Data Entry Clerk
37	Mr Alagiah Nishanthan	Data Entry Clerk
38	Mr Sarangapany Sivagnanam	Data Entry Clerk
39	Ms Thadshayini Nadarajah	Data Entry Clerk

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Annex 3: Assessment questionnaire (6 pages)

Food Security Assessment in Resettled Areas of Batticaloa – November 2007

Interview administered questionnaire

Date (dd/mm/yy)	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	Team	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
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Household demographics

1	District code	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	2	DS Division code	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
3	GN Division code	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	4	Village code	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
5	Household no		8	Household details in numbers	
6	Return date (dd/mm/yy)			Age	males
7	Household type 1=returnee SW Batti 2=returnee Vaharai	<input type="text"/>		0-59 months	
9	Sex of household head 1=male 2=female	<input type="text"/>		5-17 years	
				18-59 years	
				60+ years	
				Total	

Health Status

10	Did any family member have diarrhoea during the last 2 weeks? (circle all that apply)	1=yes, children under 5 years 2=yes, person over 5 years 3=no
11	Did any family member have fever and cough (ARI) during the last 2 weeks? (circle all that apply)	1=yes, children under 5 years 2=yes, person over 5 years 3=no

Assets

12	What assets did you own before displacement and what do you own now? (circle)			
	Item	Before displacement 1 = Yes 2 = No	Now 1 = Yes 2 = No	Received through cash or in kind from UN/NGO/Govt
	Jewellery	1=yes 2=no	1=yes 2=no	1=yes 2=no
	Equipments/tools for livelihood activity (axe, hoe...)	1=yes 2=no	1=yes 2=no	1=yes 2=no
	Fishing nets	1=yes 2=no	1=yes 2=no	1=yes 2=no
	Fishing boat, specify (1=multi day 2=one day 3=FRP 4=traditional craft 5= beach seine craft)	1=yes 2=no	1=yes 2=no	1=yes 2=no
	Boat engine, specify (1=in board 2=out board)	1=yes 2=no	1=yes 2=no	1=yes 2=no
	Bicycle	1=yes 2=no	1=yes 2=no	1=yes 2=no
	Bullock carts	1=yes 2=no	1=yes 2=no	1=yes 2=no
	Motorbike	1=yes 2=no	1=yes 2=no	1=yes 2=no
	3 wheeler	1=yes 2=no	1=yes 2=no	1=yes 2=no
	Tractor/land master	1=yes 2=no	1=yes 2=no	1=yes 2=no
	Vehicle, specify ()	1=yes 2=no	1=yes 2=no	1=yes 2=no

Car (1), van (2), jeep (3), small lorries (4), large lorries (5), trailer (6), other (7)

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Livestock

13	Does your family own any livestock? (circle)	1=yes 2=not now but used to own 3=no (if no, go to 16)		
14	If your family owns livestock, please fill in the table below with the number and livestock species owned. Also, have you received any livestock through cash or in kind from UN/NGO/Govt when you returned home?			
	Livestock species 1=cattle 2=goats 3=poultry 4=buffalo 5=pig 6=other	Actual number now	Number before displacement	Number received through cash or in kind from UN/NGO/Govt
	A			
	B			
	C			
	D			

15	Is there a veterinarian available or visiting the community areas where you live to treat animals? (circle)	1=yes 2=no
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Agriculture

16	Do you have home garden? (circle)	1=yes 2=no	
17	Do you cultivate crops? (circle)	1=yes, land owner 2=yes, rent land 3=no (if no, go to 26)	
18	Can you access your land? (circle)	1=yes 2=no	
19	How many Acres Paddy, Other Food Crop (OFC) you own/rent?	Paddy _____ Acres	O.F.C. _____ Acres
20	How much paddy land have you planted this season?	_____ Acres	
21	How much OFC land have you planted this season?	_____ Acres	
22	Which OFC crops and vegetables have you planted this season? (tick all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> ground nut <input type="checkbox"/> maize <input type="checkbox"/> green gram <input type="checkbox"/> cow pea <input type="checkbox"/> chillie <input type="checkbox"/> okra <input type="checkbox"/> aubergine <input type="checkbox"/> bitter gourd <input type="checkbox"/> long bean <input type="checkbox"/> leafy vegetables <input type="checkbox"/> other vegetables	
23	Did you use fertilizers this season? (circle)	1=yes 2=partly 3=no	
24	What kind of fertilizers did you use this season? (circle all that apply)	1 = cow dung 2 = urea 3 = MOP (Muriate of Potash) 4 = TSP 5 = DAP 6 = compost 7 = other	
25	If did not use fertilizers, why not? (circle)	1= not available 2= too expensive 3= other, explain	

Fishing – to be asked from fishermen

26	Are you involved in fishing activities?	1=yes 2=no (if no, go to 30)
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Emergency Food Security Assessment in Batticaloa, Sri Lanka

27	What kind of fishing activities are you involved? (circle)	Boat owner	1=yes 2=no
		Crew member	1=yes 2=no
		Fish vendor	1=yes 2=no
		Net mending	1=yes 2=no
		Boat repair	1=yes 2=no
		Engine repair	1=yes 2=no
		Fish processing	1=yes 2=no
		Sale of fishing gear/accessories	1=yes 2=no
		Chank/beche de mer collector	1=yes 2=no
		Ornamental fish collector	1=yes 2=no
		Other	1=yes 2=no
28	Past month (30 days), how many days did you go fishing?	Days	
29	Is this normal to the season? (circle)	1=yes	2=no, less
Utilization - cooking			
30	What is the level of availability for your cooking fuel compared to situation before displacement? (circle)	1=less 2=same as then 3=not applicable 4=more	
31	Has availability of cooking fuel changed after return home? (circle all that apply)	1=yes, due to lack of money 3=yes, due to transport problems 5=yes, other	2=yes, due to security 4=yes, due to scarcity 6=no
Food consumption			
32	How many times per day do the hh members eat meals and snacks? Is there a difference to situation before displacement?		
	Age Group	No of meals	No of snacks
	Difference to situation before displacement (possible multi choice) 1=less meals 2=less snacks 3=more meals 4=more snacks 5=no change		
	Children under 5 years		
	Children 5-17 years		
Adults 18-59 years			
Elderly 60+			
33	Could you please tell me how many days in the past week your household has eaten the following foods and what the source was (use codes on the right, write 0 for items not eaten over the last 7 days and if several sources, write all)		
	Food Item	# of days eaten last 7 days	Food Source (write all) MAIN source secondary source
Food Source codes			

Emergency Food Security Assessment in Batticaloa, Sri Lanka

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37	In the past month and before displacement, what have been the main sources of cash income for your family? 1=primary source of income, 2=secondary, 3=third source etc NOTE-ONLY ONE PRIMARY, SECONDARY, THIRD ETC SOURCE.	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Activities</th> <th>Last month</th> <th>Before displacement</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>Fishing</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Petty Trade</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Small business</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Contract/wage labour</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Agricultural tenant</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Skilled work</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Salary from employer</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Sale of Agricultural products</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Livestock activities</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Firewood cutting / sales</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Broom making/other crafts</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Sale of natural resources (wild food, honey etc)</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Remittances</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Begging</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Borrowing, BY WHOM _____</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Cash relief programme</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Other</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>			Activities	Last month	Before displacement	Fishing			Petty Trade			Small business			Contract/wage labour			Agricultural tenant			Skilled work			Salary from employer			Sale of Agricultural products			Livestock activities			Firewood cutting / sales			Broom making/other crafts			Sale of natural resources (wild food, honey etc)			Remittances			Begging			Borrowing, BY WHOM _____			Cash relief programme			Other		
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38	If you do not earn the same way as you did before displacement, why not? (circle all that apply)	1=no permit 2=lost my assets (tools, nets, animals, inputs...) 3=cannot access agricultural land																																																								

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		4=cannot access sea/lagoon 5=cannot access other type of work place 6=other, specify
39	How many days per week do you work? (<i>main income source</i>)	
40	What is your HH monthly income from work?	Rs.
41	Do you receive the CEF grant (BRCS)?	1=yes 2=no If no, go to question 44
42	What is your total monthly income from CEF grant (BRCS)?	Rs.
43	On what do you spend the grant?	1=food 2=transport 3=health 4=clothing 5=fuel 6=other
44	Has your income changed compared to situation before displacement? (circle)	1=increased 2=same as before 3=less 4=much less 5=N/A
Access to Food and Water		
45	Did you receive food aid provided by the government/UN/NGO during the last 4 weeks? (circle)	1=yes 2=no If no, go to question 49
46	If you have received food aid, what kind of food aid and what programmes? (circle all that apply)	1=Returnee general ration 2=Samurdhi ration 3=School feeding 4=Supplementary feeding (MCN, Triposha) 5=Biscuits 6=food for work/training 7=NGO/Community basic food aid 8=complementary food
47	What did you do with the food? (circle all that apply)	1=ate it 2=sold/bartered part of it 3=sold/bartered it all 4=shared with others 5=other
48	If you sold any food, why did you sell it? (circle all that apply)	1=repay debt 2=to buy medicine 3=to buy clothes 4=to buy milk powder/formula to children 5=to buy other food items 6=other
49	What is the CURRENT main source of drinking water for your household? (circle only one option)	1=piped into dwelling, yard or plot 2=public tap/neighbouring house 3=tube well/borehole with pump 4=protected dug well 5=rain water 6=unprotected well 7=pond, river or stream 8=bowser

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50	What kind of toilet facility does your household use? (circle only one)	9=other 1=Water seal latrine 2=Traditional pit latrine 3=Open pit 4=None / bush / open space 5=Other (specify)
Coping mechanisms		
51	Before displacement, were there times when you did not have enough food, or money to purchase food? (circle)	1=yes 2=no
52	After return home, were there times when you did not have enough food, or money to purchase food? (circle)	1=yes 2=no If no, go to question 53

If YES, HOW OFTEN has your household had to:

Responses	1= daily, 2= pretty often (3-6 days/week) 3= once in a while (1-2 times/wk) 4= Never
Rely on less preferred, less expensive foods (<i>Sago, wild plants/fruits, wild animals</i>)	
Borrowed food, helped by relatives	
Purchased food on credit	
Consumed seed stock held for next season	
Reduced the meal sizes	
Skipped days without eating	
Restrict consumption for adults so children have enough	
Sent children to live with relatives	
Reduced expenditures on health and education	

NON-FOOD coping strategies

Sold HH articles (utensils, blankets)	
Sold jewellery	
Sold agricultural tools, seeds...	
Sold other assets (vehicles, carts, bicycles etc)	
Using savings	
Borrowing money from relatives/neighbours	
Did your household...	1=yes 2=no
Take credit from bank or money lender	
Receive cash assistance from Government	
Receive cash assistance from other donors ((I)NGOs, ...)	

Needs

53	What would be your household's most urgent needs when you will reach 6 months (Batti West)/9 months (Vaharai) living at home? (select 3 most urgent needs, write most urgent first, then second and third) 1=shelter 2=food 3=medicine 4=clothes 5=work 6=cash/credit 7=security 8=livelihood equipment replenishment 9=other			
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Annex 4: Calculation of household food access

Asset classification was calculated by giving scores for the assets households currently own.

1 score	2 scores	3 scores
Poultry	engine	boat
livelihood tools	bullock carts	motorbike
nets	pigs	vehicle
	cattle 1-9 pieces	3 wheeler
	buffalo 1-9 pieces	Tractor
	Goats 1-9 pieces	cattle >10 pieces
		buffalo >10 pieces
		Goats >10 pieces

The scores for each household were added up and the EFSA team decided the following cut-off scores (ownership was very little and cut-offs are related to this fact):

- Poor asset score ≤ 1
- Average asset score 2-3
- Good asset score ≥ 4

Income sources were grouped into three categories based on sustainability and level of income generation:

- **Poor income source**: other (selling of food aid, pawning of jewelry etc), begging, borrowing, cash relief programmes, sale of firewood and other natural products, broom making, contract/daily labour (since it is unreliable and based on demand);
- **Average income source**: remittances (since they can be irregular), small business, petty trade;
- **Good income source**: fishing, sale of agricultural products, agricultural tenant, salaried employment, skilled labour;

Annex 5: Calculation of the simple diet score

Food group	Food times
staple foods (starches)	rice (A) bread / chapti /roti (B)
pulses/legumes	pulses (C)
vegetables	vegetables (including leaves) (J)
fruits	fruits (K)
animal protein	fish (D) meat (beef, pork, chicken) (E) eggs (F)
sugar	sugar/jaggary (M)
dairy products	curd (G) milk (liquid or powder) (I)
oil/fats	palm oil, vegetable oil, fats (H) coconut products (dried copra) (L)

1. The food items are grouped into 8 food groups. The number of days food items were eaten in the past week is summed for the food items in each of the 8 food groups.
2. If the total sum of the number of days of the separate items in a food group is larger than 7 days, the sum is converted to 7. Thus, the maximum score in each food group is 7 days.
3. The food score of each household is calculated as follows:
Simple food score = 2 * staple + 3 * pulses + 1 * vegetables + 1* fruit + 4 * animal protein + 0.5 * sugar + 3 * dairy + 0.5 * oil
4. The households are now grouped according to their scores by applying the standard cut-offs:

Poor food consumption:	simple food score is 0 – 21
Borderline food consumption:	simple food score is 21.01 – 35
Adequate food consumption:	simple food score is 35.01 and higher

Example:

Rice consumed 7 days / week, dhal 3 days / week, vegetables 4 / week, fruits 1/week, sugar 7 days / week, oil 5 days/week.

$$\text{Score} = 2*7 + 3*3 + 1*4 + 1*1 + 0.5*7 + 0.5*5 = 34$$

Food score is 34 and it means borderline food consumption