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Global Update
Food Security Monitoring

January - June 2010 • Issue no. 3

The Global Update provides food security information on trends in food access and utilization. Key food access indicators reported are food consumption, coping strategies and terms of trade. These indicators are proximate to food security status and so enable early identification of potential increases in food insecurity.

This update provides information on 34 countries for the period January to June 2010.

Three categories are used to classify the food security trend: **Improved**, **No Change** and **Deteriorated**. A summary of the food security situation is presented below:

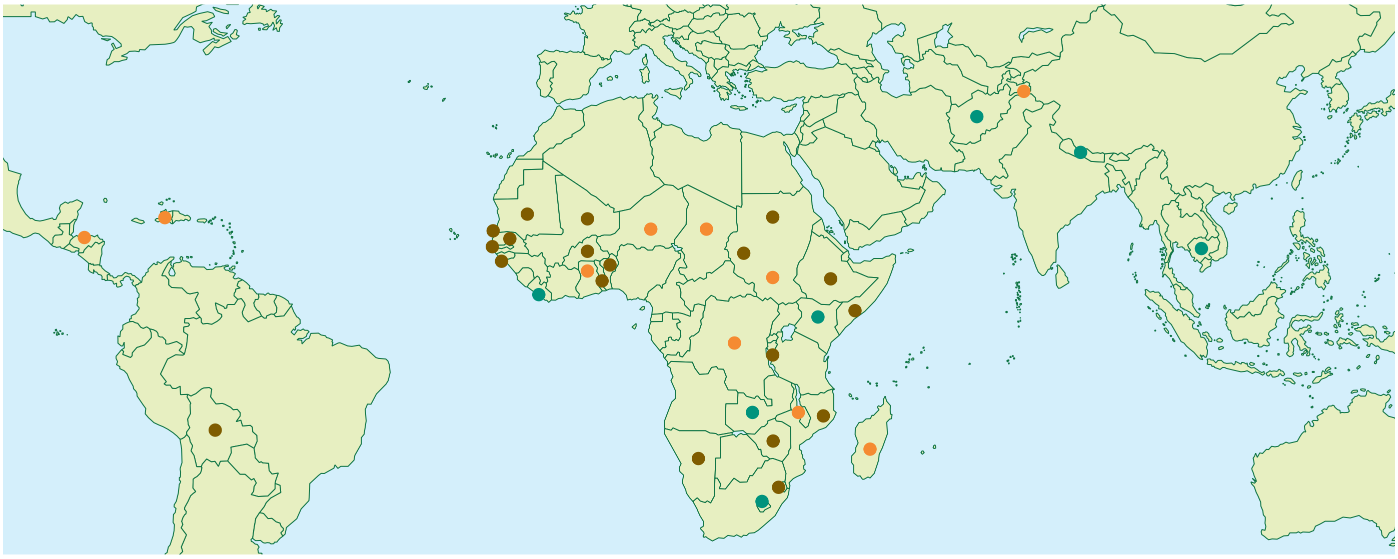
Improved:
Afghanistan, Cambodia, The Gambia, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia and Zambia.

No Change:
Benin, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Ethiopia, Guinea Conakry, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan (Darfur), Northern Sudan, Swaziland, Togo and Zimbabwe.

Deteriorated:
Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana (Northern Region), Haiti, Honduras, Madagascar, Malawi, Niger, Southern Sudan and Tajikistan.

See attached Table for more detailed analysis by country and food security indicator.

34 countries covered by the Global Update



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The Spanish Government provides financial support for the strengthening of WFP's Food Security Monitoring Systems. The support also covers the preparation of the Global Update.

Table: Food security trends in selected countries • January - June 2010

The table presents information on the countries where WFP participates in a Food Security Monitoring System • Based on reports dated January to June 2010

TRENDS OF THE FOOD SECURITY SITUATION OVER THE LAST SIX MONTHS:

Improved: Afghanistan, Cambodia, The Gambia, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Zambia

No Change: Benin, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Ethiopia, Guinea Conakry, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan (Darfur), Northern Sudan, Swaziland, Togo, Zimbabwe

Deteriorated: Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana (Northern Region), Haiti, Honduras, Madagascar, Malawi, Niger, Southern Sudan, Tajikistan

Countries (A)		Food Consumption (B)	Prices (C)	Purchasing Power (D)	Malnutrition (E)	Coping Strategies (F)	Rainfall & Production (G)	Food security trend over the last six months (H)	
East and Southern Africa	BURUNDI	The proportion of households consuming at least two meals a day in April 2009 decreased from **71%** to **59%**, indicating a deteriorating food security situation. Households can barely afford **70%** of basic food needs because of food prices are consistently higher than in previous years.	At the national level the price of beans fell by **10%**, that of sweet potatoes by **16%** and that of maize by **31%** between April and June compared with the previous quarter. Because food prices remain higher than in the last five years – the price of beans was **37%** higher, sweet potatoes **58%** and maize **20%** – there may be an impact on access to food by poorer households.	A food deficit of more than **30%** combined with the country's low capacity for food imports has limited the flow of food to markets and resulted in improved terms of trade for local farmers, as shown in the June 2010 crop and food security assessment mission (CFSAM). In June 2010 the daily wage terms of trade against staple foods were 2.1 for beans (2.4 in June 2009), 2.5 for cassava flour (2.4) and 5.7 for sweet potatoes (5). Households that rely on labour to meet their food needs are the most vulnerable.	Admissions to nutritional centres have been stable, with a slight declining trend in June 2010 because food was available from the last harvest. Malnutrition rates are high in the following provinces: > **60%** in Ruyigi, Muyinga, Kirundo, Cankuzo, Rutana and Cibitoke, and > **50%** in Makamba and Bubanza.	Households are utilizing coping strategies less frequently than at the same time last year, as reflected in a **27%** decline in the coping strategies index (CSI).	The first bean harvest indicated a good 2010B season. Crops planted for the main season benefited from heavy rains in February; a good harvest was expected in July for sorghum, rice and wheat. These harvests should increase market availability and reduce food prices further. After the main crop season in June and July, a second harvest of beans and maize is expected. The latest coffee harvest – one of the best for ten years – has provided a positive benefit for better-off households.	The food security situation remains unchanged. There have been positive changes in that food prices and admissions to nutritional centres have decreased, even though household food consumption is still low. The next harvest of major crops is likely to improve the food security situation in the coming months.	No Change
	DRC	The percentages of beneficiary households with poor food consumption fell by **47%** in Eastern DRC and by **30%** in North and South Kivu between July 2008 and January 2010. In Western DRC, **11%** of surveyed households had poor food consumption; the highest rate was **21%** in Kasongo Lunda in Bandundu province. Among IDPs in north-western Equateur province the figure was **73%.**	The price of cassava products (cassava is the main staple food) fell by **15%** and the price of maize increased by **6%** between April and June compared with the previous quarter. The prices of cassava and maize were still **26%** higher than last year. According to a survey in February 2010, the average price for all markets and food products covered was **46%** higher than 12 months earlier; the highest variations were found in Likasi, Gbadolite, Lumumbashi, Mbuji mayi and Bandundu.	The amount of food that can be purchased with a unit of currency has deteriorated as a result of high food prices coupled with the depreciation of the Congolese franc. A side-effect of the currency depreciation was an increase in the prices of many imported foods. A third of the national cereal supply is imported.	Eight of the 90 territories surveyed in the southern, central and northern parts of the country had a global acute malnutrition (GAM) rate of **15%**, indicating an emergency situation.	In Katanga, in southern DRC, households resorted less frequently to high-risk coping strategies. In North Kivu region the coping strategy index (CSI) for January was 27 among non-beneficiaries and 20 among beneficiaries, which meant that the former used more severe coping strategies. In January, CSI was 21 for IDPs in camps and 24 for returnees – both higher than the CSI for IDPs in host families and host populations.	In central and extreme southern areas, the secondary season crops of maize, cassava and rice benefited from above-average rains; good harvests are expected this year. In June, millet and sorghum were at the sowing stage; harvesting is expected in October and November.	Despite good weather and lower cassava prices, the food security situation has deteriorated in many areas because of the high price of imported food, low levels of household food consumption and increased malnutrition associated with new violence in North Kivu. The IPC analysis in March–May showed that 1.3 million households faced a food and livelihood crisis, particularly in western DRC.	Deteriorated

See Annex for detailed information on the indicators.

Main staple: Maize Millet Rice Sorghum Wheat

Countries (A)		Food Consumption (B)	Prices (C)	Purchasing Power (D)	Malnutrition (E)	Coping Strategies (F)	Rainfall & Production (G)	Food security trend over the last six months (H)
East and Southern Africa	ETHIOPIA	Improved availability and consumption of sweet potatoes and other root crops has significantly improved food security in the Southern Nations Nationalities and People's Region (SNNPR).	Cereal prices have declined from their record levels but are still above the pre-crisis levels of 2007. Between April and June the prices of maize and sorghum were **6%** less than the previous quarter. Compared with the five-year average, maize and sorghum prices have increased by more than **100%.** Compared with the year average, however, these prices have declined by more than **10%.**	Terms of trade between sheep and goats and cereals have generally improved, in some areas by as much as **15%**. Terms of trade between wages and cereals have improved for day labourers as a result of stable or, at most, slight increases in wages coupled with lower cereal prices.	An increase in the prevalence of acute malnutrition occurred during April–June in Lasta, Bugna and Habru *woredas* (administrative districts) in North Wello zone and in East Belessa in North Gondar zone.	In the southern Somali region, most people were dependent on relief food assistance to cope with deterioration in their livelihoods following poor seasonal rains in the last few years. Currently, the food security situation in the region is stable as a result of ongoing humanitarian interventions and improvements in water and pasture availability, livestock conditions and milk production.	Planting of *belg* (short rains in March and April) crops was successful; yields were expected to be good in most production areas. Early prospects for the current *keremt* (long rains in June-September) for the main agricultural season (known as *meher*) are good: planting of the 2010 crops was almost complete in most areas producing barley, wheat and *teff* (a major cereal in Ethiopia). Sorghum was at the growing stage, and will be harvested in November-December. Animal conditions and milk production have significantly improved with the good rains since the beginning of the year.	Lower market prices combined with favourable *belg* production prospects, improved livestock conditions and the impacts of humanitarian assistance programmes are helping to stabilize the food security situation. But food security in *meher* production areas is expected to be tighter during the lean season until the main harvest begins in October–November.
	KENYA	An increase in milk consumption has helped to improve nutritional status among pastoralists: households are now accessing one or two litres of milk per day. This is still significantly below the normal three to five litres, but it is a **20%** increase since the last drought in 2009.	The increased supply of maize in markets resulting from high levels of production in 2009 and to the lifting of the export ban in Tanzania also contributed to a steady reduction in prevailing prices: maize prices were **33%** lower than 12 months ago, declining by **19%** between April and June compared with the previous quarter. Farmers who lost their crops because of aflatoxin in south-eastern marginal agricultural areas, however, were constrained with low producer prices for the good crop.	Livestock conditions have improved and milk yields have increased, resulting in increased purchasing power among pastoralists, supported by improvement in the terms of trade for livestock.	The risk of child malnutrition in south-eastern areas has declined by **10%** to **50%** except in Kilifi and Kwale districts, where it has increased to between **18%** and **35%** above average.	Livestock have benefited from good nearby pasture, indicating significant improvements in environmental conditions and water access.	Rainfall was abundant and well distributed in the three months up to June; forecasts indicated good rains to the end of July. Planting of 2010 long-rains maize was complete; the planted areas were estimated to be above the average of 1.8 million ha. Prospects for the 2010 maize crop are favourable; harvesting is expected to start at the end of September. Sorghum and beans were growing in June; the harvest is expected to start in August–September.	The food security situation has improved. The fall in the price of staple foods is improving the situation of low-income households that depend mainly on markets for food access. Food consumption has improved, especially among pastoral groups and farmers in marginal agricultural lowlands. The number of people estimated to be moderately to significantly food-insecure has declined by **58%** from last year.

Main staple: *Maize* *Millet* *Rice* *Sorghum* *Wheat*

	Countries (A)	Food Consumption (B)	Prices (C)	Purchasing Power (D)	Malnutrition (E)	Coping Strategies (F)	Rainfall & Production (G)	Food security trend over the last six months (H)
East and Southern Africa	LESOTHO	Findings from March show that the northern lowland and foothill areas had the lowest proportion of households with poor consumption – **1%** – whereas the figure for the southern lowlands was **11%**, followed by mountain areas and peri-urban areas at **4%** each.	Maize prices declined by **20%** between April and June. Other cereal prices have been stable in the last six months in line with those in the South African market, which supplies the bulk of imported maize and wheat. A decrease of **7%** in rural shop prices and **4%** in urban shop prices from last May 2009 was recorded.	Despite the lower price of maize, the purchasing power of a large number of households has deteriorated as a result of insufficient labour opportunities. In January the unemployment rate was at its highest since 2005, exacerbated by the closure of a large textile and clothing firm.	A recent household study indicated that households were not eating a balanced diet – **75%** of calories consumed by the average household come from carbohydrates – so a high risk of malnutrition remains.	A significant 22,551 vulnerable farming households rely on inputs from humanitarian organizations and government subsidies amounting to between **30%** and **50%** of income to cope with food insecurity.	The last rainy season was favourable for maize and sorghum cultivation. Maize production in 2010 increased by **16%** compared with 2009. Planting of wheat started in May and June.	The food security situation has improved mainly as a result of stable food prices and increased crop production in rural areas. But there are still 450,000 people in need of food, many of whom are jobless and assisted by government subsidies.
East and Southern Africa	MADAGASCAR	Household food consumption has improved in some targeted communities in the south, where the percentage of households with poor food consumption had decreased from **48%** to **28%** by March 2010 compared with November 2009. Only **49%** of the households had "acceptable" consumption, however. The sampled households had access to a more diversified diet including cereals and peas through food assistance.	In southern districts, the price of local white rice fell by **14%** between March 2009 and March 2010; the price of maize decreased by **11%**. A similar trend was observed for cassava prices; livestock prices were rising slightly. Elsewhere, prices remained stable. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) expects an inflation rate of **9.6%**; last year inflation was **9.5%**. In the flooded Southeast zone, prices fell in late April and stabilized before the floods.	Producers are vulnerable to volatile prices, particularly farmers whose purchasing power has fallen drastically in recent months.	In April 2010, there was no significant deterioration in the nutritional status of infants aged 6–59 months compared with November 2009. Nevertheless, crop failure means that the situation remains fragile. Monitoring is needed in view of the high levels of acute malnutrition – **15%** – and chronic malnutrition – **53%**.	Over the past few months unemployed and underemployed workers have been converting to informal trading in towns to cope with the critical economic conditions. Farmers are rapidly selling their products to pay debts owed to micro-finance groups because prices are volatile. Negative coping strategies such as de-capitalization and consumption of seeds will have a negative impact on livelihoods. After consecutive dry years, traditional raketa (wild food) was hard to find.	Plant pests and insufficient and erratic rainfall affected the main crops: **85%** of the maize crop was lost in the last harvest. Production deficits were serious in the south: in many areas they were worse this year than in normal years in terms of crop failure and the length of the lean season. For the next season of long-cycle crops, **88%** of households expect a worse crop than last year, **6%** the same crop and **5%** a better crop. In south-eastern districts, crops were damaged by floods: significantly, **70%** of the rice crop was lost. In June 2010 wheat was growing, with harvest expected in November.	The food security situation is critical as a result of economic decline, political instability and recurrent drought. The number of municipalities experiencing severe food insecurity in the south has increased to 65. A food security response is urgently needed in the coming months; 866,000 Malagasy needed assistance in June 2010.
East and Southern Africa	MALAWI	Maize consumption was declining in southern areas because of the depletion of household stocks from the poor 2009 season. In northern and southern areas consumption was reported to be increasing.	In February 2010, expectations of a poor maize crop **20%** below the 2009 record led to a moderate price increase, particularly in the south. This probably reflected the continued availability of supplies from last year's surplus.	In the south, terms of trade for labourers were falling; they were expected to decline further as a result of the increasing number of poor households seeking work and reduced demand for casual agricultural labour following poor cereal and cotton harvests.	Malnutrition remains fairly low: wasting is **2.6%** in the north and **3.6%** in the south. This indicates that households in the southern region were more affected by long dry spells and poor maize production.	Households in the south, which normally consume their own produce, currently rely on food assistance and income from weaving, fishing and livestock sales. This situation is expected to continue from May 2010 to March 2011 as a result of very poor harvests or no harvests at all. More households in the south of the country are being forced to migrate to towns to seek employment.	Heavy rains resumed at the end of January but were too late for many standing crops in southern and central regions, where the maize crop had wilted and yields had fallen. A **20%** fall in cereal production compared with last year is anticipated, but this is still **6%** above the average for the previous five years. The sorghum harvest was expected to start in June, the wheat harvest in July.	The food security situation has deteriorated. In the south food prices have risen and household incomes from cotton sales and employment have declined. Households that traditionally rely on their own production now rely on food aid and have adopted adverse coping strategies such as livestock sales. The food-insecure population is estimated to be 275,000 people.

Main staple: *Maize* *Millet* *Rice* *Sorghum* *Wheat*

Countries (A)		Food Consumption (B)	Prices (C)	Purchasing Power (D)	Malnutrition (E)	Coping Strategies (F)	Rainfall & Production (G)	Food security trend over the last six months (H)
East and Southern Africa	**MOZAMBIQUE**	Households in the north have improved their food consumption as a result of a surplus of maize and better access to markets. Prices are **50%** below the levels in the south.	The retail price of maize declined by **2%** a month from March 2009 and also declined by **4%** in the last quarter. This reflected a production surplus and market availability. In the south, maize prices were double those in the north because of fuel prices; this had negative effects on households that depend mainly on purchases.	Prices for domestic animals remain stable; prices for cereals are particularly high in the south. Terms of trade between domestic animals and cereals are unfavourable for farmers, and households continue to sell more animals as a result of crop failure.	As a consequence of contamination of water for human and animal consumption, 213 cases of cholera have been reported. This may impact the nutritional status of children.	Some consumption of wild plants and roots as a coping strategy was observed in Inhambane in Central Province.	Poor rainfall in central and southern areas affected production; in the north, however, rains were generally normal and there were good maize harvests. In the seven affected provinces, **32%** of the area planted with maize, sorghum, millet and rice was lost – **13%** of the cereals planted in Mozambique for the 2009/10 cropping season. In June 2010, wheat was growing; the harvest will start in October.	The food security situation remains unchanged as a result of last year's record cereal production, which replenished the stocks and offset the impacts of rising food prices. If the expected fall in 2010 crop production occurs, the number of food-insecure people requiring assistance might increase during the year.
East and Southern Africa	**NAMIBIA**	In an effort to improve food access, the Government removed VAT from basic foods such as fresh and dried beans, sunflower cooking oil, lard, bread, flour, sugar and fresh milk.	The national consumer price index (CPI) for bread and cereal prices decreased marginally to 191.5 between April and May (December 2001 = 100), but was **3.3%** higher than a year previously. Improved availability and lower prices of inputs benefited farmers, with a government input scheme providing a 50% subsidy for the purchase of seed and fertilizers for 3 ha of land per farmer.	Pastures and livestock conditions in most regions were better than last year, resulting in improved terms of trade for pastoralists.	In spite of an overall increase in grain production this year, access to food in the northern region – where there malnutrition among children is **77%** – was still limited.	Households in the northern region, which suffered floods recently, are coping by relying on food aid and other intervention assistance.	Despite late and erratic rainfall during the 2009/10 agricultural season, cereal production was estimated at 135,000 mt – a **22%** increase over last season's output but slightly below the average production of the previous five seasons. Millet production increased significantly relative to the low level harvested last year, but white maize production was estimated to have declined. Wheat was planted in May and June.	The food security situation remains unchanged. Populations affected by floods in the northern regions of Caprivi, Kavango and Oshana are assisted with government food aid and other support. The rest of the country is benefiting from an improved national grain harvest and better pasture and livestock conditions.
East and Southern Africa	**SOMALIA**	Among pastoralists and agro-pastoralists, consumption of milk and *ghee* (clarified butter) has improved as a result of improved dairy productivity.	Since April 2010, maize and sorghum prices have decreased or remained stable in Central, North-West and North-East regions; prices in most southern districts showed the same trend, increasing in the Juba region only. The prices of imported foods remained stable; in Northeast region, prices of imported rice increased slightly compared with May 2010. Compared with last year's prices, the quarterly price of wheat flour decreased by **1%**; that of imported red rice fell by **5%.** Maize prices have increased by **7%**; sorghum prices have increased by **58%.**	As a result of improved agricultural labour opportunities in Lower Shabelle, household purchasing power has improved. The terms of trade between maize and daily labour increased by **20%** to **30%** following a significant increase in wage rates for labour. Livestock prices are at a five-year high, leading to improved terms of trade for pastoralists exchanging livestock for cereals.	There is evidence of a sustained nutritional crisis in internally displaced person (IDP) settlements and rural households. GAM rates continue to deteriorate in IDP settlements: in the Afgoye IDP settlements the rate is **15%**; in Northeast settlements rates are over **26%**; in Northwest settlements they are over **13%.** Deteriorating GAM rates In rural households in Gedo region are critical at over **16%**. In Central and Northeast regions there has been nutritional improvement associated with increased access to milk and milk products.	In North region, pastoralists were coping by depleting livestock assets; a full restocking will take several consecutive good seasons.	Prospects for crop production were good in most parts of southern Somalia as a result of good rainfall. Sorghum and maize production was expected to be normal in most areas; harvests were expected in July and August. The exception was Juba region, where floods in May damaged maize crops significantly. If favourable environmental conditions continue, herds are expected to continue their recovery because water catchments will be recharged and pastures and rangelands improved.	The food security situation has improved slightly since the rains enhanced pastures and rangelands and alleviated severe water shortages in much of the country; local food prices have decreased and labour wage rates have increased. Areas of concern remain Central region, Hiran, parts of Gedo and Bakool, and some towns. The extent to which the positive food security trends will improve conditions for the affected population is not clear. Because of the ongoing conflicts in the country, the situation of IDPs remains extremely difficult and needs to be constantly monitored.

Main staple: *Maize* *Millet* *Rice* *Sorghum* *Wheat*

Countries (A)		Food Consumption (B)	Prices (C)	Purchasing Power (D)	Malnutrition (E)	Coping Strategies (F)	Rainfall & Production (G)	Food security trend over the last six months (H)
East and Southern Africa	SWAZILAND	Food consumption has improved for most livelihoods, but has remained unfavourable for people who rely on gifts, begging, food assistance and livestock or poultry.	Maize prices remain **12%** higher than a year ago. Compared with the five-year average, the price of maize has increase by **8%** and that of wheat by **24%**. Fuel prices are rising, resulting in increased expenditure on food and non-food products.	Purchasing power was favourable for salary and wage earners, but as a result of the global economic downturn it was most unfavourable for people receiving remittances from South Africa. A good cotton harvest and its proceeds will improve farmers' access to food.	Stunting – which was already at 40% – was slightly higher in children living in rural areas.	Subsistence farmers and households were coping by benefiting from government input-support programmes.	Despite a reduction in planted areas and late rains, maize production was **11%** higher than last year. Conditions for maize were favourable as a result of good rains in the second half of the season. The sorghum harvest was expected in June; wheat was still growing.	A large section of the population remains food-insecure, but the food security situation in general has not changed significantly as a result of the good maize harvests in 2010.
East and Southern Africa	ZAMBIA		The price of maize increased by **5%** between April and June compared with the previous quarter; it decreased by **9%** with respect to last year. Increased transport costs – fuel costs were the most recent contributing factor – were a major factors affecting rising maize prices in local markets. Prices were expected to start their seasonal fall, however, as a result of the main harvest. In contrast to maize, the price of wheat has declined in recent months despite the ban on wheat imports, reflecting another good domestic harvest.	Small-scale farmers are likely to sell at low prices out of desperation for cash because they will have little bargaining powers during a large harvest. With a good supply of maize in the markets, many low-income consumers were purchasing maize and taking it to be milled as opposed to purchasing industrially processed meal.	There are high levels of malnutrition in rural areas triggered by recurrent floods. There are also high levels of child malnutrition and widespread poverty in towns resulting from high average food prices caused by the global food crisis.	In the valley areas of Southern province, people were finding alternatives to crop production to cope with the effects of prolonged dry spells in the middle of the 2010 growing season.	Zambia recorded another surplus maize harvest. In rural areas there was increased reliance on home production. Despite the large harvest, there were significant quantities of informally imported maize from Mozambique in May as a result of the maize price differentials at the border; this information was acquired by informal cross-border monitoring. The millet and sorghum harvests were expected in June.	Following good harvests – there was a surplus maize harvest – the food security situation has improved in Zambia. In rural areas there is increased reliance on home production. Most households have access to the ample supplies of maize. The population requiring humanitarian assistance decreased from 445,000 in 2008/09 to 111,000 in 2009/10.
East and Southern Africa	ZIMBABWE	In April 2010, **36%** of households relied on home-produced cereals, **31%** on purchases, **19%** on casual labour at **19%** and **9%** on food aid. The average rural household's access to cereal was expected to improve in many parts of the country, at least until July. Only **8.4%** of children under 2 are consuming a diet that is minimally acceptable.	The price of maize decreased by **39%** in the three months to June. There was a sharp price rise in February, probably a result of concern about the outlook for the 2010 maize crop, but prices levelled off in March. The Government implemented a number of grain market reforms in 2009 to stabilize the market.	The improved performance of the tobacco crop in terms of production by smallholder farmers and producer prices was expected to improve rural incomes in Mashonaland and parts of Manicaland from March to May. After May, a significant proportion of rural households were unable to earn incomes in casual on-farm labour as the harvest period came to an end, resulting in reduced purchasing power.	Chronic malnutrition is a significant public threat; it affects **33.8%** of children. About 1.5 million people received vitamin A supplements during the ten-day Zimbabwe Measles Immunization and Child Health Campaign in May and June, which reduced the risk of deficiency-related malnutrition.	Poor households facing difficulties in market access have started early harvesting of their staple cereal crop. The most reported coping mechanisms include sales of vegetables and fruit and cross-border trading.	Inundations in February and March in most provinces favoured the development of late-planted crops. Maize production for 2010 was forecast at 1.33 million mt compared with 1.24 million mt harvested last year; this was **27%** above the average for the previous five years. In contrast, a reduction is anticipated for sorghum and millet because of smaller plantings and reduced yields; groundnut production is expected to increase.	Food security in the country is currently stable, with good seasonal harvests for most rural households. The cost of living for most poor urban households is likely to remain high, however.

Main staple: *Maize* *Millet* *Rice* *Sorghum* *Wheat*

Countries (A)		Food Consumption (B)	Prices (C)	Purchasing Power (D)	Malnutrition (E)	Coping Strategies (F)	Rainfall & Production (G)	Food security trend over the last six months (H)
West Africa	**BENIN**		The price of maize has fallen by **4%** since the last quarter and by **30%** since the same time last year. Prices of cassava products are **14%** higher than last quarter, but have fallen by **13%** compared to a year ago. In contrast, rice prices remained high: in Cotonou, for example, prices in February 2010 were still **21%** higher than in February 2008.	Low cotton prices continue to have a negative impact on farmers' incomes and terms of trade.	WFP provides nutritional support for 17,000 households impacted by HIV/AIDS.	Households are relying on food assistance. Because school feeding is ongoing, households are enrolling children in schools with these programs. Actual distribution figures for beneficiaries are **24%** higher than targeted.	Following favourable growing conditions, last year's cereal production was **19%** above average. Land preparation was ongoing in the south for planting the 2010 main maize crop. In June millet and sorghum were being sown.	The food security situation is unchanged. Despite declining food stocks from last year's harvest, prices of maize continue to fall by **30%** compared with last year.
West Africa	**BURKINA FASO**	A shortage of milk resulted in a decrease in milk consumption this year. Households in the livestock/millet agro-pastoral areas have cut back the frequency of meals from three to two, and in some cases to one, as a result of poor harvests and limited income-generation opportunities.	The quarterly price of sorghum is **4%** lower than 12 months ago; the price of millet is **2%** higher. Compared with the five-year average, the price of sorghum has increased by **23%** and that of millet by **27%.**	Livestock prices have declined significantly, leading to a deterioration of the terms of trade for pastoralists.	The prevalence of global acute malnutrition (weight-for-height) is **10.7%** nationwide, indicating serious but not critical levels.	Young people are migrating to gold-washing sites to seek income-generating opportunities. Livestock owners in agro-pastoral areas are coping by reducing the frequency of meals.	Local shortfalls in crop production and declining pasture conditions in northern and eastern agro-pastoral areas have led to early transhumance to neighbouring countries. Land preparation for planting millet and sorghum, the main cereal crops, started in June.	Food security indicators show that all parts of the country are generally food-secure except for the northern and eastern agro-pastoral areas. A combination of poor rangeland conditions, persistently high food prices and declining terms of trade for pastoralists could lead to sharp increases in malnutrition.
West Africa	**CHAD**	Reductions in the quantity and quality of food intake were reported. Adults reportedly ate three times a day, but children were limited to two meals at most, with a **40%** to **50%** reduction in the amount of cereal in the daily requirement.	The quarterly price of sorghum is **21%** lower than 12 months ago; that of millet is **3%** higher. Compared with the five-year average, the price of sorghum has increased by **7%** and that of millet by **31%.** Above-average prices are limiting food access for households in poor urban and peri-urban areas, who mainly rely on market supplies.	The sharp decline of on-farm activities and limited revenues generated by sales of livestock are affecting poor households and worsening the terms of trade for pastoralists. Active members of most households, particularly poor agro-pastoralists in the Sahel belt, have migrated to towns in search of jobs. The labour surplus in towns has resulted in a **30%** reduction in wages.	In western pastoral areas, the nutritional situation is fragile and approaching or above the emergency threshold. The findings of the nutritional survey in Abéché in January and February showed GAM rates of **16.8%.**	Because conditions in pasture lands are deteriorating, other households are coping by gathering hay and selling it to pastoralists for additional income, harvesting wild foods, selling productive and non productive assets, selling reproductive animals and sending children to beg.	Final estimates released by the Government showed that cereal production fell by **11.5%** from the previous season and more than **30%** compared with the five-year average. The below-average 2009/10 cereal harvest was the second consecutive year of cereal deficit. The largest production losses were in the Sahelian regions. Millet and sorghum were being planted during June.	The food security situation has deteriorated as a result of poor crop production, reduced purchasing power and unfavourable terms of trade for pastoralists. Pastoral areas are highly food-insecure. The nutritional situation is fragile and approaching the emergency threshold. In the Sahel belt in Chad, six out of ten households are food-insecure.

Main staple: *Maize* *Millet* *Rice* *Sorghum* *Wheat*

Countries (A)		Food Consumption (B)	Prices (C)	Purchasing Power (D)	Malnutrition (E)	Coping Strategies (F)	Rainfall & Production (G)	Food security trend over the last six months (H)
West Africa	THE GAMBIA		The prices of staple foods have declined significantly after last year's good harvest. But the depreciation of the Dalasi will continue to affect food access as a result of The Gambia's import dependency – up to **60%** of its annual cereal consumption requirements, mostly rice and wheat – despite the downward trend in international rice prices.	The level of official remittances increased by **60%** during the first quarter of 2010 compared with last year. In 2009, production of groundnuts – the main cash crop –increased by **50%** compared with the previous year, indicating an increase in household incomes and purchasing power.			Cereal production for the 2009/10 agricultural year was **20%** higher than for 2008/09 and **30%** above the average for the previous five years. In particular, rice production almost doubled as a result of the increase in area planted; yield per hectare did not increase. Planting of 2010 crops of maize, millet and sorghum was scheduled to start in June with the onset of the rains.	The food security situation has improved as a result of an increase in production, a decline in food prices and higher disposable incomes.
West Africa	GHANA (NORTHERN REGION)	Most households in the reporting sentinel sites currently consume two meals a day – down from three – as a result of seasonal trends in food access.	In the Northern Region, the price of maize recorded a year-to-date increase of **8%** at the Tamale market. The price of maize showed a year-to-date increase of **5%** in the Bolgatanga market in Upper East Region. In the Tumu market of the Upper West Region, the price of maize decreased by **18.5%** between January and June 2010.	As a result of an improvement in the terms of trade between casual labour and maize in Northern region, the average daily labour wage for May 2010 could purchase 7 kg of maize, up from 4.3 kg in May 2009. The increase in utility tariffs in May 2010 probably eroded the purchasing power of urban and rural households.	The proportion of underweight children under **2 – 21.5%** in Northern region and **29.7%** in Upper East region – was found to be critical.	In three northern regions of Ghana, households are reducing the number of meals per day in response to seasonal changes in food access.	The erratic start to the growing season could lead to reduced production. Early heavy rains were recorded in Central and Southern regions in February, heralding a good start to the 2010/11 cropping season. During March, the entire east-to-west stretch of the region remained largely dry, while Upper West and Upper East regions received moderate levels of moisture to support planting of maize and rice and further land preparation.	The food security situation has progressively deteriorated, particularly in the north where the lean season intensified in May and June. Although the prices of cereal grains are low relative to 2009, access to food by marginal agricultural households and the urban poor is constrained by limited access to income-generating opportunities. A decline in household food consumption has also been recorded.
West Africa	GUINEA BISSAU		In April, May and June, the price of imported rice was **16%** lower than 12 months previously. Food prices were expected to remain relatively low during most of 2010, reflecting last year's good harvests in Guinea-Bissau and Senegal.	The country's high dependency on rice imports makes it vulnerable to price changes. The terms of trade between cashew nuts and rice will continue to be unfavourable for cashew nut farmers.	As a result of WFP's support for malnourished children, pregnant and lactating women and 807 people living with HIV, lower malnutrition rates were recorded in the regions of Biombo, Quinara, Cacheu, Gabu, Bafata, Tombali and Oio.		Cereal production in 2009/10 increased by **4%.** Planting of the 2010 crops of rice, millet and maize started in June with the onset of the rains.	The food security situation is largely unchanged because of food availability, a lower inflation rate and increased cashew sales, which are the main source of income for rural households.

Main staple: *Maize* *Millet* *Rice* *Sorghum* *Wheat*

Countries (A)		Food Consumption (B)	Prices (C)	Purchasing Power (D)	Malnutrition (E)	Coping Strategies (F)	Rainfall & Production (G)	Food security trend over the last six months (H)
West Africa	GUINEA - CONAKRY		The price of local rice in April, May and June was **5%** lower than the same quarter last year; palm oil prices were **19%** higher. Compared with last January, February and March, the price of local rice has increased by **22%** and that of palm oil by **26%.**	Following a depreciation of the Guinea Franc, the price of rice – the staple food – has affected the purchasing power and access to food of urban and rural populations.	The latest survey indicates that 600,000 people, mostly in Kindia, Labe and N'Zerekore regions, suffer from chronic food insecurity and malnutrition.	Households have resorted to the following high-risk strategies: **12.8%** of households affected by shocks consumed foods that were less preferable and less expensive; **8.1%** reduced the size and frequency of meals.	Last year, crops benefited from favourable weather in most areas and cereal production increased by **6%** compared with 2008. Land preparation was under way for planting the 2010 rice and coarse grain crops in June.	The food security situation has remained unchanged despite increases in prices. Food access continues to be affected by high prices driven by a depreciation of the Guinean Franc. Malnutrition is still high in a few regions.
West Africa	LIBERIA		The price of imported rice remains considerably lower than in 2009 and has declined in the domestic market since January. The average price of cassava, Liberia's second staple, increased by **4%** between April and June; the price of palm oil increased by **13%** in the same period compared with the previous quarter.	Terms of trade in the agricultural sector improved in all domestic markets, especially for casual labourers.		Households are increasingly relying on casual labour to access food, which is the typical strategy during this period of the year.	Cereal production in the 2009/10 agricultural year was **5%** higher than in 2008/09. Rainfall in early March 2010 was above average in most counties, but declined in the last ten days of the month. Planting of the rice crop for the 2010/11 season started in April. Cassava was to be planted in June.	The food security situation has improved as a result of the increase in cereal production and improved access to food. The highest concentration of food-insecure households is in rural regions in the south-east.
West Africa	MALI	Households are consuming more wild foods and milk and are slaughtering livestock in poor condition during this lean period. Food consumption patterns are probably linked to food insecurity.	Compared with the five-year average, the price of millet has increased by **17%** and that of imported rice by **24%.** The change between April and June showed a downward trend of **5%** for millet and **8%** for imported rice compared with the previous quarter, though millet prices in Bamako were still **27%** higher in April 2010 than they were in April 2008.	The terms of trade for livestock and grain are unfavourable for pastoralists as a result of lower livestock prices.	Acute malnutrition rates are **19%** in some places in the northeast, approaching critical levels.	People in pastoral areas are coping by moving herds earlier than usual to better grazing lands across the river valley. Households are also consuming wild plants to cope with food shortages.	Average to good prospects for off-season crops were expected to replenish household stocks and increase market supplies. Millet and sorghum were to be planted in June and July. Pastoral and agro-pastoral areas of the Gao and Kidal regions in north-eastern Mali reported poor conditions for livestock raising, reflected in lower-than-usual levels of animal production and household incomes.	The food security situation has deteriorated in north-eastern regions; the situation in the rest of the country is better. There are good prospects for crop production, but crops are not expected to materialize until the end of the lean season in September. Although food prices are in a downward trend, they remain higher than the long-term average and are therefore still a major concern.

Main staple: *Maize* *Millet* *Rice* *Sorghum* *Wheat*

Countries (A)		Food Consumption (B)	Prices (C)	Purchasing Power (D)	Malnutrition (E)	Coping Strategies (F)	Rainfall & Production (G)	Food security trend over the last six months (H)
West Africa	MAURITANIA	About **11.5%** of rural households have poor or borderline food consumption.	The prices of millet and sorghum remained stable following good harvests in bordering countries. The quarterly price of wheat is **4%** lower than 12 months ago, partly as a result of widespread bartering in transactions involving bulk sales.	The terms of trade for small animals and wheat are still favourable to pastoralist households, which command good prices for sheep in the face of relatively stable grain prices.	The GAM rate among children under 5 was estimated at **6.6%**, with **0.3%** suffering from severe malnutrition.	In February 2010 the reduced CSI was in the 9–14 range with the exception of Tagant region, where CSI was 20 and households used adverse coping strategies more frequently. Five coping strategies were selected for the reduced CSI.	Cereal production in 2009 was **24%** below previous year and **3%** lower than the 5-year average. This was the result of irregular rains that affected yields of rainfed crops. There are still large grain supplies after good harvests of long-cycle crops and smooth flows of cross-border trade, resulting in plentiful supplies of Mali grain on all local markets. Irrigated rice was to be planted in June.	Food security levels are still in line with normal seasonal patterns but they have deteriorated in some areas, especially among poor farmers in the river valley who are suffering from a poor harvest of walo (flood recession) crops. Malnutrition levels are high and a significant number of households have poor food consumption.
West Africa	NIGER	Poor pastoralist households are reducing their daily grain intake to below minimum daily requirements, a sign of high levels of food insecurity.	The April–June quarterly price of millet was **8%** higher than 12 months previously; that of sorghum was **9%** higher; both were much higher than in 2007 – millet prices in March 2010 in Niamey were still **42%** higher than in March 2007. The price of imported rice fell by **8%** and that of maize by **6%** in the last year.	Limited income-earning opportunities combined with persistently high food prices are affecting households' purchasing power and food access. The terms of trade between livestock and millet have depreciated considerably, leading to a significant deterioration for pastoralists.	Child nutrition has been severely undermined by the effects of food shortages, inappropriate farming practices and high incidence of seasonal illnesses. In a national survey in June, GAM rates among children aged 6–59 months increased to **16.7%** from **12.3%** in the same areas.	Poor households facing food insecurity have migrated to the nearest cities and neighbouring countries to the south and north.	Cereal production for the 2009/10 agricultural year is **31%** lower than for 2008/2009. Fodder production in pastoral areas in 2009 was estimated to be **67%** below domestic requirements; production of cowpea, the main source of income for farmers, is estimated have fallen by **37%**. Millet and sorghum were being planted in the north following the onset of regular rains.	The food security situation has deteriorated as a result of reduced cereal and cash crop production, poor rangeland conditions, persistently high food prices and declining terms of trade for pastoralists. In early March, the Government appealed for emergency aid to avert a food crisis; in May the national survey showed that **22.2%** of the population were severely food-insecure and **25.5%** highly food-insecure.
West Africa	SENEGAL		The April–June quarterly price for imported rice was **30%** lower than 12 months previously; the price of maize was **3%** lower. Compared with the five-year average, the price of imported rice has increased by **23%** and that of maize by **25%.**	There was major growth in the horticultural export sector in 2009. The increase in production contributed to reducing vegetable prices and increasing smallholders' incomes.	In May and June, WFP promoted a safety-net programme through school meals to improve the nutrition status of vulnerable groups: the improvement among people targeted in May was **100%** and **117%** among those targeted in June.		Cereal production for the 2009/10 agricultural year was **7%** higher than in 2008/09. The rice and millet harvests were the largest recorded in the last ten years; rice production was **23%** greater than the previous season. Millet, rice and maize were being sown in June.	The food security situation has remained stable, but high cereal prices relative to the long-term average continue to restrict food access for rural and urban households in food-deficit areas.

Main staple: *Maize* *Millet* *Rice* *Sorghum* *Wheat*

Countries (A)		Food Consumption (B)	Prices (C)	Purchasing Power (D)	Malnutrition (E)	Coping Strategies (F)	Rainfall & Production (G)	Food security trend over the last six months (H)
West Africa	TOGO	The number of households with poor food consumption in the Kara region of northern Togo is **1.9%**; in the Savanes region, the figure is **1.4%.**	Prices are reported to be significantly lower than last year. The price of maize – the main staple – has declined significantly countrywide, improving food access for urban and rural consumers.		At the national level, acute malnutrition among children under 5 was **12.3%** and chronic malnutrition was **23%.** These are high levels, despite good harvests.	The most common severe coping strategies adopted by **33%** of households were to reduce the quantity and frequency of meals.	Cereal production for the 2009/10 agricultural year was **13%** higher than 2008/09. In June, maize was growing and sorghum had been planted.	The food security situation has improved as a result of better harvests and lower prices, but large segments of the population are still facing chronic food insecurity and malnutrition
Sudan	SUDAN (DARFUR ONLY)	Food consumption is worse in south Darfur, where the proportion of households with poor food consumption has increased considerably among IDPs and in mixed communities. In west Darfur, none of the population groups have households in the "poor consumption" category. North Darfur and West Darfur have few households with poor food consumption; the figure among IDPs is **1%.**	Following the poor harvest last season, the quarterly price of sorghum was considerably higher than 12 months previously, particularly in South Darfur where it increased by **25%** compared with three months earlier.	The terms of trade between goats and sorghum in Nyala market in South Darfur increased in May compared with February 2010, reaching last year's level but remaining below the five-year average. In West Darfur and North Darfur, terms of trade decreased slightly compared with February 2010 and the five-year average.	In South Darfur and West Darfur, the proportion of women with low mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) fell in mixed communities compared with February 2010 and last year; the average, however, is still above the low MUAC cut-off of <214 mm. In North Darfur, the proportion of women with low MUAC increased among IDPs compared with February 2010 and last year.	Among IDPs in South Darfur there was an increase in the number of households using low-risk coping strategies compared with last year. The numbers using medium-risk and high-risk strategies are similar to last year. In West Darfur there was a shift from low-risk to medium-risk strategies compared with the last round.	This is a post-harvest period with no significant cultivation. Final estimates of cereal production for 2009/10 indicate a decline in production, particularly in North Darfur. Land preparation took place in May; most resident communities felt that they have better land access, and most mixed communities had the same land access.	The food security remains unchanged in North Darfur. In West Darfur, the situation seems to have improved in terms of food consumption. In South Darfur, the situation has deteriorated as a result of a reduction in household incomes and the relatively high cost of the minimum food basket.
	NORTHERN SUDAN	The early start of the lean season led to a deterioration in food consumption. Many households have run out of food.	Market prices of staple cereals peaked in January and February; real prices fell between April and June. Current prices are **30%** to **35%** above the real average price for 2005–2008, however. The consumer price index (CPI) increased by **1.77%** in May 2010 compared with April 2010 and the food CPI increased by **2.41%**.	Terms of trade between livestock and cereals were in favour of pastoralists in May compared with April 2010 in Blue Nile (**4%** increase) and Upper Nile (**13%** increase); they were stable in White Nile and in favour of grain producers in South Kordofan (**7%** decrease).	Increased malnutrition rates were observed over the lean season, which started earlier than usual. The June–September rainy season is expected to constrain market access, thereby reducing grain supplies and increasing water-borne diseases and probably rates of malnutrition.	The food-insecure population relies on income from daily wage labour and partly on coping strategies such as sales of livestock, firewood and grass to buy food in markets.	In northern states, harvesting of the 2009/10 irrigated wheat crop was completed in May; output was estimated to be below 2008/09 and the last five-year average. Crops planted for the main season, however, have benefited from heavy rains: a good harvest is expected for sorghum and millet.	The food security situation has been stable, in line with seasonal patterns. The most food-insecure populations are in Red Sea state and parts of Kassala, North and South Kordofan, and Blue Nile states. Food security is likely to deteriorate during the lean season, which is expected to peak in August and September.
	SOUTHERN SUDAN	Consumption of harvested crops of sorghum, maize and groundnuts is rapidly declining as household stocks dwindle.	During the first quarter of 2010, price trends for sorghum were mixed: there was a declining trend in Juba, but increasing stability in other markets. Prices are, however, considerably higher than before the food-price crisis.	Terms of trade between goats and sorghum were stable in Juba, and showed different trends in other parts of the south.	Malnutrition in most states remains chronic; in some areas the situation is critical. Lack of access to water and poor hygiene and sanitation practices are increasing the prevalence of diseases.	There has been an increase in gathering wild foods, hunting and fishing in many areas as a result of low household food stocks.	Last year's poor rains and resultant low water levels reduced harvests and access to important off-farm foods such as fish and wild plants. Seasonal rains started on time in southern states; the planting of 2010/11 of coarse grains, mainly sorghum, was recently completed.	The food security situation has deteriorated as a result of high cereal prices, low household food stocks and continuing conflicts and displacements in parts of the south.

Main staple: *Maize* *Millet* *Rice* *Sorghum* *Wheat*

	Countries (A)	Food Consumption (B)	Prices (C)	Purchasing Power (D)	Malnutrition (E)	Coping Strategies (F)	Rainfall & Production (G)	Food security trend over the last six months (H)	
Asia, Middle East & Commonwealth of Independent States	AFGHANISTAN	Food consumption has improved in general as a result of low prices for staple foods and increased terms of trade. The exceptions to this were Nanagarhar and Kunar in the east, the south-west, and Badakshan in the north-east, where harvests failed.	Wheat prices declined from May 2008 to May 2010. In January–June 2010, the average price of wheat was **26%** lower than the average price in 2009; that of rice was **7%** lower. Compared with the five-year average, the average price of wheat fell by **18%** and that of rice by **4%.** The price of wheat decreased by **9.5%** in June 2010 compared with January; that of rice decreased by **13%.**	Purchasing power among labourers has improved since May 2008, largely because wheat prices have fallen and casual labour wages have increased. Terms of trade between casual labour and wheat improved by **0.5%** in June compared with May and by **21.3%** compared with January 2010.		Households that experienced harvest failures in eastern, north-eastern and south-western areas have had to reduce the quality and quantity of meals, increase labour migration and reduce expenditure.	The winter wheat harvest is almost used up; wheat production is estimated to be **10%** below last year's record crop, but still **14%** above average. Planting of rice and maize was expected in June.	Food security has improved as a result of lower prices and improved purchasing power. The two consecutive bumper harvests of wheat have also helped to improve food security throughout the country.	↗
	CAMBODIA		The prices of all types of rice – the main staple – have decreased as the supply of rice increased during the main harvest in December–February. The price of second-quality rice fell by **20%** compared with January 2010; the price of low-quality rice fell by **7.1%.**	Household purchasing power grew as the supply of rice increased and prices fell during the main harvest. The terms of trade are more favourable for labourers: terms of trade for unskilled wage-earners and low-quality rice increased by **4.3%** compared with January 2010.			Rice production in 2009/10 – the main harvest was in December, January and February – was **24%** higher than the previous year, resulting in a 2.2 million mt surplus of milled rice. Rice planting and transplanting began in May and June, but low rainfall and low water levels in the Mekong and Tonle Sap this year could intensify the annual droughts and affect production.	The food security situation has improved with the approaching post-harvest season. Relatively stable wages have ensured an increase in household purchasing power. Food security is likely to deteriorate in the August–November lean season, however, because increases in the price of rice could negatively impact household purchasing power and the flood/drought season will be starting.	↗
	NEPAL	Among food-insecure households in the Mid-Western and Far-Western development regions, **50%** consume cereals daily, pulses or lentils on one or two days a week, green vegetables on two or three days a week and oil on two to five days a week.	The quarterly price of rice in April, May and June was **10%** higher than 12 months ago; that of wheat flour was **18%** higher. Compared with the five-year average, the price of wheat increased by **141%** and that of rice by **77%**. In April, May and June 2010 market prices for staple winter-crop foods such as wheat and barley declined following the winter harvest.	There were more wage labour opportunities under government and non-government schemes during April, May and June. The proportion of households participating in wage labour in the mountain region, for example, increased by **13%**.	A higher proportion of children with MUAC less than 125mm, indicating severe acute and moderate acute malnutrition, was observed.	Severe coping strategies adopted by food-insecure populations included the sale of household and agricultural assets. Their food stocks were sufficient for one month on average, and their expenditure on food increased because of greater dependency on markets.	The 2009/10 winter harvest was normal. But because of the poor summer crop, the 2009/10 national edible cereal balance was estimated to be 316,465 mt in deficit. This deficit was **140%** greater than last year's and by far the largest deficit over the past decade. Maize and rice were being planted in June.	The food security situation is stable except in mid-western and far-western hill and mountain districts assessed as highly food-insecure. During April, May and June 2010, some areas showed a slight improvement after the winter harvest and as labour opportunities became available.	→
	TAJIKISTAN	The overall food consumption score of 45 is lower than the previous round, when it was 50, and last year's 53. The diet of most households remains poor and not diversified with meat, fruit and beans, which are rarely eaten more than once a week. The overall food consumption score is still acceptable at >35.	The quarterly price of wheat is **14%** lower than 12 months ago. Compared with the five-year average, the price of wheat has increased by **96%.**	Loss of employment, bankruptcy of businesses and livelihoods affect household purchasing power and access to food.	In view of the lack of potable water in the coming months, illness among children was identified as a major concern.	CSI is at its highest since May 2009. The negative coping strategies adopted by households include relying on less expensive but less nutritious foods, purchasing food on credit and limiting the number of meals per day. **N.B.** Between **49** to **97%** of households have contracted new debts for food purchases.	Wheat cultivation by households was relatively low because of an **18%** shortage of irrigation water, a **10%** lack of seeds or seedlings and a **20%** lack of land.	The food security situation worsened as a result of declining disposable incomes, the adverse effects of high-risk coping strategies and declining household food consumption, which have combined to reduce households' resilience to shocks.	↘

Main staple: *Maize* *Millet* *Rice* *Sorghum* *Wheat*

Countries (A)		Food Consumption (B)	Prices (C)	Purchasing Power (D)	Malnutrition (E)	Coping Strategies (F)	Rainfall & Production (G)	Food security trend over the last six months (H)	
Caribbean and Latin America	BOLIVIA	An initial evaluation by the Government and the United Nations in the drought-affected region of El Chaco showed that 19,595 families were reducing their food consumption. The average number of meals per day has fallen from three to two, and to one in some cases.	During the first six months of 2010, food prices remained generally stable. The price of rice was **6%** lower than the average price of 2009; the price of wheat flour was up to **10%** less than the average price of 2009.	The Government continues to expand cash transfer programmes, particularly to families with children attending school and to pregnant woman and mothers of children under 2. This is expected to have a positive impact on the purchasing power of households in rural and peri-urban areas.	The evaluation in El Chaco identified constraints on access to safe water and an increase in the prevalence of diarrhoea among children under 5.	In El Chaco region, increased migration and reduced food intake are the main household coping strategies.	The important rice crop was expected to be **10%** less in 2009/10 than in 2008/09, but still higher than the five-average. Maize production was expected to be slightly lower than in 2008/09. El Chaco continues to experience extreme drought affecting crop production and pasture conditions. Maize production in Santa Cruz, the country's main producing area, is expected to fall significantly according to the National Association of Producers of Maize, Sorghum, Beans and Alternative Crops (Promasor).	Although agricultural production for the 2009/10 season was slightly lower than in 2008/09, food prices have remained stable. The food security situation has remained unchanged, with the exception of the drought-affected area of El Chaco, where there was a deterioration.	
	HAITI	The first round of the emergency food security assessment (EFSA) in February indicated that **9%** of households had poor food consumption and **30%** had poor or borderline food consumption in the areas directly affected by the earthquake. Preliminary results from the second round in June indicated that the prevalence of poor food consumption was **6%**, with poor or borderline food consumption at **27%**.	Rice prices in the main market in Port-au-Prince peaked in February at 103% above the average for 2005–2007. They have since fallen to **43%** above this average, and are at or below pre-earthquake levels. Wheat flour in Port-au-Prince is still **8%** above pre-earthquake levels, but prices are falling in other markets. Immediately after the earthquake markets became highly disconnected, but in recent months market integration has improved throughout the country.	Purchasing power declined sharply after the earthquake. Employment opportunities diminished; farmers, traders, unskilled and skilled labourers experienced a loss of purchase power. Households have now begun to resume their livelihoods, although still not at pre-earthquake levels.	A recent nutrition survey indicates GAM of **5%** among children aged 6–59 months, with no significant difference between displaced and non-displaced populations. These prevalences are similar to the pre-earthquake situation, but careful monitoring is required in terms of future shocks to food security, health, water and hygiene. The prevalence of respiratory and diarrhoea morbidity among children aged 6–59 remains high.	Following the earthquake, households resorted to more frequent and higher-risk coping strategies such as limiting adult consumption, borrowing food and money from friends and relatives and selling household assets. Prevalence has decreased according to the June EFSA II but still appears to be above pre-earthquake levels.	The preliminary results from the CFSAM indicate that the rains were late in some areas earlier this year, causing a delay in planting. There have been normal harvests of some crops, but smaller harvests than last year for others such as beans. The main maize crop was being harvested in the southern and central departments in June; it was still growing in the areas were rainfall was delayed.	Following the earthquake, the food security situation in Haiti deteriorated drastically compared with July–December 2009. Between February and June 2010, however, the situation improved somewhat compared with the first quarter. Six months after the earthquake, the population remains much more vulnerable than before.	
	HONDURAS	The April FSMS survey showed that **2.8%** of households had poor food consumption, of which **3.8%** were in the drought-affected area and **1.9%** in the flood zone.	The quarterly price of maize is **33%** lower than 12 months ago; that of rice is **14%** lower.	The international financial crisis has led to a decrease in production, loss of job opportunities and subsequent reduction in the incomes and purchasing power of the poorest people.	Among children under 5, **19.1%** suffer from malnutrition, of whom **0.2%** are acutely malnourished, **3.8%** moderately malnourished and **15.1%** mildly malnourished.	Among the population as a whole, **31%** are adopting negative coping strategies to obtain food. These range from high-risk to low-risk unsustainable strategies such as begging and seeking governmental and institutional assistance.	There was a decrease in the 2009 apante (third cropping season) maize harvest. Households have depleted most of their reserves of maize, beans and sorghum. Harvesting of the spring crop has started. Planting of main-season maize was under way when the country was hit by tropical storm Agatha, which damaged 20,000 ha of basic grains.	Food security has deteriorated as a result of the financial crisis, political instability and the El Niño from October 2009, which has reduced rainfall and caused up to **50%** crop losses in drought zones in the south-west corridor.	

Main staple: *Maize* *Millet* *Rice* *Sorghum* *Wheat*

Annex: Selected set of food security monitoring indicators and their application

i. **Food consumption (column B)**[1] denotes the quality and quantity of food consumed in the household. The Food Consumption Score (FCS), also used in this context, is a composite score that is a good proxy of food consumption because it takes into account dietary diversity, food frequency and relative nutritional importance of different food groups.

Using standard cut off points, poor food consumption denotes a daily diet comprising mainly of 2 types of foods (primarily cereal/tuber and vegetables), while borderline consumption denotes a daily diet comprising mainly 2 types of foods and an additional food item for 2-3 times a week, but not sufficient to meet dietary adequacy.

ii. **Prices (column C)** are retail prices of the first 6 months of 2010, which are compared with those of 2009, and where significant comparisons are made to the five year average.

iii. **Purchasing power (column D)** is the ratio of two prices: a commodity being sold and a food staple being purchased.

iv. **Malnutrition (column E)** is an indication of insufficient, excessive or imbalanced consumption of essential food. Methods used to collect this information include a variety of anthropometric measures such as weight, height, age and mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC).

v. **Coping strategies (column F)** denote the actions adopted by households to offset or overcome a food access problem without correcting or eliminating the underlying condition. The Coping Strategies Index (CSI), also used in this update is a composite index measuring the severity and frequency of strategies that households use in managing shortfalls in food consumption.

vi. **Production (column G)** reflects aggregate levels of production that have an impact on national or sub-national food availability.

vii. **Beneficiaries** are households receiving food assistance.

1. *Caution should be applied when drawing conclusions of a more generalized nature as data has in some cases been collected from limited sentinel sites.*

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

AIDS	acquired immune deficiency syndrome
CFSAM	crop and food security assessment mission
CILSS	Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel
CPI	consumer price index
CSI	coping strategy index
DRC	Democratic Republic of the Congo
EFSA	emergency food security assessment
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FCS	food consumption score
FEWS-NET	Famine Early-Warning Systems Network
FSNAU	Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit
GAM	global acute malnutrition
GIEWS	Global Information and Early-Warning System
GOSS	Government of Southern Sudan
HIV	human immunodeficiency virus
IDP	internally displaced person
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IPC	integrated phase classification
IRIN	Integrated Regional Information Networks
MUAC	Mid-upper arm circumference
NIS	National Statistical Institute
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.
RPCA	Food Crisis Prevention Network
SIFSIA	Sudan Institutional Capacity Programme:Food Security Information for Action
SNNPR	Southern Nations Nationalities and People's Region
TOT	terms of trade
UN	United Nations
WFP	World Food Programme

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