

World Food Programme

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## mVAM Food Security Monitoring

# Internally Displaced People in Galkayo, CENTRAL SOMALIA

## Bulletin 3 — November and December 2014

## DISPLACED HOUSEHOLDS COPING MORE TO DEFEND FOOD CONSUMPTION

### Key messages

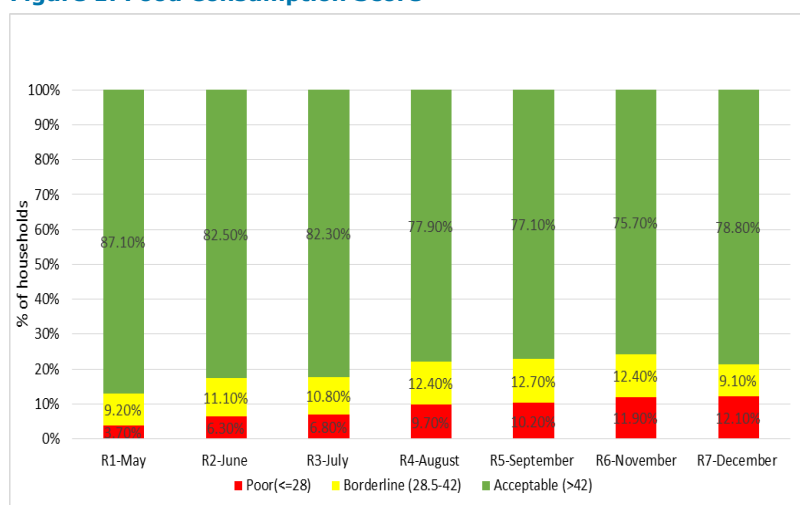
- The percentage of households with poor or borderline food consumption has remained high over the months of November and December.
- The food security situation of IDPs in Galkayo seems to be deteriorating as more than half of the people had to sell off assets or send a family member to beg in order to cope with the situation and meet their food needs.

### Food Consumption and Dietary Diversity

Based on the Food Consumption Score (FCS<sup>1</sup>), in both November and December approximately 12 percent of the surveyed households were classified as having poor food consumption. This is a two per cent increase from September (10.2 percent).<sup>2</sup> When including households with borderline food consumption, this share increases to 24.3 per cent in November – a quarter of the population – and 21.2 percent in December.

Between November and December there were not substantial changes in the diet of respondents except for a decrease in the overall consumption of vegetables and fruits compared to September, which is in line with seasonality. The most consumed staple foods were cereals, tubers, and legumes (which were consumed between two and three days a week each) followed by dairy products (consumed on average three times a week) and meat, fish and eggs (which, overall, were consumed on average between three and four times a week).

Figure 1: Food Consumption Score



Source: WFP mVAM

### Livelihood Coping Strategies

Compared to September, November and December saw an increase in the share of households that had to resort to emergency coping strategies because of shortages of food or money to buy food. The most common strategies used in both months were “purchase food on credit or borrow food” (used by approximately 80 per cent of surveyed households), and “engage in casual labour” (used by approximately 70 per cent of surveyed households).<sup>3</sup>

- 1 The Food Consumption Score (FCS) is a composite score based on diversity, food frequency and relative nutritional importance of different food groups.
- 2 Changes in the share of households with acceptable food consumption between September, November and December are not statistically significant at a 95% confidence level.
- 3 The strategy “Withdraw children from school” was not considered as the numbers reported might refer to children not going to school instead of children being withdrawn from school.



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More worrisome however, is the fact that more than half of all surveyed households had to employ one or both of the emergency strategies considered (51.3 per cent in November and 54.4 per cent in December). These emergency strategies include “selling off productive assets” (employed by 41.2 per cent in November) and “sending a family member to beg” (employed by 28.4 per cent in November).<sup>4</sup>

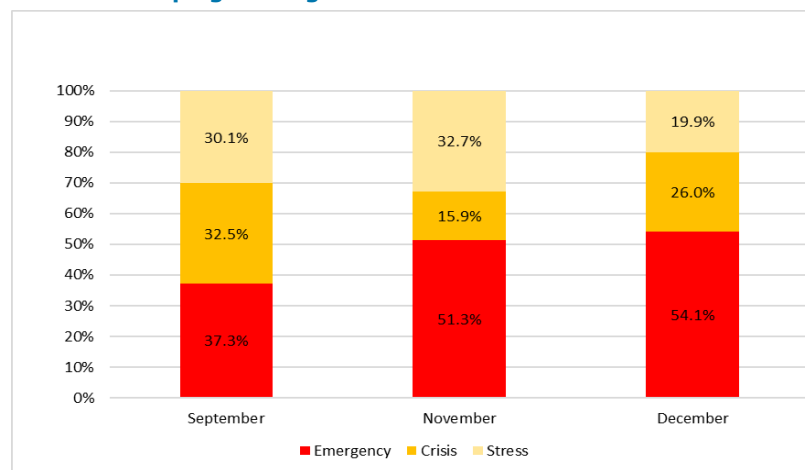
### Food insecurity – Analysis

An analysis of livelihood coping strategies suggests that the overall food security situation of urban IDPs in the Galkayo area deteriorated between November and December. This could be a reflection of the lack of work opportunities in an area that received below average rainfall during the Gu season.

A recovery was expected starting from November following the first rains. Even though this had not yet materialized, a significant proportion of the population, approximately 77 per cent, still had adequate food consumption.

In addition to the mVAM data other indicators and information sources should be considered to complement the analysis presented in this bulletin.

**Figure 2: Prevalence of households using each group of Livelihood Coping Strategies**



Source: WFP mVAM

### Methodology –mVAM remote data collection

November and December 2014 saw the sixth and seventh rounds of mVAM data collection in Galkayo, central Somalia. The data was mainly collected through live phone calls, which were conducted by two operators based in Galkayo. Live phone calls were combined with some Interactive Voice Response calls. Round 6 data was collected from late October to late November. Round 7 covers phone interviews conducted in December 2014.

In November, the sample size was 226 households (91% of the telephoned households). In December, the sample size was 232 households (67% of telephoned households).

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Other mVAM bulletins:

[mVAM: piloting mobile voice technology for household food security data collection](#)

[WFP VAM - mVAM Monitoring](#)

<sup>4</sup> Changes in the percentage of households resorting to emergency coping strategies between September and November and September and December are statistically significant at a 95% confidence level (p-value=0.003 and 0.00 respectively).