



Kenya Food Security and Outcome Monitoring (FSOM) Consolidated report MAY 2016

Highlights

- The March to May 2016 long rains season was generally good despite a late onset that left the month of March remain largely dry and the rains setting in early April. Amounts and spatial distribution ranged from normal to below normal in parts of north east pastoral livelihoods (Isiolo, Tana river and Garissa counties) that had slightly depressed amounts
- Household food security situation for non beneficiaries improved, with 34% being severely or moderately food insecure compared to 44% in December, while among the beneficiary households the situation remained stable at 38% compared to 39% previously in December. The food security situation improvement by livelihood was most significant in north west pastoral livelihood and eastern pastoral livelihoods. Household food consumption also improved for both beneficiaries and non beneficiaries
- The cost of the Minimum Healthy Food Basket remained stable in coastal marginal livelihood and generally reduced in other livelihoods except eastern pastoral, Grassland pastoral, and Western agro pastoral where the cost increased by about 10% across. Cost of minimum food basket in Dadaab and Kakuma reduced as well
- Food consumption by livelihood zones for beneficiaries showed general improvement with significant improvement in the eastern pastoral livelihood where the proportion with poor food consumption reduced from 54% to 18% and those with acceptable food consumption increasing from 13% to 56% between May 2015 and May 2016
- Mean coping strategy in may 2016 stood at 18 and 16 for beneficiaries and non beneficiaries. This is an improved trend comparing same period 2015 and also during the last round in December.

Methodology

115 sentinel sites were randomly selected, covering all 8 major livelihood zones and 2 refugees camps.

10 locations per livelihood are visited three times a year (May, September and December).

Households are randomly selected covering both beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries. Replacement sites are used when security prevents visit to original sampled site.

Indicators

Each household has been assigned to a Food Security Index group based on a simple averaging process using the 4-point scale scores it attained for each indicator. Specifically, each household's Food Security Index classification is based on a simple average of their food consumption score (current status) and their coping capacity score. The latter is itself formed from a simple average of the food expenditure share score and the asset depletion score.

Coverage

2181 households were visited of which 1078 (49%) were beneficiaries and 1103 (51%) were non-beneficiaries. Distribution of selected households by interventions was as follows

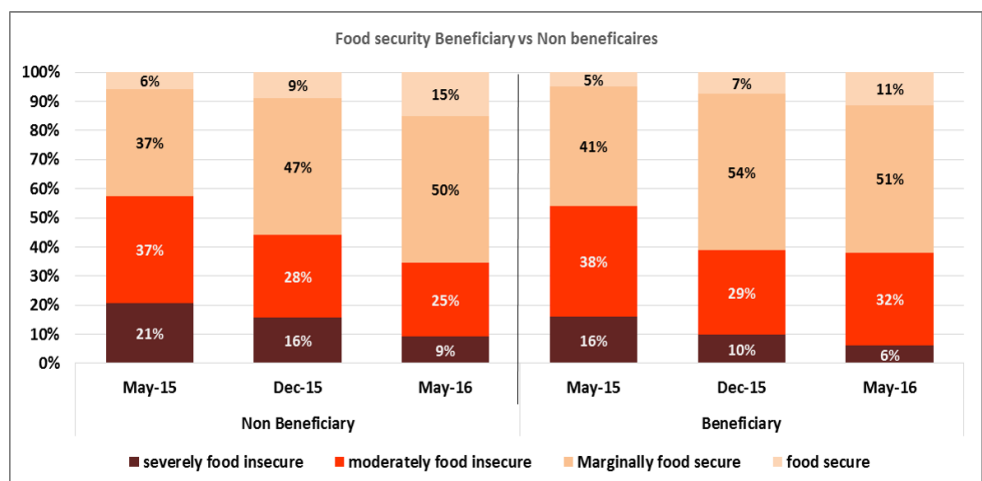
- Cash for assets-18%
- Food for assets 27%
- GFD 22%
- None beneficiaries 16%
- Refugees 18%

Demographics

33% female headed households.

Food security situation

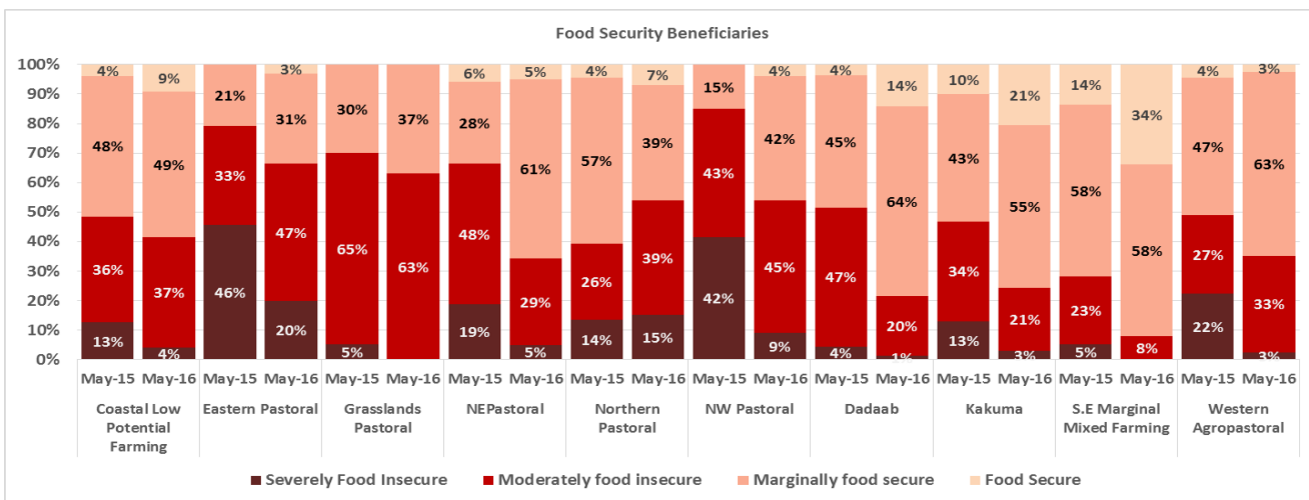
Food security status for households improved for both beneficiaries and non beneficiaries compared to last round and same period in 2015. Among the beneficiaries, the percentage of households either food secure or moderately food insecure was 43% compared to 36% in December and 40% in May 2015.



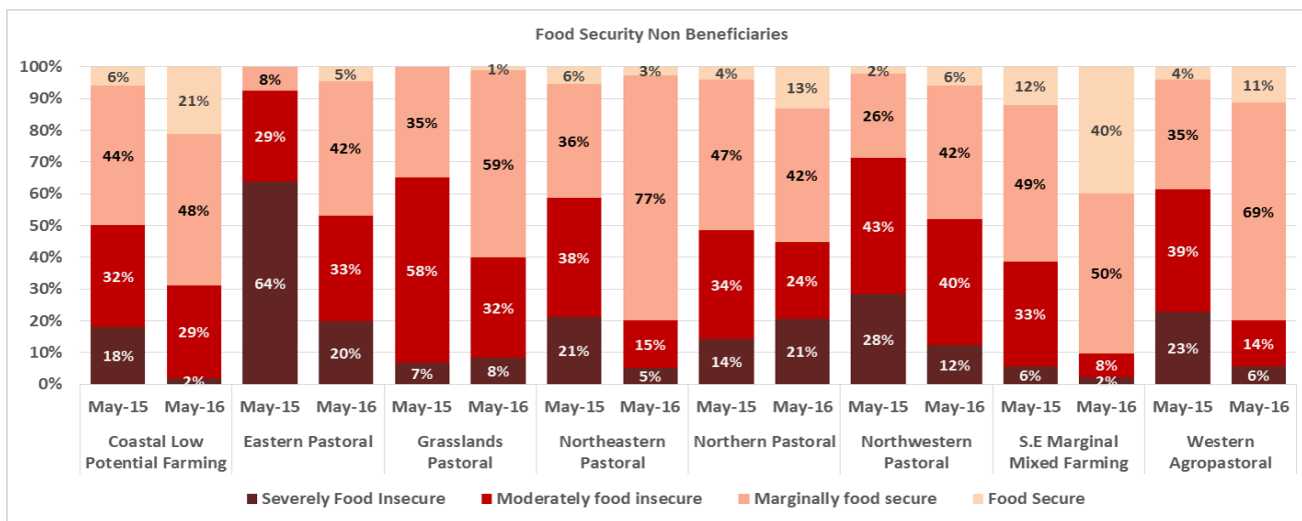
The percentage of households severely food insecure was 6 percent compared to 16 percent in May 2015. Among the non beneficiaries, the percentage of household that were food secure or moderately food insecure increased from 37 to 40 percent in December 2015 and May 2016 respectively. The proportion of households who were severely food insecure reduced.

Household food security situation

The food security situation across the livelihood zones generally showed either a stable or an improving trend across the areas for beneficiaries. Major improvements were in north west pastoral livelihood where the proportion of households who were severely food insecure reduced from 42 percent to 9 percent in May 2015 and May 2016 respectively, while in eastern pastoral this improved from 46 percent to 20 percent over the same period. In south east marginal livelihood, the percentage of households that were food secure increased from 14 percent to 34 percent and in the north east pastoral the population that was marginally food secure increased from 28 to 61 percent.

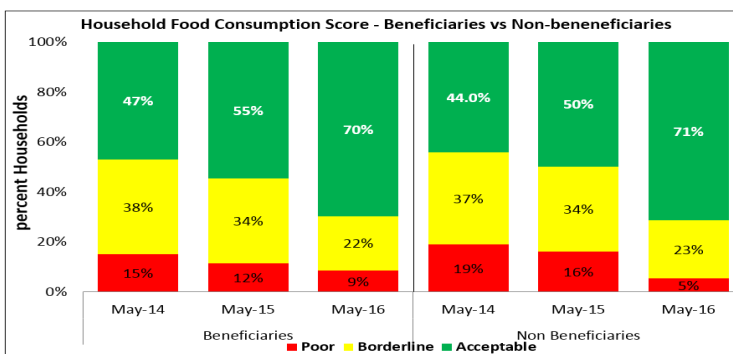


Among the non beneficiaries population, eastern pastoral showed significant improvement with the proportion of households severely food insecure reducing from 64% to 20%. In north eastern pastoral livelihood zone, the proportion of household that was food secure or marginally food insecure increased from 42% to 80% comparing May 2015 and May 2016 respectively.

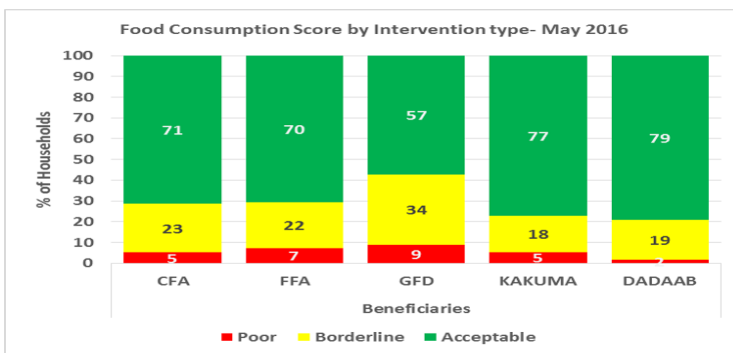


Household food consumption

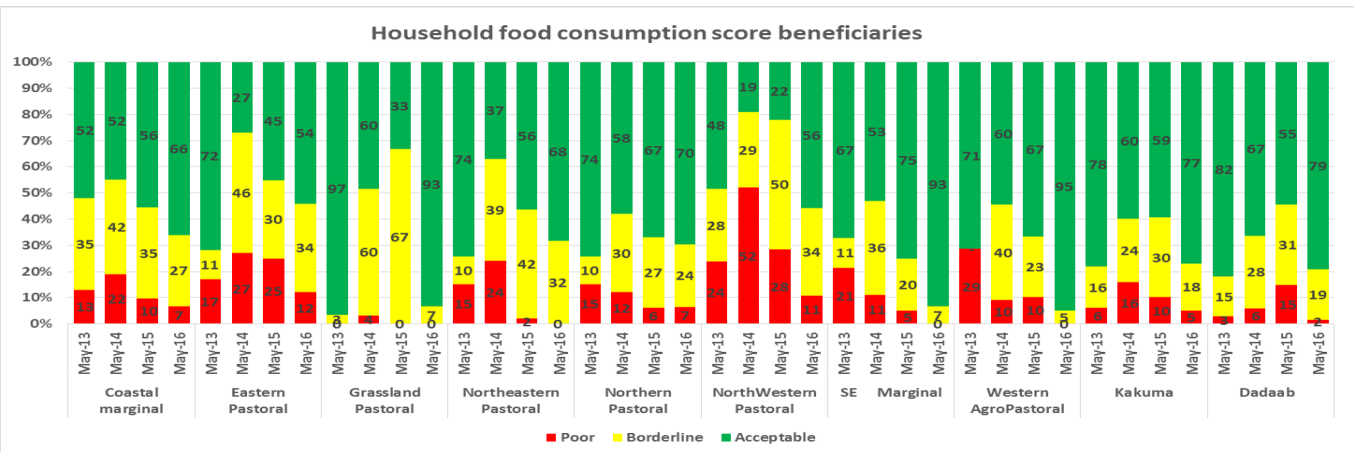
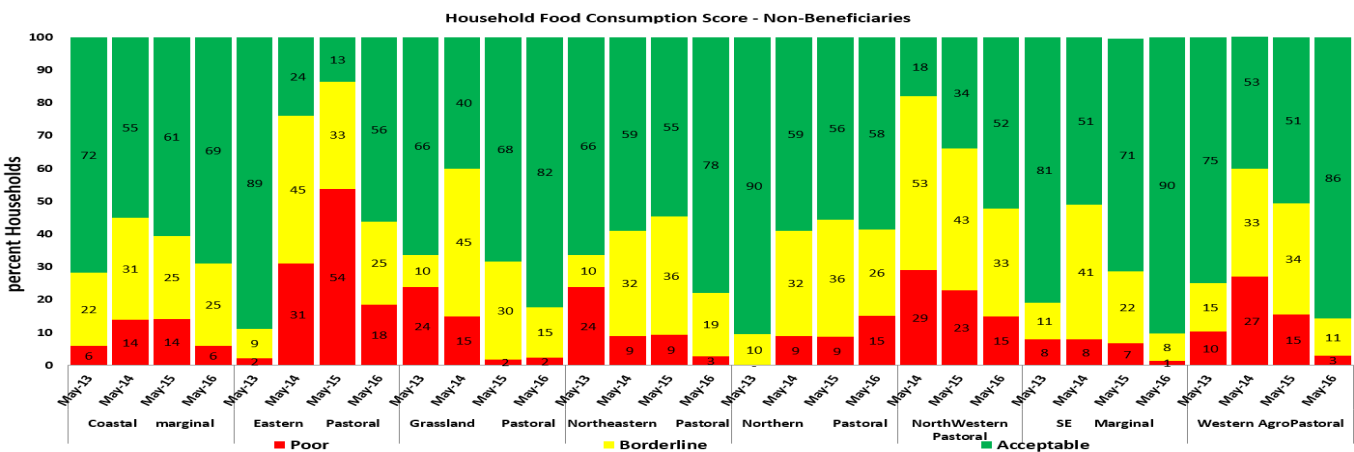
Food consumption for both beneficiaries and non beneficiaries improved, with more households having acceptable food consumption in May compared to 2014 and 2015. During the period, 70% of the households had acceptable food consumption compared to 55% in 2015 among the beneficiaries while 71% had acceptable compared to 50% previously among the non beneficiaries. The proportion with poor food consumption also reduced by 35 and 11% for the beneficiaries and non beneficiaries respectively indicating an improvement for the same period in 2015 and 2016.



Beneficiary households under the Cash For Assets (CFA) and those under Food for Assets (FFA) programmes had a larger proportions with acceptable food consumption at 71 and 70 percent respectively. Those under the General Food Distribution (GFD) had a smaller proportion of the population with acceptable food consumption and also a larger proportion with poor food consumption of 9 percent. The overall situation is an improvement compared to May 2015 where the proportions with acceptable food consumption were 67%, 53% and 48% for the CFA, FFA and GFD respectively.



Consumption by livelihood zones for beneficiaries also showed general improvement with significant improvement in the eastern pastoral livelihood where the proportion with poor food consumption reduced from 54% to 18% and those with acceptable food consumption increasing from 13% to 56% between May 2015 and May 2016. Northern pastoral livelihood however showed an increase in proportion of households with poor food consumption from 9 percent to 15 percent. For the beneficiary population, the trend similarly showed either improvement or stability with the most significant improvement in easter pastoral where proportion of households with acceptable food consumption increased from 13 to 56 percent comparing same



Market Prices

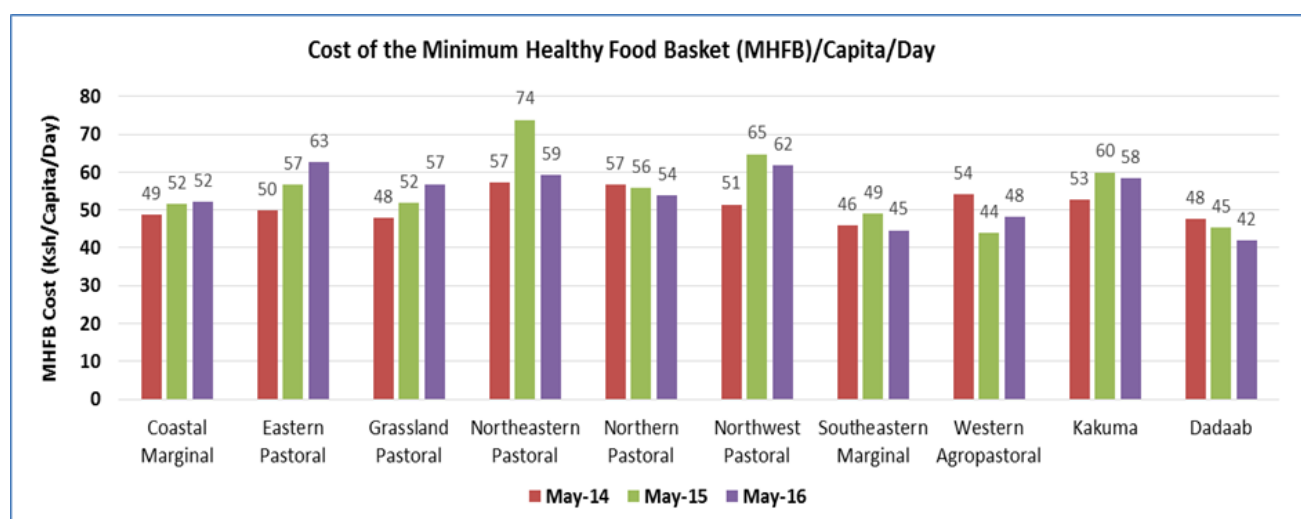


The inter-annual inflation rate as per the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) stood at 5.00% which was lower than the 6.87% in the same month last year, thus an indication of increasing the purchasing power of households in Kenya mostly the lower income groups. The inter-annual food and non-alcoholic drinks' inflation stood at 6.58%, which was lower than 13.20% in May 2015.

Price data collected during the May 2016 FSOM shows that, nominal retail maize prices fell by between 4% in eastern pastoral livelihood zone to 49% in north-eastern pastoral zone, from a year on year comparison. The long rains harvest in the northern Rift valley and cross-border imports continue to increase maize supply in the markets. In other regions maize prices rose by between 5% in Daadab refugee camp to 21% in coastal marginal agricultural zone.

The northern pastoral region and Daadab refugee camp, have recorded a drop in the food basket cost in the last three years. The cost fell by 8% (northern) and 4% (Daadab), compared to same month last year. In other regions, the cost fell by between 20% in north-eastern pastoral livelihood zone to 3% in Kakuma refugee camp, from a year on year comparison. The reduction in the basket cost will most likely lead to improved food access, assuming that household income remains constant within the season.

The cost of the minimum healthy food basket has increased in the coastal marginal agricultural, eastern pastoral and grassland pastoral regions over the past three years. The cost rose by 1% (coastal) and by 10% in the eastern, grassland and western agro-pastoral livelihood zones, compared to same



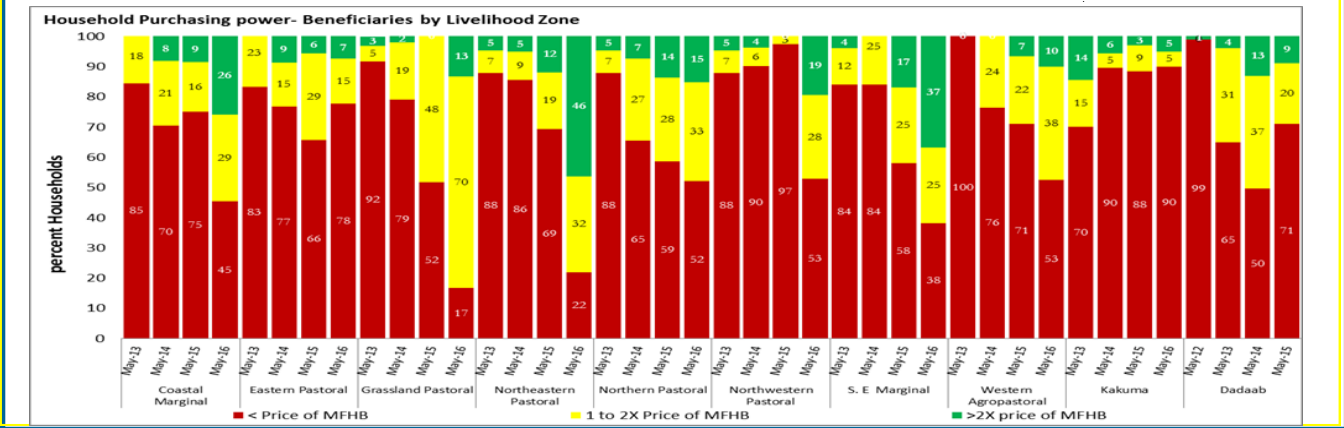
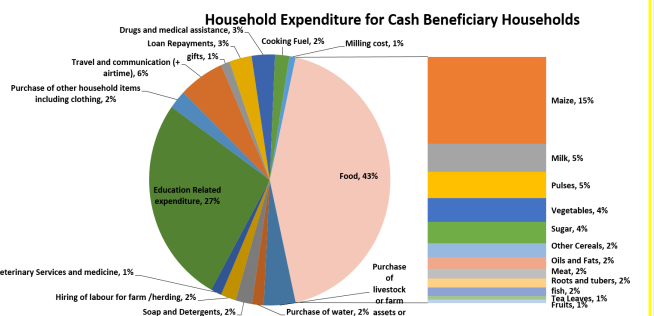
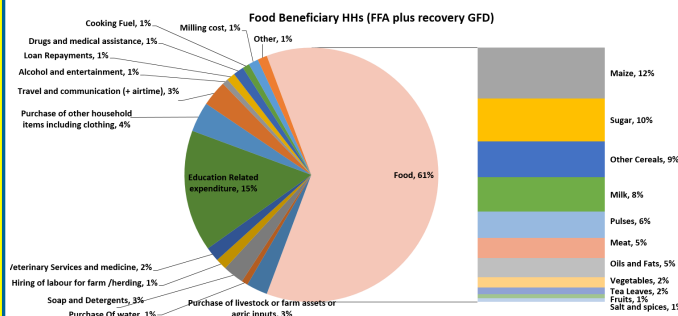
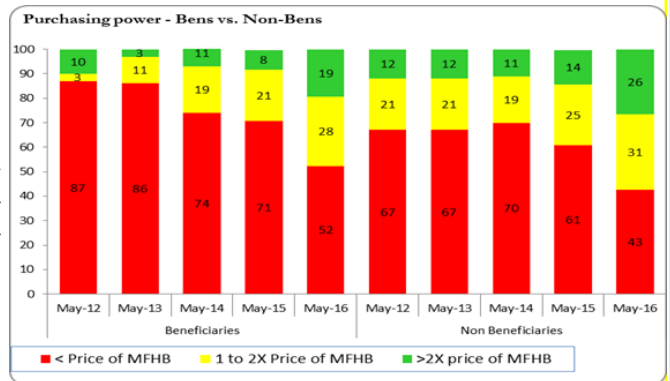
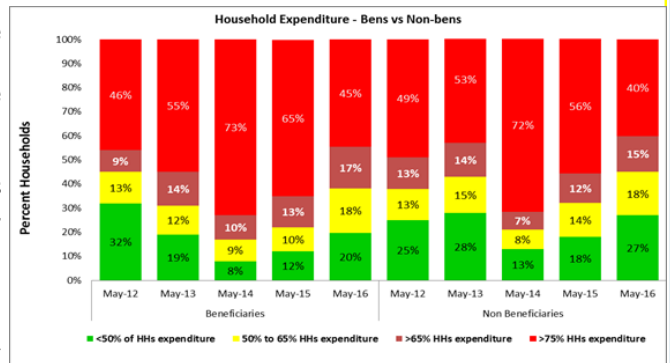
Household expenditure (income proxy)

The proportion of beneficiary households who spent more than 75% of their income on food reduced compared with previous years and was 45% in May 2016. Consequently, the proportion of beneficiary households that spent less than 50% of their income on food increased to 20% compared with May 2014/15. The situation for non-beneficiaries has also improved compared with May 2014/15 as the proportion who spend less than 50% on food has increased to 27%. Households' purchasing power has steadily improved compared to the previous three years as food prices in some zones reduced and therefore some 48% of beneficiary households and 57% among non-beneficiaries were able to afford the minimum healthy food basket.

The beneficiaries who received WFP food (GFD and FFA) spent an average of 61% of their overall income on food while cash beneficiaries spent 43% on food. Education remained by far the largest non-food expenditure item, covering 15-27% of households' total income. Travel and communication, livestock/agriculture inputs, and other household goods expenditure lines covered 3-6% of total income.

Maize continues to be the most purchased food item by all households but much higher among cash beneficiaries, who spent nearly a third of their food expenditure on this item. Sugar remained the second item that household spent money on and was particularly high among food beneficiaries. Food beneficiaries also continued to spend a larger proportion of their income on high value protein items compared with cash beneficiaries. A large proportion of households (43-52%),

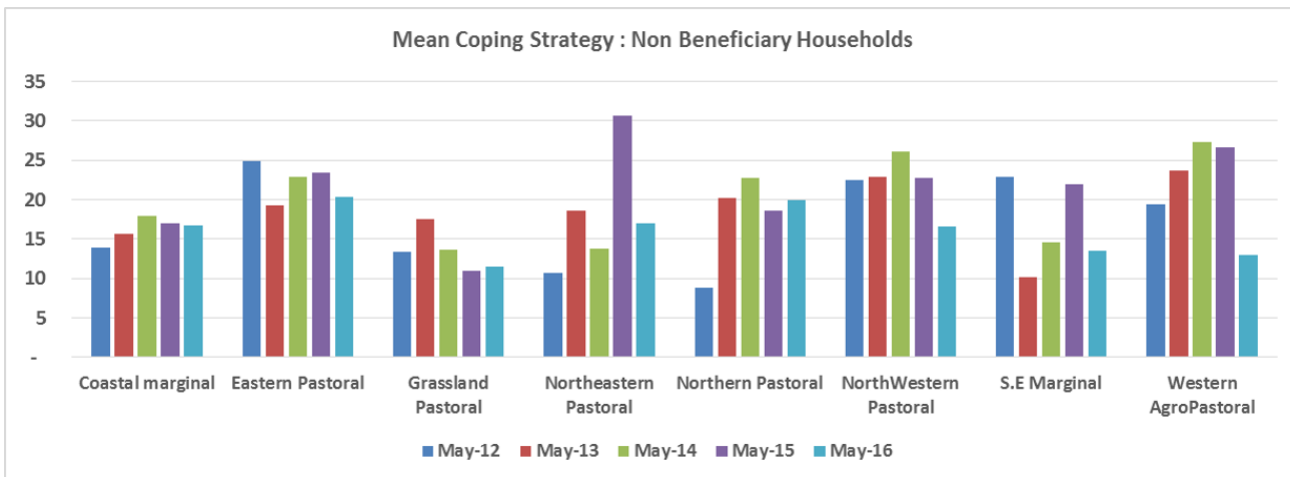
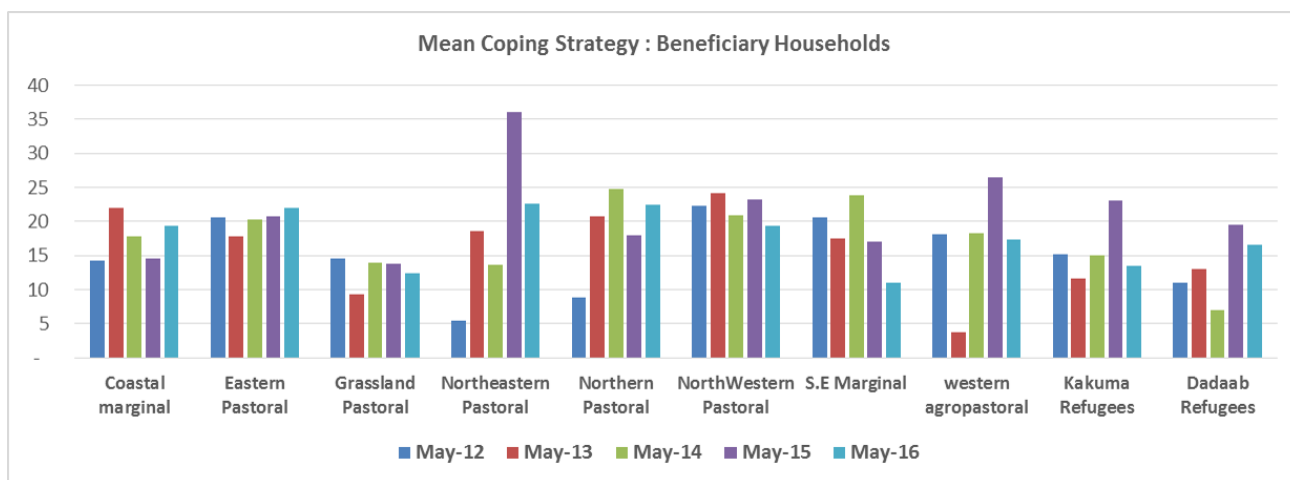
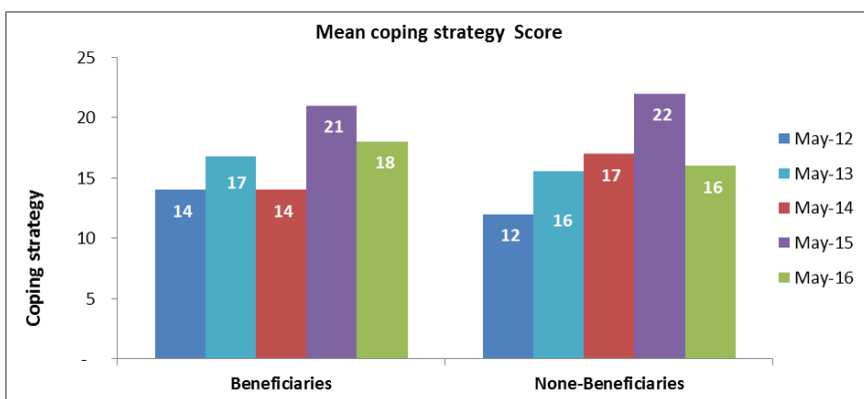
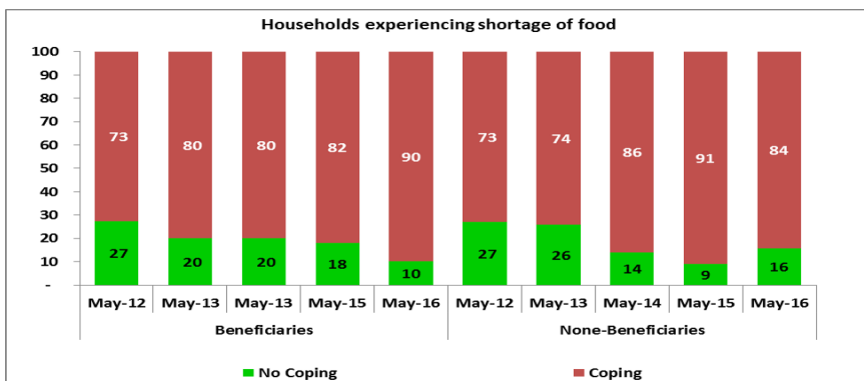
could not afford the cost of the minimum healthy basket, even if household purchasing power, as mentioned has improved. All livelihood zones apart from Eastern pastoral zone, Kakuma and Dadaab improved compared with previous years. Eastern, Kakuma and Dadaab remained the areas with the highest proportion of households (78, 71 and 90%), who were not able to purchase the basket, which partly was caused by high food prices and also unreliable income sources.



Household Coping Strategies (CSI)

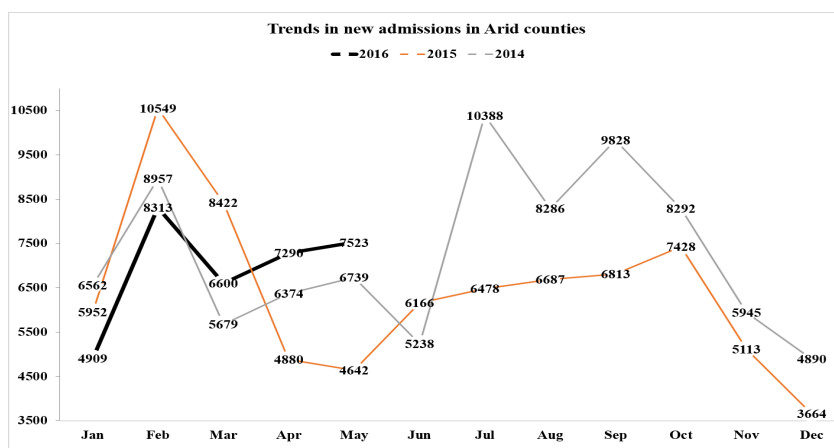
The proportion of households who were employing coping strategies among the beneficiaries population increased comparing May 2016 and the same period in 2015. In the current round, 90% of the households were employing coping compared to 82% in 2015. For the non beneficiaries the population of households that was employing coping strategies reduced from 91% to 84% comparing same period in 2015 and 2016 respectively.

Mean coping strategy in may 2016 stood at 18 and 16 for beneficiaries and non beneficiaries. This is an improved trend comparing same period 2015 and also during the last round in December. For beneficiary households, in 2015 may, the score for beneficiaries was 21 while that of non beneficiaries was 21 indicating that more households were employing coping strategies to cover for food shortages at the household level.

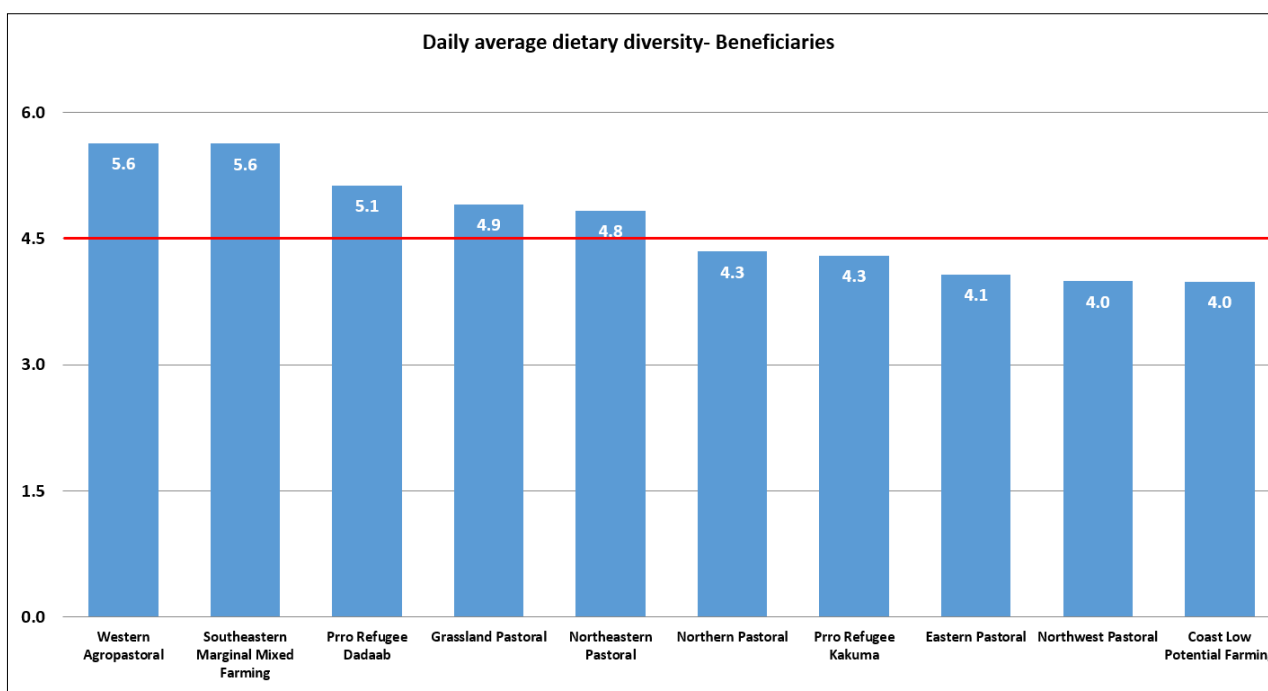


Nutrition situation and household dietary diversity

The admissions trends for the beneficiaries in the Supplementary Feeding Programme remained within the same range from October 2015. The admissions in May 2016 were however 60% higher than the admissions for May 2015. This could be attributed to a deterioration of malnutrition levels in Turkana County with very critical malnutrition levels reported in Turkana Central (24.5%) and Turkana South (30.3%) sub counties. On overall the admissions for Turkana accounted for 42% of the total new admissions in May 2016 and over 50% increase for the county in comparison to same time last year.



The daily average dietary diversity indicator showed that in the period May 2016, none of the livelihood zones for beneficiary households had attained the threshold of six which is regarded as good dietary diversity. Both the western agro pastoral and southern marginal mixed farming had a value of 5.6 indicating the highest diversity among the livelihoods and coastal low potential farming had lowest of 4.0. Livelihood zones that were below 4.5 (poor dietary diversity) were northern agropastoral, Kakuma PRRO beneficiaries, eastern pastoral, northwest pastoral and coast low potential farming.



Percentage of Beneficiaries Food Insecure HHs - May 2016

