**Overview:** This report presents the results of the 4th round FSMS / CHS survey for the Katanga Province conducted in October 2009. The data were collected for the following indicators:

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Overall, the food security situation in the surveyed territories of Katanga province, based on the latest round of FSMS/CHS that took place in October 2009, has improved as compared to October 2008 for the majority of the indicators. Both beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries have shown an improvement in food consumption, a reduced coping strategy index, meaning lower stress levels, an increased reliance on own production as a source of food (for non-beneficiaries only) and a reduction in overall percentage of food expenditure (for non-beneficiary households).

Percentage expenditure on food has increased for beneficiary households. It is not obvious at this time if this is due to price differences between October 2008 and October 2009 or dependency on the market for food. The fact that November is a lean season could have contributed to decreased reliance on own production for both groups.

By territories, the situation of food security is variable. All the territories surveyed achieved improved food consumption with the exception of some territories in Lualaba, Tanganyika and Northern part of Haut Katanga districts. Own production increased and purchase decreased for majority of the territories with the exception of Lualaba and Tanganyika and some territories in Haut Katanga district. Risky coping strategies have decreased for all the territories surveyed with the exception of territories in Lualaba district. Income has increased from crop production/sales for most territories with the exception of again some territories in Tanganyika district (Kalemie and Nyunzu).

It can be concluded that there is little association between rainfall, vegetation and crop situation and food security situation in the province. Rainfall is not a limiting factor for the growth and development of crops especially maize for all districts in Katanga province.

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The Spanish Government is providing financial support for the strengthening of Food Security Monitoring Systems in DRC-Katanga. The support also supports the preparation of this report.

**PARTNERS**

Ministry of Agriculture; RADEM; ECC/MERU; GFD; GAFEM; AASF; AJD; AME
INTRODUCTION

The FSMS/CHS have been established in Katanga to monitor the food security situation in high risk districts as identified by the 2007-8 CFSVA and to assess the impact of WFP food assistance where it is distributed.

MAIN RESULTS

1. Food Consumption

The Food Consumption Score not only allows comparisons of dietary quality and diversity between beneficiary and non-beneficiary populations but also is used to establish a threshold of dietary quality against which to compare these populations.

Overall, 66.5% of the sampled households were found to be having acceptable consumption in October 2009 as compared to 71% in June 2009 and 60% in October 2008. There is a decrease by 5.2% and 1.6% in households with borderline and poor consumption respectively, in this survey as compared to October 2008. Food consumption has not improved as compared to June 2009 which is a harvesting season takes as compared to November which is a lean season.

The trend across the territories shows that the majority (more than 50%) of the households in the territories achieved acceptable food consumption. Kasenga, Kongolo, Kalemie, Moba, Pweto and Dilolo achieved lower percent of acceptable consumption this time as compared to October 2008.

As illustrated by the chart on the left, the percentage of households with poor consumption in October 2009 has increased by 1% and 5% as compared to October 2008 and June 2009 respectively for beneficiaries but decreased by 3% for non-beneficiaries. However, the percentage of households with acceptable consumption decreased by 10% for beneficiaries and only 1% for non-beneficiaries as compared to June 2009 but increased by 3% and 8% for beneficiary and non-beneficiary households as compared to October 2008. Both groups also show a decrease in percentages of households with borderline consumption but much more so for the non-beneficiary households as compared to October 2008.
As depicted in the graph above, in terms of food sources, both beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries showed an increased reliance on purchase from 55% to 66% and 46% to 52% respectively as compared to October 2008. Reliance on own production also has decreased by 3% for beneficiaries and increased by 3% for non-beneficiaries. However, looking at territories, the majority of them has shown increased own production with the exception of Dilolo, Sandoa (District of Lualaba), Kalemie and Manono (District of Tanganyika) while purchase has decreased for Kasenga, Manono, Kongolo, Kambove, Lubudi, Mitwaba, and Bukama but increased for Dilolo, Sandoa, Nyunzu, Pweto, Moba, Kalemie as compared to October 2008.

As shown in the chart above, between the three consumption groups, households with acceptable consumption have a higher percentage of their food acquired from purchase (market) than other groups and as compared to October 2008 and July 2009. Households with poor consumption have a higher proportion of their food sourced from own production as compared to other groups in this survey as compared to October 2008 and June 2009.

3. Coping strategies

The Coping Strategies Index (CSI) measures the frequency and severity of actions taken by households in response to perceived food shortage. A lower CSI score means less stress and potentially better food security. As shown in the chart above, the average CSI for beneficiary households was slightly higher than for non-beneficiaries. It is of note also that the average CSI is lower this time than in October 2008 for both groups, but slightly higher for beneficiaries as compared to June 2009.
As shown in the chart above, trends in CSI indicate a decrease from October 2008 across majority of the territories with the exception of Sandoa and Dilolo (District of Lualaba). A decrease in mean CSI means households reported less of reducing quantity of food, reduction in number of meals, reduced adult meals so that children can eat, food borrowing and relying on less expensive food or less preferred food and purchase/borrow food on credit.

By programme activity, the mean CSI is lower this time than in October 2008 with the exception of therapeutic nutrition. The mean CSI is higher than June 2009 for all programmes with the exception of HIV/AIDS.

4. Expenditure

The above graph shows the percentage of household expenditure on food for each of 15 territories under study. One can see that households in Mitwaba, Bukama, Kolwezi, Lubumbashi, Lubudi, Kambove, Moba, Kalemie and Pweto allocate a higher percentage of their income on food than other territories.

Percent expenditure of households on food is higher for beneficiary households this time as compared to October 2008 and June 2009. However, it is lower than October 2008 for non-beneficiaries.

The trend is also similar as shown on the above graph for both groups (beneficiaries and beneficiaries) where percentage household expenditure has increased this time for maize, other cereals, pulses, and meat/fish, oil by 6%, 1%, 2%, 3% and 2% respectively as compared to October 2008. The trend is similar across non-beneficiaries where expenditure has risen for maize (2%), pulses (2%), meat/fish (3%) and oil (1%) as compared to October 2008.

As indicated in the graph below the expenditure on food for beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries has gone up as compared to October 2008 and June 2009. It is not obvious at this time if this is due to price differences between October 2008, June 2009 and October 2009 or dependency on the market for food.

5. Income and Economic Activity

In order to better understand the relative importance of the different livelihood sources, households were asked to estimate the contribution of each source to the total household income.
The graph above shows mean change in the relative contribution of different livelihoods for beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries between October 2008 and October 2009. It shows that the mean contribution of crop production sales, casual labour, and handicrafts/artisan has decreased for beneficiaries between October 2008 and October 2009. For non-beneficiaries, crop production sales and casual labour have decreased while handicrafts/artisan has increased by 4%. Of particular note is the contribution of small businesses to households’ income which has increased by 9% and 3% for beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries respectively.

Across territories, the contribution of different livelihoods for beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries between October 2008 and October 2009. It shows that the mean contribution of crop production sales, casual labour, and handicrafts/artisan has decreased for beneficiaries between October 2008 and October 2009. For non-beneficiaries, crop production sales and casual labour have decreased while handicrafts/artisan has increased by 4%. Of particular note is the contribution of small businesses to households’ income which has increased by 9% and 3% for beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries respectively.

Comparing the beneficiary and non-beneficiary households, there is a significant difference in land access with 56% and 76% respectively.

As shown in the graph below, more than half of beneficiary households have not cultivated this year as compared to only 15% in October 2008 while for non-beneficiary households now 46% did not cultivate as compared to 10% in October 2008. The percentage of households who did cultivate less than 0.5 ha has also reduced for beneficiaries but remained the same for non-beneficiaries. According to the respondents the main reasons for having less cultivated land this time was due to mainly sickness of member of household (about 50%) and lack of manpower (28%).

Across territories, the trend of the percentage of households which did not cultivate is very variable. It is as low as 20% in Kambove and as high as 76% in Pweto, 75% in Malemba-Nkulu and 60% in Likasi.
7. Rainfall, Vegetation and Crop Situation (November and December 2009)

During November, the stage of development of maize (a major crop in Katanga) is mainly vegetative. During this month, rainfall analysis has shown that, the whole province received either normal or above normal rainfall conditions as compared to long-term average. Water Requirements Satisfaction Index (WRSI) also resulted to 100% in all parts of the province. For the month of December when maize reaches reproductive stage (in almost all parts of the province) and when water stress is quite critical as compared to the vegetative stage in November, WRSI is also 100% in all parts of the province. The Crop Water Requirement Satisfaction Index (WRSI) provides a measure of the extent to which the crop water requirements have been satisfied (Source: Early Warning Bulletin, WFP Katanga, November and December 2009).

Rainfall is not a limiting factor for the growth and development of crops, especially maize for Katanga province in general as found out from the rainfall, vegetation and crop situation bulletin for the months of October, November and December. Additionally, no significant difference has been found between the districts in terms of those variables during these months.

8. Vulnerability

The vulnerability of households was assessed by considering eight characteristics that each household possesses. The variables considered include female-headed households, elderly headed households, death of recent household member, unsafe water, poor toilet, possession of no livestock, no access to cultivable land, and no children aged 6 to 15 going to school. Households were described as having low (0-1 characteristics), medium (2 to 3) and high (4+) vulnerability.

As shown in the graph to the left, beneficiary households have high vulnerability (29%) as compared to non-beneficiary households (19%). As compared to the situation in June 2009, high level of vulnerability has changed a little for non-beneficiaries while it has increased from 19% to 29% for beneficiaries.

By territories, Mitwaba (50%) has the highest vulnerability followed by Kalemie (33%), Mutchatcha (33%), Moba (30%), Kipushi (30%) and Kampove (30%) while the lowest vulnerability is found in Kongolo (5%) and Sandoa (7%).

As shown in the above graph, comparison has been made between food consumption groups and vulnerability for June 2009 and October 2009. As clearly illustrated in the above graph, high vulnerability is associated with poor consumption and low vulnerability with acceptable consumption. It can be inferred from the graph that, high vulnerability has decreased for households with poor consumption while little change is observed for households with borderline and acceptable consumption as compared to June 2009.
The above chart compares mean coping strategies index (CSI) by vulnerability level for both beneficiary and non-beneficiary households. It is visible that the risky coping strategies is lower for beneficiaries for low and medium vulnerability groups while it has increased for high-level vulnerability groups. For non-beneficiaries, the risky coping strategies are lower in each vulnerability category. This means that food assistance has not reduced the risky coping strategies for beneficiaries especially for highly vulnerable categories.

9. Food Assistance

Types des programmes

A total of 242 beneficiary households were surveyed for this fourth round of the FSMS-CHS. According to the results of the survey, more than 90% of the beneficiaries confirmed to have received food aid during the six months prior to the assessment. An average of 86% of households has received his food ration during the last distribution. The food basket was composed of cereals, pulses, vegetable oil, salt, CSB and sugar (the two last are distributed for HIV/AIDS and nutrition feeding programmes only).

Women continue to play an important role both in the collection of the household food ration (women collected households’ food ration in 86% of households) at the distribution points and in the decision making on how the household food entitlement is utilized (women decide on how the households’ food is used in 85% of households).

The situation of food sell seems to have improved compared to the previous round of FSMS. An average of 15% of households only declared to have shared or sold a portion of the food aid received during the last distribution. An average of 90% of households informed that the quantity of food sold or shared was less than 50% of the quantity received. Contrary to the previous FSMS, a very little percentage of beneficiaries of CSB and sugar have sold a portion of their entitlement for these commodities. This is very important as these commodities are distributed only for HIV/AIDS and feeding programmes.

Eighty five percent of respondents are satisfied with the registration system. However, 64% of them think that all of the most vulnerable people were not selected as food aid beneficiaries.

An average of 83% of respondents is satisfied with the taste, physical condition, and duration of preparation, odor and color of WFP food aid.
Recommendations and the Way Forward

- It was recommended during the third round of FSMS-CHS in June 2009 that more agricultural indicators such as grain yield should be included in the questionnaire. Due to budget and time constraints, this has not been possible in this round. However, for better quality results and inclusion of very important food security indicators which will make the exercise even more expensive, it would be helpful if cooperating partners could also share part of the cost.

- As much as possible, prices which are important indicators of availability and access to food should be monitored at least in those districts and territories identified to be having shown no improvement in terms of food security. This should be discussed with the cooperating partners to work out a plan of collecting price data for some commodities and territories.

- During the last round of FSMS/CHS report, it was also recommended that the Katanga office should look seriously into the situation of food sell during its Post Distribution Monitoring Survey (PDM) in order to capture the main reasons for food sell. This recommendation seems not to have been implemented. WFP Katanga should work out a plan of implementing this important exercise along with its cooperating partners.

- It was noted that the non-beneficiaries had a better CSI which implies that they use less severe strategies than those of beneficiaries. It is therefore desirable to implement the support that enables beneficiaries to start the same income-generating activities as the non-beneficiaries. This will enable them to improve their income and better meet the food needs during the lean periods.

- It has been noted since the first follow-up survey in June 2008, a decrease in the percentage of households with access to land, a meeting with the authorities should clarify this phenomenon in order to cope with it. The survey results show that households are heavily dependent on agriculture. So any loss of land could be a potential cause of decreased agricultural production and consequently reduced food availability.

- Since problems of food insecurity are more frequent during the lean seasons, WFP should establish a system to anticipate this situation. This could be the establishment of a food security granary in collaboration with partners and government. The reserves of these lofts will be placed on the market at the producers’ prices in early lean period to anticipate price increases of basic commodities. The lofts also will fight against credits of usury practiced by traders during the lean period.