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# Global Update Food Security Monitoring

October 2009 - February 2010 • Issue No. 2

The Global Update provides food security information on trends on food access and utilization. Key food access indicators reported are food consumption, coping strategies and terms of trade. These indicators are proximate to nutritional status thus *allow the early identification of potential increases in malnutrition*.

This update provides information on 33 countries for the period: fourth quarter 2009 through February 2010. It reports on changes of a select set of indicators and makes conclusions about the food security situation. (*See Annex for details on the indicators*).

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, Ethiopia, Georgia (IDPs), Ghana (Northern Region), Indonesia, Madagascar, Nepal, Sierra Leone, Somalia



**No Change:**

Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Darfur, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, OPT (Gaza Strip), Swaziland, Tajikistan, Zambia, Zimbabwe

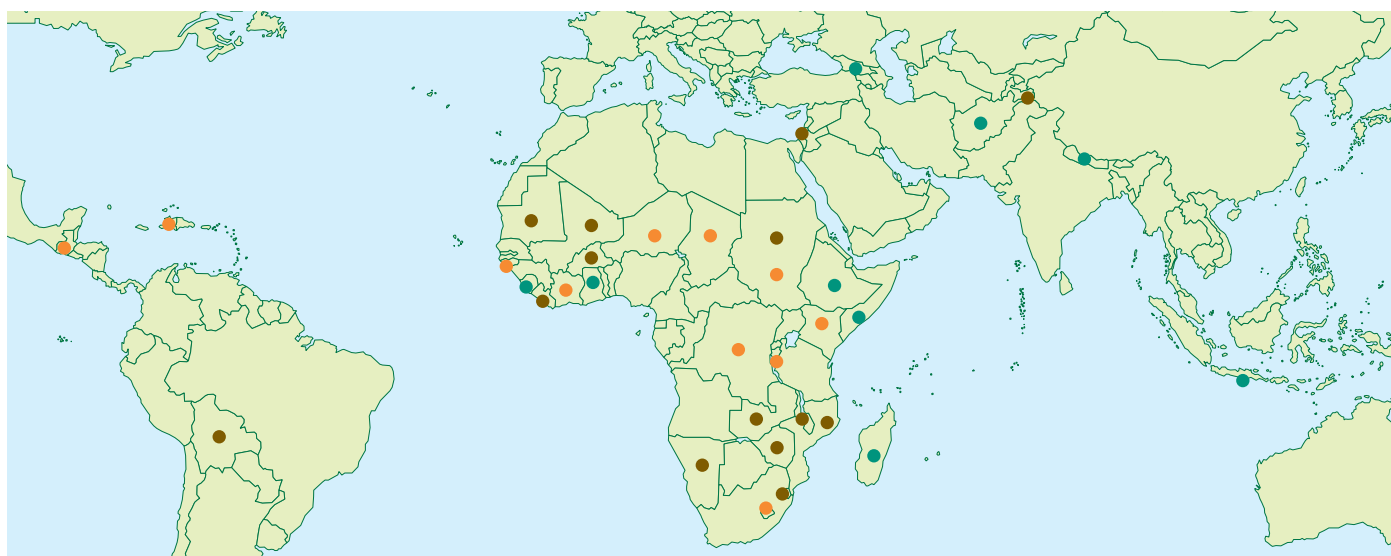


**Deteriorated:**

Burundi, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, DRC (Katanga Province), Guatemala, Guinea-Conakry, Haiti, Kenya, Lesotho, Niger, Southern Sudan

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

## 33 countries covered by the Global Update



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food security analysis

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 - October 2009 - February 2010

The table presents information on the countries where WFP participates in a Food Security Monitoring System • Based on reports dated October 2009 to February 2010 • Changes are respective to the previous quarter

### TRENDS OF THE FOOD SECURITY SITUATION OVER THE FOURTH QUARTER:



#### Improved:

Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Georgia (IDPs), Ghana (Northern Region), Indonesia, Madagascar, Nepal, Sierra Leone, Somalia



#### No Change:

Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Darfur, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, OPT (Gaza Strip), Swaziland, Tajikistan, Zambia, Zimbabwe






#### Deteriorated:

Burundi, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, DRC (Katanga Province), Guatemala, Guinea-Conakry, Haiti, Kenya, Lesotho, Niger, Southern Sudan

Countries (A)	Food Consumption (B)	Prices (C)	Malnutrition (D)	Coping Strategies (E)	Purchasing Power (F)	Rainfall & Production (G)	Food security trend of last quarter compared to previous one (H)	
East and Southern Africa	BURUNDI	The proportion of households with poor food consumption has increased from <b>16%</b> in the third quarter to <b>22%</b> in the fourth quarter (data collected at sentinel sites in 8 livelihoods' zones).	The prices of sweet potatoes and beans have respectively increased by <b>111%</b> and <b>29%</b> since the previous quarter and increased by <b>14%</b> and <b>2%</b> since 2008.  Prices of sweet potatoes and cassava flour were respectively <b>216%</b> and <b>123%</b> higher than the five-year average.		In the southern and eastern plateau areas, households reported using severe coping strategies more frequently.  More than <b>75%</b> of households consumed reduced portions, reduced their frequency of meals and / or consumed cheaper and less preferred food.		Poor rains in most of November caused about <b>75%</b> of crop losses in the northern part of the country.  The food security situation has deteriorated. An increased number of households have poor food consumption patterns. The price of basic commodities has increased.	
	DRC (KATANGA PROVINCE)	Food consumption improved in October 2009 compared to October 2008. The proportion of households reporting poor food consumption declined by <b>1.6%</b> . (data collected at sentinel sites).	The prices of cassava products and maize have respectively increased by <b>64%</b> and <b>26%</b> since the previous quarter and increased by <b>123%</b> and <b>45%</b> since 2008.		The proportion of households who resorted to severe coping strategies declined ( <b>66.5%</b> in October 2009 down from <b>71%</b> in June).		In November and December, the province received either normal or above normal rainfalls as compared to long-term average.  Households' reliance on their own production decreased by <b>3%</b> .  Overall deteriorated food security status. Despite marginal improvement in food consumption and a decline in use of severe coping strategies, rising food prices and continued armed conflict continues to compromise sustained improvements in food security.	
	ETHIOPIA		The prices of maize and wheat have respectively decreased by <b>7%</b> and <b>9%</b> since the previous quarter and decreased by <b>32%</b> since 2008.  Prices of maize and wheat were respectively <b>97%</b> and <b>69%</b> higher than the five-year average.		Most households increased livestock sales, reduced their number and size of meals and shifted expenditure from non-food items to staple food.	Terms of Trade (TOT) were favorable for pastoralists due to gradual increases in livestock prices and relatively low grain and food prices compared to the 2007 and 2008 averages.	Erratic rainfall caused an overall reduction in the harvest of the main agricultural season (Meher), estimated at <b>10-11%</b> compared to 2008/2009. Most pastoral areas and the eastern and central lowlands were affected. However, food supplies and household food stocks improved due to the availability of the new harvest.	




See Annex for detailed information on the indicators.




Countries (A)	Food Consumption (B)	Prices (C)	Malnutrition (D)	Coping Strategies (E)	Purchasing Power (F)	Rainfall & Production (G)	Food security trend of last quarter compared to previous one (H)	
East and Southern Africa	KENYA	<p>The price of maize has not changed since the previous quarter but has increased by <b>4%</b> since 2008.</p> <p>Maize prices have increased by more than <b>50%</b> in the urban areas, <b>100%</b> in southern pastoral areas, more than <b>70%</b> in northwest pastoral areas and more than <b>40%</b> in south eastern and coastal marginal agriculture districts compared to the five-year average.</p> <p>The price of maize was <b>85%</b> higher than the five-year average.</p>	<p>Middle Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) measurements for children under 5 varied between <b>10%</b> to <b>33%</b> in arid and semi arid lands (West Pokot, Samburu, Narok and Kajiado districts).</p>	<p>Many households had eroded their coping strategies and were heavily indebted with declining income generating options.</p>	<p>In the north-eastern part of the country (Wajir district), Terms of Trade (TOT) were favorable for pastoralists due to the rising prices of livestock; the barter was 3.6 goats for 1 bag of maize.</p> <p>In the northern part of the country (Turkana district), TOT were unfavorable for pastoralists due to the falling prices of livestock; the barter was 5.5 goats for 1 bag of maize.</p>	<p>Maize production of the long-rains season is estimated at <b>25%</b> below the medium-term average due to poor rains. Most pastoral areas were also affected.</p> <p>Production of the short-rains season, with harvesting in March-April, may turn out to be better than forecasted in November-December.</p>	<p>The food security has <u>deteriorated due to poor national maize output and price increases.</u></p> 	
	LESOTHO	<p>The western half of the country (Foothills and Southern Lowlands) showed the highest proportion of households with poor food consumption (<b>18</b> and <b>20%</b>).</p>	<p>The price of maize has decreased by <b>2%</b> since the previous quarter and increased by <b>2%</b> since 2008.</p> <p>The price of maize was <b>30%</b> higher than the five-year average.</p>	<p>Critically high levels of stunting were reported (exact rates not provided).</p> <p>The causes of continued chronic undernutrition are being investigated by the Ministry of Health and UNICEF.</p>			<p>Wheat production in 2009 was <b>57%</b> higher than in the previous year.</p>	<p>The food security situation has <u>deteriorated due to lower than average crop production.</u></p> 
	MADAGASCAR	<p>In October <b>41%</b> of households had acceptable levels of food consumption. Slightly more than <b>50%</b> of households had poor food consumption levels.</p>	<p>The price of rice has decreased by almost <b>9%</b> since the previous quarter and decreased by <b>8%</b> since 2008.</p> <p>The price of domestic rice was <b>3%</b> higher than the five-year average.</p> <p>Prices of fertilizers, pesticides and other agricultural inputs increased by about <b>5</b> to <b>10%</b> between 2008 and 2009.</p>	<p>Madagascar consistently has the highest levels of acute malnutrition (<b>15%</b>) and chronic malnutrition (<b>53%</b>) in Southern Africa.</p>	<p>No adverse coping mechanisms were reported. No migration recorded in November and December.</p>		<p>Only <b>17%</b> of communities planted rice on time due to late and erratic rainfall.</p>	<p>The overall food security situation has <u>improved. An increasing number of households have acceptable food consumption patterns. No adverse coping mechanisms were reported. NB: food prices have also declined.</u></p> 

Countries (A)	Food Consumption (B)	Prices (C)	Malnutrition (D)	Coping Strategies (E)	Purchasing Power (F)	Rainfall & Production (G)	Food security trend of last quarter compared to previous one (H)	
East and Southern Africa	MALAWI	<p>The price of maize has decreased by <b>16%</b> since the previous quarter and decreased by <b>30%</b> since 2008.</p> <p>The price of maize was <b>89%</b> higher than the five-year average.</p>	<p>Malawi had high levels of stunting (<b>46%</b>) and underweight (<b>19%</b>). Global acute malnutrition (GAM) was less than <b>5%</b>.</p> <p>Micronutrient deficiency in the country was high. About <b>80%</b> of children under 5 and <b>48%</b> of pregnant women were anaemic.</p>	<p>Reduced "Ganyu" (farm labour) opportunities due to low income realised from cotton sales. "Ganyu" is a key source of income and food for the majority of poor households</p>		<p>Maize production in 2009 was <b>32%</b> higher than the previous year as a result of favorable weather and the availability of inputs through the government subsidy scheme.</p> <p>Long dry spells and army worms were experienced in some districts resulting in reduced yields for crops such as maize.</p>	<p>The overall food security situation has remained stable due to falling prices and surplus of main staple foods in some areas.</p> 	
	MOZAMBIQUE	<p>The proportion of households with poor food consumption varies in the south: in Maputo province (<b>7%</b>) and in the Tete and Inhambane provinces (<b>20%</b>). (data collected at sentinel sites)</p>	<p>Malnutrition rates were lower than average ranging from <b>1.4%</b> (Gaza) to <b>8.9%</b> (Nampula).</p>	<p>There is a decline in the use of severe coping strategies from the third to the fourth quarter. The CSI (Coping Strategy Index) declined from 50s to 40s.</p> <p>The most frequent coping strategies used are: reduced portion and number of meals.</p>		<p>Poor and irregular rains in the 2nd dekad of November were reported in the south and central regions of the country.</p> <p>Cereal production in 2009 was <b>12%</b> higher than in the previous year. Maize and rice productions were respectively <b>13%</b> and <b>37%</b> higher than last year.</p>	<p>The overall food security situation has remained stable despite the irregularity and bad distribution of rainfall and very high temperatures which hindered crop development.</p> 	
	NAMIBIA		<p>The Consumer Price Index (CPI) Food Inflation in October fell to 7.1 this quarter from 8.1 last quarter.</p>	<p><b>29%</b> of children were stunted, <b>17%</b> were underweight and <b>7.5%</b> acutely malnourished.</p> <p>About <b>77%</b> of the acutely malnourished children were found in the north-eastern part of country.</p>			<p>During the 2009/10 rainy season, rains were erratic, sporadic and insufficient to activate significant cultivations.</p>	<p>The food security situation has deteriorated following poor harvests, but then stabilised due to the positive impact of the government drought and flood relief food assistance intervention.</p> 
	SOMALIA		<p>Prices of cereal have decreased by <b>10 to 30%</b> between December 2008 and December 2009 but are still above the five-year average.</p>	<p>Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) median has reduced from <b>19%</b> to <b>16%</b> in most of the country.</p>		<p>Across the south, local sorghum and maize prices are high for this time of the year despite the good Deyr harvest. However, both labour wages and livestock prices are also high, meaning that one day of labour or the sale of a goat will fetch as much sorghum or maize in February 2010 as it did in February 2009.</p>	<p>Both the Gu and the Deyr 2009/10 were above average. The latest harvest (Deyr 2009/2010) is the highest of the last seven Deyr seasons. It is <b>121%</b> above the Post War Average and <b>149%</b> above the five-year average.</p>	<p>Compared to June 2009, December 2009 shows a slight improvement in food security and nutrition situation due to two good harvests (Gu and Deyr).</p> 




Countries (A)	Food Consumption (B)	Prices (C)	Malnutrition (D)	Coping Strategies (E)	Purchasing Power (F)	Rainfall & Production (G)	Food security trend of last quarter compared to previous one (H)	
East and Southern Africa	SWAZILAND	11% of households in the northwest region (Hhohho) and more than 9% in the southern region (Shiselweni) had poor food consumption levels (data collected at sentinel sites).	Overall only 1.1% of the children were wasted (low weight for height).  Stunting or chronic malnutrition was at around 40%.  According to the latest CHS (community and household surveillance) survey, over 50% of the women sampled were obese. This is potentially due to the poor quality of their diet which consists mostly of cereals/ carbohydrates with little diversity.	The number of households that use severe coping strategies has increased from 34% in March to 40% in October for food aid beneficiaries and decreased from approximately 34% in March to 30% in October for non beneficiaries.		The country has a shortage of 90,000 mt of cereals but plans to offset the gap by importing 40,000 mt (of maize, wheat and rice).	The food security situation has remained stable as a result of good crop production.	
	ZAMBIA	Food consumption improved in October 2009 compared to October 2008. Data collected at sentinel sites show an increase of the mean food consumption score from 47 to 52.	The price of maize has decreased by 5% since the previous quarter and increased by 3% since 2008.  The price of maize was 71% higher than the five-year average.	45.5% of children under 5 were stunted, 3.6% were wasted and 15.2% underweight.  Malnutrition levels in flood affected areas were within normal ranges.	There is an overall decline in the use of severe coping strategies seen in the drop of the mean coping strategy index from 59.7 in March to 37.3 in October.	Cereal production in 2009 was 28% higher than in the previous year. Maize and millet productions were respectively 31% and 25% higher than last year.  The rainy season started earlier than normal in parts of the south but with a slight delay in a few parts of the northwest.	The food security situation remained stable due to improved food consumption and lower food prices.	
	ZIMBABWE	Food consumption improved in the fourth quarter compared to the third quarter. The proportion of households with poor food consumption has fallen by more than 5%. (data collected at sentinel sites).	The price of maize has decreased by 24% since the previous quarter and decreased by 63% since 2008.  The price of maize was 408% higher than the five-year average.	35% of children under 5 were stunted (37% in rural areas and 30% in urban areas) and 2% wasted.  12% of children were underweight in rural areas and 9% in urban areas.	The proportion of households that use severe coping strategies has decreased by more than 12% since last quarter.		Cereal production in 2009 was 72% higher than in 2008. Maize and sorghum productions were respectively 76% and 108% higher than in the previous year.  There is an estimated shortfall of about 370,000 mt of cereals to the end of the consumption year down from the 500,000 mt in May 2009.  The area planted with crops has risen compared to last year with maize (93%) and grains (290%).	Food security has remained stable showing signs of recovery from the shortfall in May.



Countries (A)	Food Consumption (B)	Prices (C)	Malnutrition (D)	Coping Strategies (E)	Purchasing Power (F)	Rainfall & Production (G)	Food security trend of last quarter compared to previous one (H)
West Africa	BURKINA FASO	<p>The prices of sorghum and millet have respectively decreased by <b>7%</b> and <b>6%</b> since the previous quarter and increased by <b>5%</b> and decreased by <b>3%</b> since 2008.</p> <p>The prices of sorghum and millet respectively <b>25%</b> higher than the five-year average.</p>				<p>Crop production in 2009 was above the five-year average but somewhat lower than in 2008. Pastoral areas were affected by forage deficits in some parts of the country.</p>	<p>The food security situation is considered to remain unchanged.</p> 
	CHAD	<p>The price of sorghum has decreased by <b>4%</b> since the previous quarter and increased by <b>4%</b> since 2008. The price of millet has increased by <b>4%</b> since the previous quarter but has remained stable since 2008.</p> <p>The prices of sorghum and millet were respectively <b>48%</b> and <b>55%</b> higher than the five-year average.</p>		<p>To cope households most commonly used the following high risk strategies: reducing the quality of food and the portion and/or reducing frequency of meals consumed.</p>		<p>Cereal production in 2009 fell by an estimated <b>34%</b>. Sorghum and millet productions were respectively <b>22%</b> and <b>36%</b> lower than last year, affecting mainly the agro-pastoral areas.</p>	<p>The food security situation has slightly deteriorated due to below average rainfall and high food prices.</p> 
	CÔTE D'IVOIRE	<p><b>67%</b> of children between ages 6 months and 23 months had a 'poor' diet diversity.</p> <p>The prices of rice and cassava have respectively increased by <b>48%</b> and <b>29%</b> since the previous quarter and increased by <b>104%</b> and <b>41%</b> since 2008.</p> <p>The prices of rice and cassava were respectively <b>155%</b> higher and <b>12%</b> lower than the five-year average.</p>	<p>Malnutrition of children under 5 was the highest in Savenes, Moyen Cavally, Mintages and Bas Sassandra.</p>	<p>The number of households that depend on subsistence agriculture to cope has risen (exact numbers not available).</p> <p><b>20%</b> of households had to borrow to buy food.</p>		<p>National cereal production was about 1.4 mt in 2009 which is similar to the 2008 average.</p>	<p>The food security situation has deteriorated mainly due to a combination of high prices and displacement from conflict zones.</p> 


Countries (A)	Food Consumption (B)	Prices (C)	Malnutrition (D)	Coping Strategies (E)	Purchasing Power (F)	Rainfall & Production (G)	Food security trend of last quarter compared to previous one (H)	
West Africa	GHANA (NORTHERN REGION)	With the exception of the Upper West Region, the quality of cereal consumption and frequency of meals have increased.	The price of maize has decreased by <b>21%</b> since the previous quarter and decreased by <b>16%</b> since the previous year.	About <b>20.8%</b> of children under 5 in the upper east region were malnourished and <b>14.4%</b> in the upper west region.  Malnutrition rates for children under 5 have fallen since last quarter.	The number of households that migrated to cope rose significantly this quarter (exact numbers not available).		More than normal rainfall was recorded in the upper east and upper west regions in October. By December rains stopped giving way to dry and hazy conditions characteristic of the hamattan period in northern Ghana.  Increase in maize production reported by the government to be marginal when compared with 2008. Productivity reported at 8 to 9 bags per acre in 2009, compared to 7 to 8 bags per acre in 2008.  Harvesting of late maturing crops, sorghum, millet and yams occurred during the last quarter of 2009.	
	GUINEA - CONAKRY		The prices of local rice and palm oil have respectively decreased by <b>2%</b> and <b>1%</b> since the previous quarter and decreased by <b>28%</b> and <b>11%</b> since 2008.  The prices of rice and palm oil were respectively <b>5%</b> and <b>8%</b> higher than the five-year average.				National rice production was more than 996 600 tons in 2009.  Macroeconomic indicators have deteriorated rapidly (inflation, exchange rate) due to the political instability. Domestic and crossborder trade has been hampered. This has had an immediate and negative impact on food security.	
	LIBERIA	The proportion of households with poor food consumption has decreased from <b>14%</b> in 2008 to <b>11%</b> in 2009 (data collected at sentinel sites).	Prices of imported rice in January 2010 are showing a declining trend compared to December 2009 especially in the areas far off from Monrovia (over <b>13%</b> ).		About <b>58%</b> of households limited meal sizes and <b>64%</b> consumed less preferred and inexpensive foods.	Terms of Trade (TOT) for construction workers have decreased from 7.8 in December 2009 to 4.6 January 2010 due to minimal opportunities for construction work.  TOT for all other main activities have either improved or remained stable.	Rice production in 2009 increased by <b>14%</b> compared to last year.	Although some indicators point at improvements, the overall food security situation remains unchanged due to slow economic recovery and security concerns.  




Countries (A)	Food Consumption (B)	Prices (C)	Malnutrition (D)	Coping Strategies (E)	Purchasing Power (F)	Rainfall & Production (G)	Food security trend of last quarter compared to previous one (H)
West Africa	MALI	<p>The prices of millet and import rice were respectively <b>4%</b> and <b>3%</b> lower since last quarter. Since 2008, the price of millet increased by <b>6%</b> and the price of import rice decreased by <b>5%</b>.</p> <p>The prices of millet and import rice were respectively <b>19%</b> and <b>16%</b> higher than the five-year average.</p>				<p>Due to a seasonal delay in rains, pastoral and agro-pastoral areas in the north experienced livestock weight loss from the lack of adequate pasture.</p> <p>The production of cereals in 2009 rose by an estimated <b>13%</b>.</p>	<p>The overall food security trend is stable. The situation in pastoral areas has improved but dwindled in agro-pastoral areas.</p> 
	MAURITANIA	<p>The prices of wheat and import rice were respectively <b>2%</b> and <b>12%</b> higher since last quarter. The price of wheat decreased by <b>5%</b> and the price of import rice increased by <b>9%</b> since 2008.</p> <p>The prices of wheat and import rice were respectively <b>27%</b> and <b>19%</b> higher than the five-year average.</p>				<p>In the pastoral areas, the crop growth exceeded the 5-year average due to rainfall surpluses.</p> <p>Cereal production fell by <b>24%</b>, rice production decreased by <b>22%</b> and maize production increased by <b>36%</b> since last year.</p>	<p>The food security situation remains stable due to rainfall surpluses and good crop growth.</p> 
	NIGER	<p>The prices of millet and sorghum were respectively <b>4%</b> and <b>11%</b> higher compared to last quarter and increased by <b>11%</b> and <b>7%</b> since 2008.</p> <p>The prices of millet and sorghum were respectively <b>36%</b> and <b>40%</b> higher than the five-year average.</p>			<p>The Terms of Trade (TOT) between goat and millet were more favorable for goat herders (0.95kg of millet for 1 goat this quarter compared to 0.88kg last quarter).</p> <p>The TOT between beans and millet depreciated in favour of beans.</p>	<p>Cereal production in 2009 fell by <b>26%</b>. Sorghum and millet productions were respectively <b>36%</b> and <b>22%</b> lower than last year mainly affecting agro-pastoral areas.</p> <p>Due to a seasonal delay in rains, pastoral and agro-pastoral areas experienced livestock weight loss from the lack of adequate pasture.</p>	<p>The food security has deteriorated due to the effects of rainfall deficits.</p> 



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West Africa SIERRA LEONE	About <b>29%</b> of households had poor food consumption.	The prices of local rice and palm oil were respectively <b>22%</b> lower and <b>12%</b> higher compared to last quarter.	<b>3.8%</b> of children under 5 in Moyamba district of southern Sierra Leone suffered from severe acute malnutrition.  <b>36%</b> of children under 5 were stunted, <b>21%</b> underweight and <b>10%</b> wasted.		The Terms of Trade (TOT) between coffee and local rice decreased by more than <b>50%</b> due to the decrease in the price of coffee by <b>56%</b> in the biggest coffee growing district (Kailahun).  TOT for wage earners in urban areas were more favorable due to lower prices of rice. TOT for cash crop farmers was less favorable due to a drop in the wholesale price of coffee.	Below normal rainfall during the beginning of the cropping season is expected to affect rice production making it slightly below last years.	The food security situation <u>appears to be improving due to rainfall surpluses and good crop growth.</u>	
Sudan SUDAN (DARFUR ONLY)	In South Darfur, food consumption has slightly improved and remained acceptable among mixed and resident communities.  In West Darfur as many as <b>93%</b> of households had acceptable food consumption in November. Less than <b>1%</b> of households reported poor food consumption. (data collected at sentinel sites)	In South Darfur, the price of sorghum was very high at 120SDG/sack.  In West Darfur, the price of local sorghum has remained stable at 80 SDG/sack.	In IDP camps in South Darfur <b>17%</b> of women were malnourished compared to <b>10%</b> last quarter.  In mixed communities in South Darfur, <b>10%</b> of women were malnourished compared to <b>4%</b> in the previous quarter.  In North Darfur, <b>89%</b> of the women measured for MUAC recorded above the ministry of health threshold (225mm).	In South Darfur, some <b>57%</b> of mixed community households used low risk coping strategies.  In North Darfur, there was a significant increase in the proportion of households who used severe coping strategies, the proportion increased from <b>6%</b> last quarter to <b>15%</b> this quarter.  In West Darfur, <b>6%</b> of households who experienced food shortage coped by using low risk coping strategies.	Income among IDPs and mixed communities in South Darfur decreased at the same time as prices went up resulting in deterioration of purchasing power.  In South Darfur, goat owning households had to sell more goats to obtain a sack of sorghum.	Preliminary estimates of cereal production for 2009 show a decline of about <b>10%</b> in comparison with the five-year average.	The food security has <u>remained stable mainly due to massive food assistance and the fact that this is the most food secure season of the year.</u>	
SOUTHERN SUDAN	The extreme south-east of the country (Equatoria and Jonglei states) had the highest levels of poor food consumption approximately <b>40%</b> and <b>33%</b> respectively (data collected at randomly selected sites).	The prices of import sorghum and millet have respectively decreased by <b>13%</b> and <b>25%</b> since the previous quarter and increased by <b>55%</b> and <b>74%</b> since 2008.  The prices of sorghum and millet were respectively <b>73%</b> and <b>134%</b> higher than the five- year average.		About <b>6%</b> of households used low risk coping strategies. Most common coping mechanisms reported were: sale of livestock (even by ethnic groups that traditionally do not sell livestock), reliance on national resources, migration to urban centers and casual labour.	Terms of Trade for pastoralists were unfavorable due to sharply declined livestock prices and rising grain prices.	The cereal production of 2009 is estimated to be <b>30-35%</b> below the five-year average.	The overall food security situation has <u>deteriorated due to the impact of drought.</u>	

Countries (A)	Food Consumption (B)	Prices (C)	Malnutrition (D)	Coping Strategies (E)	Purchasing Power (F)	Rainfall & Production (G)	Food security trend of last quarter compared to previous one (H)	
Asia, Middle East & Commonwealth of Independent States	AFGHANISTAN	The prices of wheat and rice were respectively <b>41%</b> and <b>8%</b> higher than the five-year average.			<p>The Terms of Trade (TOT) between casual labor daily salary and wheat have improved by <b>2%</b> since last quarter, <b>129%</b> since the same time last year, <b>38.7%</b> since two years ago, and <b>21.4%</b> before the price crisis.</p> <p>On average, the TOT between sheep and wheat improved by <b>6.6%</b> over the past month and was <b>110%</b> higher compared to one year ago.</p>	Cereal production in 2009 increased by <b>70%</b> . The wheat and barley productions were respectively <b>93%</b> and <b>44%</b> higher than last year.	The overall food security has improved due to lower prices and improved wages and purchasing power.	
	GEORGIA (IDPS)	<p>Over <b>80%</b> of households had an acceptable food consumption. <b>0%</b> had poor food consumption (data collected at IDP sites).</p> <p>The price of wheat flour has decreased by <b>14%</b> since the last quarter and by <b>17%</b> since 2008. The price of maize has increased by almost <b>15%</b> since the previous quarter and by <b>1%</b> since 2008.</p> <p>The price of wheat flour was decreased <b>26%</b> below the five-year average.</p>		<b>33%</b> of households recorded no use of high risk coping strategies indicative of low stress; the rest of the households either reduced the size of frequency of meals ( <b>34%</b> ), bought on credit or incurred debt ( <b>19%</b> ), sold assets ( <b>15%</b> ), sent a family member abroad in search of employment ( <b>9%</b> ).			The overall food security has improved with households showing lower levels of stress in terms of coping and improving food consumption.	
	INDONESIA	The proportion of households with poor food consumption was only <b>6%</b> in November.	<p>The price of rice has decreased by <b>1%</b> since the previous quarter and increased by <b>4%</b> since 2008.</p> <p>The price of rice was <b>47%</b> higher than the five-year average.</p>		The proportion of households that relied on severe coping strategies reduced significantly both in urban and rural areas. The coping strategy index was 14.1 in October and 8.9 in November.		Cereal production increased by <b>7%</b> in 2009. Rice and maize productions were respectively <b>6%</b> and <b>8%</b> higher than last year.	The food security situation seems to have improved as seen from the stable food prices and the fact that less people rely on severe coping strategies.

Countries (A)	Food Consumption (B)	Prices (C)	Malnutrition (D)	Coping Strategies (E)	Purchasing Power (F)	Rainfall & Production (G)	Food security trend of last quarter compared to previous one (H)	
Asia, Middle East & Commonwealth of Independent States	NEPAL	<p>15% of households have poor food consumption levels.</p>	<p>The prices of rice and wheat are respectively <b>4%</b> higher and <b>15%</b> lower since last quarter. They respectively increased by <b>2%</b> and decreased by <b>14%</b> since 2008.</p> <p>The prices of rice and wheat flour were respectively <b>72%</b> and <b>70%</b> higher than the five-year average.</p> <p>Since the peak of the international food crisis, the prices of potato, coarse rice and wheat flour have risen by <b>116%, 24%</b> and <b>17%</b> respectively.</p>		<p><b>60%</b> of households shifted to less expensive and nutritious foods, <b>40%</b> sold their assets and around <b>5%</b> removed a child from school.</p>		<p>More than <b>40%</b> of households experienced summer crop losses of more than <b>30%</b> due to late plantation caused by late and erratic monsoon rains.</p> <p>Only <b>25%</b> planted their primary crop on time and nearly <b>65%</b> reported poor seed germination.</p>	<p>The current food security situation has slightly improved due to the summer crop harvest, the initiation of new WFP Food/Cash for work programming and the reopening of roads after the monsoon.</p> 
	OPT (GAZA STRIP)	<p>Food consumption patterns improved due to the humanitarian intervention and targeting.</p> <p><b>14%</b> of IDP households had poor food consumption. (data collected at IDP sites)</p>	<p>The prices of wheat flour and rice have respectively decreased by <b>11%</b> and almost <b>5%</b> since the previous quarter and decreased by <b>9%</b> and increased by <b>13%</b> since 2008.</p> <p>The prices of wheat flour and rice were respectively <b>24%</b> and <b>84%</b> higher than the five-year average.</p> <p>Prices of most commodities remained above their long-term average.</p>		<p><b>33%</b> of households recorded no use of high risk coping strategies indicative of low stress; as a coping strategy, <b>34%</b> of the rest reduced the size or frequency of meals, <b>19%</b> bought on credit or incurred debt, <b>15%</b> sold assets and <b>9%</b> sent a family member abroad in search of employment.</p>		<p>The overall food security has not regressed due to intervention efforts from the humanitarian community.</p> 	
	TAJIKISTAN	<p>The number of households with poor food consumption has increased from <b>9%</b> to <b>37%</b> in Murghab district.</p>	<p>The prices of wheat have decreased by almost <b>14%</b> since last quarter and decreased by <b>20%</b> since 2008.</p> <p>The price of wheat was <b>48%</b> higher than the five-year average.</p> <p><b>42%</b> of the 665 households surveyed in rural Tajikistan reported high food prices as the main shock they experienced.</p>		<p><b>30%</b> of households in the Ayni, Kukh and Mastcho districts were forced to either skip entire days without eating, seek alternative employment or not enrol children in school (especially girls).</p> <p><b>83%</b> of village shop keepers interviewed reported giving credit to customers.</p>		<p>Good harvest of wheat and vegetables due to climatic conditions. <b>40%</b> of the respondents and <b>50%</b> of key informants stated that this season the wheat harvest was better than average.</p> <p><b>90%</b> of the interviewees reported having stocks this year (against <b>80%</b> last year).</p>	<p>The food security situation remained stable due to decreases in price and assistance provided to those affected by heavy rains. Some pockets of the country (Murghab) showed a significant deterioration in food consumption amongst households.</p> 

Countries (A)		Food Consumption (B)	Prices (C)	Malnutrition (D)	Coping Strategies (E)	Purchasing Power (F)	Rainfall & Production (G)	Food security trend of last quarter compared to previous one (H)
Caribbean and Latin America	BOLIVIA	<p><b>60%</b> of households covered less than the <b>90%</b> of the recommended food energy level intake.</p> <p>More than <b>80%</b> of the population living in high vulnerable municipalities consumed less than <b>70%</b> of the recommended micronutrient rations.</p>	<p>The prices of rice have decreased by <b>10%</b> since the previous quarter. Additionally, the prices of rice and wheat flour have decreased by <b>29%</b> and <b>18%</b> respectively since 2008.</p> <p>The prices of wheat flour and rice were respectively <b>11%</b> and <b>30%</b> higher than the five- year average.</p>	<p>The stunting rate stagnated at around <b>32%</b> nationally.</p> <p>Stunting prevalence was above <b>47%</b> in the most food insecure municipalities (2009 CFSVA).</p>	<p>Due to recent financial crises, households adapted their livelihoods. A small proportion of households replaced agricultural and livestock activities as their main source of income.</p>		<p>The drought period at the end of 2009 resulted in a approximate <b>20%</b> fall in sowing in wheat and rice.</p> <p>The el Nino phenomenon caused poor agricultural harvests and the loss of production.</p>	<p>The overall food security situation has remained stable despite prolonged droughts in wide areas of the country as a result of el Nino effects.</p> 
	GUATEMALA	<p><b>13%</b> of households had poor food consumption.</p>	<p>The price of maize has decreased by <b>24%</b> since the previous quarter and decreased by <b>23%</b> since 2008.</p>	<p><b>11%</b> of children and <b>9%</b> of women were malnourished. In some cases GAM rates were as high as <b>27%</b>.</p>			<p>Overall, cereal production in 2009 increased by <b>13%</b>. However the eastern, central and western parts of the country were seriously affected by drought resulting in substantial crop losses.</p>	<p>The food security situation has deteriorated due to poor rainfall resulting in the eroding of households' food stocks.</p> 
	HAITI	<p>The proportion of households with poor food consumption has increased from <b>2.3%</b> in November 2009 to <b>9%</b> in February 2010.</p>	<p>The price of imported rice has decreased <b>7%</b> since Feb 18 2010. However it is still <b>17%</b> higher than the pre-earthquake level.</p> <p>The prices of import rice and wheat flour were respectively <b>41%</b> and <b>17%</b> higher than the five-year average.</p>	<p><b>1.3%</b> of the children measured had a MUAC &lt;114mm (severe wasting).</p>	<p>There is an overall increase in the use of severe coping strategies seen in the rise of the coping strategy index mean from 22 in November 2009 to 23.2 in February 2010.</p> <p>The most common coping strategies applied towards the end of the quarter were the migration to urban areas and the rearing of livestock that are drought resistant.</p>		<p>Poor rainfall in November and December in certain zones and the poor ability of the soil to retain moisture resulted in poor sorghum production.</p> <p>Cereal production in 2009 increased by <b>14%</b>. Maize and sorghum productions were respectively <b>15%</b> and <b>14%</b> higher than last year.</p>	<p>The overall food security situation has deteriorated from the last quarter mainly due to the high food prices following the earthquake and the rise in proportion of households with poor food consumption.</p> 

## Annex: Select set of food security monitoring indicators and their application

- i. **Food consumption** denotes the quality and quantity of food consumed in the household. The *Food Consumption Score (FCS)* also used within this context, is a composite score that is a good proxy of food consumption as it takes into account dietary diversity, food frequency and relative nutritional importance of different food groups. The change between the third and fourth quarter is reported in **Column B**<sup>1</sup>.
- ii. **Prices** are retail prices for the last quarter of 2009, which are compared to those of the last quarter of 2009 and to average prices of 2003-07; (**Column C**).
- iii. **Malnutrition** is an indication of insufficient, excessive or imbalanced consumption of essential food required. Methods used to collect this information include a variety of anthropometric measures (weight, height, age, and MUAC); (**Column D**).
- iv. **Coping strategies** denote the behavioural 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; (**Column E**).
- v. **Purchasing power** is the ratio of two prices, i.e. a commodity being sold and a food staple being purchased; (**Column F**).
- vi. **Production** reflects aggregate levels that impact on national or sub-national food availability; (**Column G**).

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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