

Emergency Food
Security Assessment
Caucasus Conflict
Follow-up

GEORGIA



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wfp.org

List of Abbreviations

CFW	Cash for Work
DRC	Danish Relief Committee
GEL	Georgian Lari
EFSA	Emergency Food Security Assessment
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FCS	Food Consumption Score
FFW	Food for Work
FSC	Food Security Classification
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
Ha	Hectares
HH	Household
Kg	Kilograms
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
WFP	World Food Programme
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
USD	United States Dollar

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1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In August 2008 a short but intense conflict erupted between Russia and Georgia over the region of South Ossetia. This caused some 138 thousand Georgians to flee their homes in the war affected zone and take refuge in Collective Centres setup by the Government in and around Tbilisi. A joint United Nations assessment was carried out to inform decisions on assistance to these internally displaced persons. Food and non-food assistance began immediately. The Government of Georgia embarked on a settlement programme to provide alternative homes and lands to those who lost access to their farms.

One year since the conflict, a follow-up assessment was undertaken to measure the changes and identify current needs. Displaced people living in the Collective Centres, people relocated to newly built settlements and the displaced persons returning to their villages were studied. Only five thousand people remain in the Collective Centres. Their assets are depleted and income generation opportunities are scarce. Living conditions are basic but provision of low cost utilities and food assistance continues. These people are awaiting compensation in terms of cash or houses and lands in the newly built settlements. With little incomes, depleted assets and severed livelihoods, these people are heavily dependent on government allowances and other assistance. They are food insecure and require food assistance until they are settled with a viable source of livelihood.

About 17 thousand IDPs were resettled by the Government to the newly constructed IDP settlements. The settlements provide small houses and land plots for kitchen gardening. Only a small number of IDPs have been allocated land for agriculture. Some lands are fertile resulting in cultivation of annual crops and seasonal kitchen gardens thus providing vital food supplies and small sources of income. Lack of storage facilities prevents farmers from stocking and forces them to sell their produce when the market prices are least favourable. Irrigation water is limited for many of the allocated lands and provision of this resource is vital to allow sustainable livelihoods. Casual labour is a chief source of temporary income which must be substituted with regular employment. About 6 percent of the settlers earn a regular income while the remaining 94% are food insecure and require assistance to meet their food needs until farm production or regular incomes have been established.

Most villages have experienced the total return of their inhabitants. Farm machinery lost or stolen during the conflict has been recovered to a large extent. Annual crops, kitchen gardens and fruits from orchards are in production though some farmers have lost agricultural land and pasture land as a result of the conflict. Farms with irrigation systems with headwaters in South Ossetia are paying a heavy price for water from alternate sources. The Government is engaged in discussions with the North to revive traditional water sources as well as devising plans for alternative sources of water. This is crucial to restore the productivity of this area which has traditionally been a major producer of fruits and livestock. Farm inputs such as improved seed and fertilizer would be important to restore productivity. Assistance through food-for-work and cash-for-work is required in rehabilitating irrigation systems for about 23 thousand people in the adjacent area. A monitoring system would capture improvements and facilitate decisions on a gradual withdrawal of assistance.

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 Georgia

Georgia is a country of 69,700 square kilometres and a population of 4.4 million¹. It borders Turkey to the south, the Russian Federation to its north and the Black sea to its west. Independence in 1991 was immediately followed by wars in Abkhazia and South Ossetia resulting in large numbers of internally displaced persons (IDPs). Prior to independence, industry and agriculture was integrated with the Soviet Republics. Post independence de-industrialization and wars resulted in complete economic collapse by the mid 1990s. Industrial reforms over the last few years have made enormous stride (12% growth rate in GDP in 2007²) but unemployment is high (25%), there is still 23% of the population living below the poverty line and agriculture employs about 55% of the population. Agriculture is, therefore, the main economic safety net for the majority of the population, although the sector provides only about 9% of GDP. On average, food accounts for 75% of a household's annual expenditure³. Daily Energy Supply of the extremely poor households is 1,893 kcal which is less than the standard requirement of 2100 kcal per person per day. Wheat flour accounts for 50% of total food consumption. Reliance on markets for food purchases is very high. Excluding wheat growing areas, well above 50% of food is purchased. International markets are accessed through the Black Sea port of Poti in the west and land routes with Turkey in the south. The war of August 2008 has resulted in huge amounts of financial pledges for reconstruction and revival of the economy. The effects of these investments, if ever realized, should be felt in the next two to five years but the unemployment rates in the interim period will remain high.

2.2 Shida Kartli

The Shida Kartli region is located north west of the capital Tbilisi and was the scene of the August 2008 war. The Region spreads over 5,700 square kilometers with a population of 314 thousand. Gori city is the capital. According to the WFP baseline assessment of 2004, agriculture in this area is predominantly horticulture and the overall food insecurity level is classified as 'low'. According to figures from the Ministry of Agriculture, average annual production in thousands of tonnes is: fruits (170), vegetables (150), wheat (45), maize (25), potato (20) and beans (5). Before the 2005 trade embargo, the main market for produce of Shida Kartli was neighbouring Russia. South Ossetia forms the northern part of Shida Kartli while the southern part consists of four Rayons: Gori, Kareli, Kaspi and Khashuri. The major highway (M27) traversing west to east connects Gori to western towns of Kareli and Khashuri and the eastern town of Kaspi. Areas south of the M27 were relatively less affected by war and farmers were able to return to their villages within two weeks. The capital of South Ossetia is Tshkinvali with Znauri, Akhgori and Java its main towns. Further north is the border of the Russian Federation. The *Adjacent Area* is an area lying south of South Ossetia and north of the M27. IDPs from this area have returned to their villages and are reconstructing their livelihoods

¹ Statistics Department of Georgia

² Georgia Human Development Report, UNDP 2008

³ Baseline Household Food Economy Assessment, WFP 2004

2.3 Emergency

War broke out in August 2008. Though the actual combat spanned only a couple of days, looting and insurgency occurred before and after the combat period. About 140 thousand people were displaced, mostly to the cities of Tbilisi and Gori. A damage assessment by the EU using satellite imagery estimated 1981 buildings were damaged. About 93% were residential buildings with 87% of damage located in South Ossetia. There were also reports of unexploded ordinance and mines. Halo Trust conducted a survey and identified potential threat areas. Villagers south of the M27 returned to their farms shortly after the war. IDPs from South Ossetia and the *Adjacent Areas* remained at Community Centres mainly in Tbilisi and Gori. They were unable to carry assets and arrived at the centres totally dependent on food and non-food aid. The Government of Georgia initiated a settlement programme which involved construction of settlements with housing and in some cases land. These were allocated to IDPs who lost access to their farms in South Ossetia. Cash was also allocated in some cases. Most IDPs have either taken residence in these settlements or for those originating from the *Adjacent Area*, returned to their villages. A small number of IDPs remain in the collective centres awaiting their allocation.

2.4 Assessments

A series of assessments have been conducted to inform decisions on support and assistance. The first assessment was carried out in September 2008. This was a joint assessment carried out by OCHA, UNDP, WFP, UNICEF, UNHCR, CARE International, DRC, World Vision, Mercy Corps, Oxfam and NRC. In addition to secondary literature reviews, the assessment consisted of a survey of 100 IDP households and focus group discussions in 60 villages affected by the war. The assessment captured demographics, pre-conflict situation, current status, food security, education levels, assets, relocation/livelihood preferences, losses of productive and non-productive assets, crop losses and impact on irrigation. The report: **Georgia, Emergency Food Security Assessment: Caucasus Conflict, September 2008** is accessible at: <http://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/ena/wfp190694.pdf>.

In February 2009, three agencies: FAO, WFP and UNICEF conducted a follow-up assessment. This covered the IDPs, the settlements and the affected villages. In addition to field work and qualitative analysis based on key informant interviews, the assessment consisted of 100 IDP household interviews, focus group discussions in 20 settlement areas and 20 affected villages. The assessment included nutritional and health status of children from zero to 59 months of age. A total of 1,888 children were assessed for stunting, wasting, underweight and child feeding practices. The report: **Georgia - Joint FAO/UNICEF/WFP Food Security, Child Nutrition and Agricultural Livelihood's Assessment, May 2009** is accessible at: <http://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/ena/wfp211532.pdf>.

In October 2009, WFP conducted a follow-up assessment. This included field work and qualitative analysis based on key informant interviews, 100 IDP household interviews, focus group discussions in 20 settlements and 20 affected villages. Results of this assessment are presented in this report.

3.0 METHODOLOGY

The objective of this follow-up Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA) was to determine the food security status and identify needs, if any, for external assistance. The study area consisted of Shida Kartli, Kvemo Kartli, Kakheti, Mtsketa-Mtianeti, capital city of Tbilisi and the IDPs originating from South Ossetia. Inputs from the two earlier assessments of September 2008 and February 2009 were drawn upon. In addition to focus group interviews in collective centres, settlement areas and villages, three structured surveys were conducted: IDP survey, a settlements survey and a village survey. The Follow-up EFSA consisted of focus group interviews in the Collective Centres, the Settlement Areas and the Villages. Based on the focus group interviews, and a review of existing information collected by the February 2009 and September 2008 EFSA, detailed questionnaires were compiled for the collective centers, settlements and villages.

3.1 Collective Centre Survey

The objective of the IDP survey was to analyze the IDP community in terms of demographics, food security and livelihoods, assets and relocation options. It was designed to capture the change in IDP status one year after the war. Data was collected by a team of WFP enumerators over the period 10-24 October 2009. The study area covered IDP centres in Tbilisi. Centres were randomly selected proportionate to their populations. Within centres, IDPs were randomly selected. The sample consists of 100 households. See Annex for survey instrument.

3.2 Settlements Survey

Household surveys were conducted amongst 100 randomly selected households in the settlements. The settlement clustering adopted during the February 2008 survey was maintained to allow comparison of results (Table 1). Data was collected by a team of WFP enumerators over the period 10-24 October 2009. Information collected included demographics, sources of income, expenditures, food consumption, coping strategies, access to utilities, credit, land, irrigation and utilities. The survey also collected information on the major factors limiting income generation. For the survey instrument, see Annex.

Table 1: Settlements Surveyed

Region	District	Settlement	Region	District	Settlement
Kakheti	Sagarejo	Sagarejo	Shida Kartli	Kaspi	Metekhi
Kvemo Kartli	Gardabani	Gardabani	Shida Kartli	Mtskheta	Tserovani
Kvemo Kartli	Tetritskaro	Koda	Mtskheta-Mtianeti	Mtskheta	Tsilkani
Shida Kartli	Gori	Shavshvebi	Mtskheta-Mtianeti	Mtskheta	Saguramo
Shida Kartli	Kareli	Akhalsofeli	Shida Kartli	Khashuri	Surami
Shida Kartli	Kareli	Mokhisi	Shida Kartli	Gori	Musical School
Kvemo Kartli	Bolnisi	Bolnisi	Shida Kartli	Gori	Karaleti
Shida Kartli	Kareli	Kareli			

3.4 Village Survey

Twenty-one villages were surveyed. These were the same villages covered in the February 2009 assessment (Table 2). The survey collected village level information on population, shelter, household food security, water supply, coping strategy, livelihoods, access to farm land, pasture, tractors, irrigation and farm inputs such as seed and fertilizers. The survey collected information on what the community members considered as their greatest needs in restoring their livelihoods. For the detailed survey instrument, see Annex.

Table 2: Villages Surveyed

Region	District	Village	Region	District	Village
Gori	Shindisi	Pkhvenisi	Gori	Variani	Sakasheti
Gori	Variani	Akhaldaba	Gori	Dzevera	Shertuli
Gori	Variani	Variani	Gori	Dzevera	Dzevera
Gori	Berbuki	Rekha	Kareli	Breti	Aradeti
Gori	Berbuki	Sveneti	Kareli	Abisi	Abisi
Gori	Berbuki	Kheltubani	Gori	Mejvriskhevi	Kvarkheti
Gori	Berbuki	Tortiza	Gori	Tkviavi	Tkviavi
Kareli	Dirbi	Dirbi	Gori	Dzevera	Kitsnisi
Kareli	Breti	Breti	Gori	Megvrekisi	Tirdznisi
Gori	Karaleti	Didi Garejvari	Kareli	Breti	Tseveri
Gori	Karaleti	Karaleti			

3.5 Survey limitations

- Only IDPs registered in the IDP settlements and collective centres were considered in the survey. IDPs living with host families were excluded from the study.
- Although the sample size is statistically significant for the results generated, more cross-sectional analysis such as livelihood preferences against education backgrounds would require a larger sample.

3.6 Food Consumption Score

The Food Consumption Score (FCS) is a data collection method applied by WFP in rapid assessments. The process records the food groups consumed over a 7 day recall period. A standard weight based on the nutrition levels of each food group has been derived (Table 3). Applied at the household level, the FCS is indicative of the household's dietary diversity.

Table 3: Food Consumption Score

Food Group	Food Items	Weight
Cereals and Tubers	Wheat, maize, pasta, rice	2
Pulses	Beans, peas, nuts	3
Vegetables	Vegetables and leaves	1
Fruits	Fruits and fruit products	1
Meat and Fish	Beef, goat, sheep, pig, poultry, eggs, fish	4
Milk	Dairy and dairy products	4
Sugar	Sugar, honey	0.5
Oil	Oil, butter	0.5

$$\text{FCS} = a_{\text{cereal}}x_{\text{cereal}} + a_{\text{pulse}}x_{\text{pulse}} + a_{\text{veg}}x_{\text{veg}} + a_{\text{fruit}}x_{\text{fruit}} + a_{\text{animal}}x_{\text{animal}} + a_{\text{milk}}x_{\text{milk}} + a_{\text{sugar}}x_{\text{sugar}} + a_{\text{oil}}x_{\text{oil}}$$

a_i = weight of food group

x_i = number of days per week

4.0 FOOD SECURITY

4.1 COLLECTIVE CENTRES

4.1.1 Demographics

IDP demographics in collective centres have improved significantly since September of 2008. From an initial 138 thousand IDPs in October 2008, to eight thousand in February 2009 and now only 5 thousand in October of 2009. The household composition of gender and age indicate an improvement. There is a drop in the percentage of households that are female headed and households that have disabilities. This suggests the resettlement process has favored female headed households and households with disabilities (Table 4).

Table 4: IDP Demographics

Percentage of Households	Oct 2009	Feb 2009	Sep 2008
Male headed households	84	79	77
Female headed households	16	21	23
Households with disability	22	27	22
Households with elderly (60 or above)	34	22	71

4.1.2 Income and Assets

Most IDPs fled their houses carrying little or no assets. One year later, their asset situation is still precarious. Whereas one fifth of the households had cars last year, only 9% of current IDP households own cars. Immediately after the war, there were no income sources. The situation gradually improved by February. However, there is deterioration since then (Table 5). The percentage of families benefiting from casual labor has increased since February. Although regular income has doubled since last year, it has reduced since February. This downward trend is serious since less than 10% of the families have regular income sources.

Table 5: Income and Assets

Percentage of Households	Oct 2009	Feb 2009	Sep 2008
Owning cars	9	16	20
Owning jewelry	1	-	2
With regular employment	8	12	4
With casual employment	35	25	2
Receiving government allowance	57	55	29
Receiving remittances	7	2	10

There has been a slight improvement in incomes. Families earning less than 100 lari per month have decreased and those earning between 100 and 200 have increased. Nevertheless, about 90% of households still have incomes less than 200 lari per month and households with incomes sufficient to provide adequate living are still nominal (Table 6). The government provided salaries for displaced teachers but intends to limit these by the start of 2010. Conservative estimates by WFP indicate an income of 300 to 500 GEL is required to meet basic needs. According to the Department of Statistics, Government of Georgia, the minimum subsistence level for an average family is 216 GEL per month.

The government safety net consists of an IDP allowance, a poverty allowance and pensions. About 60% of IDPs are registered and therefore entitled to the IDP allowance which is 28 GEL (16 USD) per person per month. The poverty allowance consists of 30 GEL (17 USD) with another 24 GEL (14 USD) for each additional family member.

Table 6: Monthly Incomes

Percentage of Households	Oct 2009	Feb 2009
Less than 100 lari	42	60
100-199 lari	46	17
200-299 lari	7	11
300 – 500 lari	2	7
>500 lari	3	2

Households with little or no savings (less than 100 lari) increased from 77% in September 2008 to 95 six months ago and now 97%. This gradual deterioration is also evident in figures on debt. Immediately after the war, about 40% of families had no debt. This increased to 95% in February but has now receded to 70% (Table 7).

Table 7: Savings and Debt

	Percentage of Households	Oct 2009	Sep 2008
Savings	Less than 100 lari	97	77
	>100 lari	1	2
Debt	No debt	70	40
	>1000 lari	7	7

4.1.3 Assistance

The government continues to provide housing free of charge though water and sanitation services are extremely basic and temporary electrical connections provide power for heating and cooking. More than 90% of IDPs have to access stoves, cooking fuel and clean drinking water. 97% percent use electricity for cooking and heating and the remaining use gas for fuel. Drinking water is free except for one percent who have it trucked in. Toilet facilities are extremely basic and two thirds of women complained of lack of sanitation supplies. Food assistance is consistent since the arrival of IDPs to the collective centers. However, assistance in non-food items and in health care has dropped according to the respondents (Table 8).

Respondents were asked for their preference of food assistance in kind or cash. About 75% preferred cash transfers. Reasons cited by the respondents included: a) the flexibility to choose their own diets b) to break the monotony of food basket being eaten for over a year and c) the ability to divert some cash towards medical expenses. A small number of IDP families have received cash compensation from the government in order to purchase a house. Families that have been slow in purchasing a house have diverted this assistance towards medical expenses, especially surgery. The IDP families that have not received such compensation are anxious to know if the food assistance would discontinue for families that receive house compensation. It is important that WFP explain the policy that food assistance would continue since it is not desirable to divert money intended for the

purchase of a house towards food consumption. It is therefore essential that food assistance continue for all families until they have a secure source of livelihood.

Table 8: % of HHs receiving free assistance on a regular basis

Assistance	Oct 2009	Feb 2009
Food	98	99
Non-food	1	20
Health care	24	43

One year of life as IDPs has stressed the coping strategies of these families. Respondents were asked about coping strategies adopted over the last two months. Over a quarter had to sell assets and a quarter incurred debt or bought on credit. A little less than half (47%) have either reduced their meal sizes or reduced the number of meals they consume.

4.1.4 Food Consumption

WFP is providing food aid to all the IDPs in centers. Food rations consist of wheat, pasta, sugar, oil, beans and salt. Intake is calculated as equivalent to 2100 kcal per person per day. The Food Consumption Score is a method WFP uses to capture dietary diversity. A score less than 21 reflects poor food consumption. A score between 21 and 35 is considered borderline and above 35 is acceptable. The average food consumption score of IDPs in the Tbilisi centers is acceptable due to the cereal based rations they receive. This score is mainly a result of direct food aid. However, the consumption of essential food items not provided in aid is very low. To secure a balanced diet over longer periods of time, diversity is necessary. The survey asked families the number of days in a week they consume certain food categories not provided in the food package. Only 3% of IDP families consume meat more than twice a week (Table 9). This is an improvement compared to six months ago when not a single family consumed meat more than twice a week. There is also improvement in consumption of vegetables. Six months ago only 6% of IDPs consumed vegetables more than twice a week. Now it has risen to one third of IDPs. Dairy consumption has also improved from 2% to 8% of IDPs consuming dairy more than twice a week. On average, only 3% IDPs consumed fruit more than twice a week. This has risen to 15%⁴. These improvements are encouraging. However, the actual quantities and frequency of meat, vegetables, dairy and fruit consumption of IDPs remain a source of concern.

Table 9: Consumption Frequency by Food Group

Food Group	Percentage of Households by Number of Days							
	Days 0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Cereal/Tuber	1	0	-	-	-	-	-	99
Pulses	2	11	24	36	4	1	1	21
Vegetables	11	24	32	14	8	6	1	4
Fruits	52	16	18	6	2	2	1	4
Meat/Fish	62	21	14	1	1	1	-	-
Dairy	56	23	13	4	2	2	0	-
Sugar	-	-	-	-	1	8	0	91
Oil	-	-	-	3	4	9	4	80

⁴ October is the fruit harvesting season in Georgia, when prices are very low.

Aid remains the primary source of food (Table 10), particularly for cereals, pulses, sugar and oil. Private donations account for some vegetables and even less meat and dairy. IDPs do not rely on borrowing or credit to meet their food needs.

Table 10: Food Source (IDPs)

Food Group	Percentage of Households				
	Purchase	Aid	Borrow/ credit	Private donation	Not Consumed
Cereals/Tubers	3	97	-	-	
Pulses	2	97	-	-	1
Vegetables	67	2	-	12	9
Fruit	39	1	-	9	51
Meat/Fish	31	3	-	4	62
Dairy	33	1	-	5	56
Sugar	2	98	-	-	-
Oil	4	96	-	-	-

Food Consumption Score was calculated for each household interviewed. The score was acceptable for 55% and borderline for 45% of households. Food Consumption Score of vulnerable groups was also calculated as a subset of the overall score. On average, the vulnerable groups also recorded acceptable scores (Table 11).

Table 11: FCS of Vulnerable Households

Vulnerable Group	Average FCS
Female Headed Households	41
HHs with child(ren) less than 5 years old	41
HHs with elderly member(s) 60 years or above	42
HHs with disability	40

4.1.5 Relocation

Most IDPs have either returned to their villages in the buffer zone or have been relocated to new housing constructed by the government after the war. The IDPs still living in the collective centers were asked about their relocation status. More than 60% of these IDPs received an offer of a house with a kitchen garden from the government. Of the current collective centre residents, only four percent accepted this offer. Most residents of the community centers wish to live in urban areas. Access to higher education for teenage children, better access to health facilities and urban amenities are cited as influencing factors. Of the respondents, 47% indicated a definite preference for relocation in urban centers while only 18% wanted to resume life on a farm in rural areas. There is still a sizable percentage (about 10%) of households who have not decided on this issue. Four percent of the IDP households living in community centers have already received the lump sum 10,000 USD⁵ cash compensation from the government. Apart from farming and casual on-farm labor for rural areas, the preferred livelihood in urban areas concentrated on small business and services. Professions cited by men included police, driving, electrician, mechanic, construction, auto wash services, bakery and convenience

⁵ Exchange rate is 1 USD=1.70 Lari

stores. Women preferred dress making, teaching, nursing and establish beauty salons or flower shops. To realize these livelihoods, respondents cited the need for cash, land, equipment and training (Table 12). Land size requests were modest with about 10% seeking less than half a hectare and a quarter requesting land between half and one hectare.

Table 12: Assistance Required to Realize Livelihood

Assistance Type	% of households
Cash	48
Land	38
Equipment	30
Training	15

Cash requests were also modest (Table 13) and in line with the requests made during the February 2009 survey. About a third of households placed their needs as being less than 3,000 lari (USD1,750).

Table 13: Cash Assistance

Cash Preferred (lari)	Approx. \$ Equivalent	% of households
Less than 1500	1100	22
1500-3000	1100-2200	17
3000-5000	2200-3600	2
5000-10000	3600-7100	5
More than 10000	7100	2

4.1.6 Food Security

About 88% of the IDPs living in Collective Centres earn less than the minimum subsistence level. This group is the most food insecure. They have low and irregular incomes, rising debt, limited dietary diversity and heavily rely on food assistance which should be continued either through cash or kind to meet their food needs and prevent malnutrition. Assistance should continue until these IDPs are settled and have secure incomes to meet their basic requirements.

4.2 SETTLEMENTS

Shortly after the war, the Government of Georgia commissioned the construction of settlements to accommodate IDPs that could not return to their original lands. By October 2009, 16 thousand people had been settled in 40 settlements across four regions: Kakheti, Kvemo Kartli, Shida Kartli and Mtskheta-Mtianeti. The number of people in each settlement varies: the largest settlement houses over 6,000 IDPs and the smallest accommodates only 70 people. The survey was conducted in 15 of the 40 settlements representing 70% of the total settled population. Most settlements were carried out between November 2008 when 37% of the current residents were settled and January 2009 when 12% were settled. December 2008 recorded the highest settlements (48%).

4.2.1 Demographics

The settled households are predominantly male headed (74%). The composition of households has shifted slightly in favour of female headed households since the early settlements. In February, female headed households were only 22% while in October the percentage has risen to 26. This indicates a slight preference in relocating female headed households from collective centres to settlements. The families with member(s) suffering from disability remains at 10%. Amongst the settled population, 93% have origins in South Ossetia. As in February, the ratio of females is higher than males. Among the elderly, the ratio was the same in February but has shifted in favour of women (57%) and men (43), again an indication of settlement process favouring households with elderly female members. About 27% of households have children (less than 5 years old) while a third of households have elderly members (60 or above).

4.2.2 Income and Assets

Eleven percent of households own cars but only one percent has any jewelry. The primary assets in settlements are houses and farmland. About 84% of families have received their own houses and 73% have kitchen gardens but only 14% have access to farmland (Table 14). Productivity of these lands is partial. Only 9% of families classify their farm land as productive while 65% of kitchen gardens are productive. Although the majority have received land for kitchen gardening only small amounts of vegetables for self consumption can be grown there. 92% have no storage for farm products. This has a serious impact on the ability of the IDPs to sell when the price is most suitable. Without storage, these farmers are forced to sell immediately after harvest when the prices are the lowest. Some farmers estimate they could double their incomes if storage facilities were made available either through grants or credit. Of those with agricultural land, only 3% have access to irrigation water the rest relying on rainfed agriculture. Only 1 percentage families have a tractor. About 9% have livestock (cow, sheep, goat) and three percent are raising rabbits and chicken. Lack of livestock is also a reflection of limited grazing lands. Most settlements are placed within grazing lands of adjacent villages and encroachment by new livestock is perceived by villagers as a potential for overgrazing. Focus group discussions have confirmed there have been active requests by villagers not to support settlers with livestock. This issue of limited grazing lands was raised in the February 2009 joint WFP/FAO/UNICEF assessment.

Table 14: Access

Access to	Percentage of Households	
	February 2009	October 2009
Land for agriculture/ horticulture/grazing	16	14
Land for kitchen garden	68	73
Oven for baking	78	72

Several settlements have now received gas connections. Consequently, 95 of cooking and heating uses gas⁶. This has reduced reliance on electricity during the early stages of settlement (Table 15). Almost 98% of households receive piped drinking water thus minimizing the potential of contamination and disease from poor water quality.

Table 15: Source of Fuel

Fuel Use	Percentage of Households					
	February 2009			October 2009		
	Gas	Electricity	Wood	Gas	Electricity	Wood
Cooking	44	52	4	95	5	-
Heating	43	51	6	95	-	5

As a consequence of limited productive assets and irrigation, most families rely on government allowances (81%) as their main source of income. The next sources of income are casual employment (23%) and regular employment (12%). Farming is the main source of income for only 7%, livestock for 9% and horticulture for 11%. Overall, agriculture supports 27% of settled families. There is some income from small businesses (2%) and remittances (4%). Considering about a quarter of households generate income from agriculture and about 35% from labour (casual plus regular), efforts to improve agricultural productivity, through land allocations and farm inputs should be a priority. Also, efforts to increase labour opportunities are required to improve self sufficiency in the settlements. About 70% of households cited lack of employment opportunities as the main limiting factor to income generation while 15% indicated a lack of cash or access to credit which is limiting them from establishing small trade or businesses. In the previous surveys of September 2008 and February 2009, it was clear that about 14% of household heads and spouses have university education and about 20% have technical trainings. This latent skill set must be considered while designing income generating schemes.

Monthly incomes have improved since February (Table 16). There has been a threefold increase in the number of households in the 200-300 lari income bracket and a substantial decrease in those with incomes less than 100 lari per month. Savings have also improved. In February 87% had less than 100 lari of savings. In October this has reduced to 76%.

Table 16: Monthly Incomes

Monthly Household Income	Percentage of Households	
	February 2009	October 2009
Less than 100 lari	64	35
100-199	26	39
200-300	6	20

⁶ By the time of publication of this report, allowance limit of gas and electricity for IDPs has been introduced by the government and there are reports of supply cuts due to non-payment of bills.

300\diamond500	2	3
>1000 lari	2	3

The debt situation indicates stress (Table 17) which could be indicative of the settling down expenses new settlers have had to incur. These include furnishing of essential household items as well as purchase of productive assets. Anticipating the winter, households have also invested in some weather proofing.

Table 17: Households in Debt

Debt amount in lari	Percentage of Households	
	February 2009	October 2009
No debt	76	68
Less than 100 lari	6	19
100-500	5	4
500-1000	4	5
>1000 lari	2	4

4.2.3 Food Assistance

Food aid is provided on a regular basis to all settlers but access to health services is limited to 43% of households. Families were asked if they preferred food assistance in cash or kind. About 44% preferred cash and 43% preferred kind with 9% considering either option. In kind food relieves families of transporting food from markets to homes but the cash option offers more diversity in choice. Respondents were also asked who should receive the cash assistance. Only 11% preferred the male while 29% preferred female and 12% considered either option. Households are totally reliant on aid for cereals while private donations account for some vegetables and fruits (Table 18).

Table 18: Food Source

Food Group	Percentage of Households				
	Purchase	Aid	Borrow/ credit	Private donation	Not Consumed
Cereals/Tubers	1	99	-	-	
Pulses	1	99	-	-	
Vegetables	72	-	-	10	1
Fruit	69	-	-	18	11
Meat/Fish	48	-	-	3	49
Dairy	43	-	-	1	56
Sugar	1	-	-	-	
Oil	2	-	-	-	

4.2.4 Coping Strategy

Families have adopted various coping strategies. The main strategies include reducing size or number of meals (34%), buying on credit or incurring debt (19%), selling assets (15%) and migration of a family member in search of employment (9%). About 33% of households recorded no coping strategies. However, this is in spite of food assistance and subsidies on utilities. Withdrawal or reduction in these support mechanisms would increase the stress level considerably.

4.2.5 Food Consumption Score

WFP is providing food aid to all the IDPs in centers. Food rations consist of wheat, pasta, sugar, oil, beans and salt. Intake is calculated as equivalent to 2100 kcal per person per day. The Food Consumption Score is a method WFP uses to capture dietary diversity. A score less than 21 reflects poor food consumption. A score between 21 and 35 is considered borderline and above 35 is acceptable. Since WFP is providing regular rations, the consumption scores are high. Only 20% are on borderline and 80% have scores in the acceptable range. This indicates the caloric intake is adequate. For short term emergencies, such scores suffice. However, for people relying on food aid for long periods, the composition of the food is of importance. What is of concern is the dietary diversity. It is clear from Table 19 that consumption of meat, vegetables, fruit and dairy has improved since February. However, diversity is still limited with 78% of families consuming dairy less than twice a week and 83% consuming meat/fish less than twice a week.

Table 19: Food Consumption: Percentage of Households

Number of Days	February 2009				October 2009			
	Meat	Vegetables	Fruit	Dairy	Meat	Vegetables	Fruit	Dairy
0	56	40	42	64	51	1	11	57
1	26	16	23	12	32	9	21	21
2	13	18	16	13	13	23	24	13
3	2	6	9	3	2	18	17	6
4	2	2	4	3	1	16	7	2
5	-	1	1	-	1	17	13	1
6	-	-	-	1	-	4	4	-
7	1	17	5	4	-	12	3	-

4.2.6 Food Security

About 74% of settlers have incomes less than the minimum subsistence level established by the Government. Monthly incomes of only 6% households are above 300 GEL and food assistance is the major source of staples. Although 14% of settlers have been allocated farming lands, some lands are of very poor quality and unsuitable for agriculture. In some instances, there is no provision of water for irrigation. The limited number of settlers who have regular incomes, either through services or irrigated agriculture, could be considered food secure. The majority of settlers are, at present, food insecure and require continued cash or kind assistance until livelihoods are restored.

4.3 VILLAGES

4.3.1 Population

Villages in the adjacent areas are showing positive signs of recovery. The population that fled in September 2008 had returned by February 2009 and by October, some villages were even recording slight increases (Table 20) in their populations.

Table 20: Village Population

Village name			Population			
			Jul-08 Pre War	Sep-08 Post War	Feb-09 Six months Post War	Oct-09 Current as % of prewar
Village	District	Province				
Abisi	Abisi	Kareli	190	45	190	100%
Variani	Akhaldaba	Gori	529	80	529	100%
Breti	Aradeti	Kareli	180	15	180	100%
Breti	Breti	Kareli	490	200	490	100%
Karaleti	Didi Garejvari	Gori	237	237	237	100%
Dirbi	Dirbi	Kareli	3019	1000	3019	100%
Dzevera	Dzevera	Gori	468	100	468	100%
Karaleti	Karaleti	Gori	1275	1050	1275	100%
Berbuki	Kheltubani	Gori	1151	1151	1151	100%
Dzevera	Kitsnisi	Gori	520	100	520	100%
Mejvriskhevi	Kvarkheti	Gori	165	165	165	100%
Shindisi	Pkhvenisi	Gori	450	20	450	100%
Berbuki	Rekha	Gori	413	413	413	100%
Variani	Sakasheti	Gori	375	50	375	100%
Dzevera	Shertuli	Gori	120	25	120	100%
Berbuki	Sveneti	Gori	549	549	549	100%
Megvrekisi	Tirdznisi	Gori	240	100	280	117%
Tkviavi	Tkviavi	Gori	840	5	876	104%
Berbuki	Tortiza	Gori	375	375	375	100%
Breti	Tseveri	Kareli	290	10	290	100%
Variani	Variani	Gori	524	75	524	100%

Immediately after the war, about 17% of villages reported loss of tractors. Now, tractor numbers have been restored to pre war levels in almost all villages (Table 21).

Table 21: Number of Tractors

Village	Jul 08	Sep 08	Feb 09	Oct 09	Village	Jul 08	Sep 08	Feb 09	Oct 09
Abisi	4	4	4	4	Shindisi	30	29	29	29
Variani	28	28	28	28	Berbuki	5	5	5	5
Breti	3	3	3	3	Variani	25	22	22	22
Breti	1	1	1	1	Dzevera	10	5	5	5
Karaleti	2	2	2	2	Berbuki	8	8	8	8
Dirbi	13	12	12	12	Megvrekisi	15	15	15	15
Dzevera	20	19	19	19	Tkviavi	30	29	29	29
Karaleti	16	16	16	16	Berbuki	7	7	7	7
Berbuki	30	30	30	30	Breti	12	12	12	12
Dzevera	40	40	40	40	Variani	32	32	32	32
Mejvriskhevi	1	1	1	1					

4.3.2 Commodity Prices

Commodity prices have been collected from village stores over the last three surveys. Commodity prices have fluctuated over the last year with most commodities costing less than their pre-war prices. Wheat, bread and cooking oil prices have dropped while the price of sugar has increased (Tables 22 and 23). The September 2008 survey confirmed most stores were either closed or ill stocked. The situation improved in February and by October 2009, all village stores are fully functioning with food and non-food stocks. Stores are able to supply basic items such as oil and sugar on credit

Table 22: Price of Wheat and Bread in Lari

Village	Wheat (Kg)				Bread (loaf)			
	Jul-08	Sep-08	Feb-09	Oct-09	Jul-08	Sep-08	Feb-09	Sep-09
Abisi	48	50	35	35	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5
Variani	49	46	35	35	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5
Breti	55	47	35	36	0.6	0.6	0.55	0.5
Breti	55	55	35	36	0.55	0.55	0.5	0.5
Karaleti	36	35	35	34	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.45
Dirbi	53	56	37	35	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5
Dzevera	49	46	35	35	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
Karaleti	42	35	35	35	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Berbuki	48	48	32	34	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6
Dzevera	49	46	35	35	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6
Mejvriskhevi	48	48	32	36	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
Shindisi	49	46	35	35	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5
Berbuki	48	48	32	34	0.5	0.5	0.45	4.6
Variani	49	46	35	35	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5
Dzevera	49	46	35	35	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6
Berbuki	48	48	32	34	0.5	0.5	0.45	0.6
Megvrekisi	54	54	36	36	0.1	0.6	0.55	0.5
Tkviavi	48	48	33	35	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5
Berbuki	48	48	32	34	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6
Breti	55	46	35	36	0.6	0.6	0.55	0.5
Variani	49	46	35	35	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5

Table 23: Price of Oil and Sugar in Lari

Village	Cooking Oil (Litre)				Sugar (Kg)			
	Jul-08	Sep-08	Feb-09	Oct-09	Jul-08	Sep-08	Feb-09	Sep-09
Abisi	3.8	3.8	2.8	2.8	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.8
Variani	4.2	3	3	2.8	1.3	1.2	1.2	2
Breti	4.5	4.7	3	3	1.3	1.25	1.2	1.9
Breti	4	4	3.3	3	1.3	1.3	1.3	2
Karaleti	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.8	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.6
Dirbi	4.3	4.5	3.5	2.8	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.8
Dzevera	4.2	3	3	2.8	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.8
Karaleti	4.2	2.7	2.7	2.8	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.8
Berbuki	4.5	4.5	2.7	2.8	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.8
Dzevera	3.8	3.8	2.8	2.8	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.8
Mejvriskhevi	4.2	4.2	3	3	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.9

Shindisi	4.2	3	2.8	2.8	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.9
Berbuki	4.5	4.5	2.7	2.8	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.8
Variani	4.2	3	3	2.8	1.3	1.2	1.2	2
Dzevera	4.2	3	3	2.8	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.8
Berbuki	4.5	4.5	2.7	2.8	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.8
Megvrekisi	3.8	3.8	2.8	3	1.1	1.1	1.2	2
Tkviavi	4.5	4.5	2.7	3	1.2	1.2	1.2	2
Berbuki	4.5	4.5	2.7	2.8	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.8
Breti	4.5	4.2	3	3	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.9
Variani	4.2	3	3	2.8	1.3	1.2	1.2	2

4.3.3 Coping Strategies

Villagers are expressing relatively less stress than in February when their kitchen gardens and farm production was not fully restored. Food intake has improved and borrowing reduced (Table 24). The sale of productive assets indicates a rise though as concluded in the February survey, farmers did not have much assets to sell earlier in the year when they had just returned to their villages. Consumption of seed as food is still high. Cost of irrigation water has added a new burden on farmers. Short term alternative sources of irrigation water have been sought after supply from South Ossetia become irregular. The cost of these alternatives is almost three times higher. The government has plans to headworks and irrigation canals as a long term solution. It would be a few years before results from these initiatives would reach the farmers. Some farms have adopted to water shortages by abandoning their horticulture in favour of livestock. This change in land use from horticulture to pastureland is a direct consequence of water shortages and has impacted household incomes.

Table 24: Coping Strategies

Coping Strategy	February 2009				October 2009			
	Percentage of Villages Practicing Coping Mechanisms							
	1-24*	25-49*	50-74*	75-100*	1-24*	25-49*	50-74*	75-100*
Reduce food intake	-	15	25	75	29	38	-	24
Increase borrowing	-	30	70	-	24	5	52	-
Sale of productive assets	25	40	30	5	86	10	-	38
Sale of hh assets	60	35	-	-	43	5	-	5
Consume seed	55	30	-	5	33	67	-	52

* percentage of village population

Villagers were asked about access to farmland, pasture, irrigation and inputs for next season's crop. Overall, access to farmland and pastures has improved and irrigation has been restored to the majority of villages with a few exceptions (Table 25).

Table 25: Access

Population Percentage	Number of villages							
	0-24	25-49	50-74	75-100	0-24	25-49	50-74	75-100
Access	Feb-09				Oct-09			
Access to farm land	-	1	-	20	-	-	2	19
Access to pasture	2	1	1	17	-	1	2	18
Access to tractors	3	10	4	3	-	12	5	4

Irrigation fully restored*	-	-	-	-	7			6
Irrigation partially restored	-	-	-	-	2	3	6	1
Irrigation not restored	-	-	-	-	1	1	6	
Seed for next season's kitchen garden	4	-	2	14	1	5	14	1
Fertilizer of kitchen garden	8	12	-	-	2	6	13	
Seed for crop planting	4	6	8	1	1	9	10	-
Fertilizer for crop planting	8	12	1	0	1	13	7	-

*During February information on irrigation was not verified as it was not used

In February one village cited security and another three villages referred to presence of UXO/landmines as a reasons for limited access to their lands. By October, the situation improved. None of the villages indicated security as a limiting factor and only one village with the population of 280 could not access its lands due to UXO/landmines. There are, however, some households whose lands are now out of bounds due to the conflict. Access to pastureland has also improved since February. One village has limited access due to security and another village has UXO/landmines contaminating its pasturelands. Based on population figures, the populations with limited access due to UXO, security or lack of irrigation is estimated to be 23 thousand.

4.3.4 Needs Assessment

One year after the conflict, the villages were asked about their priority needs to restore their livelihoods. Irrigation and inputs such as fertilizer and chemicals were the most pressing needs (Table 26).

Table 26: Greatest Needs to Restore Livelihoods

Village	First Priority	Second Priority	Third Priority
Abisi	Irrigation water	Tractors	Fertilizer/Pesticides
Akhaldaba	Fertilizer/Pesticides	Fertilizer/Pesticides	Seeds
Aradeti	Irrigation water	Tractors	Fertilizer/Pesticides
Breti	Canal rehabilitation	Fertilizer/Pesticides	Chemicals
Didi Garejvari	Roads rehabilitation	Fertilizer/Pesticides	Chemicals
Dirbi	Irrigation water	Fertilizer/Pesticides	-
Dzevera	Roads rehabilitation	Irrigation water	Fuel
Karaleti	Roads rehabilitation	Fertilizer/Pesticides	Chemicals
Kheltubani	Irrigation water	Roads Rehabilitation	Fuel
Kitsnisi	Roads rehabilitation	Irrigation water	Fuel
Kvarkheti	Irrigation water	Fertilizer/Pesticides	Fertilizer/Pesticides
Pkhvenisi	Roads rehabilitation	Fuel	Fertilizer/Pesticides
Rekha	Irrigation water	Roads Rehabilitation	Fuel
Sakasheti	Fertilizer/Pesticides	Fertilizer/Pesticides	Seeds
Shertuli	Roads rehabilitation	Irrigation water	Fuel
Sveneti	Irrigation water	Roads Rehabilitation	Fuel
Tirdznisi	Irrigation water	Roads Rehabilitation	Tractors
Tkviavi	Fertilizer/Pesticides	Seed	Fuel
Tortiza	Irrigation water	Roads Rehabilitation	Seeds
Tseveri	Irrigation water	Fertilizer/Pesticides	Chemicals
Variani	Fertilizer/Pesticides	Fertilizer/Pesticides	Seeds

4.3.5 Food Security

Kitchen gardens and annual crops have been restored to some degree allowing families to resume their pre-conflict livelihoods. Villages where the irrigation water is sourced from South Ossetia remain vulnerable to arbitrary cuts, especially during the periods critical for crops and horticulture. Though last season was quite rainy and no major problems were observed, this vulnerability would remain until water agreements are reached or alternative sources of water are secured. Farmers complained of alternative water sources organized by the government as being two to three times more costly than what they paid for in pre-conflict situation. Some of these farmers have lost access to their agricultural and pasture lands. Based on village population figures, about 23 thousand people (in particular in the villages along the administrative border) are food insecure and require assistance. Food for Work and Cash for Work programming would be required to support restoration of irrigation systems for these people.

5.0 FOOD SECURITY MONITORING SYSTEM

Change in the food security situation of IDPs in collective centres, in settlements and villages in adjacent areas require continued monitoring. Using a sub-sample of the IDPs surveyed, household food consumption, income levels and number of IDPs settled should be monitored (Table 27). Retail prices of basic food prices should be collected on a monthly basis from two markets in Tbilisi. Availability and retail prices of basic food commodities (wheat, pasta, oil, sugar) should be collected at two villages, Mejvriskhevi and Breti, on a monthly basis. Access to irrigation water and addition of vulnerable groups to the social safety net should be monitored.

Table 27: Food Security Monitoring Indicators

Location	Indicators	Detection
Collective Centres	Access to food for purchase	Periodic change in price of food
	Incomes	# of IDPs with regular incomes
	Settlement	# of IDPs receiving cash/land allocations
	Food consumption	Food consumption score
	Food prices	Basic food commodity prices
Settlements	Irrigation source	Provision of irrigation source
	incomes	Number of settlers with regular incomes
	Food consumption	Food consumption score
	Food prices	Basic food commodity prices
Adjacent Areas	Vulnerable Groups	Addition to government social safety net
	Crop assessment	
	Food consumption	Food consumption score

6.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Conclusions

6.1.1 Collective Centres

- Majority of IDPs have left the Collective Centres
- Vulnerable groups have received some priority in the settlement process
- Assets of IDPs have depleted
- Majority of household earnings are very low and can not support their basic needs
- Housing is free but services are basic
- Required calories are gained through regular food assistance but dietary diversity is poor
- Most IDPs prefer cash assistance
- Families who have received compensation are unaware of eligibility to food assistance
- Most IDPs prefer settlement in urban areas
- The cash component the majority requires is less than 500 lari per household
- Required calories are gained through regular food assistance but dietary diversity is poor.
- More than half of the IDPs do not eat meat, dairy and fruits as these can not be afforded. t
- Main source of income is government allowance

6.1.2 Settlements

- Most settlers receive a house and a small parcel of land
- Few settlers received agricultural land
- Some lands are fertile with adequate sources of irrigation
- Some lands are of poor quality, have no water source and far from the houses
- In spite of land, regular incomes are required for families to sustain themselves
- Provision of storage for harvests could double the income of those IDP farmers who grow surplus produce
- Provision of gas connections are vital for heating during winter
- Income generation opportunities are low but improving
- Required calories are gained through regular food assistance but dietary diversity is poor
- More than half of the IDPs do not eat meat, dairy as these can not be afforded
- Main source of income is government allowance

6.1.3 Villages

- Most IDPs from Adjacent Areas have returned to their homes
- Most livelihoods are restored
- Price of basic food commodities has dropped
- Some agricultural land and pastureland is inaccessible
- Irrigation water is a serious limitation
- There is a need to restore irrigation systems
- Farmers are in need of farm inputs, particularly seed, fertilizer and pesticides

6.2 Recommendations

- Continue food assistance to IDPs in collective centres
- Improve awareness of recipients of cash compensations to food assistance entitlements
- Continue food assistance to selected households in settlements
- Diversify food assistance through cash component
- Continue vulnerable group assistance in villages
- Build assets in villages through FFW/CFW programmes
- Monitor requisite indicators to detect change over time

7.0 ANNEX

7.1 Terms of Reference

Follow up Food Security Assessment Caucasus Crisis

Background

In August 2008 a short but intense conflict was fought between Russia and Georgia over the region of South-Ossetia. This caused some 138,000 Georgians to flee from their homes in the war-affected zones (referred to as ‘adjacent areas’), and some 30,000 fled to the Russian Federation. Most of the IDPs came to Tbilisi, where collective centres were rapidly established. Since that time, a lot of people have moved back (some 100,000), the government has constructed resettlement areas where resettlement is now taking place and the collective centres in the larger towns, especially Tbilisi, have begun to empty out again.

The UN Country Team, notably FAO, WFP and UNICEF, has conducted the joint food security, nutritional and agricultural livelihood analysis situation of the affected population, six months after the conflict. The mission has recommended to carry out follow up assessment in autumn to lean on progress of reestablishment of the food security and livelihood of the conflict affected people.

7 to 11 Oct:	Assessment design, questionnaire design
12 to 16 Oct:	Data Collection and data entry
19 to 23 Oct:	Data analysis and presentation of main findings

Focus areas

There will be three major geographical focus areas:

1. The remaining **collective centres**, in Tbilisi and Gori, where those people will remain that cannot Return to their village and could not be resettled.
2. The **Resettlement Areas**: these areas are newly constructed and any infrastructure or economy is lacking. These areas are permanent, and the people are expected to provide for their own food security, after the initial assistance related to the settling in process.
3. The villages in the war-affected zones (**Adjacent areas**): some 100,000 persons returned to their villages in September/October. However, in many cases infrastructure and assets were destroyed. And in most cases the 2008 harvest has partially or fully been lost. Therefore, the situation in these areas should be reassessed with a focus on longer-term food security and re-establishment of pre-conflict livelihoods.

Objective:

- examine the food security situation in the targeted areas, including an analysis of how it has evolved since February 2009 assessment was conducted and how it is expected to evolve as well as any future risks, the main causes, and the capacities of people, communities, the government and other organizations to improve the situation;
- study the impact of the different agriculture livelihood programmes (in particular maize and vegetable planting projects including WFP CFW) impact on the food security situation of the IDPs and local farmers in the adjacent area

- determine if further food, non-food and/or cash interventions are appropriate/necessary for the vulnerable populations;
- determine an update of how the original group of some 138,000 IDPs has now settled into any of the 3 options: staying in collective centre, resettled in new housing area, or returned to original village/area and the implications to their food security.
- where food assistance is an appropriate response option, determine the necessary quantities, as well as the most appropriate interventions, during which period of the year these are most needed, and how they should interface with on-going or future planned programmes.
- Recommend future interventions linked with the JNA findings and aiming to a new WFP project which should start by July 2009 after completion of the actual PRRO.

Roles and Responsibilities

The Regional Assessment Officer will report directly to the Country Director and closely liaise with the Head of Programme. The following are the specific tasks of the WFP members of the needs assessment team:

1. Liaise with the UN country team, other humanitarian agencies and NGOs and relevant government authorities, and ensure effective coordination and partnerships in collecting food security information.
2. Consolidate and review available secondary data and information (e.g. from government and other agencies, news reports) on the existing food security situation, including the main geographic areas and population groups affected.
3. Assess the targeting criteria used in the adjacent areas and impact on food security of beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries.
4. Travel to the affected villages, collective centers and resettlement areas to conduct a rapid assessment of food availability, access and utilization, one year after the crisis, and of the possible impact on the affected population's nutritional status.
5. For the three most vulnerable provinces, using secondary data and input from key informants and field visits, the team will:
 - compile relevant information on trends in socio-economic conditions, including changes in basic services provided by the government (e.g. housing, health, education), in the macro-economic situation, and key policies affecting food security;
 - assess food availability and market conditions, e.g. effects on local and national food stocks, staple food prices, markets, and key food sources;
 - identify people's access to food, including changes in their livelihoods, sources of food and income/entitlements, purchasing power, employment opportunities, assets, and the sustainability of their coping strategies;
 - assess factors related to people's food consumption and utilization including changes in the types of food consumed/diet diversity, and their ability to obtain full nutritional benefit from the food they eat; and
 - Advise on impact of safety nets in place for affected populations and projections for the future
6. Develop initial estimates of:

- the extent and severity of current food insecurity (including current food access shortfalls) and the risk of deterioration in the near future;
- the capacities of the national and local authorities to cope with these shortfalls, including the use of existing social safety nets;
- populations in need of immediate food or non-food assistance (if any) and the duration of assistance; and
- the role markets are playing and could play in enabling access to food (prices, volumes).

Expected outputs

1. Food security assessment report providing a description of the current food security situation, including whether a further external response is required and, if so, the nature of the response and the number of people in need of assistance.
2. Recommendations on arrangements to monitor the food security situation and related food and non-needs with the government/partner agencies.
3. Preliminary inputs and advise for the preparation of WFP Georgia future projects

7.2 Community Centre IDP, Oct 2009

Household Assessment Sheet

Questionnaire #: _____ Page 1 of 2

Date _____ Enumerator name _____ Cell Number _____

Region _____ District _____ City/Village _____ Centre Name _____

DEMOGRAPHICS

Head of Household		<input type="checkbox"/> Male	<input type="checkbox"/> Female
Spouse		<input type="checkbox"/> Male	<input type="checkbox"/> Female
Respondent		<input type="checkbox"/> Head of Household <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse <input type="checkbox"/> Other	
Household Size and Age (years)		Less than 5	5-17
In Centre	Male		
	Female		
In South Ossetia or elsewhere	Male		
	Female		
Is any household member disabled? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Origin: <input type="checkbox"/> South Ossetia <input type="checkbox"/> Other			

CURRENT STATUS

Assets	<input type="checkbox"/> Car	<input type="checkbox"/> Jewelry
Income Source	<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Employment	<input type="checkbox"/> Casual Employment
	<input type="checkbox"/> Remittance	<input type="checkbox"/> other specify _____
Monthly household cash income	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than 100	<input type="checkbox"/> 100-199
	<input type="checkbox"/> 300><500	<input type="checkbox"/> 200-300
Savings	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than 100	<input type="checkbox"/> 100-500
	<input type="checkbox"/> 500-1000	<input type="checkbox"/> above 1000 lari
Debt	<input type="checkbox"/> no debt	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than 100
	<input type="checkbox"/> 100-500	<input type="checkbox"/> 500-1000
Type of assistance received regularly	<input type="checkbox"/> food	<input type="checkbox"/> non-food
	<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
Would you prefer food assistance in cash or kind?	<input type="checkbox"/> cash	<input type="checkbox"/> kind
Access to stove	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Access to fuel for cooking	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Access to clean drinking water (20 litres/person/day)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Access to functioning sanitary facility	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Personal hygiene supplies (soap, sanitary cloth/napkin) availability	<input type="checkbox"/> Adequate	<input type="checkbox"/> Inadequate
Are school age children attending school?	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> All	<input type="checkbox"/> Some
	<input type="checkbox"/> None	

UTILITIES

Utilities	Cost	Source
Cooking fuel	<input type="checkbox"/> free <input type="checkbox"/> on payment	<input type="checkbox"/> Gas <input type="checkbox"/> Electricity <input type="checkbox"/> Wood <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Heating fuel	<input type="checkbox"/> free <input type="checkbox"/> on payment	<input type="checkbox"/> Gas <input type="checkbox"/> Electricity <input type="checkbox"/> Wood <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Drinking water	<input type="checkbox"/> free <input type="checkbox"/> on payment	<input type="checkbox"/> Truck <input type="checkbox"/> Spring <input type="checkbox"/> Well <input type="checkbox"/> Pipe <input type="checkbox"/> Other

COPING STRATEGY ADOPTED OVER LAST 2 MONTHS

<input type="checkbox"/> Sale of assets	<input type="checkbox"/> family member migrating to find work	<input type="checkbox"/> incur credit/debt
<input type="checkbox"/> reduce size or number of meals		

INCOME GENERATION

What is the major factor limiting your income generation?

Notes: Community Centre IDP Household Assessment Sheet

Demographics

- a. If both are present, try to interview both head of household and spouse together
- b. *DEMOGRAPHICS*: age in years
- c. Disability in entire household including members living in origin

Current Status

- a. Assets: multiple checkmarks are possible.
- b. Income source: multiple checkmarks are possible except if NONE is checked.
- c. If NONE is checked under income sources, leave next question blank.
- d. Monthly household income includes all cash sources including wages, govt allowances, remittances
- e. Savings: Only selection one.. In case of no savings, select *Less than 100*.
- f. Debt: Select either *no debt* or one of the other options
- g. Type of assistance: multiple selection is possible. Mark only if the assistance is on a regular basis. Health care means free access to doctor and medicine.
- h. Access to clean drinking water.
- i. Sanitary facility means toilet

Dietary Diversity And Food Consumption Score

- a. Apply training rules to fill this table. It records household (not individual) recall.
- b. If multiple sources of a food group are identified, then select most dominant.

Coping Strategy

- a. Record coping strategy adopted over the last two months. Multiple choices may be selected.

Income Generation

- a. List the most important factor

Relocation

- a. Select Yes if the household opted for the cash compensation scheme

Livelihood

- a. Select not more than one for household head and not more than one for spouse.

Non Food Assistance

- a. It is possible the respondent wants both irrigated and rain-fed land.
- b. Record the respondent's time estimates. Do not suggest training duration.
- c. Leave Cost section blank if respondent is unable to estimate cost

7.3 Settlement Household, Oct 2009

Assessment Sheet Questionnaire #: _____ Page 1 of 2

Date _____ Enumerator name _____ Cell Phone Number _____

Region _____ District _____ City/Village _____ Settlement Name _____

DEMOGRAPHICS

Head of Household	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female			
Spouse	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female			
Respondent	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female			
Household Size and Age (years)	Less than 5	5-17	18-59	60 and above
In Centre	Male			
	Female			
In South Ossetia or elsewhere	Male			
	Female			
Is any household member disabled? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No				
Origin: <input type="checkbox"/> South Ossetia <input type="checkbox"/> Other				

CURRENT STATUS

Resettlement date	Circle: 2008 Nov Dec 2009: Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jly Aug Sep Oct
Assets	<input type="checkbox"/> Car <input type="checkbox"/> jewelry <input type="checkbox"/> house <input type="checkbox"/> farmland <input type="checkbox"/> fruit trees <input type="checkbox"/> pastureland <input type="checkbox"/> kitchen garden <input type="checkbox"/> farm-power tractor <input type="checkbox"/> farm-power animal
Do you have livestock?	<input type="checkbox"/> cow <input type="checkbox"/> sheep/goat <input type="checkbox"/> pig <input type="checkbox"/> rabbits <input type="checkbox"/> chicken
Production	Is your farmland productive? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Is your kitchen garden productive? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Income Source	<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> Livestock <input type="checkbox"/> Horticulture <input type="checkbox"/> small business <input type="checkbox"/> Regular Employment <input type="checkbox"/> Casual Employment <input type="checkbox"/> Govt allowance <input type="checkbox"/> Remittance <input type="checkbox"/> other specify _____ <input type="checkbox"/> None
Monthly hh cash income (Lari)	<input type="checkbox"/> <100 <input type="checkbox"/> 100-199 <input type="checkbox"/> 200-300 <input type="checkbox"/> 300><500 <input type="checkbox"/> >= 500
Savings (Lari)	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than 100 <input type="checkbox"/> 100-500 <input type="checkbox"/> 500-1000 <input type="checkbox"/> above 1000
Debt (Lari)	<input type="checkbox"/> No debt <input type="checkbox"/> less than 100 <input type="checkbox"/> 100-500 <input type="checkbox"/> 500-1000 <input type="checkbox"/> above 1000
Access to storage for farm produce	<input type="checkbox"/> Adequate <input type="checkbox"/> Yes but inadequate <input type="checkbox"/> None
Access to irrigation water	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> On payment <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Access to oven for baking bread	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Type of assistance received one regular basis	<input type="checkbox"/> food <input type="checkbox"/> non food <input type="checkbox"/> health
Food Assistance	Do you prefer food assistance in cash or kind? <input type="checkbox"/> cash <input type="checkbox"/> kind <input type="checkbox"/> either <input type="checkbox"/> don't know If cash, then who should receive it? <input type="checkbox"/> male <input type="checkbox"/> female <input type="checkbox"/> either <input type="checkbox"/> don't know

UTILITIES

Utilities	Cost	Source
Cooking fuel	<input type="checkbox"/> free <input type="checkbox"/> on payment	<input type="checkbox"/> Gas <input type="checkbox"/> Electricity <input type="checkbox"/> Wood <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Heating fuel	<input type="checkbox"/> free <input type="checkbox"/> on payment	<input type="checkbox"/> Gas <input type="checkbox"/> Electricity <input type="checkbox"/> Wood <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Drinking water	<input type="checkbox"/> free <input type="checkbox"/> on payment	<input type="checkbox"/> Truck <input type="checkbox"/> Spring <input type="checkbox"/> Well <input type="checkbox"/> Pipe <input type="checkbox"/> Other

COPING STRATEGY ADOPTED OVER LAST 2 MONTHS

<input type="checkbox"/> Sale of assets <input type="checkbox"/> family member migrating to find work <input type="checkbox"/> incur credit/debt <input type="checkbox"/> reduce size or number of meals

FOOD CONSUMPTION AND DIETARY DIVERSITY

Over the last seven days, how many days did your household consume the following food?											
Food Group	Food Items	Source	Number of Days (Circle one)								
Cereal/Tubers	Wheat, maize, barley, rice, pasta, potato		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Pulses	Beans, lentils, peas, any types of nuts		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Vegetables	Vegetables		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Fruits	Fruits and fruit products		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Meat and Fish	Beef, pig, goat, sheep, poultry, eggs, fish		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Diary	Milk/yoghurt/cheese or other dairy products		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Sugar	Sugar and sugar products		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Oil	Oil, fats, butter		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	

Source: 1=purchase; 2=aid; 3=borrow/credit; 4=private donation; 5=other

LIVELIHOOD: What is the main source of livelihood?

Livelihood
<input type="checkbox"/> Farming
<input type="checkbox"/> Unskilled labour
<input type="checkbox"/> Skilled labour specify _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Small business specify _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Services specify _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Other specify _____

INCOME GENERATION: What is the major factor limiting your income generation?

<hr/>

Notes

Demographics

- a. If both are present, try to interview both head of household and spouse together
- b. DEMOGRAPHICS: age in years
- c. Disability in entire household including members living in origin

Current Status

- j. For resettlement date circle one month.
- k. Assets: multiple checkmarks are possible.
- l. On livestock, multiple checks are possible
- m. On farmland productivity, check *No* if there is no farmland or if there is farmland but it is not productive
- n. On kitchen garden productivity, check *No* if there is no kitchen garden or if there is a kitchen garden but it is not productive

- o. Income source: multiple checkmarks are possible except if *NONE* is checked.
- p. Savings: Only one selection is possible. In case of no savings, select *Less than 100*.
- q. Debt: Select either *no debt* or one of the other options
- r. Type of assistance: multiple selection is possible. Mark only if the assistance is on a regular basis. Health care means free access to doctor and medicine.
- s. Food assistance – cash/kind: Select one of the four options
- t. Food assistance- gender: select one of the four options. If the respondent is shy or unwilling to answer, select *Don't know* option.

Coping Strategy

- b. Record coping strategy adopted over the last two months. Multiple choices may be selected.

Dietary Diversity And Food Consumption Score

- c. Apply training rules to fill this table. It records household (not individual) recall.
- d. If multiple sources of a food group are identified, then select most dominant.

Livelihood

Select most dominant source of livelihood.

Income Generation

List the most important factor.

Follow-up Village Assessment Sheet Oct 2009

This assessment form should be used in close coordination and review with key members of the community (example: the village authorities, community leaders, local health staff, religious leaders, local community based organizations) and take into consideration the need for a balanced representation of women, men and vulnerable groups. The security of all participants must be taken into consideration when conducting the assessment.

1. Assessment Team Information

Name of team leader/ organization		Contact Details	
Date of assessment:			
Name of team members	Organization	Phone number	
1)			
2)			
3)			

2. Sample Village/Community

<u>Village Name</u>	Community (Sub-district)	<u>District</u>
Name of Community Leader:		Phone Number:

3. Population data (Village/Settlement level)

3.1 Population of village in July 2008 (prior to conflict) :

3.2 Estimated village population of September 2008:

3.3 Estimated village population in February 2009 :

3.4 Current (October 2009) population as a percentage of prewar population: _____

4. Household food security

4.1 Number of tractors in the village:	<u>Before the conflict</u>		<u>Sept 2008</u>	<u>Feb 2009</u>	<u>Oct 2009</u>
4.2 Price of main commodities?	Unit	Before crisis	Sep 2008	Feb 2009	Oct 2009
Wheat flour	Kg.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Oil	liter	_____	_____	_____	_____
Sugar	kg.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Bread	loaf	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.3 Are markets accessible? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If Yes, are markets stocked with basic food commodities? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No					
4.4 Have any of the following coping strategies being practiced in the community over the last month?					
<input type="checkbox"/> Reduce food intake	1-24%	25-49%	50-74%	75-100%	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eating unhealthy food / less preferred foods/quality.....	1-24%	25-49%	50-74%	75-100%	
<input type="checkbox"/> Increase in borrowing for consumption purposes	1-24%	25-49%	50-74%	75-100%	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sale of productive assets (tractor, milk producing cow, land...)	1-24%	25-49%	50-74%	75-100%	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sale of household assets	1-24%	25-49%	50-74%	75-100%	
<input type="checkbox"/> Consumption of seed reserved for future planting	1-24%	25-49%	50-74%	75-100%	
<input type="checkbox"/> Others (Specify)	1-24%	25-49%	50-74%	75-100%	

5. WATER SUPPLY

5.1 Does your village have irrigation water shortage? Yes No

5.2 If yes, what steps were taken to cope with water shortage?

Dig well prepare plan to construct/rehabilitate canal construct/rehabilitate canal
 buy water none abandon land other, specify _____

5.3 Has the cost of water increased since the conflict

Change : Decreased the same Increased by (circle) 25% 50% 100% 200% 300% 500%

6 LIVELIHOOD

6.1 Main livelihood of this community is:

Crop farming Horticulture Livestock Small business Cottage industry Urban employment other

PRODUCTION

6.2 Comparing current production to pre-war production levels?

<input type="checkbox"/> Cereals.....	1-24%	25-49%	50-74%	75-100%	>100%
<input type="checkbox"/> Fruits.....	1-24%	25-49%	50-74%	75-100%	>100%
<input type="checkbox"/> Kitchen gardens	1-24%	25-49%	50-74%	75-100%	>100%
<input type="checkbox"/> Livestock levels	1-24%	25-49%	50-74%	75-100%	>100%

6.3 If production is less, what is the main reason (check one)

Water farm inputs (seed, fertilizer) farmpower manpower other specify _____

6.4 Has the village lost access to land due to the conflict? How many hectares

Agricultural land _____ horticulture land _____ pastureland _____.

6.5 Percentage of village population with:

Access to farm land.....	1-24%	25-49%	50-74%	75-100%
For those with livestock, access to pasture.....	1-24%	25-49%	50-74%	75-100%
Access to tractors.....	1-24%	25-49%	50-74%	75-100%
Irrigation fully restored.....	1-24%	25-49%	50-74%	75-100%
Irrigation partially restored	1-24%	25-49%	50-74%	75-100%
Irrigation not restored ?.....	1-24%	25-49%	50-74%	75-100%
Seed for next season's kitchen gardens	1-24%	25-49%	50-74%	75-100%
Fertilizer for next season's kitchen gardens.....	1-24%	25-49%	50-74%	75-100%
Seed for next season's crop planting	1-24%	25-49%	50-74%	75-100%
Fertilizer for next season's crop.....	1-24%	25-49%	50-74%	75-100%

6.6 For those with no access to farm land, main reason (select one)

In South Ossetia Security UXO/landmines Do not own land Other Specify _____

6.7 For households with livestock but no access to pasture, main reason (select one)

In South Ossetia Security UXO/landmines Other Specify _____

7. Relief effort/assistance

7.1 What do the community members identify as their greatest needs to restore their livelihoods:

1

2

3

**Guidance Note
to accompany the
Village Assessment Sheet
October 2009**

This Guidance Note aims to inform the assessment team on how to approach each question of the assessment and fill in the IRA form. The security of all participants must be taken into consideration when conducting the assessment. If there are any threats to personal security the assessment team should stop conducting the assessments immediately.

Section 1		Assessment Team Information	
Question	Key data issues and recording		
Name of Team Leader / Organisation	Last name, first name. Abbreviation of the organisation is sufficient. Provide contact details of the team leader (i.e. daytime phone number and e-mail address) next to the Box "Contact Details".		
Date of assessment:	Enter in the format <i>dd/mm/yyyy</i>		
Name of team members	Last name, first name. Abbreviation of the organisation is sufficient. Add mobile phone # or landline, as appropriate. If more than three members on the team, add additional information on the back of the page.		

Section 2		Sample Village/Community	
Question	Key data issues and recording		
Village Name	Enter Village name in Latin in CAPITAL letters		
Community	or municipality. Enter name in CAPITAL letters		
District	Enter name in CAPITAL letters		
Name of Community Leader	Enter surname, first name, title. If the community leader is unavailable, identify an <u>alternative representative or key community member</u> in the village who can answer the questions in his/her official capacity (example: local health staff, religious leaders, local community based organisations, etc.)		
Phone Number:	Try to obtain both his/her landline and mobile phone number, divide numbers with comma or semicolon		

Section 3		Population Data (Village/Settlement level)	
Question	Key data issues and recording.		
3.1	Enter the population prior to conflict of August 2008 ⁷ .		
3.2	Enter the population at peak of displacement (September 2008) ¹		
3.3	Enter village population in February 2009 ¹		
3.4	Enter current population as a percentage of pre-conflict (3.1) population.		

Section 4		Household food security	
Question	Key data issues and recording		
4.1	Tractors include large and small tractors and other agricultural machinery		

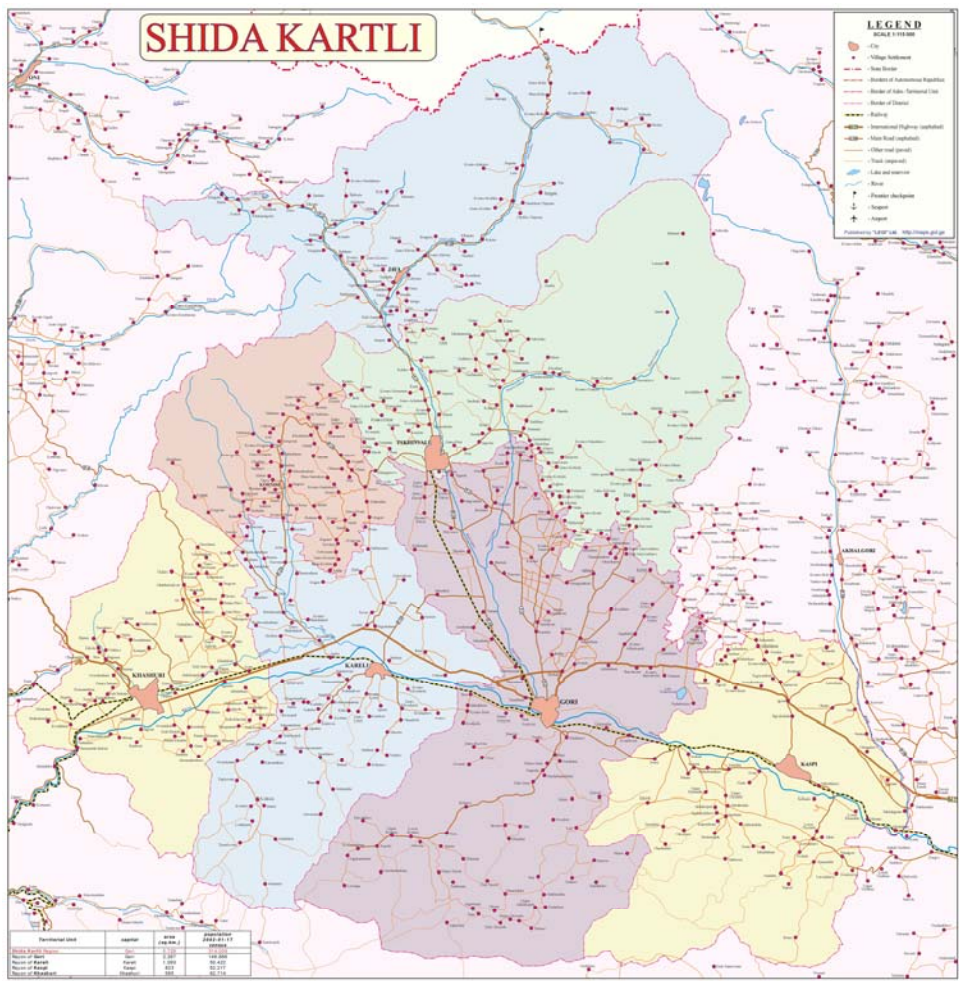
⁷ This data is available in the Joint FAO/UNICEF/WFP Assessment Report of February-March 2009 page 60

4.2	Get prices of July 2008, Sep 2008, Feb 2009 from previous reports EFSA Oct 2008 and EFSA Feb 2009. Get prices for October 2009 during the interview.
4.3	Basic food commodities include wheat flour, oil, sugar, bread
4.4	First mark the relevant (and only the relevant) strategies by ticking the box on the left side. Multiple choices are possible. In a second step. Circle the appropriate range of households that are practicing these strategies (1-24%, 25-49%, 50-74%, 75-100%).

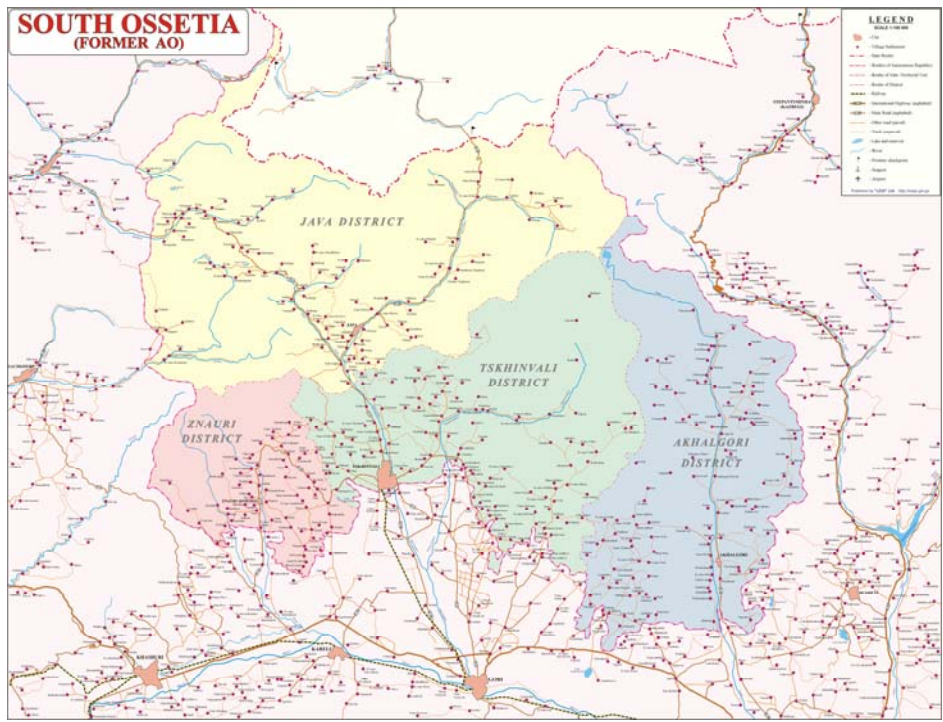
Section 5	
Water Supply	
Question	Key data issues and recording
5.1	Select Yes if the water supply is less than what is required
5.2	Select if these steps were taken since the conflict
5.3	If cost of water has increased, then circle one percentage value

Section 6	
Livelihoods	
Question	Key data issues and recording
6.1	Tick the box representing livelihood of the majority in the village.
6.2	For each group (cereal, fruit, kitchen gardens and livestock) circle one percentage
6.3	Select one i.e. the most significant cause of low production
6.4	Leave blank if no land has been lost due to the conflict
6.5	Circle the percentage which is a best estimate
6.6	Only record the main reason i.e. the reason for which the majority does not have access
6.7	Only record the main reason i.e. the reason for which the majority does not have access

Section 7	
Restore livelihoods	
71	Enter the THREE most important items in order of priority.

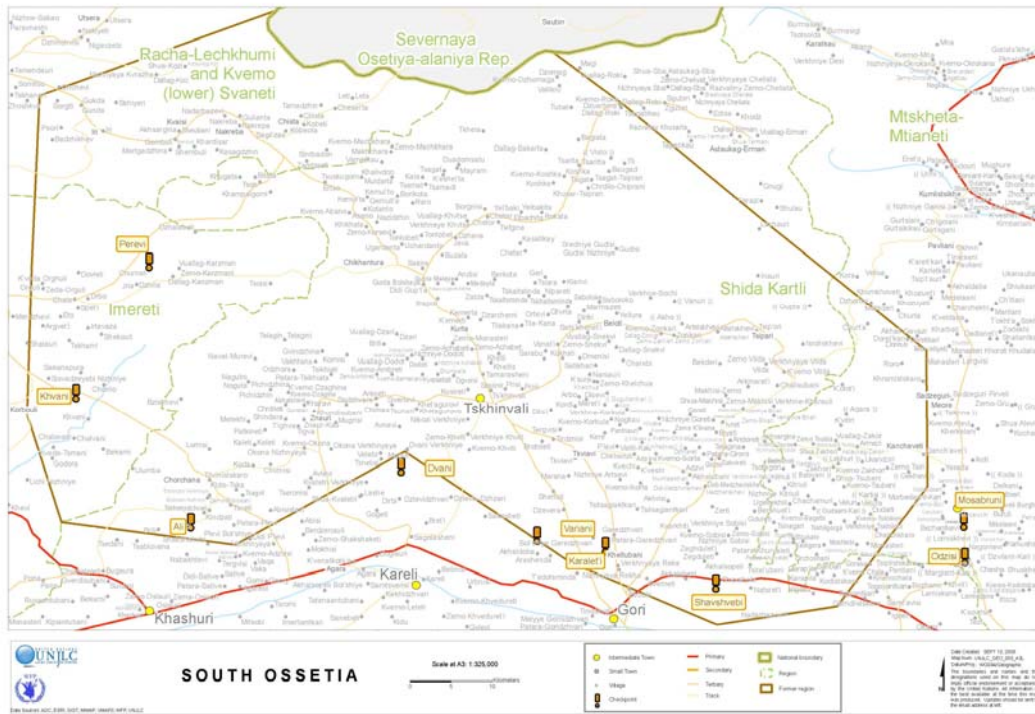


**Map 1:
Shida Kartli**



**Map 2:
South Ossetia**

Map 3: Adjacent Areas





vam
food security analysis