

Emergency Food Security Assessment
of Internally Displaced Persons and
Returnees in Mindanao
January 2010



**World Food Programme
&
Community Family Services International**

CONTENT

	Page
1. Background	1
2. Methodology	2-5
2.1 Sampling	3
2.2 Team Composition, Training and Primary Data Collection	3
2.3 Assessment Tools	4
2.4 Data Management	4
2.5 Limitations and Challenges	5
3. Findings	6-35
3.1 Demographics	6
3.2 Housing and Facilities	8
3.3 Household assets, productive assets and access to credit	12
3.3.1 Household Assets and Productive Assets	12
3.3.2 Livestock Ownership	12
3.3.3 Indebtedness	13
3.4 Household Livelihoods/Income	14
3.4.1 Changes in livelihoods between 3 rounds of EFSA's (2007, 2009, 2010)	18
3.5 Expenditure	19
3.5.1 Comparison of expenditures between 3 rounds of EFSA's (2007, 2009, 2010)	22
3.6 Food Consumption & Food Security	23
3.6.1 Diet Composition & Food Sources	23
3.6.2 Household Food Consumption Profile	24
3.6.3 Comparison of food consumption groups in 3 rounds of EFSA's (2007, 2009, 2010)	27
3.7 Disasters and Coping Strategies	27
3.7.1 Coping Strategies	30
3.8 Access to Food Assistance and Current Priority Needs	31
4. Summary of findings	34
5. Recommendations	35
Annex 1: Household Questionnaire	37
Annex 2: Methodology for analyzing food consumption data	46

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: Number of conflict affected people in five provinces	5
Table 2: Type of Roof and Wall Material	12
Table 3: Proportion of households who own assets	15
Table 4: Average number of livestock by household type	16
Table 5: Access to land, by household type	20
Table 6: Weekly Consumption Patterns of Consumption Profiles (Average Values, 7 days recall)	25
Table 7: Distribution of Food Consumption and Food Access Groups	27
Table 8: Comparison of Key Food Security Indicators (EFSA February 2009 and EFSA January 2010)	34

LIST OF CHARTS

Chart 1: Percentage of educational attainment of household head, by level and type	9
Chart 2: Proportion of children aged 6-12 who attended elementary school	10
Chart 3: Ethnic Groups of Surveyed Households	11
Chart 4: Type of toilet and fuel used for cooking	13
Chart 5: Treatment of drinking water	14
Chart 6: Proportion of total households who incurred debt	16
Chart 7: Sources of Credit	17
Chart 8: Primary livelihoods before and after displacement, IDP	18
Chart 9: Primary livelihoods before and after displacement, Returnee/ Resettled	19
Chart 10: Number of earning family members, by household type	20
Chart 11: Percentage of households according to land ownership arrangement, both categories	21
Chart 12: Types of expenditure, by household category	22
Chart 13: Expenditure according to type (detailed), by household category	23
Chart 14: Sources of Food	24
Chart 15: Frequency of consumption of food groups	25
Chart 16: Food Consumption Groups among IDP and Returnee/Resettled population	26
Chart 17: Food Consumption Score vis-à-vis Food Consumption Profile	26
Chart 18: Proportion of main problems affecting households, by categories	28
Chart 19: Loss of income and assets, by household type	29
Chart 20: Proportion of the household intentions to move, by category	29
Chart 21: Proportion of the reasons why households intend to move, both categories	30
Chart 22: Consumption Coping Strategies adopted by households	31
Chart 23: Proportion households that received food assistance in the last 2 months by category	32
Chart 24: Proportion of first priority needs by category	33

List of Abbreviations

ARMM	Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
BJE	Bangsamoro Juridical Entity
CARP	Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Programme
CFSI	Community and Family Services International
EC	Evacuation Center
EFSA	Emergency Food Security Assessment
ESF	Emergency School Feeding
FCS	Food Consumption Score
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
IOM	International Office of Migration
LDN	Lanao del Norte
LDS	Lanao del Sur
MILF	Moro Islamic Liberation Front
LGU	Local Government Unit
MoA	Memorandum of Agreement
NGO	Non-Government Organization
OCD	Office of Civil Defense
PAG	Private Armed Groups
PES	Philippine Educational System
PPS	Probability Proportional to Size
SOMA	Suspension of Military Action
SOMO	Suspension of Military Operation
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
VOS	Voluntary Offer to Sell
WASH	Water Sanitation and Hygiene
WFP	World Food Programme

Emergency Food Security Assessment of Internally Displaced Persons and Returnees in Mindanao January 2010

Draft 5 March 2010

1. Background

Covering a total land mass of 94,630 kilometers, Mindanao is the second largest island in the Philippine Archipelago. Although largely populated by Christians on the eastern coast, the Moro people who consist of various ethnic groups including *Maguindanaoan, Maranao, Tausug, Yakan, Iranon*, among others occupy a significant portion of the western seaboard. Specifically, the provinces of Maguindanao, Sultan Kudarat, North Cotabato, Lanao del Norte and Lanao del Sur as well as the island provinces off the Zamboanga Peninsula namely Basilan, Sulu and Tawi-tawi are all largely Moro-populated.

The 2006 Philippine Official Poverty Statistics by NSCB for the basic sectors showed that while the country has 32.9% poverty incidence, Mindanao has the highest poverty level (compared to Luzon and Visayas) at 45.5%. In terms of regional differentials, more than half (55.8%) of all families in Autonomous Regional Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) are considered poor with Maguindanao reporting the highest number of poor farmers in the country. In fact, Maguindanao and Lanao Del Sur provinces have consistently ranked in the ten poorest provinces in the country from 2000-2006. Over the six-year period, Lanao Del Norte (LDN) Sultan Kudarat, and North Cotabato averaged at 46.6%, 43.6% and 31.8% of its families considered poor.

An ongoing armed conflict between the Moro separatist groups and the government troops has caused major insecurity and population displacements in the different parts of the island since the 1960s. In July 2008, there was a breakthrough in the peace process with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) when a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) established an autonomous Moro homeland called the "Bangsamoro Judicial Entity" (BJE) which mirrors the Moro people's ancestral domain. The MoA, however, attracted strong public opinion and was eventually declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court. The response of MILF combatants was a large-scale attack in Cotabato and Lanao del Norte provinces which led to the displacement of approximately 600,000 people.

Aside from armed conflict, natural disasters have also affected Mindanao, increasing the number of IDPs and worsening the already squalid living conditions of the displaced. During the third quarter of 2009 the military proposed a Suspension of Military Operation (SOMO) which was followed by a Suspension of the Military Action (SOMA) by the MILF. This situation led to a gradual return of some IDPs to their places of origin. Recently, however, security improvements have been disrupted in the five provinces as a result of the forthcoming elections. In addition to all of these challenges, "*rido*" or clan wars plague some municipalities in these provinces.

On November 23, 2009, the "Maguindanao Massacre" occurred in Ampatuan, Maguindanao killing fifty-seven civilians including thirty journalists. Martial Law was

declared in December, 2009 which prompted the dismantling of the Ampatuan clan's private army and created a power vacuum in the region. Martial Law was eventually lifted and the government declared Maguindanao under a "State of Emergency", thereby increasing the number of military in the area in order to pursue the Private Armed Groups (PAGs) who supported the Ampatuan clan.

While the Office of Civil Defense (OCD) reported that some families moved to adjacent province (Sultan Kudarat) and Cotabato City during the declaration of Martial Law, there were no "new" official IDPs in the province of Maguindanao. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) reported on 7 December 2009 that most IDPs were in the province of Maguindanao where some 26,697 families were living in 103 Evacuation Centers (ECs). North Cotabato recorded 1,894 families in 11 ECs and Lanao Del Sur (LDS) had 1,641 families who were house-based. In Sultan Kudarat and Lanao Del Norte, most of the families returned to their places of origin.

In February 2009, a Joint Emergency Nutrition and Food Security Assessment was conducted in Central Mindanao by WFP in partnership with UNICEF to determine the nutritional status of children and food security in the provinces of Maguindanao, North Cotabato, Lanao de Norte and Lanao del Sur. The report highlighted the plight of the IDPs, specifically the impact of displacement upon primary livelihoods, food access and the nutritional status of children.

To assess the current food security situation of returnees as well as IDPs and to follow-up on the 2009 assessment, an Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA) was conducted by WFP in January 2010. The primary objective of this assessment was to update the existing information on the situation of IDPs in evacuation camps and examine the status of returnees and resettlers in terms of food security, livelihoods and their coping practices.

2. Methodology

The key focus of the EFSA was to understand the food security and vulnerability of the population affected and displaced by the conflicts that started in August 2008. As described above, the assessment was conducted in the five provinces of Mindanao (Lanao Del Norte, Lanao Del Sur, Magindanao, North Cotabato and Sultan Kudarat) where the majority of the affected population was living either as internally displaced, returned or resettled households. The number of IDP, returnee and resettled households in the five provinces was estimated by WFP and its partner's distribution plan to be approximately 100,000 (Table 1).

Table 1: Number of conflict affected people in five provinces

Provinces	IDP families	Returned families	Resettled families	Subtotal
Magindanao	26,736	23,104	384	50,224
LDS		4,480	2,062	6,542
LDN		13,699	316	20,557
N. Cotabato		18,008	1,431	19,439
S. Kudarat		3,107		3,107
Total				99,889

The assessment was designed in line with WFP's Food and Nutrition Security Conceptual Framework and with extensive support provided by a core assessment team in the WFP Regional Bureau in Bangkok. Prior to undertaking the field survey,

the core assessment team reviewed previous assessments, relevant reports and data that provided a broader context as well as specific information on the existing food security situation and the methodological aspects of the survey.

2.1 Sampling

Given the large geographical distribution (five provinces) of the affected population and the limited time for primary data collection, two stage cluster sampling was chosen as the sampling technique. A statistically representative sample size for the two stage cluster sampling was obtained using the following formula at a confidence interval of 95 percent.

$$n = Z^2 \times (Po \times (1 - Po) \div d^2) \times deff$$

Where,
n = required number of households/sample size
Z = 1.96, constant
Po = 0.5 (50%), estimated proportion of the indicator
d = 0.05, precision
deff = 2, design effect

The estimated sample size derived from this formula was 768 households. With a 5 percent non response rate the final sample size was 809 households.

At the first stage of two stage cluster sampling, figures on internally displaced, returnee and resettled households by villages/Barangays in the five provinces were collected from provincial government centres. The centres indicated that there were 78,640 total households; this list was used as the sampling frame. To eliminate the design effect and to attain the desired sample size, a sample scheme of 34 clusters × 24 households was chosen. Each village/Barangay formed a cluster and 34 clusters were randomly selected proportional to the population size (PPS). For the second stage of cluster sampling a master list of the internally displaced, returned and resettled households in the selected clusters/Barangays were collected from the respective municipalities. Finally 24 households (809 ÷ 34) in each cluster were selected based on random sampling.

2.2 Team Composition, Training and Primary Data Collection

The size and composition of the data collection team was guided by the assessment's need to cover 809 households in 34 clusters in a reasonable time-period. Six teams were formed, each consisting of a team leader, a team member (national staff of WFP Mindanao) and six enumerators. The enumerators were volunteers working for Community and Family Services International (CFSI), an international NGO.

Prior to the field data collection, three days of intensive training was provided to the teams followed by pre-testing of the household questionnaire. This ensured that all enumerators and team leaders understood the assessment objectives, rationale and approach. Discussion of the household questionnaire in relation to the prevailing context was a key element of the training, as was the need to test the questionnaire prior to its final administration. The Early Recovery Unit of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) also participated in the training as an observer and provided their input in refining the questionnaire. The entire questionnaire was thoroughly discussed and practiced so that all enumerators understood the questions

as well as how to ask them in an unbiased manner. Team leaders were given additional training and guidelines about their roles and responsibilities which included ensuring adherence to the household selection protocols, working closely with teams in the field during the assessment and ensuring that all questionnaires were completed appropriately and consistently. Moreover, the team leaders were assigned with the responsibility of conducting key informant interviews.

The field data collection took place 12 thru 20 January 2010. Two teams were assigned for Magindanao, two for North Cotabato and Sultan Kudarat, one team for Lanao Del Sur and one team for Lanao Del Norte. Two members of the core assessment team from Bangkok and an international consultant from WFP Mindanao sub office accompanied the teams in the field. They provided oversight and general advice, especially during household selection and administration of the questionnaires.

2.3 Assessment Tools

The main tool for the assessment was a household questionnaire based on WFP's Emergency Food Security Assessment framework. The questionnaire (Annex-1) had eight modules covering household demographics, housing, water and sanitation, asset ownership, livelihoods and income, expenditures, food consumption coping strategies, access to food assistance and priority needs. The questionnaire was administered to the head of each household. At the start of each interview, the household head was informed of the questionnaire purpose and content and his/her consent was sought prior to commencement. For the purposes of this survey, a household was defined as a group of people who consistently had meals together (i.e. 'eat from the same pot'). A total of 824 household questionnaires were returned at the end of the assessment.

In addition to the household questionnaire, team leaders administered a short structured questionnaire to local/Barangay leaders in 34 clusters. The information sought through this key informant interview included verification of resettlement dates, information on community resources (e.g. shelter, food, cooking fuel, water, land, health facilities, toilet facilities, education facilities and market functionality), assistance received and the needs of the affected population.

2.4 Data Management

A Microsoft ACCESS database was created and used to capture, clean and analyse data. The database was created by a specialist from WFP's Regional Bureau in Bangkok who was also a member of the core assessment team. Training was provided to three data encoders from CFSI who captured the data. All data was captured and cleaned / verified one day after field data collection. Errors and inconsistencies were checked and corrected before the core assessment team departed for Bangkok where final analyses were carried out. The data was exported into both SPSS and EXCEL programmes for final analyses.

2.5 Limitations and Challenges

Given the complex displacement context and security concerns in Mindanao, the assessment did not encounter any significant obstacles. However, some challenges did present themselves during the clustering, household sampling and field data collection phases.

- Some clusters/Barangays that had been selected randomly based on PPS from provinces such as Magindanao, LDS and LDN had to be dropped due to inaccessibility. Though the total number of households in these Barangays were minimal compared to the total surveyed household size, this exclusion may result in a possible bias as those communities potentially most isolate and most insecure could not be included in the assessment.
- Some of the master lists for the internally displaced, returned and resettled households provided by the Municipalities were not current. In certain evacuation centres and home based locations, over 20 percent of the randomly selected households had moved to other places. Thus, missing households had to be replaced through further random sampling and verification/identification of households with local leaders and villagers. This process took a considerable amount of time away from actual data collection.
- It was also a challenge to complete 24 sets of household questionnaires per day given the distance between the randomly selected households in a cluster/Barangay.

The report also has made an attempt to compare the key food security variables of the last 3 EFSA's – 2007 (December), 2009 (February) and 2010 (January). Since the sample frame and even the target populations were not same across these surveys, the interpretation of the results should be made with some caution. These sections in the report are just to reflect on trends in food security indicators.

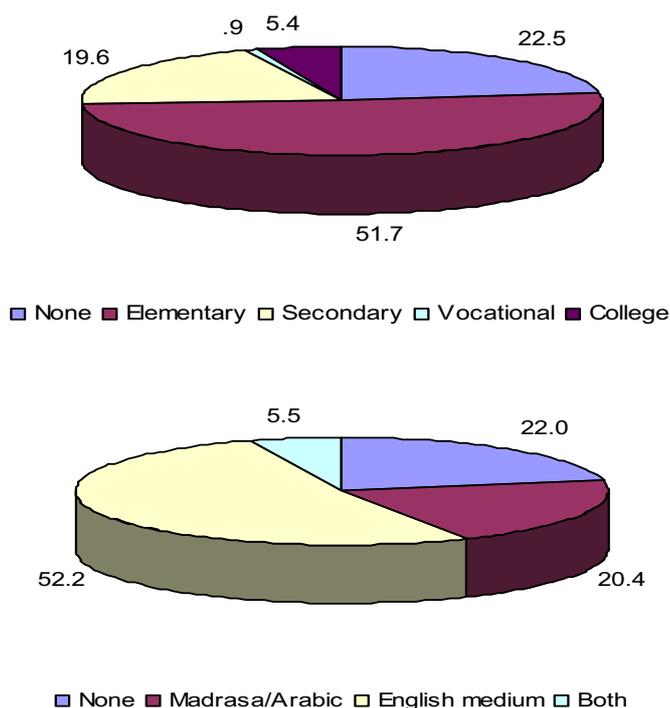
3. FINDINGS

3.1 Demographics

The team interviewed 824 households in the five provinces of Mindanao, of which 45.1% were returnees, 41.1% were IDPs, and 13.7% were resettled households. The majority of returnees were from North Cotabato (42.5%) and Lanao del Norte (32.3%), while resettled people were mostly from Maguindanao (40.7%) and North Cotabato (36.3%). IDPs were predominantly in Maguindanao (96.2%), while a few were from North Cotabato (3.8%).

More than half (55.9%) of the households interviewed were female-headed. The average household size among the respondents was 6.08, with the largest among the returnees followed by the IDPs. The youngest head of household was 21 years old while the oldest was 85.

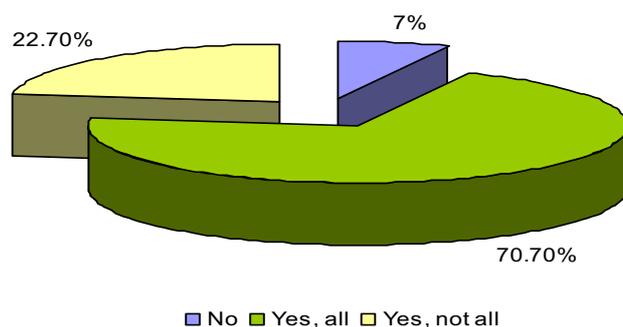
Chart 1: Percentage of educational attainment of household head, by level and type



More than one fifth of the heads of households interviewed had not undergone formal schooling. A little more than half of the household heads entered or finished elementary school; while one fifth reached secondary school; 1% reached vocational training and 5% reached college. In regards to the type of school, half of all household heads went to a school with English instruction, approximately 1/5 attended a *Madrasah/* Arabic school while about 5% studied in both types of schools.

Five hundred and two (502), approximately sixty percent (60%), of the total households interviewed had children between six and twelve years of age. These children, according to the Philippine Educational System (PES), are within the eligible range for elementary school.

Chart 2: Proportion of children aged 6-12 years old who attended elementary school

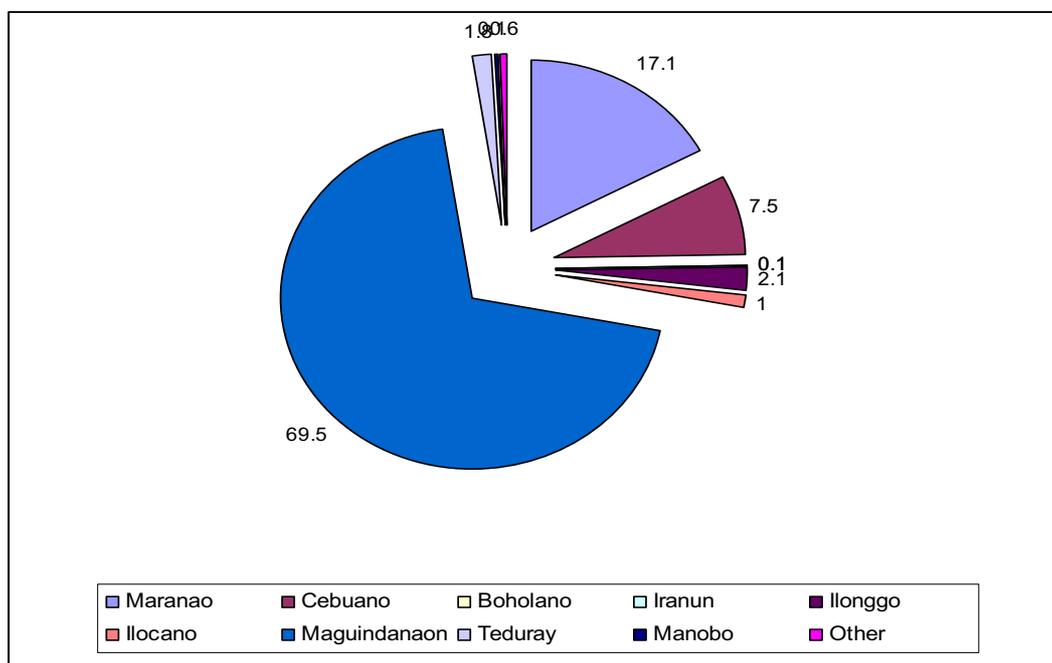


About 71% of the households interviewed had all children aged 6-12 years currently enrolled in elementary school, another 23% had multiple children of the same age but not all of them had been enrolled in schools at the time of the interview.

During emergencies caused by conflict, schools among affected municipalities ceased to operate in order to ensure the security of students and teachers. Public elementary schools were vacated and children either stayed at home or moved with families to evacuation camps. This caused interruption in the learning process of students.

Beyond these initial interruptions, some families of low economic status preferred to have their children engage in petty trade in order to boost their household income. In other cases, some children had experienced emotional trauma from being caught in crossfire while inside a classroom and thus had lost interest in returning to school. Other problems cited include an inadequacy of classroom space, lack of teachers and an insufficient number of classrooms and other learning facilities.

Chart 3: Ethnic Groups of Surveyed Households



The largest number of IDPs was in the Maguindanao province, thus reflecting the largest proportion (69.5%) of the surveyed population. The Maranao (17.1%), who usually occupy Lanao del Sur and Lanao del Norte, followed in size. The other ethnic groups interviewed were Christian and included the Cebuano (7.5%) who were mostly from North Cotabato and the Ilonggo (2.1%) who came primarily from Sultan Kudarat and North Cotabato.

3.2 Housing and Facilities

Housing characteristics are often used as a proximate measure of the level of economic status of a certain population. Most IDPs had already returned to their places of origin or moved to another site to build new homes. Upon return or movement, new houses were constructed predominantly with light roofs (65.2%) and walls (78.8%) supporting the data that Maguindanao is the third poorest province in the whole country.

Table 2: Type of Roof and Wall Material

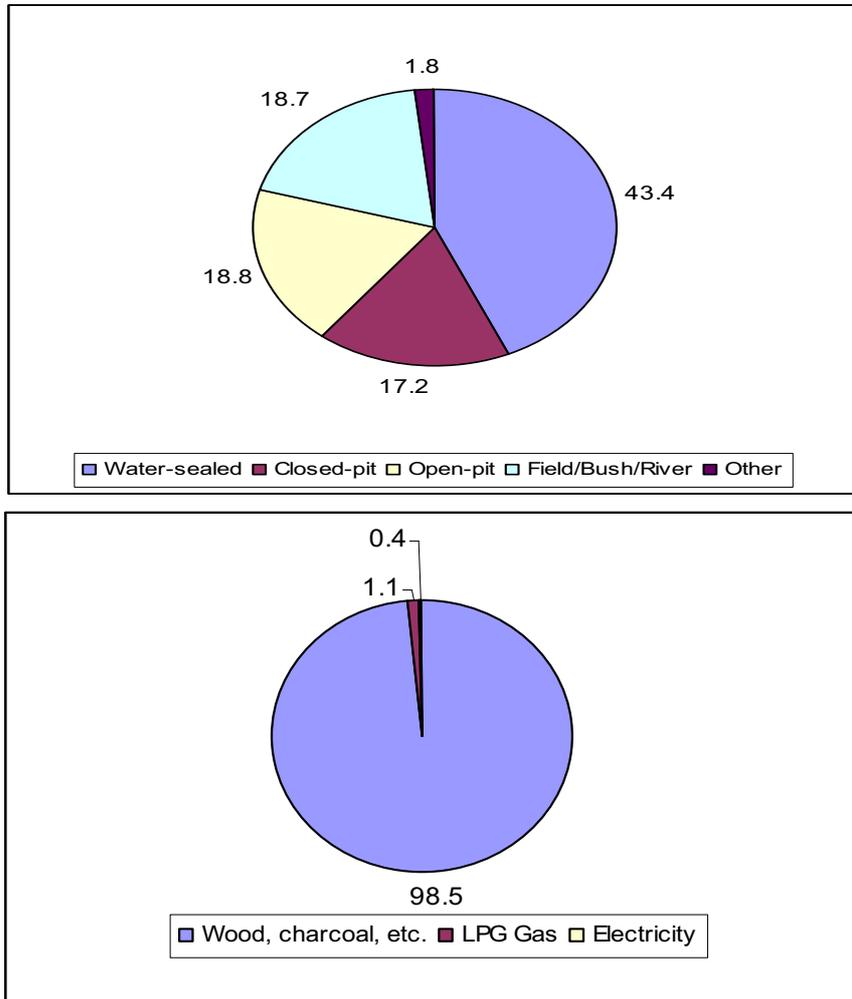
Material Type	Roof	Wall
Strong Materials	23.8%	5.6%
Light Materials	65.2%	78.0%
Salvaged/Makeshift materials	3.35%	3.3%
Mixed but predominantly strong	3.5%	6.6%
Mixed but predominantly light	3.5%	5.7%
Mixed but predominantly salvaged materials	0.7%	0.8%

Since houses are constructed with light materials, they were easily damaged during the military-MILF skirmishes over the previous years. For most families, going back to their places of origin would mean rebuilding their homes from scratch and or salvaged materials.

When respondents were asked about the tenure status of their homes and residential land, less than half (40.2%) answered that they owned the house and had rent-free lot with the consent of owner. The next significant proportion of the population (38.8%) declared that they owned or had 'owner-like' possession of their houses and residential lots.

The type of toilet is another indicator used to identify the level of poverty as well as the health and hygiene situation of populations. The data shows that water-sealed toilets were currently being used by 43% of respondents, followed closely by open pit (18.8%) and Field/Bush/River (18.7%). It is important to note that those staying in evacuation camps utilized water-sealed latrines built by NGO/INGO interventions of the WASH cluster to safeguard against the prevalence of water-borne diseases.

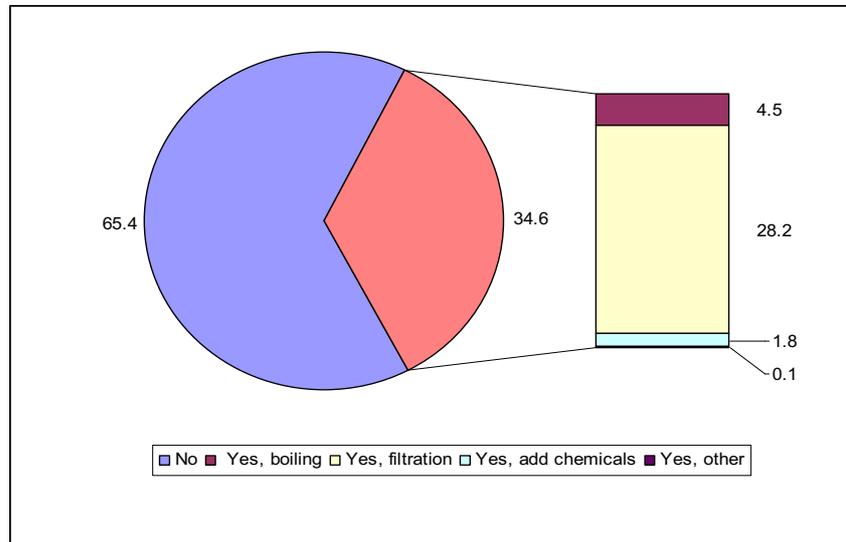
Chart 4: Type of toilet and fuel used for cooking



The source of cooking fuel is also considered a significant indicator of income status. Among the surveyed individuals, the majority (98.5%) used wood, charcoal, and other types of indigenous materials for cooking. LPG gas and electricity did not figure significantly as these sources of fuel are expensive and not always available in remote barangays. This data highlights a predisposition to further threats of natural hazards since most of the forest and bush lands are converted into firewood leaving these five provinces susceptible to flash floods. Natural hazards exacerbate the situation of those who have been displaced by the armed conflict.

Less than half (44.3%) of the individuals questioned stated that the main source of drinking water was a shared pipe or hand pump. 24.8% stated that they obtained water from a dug well while 15.5% sought water from either a spring, river, lake or pond. The significant proportion of respondents who obtained drinking water from a shared pump or hand pump could be explained by the provision of hand pumps by the WASH cluster at evacuation camps.

Chart 5: Treatment of drinking water



Two-thirds (65.4%) of households surveyed did not treat their drinking water. For the remaining one-third (34.6%), filtration was the most preferred method of treatment (28.2%) followed by boiling (4.5%). This is notwithstanding the fact that a significant proportion of these households got their water from natural bodies such as springs, rivers, lakes or ponds.

3.3 Household assets, productive assets and access to credit

3.3.1 Household Assets and Productive Assets

For both IDPs and Returnees/Resettled, the most commonly owned household assets were radios, televisions and cellular phones while most commonly owned productive assets were bicycles/pedicabs and motorcycles/tricycles.

Table 3: Proportion of households who own assets

Assets	IDPs (n=311)			Returnees/Resettled (n=416)		
	Now	Before	Loss	Now	Before	Loss
Radio	20%	66%	47%	24%	40%	16%
TV	10%	37%	27%	14%	21%	7%
Cellphone	38%	45%	7%	22%	19%	-3%
Refrigerator	1%	5%	4%	2%	3%	1%
VCD/DVD player	2%	12%	9%	5%	7%	2%
Jewelry	10%	49%	39%	6%	17%	11%
Karaoke	0%	5%	5%	1%	2%	1%
Tractor/Kubota	0%	2%	2%	0%	1%	1%
Motorized banca/boat	1%	4%	4%	3%	3%	1%
Car/Jeep/Van	0%	2%	1%	0%	0%	0%
Motorcycle/Tricycle	4%	10%	6%	3%	2%	0%
Bicycle/Pedicab	11%	26%	15%	2%	5%	2%
Other	2%	8%	5%	2%	4%	2%

The difference between the proportion of the assets owned prior to displacement and that of the proportion of assets owned during the time of the interview provides the magnitude of asset loss. Both population groups shared a similar trend of asset loss in which most of them lost their radio, followed by jewelry and television. In terms of productive assets, surveyed households frequently mentioned loss of bicycles and *pedicabs*.

3.3.2 Livestock Ownership

With the sampled populations predominantly adopting agricultural livelihoods, ownership of farm animals or livestock is an outright indicator of economic capacity. Both populations (IDPs and returnees/resettlers) experienced large proportions of livestock losses. While some households recovered some of their livestock, a sizeable proportion cited that their farm animals were either stolen or killed at the height of the military and rebel crossfire.

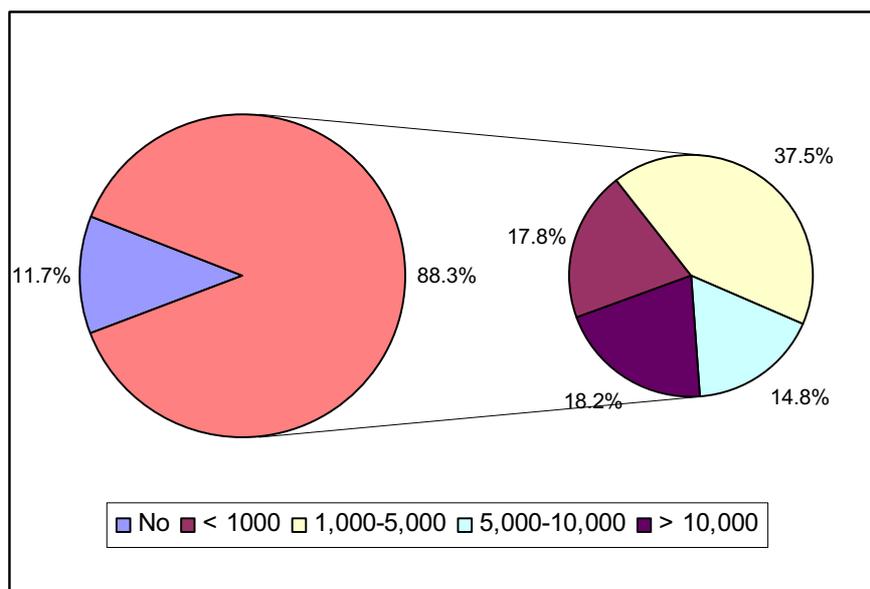
Table 4: Average number of livestock by household type

	IDP (n=311)			Returnee/Resettled (n=416)		
	Before	Now	% loss	Before	Now	%loss
Cows/Bullocks	1.6	0.2	87.5	0.7	0.1	85.7
Buffaloes	1.5	0.1	93.3	1.2	0.2	83.3
Chicken/Ducks/Geese	32.5	2.6	92.0	21.4	4.1	80.8

3.3.3 Indebtedness

A majority (88.3%) of respondents had incurred debt during the time of the interview. When disaggregated between population groups (IDP vs. Returnee/Resettled), there was no significant difference identified. The proportion of the amount of debt incurred for both populations also follows a similar pattern.

Chart 6: Proportion of total households who incurred debt

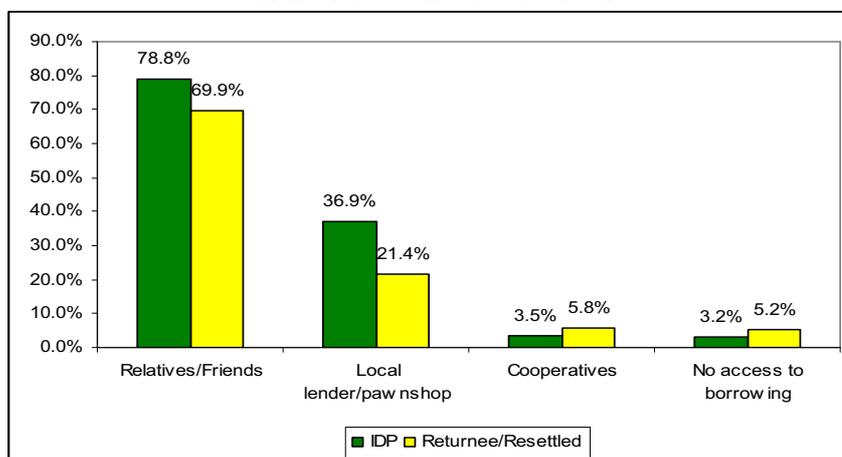


Of those who had incurred debt (88.3%), the largest proportion (37.5%) had an outstanding loan of 1,000 to 5,000 PhP while almost one-fifth (18.2%) of the total household respondents had incurred debt of more than 10,000 pesos.

For both IDP and Returnee/Resettled populations, credit was obtained in the highest proportions from relatives and friends, followed by local lenders or pawnshops. Local lenders were mostly landowners from whom households borrowed money for farm inputs or food. These money lenders usually imposed very high interest rates rendering it impossible for debtors to repay the loan in a single harvest or crop cycle. It was also observed that there was a slightly higher percentage of the Returnee/Resettled population who accessed credit from cooperatives. This suggests

that households in the IDP camps had lower social safety nets compared to those who had returned to their places of origin or moved to a new location and undergone community reintegration.

Chart 7: Sources of Credit



When asked if the respondents borrowed money specifically to buy food, the majority of both IDP and Returnees/Resettled (91.7% vs. 85.8%) responded in affirmative. The largest proportion (32.5%) of both populations cited that they borrowed money for food twice in the last month, followed by 28% of the respondents who reported borrowing money just once in the past month. It should be noted that respondents from IDP camps were still receiving a half ration from WFP a month prior to the assessment, while those who had returned to their places of origin or relocated had been provided with two months ration or *pabaon*.

The majority (97.1%) of both populations had access to markets from which they purchased food because evacuation camps were often located at the *Poblacion* or a central *barangay* of a municipality in which trade activities were the highest. However, since these municipalities were far from the capital towns/cities, transportation costs were added to food prices causing a little more than half (52%) of respondents to report food prices being higher than normal with the remaining feeling that it was *much* higher than usual prices.

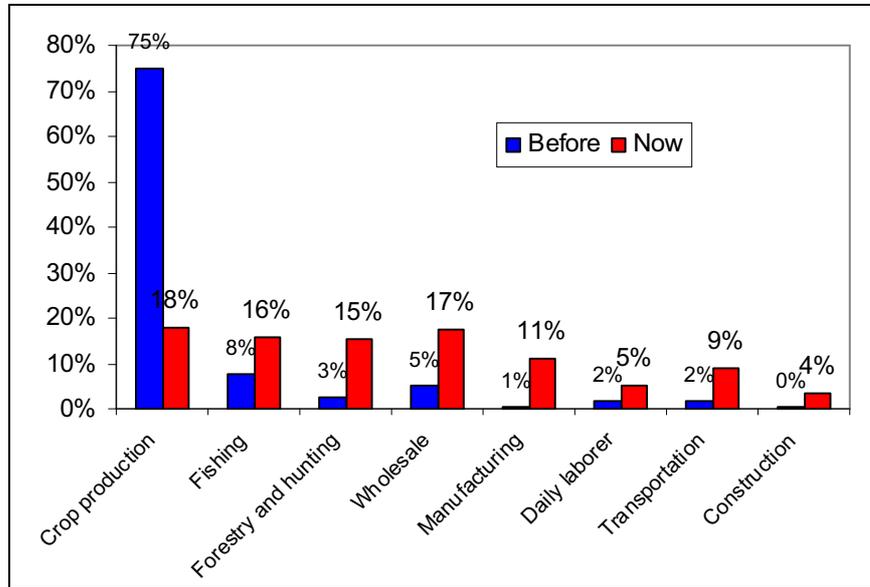
3.4 Household Livelihoods/Income

The assessment also aimed to identify the main sources of income before the displacement and at the time of the interview. As such, respondents were asked to list the top four sources of livelihood for their respective households.

It is observable that the pre-displacement livelihood among IDPs (n=311) was largely agricultural with 75% dependent on crop production. This is followed by 8% dependent upon fishing (particularly among households coming from *barangays* located near rivers and lakes). The third most important livelihood among IDPs was wholesale agricultural trading activities (5%). While crop production still remained the leading primary livelihood among IDPs at the time of the interview, there was a substantial increase in the proportion of the population engaged in wholesale trading

(17%), fishing (16%) and forestry and hunting (15%). This scenario is explained by the limited access of IDP households to land for cultivation.

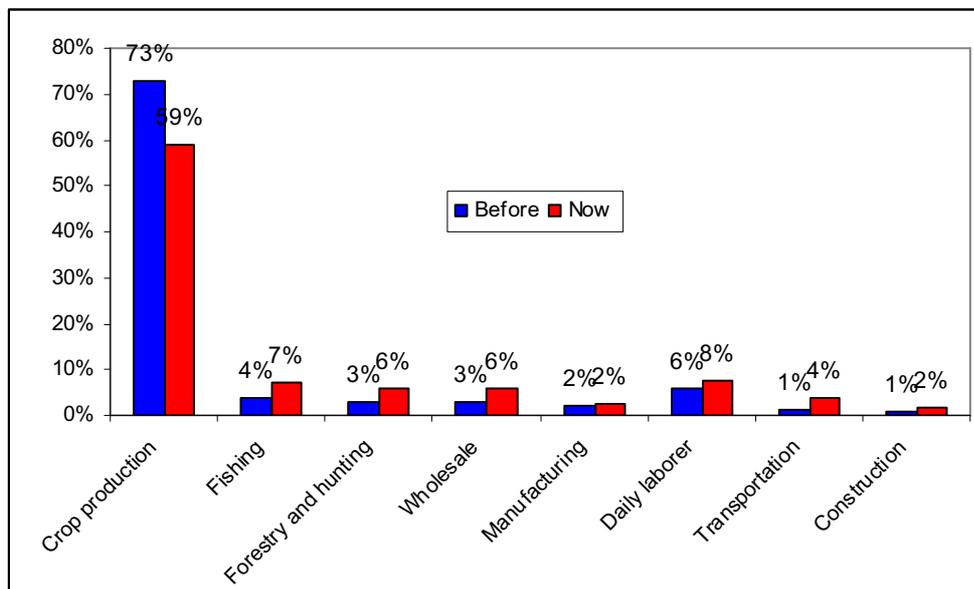
Chart 8: Primary livelihoods before and after displacement, IDP



Among Returnees/Resettled, pre-displacement livelihood activities mirror that of the IDPs with crop production cited by the majority (73%) of respondents followed by those engaged in paid daily labor (6%) activities.

Although quite lower than the pre-displacement scenario, the current proportion of Returnees/Resettled households engaging in crop production is clearly an indication of their access to agricultural land. Many households who used to be predominantly farmers have moved to daily labor (8%), fishing (7%) and forestry and hunting (6%), among other livelihoods.

Chart 9: Primary livelihoods before and after displacement, Returnee/Resettled



Land ownership decreased for both population groups, with a higher proportion experienced by IDPs than Returnees/ Resettled. Prior to displacement, IDPs owned an average of 1.38 hectares of land compared to the 1.46 hectares owned by Returnees/Resettled. At the time of the assessment, IDPs reported an average land size of 0.82 hectares while Returnees/Resettled reported 1.15 hectares.

Respondents stated that they tried to plant almost the same crops that they had produced prior to the displacement. However, due to limited cash availability they were unable to purchase agricultural inputs. Furthermore, during the long period that they were unable to cultivate the land, resilient weeds and pests inhabited the land parcels. As a result of these factors, current production was low and the income derived from it was inadequate to pay off outstanding debts.

Chart 10: Number of earning family members, by household type



Nearly half (47.3%) of the IDP population reported that there was a single family member earning a living while 58.9% of Returnees/Resettled stated that there was a single family member working. In addition, a higher proportion of IDP households reported two members working than the Returnees/Resettled group (37% vs. 25.5%). The trend continues with other categories of this variable. This indicates that although IDPs do not have access to land, their location at the *poblacion* of municipalities provides them with alternative sources of income such as petty trading, daily unskilled labor, and transportation among others.

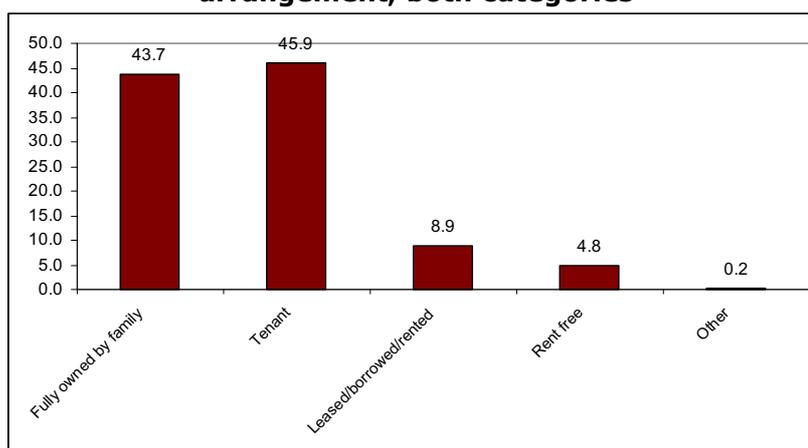
Generally, 96% of IDPs and 91% of Returnees/Resettled reported no savings during the time of the assessment. For those who had savings of less than 500 pesos, 5.5% of Returnees mentioned having some cash while only 2.6% of the IDPs cited the same.

Table 5: Access to land, by household type

Access to land	IDP		Returnee/ Resettled		Both Categories	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Yes	69	22.2	283	68.0	352	48.4
No	242	77.8	133	32.0	375	51.6
Total	311	100.0	416	100	727	100

The Returnees/Resettled had a better advantage than the IDPs with regard to access to agricultural land (68% vs. 22.2%). It is important to note that although most IDPs stayed in evacuation camps, there was a proportion who tended crops in their places of origin during the daytime and returned to the evacuation camps at night. Of these IDPs with access to land, they had an average land size of 1.2 hectares while the Returnees/Resettled had access to an average size of 1.4 hectares.

Chart 11: Percentage of households according to land ownership arrangement, both categories



The tenant system (45.9%) is still widely practiced among sampled populations. In this system, the tenant farmer either rents by cash or share of crops a farm property

from the land owner. Since most of the surveyed households lack cash savings, share of crops is the most likely form of payment.

In Maguindanao, the landowners adopt a Voluntary Offer to Sell¹ (VOS) scheme of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP) so that tenant farmers can ultimately own the land they are cultivating. Aside from the payments for farm inputs that they pay to landowners, they are doubly burdened by the payment for VOS which is instrumental in their eventual ownership of the land. It is reported that about 70% of the agricultural land in the province is currently adopting a VOS scheme¹.

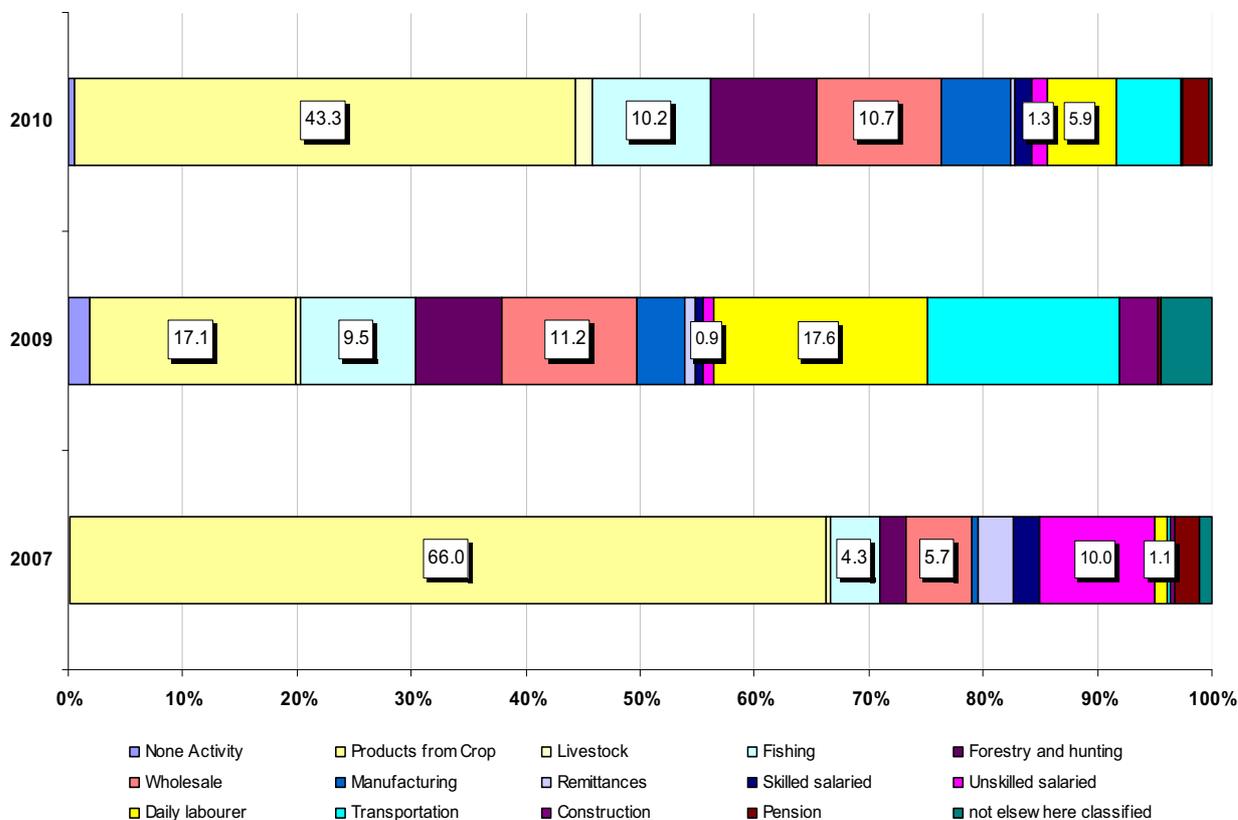
3.4.1 Changes in Livelihoods between 3 rounds of EFSA's (2007, 2009, 2010)

All three food security assessments were conducted in the five provinces most affected by the ongoing conflict in Mindanao; namely Maguindanao, Sultan Kudarat, North Cotabato, Lanao del Sur and Lanao del Norte.

As seen from the above chart, there is a great deal of livelihood diversification that has happened as a result of the displacement. However, farming is once again recovering and becoming the major source of livelihood. Crop production, which was the primary livelihood among these population groups, was greatly reduced in proportion during 2009. The 2010 assessment shows that this sector has started to recover. This recovery is primarily due to returnees and IDP's engaging in farming.

¹ Voluntary Offer to Sell (VOS) is a scheme which a tenant-farmers on private agricultural lands primarily devoted to rice and corn under a system of share crop or lease tenancy whether classified as landed estate or not shall be deemed owner of a portion constituting a family-size farm of five (5) hectares, if not irrigated and three (3) hectares, if irrigated. The total cost of the land, including interest at the rate of six percent (6%) per annum, shall be paid by the tenant in fifteen (15) years of fifteen (15) equal annual amortizations.

Chart 12: Proportion of livelihoods among households: 2007, 2009 and 2010



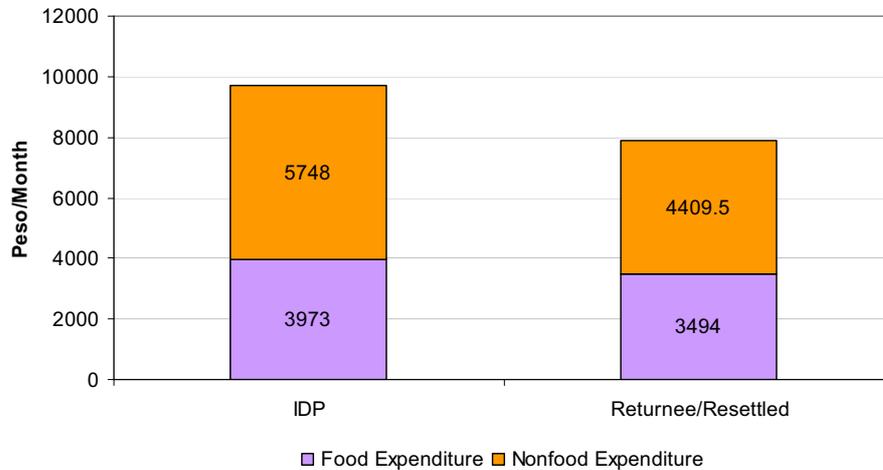
Daily labour increased dramatically at the height of the conflict. Most ECs were located in the central *barangays* of municipalities where the largest markets were located, thereby generating labour opportunities. The economically productive members of the households got engaged in loading/unloading/delivery of market goods from the warehouse/ stores of the stall owners to their warehouses or to the buyers.

Another significant livelihood was trading, in which respondents frequented the *bagsakan* areas where fresh farm produce were brought early in the morning by small-scale farmers and sold at generally low wholesale prices. These traders then brought the produce to the public market and sold them at higher prices. This farm produce was largely locally grown fruits and vegetables.

3.5 Expenditure

Respondents in IDP camps reported having higher expenditures compared to respondents in their places of origin or relocation sites. While the Returnees/Resettled population averaged a monthly expenditure of PhP 7,903.5, IDPs spent PhP 9,721 per month on average. For both populations, food comprised more than half of their expenditures each month.

Chart 13: Types of expenditure, by household category



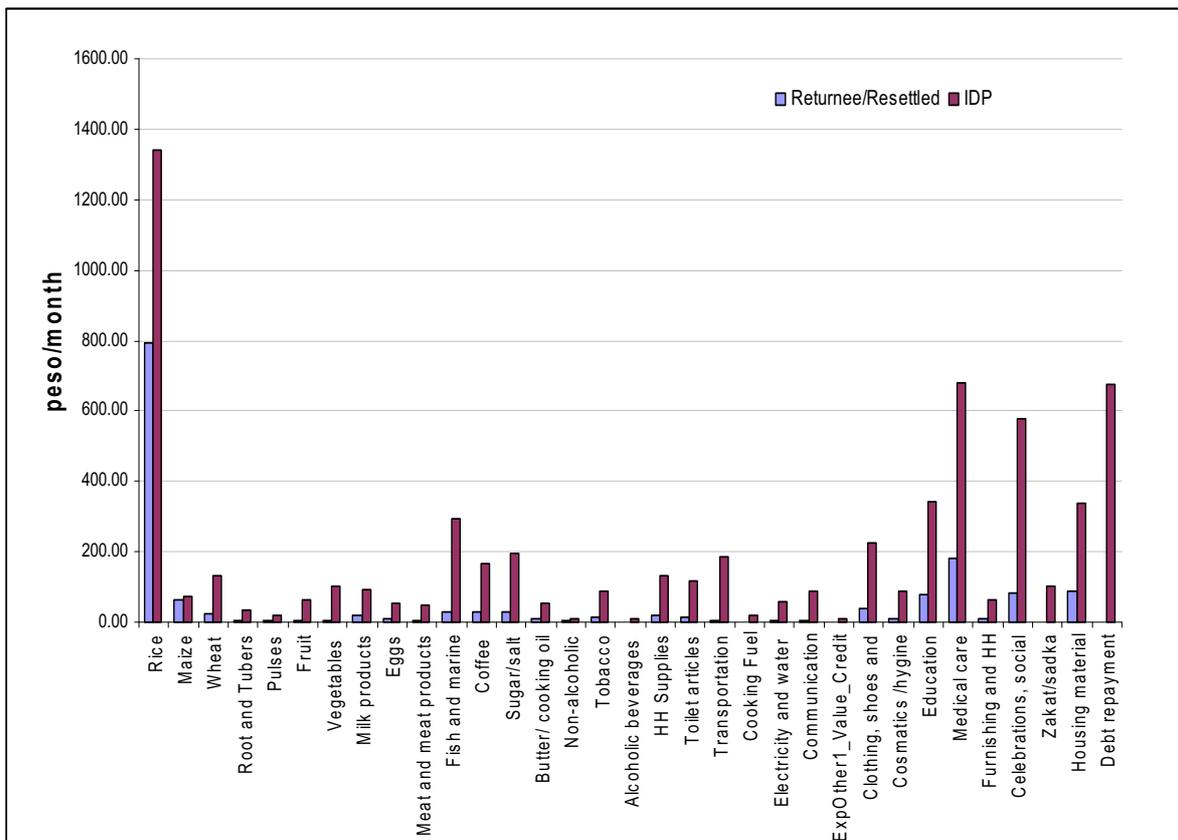
The assessment investigated individual household expenditures on thirty-three (33) items; of which fifteen (15) were food items and the rest were non-food items. For both populations, rice was the highest monthly expense, with IDPs spending almost 60% (PhP 1,343) more than the amount spent by Returnees/Resettled (PhP 792).

Among IDPs, substantial expenses were for medical care (PhP 679.00), debt repayment (PhP 675.00) and celebrations and social events (PhP 578.00). Almost the same trend in expenses prevailed amongst Returnees/Resettled but at lower amounts: medical care (PhP 180.69), housing material (PhP 89.20) and celebrations and social gathering (PhP 82.26).

A unique feature in the pattern of spending was the cost incurred for celebrations and social events among the two surveyed populations. These social events include *kanduli* or pre-wedding ceremonies and the wedding celebration itself. In addition, the assessment was conducted in January just after the Christmas season of the Christians in the area. Moslems do not normally celebrate Christmas or the new year but integration with their respective Christian communities caused them to celebrate the yuletide season. By following the business calendar which is set according to Christian celebrations, Moslems were prompted to take advantage of "On sale promotions." Furthermore, public schools celebrated Christmas parties forcing parents to spend cash whether they were Christians or Moslems.

The shift in IDP's sources of income from largely agricultural to daily-labor, petty trading and market-based types of activities indicates that IDPs had a better chance of earning and utilizing wages to purchase food than returnees/resettlers did.

Chart 14: Expenditure according to type (detailed), by household category



Fish and marine products are preferred sources of protein than meat and pulses. On the other hand, this information could be another indicator of socio-economic capability since fish generally would cost less than meat. IDP respondents spent more on food compared to their Returnee/Resettled counterparts. The food items which accounted for a significant share of the total expenditures included sugar/salt, coffee and vegetables.

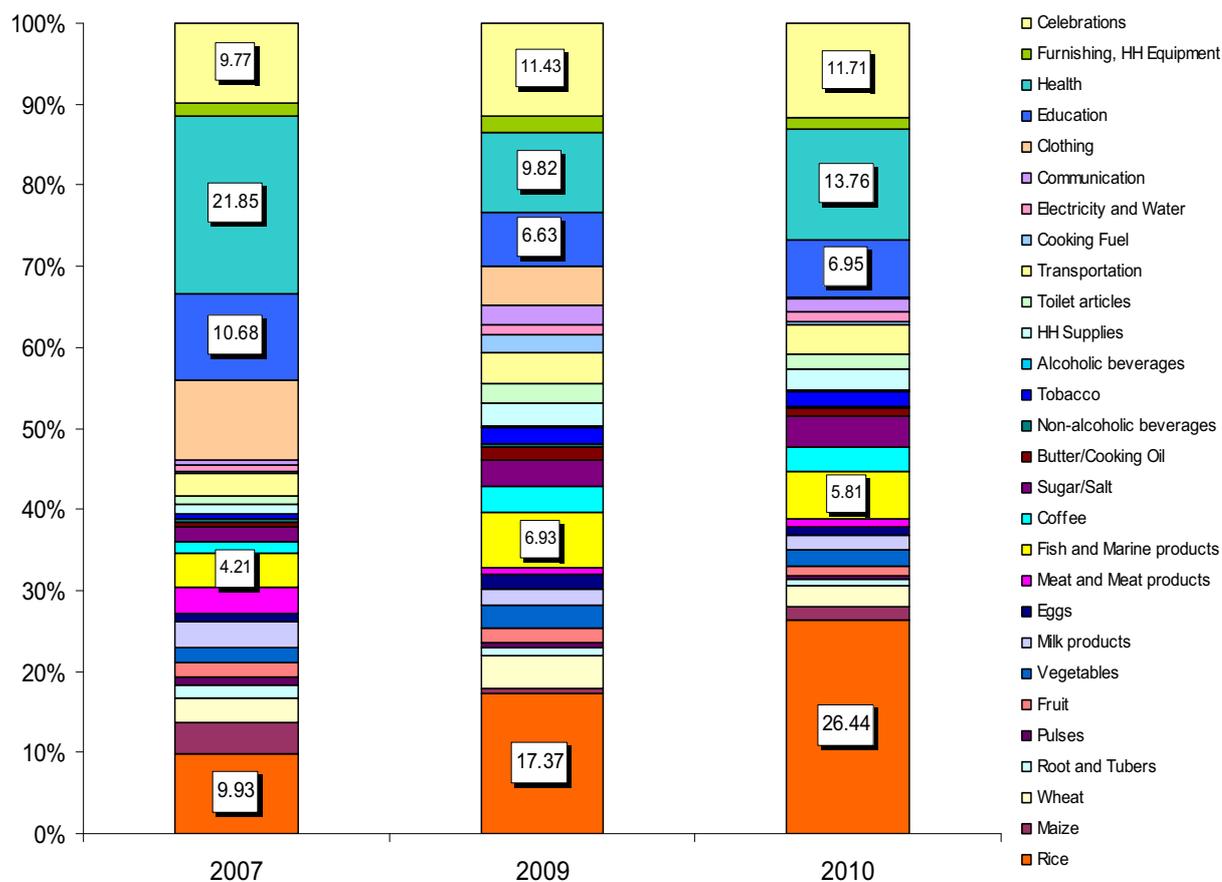
Approximately 31% of households spent more than 65% of their total expenditure on food, against an overall average of 52%. Based on food expenditures, households can be categorised into four food access groups -

Very Poor Food Access (>75% of expenditure on food)	14.6%
Poor Food Access (66-75% of expenditure on food)	16.1%
Average Food Access (50-65% of expenditure on food)	24.3%
Good Food Access (<50% expenditure on food)	45%
Overall average	52%

3.5.1 Comparison of Expenditures between 3 rounds of EFSA's (2007, 2009, 2010)

The pattern of expenditures in three assessments shows that in general, food expenditures were significantly higher than non-food expenditures, although it is also observable that the gap is narrowing.

Chart 15: Proportion of food and non-food expenditures (2007, 2009 & 2010)



The proportion of household expenditure spent on rice, the basic staple, has significantly rose over the years, from 9.93% in 2007 to 26.44% in 2010. This is an important observation, especially as more respondents return to farming still higher spending on rice could be because of high market prices. Health also obtained a significant share in the household expenditures.

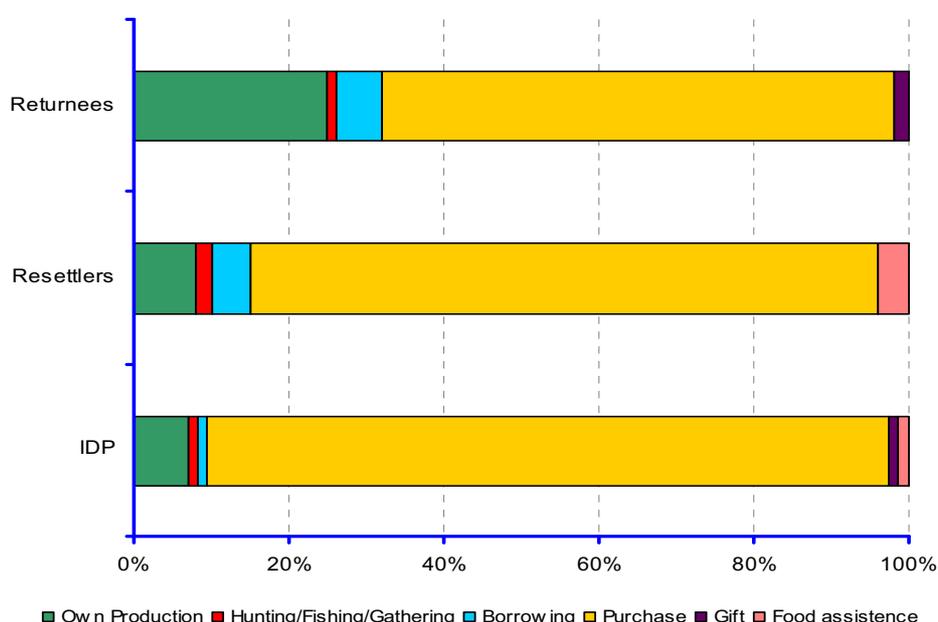
3.6 Food Consumption & Food Security

The previous section detailed various livelihood strategies used by the population in the sample taken by the EFSA. These strategies often determine the access and availability to food as well as, health, wealth vulnerability and consequently food security. In this section, food consumption is considered as an indication of food access and availability.

3.6.1 Diet Composition & Food Sources

On average adults ate slightly more than children (2.9 compared to 2.5 times a day). No significant differences existed between IDPs and Returnees/Resettled populations.

Chart 16: Sources of Food

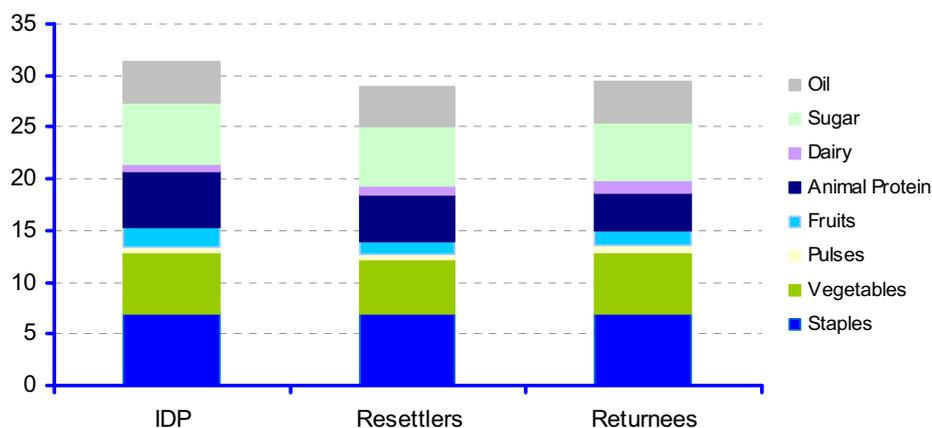


Households were asked about the main source of each food item that they consumed for the seven days prior to the day of the survey. The overall picture indicates that respondents obtain their food primarily by purchasing it (76% of all the food items). This was followed by respondents producing 15% of all food items on their own. Understanding food sources can assist in identifying vulnerabilities of households. For example, increased dependency on purchasing food (at the time of the survey) suggests a risk to food security in cases of increasing food prices. In terms of comparison, IDPs bought more foods from markets (88%) opposed to returnees who obtained a higher proportion of food from their own production (25%) compared to the other household types. Overall, IDPs spent more money on food than the other household groups. It should be mentioned here that during the survey period neither WFP nor ICRC distributed their general food rations and hence such high level of market dependence.

The following chart provides a more complete overview of the frequency of consumption of food items in the diets of various households. This profile should be useful when considering nutritional interventions as it provides insight into food item preferences within different household types. The households have very similar

average food type frequencies, irrespective of their residence type (IDP, resettlers, returnees).

Chart 17: Frequency of consumption of food groups



3.6.2 Household Food Consumption Profiles

Methodology

Each household was asked about the food that they had consumed over the last seven days. The response for each of the foods on the list was the number of days that the item had been consumed by one of the members of the household. The information gathered on diet diversity and frequency of consumption was analysed by calculating the Food Consumption Score (FCS) and, subsequently, assigning a Food Consumption Group. Food Consumption Scores are calculated based on the diversity of households' consumption of eight food groups, which is weighted according to the quality of nutrients that they bring to the diet, multiplied by the frequency of consumption. From this score three Food Consumption Groups are created. This provides an indicator for food access. The complete methodology can be found in the Annex 2.

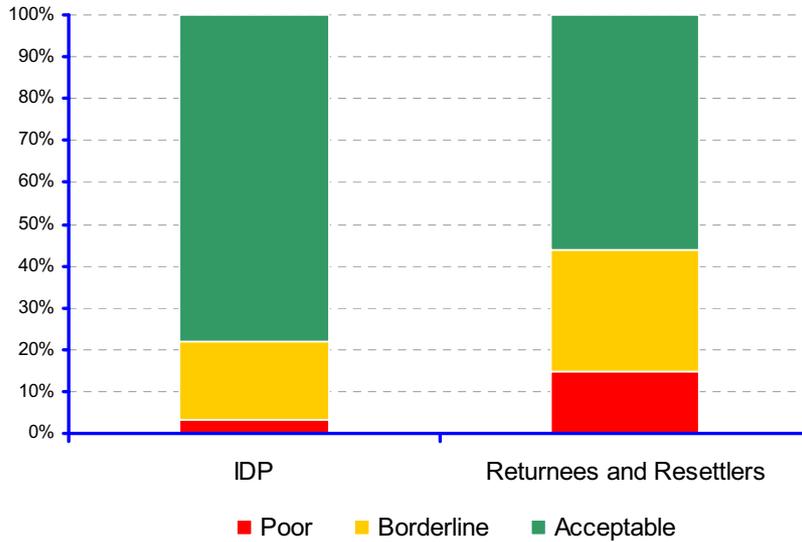
Food Consumption Profiles

The resulting scores from this analysis are categorised into three groups. A score of 0-28 indicates a 'Poor' diet, a score of 28.5-42 indicates a 'borderline' diet and a score greater than 42 is considered 'adequate'. Using these cut-offs the average diets can be described as follows:

Table 6: Weekly Consumption Patterns of Consumption Profiles (Average Values, 7 days recall)

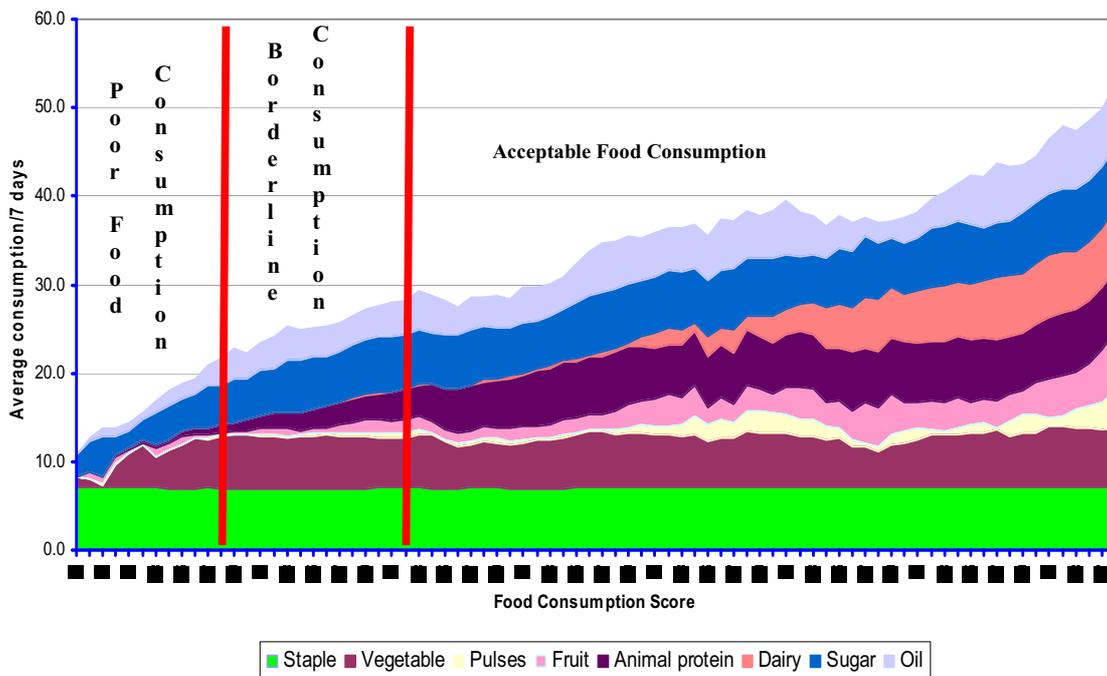
Food Consumption Group	Food Groups (Frequency of weekly consumption)								Mean FCS
	Staples	Pulses	Vegetables	Fruit	Animal Protein	Milk	Sugar	Oil	
Poor	7	0.1	4.9	0.4	0.5	0	3.8	2.0	24.5
Borderline	7	0.3	5.9	1.0	2.2	0.1	5.7	3.5	35.5
Acceptable	7	0.8	5.8	2.1	6.0	1.3	6.2	4.5	58.8

Chart 18: Food Consumption Groups among IDP and Returnee/Resettled population



Overall, one in every three households was found to have either a poor or borderline food consumption pattern. The above chart shows that returnees/resettlers are more likely to have poorer food consumption scores than the IDPs. This could be explained by the fact that most of the IDPs have better access to government and other assistance compared to the returnees. Moreover, as observed in the previous section, IDPs are spending more on food compared to the other groups, thereby attaining better food consumption.

Chart 19: Food Consumption Score vis-à-vis Food Consumption Profile



The above chart clearly shows that dietary diversity of the 'poor' and 'borderline' consumption groups was much lower than the acceptable consumption group. No significant difference could be found among IDPs, returnees and resettlers. The average food consumption score of the 'acceptable' food consumption group is much higher than the other two consumption groups, thereby signifying their overall satisfactory food security status, purely from the food consumption point of view. The 'poor' and 'borderline' groups consumed very little animal proteins. Consumption of oil is also lower.

The consumption pattern also reveals that the energy density of the households is generally satisfactory, whereas protein, fat and micronutrient intakes among 'poor' and 'borderline' groups are much lower.² It should, however, be noted that almost all of the households in the survey had few household or productive assets which could be a proxy for poverty level. In other words, though a large proportion (around 65%) of households enjoyed an acceptable food consumption pattern, other related parameters, such as asset ownership, over-dependence on the market for food in an agrarian rural setting and the prevailing security situation indicate that this pattern may not be sustainable in the absence of sustainable livelihoods.

A comparison of food access groups and food consumption groups gives a clearer indication in terms of food security status of the households (Table - 7). Based on this matrix, the households in the intersection of 'very poor and poor' food access groups and 'poor and borderline' food consumption groups (dark orange cells) constitute approximately 13% of the total surveyed households and could be categorized as 'Highly Food Insecure'. The next group, comprising of 26% of households (in light orange) could be defined as 'Moderately Food Insecure'. Next group of households (30%) consists of those who are either attaining acceptable consumption, but possibly spending extra amount on food or households who did not have acceptable food consumption score but spent relatively less on food. Remaining (31%) could be termed as generally food secure based on these two parameters. However, it should be mentioned that other parameters such as high dependence on markets for food, indebtedness etc. indicate that many of these generally food secure households may also fall into the food insecure level in the event of a price shock or crop failure, thus resulting in an inability to repay their outstanding loans.

Table 7: Distribution of Food Consumption and Food Access Groups

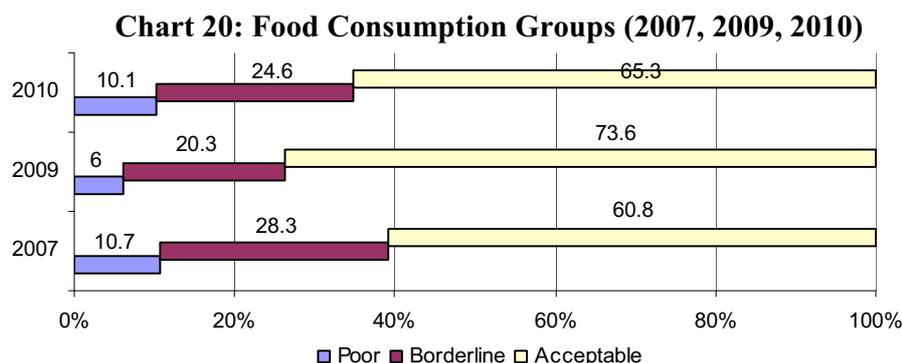
	Food Access Groups	Food Consumption Group			Total
		Poor (<=28)	Borderline (>28 - 42)	Acceptable (>42)	
	Good	3.5%	10.5%	31.0%	45.0%
	Average	1.7%	6.0%	16.6%	24.3%
	Poor	1.7%	3.3%	11.1%	16.1%
	Very Poor	3.0%	4.9%	6.7%	14.6%
	Total	10.0%	24.6%	65.4%	820

Colour Codes: **Highly Food Insecure**; **Moderately Food Insecure**; **Marginally Food Insecure**; **Generally Food Secure**

² Refer to Annex 2 for more detailed description on food consumption groups.

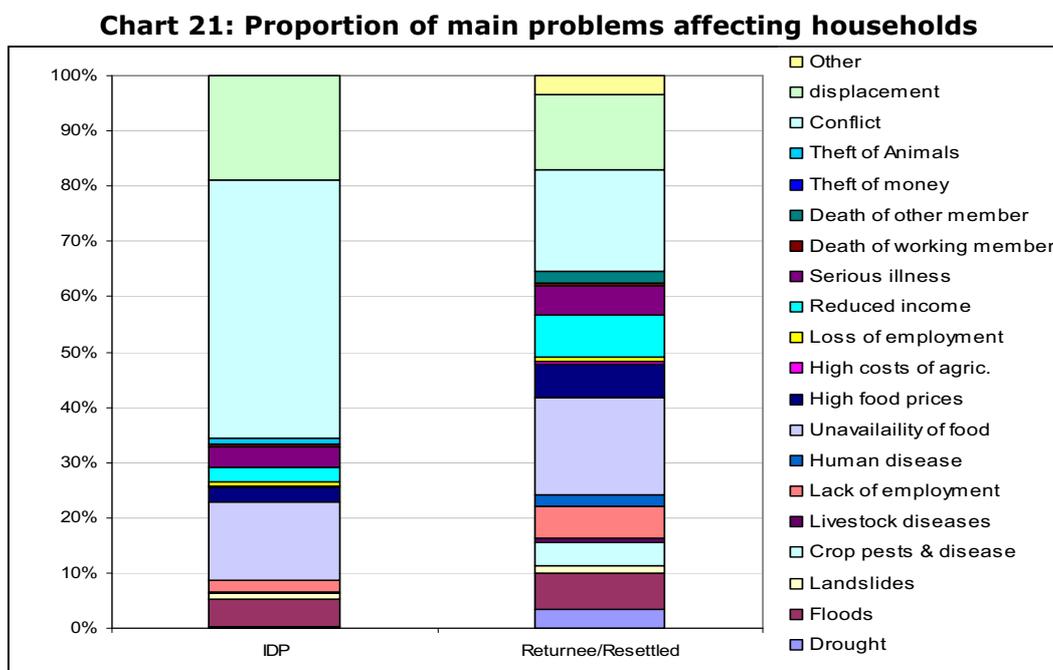
3.6.3 Comparison of Food Consumption Groups in 3 rounds of EFSA's (2007, 2009, 2010)

The Food Consumption Score in all five provinces over the three-year period has not significantly changed. While between 2007 and 2009, the proportion of households with poor food consumption dropped by 4.7% and the proportion of acceptable food consumption group had risen; the percentages have reverted back to the pre 2008 levels in this latest round of the assessment.



3.7 Disasters and Coping Strategies

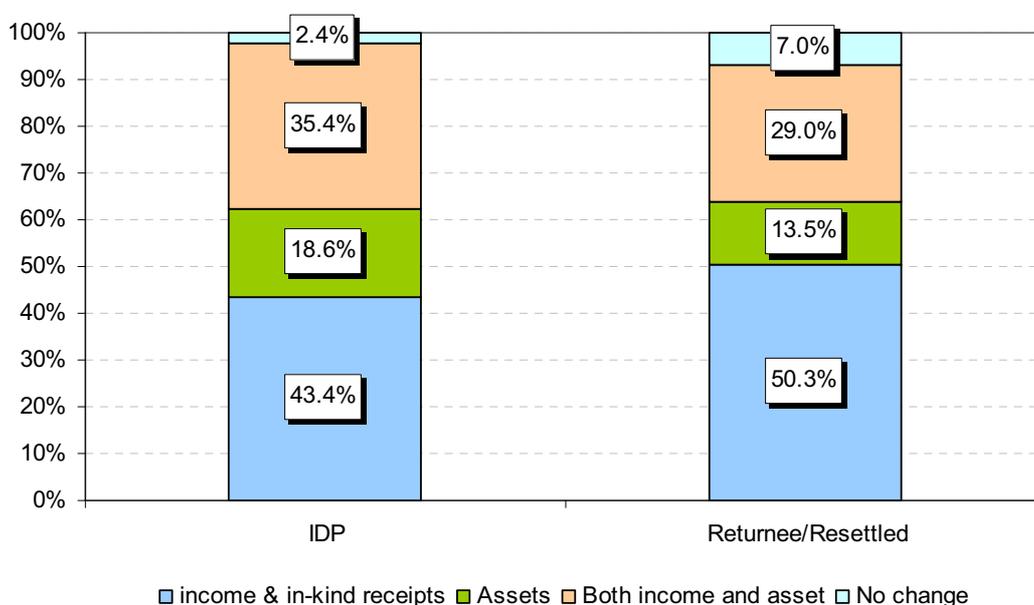
For both population groups, armed conflict ranked to be the primary disaster that impacted households in the past six months, followed by unavailability of food and displacement. Other significant disasters mentioned were floods, high food prices and reduced income in both population groups.



At the time of the assessment, the declaration of Suspension of Military Operation (SOMO) by the Philippine Government which was also responded by the Suspension of the Military Action (SOMA) by the MILF may have ceased the increase in the number of IDPs in camps. However, sporadic cases of "rido" (clan wars) have caused some small scale displacements. Another notable displacement was fueled by the Maguindanao massacre in which families from remote *barangays* fled their homes because they feared that the private armies of the perpetrators of the massacre were hiding in their villages.

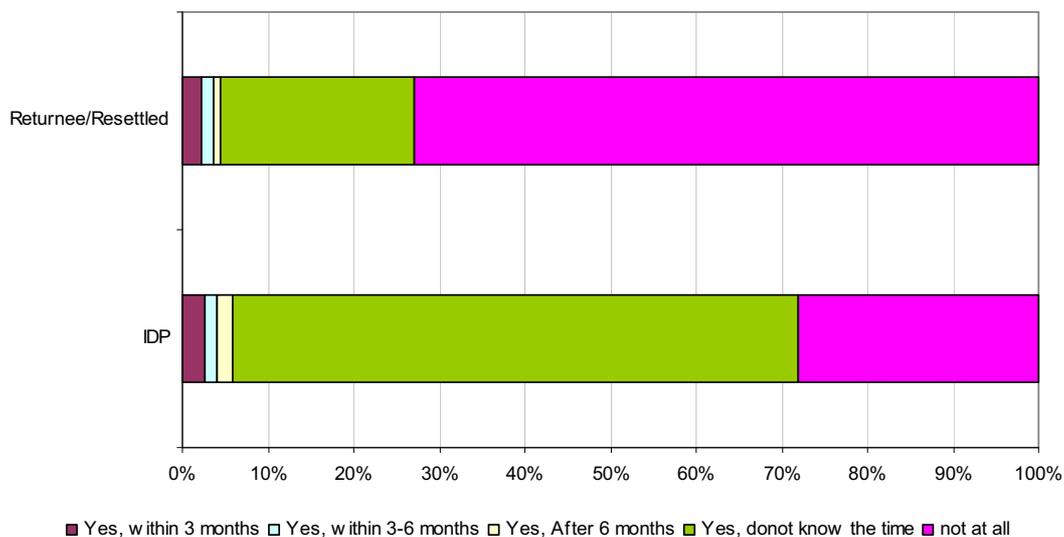
Respondents were also asked how natural and man-made disasters affected their households. Loss of income was cited by both populations as the major impact of these calamities, followed by losses in both income and assets and finally, asset losses. Furthermore, respondents were asked whether these emergencies have reduced the capacity of their households to produce or purchase food; the majority of both IDP (92.9%) and Returnees/Resettled (95%) confirmed that this was true.

Chart 22: Loss of income and assets, by household type



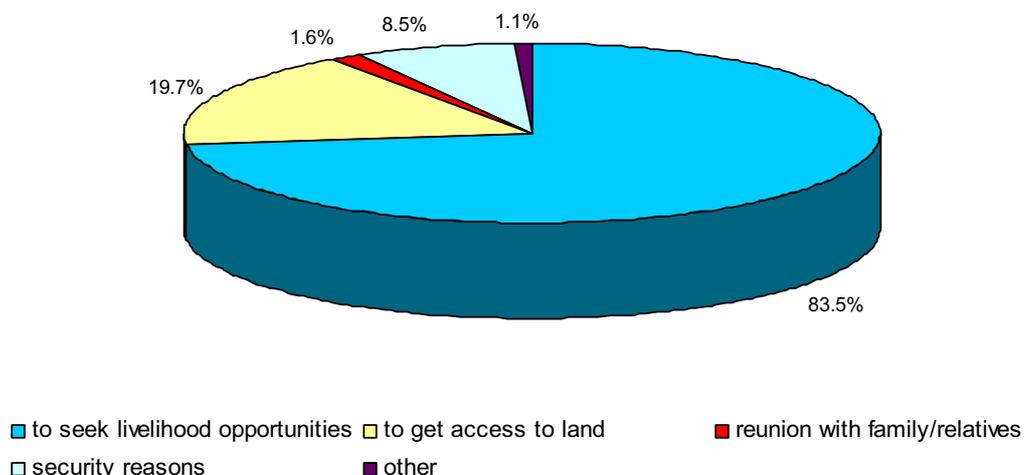
Sixteen months since the clashes between the military and the MILF and thus the start of the displacements; the sampled populations expressed the status of their lives and livelihoods as severely distressed. More than half (55.2%) said they have not recovered at all, followed by another 41% who said they have partially recovered. A larger proportion (63.7%) of IDPs expressed still having much difficulty with recovery compared to the Returnees/Resettled (49.3%).

Chart 23: Proportion of the household intentions to move, by category



The assessment also sought to learn when the population wanted to move out of their current location and start rebuilding homes and livelihoods. Most of the IDPs do have the intention of leaving the evacuation camps but could not exactly indicate when that would occur. The specific time would only be determined upon the improvement of the conflict situation in the area. Most succinctly, IDPs articulated that a signed peace agreement between the government and the MILF and cessation of military encounters would be the ideal indicator for them to return to their places of origin or move to another location for good. A substantial percentage of the IDPs, however, intended to remain in the evacuation camps and carry out livelihood activities which they learned to adopt during their stay in the ECs. Among Returnees/Resettled, the majority have expressed a desire to stay in their current location. A proportion of Returnees/Resettled, however, also expressed their willingness to find a better place to stay and engage in other types of livelihood activities.

Chart 24: Proportion of the reasons why households intend to move



Both the IDPs and Returnees/Resettled follow the same trend in their reasoning for the intention to move. The largest (83.5%) proportion of respondents said that opportunities for a better livelihood are the primary reason that draws them to leave their current location. A significant proportion also mentioned that land access is needed since planting crops is the most familiar income generating activity. For both sampled populations, there is a common concern regarding security thus preventing an immediately return to their homes. Aside from fear of getting caught in direct crossfire, respondents also mentioned the danger of unexploded articles (UXOs) that may be present in their agricultural lands.

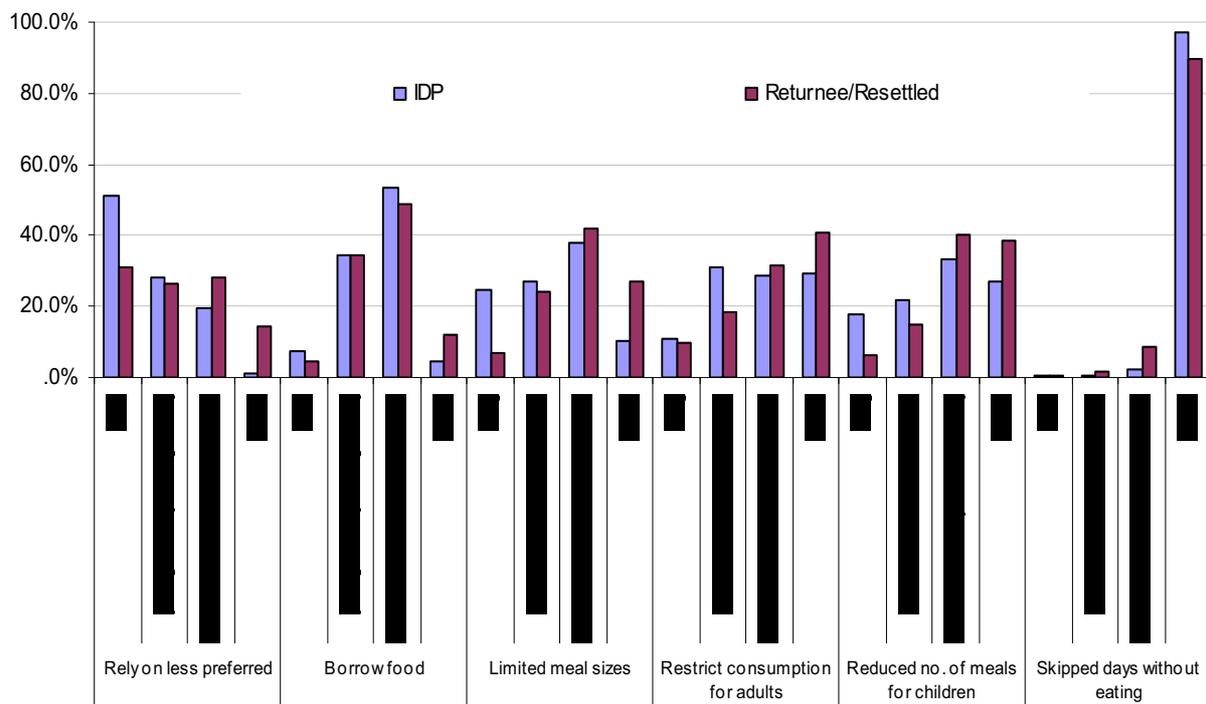
The majority of both populations cited that moving to evacuation camps or going back to their places of origin is more of a voluntary effort than forced. However, among the Returnees/Resettled, about 10% claim that going back to their places of origin or a new location depends on the overall the security situation.

3.7.1 Coping Strategies

A coping strategy refers to short-term choices/decisions households take in order to deal with and adapt to the onset of a new situation such as a natural disaster, conflict or any other shock. These coping strategies are most times considered negative and are supposed to offset the threat to already vulnerable households' food and economic resources. The first line of coping strategies that households adopt are generally consumption coping strategies, often called insurance strategies. Some strategies, such as the sale of land, typically lead to the deterioration of a household's well-being in the longer term, in that the sale of assets is not sustainable and such assets are frequently the most difficult for a household to replace, particularly in the short term. In the EFSA data on food consumption, a commonly deployed coping strategy was observed. The following chart shows the usage of several consumption coping strategies by the households in the previous seven days prior to the date of the survey.

The chart shows that relying on less preferred food and borrowing food or money for food were the two most commonly used coping strategies reported by the respondents. This finding is consistent with the findings from other sections, i.e., on indebtedness and expenditures.

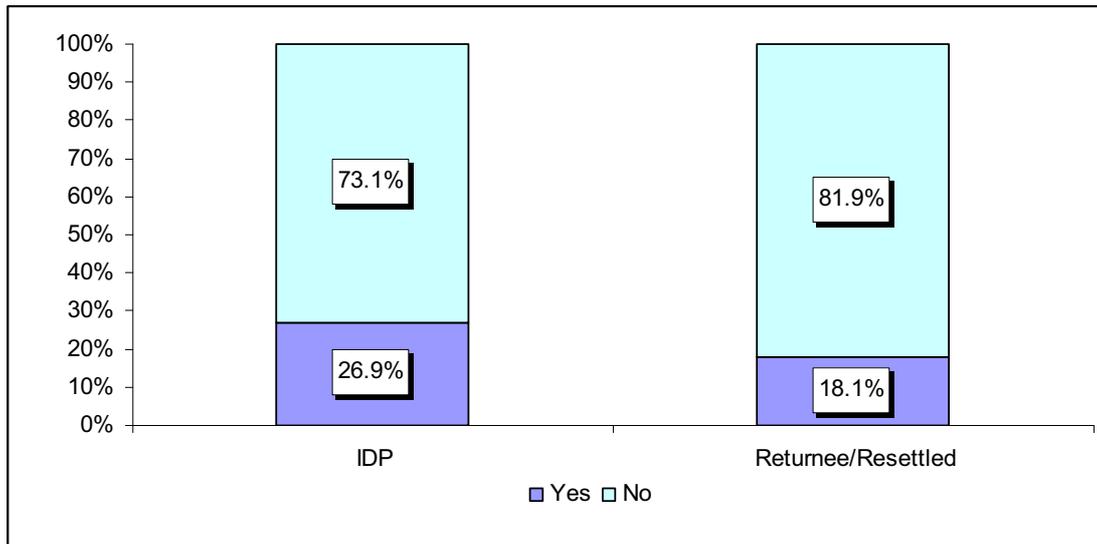
Chart 25: Consumption Coping Strategies adopted by households



3.8 Access to Food Assistance and Current Priority Needs

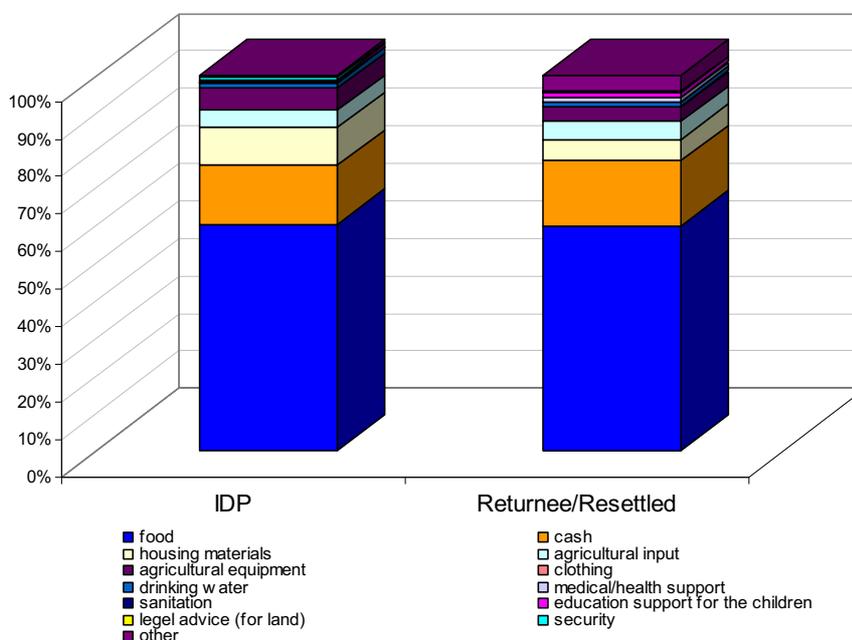
There is a larger proportion of Returnees/Resettled than IDPs (81.9% vs. 73.1%) who cited not being able to receive food assistance from either WFP or ICRC. Towards the end of 2009, some IDPs in evacuation camps started returning to their places of origin to plant or tend to crops. The Returnees/Resettled who opted to go back or moved to another location were provided with two months ration or "*pabaon*" which would sustain them until they could start earning from their livelihood activities. There were some IDP camps visited by the assessment team in which there were fewer individuals than on the master list obtained from DSWD. This is because some of the listed household members had already started to move to their respective *barangays* to cultivate land.

Chart 26: Proportion who received food assistance in the last 2 months



Food is cited to be the top priority (60%) for both IDPs and Returnees/Resettled. Approximately 20% of both population categories also mentioned that cash is needed in order to procure farm inputs. Other sample sites mentioned that cash will still be needed to procure other types of food, especially fish and meat. 'Materials to rebuild homes' was the third most important need for both sampled populations.

Chart 27: Proportion of first priority needs by category



Key informant interviews with local leaders revealed that households may require support for agricultural livelihoods in terms of farm animals and farm implements. A

significant number of leaders also mentioned that infrastructural support, such as farm to market roads, is needed in order to link farmers with markets. Almost all of the key informants expressed the need for improved access and availability to health services in their respective barangays.

Safe drinking water and toilets were major concerns specifically among places of return/relocation. Most remote barangays among these municipalities do not have proper latrines and people dispose human wastes in rivers, lakes, and ponds. Apparently, their sources of water for livelihood activities are also from the same sources. Drinking water is usually obtained from a community-shared dug well.

4. Summary of findings

Based on the overall analysis, 39% of households could be categorized as either highly food insecure or moderately food. Most of these households still spend a disproportionate amount (two-third or more of total expenditure) on food. Indebtedness is high not only among these groups, the generally food secure group also have high amounts of outstanding loans. The next vulnerable group (30%) consists of households, who could be considered as marginally food insecure. The remaining 31% households are generally food secure.

Some of the major underlying factors of food insecurity are given below:

- More IDPs borrowed money to buy food than Returnees/Resettled.
- The predominant pre-displacement livelihood activity for both IDPs and Returnees/Resettled was crop production. Many IDPs have since shifted their primary livelihood to daily labour, trading, fishing, forestry and hunting as a result of the displacement. While the proportion of people engaged in agriculture is once again rising (compared to 2009 situation), a significant proportion still remain engaged in non-farm activities. This diversification in livelihood has a positive side. As climate parameters become increasingly unpredictable, keeping a diversified livelihood will enhance the resilience of households to future shocks.
- Both populations (IDP's, returnees/resettled) spend slightly more than 50% on food. A sizeable proportion spends more than 65% on food, indicating their level food insecurity. In monetary terms, it was found that IDPs spent much more compared to Returnee/Resettled.
- In a predominantly agrarian society, the very high dependence on the marketplace for food is a matter of concern.
- Inadequate food consumption is prevalent among IDPs and returnees/resettlers. A significant proportion consumed largely carbohydrates with very little diversity to provide enough proteins, fat and micronutrients.
- Armed conflict and the subsequent displacement are the leading problems for both IDPs and Returnees/Resettled.
- There are significant challenges for returnees particularly in regards to access to education, health services, water and sanitation facilities, agricultural inputs, etc. Current unpredictability of the weather which has resulted in drier than normal conditions have further exacerbated the situation.
- Food and cash were the top needs of respondents. Support to agricultural livelihoods in the form of inputs and farm implements as well as improved infrastructure such as roads and health facilities were also cited.

5. Recommendations

Extremely vulnerable households (high and moderately food insecure) should be targeted through household food assistance. These are the households who are unable to obtain enough food and are highly indebted. The targeting of households must be based on needs opposed to location.

A return household food ration for IDPs who are willing to return or relocate could be proposed. However, a return ration equal to a few months may not be a sufficient incentive for them to return/relocate. In the absence of any comprehensive recovery plan, food assistance for these households may be required beyond the return ration.

Based on low dietary diversity and the poor nutritional status of children³ it is recommended to provide complimentary nutritional support to pregnant and lactating women and children in worst off provinces.

Emergency School Feeding (ESF) should be promoted in return areas to provide an incentive for families to keep children in school. This is important, keeping in mind that the returnees would need at least a few good harvests before they could be considered as somewhat recovered. Design and implementation of recovery projects generally take longer time than humanitarian responses and hence supporting primary school children through ESF could be an important interim intervention.

Early recovery activities in return areas need to be strengthened as soon as possible. Activities should focus on income generation, including strengthening of the agricultural sector (farming, animal husbandry, fisheries etc.), asset creation/rehabilitation (especially improving market linkages), livelihood diversification through skills training, strengthening health and educational services and improvements in water and sanitation. As markets are mostly functioning in these areas, cash based interventions are highly encouraged. Injections of cash will provide significant impetus to the local economy. For community based activities, a combination of food and cash also could be explored, especially when food prices are moving upwards.

As households move from IDP camps to other areas, upstream activities like food and nutrition surveillance, market monitoring, capacity building of LGU's on disaster preparedness etc. would be highly relevant.

Lastly, it would be useful to undertake a detailed survey of IDP's, returnees and the host populations, covering issues like farming practices, land tenure system and power structure with regard to farming, natural resource management and water usage, skills and opportunities for livelihood diversification, service delivery and gap analysis, conflict induced poverty and food insecurity and related issues.

³ Source of Anthropometric data is February 2009 Nutrition and Food Security Assessment in Mindanao. The current EFSA did not collect any anthropometric data.

Annex 1

FOOD SECURITY ASSESSMENT: MINDANAO 2010

- 0.1 Date: / / 2010
Day Month Year
- 0.2 What is your household category?
 1 = IDP 2 = Resettled 3 = Returnee (**Circle one**)
Current location
 Province _____ Municipality _____ Barangay _____
- 0.3 **Previous location**
 Province _____ Municipality _____ Barangay _____
- 0.4 Gender of household head 1 = female 2 = male (**Circle one**)
 Age of household head years
- 0.5
-
- 0.6 Type of school household head attended 0 =None; 1 =Madrassa/Arabic; 2 =English medium
(Circle one)
-
- 0.7 Highest level of education of household head 0 = None; 1 = Elementary; 2 = Secondary; **(Circle one)**
 3 = Vocational; 4 =College

SECTION A1 – DEMOGRAPHICS:

Read - "May I ask you a few questions on the composition of your household?"

(NB: For the purpose of this survey, a household is defined as people eating together)

1.1 Total no. of members in the household

1.2 How many persons in your household fall in the following age groups and gender? (*write number, if none write 00*)

Age group	Male	Female	1.3 Are any member differently-abled? (indicate number)	1.4 Have any members been chronically ill? (indicate number)
Under 5 years	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
5-14 years?	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
15-59 years?	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Over 60 years?	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Total	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

*Chronically ill means more than **3 months of continuous** illness (*write the number, if none write 00*)

1.5 Do you have children of elementary school-age (6-12 years)? (**circle**) 1=yes 2=no → 1.7

1.6 If Yes, are the children attending school? 1= Yes, all → 1.8
 (**circle one**) 2= Yes, not all → 1.7
 3= No → 1.7

1.7 If any of the children is/are not attending school, what is the main reason? (**circle the main reason**)

- 1= Sickness/disability
- 2= Cannot afford (school fees, uniforms, textbooks)
- 3= No school nearby or no place in nearby school
- 4= working to support household (domestic chores, work for cash or food)
- 5= Not interested in school
- 6= Schools not functioning
- 7= Other reasons (specify) _____

1.8 What main ethnic group does your family belong to? [] [] (choose only ONE from list below).

1. Maranao 2. Cebuano 3. Boholano 4. Iranun 5. Ilonggo 6. Ilocano
 7. Blaan 8. Maguindanaon 9. Tausug 10. Teduray 11. Arumanon 12. Manobo
 13. Other (specify) _____

1.9. How long have you and your family been at this location? []

1 = less than 3 months ago; 2 = 3 to 6 months ago; 3 = 6 to 12 months ago; 4 = more than 1 year ago.

1.10. How many times were you displaced since June 2008?

1 = Once; 2 = Twice; 3 = Three times or more (Circle one)

Health Status

- 1.11 Did any family member have diarrhoea during the last 2 weeks? (circle any one) 0 = No
 1=yes, children under 5 years -> 1.13
 2=yes, person over 5 -> 1.13
 3= both -> 1.13
- 1.12 Did any family member have fever and/or cough (ARI) during the last 2 weeks? (circle any one) 0= No (if both the questions 1.11 & 1.12 are No -> Section 2)
 1=yes, children under 5 years -> 1.13
 2=yes, person over 5 years -> 1.13
 3= both -> 1.13
- 1.13 Where was the patient/patients taken for treatment? (circle major treatment type/types) 1 = no treatment sought --> 1.14
Responses between 2 & 5 --> Section 2
 2 = home treatment
 3= traditional healers/albularyo
 4 = Barangay health centres
 5 = others (specify) _____
- 1.14 If no treatment sought, what are the main reasons? (circle the main reasons)
 1 = Minor illness
 2 = Lack of money
 3 = Health centres not accessible
 4 = Quality of health services not reliable
 5 = Lack of time
 6 = safety & security
 7 = Other (specify)

SECTION A2 – HOUSING AND FACILITIES

- 2.1 What type of roof top material you have in your house? (Circle one)
 1= Strong materials (galvanized iron, aluminium, tile, concrete, brick, stone, asbestos)
 2= Light materials (cogon, nipa, anahaw)
 3= Salvaged/makeshift materials
 4=Mixed but predominantly strong
 5= Mixed but predominantly light
 6= Mixed but predominantly salvaged materials
- 2.2 What type of outer wall materials you have in your house?
 1= Strong materials (galvanized iron, aluminium, tile, concrete, brick, stone, asbestos)

2= Light materials (bamboo, sawali, cogon, nipa, anahaw)

3= Salvaged/makeshift materials

4= Mixed but predominantly strong

5= Mixed but predominantly light

6= Mixed but predominantly salvaged materials

2.3

What is the tenure status of the housing unit and lot occupied by your family?
(Circle one)

- 1= Own or owner like possession
- 2= Rented house/room
- 3= Own house but rented lot
- 4= Own house, rent free lot with consent of owner
- 5= Own house, rent free lot without consent of owner
- 6= Rent free house and lot with consent of owner
- 7= Rent free house and lot without consent of owner

2.4

What type of toilet facility does your household use?
(Do not read answers. Circle one).

- 1 Water sealed
- 2 Closed pit
- 3 Open pit
- 4 No toilet/field/bush/river side
- 5 Others, specify

2.5

What is your main source of cooking fuel?
(Circle one (example – electricity)).

- 1 LPG Gas
- 2 Electricity
- 3 Wood/charcoal/coconut husk
- 4 Kerosene
- 5 Other, specify

2.6

What is the main source of drinking water for your household?
(Circle one only)

- | | | | |
|---|----------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | Own use faucet, community water system | 6 | Spring/river/stream/pond/lake/dam |
| 2 | Shared faucet, community water system | 7 | Rainwater |
| 3 | Own use tubed/piped well | 8 | Tanker truck/Peddler |
| 4 | Shared tubed/piped well/hand pump | 9 | Other, specify |
| 5 | Dug well | | |

2.7

Do you treat your water?

- 0 = no
- 1 = yes, boiling
- 2 = yes, filtration
- 3 = add chemicals,
- 4 = yes, other specify

2.8

How far is the main source of water from your household? _____ Minutes
(Record the time to go and return ; Write 888 if water on premises; but 999 if don't know)

SECTION A3 – HOUSEHOLD ASSETS, PRODUCTIVE ASSETS AND ACCESS TO CREDIT

	Household Assets	Now	Bef. disp.	Household Assets	Now	Bef. disp.
1	Radio/Radio cassette			9	Component/Karaoke	
2	Television			10	Personal computer	

RESPONDENT		3	Landline Telephone	11	Kubota/Tractor
		4	Cellular phone	12	Motorized banca/Boat
		5	Washing machine	13	Car/jeep/van
		6	Refrigerator/ freezer	14	Motorcycle/ Tricycle
		7	Cd/Vcd/Dvd player	15	Bicycle/ Pedicab
		8	Jewelry	16	Other
3.2	Do you currently have any debt? (Circle any one)	0 = No		1 = Yes, < 1,000 Peso	
				2 = Yes, 1,000 – 5,000 Peso	
				3 = Yes, 5,000 – 10,000 Peso	
				4 = > 10,000 Peso	
3.3	Where do you go if you need to borrow money? (Circle all that apply)	1	Relatives / friends	5	Co-operatives
		2	Charities / NGOs	6	Local Govt Units (LDUs)
		3	Local lender / pawn shop	7	Do not borrow or have no access
		4	Bank		
3.4	Do you borrow money to purchase food or purchase food on credit?	1 = YES		2 = NO → 3.5	
3.4.1	If YES, how <u>often</u> did you use credit or borrow money to purchase food in the last 1 month? (Circle one)			1 = Once	2 = two times
				3 = three times	4 = four or more times
3.5	Do you have access to a market to buy food or sell products?			1 = YES	2 = NO → 3.6
3.5.1	How long does it take to market walking? (If other modes of transport are required, indicate <u>mode and time taken</u>)			_____ minutes walk	
				Mode of transport _____ minutes	
3.5.2	How often is this market open?			01 = daily; 02 = 2 to 5 days per week; 03 = weekly	
3.6	How is the current market prices for rice compared to same time last year			1 =much lower; 2 =lower; 3 =no change; 4 =higher; 5 =much higher	
3.7	How many farm animals does your household own <u>now</u> and <u>before displacement</u> ? (DO NOT READ THE FOLLOWING LIST TO THE RESPONDENT!)				
	1. Cows / Bullocks	Now	<input type="text"/>	Before Displacement	<input type="text"/>
	2. Buffaloes (Carabao)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	3. Goats	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	4. Sheep	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	5. Chickens/Ducks/gees/turkey	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	6. Horses	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	8. Pig	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	9. Other	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
3.8	What is the amount of farm land owned by the household now and before displacement (in hectares)? (If owns no farm land assign 0)	Now	<input type="text"/> . <input type="text"/> ha	Before Displacement	<input type="text"/> . <input type="text"/> ha

SECTION A4—HOUSEHOLD LIVELIHOODS /INCOME

The purpose is to identify the main sources of household livelihood/income now and before displacement (Use the activity codes shown below).

Activities	4.1: What are your household's <u>current</u> main livelihoods activities? (List up to 4 in order of importance)	4.2: What were your household's main livelihoods activities <u>before displacement</u>? (List up to 4 activities in order of importance)
First	□□□	□□□
Second	□□□	□□□
Third	□□□	□□□
Fourth	□□□	□□□

Livelihood/Income sources codes

- 01 =Products from Crop farming and gardening**
- 02 = Livestock and poultry raising** (such as raising of carabaos, cattle, hogs, horses, chicken, ducks, etc. and the production of fresh milk, eggs, etc.)
- 03 = Fishing (such as capture fishing gathering fry, shells, seaweeds, etc. ; and culturing fish, oyster, mussel, etc.)**
- 04 = Forestry and hunting** (such as tree planting (ipil-ipil), firewood gathering, small-scale logging excluding concessionaires), charcoal making, gathering forestry products (cogon, nipa, rattan, bamboo , resin, gum, etc.) or hunting wild animals/birds)
- 05 = Wholesale and retail trade** (including market vending, sidewalk vending and peddling, small shop)
- 06 = Manufacturing/handicraft** (such as mat weaving, tailoring, dressmaking)

07 = Remittances

- 08 = Skilled salaried employment** (such as medical, teaching ,bank, government
- 09. Unskilled salaried employment** (assistant, hair dresser, massage, hotel staff, housemaid, laundry etc)
- 10. Daily/common labourer** (agriculture, construction etc)
- 11 = Transportation, storage and communication services** (such as operation of jeepneys or taxis, storage and warehousing activities, messenger services, etc.)
- 12. = Mining and quarrying** (such as mineral extraction like salt making, gold mining, gravel, sand and stone quarrying, etc.)
- 13 = Construction/ skilled labour** (repair of a house, building/structure, etc.)
- 14. Pension, Government allowances** (peace council member)
- 15. Activities not elsewhere classified**

4.3	How many members of your household contribute to household income?	0 = None 3 = Three 1 = One 4 = Four or more 2 = Two
4.4	Do you have any savings now? (<i>circle one</i>)	0= No 3= Yes, 1000 - 5000 Peso 1= Yes, < 500 Peso 4= Yes, >5000 Peso 2= Yes, 500 - 1000 Peso
4.5	Do you have access to land for farming?	1 = Yes 2 = No --> Section 5
4.6	If Yes, how much land (in hectare)?	□□□□. □□□ ha
4.7	Who owns this land? (<i>circle all that apply</i>)	1 = fully owned by family; 2 = tenant (share of harvest) 3= leased/ borrowed/rented (repayment in produce or money) 4 = rent free (no payment, but not owned) 5= other (Certificate of ownership/transfer)

SECTION A5 – EXPENDITURE

<i>Read: "In the Past MONTH, how much money did you spend on each of the following items or services?"</i>		a. Did you spend money in past one month on the following? 1 = YES 2 = NO <i>(if NO, skip to next item)</i>	b. Estimate the cash expenditure in the last month (in Peso) <i>(write 0 if no expenditure).</i>	c. Estimate the credit expenditure in the last month (in Peso) <i>(write 0 if no expenditure)</i>
5.1	Rice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/> peso	<input type="text"/> peso
5.2	Corn	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
5.3	Wheat and other cereals/products (bread, biscuits, instant noodles)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
5.4	Roots and tubers (<i>such as cassava, potatoes, sweet potatoes (camote), gabi</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
5.5	Pulses (beans, lentils, groundnuts)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
5.6	Fruits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
5.7	Vegetables	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
5.8	Milk products	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
5.9	Eggs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
5.10	Meat and meat products (<i>chicken, beef, pork, other meat</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
5.11	Fish and marine products	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
5.12	Coffee, cocoa (cacao) and tea	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
5.13	Sugar/salt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
5.14	Butter/ cooking oil. margarine	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
5.15	Non-alcoholic beverages	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
5.16	Tobacco/betel nut	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
5.17	Alcoholic beverages	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
5.18	Household supplies (<i>laundry soap / matches / brooms / batteries etc.</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
5.19	Toilet articles (<i>soap, shampoo etc.</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
5.20	Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
5.21	Cooking Fuel,	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
5.22	Electricity and water	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
5.23	Communication/mobile phone load	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
5.24	Other (specify _____)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

In the Past **MONTH**, how much money did you spend (in Peso) on each of the following?
Use the following table, write 0 if no expenditure.

		b. Estimate the cash expenditure in the last month (in Peso) <i>(write 0 if no expenditure).</i>	c. Estimate the credit expenditure in the last month (in Peso) <i>(write 0 if no expenditure)</i>
5.25	Clothing, shoes and other wear	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
5.26	Cosmetics /hygiene articles	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
5.27	Education (<i>school fees/uniforms/supplies</i>)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

5.28	Medical care (hospital fees, medicines, etc)	□□□□	□□□□
5.29	Furnishing and household equipment (such as household utensils, accessories, household linen, mosquito nets)	□□□□	□□□□
5.30	Celebrations, social events, funerals, weddings, Kanduli	□□□□	□□□□
5.31	Zakat/sadka	□□□□	□□□□
5.32	Housing material	□□□□	□□□□
5.33	Debt repayment	□□□□	□□□□

SECTION A6– FOOD CONSUMPTION AND SOURCES

Could you please tell me the following:

1) how many **days** in the past **week** your household has eaten the following foods?

2) what were the sources?

(Please use the codes in the last column, and write 0 for items not eaten over the last 7 days)

	Food Item	# of days eaten last 7 days	Food Source (write all)	
			Main	Second
6.1a	Rice	□	□□	□□
6.1b	Maize / Corn	□	□□	□□
6.1c	Other cereals (bread, biscuits, instant noodles etc.)	□	□□	□□
6.1d	Cassava	□	□□	□□
6.1e	Sweet potatoes (camote)	□	□□	□□
6.1f	Other roots and tubers (potatoes, gabi)	□	□□	□□
6.1g	Beans, groundnuts	□	□□	□□
6.1h	Vegetables	□	□□	□□
6.1i	Fruits	□	□□	□□
6.1j	Fish, fish paste	□	□□	□□
6.1k	Meat (beef, pork, chicken)	□	□□	□□
6.1l	Wild animals	□	□□	□□
6.1m	Eggs	□	□□	□□
6.1n	Milk and other dairy	□	□□	□□
6.1o	Sugar and sugar products	□	□□	□□
6.1p	Vegetable oil, coconut oil, palapa, fats	□	□□	□□
6.2	How many meals the children under five usually take per day?			□□
6.3	How many meals other members of the household usually take per day?			□□

Food Source codes

- 1 = Purchase
- 2 = Own production
- 3 = Hunting, fishing, gathering
- 4 = Borrowed
- 5 = Exchange of labor for food
- 6 = Exchange of items for food
- 7 = Received as gift
- 8 = Food aid
- 9 = Other specify:

SECTION A7 – DISASTER AND FOOD SECURITY

7.1 Read: *What were the main problems or disasters that your household has faced in the last 6 months?*

(Do not read the options! Once all disasters have been identified ask respondent to rank the most important ones and write them down in the table below.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| A. = Drought/irregular rains / Hailstorms | K. = Loss of employment for a household member |
| B. = Floods | L. = Reduced income of a household member |
| C. = Landslides, erosion | M. = Serious illness or accident of household member |
| D. = Unusually high level of crop pests & disease | N. = Death of a working household member |
| E. = Unusually high level of livestock diseases | O. = Death of other household member |
| F. = Lack of employment | P. = Theft of Money/valuables |
| G. = Unusually high level of human disease | Q. = Theft of Animals |
| H. = Unavailability of food | R. = Conflict |
| I. = High food prices | S. = displacement |
| J. = High costs of agric. inputs (seed, fertilizer, etc.) | T. = other (specify) |

7.2a Rank & Cause <i>(copy code from above the four main causes)</i>	First	Second	Third	Fourth
7.2b- Did the disaster create a decrease or loss for your household of: 01 = Income & in-kind receipts 02 = Assets (e.g. livestock, cash savings) 03 = Both income and assets 04 = No change <i>(Write number)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.2c- Did the disaster cause a decrease in your household's ability to produce or purchase enough food to eat for a period of time? 01 = YES 02 = NO 3 = Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.2d - Has the household recovered from the decrease in income or assets or both from the disasters? 01 = Not recovered at all 02 = Partially recovered 03 = Completely recovered	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.3 - In the "past month", have you used any of the strategies when you did not have enough food or money to buy food? How often?	Frequency 1= daily, 2= pretty often (3-6 days/week) 3= once in a while (1-2times/week) 4= Never			
7.3a Rely on less preferred and less expensive foods?				
7.3b Borrow food, or rely on help from a friend or relative?				
7.3c Limit portion size at mealtimes?				
7.3d Restrict consumption by adults in order for small children to eat?				
7.3e Reduce number of meals eaten in a day?				
7.3f Skip days without meals?				
7.4. How long will your food stock last ? <i>(circle one)</i>	0 = no food stock 1 = < than 1 month 2 = 1 - 2 months 3 = > 3 months			

Intentions

01 Do you intend to move from your current location? (<i>circle one</i>)	1 = Yes, within 3 months 2 = Yes, within 3-6 months 3 = Yes, After 6 months 4 = Yes, do not know the time 5 = Not at all --> ques 3
02 If yes, main reasons for wanting to move? (<i>circle main reasons</i>)	1 = to seek livelihood opportunities 2 = to get access to land 3 = reunion with family/relatives 4 = Security reasons 5 = Other specify _____
03. How did you move here? (<i>circle one</i>)	1 = Voluntary 2 = Non voluntary 3 = Other specify _____
04. Was your movement facilitated (assistance provided)?	1 = Yes, 2 = No

SECTION A8 – ASSISTANCE & NEEDS

8.1	Did any member of your household receive food aid in the last 1 month ?	01 = YES	02 = NO	If NO → 7.3a
8.2	If YES, please specify the type of program and the number of beneficiary in your household? (circle all that apply and specify number of beneficiaries in the last column)	01	General food distribution/relief/pabaon	<input type="text"/>
		02	School feeding	<input type="text"/>
		03	Food for work/for assets	<input type="text"/>
		04	Supplementary feeding	<input type="text"/>
		05	MCH/onsite feeding	<input type="text"/>
		07	Others, specify _____	<input type="text"/>
8.3	Did any member of your household receive any other type of external assistance beside food aid in the last 2 month ?	01 = YES	2 = NO	NO → 8.5
8.4	What type of assistance? (Circle all that apply)	01	Money allowances / loans	
		02	Education (fees, books, uniforms)	
		03	Medical services (hygiene promotion/ immunization, etc)	
		04	Construction material, building	
		05	Agricultural assistance (tools / seeds)	
		06	Other, specify _____	
8.5	Give three priority needs for your return/resettlement	1 st priority	2 nd priority	3 rd priority
	0 = no need 1=food 2=cash 3= Housing materials/shelter 4=agricultural inputs (seed, fertilizer, irrigation) 5=agricultural equipment (plough, tractor etc.) 6=clothing			
	7=drinking water 8=medical/health support 9=sanitation 10= education support for the children 11= legal advice (for land) 12= security 13 = other (specify) 14 = don't know	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Annex 2

Methodology for analyzing food consumption data

An important part of the Food Consumption Scoring (FCS) is the weights attributed to the Food Groups. The determination of the food group weights as described in the calculation of the FCS is based on an interpretation by a team of analysts of 'nutrient density'¹. This concept has been applied in other dietary diversity indicators, such as that used by C-SAFE, as well as researchers in Zambia². Although subjective, this weighting attempts to give greater importance to foods such as meat and fish, usually considered to have greater 'nutrient density' and lesser importance to foods such as sugar. It is not yet known if these weights are appropriate universally. However, at this time it is recommended that the weights remain constant to provide a more standardized methodology. As research continues, further support may be lent to these weights, or it may be found best to modify them in either a universal or context specific manner. There are limitations to the recall tool used in this study (as with most recall tools). One of the most significant is that they do not identify quantity and therefore predicting adequacy, for micronutrients and macronutrients, is difficult. Therefore care must be taken when translating the Food Consumption Groups into nutritional adequacy (that is sufficient micro and macronutrient for healthy function).

These weights are assigned based on the nutrient density of the food groups. The highest weight was attached to foods with relatively high energy, good quality protein and a wide range of micronutrients that can be easily absorbed. Currently, weight recommended by VAM is calculated based on the following logic:

Table : Food Group Weights Used in FCS Analysis

Food groups	Weight	Justification
Main staples	2	Energy dense, protein content is lower and poorer quality than legumes, micronutrients (bound by phytates).
Pulses	3	Energy dense, high amounts of protein but of lower quality than meats, micronutrients (inhibited by phytates), low fat.
Vegetables	1	Low energy, low protein, no fat, micro-nutrients
Fruit	1	Low energy, low protein, no fat, micro-nutrients
Meat & fish	4	Highest quality protein, easily absorbable micronutrients (no phytates), energy dense, fat. Even when consumed in small quantities, improvements to the quality of diet are large.
Milk	4	Highest quality protein, micronutrients, vitamin A, energy. However, milk could be consumed only in very small amounts and should then be treated as condiment and therefore re-classification in such cases is needed.
Sugar	0.5	Empty calories. Usually consumed in small quantities.
Oil	0.5	Energy dense but usually no other micronutrients. Usually consumed in small quantities

¹ 'nutrient density' is a term used to subjectively describe a food group's quality in terms of caloric density, macro and micro nutrient content, and actual quantities typically eaten.

² FHANIS/CSO (Food, Health and Nutrition Information system/Central Statistical Office). 1998. FHANIS Urban Report: Monitoring of the Household Food Security, Health, and Nutrition in Urban Areas, Lusaka, Zambia: Central Statistical Office.

An additional benefit of the weights is that the score is 'stretched', allowing for a more truly continuous score, which gives greater flexibility in analysis. The un-weighted score would have a possible range of 0 to 56. The weighted score has a range of 0 to 112.

Using the data collected using a standard WFP 7 day recall tool, 8 food groups were made from the 23 food items in the list. This was done as follows:

Table : Food Items used in the Uganda Assessment Diet recall tool and the Food Groups they were allocated to

Food groups	Food Items in the Recall Tool
Main staples	Rice, Cassava, Potatoes, Yams, Noodles
Pulses	Beans
Vegetables	Fresh Vegetables (e.g. leafy greens) including Wild Plants
Fruit	Fruits, including wild fruit
Meat & fish	Goat, beef, pork, poultry, eggs or fish
Milk	Fresh milk and milk products
Sugar	Sugar or sugary foods
Oil	Vegetable oil, butter etc.

Using the data on the food within these groups all the consumption frequencies of food items of the same group were summed, and for those groups that were above 7 they were recoded as 7 (i.e. that food group is eaten every day). The value for each group is then multiplied by the appropriate weight. The sum of all of the weighted food group scores then gives the Food Consumption Score (FCS).

The FCS was then recoded into the Food Consumption Groups using the following cut-offs in Philippines context, along with the rationale used for creating them:

Table: Definition of Food Consumption Profiles

FCS	Profiles	Rational
0-28	Poor	A diet mainly comprising of cereals, oil, sugar and vegetables
28.5-42	Borderline	In addition to what 'poor' group consumes, oil consumption goes up and some animal proteins
> 35	Acceptable	An acceptable diet is defined by any greater diversity and/or increased frequency of consumption compared to that of the "Borderline" diet.

Households Food Consumption thus assigned one or other of these profiles for the analysis.