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World Food Programme
March 2011

FOLLOW-UP EMERGENCY FOOD SECURITY ASSESSMENT IN THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

Fighting Hunger Worldwide



Acknowledgements

The team for this follow-up Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA) is grateful to the 2430 households and 84 Key Informants in urban and rural areas of Kyrgyzstan who gave their time to answer enumerators' questions and give information. Similarly as for the EFSA conducted last July/August 2010, staff of the company El-Pikir in Bishkek and in the various oblasts efficiently prepared and carried out the field data collection, data entry and cleaning in a very tight timeframe. They also provided the output tables, with the support of Mehriyul Ablezova (national consultant), as per WFP plan of analysis.

From the WFP Country Office in Bishkek, Aizhan Mamatbekova (Vulnerable Analysis and Mapping Assistant) ensured the preparation and monitored the execution of the EFSA, with support from Nadya Frank (Programme Officer) and Michael Huggins (Deputy Country Director), and oversight from Rasmus Egendal (Country Director). Their inputs critically contributed to the smooth implementation of the exercise.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Context and methodology

- WFP has carried out food security assessments in Kyrgyzstan since 2008, using data collected by the Government-led Kyrgyz Integrated Household Survey (KIHS). Considering delays before getting updated KIHS data, a nation-wide Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA) was undertaken in July/August 2010 to evaluate the effects of the April/June 2010 civil unrest in various areas of the country and other shocks on households' food security situation, and support decision-making on food security assistance interventions.
- While violence in the southern oblasts of Osh and Jalalabad has rescinded since the EFSA, households both in these areas and elsewhere in the country have been affected by the steep rise of food prices and general depression of the economy. This follow-up EFSA was launched in order to: (i) evaluate changes in households' food security situation in the past 7 months and during the critical lean season, and (ii) inform the finalisation of a 2-year Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation July 2011-June 2013.
- Data were collected between 26 February and 1 March 2011 among 2,430 households selected from 250 localities in each oblast¹ and in the cities of Bishkek, Osh and Jalalabad, and 84 Key informants from the various localities were interviewed.
- The same indicators as for the 2010 EFSA were used to estimate the degree of household food insecurity, so as to enable comparisons. Food consumption patterns were combined with an indicator of economic access to food. To improve the latter, the amount obtained from the 4 main sources of cash was estimated, instead of only the 2 main sources.

How many are food insecure?

- An estimated 14% of the households were severely food-insecure, i.e. consuming an inadequate diet based on cereals and potatoes together with levels of cash available for consumption expenditures below the extreme poverty line. This compares with 4% severely food-insecure in August 2010, at the peak of the harvest season.
- This represents about **763,820 severely food-insecure persons** at the time of the assessment during the lean season. A larger number are moderately food-insecure, and some currently food-secure households can also be considered 'at-risk' of becoming food-insecure in the event of further shocks (e.g. continuing rise of prices, upsurge of conflict), based on the negative coping strategies they are using.
- The much higher prevalence of food insecurity than in August 2010 reflects the exhaustion of food stocks from the harvest and decreased seasonal food trade and work opportunities compounded by the lingering effects of the civil unrest in 2010 on the economy and livelihoods, and sharp rise of food prices this year.

Where are the food insecure and malnourished individuals?

- Levels of food insecurity continued to be higher in rural than urban areas. The highest prevalence of food insecurity was in **Jalalabad oblast** (city and rural), **Osh oblast rural** and **Batken oblast**, followed by **Talas** and **Yssyk-Kul** oblasts. These were the same oblasts as in August 2010, although the 'ranking' differed slightly. The best food security situation continued to be Bishkek city and Chuy oblast.

Who are the food-insecure people?

- Food-insecure households include those without access to land or animals, or with a too low acreage and size of herd to ensure more than a few months of self-consumption; and those with low access to cash per capita (including from small pensions and allowances) and

¹ In Osh oblast 200 households were randomly selected, and 230 households in Jalalabad oblast.

irregular sources of cash. 'Aggravating' structural factors comprise large family size and vulnerable members.

Why are people food-insecure?

- As asserted in previous assessments, food insecurity is essentially **chronic**, with poverty as the basic cause of poor food consumption. However, the levels and severity of food insecurity also present marked seasonal variations, manifested by a deterioration of the diet in post-harvest time (winter/early spring) when food stocks from the harvest are depleted, seasonal work opportunities decrease, and prices increase. The low income and productive asset base and resources (land, animals, skills, credit) of households do not enable them to maintain an adequate frequency and diversity of food intake, potentially putting the health and nutritional status of vulnerable members in jeopardy through deficiencies especially in micronutrients.
- However, the seasonal deterioration of food consumption in 2010/2011 was aggravated by **additional shocks** including:
 - post-conflict effects of the violence in Osh and Jalalabad oblasts on livelihoods;
 - indirect effects of the conflict in neighbouring Batken oblast and in other oblasts and cities through the general depression of the economy;
 - sharp rise of food prices and general inflation during the last months of 2010 and early 2011, unmatched by a corresponding rise of wages, pensions and allowances.
- **Food expenditures** represented almost half of total expenditures of severely food-insecure households. As such the rise of food prices is putting significant pressure on household resources. The deterioration of their purchasing power also affects the means available to pay for other essential needs such as health, utilities and agricultural inputs.
- As noted before, food-insecure households rely on irregular and low-paying sources of cash such as sales of agricultural produce, petty trade, use of personal savings, unskilled labour, pensions, remittances or charity. Most of the cash thus obtained is low, meaning that these households remain **below the official poverty line**.
- A quarter of severely food-insecure households used **negative coping strategies** to face their difficulties of accessing food, such as spending days without eating, skipping meals, and reducing meal size. These strategies entail risks for the health and nutritional status of the most vulnerable members on the short- and medium-term.

How is the situation likely to evolve?

- The main source of uncertainty in the next 12 months is related to the October 2011 presidential election, during the lead time to it and the post-election period. Border restrictions with Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan will continue to affect trade and livelihoods.
- At macro-economic level, the Gross Domestic Product is projected to grow by 4%-5%, picking up from its decrease in 2010. However, the current account deficit will be high (13% of GDP) and require significant financing from foreign sources. Inflation is expected to remain at 6%-7%, however some sources project inflation in excess of 20% in 2011. Food inflation was the highest in Europe and CIS with food prices increasing year-on-year 30.5 % in January 2011. In the absence of significant adjustment of minimum wages, pensions and allowances, the purchasing power of households will continue to be depressed and affect food consumption.
- The current spring planting season is being constrained by the high cost of fuel and fertilizer, which may affect the next harvest. In addition, Kyrgyzstan remains highly susceptible to natural hazards (e.g. earthquake, mudflows, land slides, snow storms etc.) which may occur at any time and can cause heavy losses of lives, livestock and crops, and damage to infrastructure.
- While the estimated number of food-insecure people may be on the high side due to the additional shocks, the above factors may limit progress on their reduction.

Which types of food security assistance are suggested for the next 12 months?

- A **combination of short- and medium-term interventions** is necessary to address the chronic and transitory seasonal food insecurity in Kyrgyzstan. The Government continue to

bear responsibility for creating jobs and ensuring access to sufficient social assistance for those unable to work, besides upgrading services such as water, sanitation, health and education to strengthen the human capital resource base.

- WFP food assistance should complement – not substitute – , and reinforce existing Government interventions with a focus on groups excluded from the social assistance system or receiving too low amounts to meet their essential food needs. The main objectives would be to (i) restore food security following shocks, (ii) build resilience to shocks to protect and improve access to food, and (iii) strengthen the Government's capacity to address food insecurity.
- Modalities would include food- or cash-for-work interventions articulated with agricultural and infrastructure programmes; food- or cash-for-training to enhance skills, market and employment opportunities; and unconditional food or cash transfers to poor and food-insecure people unable to work. A number of these activities are already part of WFP port-folio of activities in Kyrgyzstan. Assistance should concentrate on the lean season and give priority to the estimated **763,820 severely food-insecure** individuals (about 127,300 households), most of them in rural areas of Osh and Jalalabad oblasts, and in Batken oblast.
- Capacity development and advocacy efforts with the Government should be stepped up to improve targeting, increase the level of social assistance, support the design of programmes to tackle the causes of food insecurity, and improve the timeliness of the food security monitoring system to inform decision-making. The planned 'light' **Food Security Monitoring System** (FSMS) to complement the KIHS should be set up to provide early warning of changes in household food security situation and inform necessary adjustment of interventions.

I – CONTEXT AND OBJECTIVES OF THE FOLLOW-UP EMERGENCY FOOD SECURITY ASSESSMENT IN THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

1.1 – Kyrgyzstan context and changes since August 2010

Kyrgyzstan is a low-income food deficit country (LIFDC) with a population of approximately 5.4 million inhabitants. Around 70% live in rural and high mountainous areas. Poverty is widespread, affecting 1/3 of the population including 6% extremely poor. While poverty rates declined significantly in the period 2003-2008 owing to strong economic growth, progress was halted in 2008-2009 by the effects of the food and fuel price crisis and of the global economic crisis.

Kyrgyzstan is also prone to various natural disasters, including earthquake, floods, land slides as well as avalanches and snow storms in winter.

Violent political and civil unrest took place in the capital city Bishkek in April 2010 and in Osh and Jalalabad southern oblasts in June 2010, reflecting a conjunction of poor governance, continuing poverty and widening socio-economic disparities, as well as competition over productive resources, harsh border regimes that stifle commerce and movement of people while feeding corruption, drugs smuggling (especially in the south), and widespread unemployment and under-employment particularly of youth². These events affected the economy and livelihoods of violence-affected households as well as of households indirectly impacted by depressed investment, border trade, tourism and businesses, and reduced access to productive inputs, crop fields and local markets. However, the security situation stabilised since the summer 2010.

Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) recorded a negative growth of -1.4 percent in 2010³, mainly owing to a decline in construction (where output shrank by 23%) and in agriculture (where output contracted by almost 3%). Retail trade also suffered from the political turmoil and the closure of borders with Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan and fell by almost 7%.

The national currency continued to depreciate compared to US\$, although at a slightly lower pace (by 6% in 2010 compared to 11% in 2009)⁴. The exchange rate was US\$1:KGS 47 in January 2011 compared to US\$1:KGS 46 in 2010, US\$1:KGS 37 in 2009 and 2008..

The Consumer Price Index increased 19 % year-on-year from December 2009 to December 2010. Overall inflation in 2010 was 8%, compared to 7% in 2009 (and 24% in 2008), with a sharp acceleration at the end of 2010, especially for the food component. According to Ministry of Economic Regulation, food inflation was 27 % in 2010.⁵

During the period January-November 2010, imports rose by 12% year-on-year and exports increased by 7%, resulting in a larger deficit than in the same period of 2009. However, remittances from Kyrgyz labour migrants abroad grew by an impressive 27% in 2010, reaching US\$1.2 billion. As of end November 2010, the foreign state debt stood at about 58% of GDP. The widening budget deficit means that the country requires recourse to additional borrowing, notwithstanding the large amounts of foreign aid it receives and a number of debt write-offs from foreign creditors.

1.2 – Rationale for the follow-up assessment and objectives

WFP initiated household food security analyses in Kyrgyzstan in 2008 in the context of harsh winter and high food and fuel price crises. The food security situation was regularly updated since then by re-analysing data collected each trimester by the government Kyrgyz Integrated

² For more background details, see Emergency Food Security Assessment in the Kyrgyz Republic, World Food Programme, August 2010.

³ Interstate Statistical Committee of the CIS. <http://www.cisstat.com> - Kyrgyzstan Country Report February 2011. The Economist Intelligence Unit. (GDP had grown by 2.9% in 2009 and by more than 8% in both 2007 and 2008).

⁴ Kyrgyzstan Country Report February 2011. The Economist Intelligence Unit.

⁵ Ministry of Economic Regulation, 2011

Household Survey (KIHS). In July 2010, WFP conducted a rapid Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA) in Osh and Jalalabad cities and surroundings to estimate the impact of the June civil violence on the food security situation of the affected population⁶. At the end of July 2010, WFP undertook a nation-wide EFSA to evaluate the food security situation of the population and inform rapid decision-making on food assistance interventions without waiting for KIHS data that would only be available several months later. The EFSA also enabled to compare results with the KIHS considering that slightly different food consumption and economic access indicators were used.

Even though violence has receded in the southern oblasts since June 2010, the population's access to food was severely affected by the rise of prices of wheat (staple food, contributing about 40% of average kilocalorie intake) and other food items during the 2nd half of 2010 and beginning of 2011. According to the World Bank⁷, the price of wheat increased by 54% in Kyrgyzstan between June and December 2010 while wages were not adjusted at the same pace. The extent to which the increase of remittances may have compensated the loss of purchasing power of households was uncertain.

Furthermore, the July/August 2010 EFSA took place immediately after the summer harvest in a context where access to food from own production was easier. The situation was anticipated to deteriorate during the winter months as food stocks become exhausted and diversity of food available on local markets in remote areas decreases.

This follow-up EFSA was undertaken to provide updated information on household food security to:

- capture changes in the food security situation and coping mechanisms used by households compared to last summer, reflecting (i) the post-harvest and winter time period, (ii) increased food prices, and (iii) the lagging effects of the June violence on the economy and livelihoods;
- inform the design of a 2-year Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) to address the immediate and recovery food assistance requirements of households affected by these shocks;
- update the baseline for the set up of a sentinel-based Food Security Monitoring System⁸ (FSMS) complementary to the government KIHS.

II – METHODOLOGY

In the survey and throughout the report, a 'household' is defined as a group of individuals who live together and share food and income resources. Households are considered separate 'units' if they do not share these resources, even if they live under the same roof.

2.1 – Sampling and sources of information

Similarly as for the July/August EFSA, statistically representative data at national, urban and rural levels⁹, as well as at oblast level in the 7 oblasts¹⁰ and in the cities of Bishkek, Osh and Jalalabad, were obtained by adopting a two-stage cluster sampling approach to select

⁶ Rapid Emergency Food Security Assessment in Osh and Jalalabad, Kyrgyz Republic. World Food Programme, July 2010.

⁷ Food Price Watch. The World Bank, February 2011.

⁸ Under an AIDCO-funded project to *Improve the Food Security Information System in the Kyrgyz Republic*, FAO and WFP will collaborate to strengthen the quality and timeliness of information collected on the agricultural sector and markets, support the National Statistics Committee to enhance the KIHS process and analysis, and set up a Food Security Monitoring System probably focusing on sentinel sites in areas of high prevalence of food insecurity.

⁹ There are 25 urban settlements in Kyrgyzstan, including the country's two largest cities of Bishkek (1.2 million persons) and Osh (600,000 persons) and 23 smaller towns (668,000 persons).

¹⁰ Yssyk-Kul, Batken, Naryn, Talas, Osh, Jalalabad, Chuy

localities (first stage) and households (second stage). In each oblast except Osh and Jalalabad, and in Bishkek, Osh and Jalalabad cities, 250 households were randomly selected, and respectively 200 and 230 households in rural areas of Osh and Jalalabad oblasts, as follows:

- 25 clusters (villages/city neighbourhoods) randomly selected in each oblast and Bishkek city proportionally to the population size (systematic sampling). Rural/urban strata were defined in each oblast so that the number of clusters per strata was proportional to the rural/urban share of the total population in the oblast;
- 10 households (between 9 and 11 in Osh and Jalalabad rural areas) randomly selected per village/city neighbourhood using existing lists or by dividing localities in blocks of approximately the same size¹¹ if no lists were available.

The final sample (see Table 1) comprised 2430 households, including 669 in urban areas (37%) and 1331 in rural areas (63%). The distribution urban/rural of the sample¹² is relatively close to national averages (31%/69%).

A total of 84 Key Informants (about half men/women), generally a local administration representative, school principal, or agricultural officer, were interviewed in the various selected localities.

Table 1 – Sample of the follow-up EFSA – February 2011

Oblast/city	Households			Average number of Key Informants per locality		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Men	Women	Total
Total	1089	1341	2430	45	39	84
Yssyk-Kul	80	170	250	2.3	5.0	11
Batken	53	197	250	2.7	3.0	6
Naryn	47	203	250	1.0	2.0	6
Talas	44	206	250	1.0	0	3
Osh city	250	0	250	3.5	3.0	17
Osh	14	186	200	3.1	4.0	
Jalalabad city	250	0	250	2.0	4.0	20
Jalalabad	58	173	230	2.3	4.2	
Chuy	58	192	250	1.0	1.8	13
Bishkek city	250	0	250	1.0	1.2	8

A Household and a Key Informant questionnaire (translated in Russian and Kyrgyz) were administered in each selected locality (see Annexes 1 and 2). Data collection took place between 27 February and 1 March 2011. Considering the information already available from the various KIHS updates and Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) surveys undertaken by WFP and its partners after food distributions in several oblasts, and from the July/August EFSA, data collection was limited to essential information needed to understand changes in the food security situation and capacities of the population. Data were collected on demographics, housing, livelihoods (income sources, food sources, main expenditures), ownership of assets, food consumption patterns, food stocks, coping strategies, access to assistance, exposure to shocks and priorities.

Key Informants were interviewed on the locality's population, main livelihoods, markets access and prices, access to services (health, education), main shocks, vulnerable groups and priorities. Whenever relevant, questions were asked separately for IDPs and residents.

As for the previous EFSA, the national company (El Pikir) was contracted to: (i) draw the sample, (ii) identify and train enumerators, and (iii) collect, enter and clean the data, and process output tables with the support of a national consultant. WFP trained the supervisors and enumerators, prepared the Plan of Analysis, analysed and interpreted the data.

¹¹ Enumerators identified blocks of about the same population size (houses or flats) within the locality. One block was selected and the number of households counted. The total was divided by the number of households to interview (10) in order to define which households to interview. Enumerators moved along the block systematically on the left hand-side to interview each randomly selected household.

¹² Weights were applied to the results to reflect the actual distribution of the population between rural/urban areas and in the various oblasts and Bishkek city.

Comparisons were made between urban and rural areas, oblasts and food security groups.

2.2 – Analysis of household food security

The same analytical method was used to estimate the degree of food insecurity at household level ('severely food insecure', 'moderately food insecure', 'food secure') as in the previous EFSA, in order to enable comparisons. Food insecurity levels were determined by combining the WFP standard Food Consumption Score (FCS) with the main source of income and level of income as food access indicator¹³.

For each indicator, groups of households were created as follows:

- Food Consumption Score: 3 groups ('poor', 'borderline', 'acceptable') based on the thresholds used in previous surveys in Kyrgyzstan (28,42):

Food Consumption Groups	Food Consumption Score below 28	Food Consumption Score between 28-42	Food Consumption Score above 42
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- 3 food access groups ('poor', 'average' or 'good'), based on the average monthly cash per capita obtained per capita from the 4 main cash sources¹⁴, compared to the official extreme poverty line and to the poverty line:

Food Access Groups	Poor: Less than 986 KGS/capita/month <i>In general, this corresponded to the following sources of cash:</i>	Average: Between 986 and 1618 KGS/capita/month. <i>In general, this corresponded to the following sources of cash:</i>	Good: More than 1,618 KGS/capita/month. <i>In general, this corresponded to the following sources of cash:</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irregular wage labour unskilled • Sale of crops • Sale vegetables • Sale animal products or animals • Petty trade • Sale handicrafts • Pension/allowances • Rent of land or property • Sale of humanitarian assistance • Sale of assets, of domestic belongings • Use of personal savings, sale jewellery • Charity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular wage labour unskilled • Independent worker • Government employee • Small business • Remittances • Credit, loans from organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular wage labour skilled • Employment in UN/NGO • Large business

The 3 food security groups were obtained by cross-tabulating the 3 Food Consumption Groups with the 3 food access groups (see below):

Food groups access (cash level)	Food consumption (FC) groups			Total
	Poor	Borderline	Acceptable	
Poor	% severely food insecure	% severely food insecure	% moderately food insecure	% poor access
Average	% severely food insecure	% moderately food insecure	% food secure	% average access
Good	% moderately food insecure	% food secure	% food secure	% good access
Total	% poor FC	% borderline FC	% acceptable FC	100%

¹³ For more details on the rationale for the selected indicators, see the EFSA report, World Food Programme, August 2010.

¹⁴ In the August 2010 EFSA, only the first 2 main sources of cash were considered as the majority of households had only 2 cash sources. On average the 1st source of cash provided 69% of total cash obtained and 2nd source of income provided about 31% of total cash. To respond to concerns about possible under-estimation of the level of economic access to food in the EFSA, in this follow-up EFSA the 4 main sources of cash were considered even though the proportions of households with 3 sources of cash (18%) or 4 sources of cash (6%) were low.

2.3 – Limitations

Training of enumerators was completed in 2 days, leaving no time for a field pilot or role-play exercises. However, supervision of the enumerators, including by WFP staff, was ensured in most of the sampled locations, but in many remote villages the supervisor could not accompany each enumerator. On the other hand, the workload of the enumerators was relatively low (20 household questionnaires to fill in during 2 days of work), thus contributing to better quality of the data collection process.

The sampling approach that was used does not enable to identify areas of high prevalence of food insecurity below the level of oblasts, nor for individual cities in the oblasts. For programming purposes and to design the sentinel-based Food Security Monitoring System, an additional step of analysis will need to take place within the oblasts showing the highest proportions of food insecure households.

In Bishkek city and other towns, sampling was based on territorial community councils (groups of streets). Semi-informal settlements in the periphery of cities (*‘novostroiki’*) were not included¹⁵. As poor households tend to concentrate in these settlements, the prevalence of food insecurity at urban level may be underestimated.

III – RESULTS

3.1 – Household food security situation

3.1.1 – Prevalence of food insecurity

- **About 14% of households were severely food-insecure¹⁶**. This proportion is significantly higher than in August 2010 (4% severely food-insecure), and reflects the anticipated deterioration of the quantity and variety of food consumed due to the depletion of food stocks from the spring/summer harvest (in rural areas) as well as the sharp increase of food prices throughout the country, over and above the normal seasonal price rise.
- KIHS data available for the 2nd quarter of 2010 (April-June) found 21% severely food-insecure households. As explained in the previous EFSA report, methodology differences in the way food insecurity is measured in the EFSA and in the KIHS are contributing to these differences, besides the very different timing¹⁷.
- Examination of changes in food consumption patterns and in levels of economic access to food between the August 2010 and the February 2011 EFSA shows that the rise of food insecurity was primarily driven by a **deterioration of the diet** and to a lesser extent by an increase in extreme poverty (see paragraphs 3.6 and 3.8) over the period.

3.1.2. – Location of food-insecure households

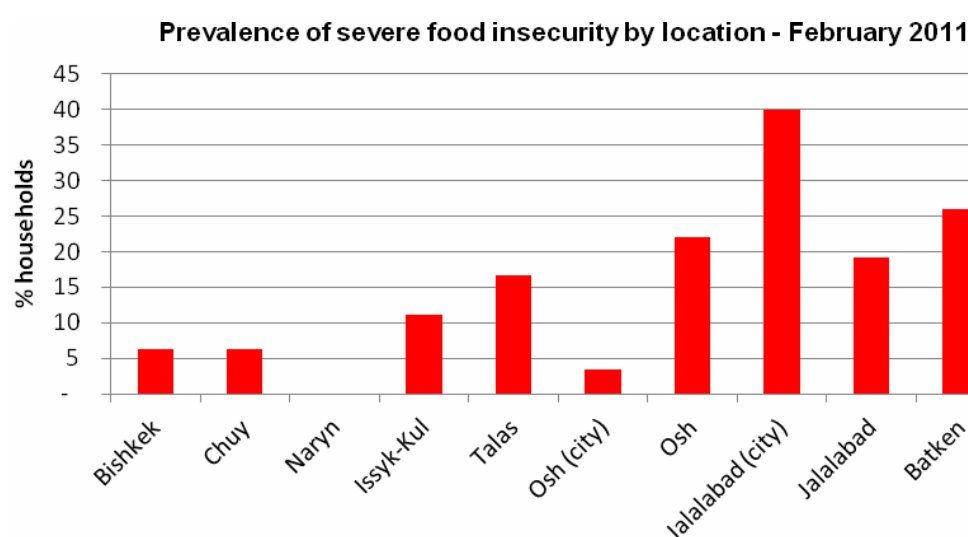
- As noted before, food insecurity is more prevalent in **rural areas**: 18% severely food-insecure, versus 6% in urban areas. The rise in food insecurity compared to August 2010 was particularly marked in rural areas but also significant in urban areas.

¹⁵ Bishkek has about 50 such settlements with a population estimated between 125,000 and 200,000 (up to 1/5 of the capital's total population). Osh has 8 with a total population of possibly in excess of 50,000.

¹⁶ A much higher proportion was moderately food-insecure.

¹⁷ See August 2010 EFSA report for more details. In brief, the EFSA is likely to underestimate the severity of inadequate food consumption while the KIHS tends to overestimate it, and the EFSA is likely to overestimate the level of extreme poverty while the KIHS tends to underestimate it. The latest KIHS available data for the 2nd quarter of 2010 would not have captured the effects of the June 2010 crisis in Osh and Jalalabad oblasts, nor of the rise of food prices since August 2010.

- As mentioned, the EFSA did not sample poor neighbourhoods in Bishkek, Osh and Jalalabad cities, hence the prevalence of food insecurity may be underestimated in urban areas.
- The highest prevalence of food insecurity was noted in **Osh oblast rural** (not in the city) and in **Jalalabad** (both the city and rural surroundings), with some 20%% severely food-insecure households. These findings reflect the long-lasting effects of the June 2010 events, particularly in Jalalabad, where more than 10% of households remained hosted with relatives (see paragraph 3.3). Although results are not directly comparable with KIHS due to methodological differences, they point towards a marked worsening of the food security situation of households in these 2 oblasts compared to previous years (Osh and Jalalabad oblasts did not present the highest prevalence of food insecurity based on KIHS from 2008 to early 2010).



- The next oblasts with high prevalence of food insecurity were the same as in August 2010, namely **Yssyk-Kul, Talas** and **Batken**, with an increase in the proportion of food-insecure households in the 3 oblasts. **Naryn** oblast continued to present a comparatively low prevalence of food insecurity, while this was not the case in the KIHS, possibly because of the importance of animal product consumption in this oblast which has a large influence on the food consumption indicator used in the EFSA.

Box 1 - Food Security in Naryn and Issyk-kul.

The trends and overall levels of food insecurity are consistent between previous WFP's EFSA's based on re-analysis of the KIHS and WFP's EFSA's from primary data collection for all oblasts except Issyk-kul and Naryn. WFP looked into the possible explanations for the differences in these provinces and suggests that:

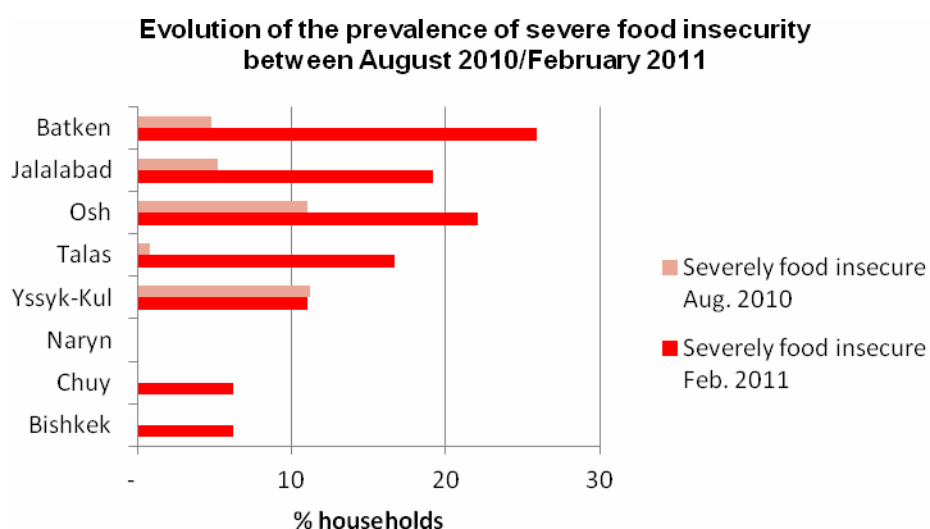
a) For Naryn, the main reason for the difference between KIHS and EFSA could be due to the EFSA combined indicators for food security which give a lot of importance to dietary diversity through the food consumption score. The FCS tends to be high in Naryn because of the high consumption of animal products which are assigned a high weight in the FCS calculation. Hence even though households in Naryn may be poor, their diet is better than elsewhere owing to these food items. Another factor of difference is the amounts of animal products actually consumed. The FCS does not estimate amounts, so it may be that some households whose diet looks acceptable consume in fact very low quantities of animal products when divided by household member. The KIHS food consumption indicator, in contrast, is based on kcal/capita, hence would not give so much importance to animal products (lower in kcal than cereals or fats or sugar on a 100g basis) and captures households who consume these products but in small amounts.

b) For Issyk-Kul, the difference is mainly related to food access. In KIHS there were 15% of households with poor food access based on cash income per capita in the 2nd quarter of 2010, while in EFSA the proportion was 35% in February 2011. The EFSA might underestimate some

sources of income, especially the seasonal ones, as the data collection instrument used in the EFSA is less detailed than the KIHS, but the reverse may also be true with the KIHS over-estimating the assets and income earned from seasonal occupations. The latest KIHS data were collected during the second quarter of 2010, a period when there are more irregular/seasonal job opportunities in Issyk-Kul, while the EFSA data was collected in late February – a period with much less job opportunities for the population.

While these assumptions are made based on available data from recent assessment, WFP will consider undertaking a separate assessment in Naryn and Issyk-Kul to further explore the reasons for these differences.

- The relatively low level of severe food insecurity in **Bishkek** city and **Chuy** oblast (6%) is consistent with KIHS and may be linked to the high proportion of migrants in these areas enabling access to remittances, as well as better access to food from own production in Chuy and to income-earning opportunities in Bishkek.
- The graph below illustrates changes in the prevalence of household food insecurity between August 2010 and February 2011. It shows the sharp increase of food insecurity in **Osh**, **Jalalabad** and **Batken** oblasts, reflecting to a great extent the effects of the June 2010 events. Even though violence did not take place in Batken, the closure of the border with Uzbekistan combined with the prevailing poverty has probably contributed to the worsening of the situation.
- The prevalence of food insecurity has also increased in **Bishkek city**, with a number of households falling into severe food insecurity. Severe food insecurity also rose significantly in **Talas** oblast and to a lesser extent in **Chuy** oblast, while moderate food insecurity rose in **Naryn** oblast.



3.2 - Demographic characteristics

3.2.1 - Head of household

- Some 26% of households were **woman-headed** (similar as in August 2010). Woman-headed households continued to be found more frequently in urban than rural areas (29% versus 24%). In particular, 40% of households in **Jalalabad city** and 35% in **Osh city** were woman-headed, reflecting the high migration rate in these oblasts.
- As noted in previous assessments, woman-headed households were not more likely to be food-insecure than man-headed households. This seems mostly explained by their smaller

family size associated with larger amounts of cash obtained from various sources (see paragraph 3.8), and higher likelihood to live in urban areas with better income-earning opportunities

- Heads of households were 47 years of age on average (as in August 2010). Heads of households were younger in Bishkek (43 years).

3.2.2 – Average size of households

- The average household size was **5.2 members** (close to the 5.8 found in August 2010), including 13% children under-5, 13% primary school-aged children, 15% children 12-18 years, 50% adults and 1% adults above 60 years of age.
- Household size was larger in rural than urban areas (5.6 versus 4.7 members).
- As found in previous surveys, **food-insecure** households were larger than food-secure households: 5-6 members versus 4 members.
- **Woman-headed households** were smaller than man-headed households (4.6 versus 5.4 members). A similar result was found in August 2010. The smaller size of woman-headed households is believed to contribute to the lower prevalence of food insecurity compared to man-headed households, given the strong association between family size and food insecurity.
- Larger family sizes were found in **Osh** and **Jalalabad** oblasts (around 6 members) possibly reflecting some regrouping of family members after the June 2010 events.

3.2.3 – Presence of vulnerable household members

- There was on average one member with long-duration sickness and one pregnant or lactating woman per household, except in Osh and Jalalabad cities where these numbers were less than 1 on average.
- **Food-insecure** households were more likely to include vulnerable members such as under-5 children, pregnant and lactating women, and chronically sick individuals, than food-secure households.
- The average number of vulnerable members was also higher among households in **Osh**, **Jalalabad** and **Batken** oblasts. In these oblasts, woman-headed households tended to include a larger number of vulnerable members than man-headed households.
- The average number of vulnerable members was higher in **women-headed households** in **Yssyk-Kul** and **Batken** and **Naryn** oblasts. Conversely, it was lower in women-headed households in Talas and Jalalabad oblasts. The reasons for these differences are unclear.

3.3 – Housing, water and cooking fuel

3.3.1 – Housing

- The majority of households lived in their own or rented house, with less than 4% hosted by relatives or friends.
- In **Jalalabad city** however, 5% of households were living in temporary shelters in their former house compound and 12% were hosted by relatives or friends, reflecting the long-lasting effects of the June 2010 events on housing (destruction) and possibly security (fear of return).

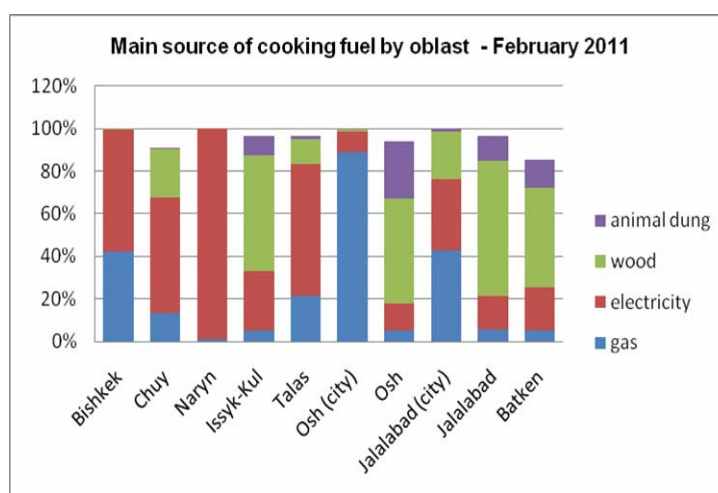
- About 1/5 of households interviewed in Osh city and 10% in Jalalabad city indicated that their house had been partially damaged during the events. This may partially explain the relatively proportions of households who indicated a lack of adequate utensils for cooking and eating (16% in Osh city and 43% in Jalalabad city).
- Less than 1% of the households interviewed in the cities of Osh and Jalalabad had sought refuge in Uzbekistan during the June 2010 events.

3.3.2 – Sources of water

- The majority of urban households had access to a relatively safe source of water for drinking and cooking (private tap, public tap, tank, bottle, rain water, protected well) but 18% of rural households obtained their water from an unsafe source (non-protected well, canal, river, swamp). This proportion is higher than the one found in the August 2010 EFSA (11% rural households), perhaps due to interruptions in the public water supply during the winter.
- As in August 2010, a high proportion of households was obtaining drinking and cooking water from unsafe sources in **Jalalabad** (29%) oblast. The present EFSA also found higher proportions of households obtaining water from unsafe sources in **Talas** (19%) and **Batken** (36%) oblasts compared to other oblasts.

3.3.3 – Sources of cooking fuel

- Sources of cooking fuel were similar to the ones reported in the August 2010 EFSA. Overall, 40% of households used electricity, 24% gas and 6% animal dung. The use of gas was much more frequent in urban than rural areas (48% versus 5%), while wood was much more employed in rural than urban areas (39% versus 9%) as well as dung (10% versus 1%).
- Compared to the summer period, households in various locations tended to use more frequently electricity (e.g. **Bishkek**, **Chuy**, **Naryn** and **Talas** oblasts) and wood (e.g. **Yssyk-Kul** and **Jalalabad** oblasts) than gas for cooking. Animal dung continued to be use more frequently in **Batken**, **Jalalabad** and **Yssyk-Kul** oblasts than elsewhere (between 12%-27% of households).



3.4 – Nutritional situation

- Neither the August 2010 EFSA nor this follow-up EFSA were designed to collect representative information on the nutritional status of the population, and apart from a survey conducted by UNICEF in the southern oblasts in August 2010, no new information on the nutrition situation is available.

- The National Statistics Committee nutrition survey of 2009¹⁸ reported low wasting rates (1.5% in urban areas and 1.1% in rural areas) and **stunting rates** of 15% among under-5 children in urban areas and 26% of children in rural areas. Stunting levels in rural areas indicated medium public health significance.
- Although reliable figures are lacking, large variations of stunting rates across oblasts, and between urban and rural areas reflect differences of income level and access to water, sanitation and health care services. Data from 2006 indicated higher prevalence of stunting in **Batken, Yssyk-Kul** and **Talas** oblasts.
- Overweight is a growing concern among non-pregnant women and young children.
- At the same time, **micronutrient deficiencies** and **anaemia** in particular are important problems among young children and women. More than ¼ of under-5 children were anaemic in 2009 and 40% iron-deficient¹⁹. About 28% of non-pregnant women were anaemic and 41% iron-deficient. Anaemia levels correspond to moderate public health significance according to WHO reference.
- Micronutrient deficiencies reflect the lack of variety of the diet with a low consumption of animal products (particularly important for iron against anaemia) and large seasonal variations in the intake of vegetables and fruits²⁰.
- The low proportion of exclusively breastfed children (23% in 2009) up to 6 months of age, and relatively late introduction of semi-solid food (9 months) also contribute to both stunting and micronutrient deficiencies.

3.5 – Access to education services

- Confirming the findings of the August 2010 EFSA, 95% of Key Informants indicated that there was a primary school within the location sampled, and 5% in the neighbouring village. With the exception of one location in Yssyk-Kul oblast, the school was at less than 30 mn distance.
- About ¾ of the Key Informants mentioned the **lack of teachers** as the primary constraint on education and 2/3 mentioned the **lack of households' resources** to pay for education expenses. More than half of the Informants indicated that school facilities were poor (especially in Naryn oblast) and children were often sick or had to help out with household chores or agricultural tasks (the latter mostly in rural areas).
- Surprisingly, all Key Informants in Naryn oblast, ¾ in Batken oblast and 2/3 in Talas oblast and Bishkek city also mentioned insecurity as a constraint for education, while “only” about 40% did so in the violence-affected oblasts of Osh and Jalalabad.
- A special enquiry about enrolment of children at school was included in the EFSA for the cities of Osh and Jalalabad in order to estimate the possible effects of the June 2010 events on enrolment and constraints for child education. Children of primary and secondary school-age (6-18 years) were found in about 2/3 of households in Osh and Jalalabad cities.
- The vast majority of children had been enrolled to school. More than half of those who had not been enrolled belonged to **severely food-insecure** households. The main reason for non-enrolment was the lack of money for school-related expenditures (most of those in severely food-insecure households).

¹⁸ A preliminary draft was shared by UNICEF at the time of writing this report.

¹⁹ Worsening of iron deficiency leads to anaemia.

²⁰ UNICEF is supporting the Ministry of Health with a nation-wide campaign to improve diet during pregnancy, as well as breastfeeding and complementary feeding practices. A pilot programme of micronutrient powder distribution (sprinkles) has also started in Talas oblast, with plans for expansion in other oblasts in 2010.

3.6 – Food consumption and stocks

3.6.1 – Number of daily meals

- As in August 2010, households ate on average 3.3 meals per day, with no significant differences observed according to the food security status.
- There was also no difference in the average number of daily meals according to the gender of the head of household except in **Bishkek** where woman-headed households tended to eat less daily meals than man-headed households (2.9 versus 3.3).
- Households in **Chuy** oblast tended to consume more daily meals (3.7) than in other locations. As in August, the number of daily meals tended to lower (3.0-3.1) for households in **Jalalabad** and **Yssyk-Kul** oblasts. In February, the number of daily meals was also lower in **Batken** oblast (3.0) than elsewhere.

3.6.2 – Kilocalorie, protein and fat intake

- According to KIHS data, the average per capita daily kilocalorie intake decreased from 2,380 kcal in the 1st quarter of 2010 to 2,260 kcal in the 2nd quarter, possibly reflecting the progressive exhaustion of harvest stocks and of cash savings from seasonal work earnings to purchase food. Kilocalorie consumption was much lower among food-insecure households (1,510-1,690 kcal/capita/day). Lower kilocalorie consumption was also noted by the 2nd quarter of 2010 in **Naryn**, **Osh** and **Batken** oblasts, while it was higher in Chuy and Talas oblasts, and Bishkek city. These patterns are similar to those observed during previous analyses of KIHS data in 2008 and 2009.

3.6.3 – Food consumption

Food consumption patterns

- As explained in paragraph 2.2, food consumption was analysed by looking at the frequency and diversity of food items consumed during the 7 days prior to the interview. Three Food Consumption Groups were created using standard thresholds (see Box 2).

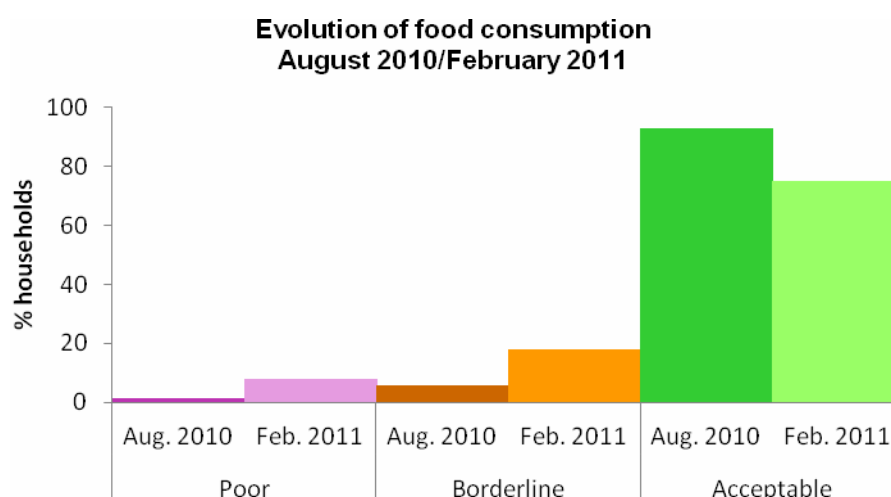
Box 2 – Food consumption groups and patterns

- **Poor food consumption patterns:** a diet likely to be insufficient in kilocalories and grossly lacking vitamins and minerals to meet the nutritional requirements of an average household member. Typically this diet consists of daily cereals, oil and sugar, with minimal consumption of animal products, beans/peas, vegetables and fruits. It entails serious risks of malnutrition and diseases if consumed on the medium and longer term, especially for young children, pregnant and lactating women, and the elderly.
- **Borderline food consumption patterns:** a diet that probably contains sufficient kilocalories but remains insufficiently diversified to provide the essential vitamins and minerals. This diet is characterized by regular consumption of cereals, beans/peas, oil and sugar, and intake of animal products, vegetables and fruits 2-3 times a week. The deficiency in micronutrients causes particularly risks of chronic malnutrition and anaemia.
- **Good food consumption patterns:** a diet with sufficient variety and frequency of weekly consumption to broadly meet the nutritional requirements of an average household member.

- Overall, **26% of households consumed an inadequate diet**, including 8% poor and 18% borderline food consumption. These proportions are much higher than in August 2010 (1% poor and 6% borderline food consumption), reflecting the exhaustion of food stocks from the harvest and sharp increase of prices limiting the capacity of households to purchase food.
- Almost half of the **severely food-insecure** households were consuming a poor diet.
- The analytical approach applied to determine food security means that food insecurity is necessarily associated with inadequate food consumption and with a low amount of cash

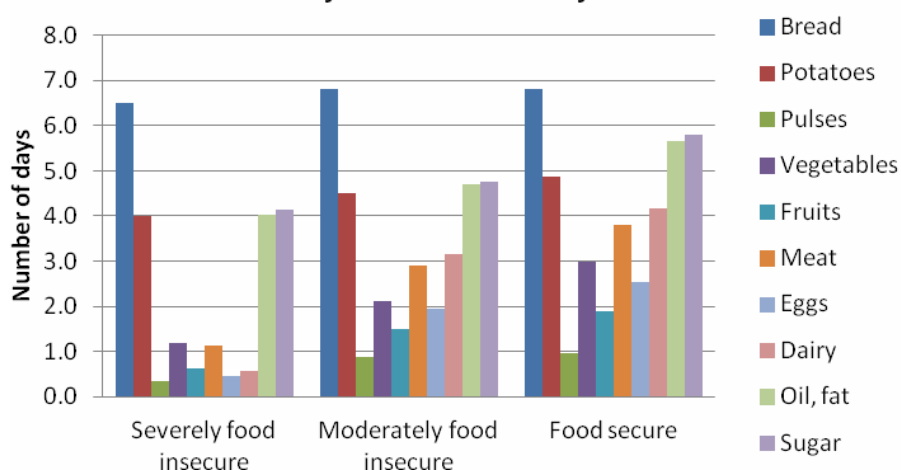
available (poverty). However, a close look at the results shows that most of the food-insecure households (about 80%), both severely and moderately, were living in extreme poverty based on the cash available. Therefore **the discriminating factor between severe and moderate food insecurity was the diet** rather than the poverty level. This may be due to the fact that moderately food-insecure households have more access to in-kind food, which is not included in the cash estimation, and are better able to maintain at least sufficient quantities of food even if diversity is inadequate.

- The graph below illustrates changes in food consumption patterns between August 2010 and February 2011. As changes in food access were less prominent (see paragraph 3.8), the results confirm that the rise of food insecurity was driven by changes in food consumption rather than by an increase of poverty.



- A slightly higher proportion of **woman-headed** households had borderline food consumption compared to man-headed households (20% and 17% respectively). As woman-headed households had slightly better economic access (see paragraph 3.8), the combination explains the comparable prevalence of food insecurity between man- and woman-headed households.
- The food consumption patterns according to food security status were similar to those observed in August 2010, except for vegetables and fruits which were consumed less often even by food-secure households, reflecting seasonal variations.
- **Severely food-insecure** households especially consumed less frequently fruits, vegetables and animal products, than other households. The two staples, bread and potatoes, were consumed at a similar frequency by all food security groups. However, the infrequent consumption of the other items, especially oil and sugar which are energy-dense, by severely food-insecure households points towards high risk of kilocalorie deficiency on top of micronutrient deficiencies. Micronutrient deficiencies would be the most important problem for the moderately food-insecure households.

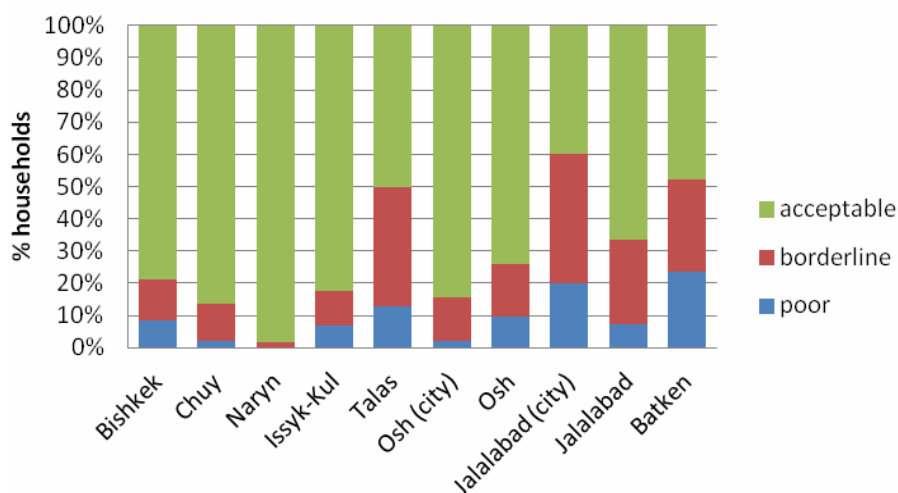
Frequency of past 7-day consumption according to food security situation - February 2011



By oblast

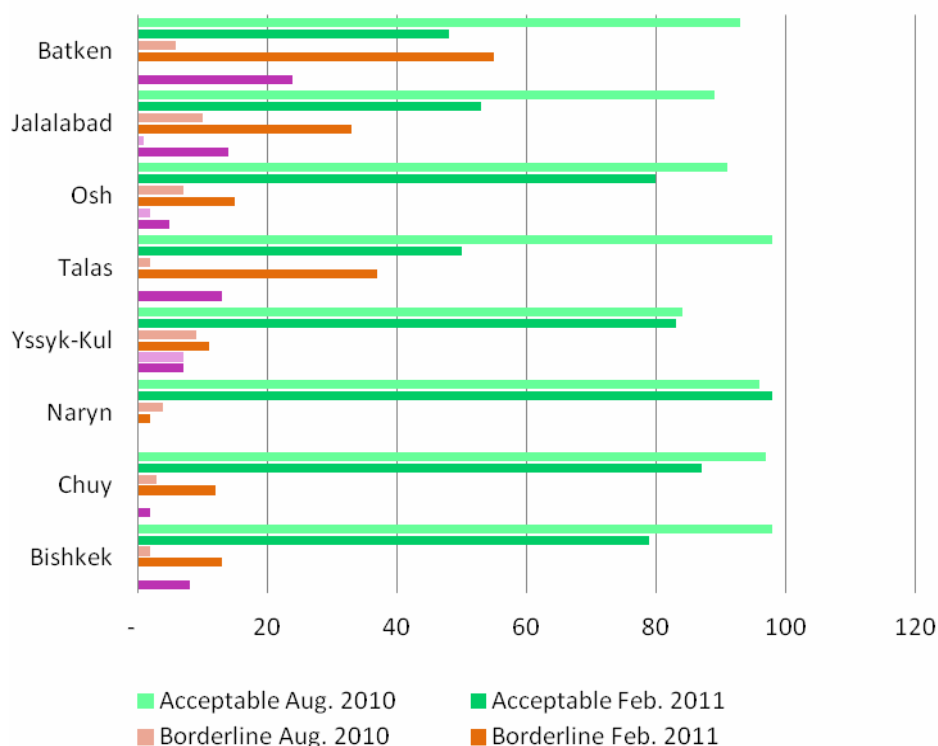
- The highest proportion of households consuming an inadequate diet was found in **Jalalabad city**, and **Batken** and **Talas** oblasts, including high proportions of households consuming a poor diet. Given the risks to health entailed by such a diet, priority for food assistance should probably be given to these areas.
- Compared to August 2010, a significant increase in the proportion of households consuming an inadequate diet was also noted in **Bishkek** city, possibly reflecting the effects of the sharp rise of food prices.

Food consumption patterns by location - February 2011



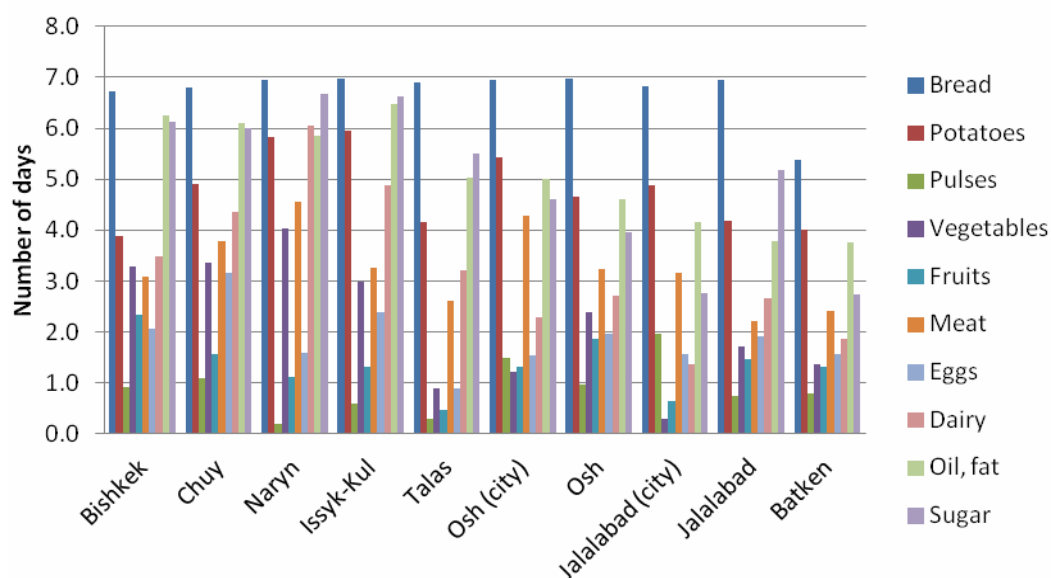
- As mentioned, the deterioration of food security was mainly associated with the deterioration of food consumption. The below graph illustrates changes by oblast between August 2010 and February 2011 and indicate the sharp decrease of dietary frequency and diversity in **Batken**, **Jalalabad** and **Talas** oblasts in particular.

Evolution of food consumption between August 2010 and February 2011, by location



- By February 2011, the lowest frequency of consumption of all food items was observed in **Batken** oblast. With the exception of bread, food consumption frequency also tended to be lower in **Osh** and **Jalalabad** oblasts, possibly as a result of the hardship caused by the June 2010 events.
- Consumption of meat and dairy products was particularly frequent in **Naryn** oblast, reflecting the strong livestock orientation in this oblast.

Frequency of past 7-day consumption according to location - February 2011

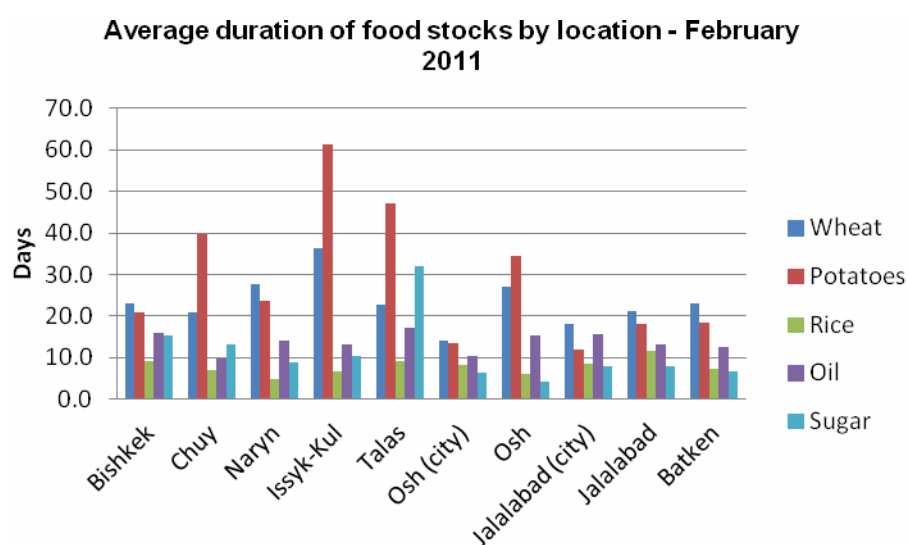


3.6.4 – Food stocks

- As in August 2010, about 60% of urban households and 72% of rural households had food stocks. The average duration of potato stocks for family consumption was 1 month, oil for less than 2 weeks, sugar for 10 days, rice for 8 days and pulses for 3-4 days.
- As expected, the duration of potato stocks of **rural** households was longer than urban households (respectively 33 days and 23 days) but the duration of stocks of other food items was similar.
- **Food-insecure** households were less likely to have food stocks (51% of severely food-insecure and 64% of moderately food-insecure compared to 73% of food-secure). The estimated duration of their stocks for self-consumption was also shorter, especially the expensive items such as oil and sugar. Severely food-insecure households had stocks of wheat and potatoes for 3-4 weeks, oil for 9 days and sugar for 4 days.

By oblast

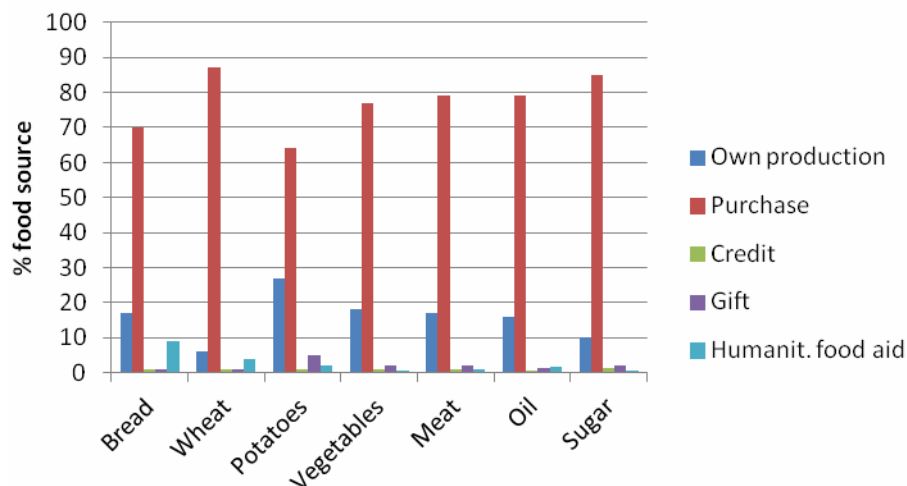
- The longest duration of potato stocks was noted among households in **Yssyk-Kul** and **Talas** oblasts (50-60 days), followed by Osh oblast (more than 30 days), which are traditional potato producing areas.
- A comparatively longer duration of wheat stocks was also observed in **Yssyk-Kul**, **Osh** and **Naryn** oblasts.
- Food stocks lasted generally for a shorter duration for households in cities and in **Batken** and **Jalalabad** oblasts.



3.6.5 – Sources of food consumed in previous 7 days

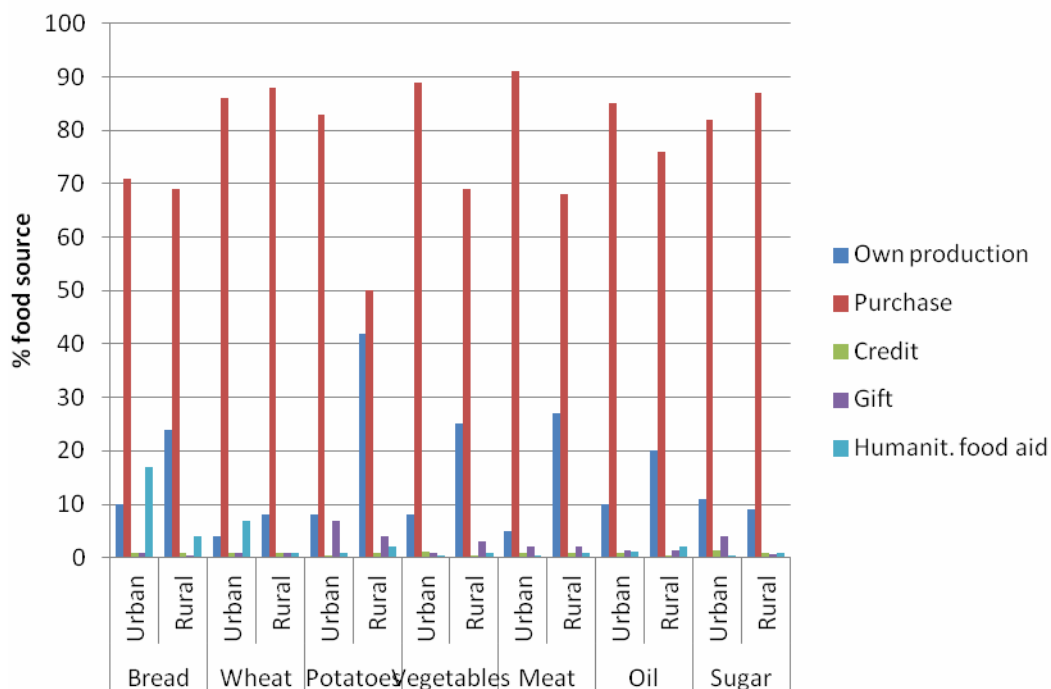
- The majority of the food consumed by households in February 2011 (between 70%-85%) came from market purchase.

Sources of food consumed in past 7 days - February 2011



- In **rural areas**, compared to the summer most of the food consumed by households was purchased rather than coming from own production, reflecting the exhaustion of stocks from the harvest. Own production remained significant (more than 40% rural households) for potatoes only. In urban areas, most of the food continued to be purchased.

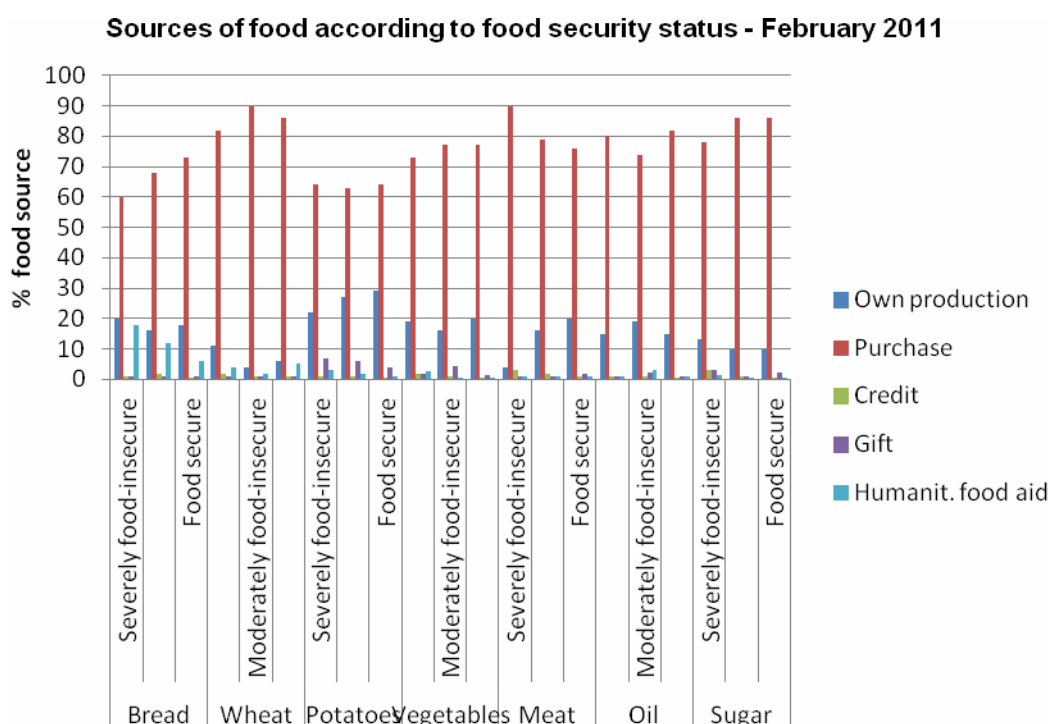
Sources of food according to urban/rural location - February 2011



- With the exception of meat, food-insecure households were as reliant on market purchase for their food as were food-secure households. **Food-insecure** households purchased between 60% and 90% of the food they had consumed during the 7 days preceding the survey. Access to food can thus be seriously impaired for these households in a context of sharply rising food prices.
- **Severely food-insecure** households were less likely to consume meat coming from their own animals, reflecting the importance of animal ownership for dietary diversity.
- Food-insecure households were more likely to have consumed bread/wheat coming from humanitarian assistance than food-secure households, indicating adequate targeting of the

assistance, but the level of assistance was clearly too low to enable them to consume an adequate diet. Less than 20% of the bread/wheat consumed during the 7 days prior to the survey came from humanitarian assistance for severely food-insecure households and about 10% for moderately food-insecure households. Only 1%-3% of the oil consumed by food-insecure households came from assistance.

- Food gifts from relatives or neighbours and purchase of food on credit were rare generally but slightly more frequent among food-insecure households.



3.7 – Poverty, unemployment and social assistance

The August 2010 EFSA report include background information on poverty and on the social assistance system in Kyrgyzstan and its various components, which is not repeated here.

3.7.1 – Poverty rates

- Poverty rates fell sharply between 2003 and 2008 owing to the strong rate of economic growth, increased migrant worker remittances, and rise in real terms of pensions: **overall poverty** fell from 64% to 32% in 2009 and **extreme poverty** from 28% to 6%. However, progress in fighting poverty was expected to have slowed since 2009 as growth decelerated due to the global economic crisis and the 2010 events led to an economic downturn.
- Poverty in **rural areas** is explained by fewer income-earning opportunities available and high dependence on agriculture, whose activity is circumscribed by factors such as the scarcity of dependable irrigation systems, availability of quality seeds and agricultural inputs, and less-than-optimal land use practices. The lack of cash income leaves rural households dependent on farming, which is especially vulnerable to weather-related shocks²¹.
- The **official extreme poverty level** was set at **986 KGS** (US\$21) and **poverty** at **1618 KGS** (US\$34) per capita per month in January 2011.

²¹ The Kyrgyz Republic Joint Economic Assessment: Reconciliation, Recovery, and Reconstruction. Asian Development Bank, International Monetary Fund, the World Bank. Draft, 21 July 2010.

3.7.2 – Unemployment

- According to official statistics, the unemployment rate increased in 2010, with 3.3% more economically active persons unemployed in December 2010 compared to December 2009²².

3.7.3 – Social assistance

- The social assistance system²³ is composed of: (i) Monthly Benefit (MB) for children of the poorest families; (ii) Monthly Social Benefit (MSB) mainly for the disabled and elderly not eligible for a pension (without any working record); (iii) privileges/compensations for are those living in mountainous areas, people with disabilities, war veterans, law enforcement officials, the military, Chernobyl victims, and some other categories; (iv) social services (residential institutions for children, people with disabilities and the elderly); and (v) social insurance (pensions).
- In January 2010, the level of **pensions** was increased by 24%, **public sector wages** by 200 KGS (US\$4), and cash transfer programmes of the **Monthly Benefit** and **Monthly Social Benefit** by 18% and 81% respectively. However, these increases have been more than offset by the sharp rise of inflation since June 2010.
- Many eligible extreme poor families are excluded from the MB and benefits are low (310 KGS/capita/month) and well below the extreme poverty line (986 KGS).
- Pensions are effective for reducing poverty among the elderly and their extended families, but eligibility is conditional upon employment in the formal sector. Nearly half of the workforce is found in the informal sector, thus excluded from the pension scheme. As such, pensions are not specifically targeted to the poor or vulnerable.

3.8 – Income, cash sources and cash amount

3.8.1 – Wage trends

- Compared to 2009, real monthly wage remained stable between October and December 2010 and did not increase on a par with the rise of the Consumer Price Index (CPI)²⁴. The trends indicate a decrease of real wage month-to-month in October and November 2010, but a relative appreciation in December compared to November.

3.8.2 – Average number of cash-earning members and of cash sources

- On average 1 to 2 members per household were earning some cash.
- As in August 2010, about ¾ of households had up to 2 sources of cash (including 34% only 1 source and 41% two sources) and 18% had 3 sources of cash. Only 6% of households had 4 sources of cash.
- Households in **rural areas** were more likely to have a 3rd or 4th source of cash than in urban areas: more than 1/3 of rural households had 3-4 sources of cash compared to 15% of urban households.
- Overall (combining households having a different number of sources of cash), the 1st source of cash contributed 73% of total cash and the 2nd source provided 32% of total cash. For households with more than 2 sources of cash, the 3rd source contributed to

²² Interstate Statistical Committee of the CIS. <http://www.cisstat>.

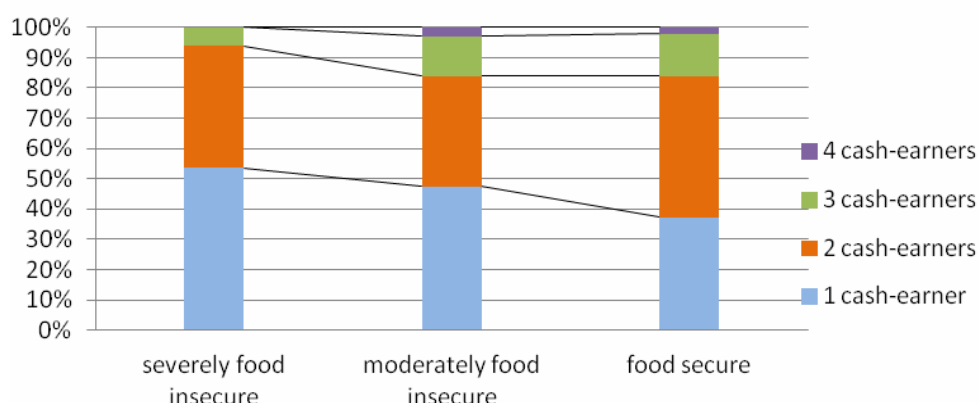
²³ See the August 2010 EFSA report for more details on the social assistance system, its components and limitations.

²⁴ Kyrgyzstan Country Report February 2011. The Economist Intelligence Unit.

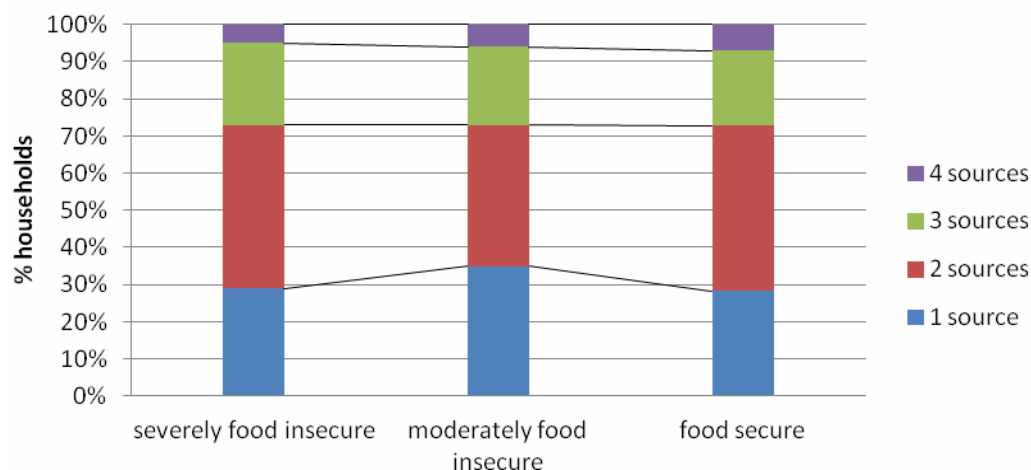
about 20% of total cash. For the few households with 4 sources of cash, the 4th source contributed to 13% of total cash.

- **Food-insecure** households, especially severely food-insecure, had a lower number of cash-earning members than other households. About half of food-insecure households had only 1 member able to earn some cash, compared to 37% of food-secure households. Only 6% of severely food-insecure households had 3 members bringing some cash in, compared to 13%-14% of other households. However, food-insecure households managed to diversify their sources of income and had a similar number of sources of cash as food-secure households. This indicates that any member of food-insecure households was likely to be engaged in several different activities or was working while also receiving a pension for example, in order to increase their income.

Number of cash earners according to food security status - February 2011



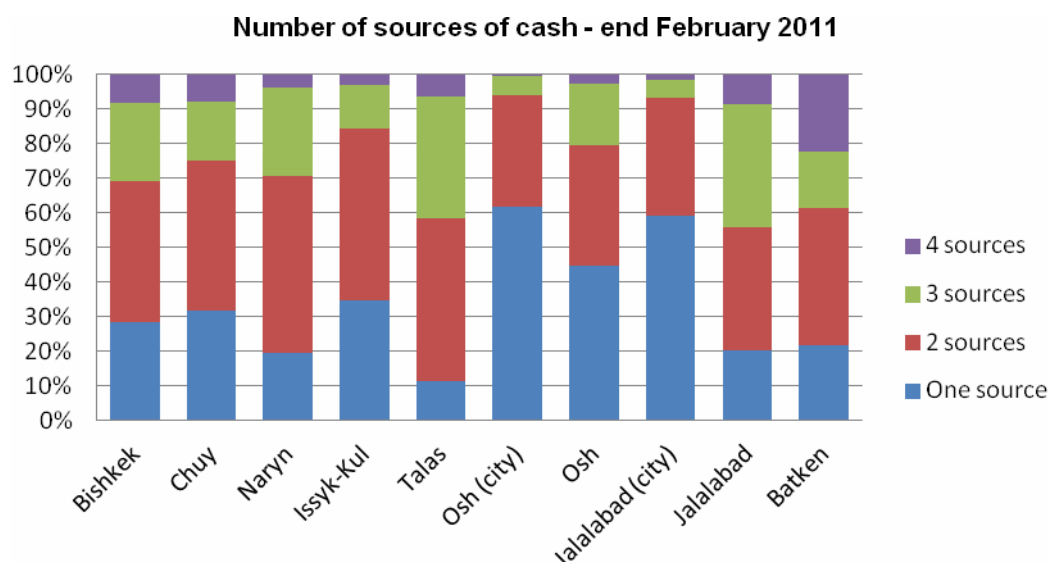
Number of sources of cash according to food security status - February 2011 Title



- The average number of cash earners and of sources of cash was similar between **woman-** and man-headed households, although there were some variations between locations: woman-headed households tended to have a lower number of members earning cash in Bishkek city and in Naryn oblast compared to man-headed households. Conversely, woman-headed households tended to have a larger number of cash earners in Jalalabad city and Batken oblasts. The reasons for these variations could not be elucidated with this EFSA.

By oblast

- Similarly as in August 2010, households in **Yssyk-Kul** and **Osh** oblasts were less likely to have more than 2 sources of income. The highest proportions of households with more than 2 sources of cash were in **Talas**, **Batken** and **Jalalabad** oblasts (about 40% of households). The multiplication of cash sources was clearly insufficient in Batken to protect access to food, given the high level of food insecurity in this oblast.

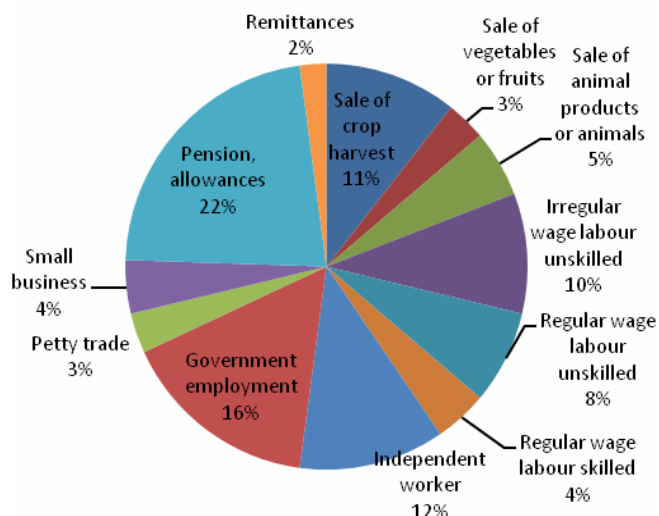


3.8.3 – Main sources and amount of cash

- Overall, the most frequent sources of cash were **pensions** (21% of households), **civil service** (15%), **independent work** (11%), **sale of crops** (10%) and **irregular unskilled labour** (9%).
- For households with only 1 source of cash, sale of crops was the most frequent source (18% of households) followed by civil service (16% of households). For households with more than 1 source of cash, pensions and allowances were the most frequent source (about 30% of households).
- For households with more than 1 source of cash, pensions/allowances were the most frequent next source of cash (28% of households for the 2nd or 3rd source), followed by government employment (14%) and irregular unskilled wage labour (12%).
- The most frequent sources of cash generally brought low amounts. Indeed, the most remunerative sources of cash were used by a very low proportion of households.
- As in August 2010, large businesses and employment by UN/NGOs represented the highest amount of cash per capita compared to other cash sources (3,240-3,590 KGS/capita/month when it was the 1st source of cash) but these activities concerned only 4% and less than 1% of households respectively. The next largest sources of cash were regular skilled wage labour²⁵ (2,300 KGS/capita/month as 1st source of cash) and small business (2,240 KGS/capita/month as 1st source of cash) but only 4% of households were engaged in these types of activity.

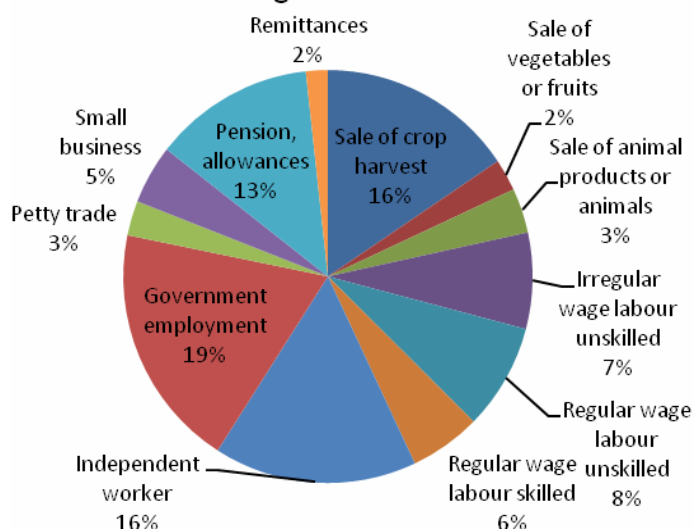
²⁵ Considering an average household size of 5.2 members, the amount obtained from regular *skilled* wage labour would be 10,090 KGS/household/month for those relying on this source of income only. This is close to the 10,100 KGS monthly nominal wage reported by the Kyrgyzstan National Statistics Committee (14,850 KGS in Bishkek city in December 2010, corresponding to 10,100 KGS for the rest of the country as salaries in Bishkek are 47% higher on average than elsewhere). The official monthly wage is however higher than the 5,460 cash amount reported by households relying on regular *unskilled* wage labour as their sole source of income.

% households according to the source of cash



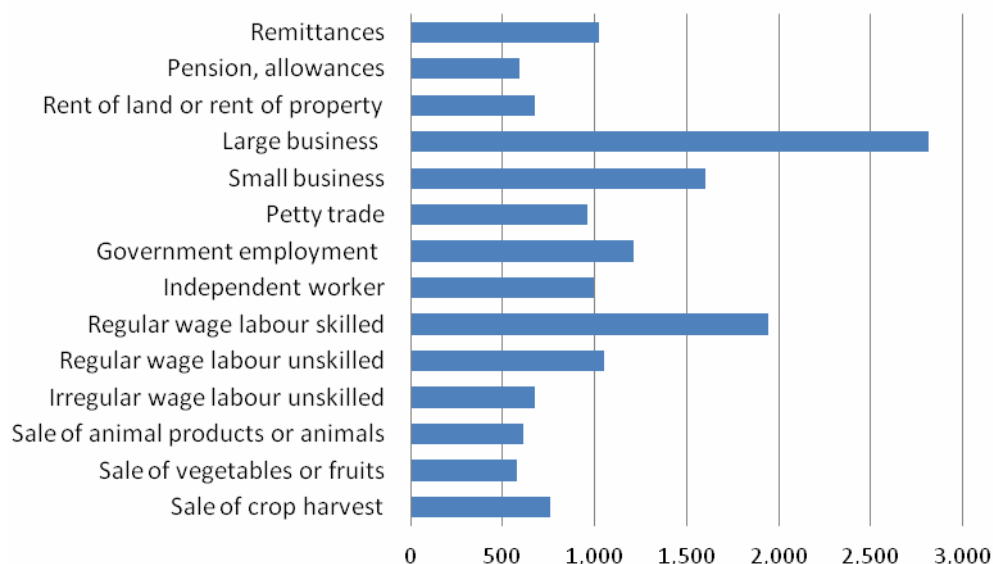
- Only 2% of households relied on **remittances** for cash, including when remittances were the only source of cash. However, compared to other cash sources, remittances brought a relatively high amount of cash per capita (for example 1,220 KGS/capita/month for those relying on remittances as their unique source of cash).
- Similarly, no more than 1% of households received cash help as a **charity** gesture from relatives or friends but the amount they got was high (2,270 KGS/capita/month for those relying on charity as their sole source of cash).
- Only 1% of households mentioned **credit and loans** as one of their sources of cash, but these contributed a significant cash amount compared to other sources (for example 4,170 KGS/capita/month for those relying on credit/loans as their sole source of cash).
- Some 3% of households relied on **petty trade** as their sole source of cash but also obtained a relatively high amount (1,360 KGS/capita/month) compared to other sources.

Proportion of households with only 1 source of cash according to the source of cash



- On average considering the various possible sources of cash²⁶, the amount obtained was 1,830 KGS/capita/month (US\$1.3/capita/day). The 1st source of cash provided 2,270 KGS/capita/month (US\$1.6/capita/day). For households with at least 2 sources of cash, the 2nd source brought 610 KGS (US\$0.4/capita/day). For those with at least 3 sources of cash, the 3rd source provided about 400 KGS, and for those with 4 sources of cash, the 4th source brought 360 KGS.
- Compared to August 2010, the amount of cash per capita obtained from the various sources was lower in February 2011, possibly reflecting the overall economic downturn in the country (e.g. for trade-related activities and irregular wage labour) as well as seasonal variations (e.g. for the sale of agricultural produce).
- Given that the average real monthly wage did not grow at the same pace as inflation, especially in the last months of 2010 when inflation sharply accelerated, there was a **loss of purchasing power** by net food buyer households which include all the poor and food-insecure.

Average cash earnings (KGS) per capita, combining 1 or more sources of income



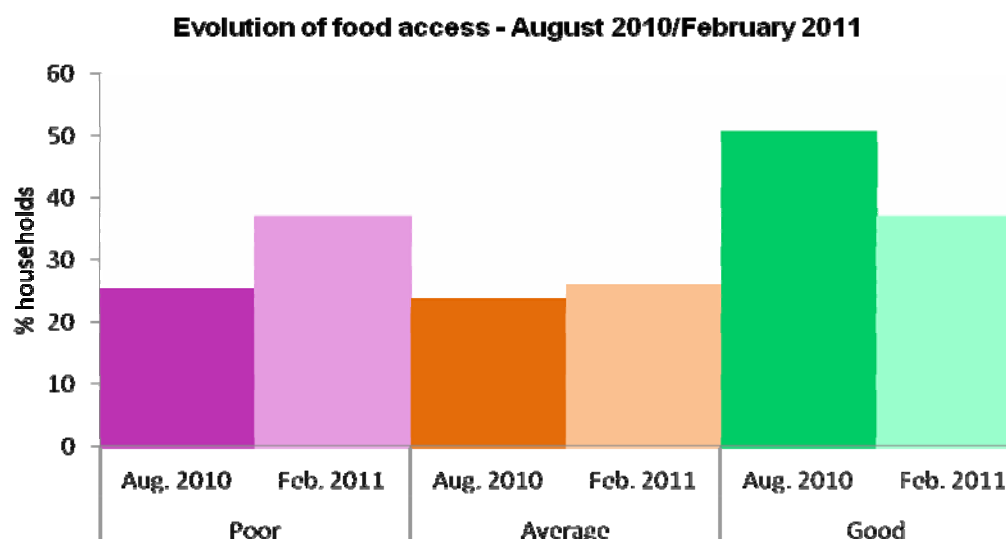
- The lower amounts of cash translated into increased proportions of households reporting amounts of cash available for immediate expenditures ('liquidity') which were below the extreme poverty line value²⁷. In February 2011, 37% of households obtained a cash

²⁶ Methodological note: no weights were applied for calculating the average amount of cash obtained from the different activities or sources, combining households with 1, 2, 3 or 4 sources of cash. However, an analysis of the amount obtained from each activity/source according to the number of sources of cash showed that the amount was very similar each time.

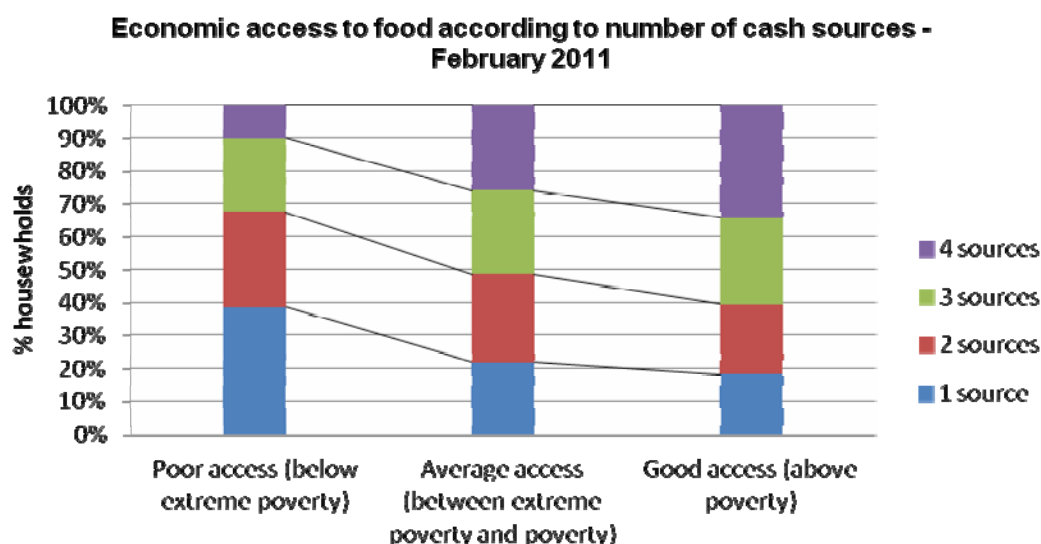
²⁷ The cash amount estimated in the EFSA does not include a valuation of self-consumption of agricultural produce nor of assets (house, land, animals etc.) and the questionnaire was not designed to capture a detailed account of cash receipts, hence results may overestimate the proportion of households in poverty. A rough comparison of reported cash earnings from the 4 main sources with expenditures from the 4 main expenses, indicates a negative balance of 420 KGS on a monthly basis (expenditures higher than cash). Credit or loans partly explain this difference as they enable households to spend more than the cash they have available. Indeed, in Batken oblast where the difference between cash and expenditures was very large, the largest expenditure was to reimburse debts. The same was noted in Bishkek city and in Chuy and Talas oblasts. Furthermore, the average cash figures in the EFSA are not far from the income figures reported in the KIHS (1,720 KGS/capita/month in rural areas and 2,660 KGS/capita/month in urban areas by the 2nd quarter of 2010) which come from a much more sophisticated and lengthy data collection instrument and thus are probably more accurate. Considering the above, the degree of under-estimation of the amount of cash available to households for immediate spending in the EFSA is considered to be limited.

amount per capita **below the extreme poverty line value** (986 KGS/capita/month, i.e. US\$0.7/capita/day) and 26% **between the extreme poverty and poverty values** (986-1618 KGS/capita/month, i.e. US\$0.7-1.1/capita/day), compared to 25% in each group in August 2010.

- The graph below illustrates changes in food access between August 2010 and February 2011. They are less prominent than changes in food consumption patterns (see paragraph 3.6), indicating that the rise of food insecurity was primarily translated in a deterioration of the diet rather than by drastic changes in poverty.



- Households with less sources of income were more likely to obtain lower amounts of cash, hence to live with amounts of cash for expenditures below the poverty line.



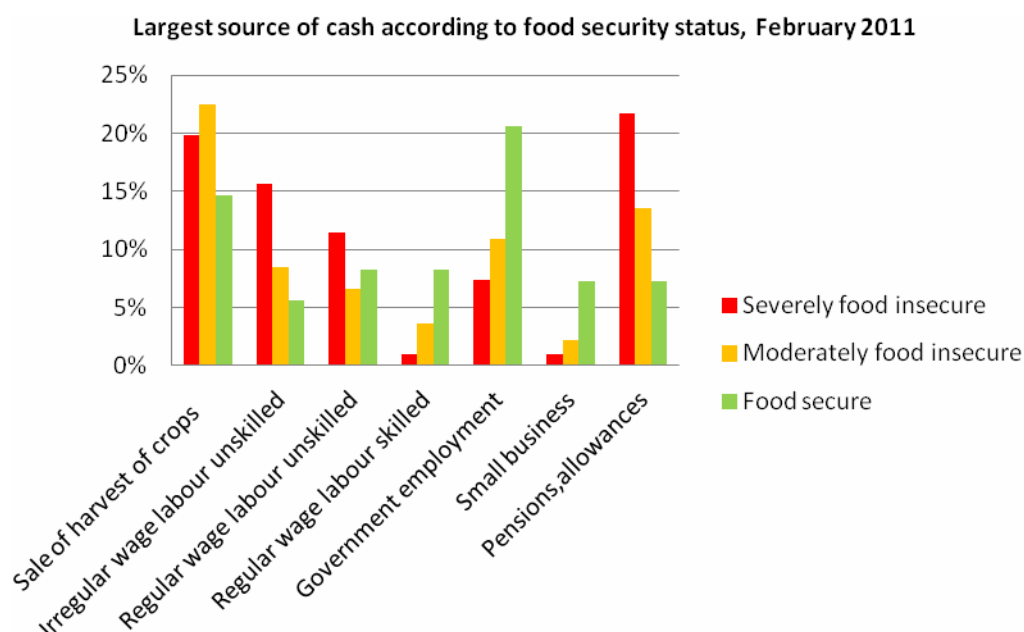
Rural/urban differences

- Rural** households were more likely to rely on sale of crops (25% rural households) and on pensions (15%) as their largest source of cash, while urban households depended more frequently on regular wage labour (11% urban households), government employment (25%) and small business (9%). A similar pattern was noted for the 2nd and 3rd sources of cash.
- The average amount of cash obtained from the various sources was lower in rural than urban areas, reflecting a poorer access to markets and to market information, additional

costs incurred with intermediaries, lower bargaining power for wages and lower access to better remunerated jobs in government services or skilled labour.

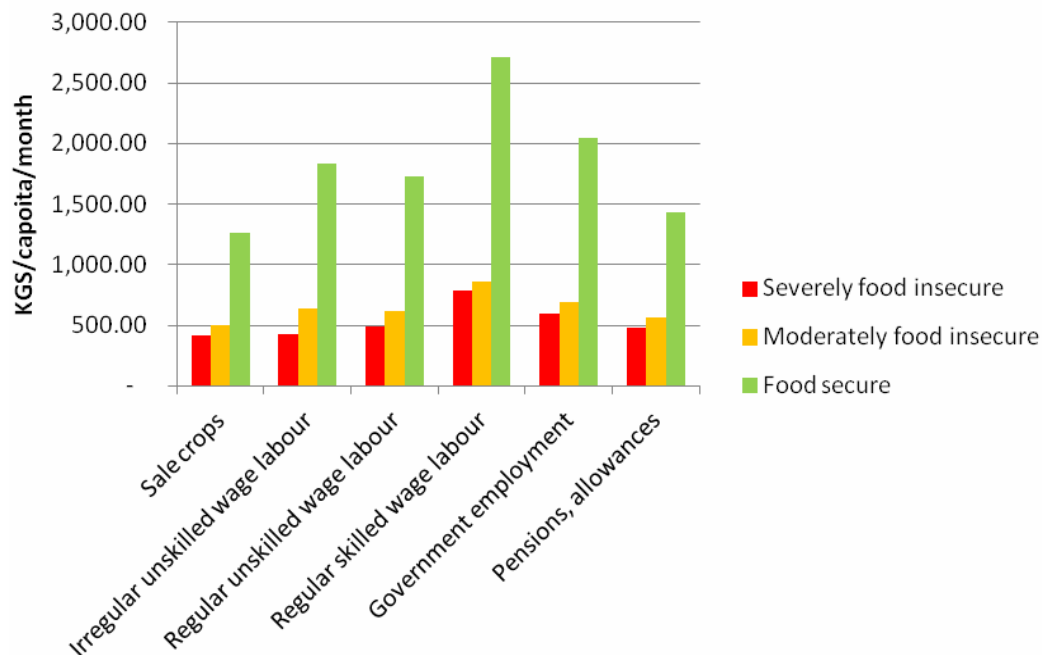
Food security differences

- **Food-insecure** households were more likely to obtain their largest amount of cash from sale of crops, irregular unskilled wage labour, regular unskilled wage labour and pensions, while food-secure households were more likely to get it from regular skilled wage labour, government employment and small business. These results are consistent with those of the August 2010 EFSA and coherent with the fact that food-insecure households have lower amounts of cash per capita than food-secure households.



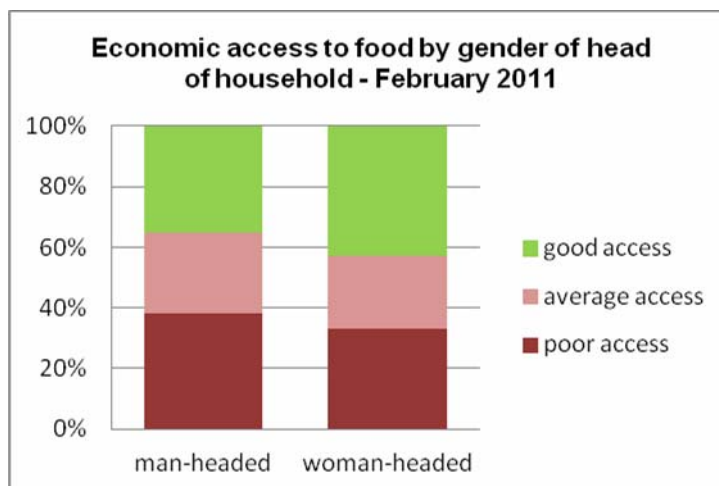
- Moreover, food-insecure households earned less cash per capita for the same activity/cash source, compared to food-secure households. The amounts were often 3 times less than food-secure households, probably reflecting lower-grade activities for the same type of occupation, and more irregular cash inflows.

Average monthly cash amount per capita from the largest source of cash, according to food security status - February 2011



Gender differences

- **Woman-headed** households were more likely to obtain amounts of cash above the poverty line, compared to man-headed households (43% and 35% respectively). This is because, as noted in August 2010, woman-headed households reported higher amounts of cash obtained from practically all the activities and sources, compared to man-headed households. However, this difference was true only for food-secure woman-headed households compared to food-secure man-headed households, and to a lesser extent for moderately food-

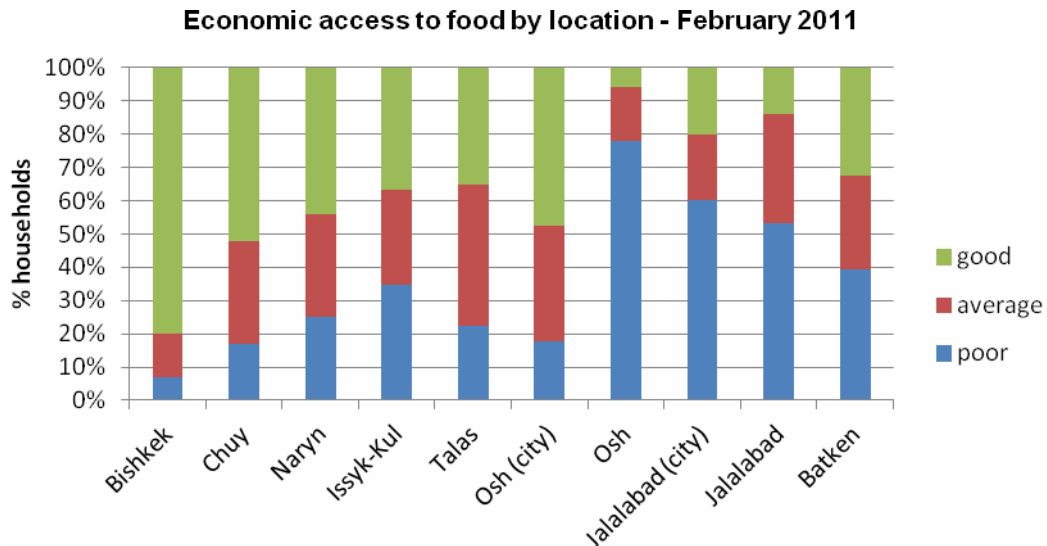


insecure woman-headed households compared to moderately food-insecure man-headed households.

- Among severely food-insecure households, the amounts of cash obtained from various sources were similar between woman- and man-headed households. This highlights the prominent role played by other factors of food security over gender, including household size, dependence on low-remunerated and irregular occupations, and low access to animals and assets.

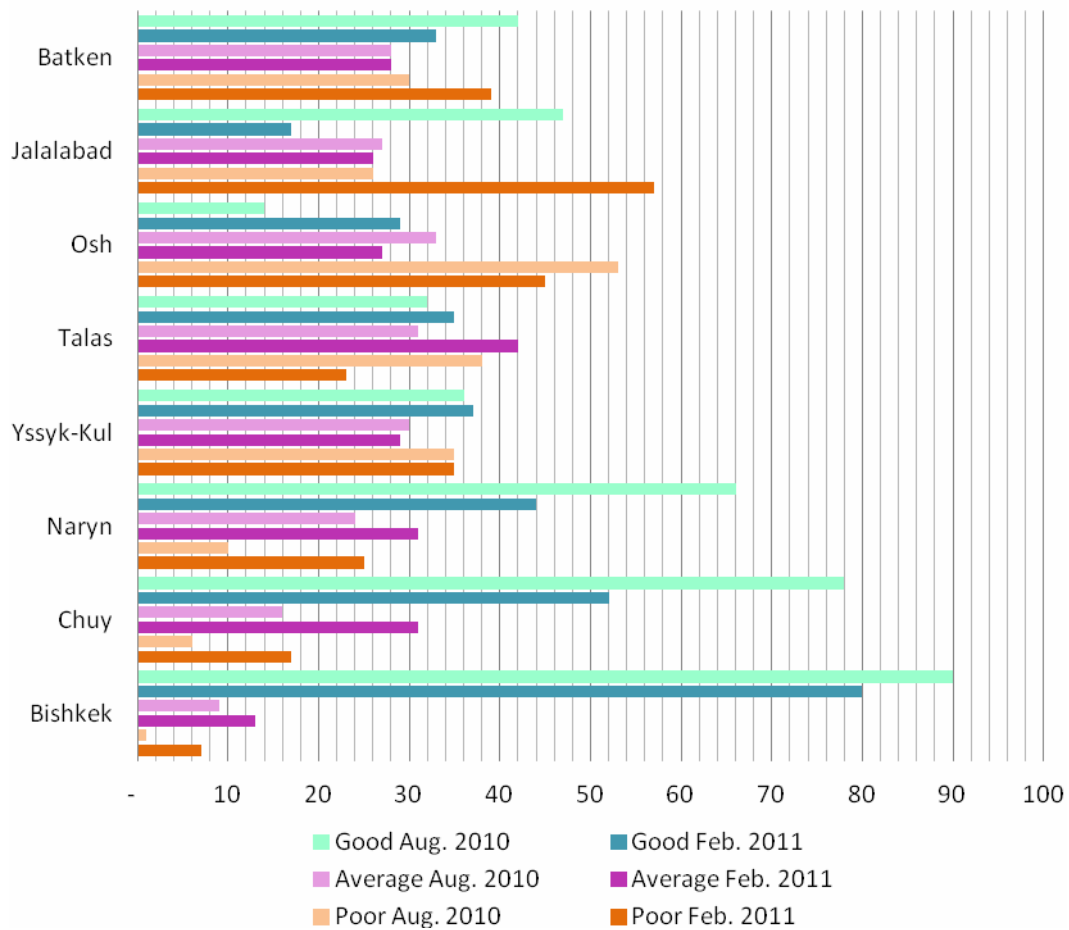
By oblast

- The largest proportions of households living in extreme poverty according to the cash amount obtained from their 4 main sources of cash were in **Osh (rural)** and **Jalalabad** oblast (city and rural), followed by **Batken** oblast. Widespread poverty in Osh and Jalalabad is likely related to the economic impact of the June 2010 event, while Batken is known for its chronic poverty, partly due to its remoteness.
- A relatively high proportion of households in extreme poverty was also noted in **Yssyk-Kul** oblast, possibly reflecting the economic hardship caused by the reduction of tourism (a key source of income for households in this oblast) due to the civil unrest.

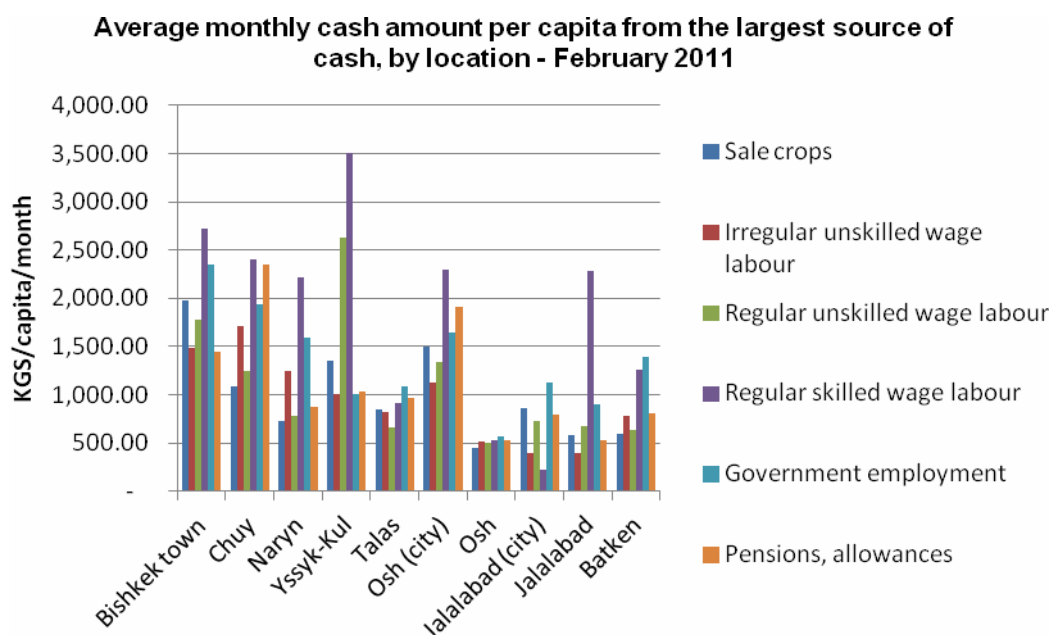


- Comparison between oblasts indicates the following higher proportions of households according to their main source of cash compared to average:
 - **Bishkek** city: regular wage labour, government employment and small business;
 - **Naryn** oblast: regular skilled wage labour and government employment;
 - **Yssyk-Kul** oblast: sale of crops, and pensions or allowances;
 - **Talas** oblast: sale of crops and government employment;
 - **Osh city**: independent work and government employment;
 - **Osh** oblast (rural): independent work and pensions or allowances;
 - **Jalalabad city**: government employment and pensions or allowances;
 - **Jalalabad** oblast (rural): sale of crops.
- As mentioned above, changes in the food security situation in the various locations was driven more by a deterioration of the diet than by a decrease of economic access to food. This is illustrated by the graph below which shows relatively few changes in food access between August 2010 and February 2011 with the exception of **Jalalabad** and **Naryn** oblasts where the proportion of households with cash amounts below extreme poverty increased significantly. However, in Naryn oblast households were better able to protect their diet thanks to access to own animal products.
- In the other oblasts, the deterioration of the diet can thus be explained by: (i) the exhaustion of own food products (not valued as cash amount) and (ii) the increase of food prices.

**Evolution of food access between August 2010 and February 2011,
by location**



- Similarly as in August 2010, the average amount of cash obtained from various sources was higher in **Bishkek** city and **Chuy** oblast, possibly reflecting better access to markets. They were also relatively high in **Naryn**, may be owing to the sale of crops and animal products stored before the winter.
- The lowest cash amounts were obtained in **Osh** (rural) and **Jalalabad** oblasts, showing the protracted effects of the June 2010 violence on the local economy. Compared to other locations, relatively low cash amounts were also obtained in **Talas** and **Batken** oblasts, a pattern generally consistent with the income data collected by the KIHS in the 2nd quarter of 2010.



3.8.4 – Migrants and remittances

- According to the Ministry of Labour, Kyrgyz migrants in Russia transferred US\$1.2 billion to Kyrgyzstan in 2010²⁸, representing an impressive 27% increase compared to 2009. Total remittances including from other countries rose by 25%. Remittances had fallen by around 25% in 2009 in the face of the economic downturn in Russia. Remittances from Russia made up around 90% of the total in 2010²⁹.
- The large remittances in 2010 seem to be due to whooping increases in reported numbers of external migrants, which during January-October were up 58% year-on-year. This growth has occurred since the June events in the south and has come solely from the south (Osh city, and Osh and Jalalabad oblasts)³⁰.
- In this follow-up EFSA, only 2% households mentioned remittances as their largest source of cash but for those who did, the amount received was relatively high compared to other cash sources (1,220 KGS/capita/month, i.e. US\$0.8/capita/day).
- A higher proportion of Key Informants in rural areas (mostly in Naryn, Jalalabad and Osh oblasts) felt that remittances were the main livelihood support of the inhabitants in their location (13%), possibly reflecting a reluctance of some households to admit receiving money from migrants abroad.
- On average 23% households had at least one migrant and 60% sent money or goods back, on average 4-5 times a year. There were no significant changes compared to August 2010.
- As in August 2010, migrants were slightly more frequent in **urban** than rural households (28% versus 19%).
- **Food-insecure** households, especially severely, continued to have less frequently migrants than other households (15% of severely food-insecure and 20% of moderately food-insecure, compared to 26% food-secure). Severely food-insecure households with migrants

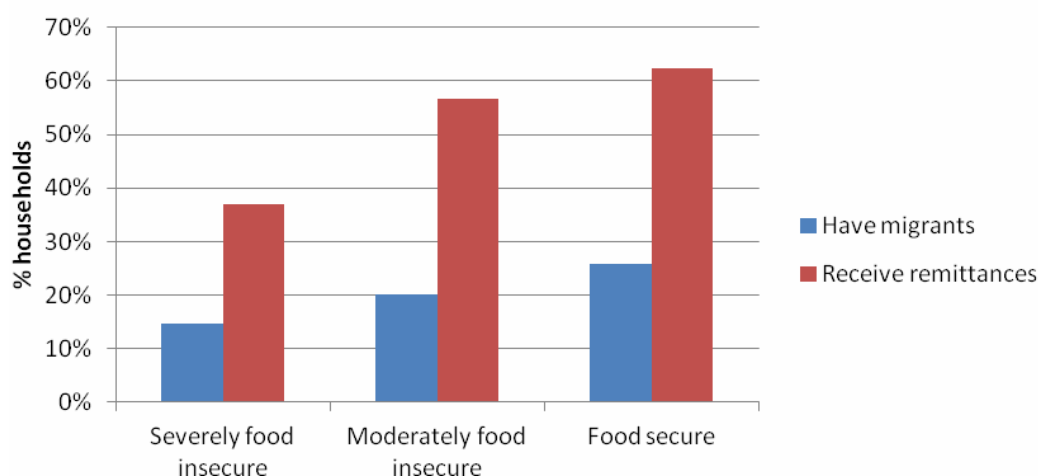
²⁸ <http://enews.fergananews.com/news.php?id=2025&mode=snews>

²⁹ Kyrgyzstan Country Report February 2011. The Economist Intelligence Unit.

³⁰ Kyrgyzstan: Rising Food Prices and Limited Access to Energy Make for a Tough Winter. Fast facts from 2010 November data. UNDP, Office of the Senior Economist, 12 January 2011.

were also less likely to receive remittances back (37% versus about 60% other households).

Migrants and remittances according to food security status - February 2011

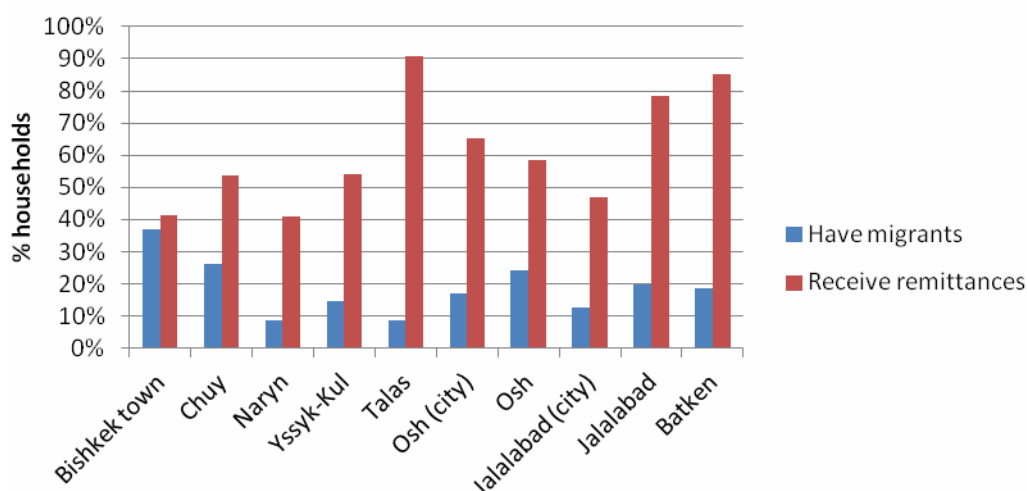


- In contrast with August 2010, **woman-headed** households were not more likely to report migrants than man-headed households (except in Yssyk-Kul and Jalalabad oblasts). However, woman-headed households were more likely to receive money or goods back.

By oblast

- As in August 2010, the highest proportions of household with migrants were in **Bishkek** city (37%), and **Chuy**, **Osh** and **Batken** oblasts. A high proportion of migrants was also noted in Jalalabad city.
- Although the proportion of migrants was lower in **Talas** and **Naryn** oblasts (9% in each), they were more likely to send remittances back than in other locations. Receipt of remittances was also relatively frequent in **Batken** and **Jalalabad** oblasts. However, considering the high levels of food insecurity in these 2 locations, the amount received may be low and not benefiting the food-insecure.

Migrants and remittances, by location - February 2011



3.8.5 – Use of money transfer systems or bank services

- Compared to August 2010, a much higher proportion of households indicated that they were sometimes using a money transfer, bank or postal services. This may be due to a different way of asking the question since it is unlikely that people's behaviour and availability of services would have changed that much in 6 months.
- While the majority of both urban and rural households mentioned sometimes using bank or postal services to receive or send money, **rural** households were less likely to use money transfer systems: 59% rural versus 82% urban.
- **Moderately food-insecure** households were less likely to use money transfer systems than other households. The reason for this difference is unclear.
- The proportion of households using money transfer systems was lower in **Jalalabad city, Osh rural** and **Talas oblast**.

3.9 – Main expenditures

- Similarly as in August 2010, more than $\frac{3}{4}$ of households mentioned **food** as their largest expenditure, including almost 80% urban households and 76% rural households.
- When food was the largest expenditure, it amounted to 990 KGS/capita/month on average. This compares with average cash earnings from the largest source of cash of, for example, 820 KGS/capita/month from the sale of crops, 1,050 KGS/capita/month from irregular unskilled wage labour, 1,650 KGS/capita/month from government employment, and 900 KGS/capita/month from pensions, and explains why more than half of households had 2 sources of cash.
- The next largest expenditure most frequently mentioned was utilities, clothing and ceremonies (about 3% households for each).
- As 2nd expenditure, utilities were the most frequently mentioned (33% households), followed by food (11%), clothing (9%), health (8%), transportation (7%, especially in urban areas), education (6%) agricultural inputs (5%, especially in rural areas), hygiene items (5%) and ceremonies (5%, especially in rural areas).
- As 3rd expenditure, utilities continued to be mentioned the most frequently (20%), followed by hygiene items (14%, especially in rural areas), health (10%), transportation (10%, especially in urban areas), and communications (10%, especially in rural areas). A similar ranking was noted for the 4th expenditure.
- While the amount of cash earned from various sources was lower in February 2011 than in August 2010, the average from the 4 main expenditures was comparable (2,240 KGS/capita/month). This result confirms the **general deterioration of households' living condition during the past 8 months** given that they must spend the same amounts from a smaller resource base.
- When combining the 4 main expenditures, the **share of food expenditures** was 42% of total expenditures.

Rural/urban differences

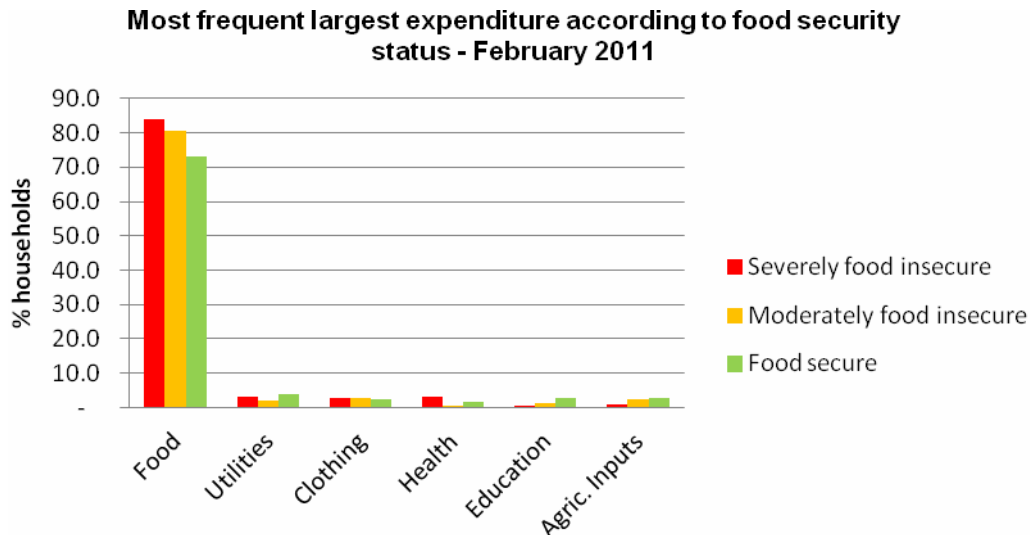
- The amount of expenditures on each item was higher for **urban** than rural households except for agricultural inputs, reflecting both their larger amount of cash available as well as higher prices in urban areas.

Food security differences

- **Food-insecure** households were more likely to mention food as their largest expenditure: 84% of the severely and 81% of the moderately food-insecure, compared to 73% of the

food-secure. A similar result was found in August 2010. However, the absolute amount that food-insecure households spent on food was half of the amount spent by food-secure households (640 KGS/capita/month and 1320 KGS/capita/month respectively). Food-insecure households tended to mention less frequently education as their largest expenditure.

- As 2nd expenditure, food-insecure households tended to mention more frequently hygiene items and health, and less frequently food, transportation and agricultural inputs, than food-secure households.
- As 3rd and 4th expenditures, food-insecure households continued to mention more frequently hygiene items and health, as well as communications, and less frequently food and transportation, compared to food-secure households.



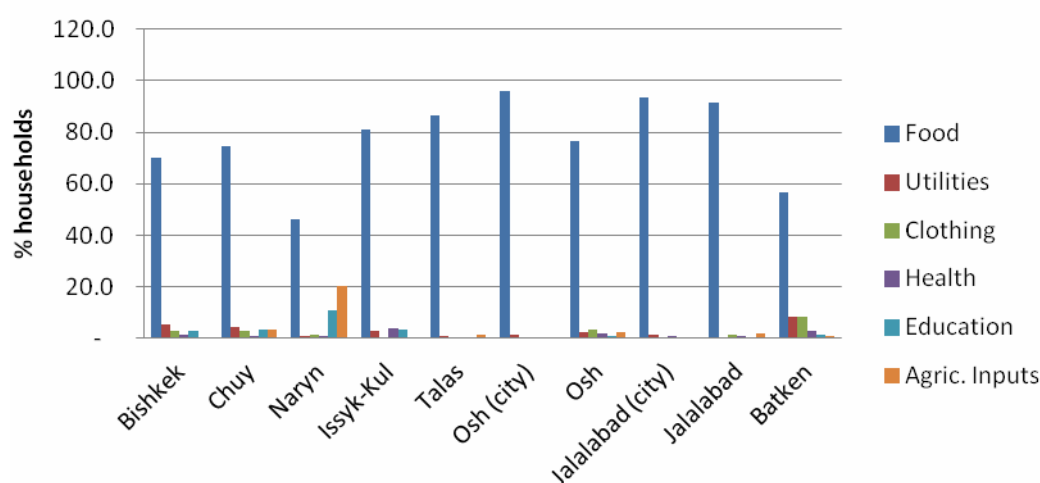
- Food-insecure households, especially the severely food-insecure, spent less on each item of expenditure than other households, including food, despite the fact that they dedicate a larger share of their resources for food. The share of food expenditures out of the 4 main expenditures was higher among food-insecure households, particularly the severely food-insecure: 48% for severely and 45% for moderately food-insecure, compared to 41% for food-secure. As a result, the amount of cash available for non-food expenditures is reduced among food-insecure households.
- The low amount of cash available for non-food expenses can explain why households at the margin of poverty fall into food insecurity as the arbitrage between food and non-food expenditures become increasingly difficult in the event of a shock. For instance, moderately food-insecure households spent more than food-secure households on health, indicating that disease and related expenditures could be a key factor contributing to moderate food insecurity. Some moderately food-insecure households also mentioned large expenditures for land rental.
- While few households mentioned debts among their 4 main expenditures, food-secure households had repayments 3 times larger than food-insecure households, indicating both their capacity to pay and to obtain larger loans. The same pattern was noted for expenditures on house repair or construction.

By oblast

- As in August 2010, households in **Naryn** oblast mentioned less frequently food as their largest expenditure (46% households), but 20% households indicated agricultural inputs, reflecting the importance of agricultural activities for households' livelihoods in this oblast.

- A lower proportion of households also mentioned food as their largest expenditure in **Batken** oblast (57% households). About 8% of Batken households mentioned either utilities, or clothing or ceremonies as their largest expenditure.
- 86% households in **Talas** oblast and more than 90% of households in **Osh city** and in **Jalalabad** (city and rural) mentioned food as their largest expenditure. In Osh and Jalalabad, these results may reflect a decrease of households' resources following the June events and the prioritisation of food.
- A slightly higher proportion of households in **Bishkek** city and **Chuy** oblast (4%-5%) and in **Batken** oblast (8%) mentioned utilities as their largest expenditure, compared to other locations.

Most frequent largest expenditure according to location - February 2011



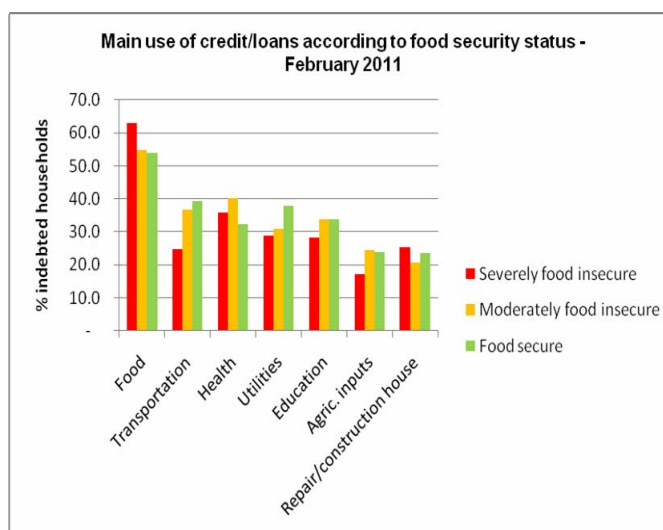
- The amount of expenditures for food tended to be larger in **Bishkek** city and in **Batken**, **Chuy** and **Talas** oblasts than elsewhere. A similar pattern was noted in August 2010. Large food expenditures in Bishkek and Chuy oblast may be explained by the higher cost of food (with a further increase of prices at the end of 2010/early 2011), together with the better purchasing power of households. In Batken oblast, the relatively large food expenditures may be due to higher local market prices due to remoteness of the area.
- The share of food expenditures out of the 4 main expenditures was the highest in **Osh city** and in **Jalalabad** (city and rural), reaching 50% to 60%. This result may again be related to the effects of the June 2010 events on households' livelihoods, with a marked depression of their income and a prioritization of remaining resources for food.
- Conversely, the share of food expenditures was comparatively low in **Naryn** (34%) and **Batken** (35%) oblasts. In Naryn, this may be linked to a relatively higher proportion of expensive food items coming from own production (animal products) enabling savings on food, as well as larger expenditures dedicated to agricultural inputs. In Batken, households tended to mention more frequently a variety of non-food expenditures as their largest expenses, such as utilities, clothing and ceremonies.

3.10 – Credit or loans

- About 20% of households had credit or loan to reimburse, similarly as in August 2010.
- Slightly more than half of the indebted households (55%) used the money to purchase **food**. This is much more than in August 2010 (37%).
- More than 1/3 also used the credit/loan to cover transportation, health, utilities, education, ceremonies, clothing expenses, or hygiene items, and between 1/4 and 1/5 paid for

agricultural inputs or material to repair or reconstruct the house. These proportions are quite similar to those reported in August 2010.

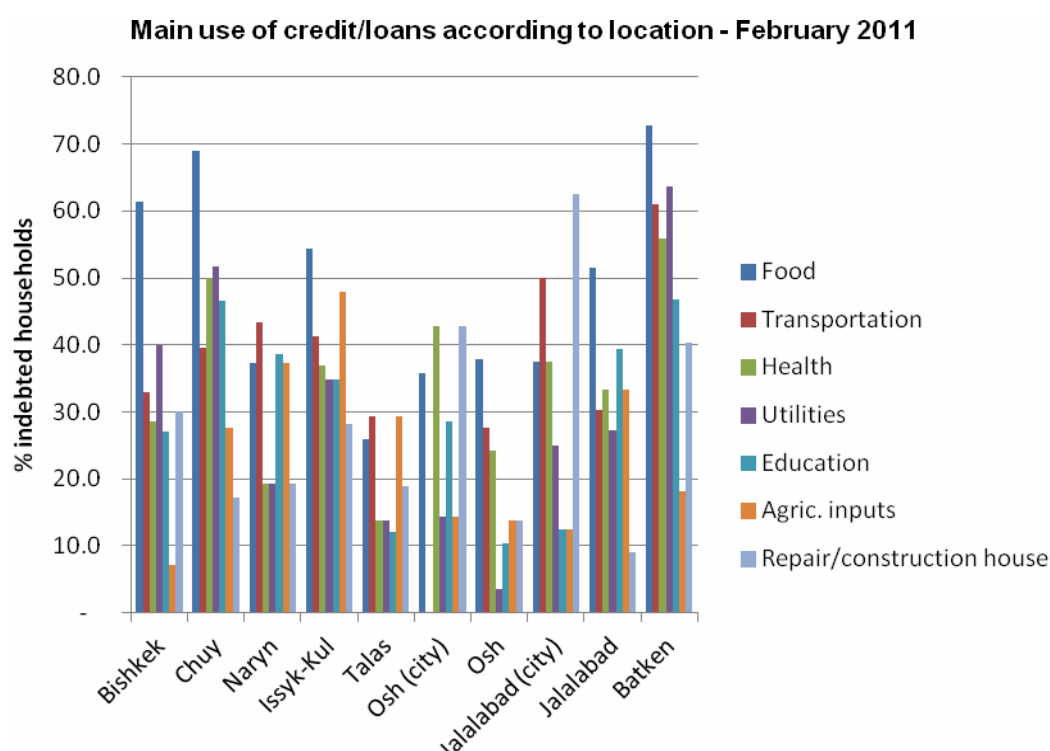
- **Urban** households were more likely to be indebted than rural households (respectively 24% and 18%).
- The use of credit/loans to pay for transportation, health, education, hygiene items was more frequent among rural households. A third of indebted rural households also spent the money on agricultural inputs. Urban households were more likely to use the credit/loan for house renting, repair or construction.
- As also noted in August, **food-insecure** households were less likely to be indebted, possibly because they had less collateral (land, animals, property) to secure loans and/or a weaker network of relatives and friends who could loan them money.
- When they had debts, severely food-insecure households were more likely to use the credit/loan to purchase food: 63% compared to 54%-55% of other indebted households. They were also more likely to spend the money on water or ceremonies, and less likely to use it for transportation, education, clothing and agricultural inputs. This pattern of use of credit/loan reflects the need of severely food-insecure households to meet immediate, basic consumption requirements, rather than investing in productive activities.



- **Woman-headed** households tended to be slightly less often indebted than man-headed households (respectively 18% and 21%), but this varied according to locations. For instance, woman-headed households in Naryn, Yssyk-Kul, Talas, Osh and Jalalabad oblasts were more frequently indebted than man-headed households. The reason for these differences is unclear.
- Also, severely food-insecure woman-headed households were as likely to be indebted as severely food-insecure man-headed households.

By oblast

- The proportion of households indebted continued to be higher in **Naryn** oblast (33%), but since August it seems that the proportion of indebted households increased in **Bishkek** city (28%) and in **Batken** oblast (31%). This is consistent with the relatively large increased prevalence of food-insecurity noted in these 2 locations.
- Food was the primary reason for credit/loans in **Batken** (73% of indebted households) and **Chuy** (69%) oblasts, and **Bishkek** city (61%).
- In **Batken** oblast, a series of other essential needs were very frequently covered by the credit/loan, such as transportation, water, health, utilities, ceremonies, education, clothing, and material for housing. This is consistent with the poverty level in this oblast.
- In **Bishkek** city, besides food, ceremonies and house renting and material to repair or construct a house were more frequently mentioned for the use of credit/loan.
- Compared to other locations, indebted households in **Naryn** oblast were less frequently using the credit/loan for food (37% households) but more frequently for agricultural inputs (37%).
- The high proportions of households using credit/loans to pay for reconstruction of housing are noticeable in the cities of **Osh** (43%) and **Jalalabad** (62%) and most likely the direct result of the June 2010 destructions.



3.11 – Crop cultivation

3.11.1 – Agricultural production and food availability at national level

- Agriculture remains a key sector of the economy, accounting for about a quarter of total GDP and employing a third of the workforce. The country has predominantly mountainous terrain with only about 6% of the land suitable for cultivation (1.4 million hectare). As a result, the livestock sector is a major agricultural activity, with wool, meat and dairy products being the main commodities. More than 90% of cattle, sheep and horses and 85% of poultry are owned by small-scale farms with either small household plots or private farms.
- The major crops are potato, wheat, sugar beet, cotton, tobacco, vegetables and fruit. About half of the wheat consumed by the population is imported, mainly from Kazakhstan. Around 40% of vegetable oil and 80% of sugar are also imported.
- The agricultural production decreased by 2.8% in 2010 compared to 2009³¹, linked to a fall of 7% in the production of fruits and vegetables and a more significant fall of grain production by 18% owing to unfavourable weather conditions. Grain yields declined from 2.9 tonnes/ha in 2009 to 2.3 tonnes/ha in 2010³².
- According to the Ministry of Agriculture and National Statistics Committee, the wheat harvest in 2010 decreased by 23% compared to 2009, and the potato harvest by 6%. On the other hand, the sugar-beet harvest was higher by 137% and the oilseed, meat and dairy productions were similar to 2009³³.
- In Osh and Jalalabad oblasts, restricted access to land during the unrest in June 2010 decreased the harvest for an estimated 80,000 farming households³⁴.

³¹ CIS Interstate Statistical Committee. <http://www.cisstat.com>

³² Kyrgyzstan Country Report February 2011. The Economist Intelligence Unit.

³³ Food Security and Poverty Information Bulletin of the Kyrgyz Republic 4/2010. National Statistics Committee, Bishkek 2010 – Ministry of Agriculture press release, February 2011.

³⁴ Kyrgyzstan Humanitarian Bulletin, Issue 9. OCHA, 10 March 2011.

3.11.2 – Household access to garden or land to cultivate

- Slightly more than half of rural households (56%) and 13% of urban households reported the cultivation of land or garden. These proportions are lower than in August 2010 (respectively 71% and 24%), possibly reflecting lower engagement in cultivation activities in winter time.
- The average acreage cultivated was 0.12 ha/capita in rural areas and 0.06 ha/capita in urban areas.
- **Food-insecure** households were as likely as food-secure households to cultivate a land or garden. However, the average acreage cultivated per capita was smaller among food-insecure households (0.10 ha/capita versus 0.14 ha/capita). More than 80% of households, including the food-secure, were not cultivating a sufficient acreage to achieve (in theory) self-sufficiency (see Box 3).

Box 3 – Estimation of theoretical minimum land acreage for food self-sufficiency

As detailed below, self-sufficiency in wheat, animal products, beans and vegetables can in theory be achieved by cultivating about 0.17 ha/capita. Clearly, this acreage requirement varies according to agro-ecological conditions (e.g. soil fertility, rainfall, altitude, slope etc.) and productivity (influenced by use of fertilizer, irrigation etc.).

Wheat self-sufficiency

- Estimated consumption in wheat equivalent: 570 g/cap./day
- Wheat production needed to meet annual consumption requirements: 208 kg/cap
- Average yield of wheat: 2.6 Mt/ha, ranging from 1.5 Mt in some non-irrigated areas of northern oblasts to 6 Mt in some irrigated areas of southern oblasts.
- Land acreage required for theoretical self-sufficiency in wheat: 0.08 ha/cap, ranging from 0.03 ha/cap. in some irrigated areas of southern oblasts to 0.139 ha/ cap. in some areas of northern oblasts
- For an average household of 6 members: 0.48 ha, ranging from 0.21 ha (irrigated) to 0.83 ha (non irrigated, low yields).

Animal, beans and vegetables self-sufficiency

- Most rural households also raise a cattle or a couple of small ruminants. For this, an additional 0.07 ha/capita (about 0.3-0.4 ha for a 6-member household) would be needed, i.e. about 0.4 ha for a 6-member household.
- To grow some beans and vegetables, another 0.02 ha/capita are required, i.e. about 0.1-0.2 ha for a 6-member household.

Total theoretical acreage for wheat, animal products, beans and vegetables self-sufficiency

- Wheat: 0.08 + animals 0.06 + beans/vegetables 0.02 = 0.17 ha/capita, i.e. about 1 ha for a 6-member household.

- **Woman-headed** households were less likely to cultivate a land or garden: 34% versus 42% man-headed households. The situation was different in Batken oblast, with 73% woman-headed households reporting access to land or garden compared to 57% man-headed households.
- However, for woman-headed households who cultivate, the average acreage was similar the one of man-headed households.

By oblast

- The largest proportions of cultivating households were found in **Yssyk-Kyul, Talas** and **Batken** oblasts (61%-65%) and the lowest in **Naryn, Osh** and **Jalalabad** oblasts (40%-46%).
- The average acreage cultivated per capita was higher in **Naryn** (0.22 ha), **Batken** (0.16 ha) and **Yssyk-Kul** (0.15 ha) oblasts than elsewhere. Naryn and Batken are the 2 most mountainous oblasts, which may explain why cultivation is concentrated among a lower number of farmers having access to more land. Nevertheless, only ¼ of households

in Naryn and about 1/5 in Batken and Yssyk-Kul oblasts cultivate more than the minimum acreage needed in theory to achieve self sufficiency.

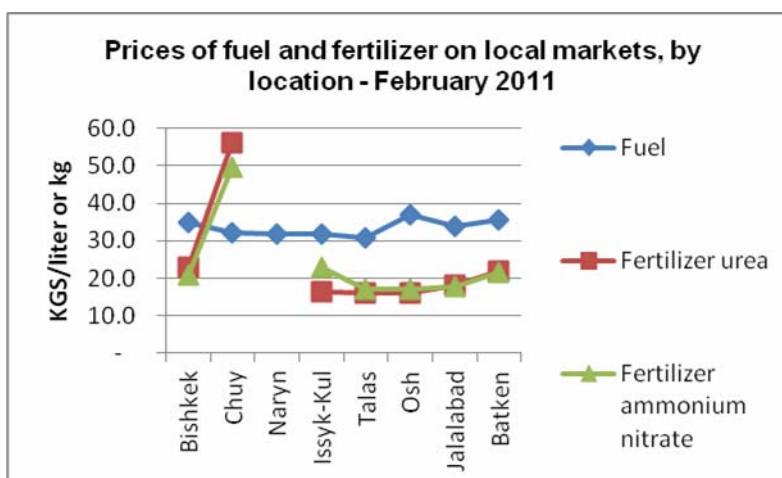
- These results are different from the ones found in the August 2010 EFSA, possibly due to seasonal variations in agricultural activity in the winter compared to the spring/summer.

3.11.3 – Access to fertilizer

- Slightly more than 60% households who cultivate had used fertilizer. This is less than in August 2010, possibly reflecting the rise in the price of fertilizer.
- Nevertheless, food-insecure households were as likely as food-secure households to use fertilizer.

By oblast

- The use of fertilizer was more frequent in **Naryn, Batken** and **Jalalabad** oblasts (68%-76% of cultivating households) and less frequent in **Yssyk-Kul** and **Talas** oblasts (42%-52% households).
- According to Key Informants, the price of fuel tended to be higher in **Osh** oblast, while the price of fertilizer would seem much higher in **Chuy** oblast. A similar finding was noted in August 2010.



3.11.4 – Main crops cultivated, sales and self-sufficiency

Wheat

- 34% of households in rural areas but only 7% of urban households had cultivated wheat.
- On average 30% of the wheat harvest was sold, though more by farming households in Talas and Osh oblasts (37%-42%). The remaining wheat was reported to last between **4-5 months for family self-consumption**. These results are similar to August 2010, though with slightly lower figures.
- Wheat planting was similar across food security groups, but the share sold and the duration for self-consumption were lower among **food-insecure** households, especially the severely food insecure: 2 months self-consumption versus 4 months for the moderately food-insecure and 6 months for the food-secure.
- As noted in the August 2010 EFSA, wheat is cultivated more often in **Yssyk-Kul, Osh, Batken** and **Jalalabad** oblasts.

Maize

- 34% of rural households and 14% of urban households cultivated maize, slightly less than reported in August 2010.
- On average more than 30% of the harvest was sold.
- As noted in the August 2010 EFSA, **food-insecure** households were slightly more likely to cultivate maize than food-secure households, but in contrast with wheat, the duration of the

harvest kept for family consumption was longer for the severely food-insecure: 6 months versus 3 months for the other households. The reason for this difference is unclear.

- Maize continued to be cultivated more frequently by households in **Chuy, Osh, Jalalabad** and **Batken** oblasts, and much less in the other oblasts.

Potatoes

- 2/3 households in both rural and urban areas cultivated potatoes. About 1/3 of the harvest was sold.
- **Food-insecure** households were less likely to cultivate potatoes than food-secure households (59% versus 73%). The duration of the harvest for self-consumption was shorter among food-insecure households: 3-4 months for severely food-insecure, 4-5 months for moderately food-insecure and 6 months for food-secure households.
- As noted in the August 2010 EFSA, the proportion of farming households planting potatoes was lower in **Batken** and in cities, but in this EFSA it was also lower in Jalalabad. The proportion of potato harvest sold continued to vary across oblasts, with the highest share of the harvest sold by households in Talas, Naryn and Jalalabad.

Cotton

- Only 12% of rural households cultivated cotton and 4% in urban areas.
- Cotton cultivation remained concentrated in **Jalalabad** oblast (38% households) and to a lesser extent in Batken oblast (8% households).

Vegetables

- Only 40% of rural households but 65% of urban households cultivated vegetables. These proportions are lower than in August 2010, especially in rural areas, due to seasonal variations.
- **Food-insecure** households continued to be less likely to cultivate vegetables than food-secure households (31%-37% versus 51%). The share of vegetables sold was low (around 10%) and the amount kept for family consumption lasted about 2 months for food-insecure households and 3-4 months for food-secure households.
- Similarly as in August 2010, vegetables cultivation was less frequent in **Yssyk-Kul, Naryn, Jalalabad** and **Osh** oblasts.

Fruits

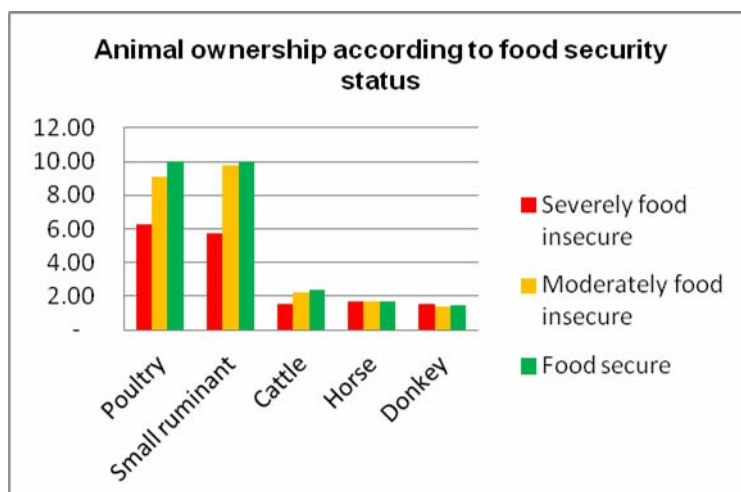
- 37% of rural households and 46% of urban households had access to fruit trees. As for vegetables, these proportions are lower than in August 2010, especially in rural areas, and are likely to reflect normal seasonal variations.
- **Food-insecure** households were less likely to have access to fruit trees (28%-33% versus 47% of the food-secure) and the harvest kept for family consumption lasted for a shorter duration: about 2 months compared to 3 months for the food-secure.
- As noted in August 2010, fruit trees were less frequent in **Naryn** oblast, but in this EFSA the proportion was also low in **Jalalabad** oblast.

3.12 – Livestock

3.12.1 - Animal ownership

- Some 62% rural households and 14% urban owned animals, which is less than in August 2010 (75% and 20% respectively), possibly reflecting sales during the winter to obtain cash and because animal feeding is more costly during these months. Also, an estimated 5,200 heads of cattle and small ruminants, and over 20,000 poultry were reported lost in Osh and Jalalabad oblasts during the June 2010 events³⁵.

³⁵ Kyrgyzstan Humanitarian Bulletin, Issue 9. OCHA, 10 March 2011.



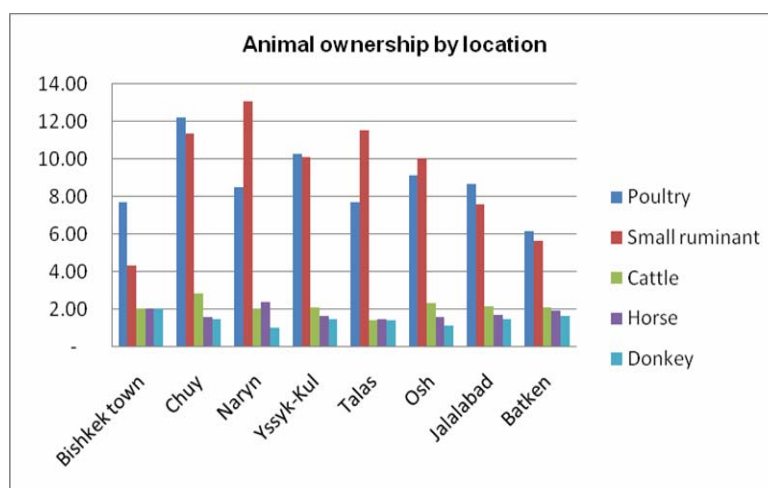
- For those owning animals, the number of animals owned was quite similar between rural and urban households: on average 2 heads of cattle, 9-10 small ruminants, 9 poultry, 1-2 horses and 1-2 donkeys. These figures were similar in August 2010 (slightly lower for urban households) but smaller than those reported in the latest available KIHS for the 2nd quarter of

2010 in rural areas³⁶.

- Severely food-insecure** households continued to be less likely to own animals while moderately food-secure households were more likely to own animals than food-secure households: 31%, 52% and 43% respectively.
- As before, **food-insecure** households owned less animals than food-secure households except for horses and donkeys (similar number). This result is consistent with KIHS findings.
- Woman-headed** households were only slightly less likely to own animals than man-headed households (40% versus 46%). The difference between woman- and man-headed households was larger for the severely food-insecure: 21% severely food-insecure woman-headed owned animals versus 35% severely food-insecure man-headed households. These results may contribute to the slightly worse diet noted among severely food-insecure woman-headed households compared to man-headed households in the same food security situation.
- The average number of poultry and cattle owned by woman-headed households was generally lower than the number owned by man-headed households..

By oblast

- Similarly as in August 2010, the proportion of households owning animals varied between oblasts, with the highest proportions of animal owners found in **Naryn** oblast (70%). The average number of animals owned however (among those having animals) tended to be larger for households in **Chuy** oblast.

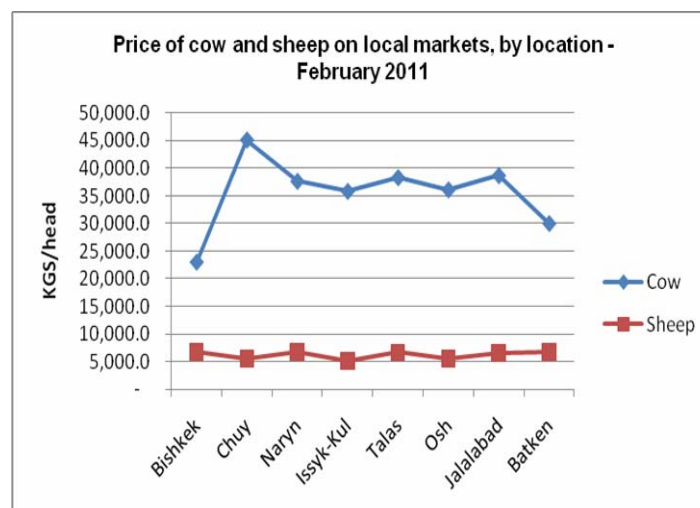


³⁶ According to KIHS for the 2nd quarter 2010, rural households owned on average 3 heads of cattle, 23 small ruminants and 16 poultry. In urban areas, only food-secure households owned cattle (2 on average), but both food-insecure and food-secure urban households owned small ruminants (9-11) and poultry (10-14).

- The average number of animals owned varied in a similar fashion as in August 2010. The number of poultry owned was higher in **Chuy** and **Yssyk-Kul** oblasts, small ruminants in **Chuy**, **Naryn** and **Talas** oblasts, and cattle in **Chuy** oblast.

3.12.2 – Prices of live animals

- According to Key Informants, the price of a female sheep after 1st lambing was similar across the various locations. The price of a breeding cow or a cow after 1st or 2nd calf was higher in **Chuy** oblast, and lower in **Batken** oblast. Similar trends were reported in August 2010.



3.12.3 – Animal fodder

- On average 69% of households owning animals had adequate winter fodder, a higher proportion than in August 2010 (44%). There was no significant difference according to the food security situation.
- 15% of rural households and 9% of urban households cultivated lucerne (similarly as in August 2010). The amount kept for animal feeding lasted 5-6 months on average.
- **Food-insecure** households were slightly less likely to cultivate lucerne than food-secure households and the amount they kept for animal feed lasted for a shorter duration: 2 months for the severely food-insecure, 3 months for the moderately food-insecure and 4 months for the food-secure.

By oblast

- Winter fodder adequacy was similar across oblasts except in **Osh** where only 44% of animal owners indicated that they had adequate winter fodder. In Jalalabad contrast, 92% of animal owners had adequate winter fodder. The results in Osh may reflect some effects of the June 2010 violence on access to fields and pastures to gather fodder for the winter.
- As noted in August 2010, **lucerne** was more frequently planted in **Naryn**, **Yssyk-Kul**, **Chuy** and **Talas** oblasts.

3.13 – Markets

Some background information on the structure and functioning of markets can be found in the August 2010 EFSA report and is not repeated here.

3.13.1 – Physical access to local markets

- According to Key Informants, markets were easily accessible (less than 30 mn) for the majority of **urban** locations and for more than 80% of **rural** locations.
- About half of the markets in both urban and rural areas could be reached within 15-30 mn using the most usual means of transportation. In rural locations, 10% of the markets were located at more than 1 hour distance.

- As noted in August 2010, a higher proportion of localities in **Naryn, Talas** and **Batken** oblasts were located at more than 1 hour distance from the market.

3.13.2 – International and domestic prices and trade trends

International prices

- At global level, after 18 months of relative stability following a steep decline from the 2008 peak, the **FAO Food Price Index** – which measures monthly (spot) price changes for an international traded food commodity basket composed of dairy, meat, sugar, cereals and oilseeds – increased by more than 30% between June and December 2010. The price index for basic foodstuffs recently exceeded the peak levels of the 2007-08 high food price crisis. The alarming spike in prices is led by sugar, but also by cereals (e.g. wheat, maize, rice) which are important staples especially for the poor³⁷.
- The FAO Food Price Index³⁸ was up 2.2% in February 2011 from January, the highest record in real and nominal terms, since FAO started monitoring prices in 1990. The Cereal Price Index, which includes prices of main food staples such as wheat, rice and maize, rose by 3.7% in February, the highest level since July 2008. The Dairy Price Index was up 4% in February from January, but well below its peak in November 2007. The Oils/Fats Price Index rose marginally in February, at a level just below the peak recorded in June 2008. The Meat Price Index was up 2% from January. By contrast, the Sugar Price Index in February was slightly below the previous month but still 16% higher than February 2010.
- Various factors seem to have contributed to these increases (see Box 4)³⁹.

Box 4 – Contributing factors to the 2010/11 food price rise

The earlier 2007/08 food crisis was attributed to a variety of causes: expansion of biofuel production, high oil prices, exogenous supply shocks (e.g. bad weather and drought), government policies (e.g. export bans and prohibitive taxes), high transportation costs, increasing prices for agricultural inputs, exchange rate fluctuations, and the use of commodities by financial investors. Some of these factors appear to play a larger role in the 2010/11 price increase of staple foodstuff:

- **Weather shocks and harvests**

Droughts in Eastern Europe, Russia and Argentina, and heavy rains in North America and Australia, many of which are key exporting countries, led to production shortfalls in cereals (e.g. wheat), starchy roots and oilseeds. On 5 August 2010, Russia announced a ban on its grain exports. Floods in Pakistan and in Australia, and concerns about the 2011 harvest in China are also contributing to wheat price increases.

- **Exchange rate fluctuations**

In the latter half of 2010, the US\$ depreciated nearly 10% against major currencies. As internationally traded food commodities are often quoted in US\$, the weakening currency led to higher commodity prices.

- **Pressure from financial speculation**

Financial flows into food commodity markets since mid-2000 have been massive compared to the amount of underlying physical commodity stocks.

- **Rising fuel prices**

Crude oil prices have increased since mid-November 2010 and are contributing to higher food prices through increased cost of production and transport.

Sources: Escalating Food Prices: The Threat to Poor Households and Policies to Safeguard a Recovery for All. Social and Economic Policy Working Paper. UNICEF, February 2011 – Global Food Security Update, OCHA, March 2011.

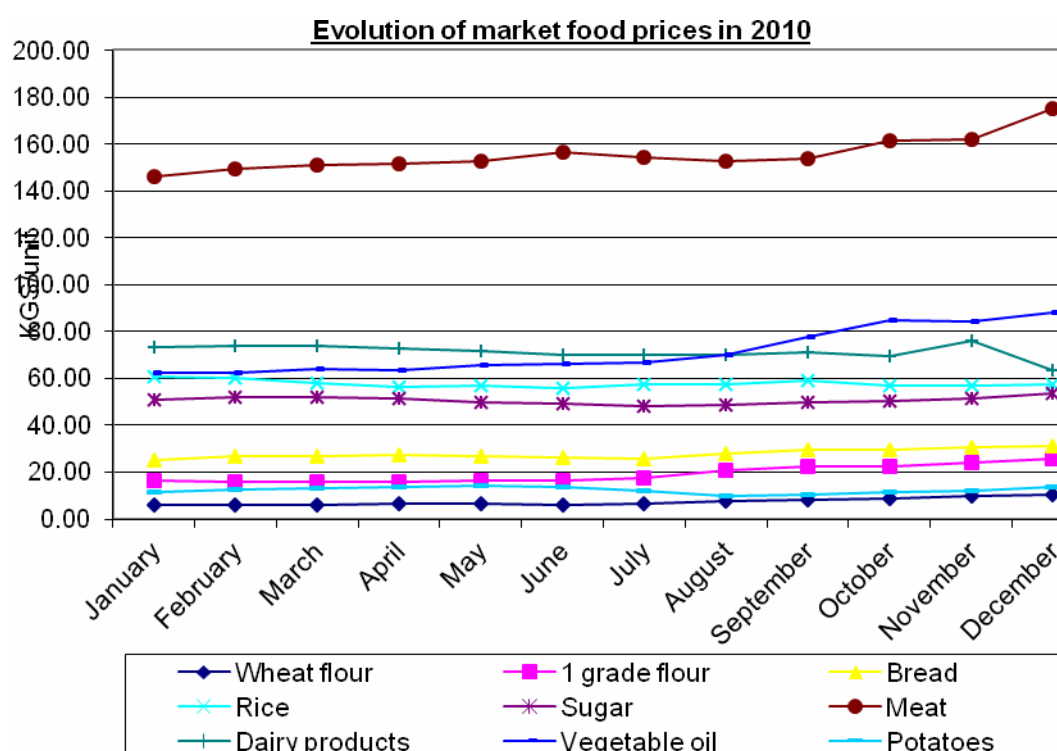
Domestic prices

³⁷ Escalating Food Prices: The Threat to Poor Households and Policies to Safeguard a Recovery for All. Social and Economic Policy Working Paper. UNICEF, February 2011.

³⁸ <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/51913/code/>

³⁹ Escalating Food Prices: The Threat to Poor Households and Policies to Safeguard a Recovery for All. Social and Economic Policy Working Paper. UNICEF, February 2011.

- In Kyrgyzstan, the **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** rose by 8% in 2010 compared to 2009, with a 7% rise of the food component. The price increase accelerated at the end of 2010, with the CPI being 19% higher in December 2010 than in December 2009 and 21% higher in January 2011 than in January 2010. The rise of the food component of the CPI was even higher with an increase of 24% compared to December 2009⁴⁰.
- In January 2011, inflation was 2.7% compared to December 2010
- According to the World Bank⁴¹, the price of wheat rose by 54% in Kyrgyzstan between June and December 2010. With wheat contributing on average 40% of kilocalorie intake, this price increase has clearly affected the economic access to a key staple food for the population (bread). The Local Food Price Index for Kyrgyzstan augmented by 15% from May to November 2010⁴². Overall, in 2010 the cost of flour and bread rose by 25%, fruits and vegetables were 13% more expensive and meat prices increased 12% over the previous year, according to the Kyrgyz National Statistics Committee⁴³.
- Besides the factors described in Box 4, the relatively bad 2009/2010 harvest and the lack of antimonopoly regulation⁴⁴ have also contributed to the price increase on domestic markets in Kyrgyzstan.



- Households' purchasing power has decreased since incomes did not enjoy a growth comparable to the price rise. Poor households are in an increasingly weak and vulnerable situation in 2011, having often exhausted available coping strategies, such as eating less meals and less nutritious foods, reducing limited expenditures on health and essential medicine, selling/pawning assets, racking up household debt, and working longer hours in informal activities.
- High commodity prices for cotton in 2011 may benefit some farmers through exports, although the net impact of higher costs for basic food staples is likely to be far worse for the majority of smallholders, landless labourers and the urban poor.

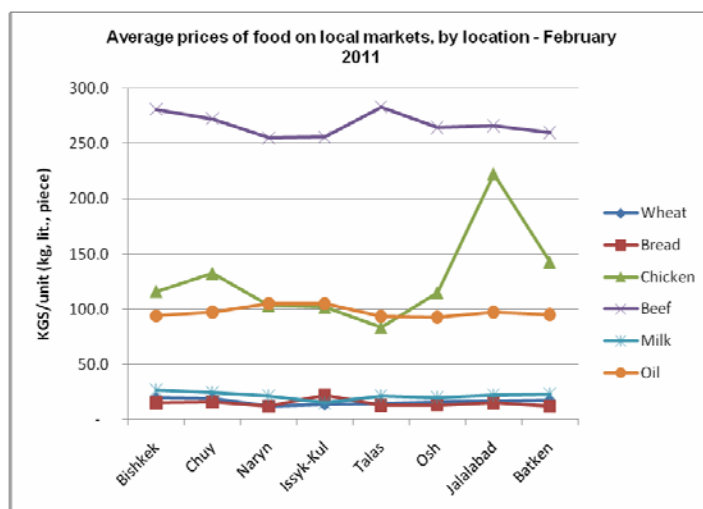
⁴⁰ Interstate Statistical Committee of the CIS. <http://www.cisstat>.

⁴¹ Food Price Watch. The World Bank, February 2011.

⁴² Escalating Food Prices: The Threat to Poor Households and Policies to Safeguard a Recovery for All. Social and Economic Policy Working Paper. UNICEF, February 2011.

⁴³ <http://www.eurasianet.org/node/62904>

⁴⁴ <http://dialog.newsedge.com/>

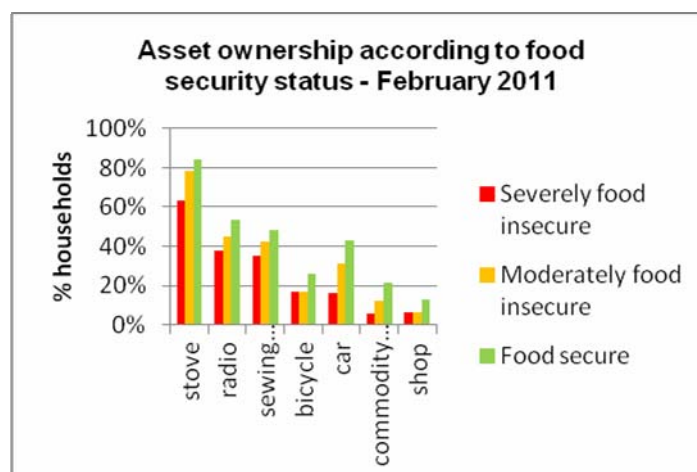


vegetable oil, and 90% of the sugar needs⁴⁷.

- As in August 2010, based on Key Informants' information, the price of most food items on local markets tended to be higher in urban than rural areas. Prices were similar across oblasts, although with some variation between commodities, such as chicken meat which was more expensive in Jalalabad oblast than elsewhere.

3.14– Assets ownership

- Almost all households owned a television and about 80% a stove and cell phone. About half owned a radio and a sewing machine, 1/3 had a car/truck, and 1/5 had a bicycle. These proportions were slightly lower than in August 2010, possibly indicating sale of assets by some households⁴⁸.
- Some 16% of both rural and urban households owned stocks or food or other commodity for petty trade and 10% a small shop.
- Severely food-insecure** households continued to own less frequently any of the various assets. Moderately food-insecure households were also less likely to own a radio, bicycle, or car, and to own stocks of commodities or a shop, compared to food-secure households.



- Asset ownership was similar between **woman-headed** households except for car or truck which was less likely to be owned by woman-headed than man-headed households.

By oblast

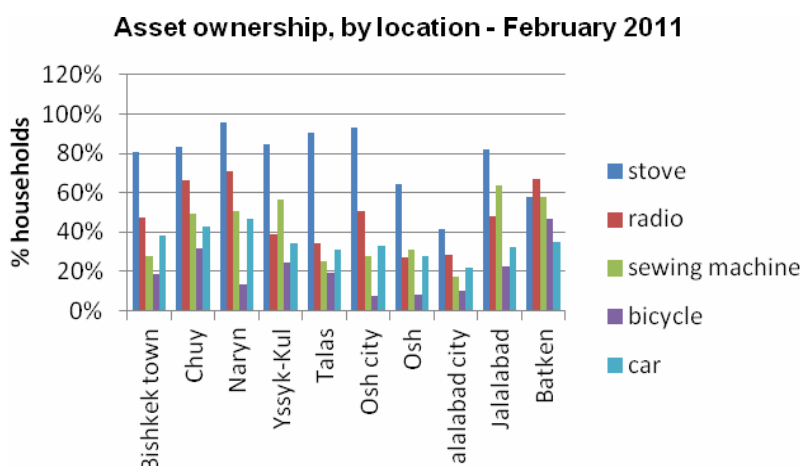
⁴⁵ Kyrgyzstan Country Report February 2011. The Economist Intelligence Unit.

⁴⁶ Kyrgyzstan Humanitarian Bulletin, Issue 9. OCHA, 10 March 2011.

⁴⁷ <http://business.akipress.org/news:166781>

⁴⁸ Unfortunately no questions on sale of assets were included in this follow-up EFSA.

- Overall, asset ownership was the lowest among households in **Jalalabad city**.
- Ownership of a radio was also less frequent among households in **Osh, Yssyk-Kul** and **Jalalabad** oblasts than elsewhere.



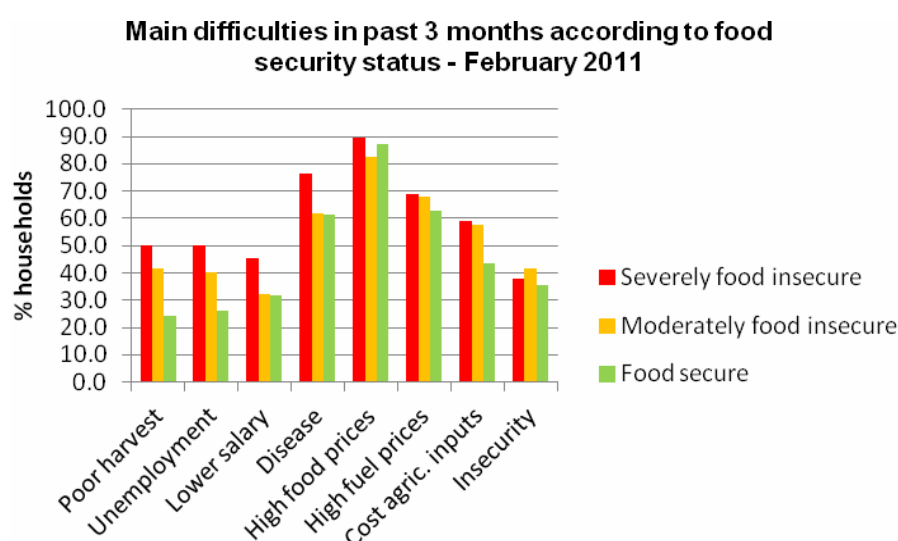
- Households in **Bishkek** city and **Chuy** oblast were more likely to own petty trade stocks, while households in **Bishkek** and **Batken** oblast were more likely to own a small shop, compared to other locations. Similar results were found in August 2010, reflecting different facility of access to markets and consumers.



3.15 – Main shocks and problems in previous 3 months

- The proportions of households affected by various problems were comparable to August 2010.
- **High food prices** was the problem mentioned by the majority of households (86%), followed by health problems, both in rural and urban areas.
- ¾ of rural households and about half of urban households also complained about the high cost of fuel.
- **Rural** households seemed more concerned about insecurity (44%) although 27% of urban households also mentioned it.

- Similarly, loss of employment and decrease of salaries were more often mentioned by rural households (39% and 36% respectively) though they also affected urban households (25% and 29% respectively).
- As expected, rural households were more likely to mention agricultural-related difficulties: 68% were affected by the high cost of agricultural inputs, and almost half by adverse climatic conditions and a poor harvest.
- As in August 2010, **food-insecure** households were more likely to have been affected by shocks and difficulties than food-secure households. Severely food-insecure households in particular mentioned more frequently high food prices (90%), unemployment (50%), decreased salary (45%), health problems (76%) and agricultural-related difficulties (50%), than other households. The role played by individual (idiosyncratic) shocks (jobs, disease) on top of 'common' shocks (e.g. high food prices) for food security is important to note.

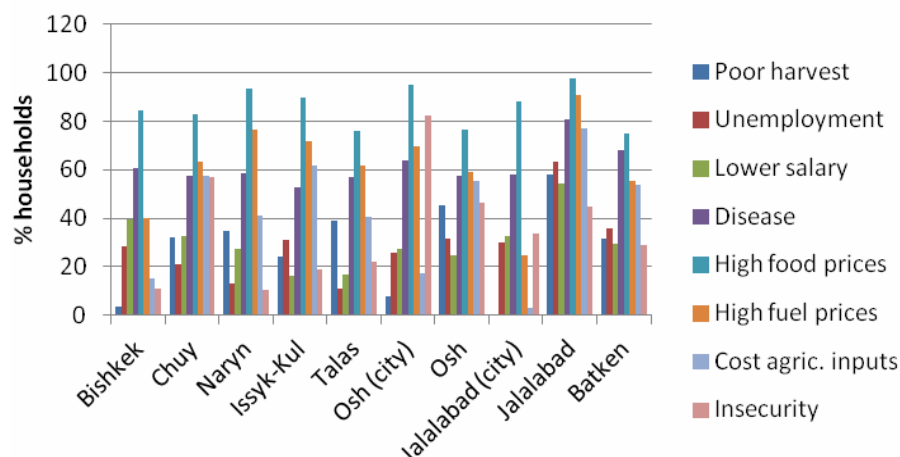


- Overall, there were no significant differences between **woman-** and man-headed households in terms of difficulties faced in the previous 3 months. The same trends as in August 2010 were noted with woman-headed households slightly less likely to report problems related to agriculture. Some variations between problems mentioned by woman- and man-headed households at oblast level continued to be noted, possibly reflecting their diverse degree of engagement in agricultural activities and employment in the various oblasts.

By oblast

- Households in **Jalalabad** (rural) oblast tended to mention more frequently any type of shock than households in other locations, possibly reflecting the aftermath of the June 2010 and their overall negative effects on lives and livelihoods.
- As expected, households in **Osh** (especially in the city) and **Jalalabad** oblasts were more likely to be concerned about insecurity.

Main difficulties in past 3 months, by location - February 2011

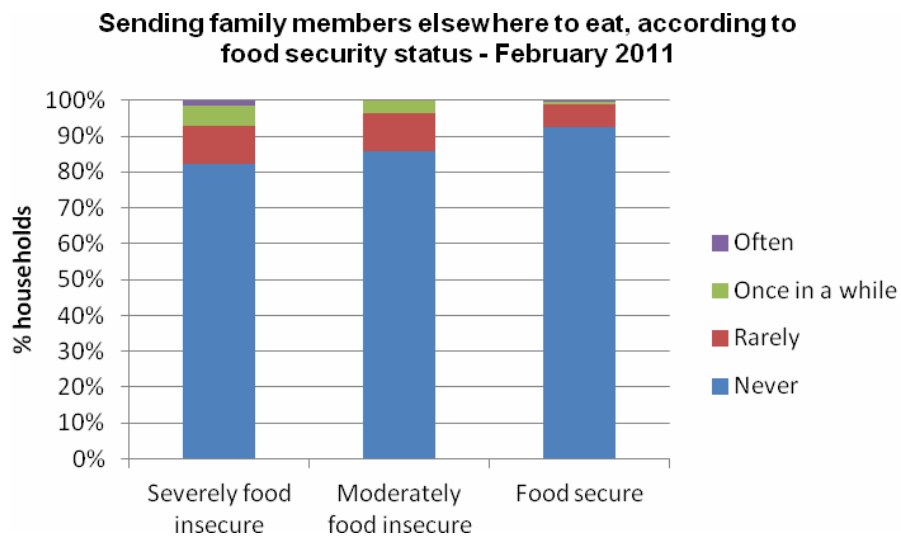
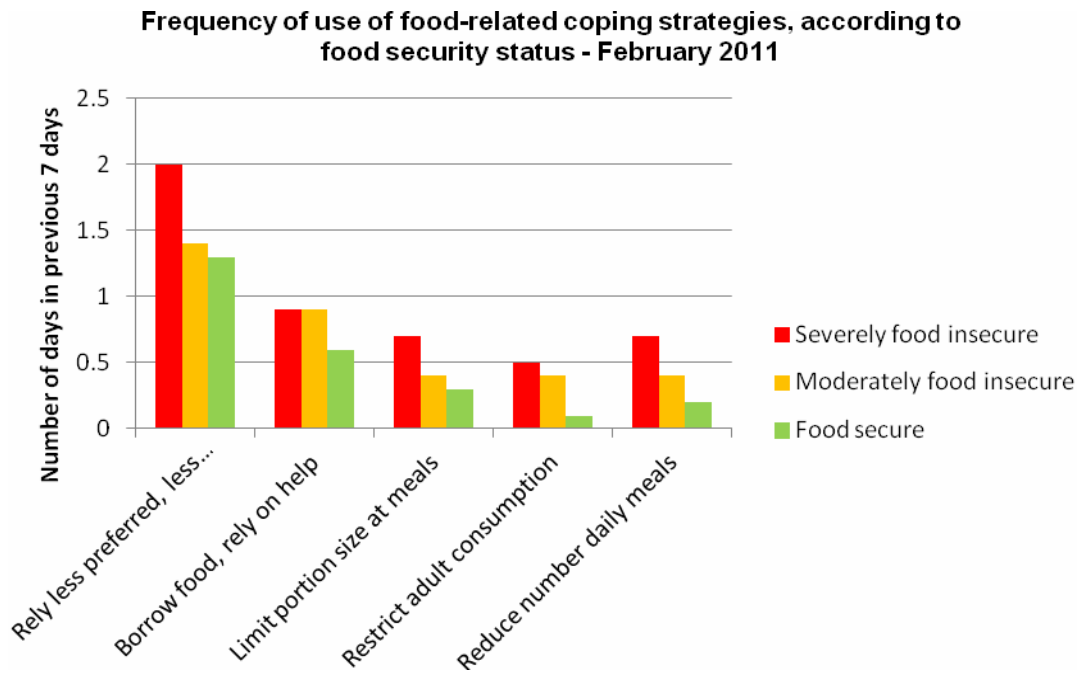


3.16 – Coping strategies

Unfortunately a lower number of coping strategies were examined in the follow-up EFSA than in the August 2010 EFSA, hence comparisons are limited to the Reduced Coping Strategy Index and to only 2 food-related strategies.

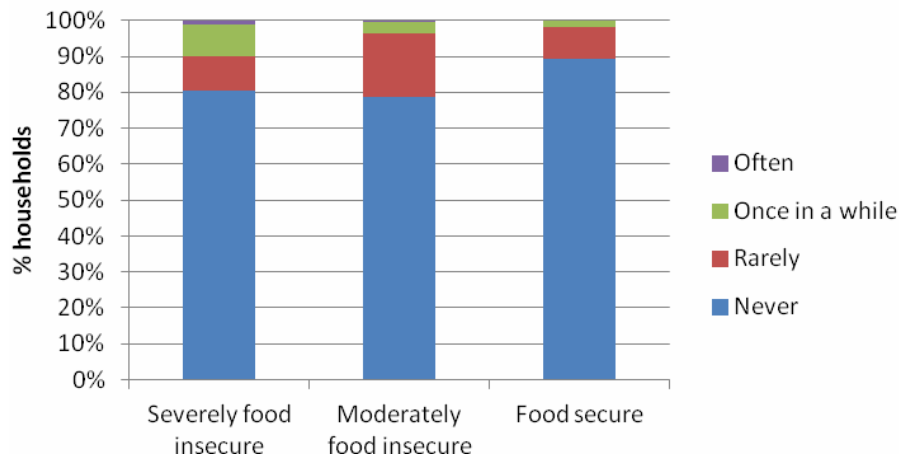
3.16.1 – Use of food-related coping strategies

- About half of the households had used at least one food-related coping strategy during the week preceding the survey to cope with the difficulties caused by the exhaustion of own food stocks, rising food prices, and decreasing income for some households.
- **Reliance on less preferred and less expensive food** was the strategy used most frequently (48% of households). More than 1/3 households borrowed food or relied on help from relatives and friends, while 15%-20% limited portion size at meals, restricted adult consumption in order for children to eat, and/or reduced the number of daily meals.
- About 10% households sent family members elsewhere to eat, but not often.
- Although the prevalence of food insecurity was lower in **urban** than rural areas, urban households tended to change more often food consumption towards less preferred and less expensive food, probably reflecting the hardship caused by rapidly increasing food prices given their higher dependence on food purchases. A similar result was found in August 2010.
- **Food-insecure** households, especially the severely food-insecure, were more likely to have employed food-related coping strategies and to have done it more frequently. However, the frequency of use of these strategies did not increase significantly between August 2010 and February 2011.



- About 20% of food-insecure households used the drastic coping strategy consisting in spending a whole day without eating. The frequency was generally low but some 10% of severely food-insecure households used it several times during a week. These results are similar to August 2010.

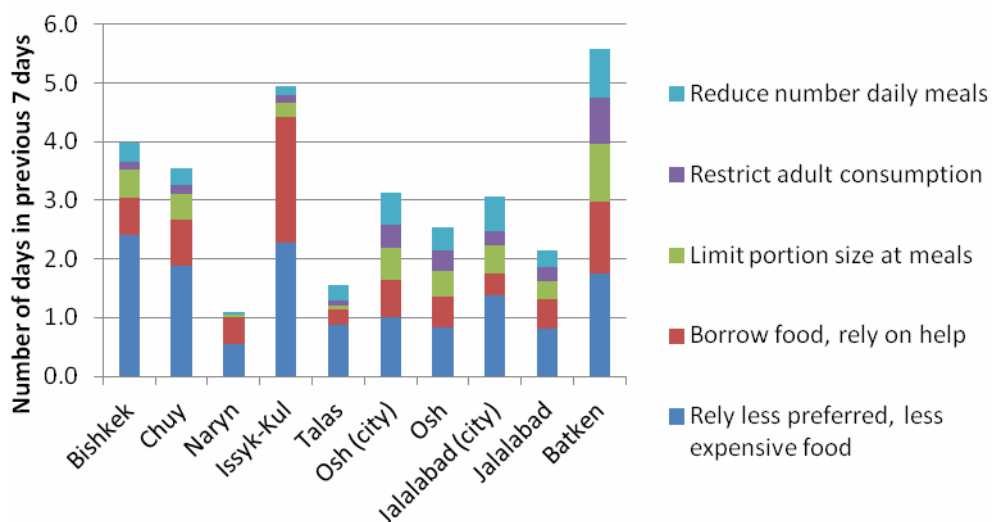
Spending whole day without eating, according to food security status - February 2011



By oblast

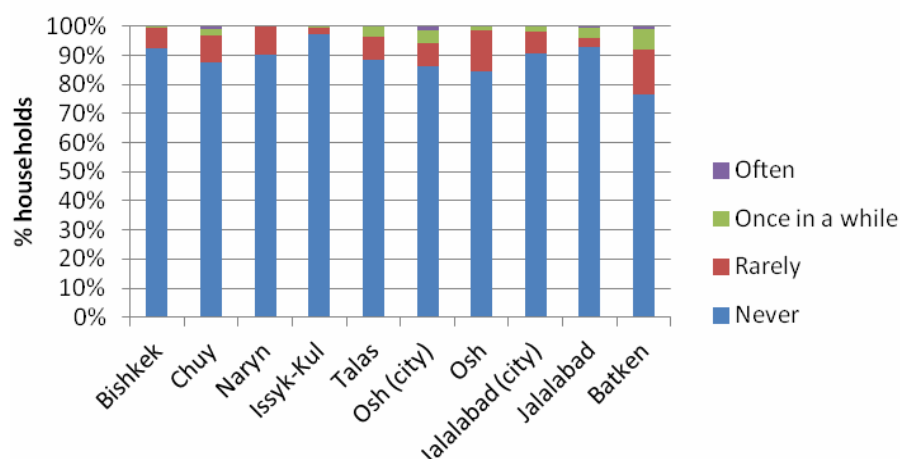
- Generally speaking, households in **Batken** oblast were the most likely to have used coping strategies to cope with difficulties of accessing food, while households in **Naryn** and **Talas** oblasts were the less likely to have done so.
- Households in **Batken** oblast had more often used any of the 5 main food-related coping strategies, followed by households in **Yssyk-Kul** oblast and **Bishkek** city. In Yssyk-Kul, the strategy most frequently used was to borrow food or rely on help from friends and relatives, while in Bishkek households rather tended to switch to less preferred and cheaper food. In Batken, all strategies were used to a quite similar extent.

Frequency of use of food-related coping strategies, by location - February 2011



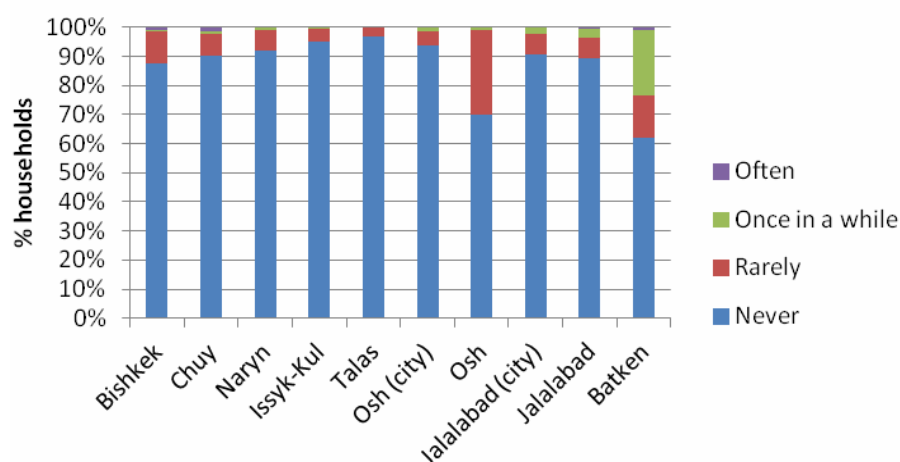
- Households in **Batken** oblast especially, and to a lesser extent in **Chuy**, **Talas**, **Naryn** and **Osh** oblasts and in **Jalalabad city**, were more likely to have sent family members elsewhere to eat

Sending family members elsewhere to eat, by location - February 2011



- The drastic strategy of spending whole day without eating was more frequently mentioned by households in **Batken** oblast, including 22% employing it more than twice a week. It was also relatively frequently mentioned by households in **Osh** (rural) though it was used less often than in Batken (once or twice a week).

Spending whole day without eating, by location - February 2011



3.16.2 – Reduced Coping Strategy Index

- As in the August 2010 EFSA, a group of 5 coping strategies was combined to calculate a **Reduced Coping Strategy Index (R-CSI)**, as described in Box 4. The higher the R-CSI, the more frequently households had to use food-related strategies to respond to their difficulties.

Box 4 – Reduced Coping Strategy Index (R-CSI)

The Reduced Coping Strategy (R-CSI) index is computed by counting the number of times the above strategies had been employed during the 7 days preceding the survey. The index captures typical coping strategies related to food that households employ when they face difficulties to meet their food consumption requirements:

- rely on less preferred and less expensive food;
- borrow food, or rely on help from a friend or relative;

- limit portion size at meal times;
- restrict consumption by adults in order for small children to eat;
- reduce number of meals eaten in a day.

The higher the R-CSI, the more frequently households had to use the strategies in an attempt to resolve their difficulties, thus reflecting greater hardship for these households.

- The mean R-CSI was 4.4, very close to the value found in August 2010 (4.7), confirming that households did not significantly intensified the use of their coping strategies despite increasing difficulties to ensure adequate food consumption. This may be due to increasing limitations of their capacities to do so without significantly jeopardizing their health and livelihoods (see paragraph 3.16.3 below).
- The mean R-CSI was similar in urban and rural areas. Quite surprisingly given the increase of food prices and high dependency on market purchases, the R-CSI has decreased in urban areas compared to August 2010 (4.4 now versus 5.2 in August).
- **Food-insecure** households continued to have a higher R-CSI than food-secure households: 6.6 for severely and 5.0 for moderately food-insecure, compared to 3.5 for food-secure. However, the mean R-CSI of food-insecure households was lower than in August 2010. As mentioned, this may reflect the exhaustion of their coping strategy capacities, rather than any improvement, given the deterioration of the diet and purchasing power.
- **Woman-headed** households tended to have a higher mean R-CSI than man-headed households in urban areas (5.6 versus 4.7), possibly reflecting a higher gender-related vulnerability in cities.

By oblast

- Consistent with the findings for each strategy examined individually, the mean R-CSI was the highest in **Batken** (8.3) and **Yssyk-Kul** (7.3) oblasts and the lowest in **Talas** (2.0) and **Naryn** (1.5) oblasts. These results differ from August 2010 for Batken (sharp rise) and Talas (decrease).

3.16.3 – Strategies entailing risks for the lives and risks for the livelihoods

- As in the August 2010 EFSA, coping strategies were grouped according to the potential risk they may entail⁴⁹ risks for health and nutrition, and eventually for the lives of individuals if they are used on the medium or long-term. It must be noted that households using strategies that may have health, nutrition and life negative consequences also put their livelihoods at risk, as members may become unable to work, and additional health expenditures may have to be incurred.

Strategies entailing risks for health and/or nutritional status	
Type	Frequency
Limit portion size at meal times	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 2 days in past 7 days
Restrict consumption by adults so that children can eat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 2 days in past 7 days
Spend whole days without eating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Once in a while • Often • All the time
Reduce number of daily meals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Often • All the time

⁴⁹ Unfortunately, some coping strategies examined in August 2010 were not included in the February 2011 EFSA questionnaire and it was not possible to analyse coping strategies that may entail risks for future livelihoods.

- Some 11% households in both rural and urban areas used strategies that entail risks for the health and nutritional status of vulnerable members, which is close to the 13% found in August 2010.
- Almost ¼ of the **severely food-insecure** households had used these strategies, but this proportion was less than in August 2010 (almost 40%), possibly because of an exhaustion of their capacities. Despite being food-secure, 8% of these households also used such strategies, indicating a likely vulnerability to become food-insecure in the event of a shock.
- Severely food-insecure **woman-headed** households were more likely than severely food-insecure man-headed households to use strategies that entail health and nutritional status risks.

By oblast

- A very high proportion of households used negative strategies for the health and nutritional status of their vulnerable members in **Batken** oblast (40%), highlighting the severity of the food security situation there.
- The proportions of such households in the cities of Jalalabad (17%) and Bishkek (12%) were similar to the ones noted in August 2010, but it had decreased in Osh oblast, possibly reflecting higher level of assistance there than in Jalalabad.

3.17 - Assistance received

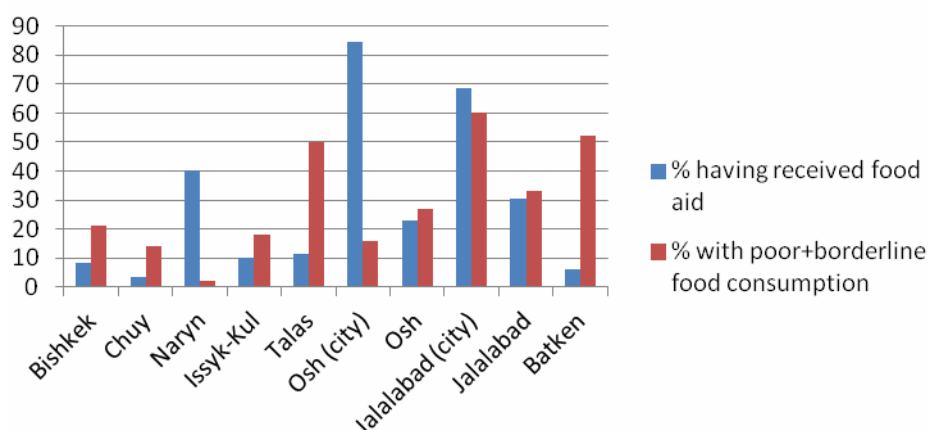
- As in August 2010, about 1/5 households had received **food aid** during the 3 months prior to the survey, in both rural and urban areas.
- Other types of assistance (hygiene kits, household items, seed, fertilizer, agricultural tools, cash) had been received by less than 3% of households.
- A higher proportion of Key Informants reported the receipt of assistance in the surveyed location, which can be expected since not all the households in the location would have been targeted. Food aid had been distributed in almost 40% of the sampled locations, while food- and cash-for-work interventions had taken place in 20%-30% of the places, mostly in Naryn, Osh and Jalalabad oblasts. About 40% of Key Informants reported micro-credit programmes
- **Food-insecure** households were more likely to have received food aid than food-secure households, however 17% of the latter also benefited. This may indicate some inclusion errors, as well as exclusion errors since ¾ of the food-insecure (both severely and moderately) did not receive food aid. This proportion is higher than in August 2010 (60% of the severely food insecure had not received food). The result also shows that the amount of assistance received was not enough to improve food consumption and to lift beneficiaries out of food insecurity.
- A similar proportion of **woman-** and man-headed households had received food assistance except in Jalalabad oblast where woman-headed households were slightly more likely to benefit.

By oblast

- A high proportion of households in the **cities of Osh and Jalalabad** had received food aid during the previous 3 months (about 80%) as well as 30% of households in Jalalabad rural and 23% in Osh rural, reflecting the concentration of assistance in these locations in response to the June 2010 events. A relatively important proportion of households had also benefited from food aid in Naryn oblast (40%).
- Considering the prevalence of food insecurity and more specifically of poor and borderline food consumption, the geographical targeting on **Osh** rural and **Jalalabad** (city and rural)

would seem appropriate but an increase of food assistance in **Batken** oblast in particular, as well as in **Talas** oblast, would be worth considering, while the level of assistance in Osh city could decrease.

Comparison between proportions of food aid beneficiaries and households with inadequate food consumption - February 2011

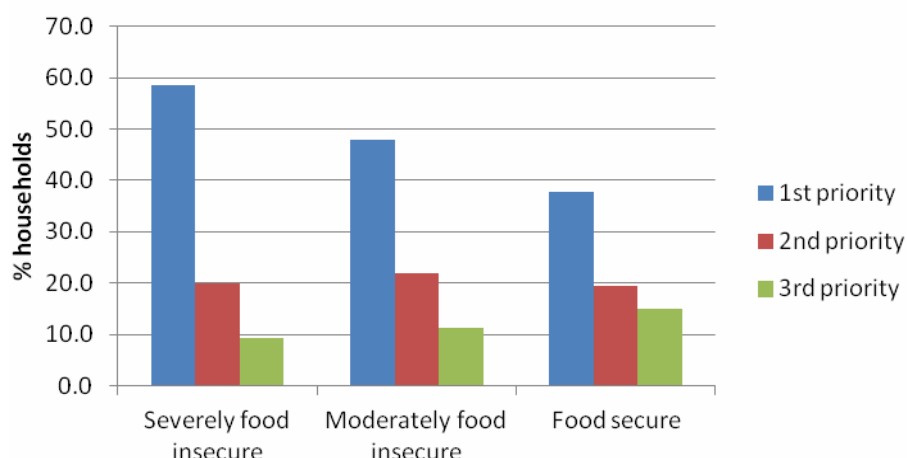


- Only 6% of households interviewed in Osh city and 2% in Jalalabad city had received cash assistance, reflecting the predominance of food-based interventions in response to the June events.
- Most of the beneficiaries used the cash to purchase material to repair their house, to pay for utilities and to cover health expenses. Few used it to purchase staple food, most likely because they were also receiving in-kind food aid.

3.18 – Main priorities

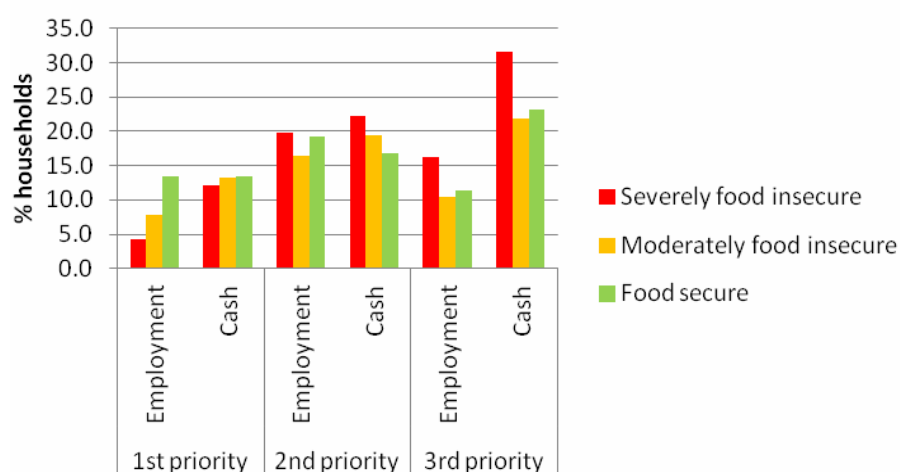
- More than 40% households mentioned **food** as their first main priority, followed by health (24%), cash (13%) and employment (10%). These proportions are similar to August 2010 though with an increased frequency for food (34% in August).
- About 1/5 households in each case mentioned food, health, employment or cash as their 2nd main priority
- Almost 1/4 households indicated cash as their 3rd main priority and about 13% in each case mentioned food employment, health and security.
- Compared to rural households, **urban** households were more likely to mention housing as their first main priority (8% versus 3% rural), and employment as their 2nd main priority (25% versus 14% rural).
- In rural areas, food, micro-credit and cash-for-work were the priorities mentioned by the highest proportion of Key Informants in rural areas (36%-46%), followed by food-for-work (18%), fertilizer (15%) and cash grants (13%). In urban areas, Key Informants mentioned more often micro-credit (29%), followed by food (23%), food- or cash-for-work (18% each), material for house repair or construction (18%), cash grants (12%), agricultural tools (12%), animal fodder /feed and veterinary services (12% each)
- Almost 60% of **severely food-insecure** households mentioned food as their first main priority and half of moderately food-insecure households, compared to 38% of food-secure.

Prioritization of food according to food security status - February 2011



- Compared to food-secure households, food-insecure households were less likely to mention employment as first priority, possibly because of inherent difficulties to work (e.g. health, age, child-care). They tended to mention more frequently cash as their 2nd main priority. Severely food-insecure households were also more likely to mention employment and cash as their 3rd main priorities, than other households.

Prioritization of employment and cash, according to food security status - February 2011

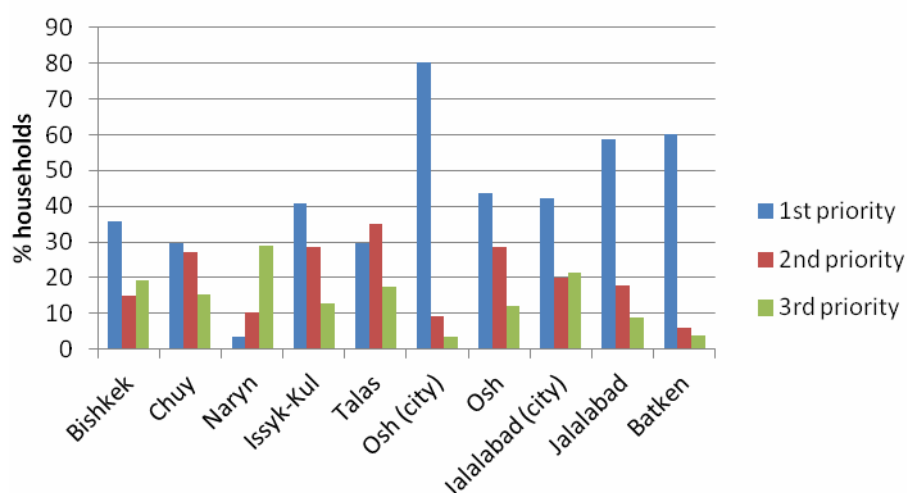


- As in August, the ranking of the main priority was similar between **woman**- and man-headed households although there were some differences across oblasts. For example, woman-headed households in Jalalabad rural and in Osh city were much more likely to rank food as their main priority than man-headed households, but less likely to do so in Batken oblast and Bishkek city. In Batken oblast, woman-headed households mentioned more frequently employment or health as their first priority. In Bishkek, they tended to prioritize more often housing and cash.

By oblast

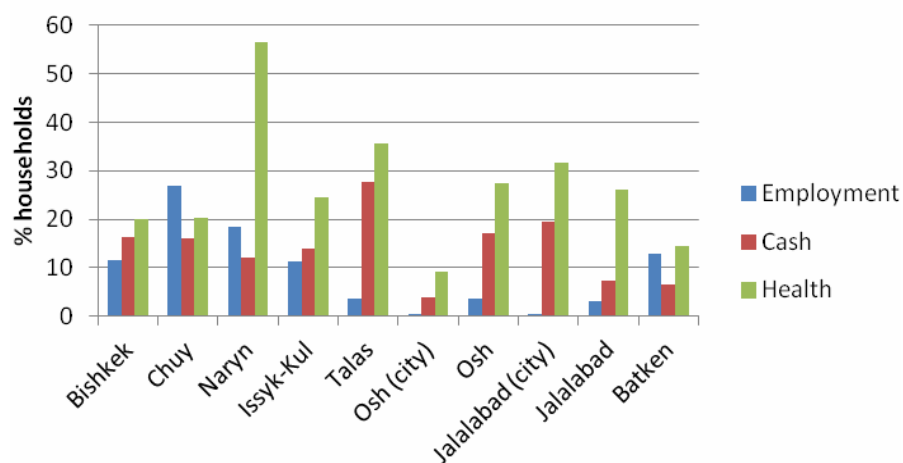
- Food was given high priority by most households (80%) in **Osh city** and by about 60% households in **Jalalabad rural** and **Batken** oblast. Compared to August 2010, the proportion of households prioritizing food decreased in Talas and Yssyk-Kul oblasts and increased in the above-mentioned ones.

Prioritization of food, by location - February 2011



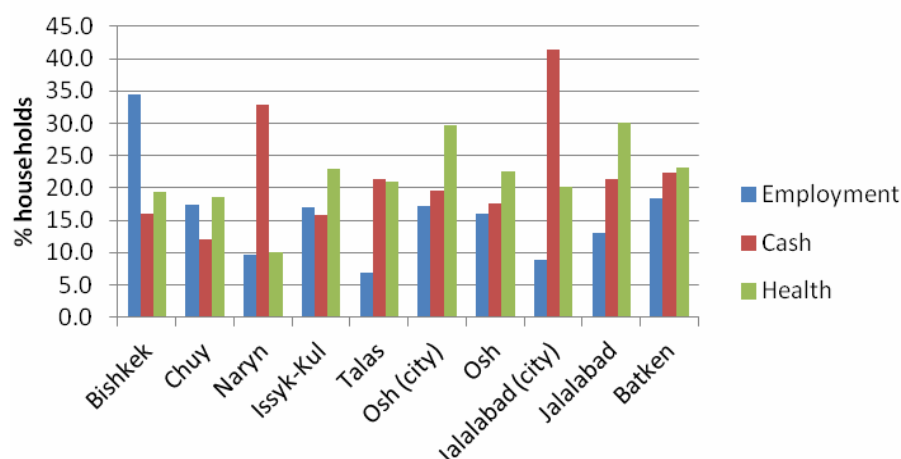
- Health was mentioned as first main priority by more than half of the households in **Naryn** oblast, and more than 30% in **Talas** and **Jalalabad** oblasts. As in August 2010, employment was a more frequent priority for households in **Chuy** oblast than in other locations.

Employment, cash and health as 1st priority, by location - February 2011



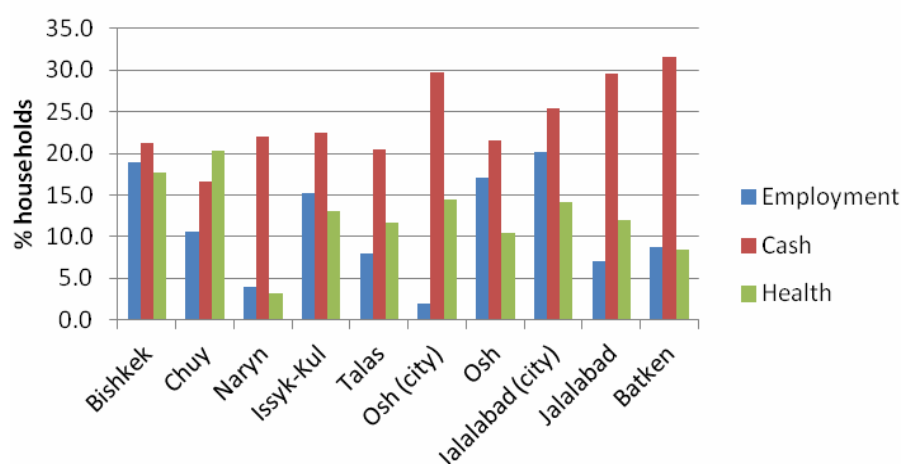
- Cash was the most frequent 2nd main priority for households in **Jalalabad city** and in **Naryn** oblast, while employment was more often mentioned as 2nd priority in **Bishkek** city. Health was a more frequent 2nd priority for households in **Osh city** and **Jalalabad rural**.

Employment, cash and health as 2nd priority, by location - February 2011



- In almost all locations, cash was most frequently mentioned 3rd priority, especially in **Osh**, **Jalalabad** and **Batken** oblasts.

Employment, cash and health as 3rd priority, by location - February 2011



IV – SUMMARY OF CURRENT FOOD SECURITY SITUATION AND FORECAST EVOLUTION

4.1 – Summary of the food security situation and main factors

The results of this follow-up EFSA confirm previous assessment findings.

Some 14% of the households were severely food-insecure. Severe food insecurity continued to be worse in rural areas (18%) than in urban areas (6%). The prevalence of food-insecurity has increased markedly compared to the August 2010 EFSA (4% severely). Changes have translated essentially into a deterioration of food consumption rather than into an increase of poverty. This is mainly explained by the exhaustion of households' own food stocks from the harvest, decreased seasonal food trade and work opportunities, lingering

effects of the civil unrest in 2010 on the economy and livelihoods, and sharp rise of food prices this year (see below).

The highest levels of severe food insecurity were found in **Jalalabad** oblast, particularly in the **city** (40%) but also in **rural areas** (19%), **Osh oblast rural** (22%) and **Batken** (26%) oblast, followed by **Talas** and **Yssyk-Kul** oblasts. In August 2010, the prevalence of food insecurity had been higher in Osh, Yssyk-Kul, Talas, Batken and Naryn oblasts. The best food security situation continued to be in Bishkek city and Chuy oblast.

The food security analysis again substantiates that food insecurity in the Kyrgyz Republic is essentially **chronic**, with **poverty** as the basic cause of poor food consumption. However, the proportion of food-insecure people and the severity of food insecurity also present marked **seasonal** variations, manifested by a deterioration of the diet in post-harvest time (winter/early spring) when food stocks from the harvest are exhausted, seasonal work and trade opportunities decrease and prices increase. During this period, the low income and productive asset base of households do not enable them to maintain an adequate frequency and diversity of food intake, putting the health and nutritional status of vulnerable members in jeopardy.

The seasonal deterioration of food consumption in 2010/2011 was compounded by:

- the post-conflict effects of the violence in Osh and Jalalabad oblasts, which impaired affected households' access to their normal livelihoods, including limitations on harvest of some crops, loss of businesses and jobs;
- indirect effects of the conflict in neighbouring Batken oblast through the closure of the border with Uzbekistan which prevented cross-border trade at a critical harvest time, and in other oblasts through general depression of the national economy, including decreased tourism, pressure on the national budget to respond to the crisis, depressed trade activity and decreased private sector confidence; increased remittances from Kyrgyz workers abroad and output growth in the gold mining sector were insufficient to compensate for these effects on already poor and vulnerable households; and
- the sharp rise of food prices and general inflation during the last 4 months of 2010 and beginning of 2011, over and above normal seasonal variations, which was not matched by a corresponding rise of wages, pensions and allowances, leading to a deterioration of households' purchasing power.

Structural characteristics are associated with poor and food-insecure households, including:

- large family size;
- presence of vulnerable members (young children, pregnant/lactating women, elderly, chronically sick individuals);
- lack of education preventing access to well-remunerated and regular jobs;
- low access to land and irrigation and lack of income to purchase fertilizer and other inputs, limiting agricultural productivity;
- lack of or small number of animals limiting access to expensive animal products of high nutritional value (good quality protein and micronutrients); and
- low access to market information, unreliable trade agreements and insufficiently remunerative prices for products; and low-paid and irregular employment.

In turn, these characteristics stem from deteriorating education services and levels of education, unemployment, and inadequacy of the social assistance system to cater for the needs of the jobless, pensioners and large families. In past years, food imports have grown to meet domestic demand for food, confirming that food insecurity is more a problem of low incomes than low availability of food.

Updated information on the nutritional status of the population is unavailable but the inadequacy of services such as water, sanitation and health, particularly in remote areas, is expected to also affect the health and nutritional status of vulnerable members, and aggravate the effects of poor food consumption in the lean season.

Natural disasters and economic shocks to which the Kyrgyz population is recurrently affected, especially since 2008 with the high food and fuel price crisis and the global economic downturn, as well as the civil unrest in 2010, have prevented any significant decrease of poverty and food insecurity over the past few years.

The follow-up EFSA also confirmed that **woman-headed households** are not more frequently food-insecure than man-headed households. The structural factors of food insecurity mentioned above are the main drivers of food insecurity, rather than the gender of the head of household.

4.2 – Macro-economic prospects for the next 12 months

Following the ouster of the president in April 2010 and the outbreak of ethnically-motivated violence in June, the country will remain vulnerable to further unrest. The main source of uncertainty in the next 12 months is related to the October 2011 presidential election, during the leading time to it and the post-election period. Public demonstrations are expected to remain frequent and could easily turn violent.

The borders with Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan have been closed periodically since the outbreak of violence in April 2010. Border restrictions will remain tight and the borders will continue to be subject to arbitrary closure⁵⁰, affecting trade and livelihoods.

Restoration of stability ought to be a priority of the current administration, and foreign financial assistance is expected to support social spending. However, difficulties with revenue-raising and high levels of social spending will lead to large budget deficits. The current account is anticipated to record a deficit equivalent to 13% of GDP in 2011-12. This deficit will require significant financing from foreign sources⁵¹.

According to official statistics and projections by the Economist Intelligence Unit, the GDP is projected to grow by 4%-5% in 2011, thus picking up from its decrease in 2010 (-1.4%). The agricultural production is also forecast to recover (by 3% compared to 2010), as well as retail turnover (by 4%). The Russian and Kazakh economies, which are important markets for Kyrgyz exports as well as significant sources of remittances, will recover further in 2011. Construction, which suffered a severe downturn in 2010, is likely to provide a significant boost to the economy, as infrastructure projects resume, and the damage that businesses and dwellings suffered in mid-2010 is repaired⁵².

Prices for gold, Kyrgyzstan's main export, boosted export revenues in 2010 and this trend is expected to continue in 2011. However, the value of exports is expected to decrease slightly as global gold prices fall, while import costs will rise in 2011 as domestic demand recovers and global commodity prices are rising, leading to a deterioration of the balance of trade⁵³.

Inflation is anticipated to remain at a similar level in 2011 than in 2010, at 6%-7%. However, some projections are contradictory, anticipating a 10% jump in unemployment and inflation in excess of 20% in 2011⁵⁴.

The renewed food price rises create a range of macro vulnerabilities, particularly domestic food inflation and overall inflation. Countries such as Kyrgyzstan with a high share of net food and energy imports face current fiscal account vulnerabilities. The fiscal impact of the price rises depends on the extent to which food tax revenues increase and expenditures on mitigating measures – such as for social protection programmes – are increased⁵⁵.

⁵⁰ Kyrgyzstan Country Report February 2011. The Economist Intelligence Unit.

⁵¹ Kyrgyzstan Country Report February 2011. The Economist Intelligence Unit.

⁵² Kyrgyzstan Country Report February 2011. The Economist Intelligence Unit.

⁵³ Interstate Statistical Committee of the CIS. <http://www.cisstat.com>.

⁵⁴ <http://www.eurasianet.org/node/62904>

⁵⁵ Food Price Watch. The World Bank, February 2011.

4.3 – Agricultural production and food price prospects

According to the Ministry of Agriculture, 74% of the total wheat seed needs are available from storage facilities. The balance is expected to be purchased with funds from the World Bank and USAID. The country's needs in barley seeds would be covered by 87% with the remaining amount to be obtained from humanitarian assistance from Russia and funding from the World Bank⁵⁶. Nevertheless, it seems that many farmers face difficulties to secure agricultural inputs for the 2011 spring agricultural season due to the high prices of fuel and fertilizer⁵⁷.

A number of announcements were made by officials in the press to support farmers but the extent of implementation of the proposed measures is uncertain. For example, the Deputy Prime Minister declared that upon adoption of the budget by the Parliament, credits would be authorized to private and state-owned farms to boost agricultural production and reduce food prices⁵⁸. Heavy bureaucratic requirements to access credit and high interest rate were mentioned as critical constraints however.

In Osh, a press release from discussions with the Governor indicated that agricultural works for the spring season were 25-30 days behind schedule, with irrigation systems still dysfunctional and lack of fertilizers, seeds and machinery, and credit⁵⁹. The creation of a committee to disburse low-interest loans to farmers to enable them to start planting and of a special committee to regulate food prices was announced⁶⁰. The Governor of Batken oblast indicated that Kyrgyz banks will open branches or mobile offices in the most remote villages to enable farmers to receive remittances from relatives or micro-credit companies⁶¹.

The extension of the wheat export ban from Russia until the end of 2011 is under discussion by the Russian Government. Should it be confirmed, it will continue to put pressure on international wheat prices, with further transmission to domestic markets. At global level, the upward pressure on food prices is predicted to continue as a result of supply shocks in agriculture coupled with long-term demand growth and slowing progress in agricultural production.

On the positive side, the increase of duties on petroleum products imposed by the Government of Russia to exports to Kyrgyzstan since April 2010 was suspended early March 2011, contributing to a reduction of the price of gasoline⁶². In addition, in mid-February 2011 the Government announced its intention to amend the law on customs' tariffs in order to lift import duties on meat, edible oils, wheat grain and flour, buckwheat, rice, sugar and other food products⁶³, and to issue a decree to rise the duty tax on wheat exports to Tajikistan and Uzbekistan from 30% to 50% in order to contain prices and prevent wheat shortages⁶⁴.

WFP distributed 21,000 Mt of food in 2009-2010 under its Vulnerable Group Feeding programme in 6 oblasts, and some 8,446 Mt of food in 2010 to conflict-affected population in Osh and Jalalabad oblasts. These amounts, though obviously significant for the beneficiaries, represent less than 3% of commercial imports.

⁵⁶ http://kabar.kg/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=15096&Itemid=1

⁵⁷ According to a January 2011 press release from the Association of Farmers, farmers would currently be able to cover only half of their fuel and fertilizer requirements.

⁵⁸ <http://members.vb.kg/2011/03/04/podrobn/1.html>.

⁵⁹ http://www.centralasiaonline.com/cocoon/caii/xhtml/en_GB/newsbriefs/caii/newsbriefs/2011/03/03/newsbrief-12

⁶⁰ <http://fergana.akipress.org/news:116641/>

⁶¹ <http://members.vb.kg/2011/03/04/vektor/1.html>

⁶² <http://members.vb.kg/2011/03/04/vektor/5.html>

⁶³ <http://www.pr.kg/news/kg/2011/03/02/19341/>

⁶⁴ http://www.akipress.com/en_news.php?id=42597

http://www.akipress.com/en_news.php?id=42596

4.4 – Poverty and household food security prospects

In response to the large increase of food and non-food prices, the Government had initially budgeted an adjustment of pensions and allowances in 2 steps in 2011, with a 12% increase starting in May and a further increase to reach the minimum wage by the autumn. However, since then the Government apparently decided to allocate the corresponding funds to “other needs”⁶⁵.

Following strikes at the beginning of 2011, the Government pledged to increase significantly the salary of teachers and medical personnel. However, this measure could exacerbate inflation and further limit the Government’s resources. According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), an expansionary - though contained - fiscal expansion would be appropriate to sustain recovery and help the worst affected by the 2010 crisis and current inflation. It is acknowledged that in the absence of support to the most vulnerable, a new wave of public demonstration and civil unrest could spark⁶⁶.

Despite their pick-up in 2010, remittances from Kyrgyz workers abroad are expected to be lower in 2011 than in previous years⁶⁷. Few households reported reliance on remittances as their main source of cash, however those who benefited were likely to receive significant amounts compared to other cash sources.

The rise of food prices is predicted to persist into 2011 and will continue to put pressure on households’ access to food. In the absence of significant adjustment of minimum wages, pensions and allowances, the purchasing power of households will remain depressed and affect the amount and diversity of food consumed.

In the southern oblasts (including Osh, Jalalabad and Batken), the effects of the June 2010 events will carry on for directly and indirectly affected households as they struggle to resume their activities (particularly trade) and many must also use part of their resources for reconstruction. An upsurge of violence in the southern oblasts is feared for this coming spring in the run-up to the October 2011 presidential elections and would aggravate the food security situation there.

V – SUGGESTIONS FOR FOOD SECURITY ASSISTANCE AND FOR WFP’S OPERATIONS

5.1 – Framework for food and nutrition insecurity in Kyrgyzstan

Food insecurity in Kyrgyzstan manifests itself through the consumption of a cereal- and starch-based diet that does not provide sufficient energy for a significant part of the population, and lacks minerals and vitamins essential for growth and health for an even larger number. This diet is a key contributing factor to chronic malnutrition among young children, anaemia and other nutrition-related illnesses that affect individual’s learning capacities and productivity. Malnutrition is compounded by the deterioration of public health services such as drinking water, sanitation and waste disposal systems particularly in rural and remote areas. At national level, malnutrition translates into significant economic losses, recently estimated at US\$32 million (0.7% of GDP)⁶⁸.

Food is available at national level in Kyrgyzstan from domestic agricultural production and commercial imports. Seasonal shortages limit the variety of food available in some remote mountainous areas in winter times, due to lack of appropriate storage facilities and all-

⁶⁵ <http://www.24.kg/economics/94603-glava-pravitelstva-kyrgyzstana-prosit-parlament.html>

⁶⁶ <http://www.eurasianet.org/node/62904>

⁶⁷ Kyrgyzstan Country Report February 2011. The Economist Intelligence Unit.

⁶⁸ Situational Analysis. Improving Economic Outcomes by Expanding Nutrition Programming in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. Draft. World Bank/UNICEF, May 2010.

weather roads enabling traders to bring in supplies. In other areas, insufficient purchasing power to acquire available food is the main factor of food insecurity.

Low purchasing power, in turn, is related to:

- unemployment and under-employment, in both urban and rural areas;
- deteriorating education quality that limits access to well-remunerated jobs;
- low agricultural productivity in rural areas mostly;
- deficient infrastructures limiting trade;
- inadequate social assistance system which excludes most of the eligible poor⁶⁹, provides low benefits and does not protect against shocks as such loss of job, illness or natural- and man-made disasters.

The August 2010 EFSA report included some general recommendations on the short- and medium-term to address food insecurity in Kyrgyzstan, taking into consideration the 2010 civil unrest events. A brief summary is provided here, as these recommendations remain relevant.

Donors' support to the government budget is needed to meet emergency expenditures, social assistance for housing, livelihoods, social protection and other social programmes, investments to rebuild destroyed infrastructure and in the energy and transport sectors, and support for agriculture and security-related requirements. At the international donor conference held in July 2010, donors pledged US\$1.1 billion aid to the Government in 2010-2012. Funds actually received in 2010 were lower, including US\$30 million from Russia, about US\$29 million from the World Bank, US\$33 million from the IMF, and US\$10 million from Turkey. A US\$40 million financial aid from the Asian Development Bank was approved mid-March⁷⁰.

Considering the important role of pensions and social transfers to alleviate poverty and food insecurity, measures to strengthen the **social assistance system** are essential, including an expansion of the Monthly Benefit in coverage and size, and an adjustment of the compensation/privileges budget compared to other social assistance transfers. There is no evidence that such measures have been taken to date however.

In the short- to medium-term, **employment creation** and **targeted livelihood support** are also necessary for those who had been directly affected by the violence in April and June 2010 and other vulnerable and poor population groups, as well as other marginalized, at-risk regions is necessary.

To address chronic undernutrition (high stunting rates) suspected in some areas, a package of **preventive and therapeutic nutrition interventions** (salt iodization, promotion of complementary feeding practices and zinc for the treatment of diarrhoea, promotion of exclusive breastfeeding, supplementation to pregnant women, and fortification of salt with iodine and flour with vitamins and minerals), together with social protection and agricultural support to address the underlying and basic causes of undernutrition, should be implemented.

5.2 – Previous and ongoing food security assistance

5.2.1 – Food security assistance from the Government and other agencies

The Government is implementing short-term measures to address the effects of high food prices and to increase agricultural production. A credit scheme for farmers at favourable rates is in place but bureaucratic hurdles are limiting access by needy farmers and the actual interest rate may be higher for the end recipient farmers due to the involvement of intermediaries, particularly in areas without bank services. Agricultural fairs are planned in

⁶⁹ An estimated 67% of the extreme poor are excluded from Monthly Benefit. Source: Joint Economic Assessment: Reconciliation, Recovery and Reconstruction. Asian Development Bank, International Monetary Fund, The World Bank. July 2010.

⁷⁰ <http://eng.24.kg/business/2011/03/14/16822.html>

some cities to allow producers to sell directly to consumers⁷¹, thus saving on intermediation costs, but the timing of their implementation and their scale are uncertain.

A one-off distribution of 50 kg of wheat flour from State stocks to about 123,570 vulnerable households was planned to be undertaken in March in Jalalabad, Naryn and Yssyk-Kul oblasts⁷².

FAO and a number of NGOs are active in the areas affected by the violence in June 2010 to support food production, processing and marketing. However, a number of livelihood-support activities particularly in the health and agricultural sectors are not being undertaken for lack of funding.

5.2.2 – WFP assistance

WFP implemented 2 emergency operations⁷³ (EMOPs) in Kyrgyzstan:

- EMOP 108040 in response to the high food price and energy crisis at the end of 2008 (540,000 food-insecure beneficiaries), and
- EMOP 200161 in response to the June 2010 conflict in Osh and Jalalabad oblasts (552,000 conflict-affected and food-insecure beneficiaries).

Under the first EMOP, food-insecure households in rural areas of 6 oblasts (Yssyk-Kul, Naryn, Batken, Talas, Jalalabad and Osh) presenting a high prevalence of food insecurity were enrolled in a Vulnerable Group Feeding (VGF) programme and received a food ration twice a year during the lean season (winter and spring). VGF beneficiaries were selected on the basis of food security-related criteria including family size, low income, lack of or low acreage of non-irrigated or irrigated land, lack of or low number of cattle and small ruminants owned, and lack of or low number of productive assets. The food ration was calculated to cover the estimated food consumption gaps of food-insecure households and consisted of 75 kg of wheat flour and 8 litres of oil for a 5-member family for 3 months.

Under the 2nd EMOP, food assistance was extended to additional beneficiaries in Osh and Jalalabad oblasts in both rural and urban areas affected by the violence, including IDPs and host families as well as food-insecure residents presenting the same food security profile as the VGF beneficiaries. Targeting was done on a combination of conflict-related (destruction of housing, loss of family member, hosting status), demographic (presence of vulnerable members, large families) and economic criteria (ownership of productive assets, access to land and animals, income level). With the exception of conflict-related criteria, the others were consistent with those used for the 'regular' VGF programme.

Both EMOPs were extended till June 2011 and a Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO 200036) has been prepared for the period July 2011-June 2013. The PRRO envisages:

- a continuation of the VGF programme for 370,000 food-insecure persons (74,000 households) living in isolated, remote rural areas to bridge seasonal food security gaps;
- food-/cash-for-work and food-/cash-for-training for 30,000 participants (150,000 beneficiaries) to build assets and increase resilience;
- the set-up of a 'light' Food Security Monitoring System jointly with the Government.

5.3 – Food security assistance during the next 12 months

5.3.1 – Objectives of WFP food security assistance

⁷¹ http://www.akipress.com/en_news.php?id=42939

⁷² <http://www.kg.akipress.org/news:338641>

⁷³ EMOP 108040 "Winter Emergency Food Aid Response" 1st January 2009 to 30 June 2011 – EMOP 200161 "Food Assistance to Conflict-Affected Populations" 1st July 2010 to 30 June 2011

The specific emergency food assistance provided by WFP to households affected by the June 2010 inter-ethnic violence in Osh and Jalalabad oblasts can stop as long as people have returned to their homes or receive support from other agencies and the authorities. However, food insecurity which was pre-existing the June events will continue to affect vulnerable households in these oblasts and will also persist elsewhere in the country, due to entrenched poverty, structural constraints to agricultural production and inefficient markets, as well as low resilience to recurrent shocks, mostly weather-related. In recent months, food insecurity has been compounded by the sharp increase in food and non-food prices, resulting in increased severity of food insecurity and in a fall into food insecurity for some previously food-secure households.

In this context, WFP food assistance should aim at:

- restoring food security following economic, weather- and possibly violence-related shocks;
- building resilience to shocks in order to protect and reinforce poor households' access to food and vulnerable individuals' nutritional status; and
- strengthening the Government's capacity to address food insecurity on the medium- and longer-term.

WFP assistance should complement - and not substitute - existing Government interventions, with a focus on households and individuals excluded from the social assistance system or receiving amounts insufficient to allow access to diversified food, and on reinforcing existing programmes (e.g. social assistance, school feeding) and food security-related processes (e.g. the KIHS). It would play a safety net role until the Government's own systems and procedures have the capacity to meet the needs of chronically and transitory food-insecure people on a sustainable basis.

5.3.2 – Modalities of food assistance

Food assistance should encompass different intervention modalities to address the various dimensions of food insecurity, including:

- **food- or cash-for-work** articulated with agricultural interventions to increase productivity, and with infrastructure rehabilitation and upgrading to improve access to markets and essential services such as health, water, sanitation and schools in areas where they are inadequate, and to prevent and mitigate disasters (e.g. floods, mudslides); and
- **food- or cash-for-training** for the large number of unemployed youth, and other individuals whose lack of skills impairs access to jobs or limits their self-entrepreneurship initiatives. An analysis of the labour market and of trade opportunities would need to be conducted to define the most appropriate training;
- **unconditional food or cash transfers** for poor and food-insecure people unable to work, such as people with disabilities, the elderly, and woman-headed households without other physically-able adult available to work.

The choice between in-kind (food) and cash-based transfers (vouchers or cash) should be informed by a market analysis, looking *inter alia* at the capacity of traders to supply food in response to increased households' demand (especially in remote areas), access to cash disbursement facilities, and effects of a cash injection on prices.

A review of the Government's nation-wide **school feeding** programme and school facilities should be conducted to identify the relevance and possibilities of WFP's engagement to enhance the impact of the programme on child learning and as food security support to households in areas of high prevalence of food insecurity. The current daily allowance per school child is very low (10 KGS, i.e. US\$0.2) and only allows for a small snack of low nutritional value. According to official announcements, the school feeding budget will not increase in 2011 compared to 2010, but the daily allowance may rise to 15 KGS per child for the next 2011/12 school year⁷⁴.

⁷⁴ <http://www.kg.akipress.org/news:339241>

At the same time, **capacity development and advocacy efforts** with the Government should be stepped up to:

- improve targeting of food-insecure households,
- increase the level of assistance to people unable to obtain sufficient income due to unemployment, disability, or lack of assets (e.g. for agricultural production),
- support the design of programmes to tackle the underlying and basic causes of food insecurity such as job creation, credit, agricultural inputs and extension services, and market information and performance, and
- improve the timeliness of the food security monitoring system (mostly based on the KIHS) to inform decision-making.

5.3.3 – Targeting of assistance

Food-insecure households can be found everywhere in the country, but some oblasts present higher concentrations and most of these households are located in rural areas. Availability of resources and implementation capacities (e.g. partners, logistics) must be taken into account to select geographic areas, with priority given to **oblasts and districts with high proportions of severely food-insecure households**, particularly rural areas of Osh and Jalalabad oblasts, and Batken oblast, as well as Talas oblast to a slightly lesser extent.

As in August 2010, the vast majority of Key Informants (90% or more) considered large families, lonely pensioners, households with disabled members and households with orphans as the groups facing the most difficulties to access food and income. Many (70%-80%) also mentioned woman-headed households, the landless, those without animals (especially in Naryn, Jalalabad and Batken oblasts) and those without migrants/remittances (especially in Naryn and Jalalabad oblasts).

The follow-up EFSA identifies the following households as food-insecure or at risk of becoming food-insecure at certain times of the year or in the event of a shock, who would benefit from food security assistance:

1. without access to land or animals, or with a too low acreage and animal numbers to ensure more than a couple of months of self-consumption;
2. low cash sources on a per capita basis (below poverty line) and irregular cash sources (e.g. casual unskilled work, seasonal low-paid work), including those benefiting from small social allowances;
3. 'aggravating factors' such as large family size and vulnerable members (e.g. under-5 children, pregnant and lactating women, chronically sick or handicapped individuals).

Ownership of domestic assets is not a strong discriminating criteria and should thus be used with caution, probably more during the eligibility checking process than as a selection criteria.

The above characteristics are already captured in the targeting criteria used to select WFP beneficiaries for the VGF programme. However, as highlighted in the previous EFSA report, some flexibility is required in terms of animal and asset ownership so as to enable providing assistance **before** these households start depleting their animal herd or assets. Households "at risk" would include those affected by punctual weather-related, economic or social shocks which may entail a loss of harvest, impaired access to markets and to workplaces, loss of job, or increased expenditures for medical expenses.

Considering the results of this EFSA and the previous one in August, the main characteristics of food-insecure households which can be used in combination for targeting are summarized in Table 2.

Table 2 – Livelihood characteristics of food insecure households

Livelihood assets	Characteristics of food insecure households
Human and social	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Headed by an adult older than 60 years of age, especially if woman; • Include under-5 children, pregnant or lactating woman, and/or chronically sick

Livelihood assets	Characteristics of food insecure households
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> member(s); • Large family size (6 or more) – 3 or more children under 16 years of age
Physical and natural	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IDP: house destroyed or severely damaged by violence; • Likely to use wood or animal dung as main cooking fuel; • No food stocks, or stocks for less than 2 weeks; • No access to garden or land for cultivation and to fertilizer; • Lost/decreased harvest and low duration for own consumption (3 months or less) for those who can cultivate; • Lost/lack of animals or less than 10 poultry, less than 10 sheep, less than 3 cattle; • No petty trade stock or shop; • Impaired access to markets and to workplaces.
Financial assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only 1 member able to earn cash; • Loss of life or health problems of a bread-winner; • Reliance on charity, sale of crops, sale of vegetables, irregular unskilled wage labour and pensions/allowances as main sources of cash and income, providing low, unreliable and/or unsustainable income.

In terms of timing of the assistance, the difference in the prevalence of household food insecurity between the August 2010 EFSA and this follow-up EFSA in February 2011 confirms important seasonal variation of food insecurity⁷⁵, which manifests itself in changes in the diet (both in quantity and diversity) as well as in food purchasing power. As a result, it makes sense to concentrate food assistance interventions during the **most critical months of the year** in the winter and early spring, when food stocks are low and prices high. This applies especially to rural areas where most of the food-insecure are located.

5.4 – Estimated number of people needing food security assistance

Estimations of the number of households and people requiring food security assistance were made considering the current prevalence of severe food insecurity.

On this basis, an estimated **763,820 persons** were **currently severely food-insecure**.

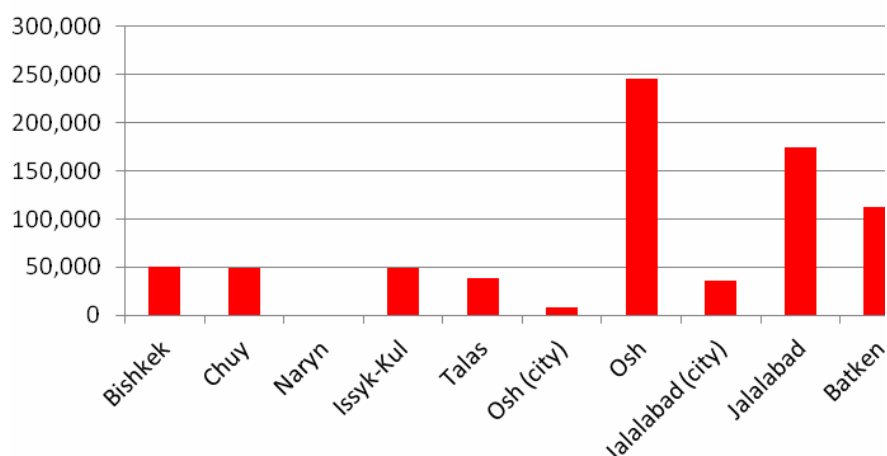
	Severely food-insecure
Total⁷⁶	763,825
Bishkek	50,790
Chuy	48,492
Naryn	0
Issyk-Kul	48,543
Talas	38,930
Osh (city)	7,773
Osh	245,938
Jalalabad (city)	35,600
Jalalabad	174,971
Batken	112,788

Severely food-insecure people are concentrated in **Osh** and **Jalalabad** oblasts (rural) and in **Batken** oblast, followed by **Chuy** oblast.

⁷⁵ Seasonal variations are not prominent in the KIHS, possibly because the food consumption indicator is based on kilocalorie intake which may hide large seasonal changes in the quality (diversity) of the diet.

⁷⁶ The total per column is obtained from the sum of the oblast figures. The sum of urban+rural figures differs slightly, due to the weights attributed to the sample.

**Numbers of severely food-insecure persons by location -
February 2011**



5.5 – Food security monitoring

A solid **Food Security Monitoring System** (FSMS) should be set up (as already planned using funding from AIDCO) to check upon variations of the food security situation in particularly vulnerable areas which may warrant a revision of the timing, duration and amount of assistance, and targeting. As described in the August 2010 EFSA report, the FSMS should be designed to complement the KIHS by focusing on sentinel sites in areas prone to food insecurity due to their location and socio-economic characteristics. Its design should enable to deliver timely information for decision-making.

The proposed approach is to launch the FSMS in one pilot oblast, using an approach akin to the Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) of Food Security to select and achieve a consensus on priority city neighbourhoods and *Ayl okmutu*/villages to serve as sentinel sites. The system would be expanded to further oblasts with high prevalence of food insecurity in a second step.

Considering the current prevalence of food insecurity, **Osh** or **Jalalabad** oblasts would be a first choice to pilot the FSMS. **Batken** oblast could also be considered.

Rapid EFSA's may also be required to check upon the situation in localised areas, especially in case of further violent events or natural disasters.

ANNEX 1 - HOUSEHOLD QUESTIONNAIRE

Code Oblast : <input type="text"/>	Code Rayon : <input type="text"/>	Code Aiyi Okrugs : <input type="text"/>
Name of the location <input type="text"/>		
Questionnaire number: <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	Date : <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> / <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> 2011 day / month	
Code enumeration team: <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>		
Name of enumerators : <input type="text"/> / <input type="text"/>		
<p>Consent:</p> <p>We are assessing the living situation of families in Kyrgyzstan. As it is not possible to meet everybody, we have selected at random localities and families in order to have an idea of the general situation. None of the localities or families visited will be privileged to receive particular assistance, and we do not register names. However, this information will be used to take decisions on programmes to contribute to improving the living conditions of the population in the country.</p> <p>The interview should not last more than 30 minutes. The answers you will give will remain strictly confidential and will not be given to others. You can refuse to participate or to answer to some of the questions. But we hope that you will accept to participate, as your answers are very important to take the best decisions possible. Do you have questions for us? Can we start?</p>		

Ask if several families share the same house without eating together and without sharing their income. If there are distinct families, select one at random for the interview.

I – HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION

Who is making the decisions for the household?	1= Man/ 2 = Woman	1.1	<input type="text"/>
How old is he/she?		1.2	<input type="text"/> years
How many children and adults live in your family ?			
Children below 5 years		1.3	<input type="text"/>
Primary school-age children 6-11 years		1.4	<input type="text"/>
Secondary school-age children 12-18 years		1.5	<input type="text"/>
Adult men 19-60 years		1.6	<input type="text"/>
Adult women 19-60 years		1.7	<input type="text"/>
Adults above 60 years of age		1.8	<input type="text"/>
<i>Write total number of persons, or 0 if there are none</i>			
1.9	Are there persons who have long-duration sickness (e.g. diabetes)?	<input type="text"/>	chronic sick
1.10	Are there pregnant/ lactating women ?	<input type="text"/>	pregnant/lactating

II – HOUSING SITUATION

2.1	Where is your family living NOW? (at the time of the interview) 1= in own or in rented house 2= hosted in house of a relative, friend or neighbour (displaced) 3= in temporary shelter (e.g. tent) within former house compound or garden 5=other (specify) <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
2.2	Including your own family, how many other families live here? Families are considered separate if they do not eat together and do not share their income	<input type="text"/>
2.3	Where do you get your water for drinking and cooking ? 1= <u>Safe source</u> (private tap, public tap, tank, bottle, rain water, protected well) 2= <u>Unsafe source</u> (non protected well, canal, river, swamp)	<input type="text"/>
2.4	What are you using mainly for cooking food ? 1= gas 2= electricity 3= wood 4= animal dung 5= other (specify) <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

III – CROPS AND LIVESTOCK

Can you cultivate a land or a garden ? 1= Yes/ 2= No <i>If No, go to Question 3.45 on animals</i>			3.1	__
How much land do you cultivate?			3.2	__ hectares
Do you use fertilizer ? 1= Yes/ 2= No			3.3	__
	Will you plant crops in the next months? 1= Yes / 2= No <i>If No, go to next crop</i>	Approximately how much of it will you sell? (in %)	For how many months does the harvest of crop last for your family consumption? <i>Note the total number of months.</i> <i>Write « 0 » if less than 1 month</i>	
Wheat	3.4 __	3.5 __ %	3.6	__ months
Maize	3.7 __	3.8 __ %	3.9	__ months
Potatoes	3.10 __	3.11 __ %	3.12	__ months
Cotton	3.13 __	3.14 __ %	3.15	__ months
Vegetables	3.16 __	3.17 __ %	3.18	__ months
Fruit trees	3.19 __	3.20 __ %	3.21	__ months
Lucerne	3.22 __	3.23 __ %	3.24	__ months
Do you have animals ? 1= Yes/ 2= No			3.25	__ <i>If No, go to Section IV</i>
Do you have adequate winter fodder ? 1= Yes/ 2= No			3.26	__
How many poultry do you have?			3.27	__
How many sheep and goats do you have?			3.28	__
How many cows and bulls do you have?			3.29	__
How many horses do you have?			3.30	__
How many donkeys do you have?			3.31	__

IV – EXPENDITURES

What are your 4 largest expenditures for your living?	Ranking		Amount per week (KGS)	
1= Food 2= Water 3= Gas, electricity, other cooking fuel 4= Soap, hygiene products 5= Clothing 6= Rental of housing 7= Telephone communications 8= Transportation, diesel for car or truck 9= Health care, drugs 10= Schooling 11= Ceremonies (including funerals) 12= Debt or credit repayment 13= Agricultural inputs, animal feed, irrigation 14= Rental of land 15= Material to remove rubbles 16= Material to repair or reconstruct housing 17= Other (specify) _____	4.1	__ Largest expenditure	4.2	__ KGS/week
	4.3	__ 2 nd expenditure	4.4	__ KGS/week
	4.5	__ 3 rd expenditure	4.6	__ KGS/week
	4.7	__ 4 th expenditure	4.8	__ KGS/week
Do you have some loans or credit to reimburse ? 1= Yes / 2= No			4.9	__ → <i>If No, go to Section V</i>
What are the main expenditures that you have covered with this money? 1= Yes / 2= No				
Food	4.10	__	Transportation, diesel for car/trucks	4.11 __
Water	4.12	__	Health care, drugs	4.13 __
Gas, electricity, other cooking fuel	4.14	__	Schooling	4.15 __
Soap, hygiene products	4.16	__	Ceremonies (including funerals)	4.17 __
Clothing	4.18	__	Agricultural inputs, animal feed, irrigation	4.19 __
Rental of housing	4.20	__	Rental of land	4.21 __
Material to remove rubbles	4.22	__	Material to repair or reconstruct housing	4.23 __

V – INCOME SOURCES AND ASSETS

How many persons in the family can earn some cash?		5.1			
How many different sources of income do you have?		5.2			
What are the 4 main sources of cash for the family?		<div>Ranking</div> <div>Amount per month (KGS)</div>			
1= Sale of harvest of wheat, maize, potatoes, cotton etc. 2= Sale of vegetables or fruits 3= Sale of animal products or animals 4= Irregular wage labour unskilled r (e.g. seasonal, temporary) 5= Regular wage labour unskilled (e.g. driver, cleaner, guard) 6 = Regular wage labour skilled (e.g. employee in factory) 7= Independent worker (e.g. carpenter, taxi driver) 8= Government employment (e.g. police, administration, health, school...) 9= Employment in UN agency or NGO 10= Sale of handicraft 11= Petty trade (street or market vendor without shop) 12= Small business (shop) 13= Large business 14= Rent of land or rent of property 15= Pension, allowances 16 = Remittances 17= Sale of humanitarian assistance 18 = Sale of assets, sale of domestic belongings 19= Use of personal savings, sale of jewellery 20= Credit, loans from organizations, banks, money lenders 21 =Charity from relatives, friends, neighbours 98 = No 2 nd source of income (only one source) 99= No 3rd source of income (only 2 sources)		5.3	<div> </div> <div>Largest source</div>	5.4	<div> </div> <div>KGS/month</div>
		5.5	<div> </div> <div>2nd source</div>	5.6	<div> </div> <div>KGS/month</div>
		5.7	<div> </div> <div>3rd source</div>	5.8	<div> </div> <div>KGS/month</div>
		5.9	<div> </div> <div>4th source</div>	5.10	<div> </div> <div>KGS/month</div>
Do you have family members who live outside Kyrgyzstan? 1= Yes / 2= No		5.11			
		↑If No, go to Question 5.11↑			
If yes, do they help you out with money or goods? 1= Yes/ 2= No		5.12			
		↑If No, go to Question 5.11 ↑			
If yes, how many times a year do you receive this help?		5.13			
Are you sometimes using money transfer systems (companies)?		5.14			
Are you sometimes using bank or postal services to receive or send money?		5.15			
Do you have.... 1= Yes / 2= No					
5.16	Stove		5.21	Television	
5.17	Radio		5.22	Cell phone	
5.18	Sewing machine		5.23	Bicycle	
5.19	Motorcycle		5.24	Car, truck	
5.20	Food or other commodity stock for petty trade		5.25	Shop	

VI- FOOD CONSUMPTION

How many meals do you eat each day?		6.1	_				
<p>Consider only meals consumed at home or in public kitchen but not in private restaurants or street food</p> <p>Do NOT count food consumed in very small amount (less than a teaspoon per person)</p>	How many days for the last 7 days did your family consume these food items?	What was the main source of these food?					
	<p>0 = Not eaten</p> <p>1= 1 day</p> <p>2= 2 days</p> <p>3= 3 days</p> <p>4= 4 days</p> <p>5= 5 days</p> <p>6= 6 days</p> <p>7= 7 days</p>	<p>1= Own production/garden</p> <p>2= Purchase in shops, markets, petty traders</p> <p>3= Purchase at credit, borrowed</p> <p>4= Received against work (in-kind payment)</p> <p>5= Bartered against other goods</p> <p>6= Received as gift from family or neighbours, begged</p> <p>7= Humanitarian food aid</p> <p>99= Not eaten during the 7 past days</p>					
Bread	6.2	_	6.3	_			
Wheat (grain, flour), rice, maize, pasta	6.4	_	6.5	_			
Biscuits, High Energy Biscuits	6.6	_	6.7	_			
Potatoes, sweet potatoes	6.8	_	6.9	_			
Beans, chickpeas, lentils, peas	6.10	_	6.11	_			
Vegetables	6.12	_	6.13	_			
Fruits	6.14	_	6.15	_			
Nuts, walnuts, hazelnuts	6.16	_	6.17	_			
Meat (red, poultry)	6.18	_	6.19	_			
Eggs	6.20	_	6.21	_			
Fish	6.22	_	6.23	_			
Dairy products (yogurt, cheese, milk)	6.24	_	6.25	_			
Vegetable oil, butter, grease	6.26	_	6.27	_			
Sugar, honey, jam	6.28	_	6.29	_			
Do you have stocks of food ?		1= Yes / 2= No	6.30	_			
If No stocks, go to Section VII							
How long will your stocks last for the family consumption? Write number of days (0 if no stock)							
6.31	Wheat (grain, flour)	_	days	6.32	Potatoes, sweet potatoes	_	days
6.33	Rice	_	days	6.34	Oil, butter, grease	_	days
6.35	Beans, peas, chickpeas, lentils	_	days	6.36	Sugar	_	days

VII – COPING STRATEGIES, ASSISTANCE AND PRIORITIES

In the past 7 days, if there have been times when you did not have enough food or money to buy food, how often has your family had to:		Number of days	Severity weight	Score= Number of days x severity <i>Supervisor to fill in</i>	
7.1	Rely on less preferred and less expensive foods?	__	1	__	
7.2	Borrow food, or rely on help from a friend or relative?	__	2	__	
7.3	Limit portion size at meal times?	__	1	__	
7.4	Restrict consumption by adults in order for small children to eat?	__	3	__	
7.5	Reduce number of meals eaten in a day?	__	1	__	
During the past 30 days, have there been times when your family had to do the following in order to get money or food?		1= Never 2= Rarely or no more than twice a week 3= Often (at least 3 times a week but not all the time) 4= All the time			
7.6	Send family members elsewhere to eat?	__			
7.7	Spend whole days without eating?	__			
During the past 3 months, what are the major problems that you have faced:				1= Yes / 2= No	
7.8	Poor weather for agriculture	__			
7.9	Low harvest or no harvest obtained this season	__			
7.10	Mudslide	__			
7.11	Loss of employment	__			
7.12	Decrease of salary	__			
7.13	Health problems	__			
7.14	High food prices	__			
7.15	High fuel prices	__			
7.16	High cost of agricultural inputs for crops and/or animals (e.g. fertilizer, fuel, seed, fodder)	__			
7.17	Violence, insecurity	__			
7.18	Other (specify) _____	__			
During the past 3 months, have you received any of the following assistance:				1= Yes / 2= No	
7.19	Food	__	7.23	Hygiene kits (soap etc.) __	
7.20	Household items (kitchen set, blankets)	__	7.24	Seed __	
7.21	Fertilizer	__	7.25	Agricultural tools __	
7.22	Cash grant from NGO/UN agency/caritative association	__	7.26	Other _____ __	
What are your 3 main priorities?					
1= Food 3= Employment, work 5= Health 7= Water 9= Cooking utensils 11= Agricultural inputs 13= Livestock 15= Security 16= Other (specify) _____		2= Housing 4= Cash 6= Schooling 8= Sanitation 10= Bedding, furniture 12= Land to cultivate 14= Pastures for animals		7.27	__ 1 st priority
				7.28	__ 2 nd priority
				7.29	__ 3 priority

ONLY FOR OSH AND JALALABAD CITIES:

8.1	Was your house directly affected by the events last June? 1= not touched 2= partly destroyed but can live in it 3= partly destroyed and need repairs before living in it 4= fully destroyed	__
-----	--	----

8.2	Do you have children between 6 and 18 years of age? No	1= Yes/ 2= No	__
8.3	Have you enrolled your children to primary school this year?	1= Yes/ 2= No	__
	If yes, go to 2.20		
	If no, why?		
8.4	Far away		__
8.5	Lack of money to pay for clothing, uniform, textbooks etc.		__
8.6	Lack of teachers		__
8.7	Poor school facilities (heating, water, sanitation)		__
8.8	Insecurity to reach the school		__
8.9	Children often sick or hungry		__
8.10	Children have to work or to help with household chores, agriculture, animals etc.		__

What happened to the family members who lived with you before the events?		Children 1= Yes / 2= No	Adults 1= Yes / 2= No
8.11	Hosted in another family (relatives, friends, neighbours) in the same village or town		
8.12	In hospital or health centre for wound treatment		
8.13	Have moved outside Kyrgyzstan (Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, elsewhere)		
8.14	Have died		
8.15	Does not know		
8.16	Did you move outside Kyrgyzstan due to the events? 1= Yes / 2= No		__
8.17	Are you sharing your house with other families displaced by the events? 1= Yes / 2= No		__
8.18	Including your own family, how many families live here?		__
8.19	Do you have utensils for cooking and eating? 1=Yes / 2= No		__

8.21	Have you received cash grant from NGO, UN agency or caritative organization? 1= Yes / 2= No				<input type="text"/> If No, go to 8.55
If yes, what have you spent this money for?		1= Yes / 2= No			
8.22	Wheat, bread	<input type="text"/>	8.31	Water, gas, electricity, charcoal	<input type="text"/>
8.23	Potatoes	<input type="text"/>	8.32	Health care, drugs	<input type="text"/>
8.24	Meat	<input type="text"/>	8.33	Schooling	<input type="text"/>
8.25	Dairy products	<input type="text"/>	8.34	Clothing, shoes	<input type="text"/>
8.26	Vegetables, fruits	<input type="text"/>	8.35	Rental of house	<input type="text"/>
8.27	Material to remove rubbles	<input type="text"/>	8.36	Rental of land	<input type="text"/>
8.28	Material to repair housing	<input type="text"/>	8.37	Agricultural inputs	<input type="text"/>
8.29	Transportation	<input type="text"/>	8.38	Ceremonies	<input type="text"/>
8.30	Reimbursement of debt or loan	<input type="text"/>			

ANNEX 2 – KEY INFORMANT QUESTIONNAIRE

Code Oblast : _	Code Rayon : _	Code Aiyl Okurgs : _
Name of the location _____		
Questionnaire number: _ _ _	Date : _ _ /0 _ 2011 day / month	
Code enumeration team: _ _		
Name _____ of _____ enumerators : _____/		

I - IDENTIFICATION

The interview can take place with only one Key Informants or more, but preferably no more than 4-5 at the same time. A balanced representation men/women is recommended (ask if some women can participate).

Name (optional)	M = man W= woman	Title/Function
1.1		
1.2		
1.3		
1.4		
1.5		

II – POPULATION IN THE LOCALITY

2.1	How many families are living in this village (or city neighborhood)	____ families
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III – MAIN OCCUPATIONS

What is the proportion of people receiving most of their food or income from...:		
Cultivation of crops, vegetables or fruit trees	3.1	____ %
Raising of animals	3.2	____ %
Trade (petty trade, small shops)	3.3	____ %
Government employment (police, administration, health, school etc.)	3.4	____ %
Irregular or seasonal labour (unskilled)	3.5	____ %
Pensions, allowances	3.6	____ %
Remittances	3.7	____ %
Humanitarian assistance	3.8	____ %

IV – MARKETS

How much does it take to reach the nearest market by using the most usual means of transportation in order to buy or sell food /non-products?		1= Less than 15 min 2= 15-30 min 3= 30 min-1 hour 4= More than 1 hour	4.1	__
What is the current price of...:	Current price (KGS)			
Wheat	4.2	__	/ kg	
Bread	4.3	__	/ piece	
Chicken meat	4.4	__	/ kg	
Beef meat	4.5	__	/ kg	
Mutton meat	4.6	__	/ kg	
Milk	4.7	__	/ liter	
Vegetable oil	4.8	__	/ liter	
Fuel	4.9	__	/ liter	
Fertilizer urea	4.10	__	/ kg	
Fertilizer ammonium nitrate	4.11	__	/ kg	
Cow	4.12	__	/ cow	
Sheep	4.13	__	/ sheep	
What are the wage levels for:	KGS per day of work			
Agricultural casual labour (e.g. harvesting)	4.14	__	KGS/ day	
Non-agricultural casual labour (e.g. construction)	4.15	__	KGS/ day	

V – EDUCATION

Where do most children go to primary school ? 1= primary school within the village (or in the same area of the city) 2= primary school in neighboring village (or in neighboring area of the city)	5.1	__
How long does it take to go to the nearest primary school using the most usual means of transportation? 1= Less than 15 mn 2= 15-30 mn 3= 30 mn-1 hour 4= More than 1 hour	5.2	__
What are the main constraints for households to send their children to primary school?	1= Yes / 2= No	
Far away	5.3	__
Lack of money to pay for clothing, uniform, textbooks etc.	5.4	__
Lack of teachers	5.5	__
Poor school facilities (heating, water, sanitation)	5.6	__
Insecurity to reach the school	5.7	__
Children often sick or hungry	5.8	__
Children have to work or to help with household chores, agriculture, animals etc.	5.9	__

VI – SHOCKS, PRIORITIES AND INTERVENTIONS

Which population groups face the most problems to access food and income?		1= Yes / 2= No
Large families	6.1	<input type="checkbox"/>
The elderly, pensioner living alone	6.2	<input type="checkbox"/>
Households with disabled members	6.3	<input type="checkbox"/>
Households headed by a woman	6.4	<input type="checkbox"/>
Households with orphans	6.5	<input type="checkbox"/>
Households with no land	6.6	<input type="checkbox"/>
Households with no animals	6.7	<input type="checkbox"/>
Households with no migrants sending remittances, or no migrants at all	6.8	<input type="checkbox"/>
Displaced families	6.9	<input type="checkbox"/>

During the past 3 months , has this assistance been provided in the village (or city neighborhood) ...:		1 = Yes/ 2= No
Household food rations	6.10	<input type="checkbox"/>
Food-for-work	6.11	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cash-for-work	6.12	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cash grants from NGOs or other agencies	6.13	<input type="checkbox"/>
Micro-credit	6.14	<input type="checkbox"/>
Seeds	6.15	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fertilizer	6.16	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agricultural tools	6.17	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fodder, animal feed	6.18	<input type="checkbox"/>
Veterinary services from an NGO or other agency	6.19	<input type="checkbox"/>
Material for house repair, temporary shelter	6.20	<input type="checkbox"/>
What are the main priorities to improve the situation of households in this village (or city neighbourhood)?		1 = Yes/ 2= No
Employment	6.21	<input type="checkbox"/>
Security to move (to go to work, to market, to land, to school etc.)	6.22	<input type="checkbox"/>
Irrigation	6.23	<input type="checkbox"/>
Subsidies or other help with fertilizer	6.24	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agricultural equipment	6.25	<input type="checkbox"/>
Veterinary services	6.26	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health centre upgrading or construction	6.27	<input type="checkbox"/>
Domestic water supply	6.28	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sanitation facilities	6.29	<input type="checkbox"/>
Primary school upgrading or construction	6.30	<input type="checkbox"/>
Roads repair or roads construction	6.31	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transportation facilities	6.32	<input type="checkbox"/>
Housing for the displaced	6.33	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improvement of housing for the residents	6.34	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify): _____	6.35	<input type="checkbox"/>