

NUTRITION ASSESSMENT REPORT

EL BARDE DISTRICTS BAKOOL REGION SOMALIA.

Food Security Analysis Unit (FSAU/UNFAO)
International Medical Corps (IMC)
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
World Food Programme (WFP)

December 2006



TABLE OF CONTENT

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS.....	3
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	4
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	5
1.0 INTRODUCTION.....	7
2.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION:	9
3.0 METHODOLOGY.....	11
4 ASSESSMENT RESULTS	16
5.0 DISCUSSION.....	29
6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS	31
7.0 APPENDICES	32
8.0 REFERENCES AND BIBLIOGRAHY	47

Abbreviations and acronyms

ARI	Acute Respiratory Infections
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FSAU	Food Security Analysis Unit
GAM	Global Acute Malnutrition
GIT	Gastrointestinal Tract
HAZ	Height- for- Age Z scores
HDDS	Household Dietary Diversity Score
HFA	Height for Age
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
KM	Kilo Metres
MCH	Maternal and Child Health
MT	Metric Tonnes
MUAC	Mid Upper Arm Circumference
NCHS	National Centre for Health Statistics
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisations
NRC	Norwegian Refugee Council
PWA	Post War Average
LEZ	Livelihood Economic Zones
LNGO	Local Non-Governmental Organisation
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organisation
NIDs	National Immunisation Days
OR	Odds Ratio
RR	Relative Risk
SACB	Somalia Aid Coordination Body
SMART	Standardised Monitoring & Assessment of Relief and Transitions
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commission of Refugees
VAD	Vitamin A Deficiency
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
WAZ	Weight for Age Z Scores
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organisation
WHZ	Weight for Height Z scores

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Nutrition Surveillance Project of the Food Security Analysis Unit (FSAU) and the International Medical Corps (IMC) acknowledge the participation WFP and UNICEF in the El Barde Districts Nutrition Assessment. FSAU provided technical support including the assessment coordinator and a supervisor while IMC financed the cost of transport, supervisors, enumerators and data entry clerks as well as logistic coordination. UNICEF provided one supervisor and a vehicle while WFP provided one assessment coordinator.

Special thanks goes to the mothers, caregivers, leaders and the community as a whole in the El Barde district for their cooperation, time and for providing information individually and in focus group discussions that helped the survey team to get a better understanding of the nutrition situation in the area.

Comments from partners in Bakool Region and members of the Nutrition Working Group in Nairobi on the preliminary results are also highly appreciated. FSAU and IMC also express sincere appreciation to the assessment team for their high level of commitment demonstrated during all stages of this assessment.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

El Barde district is one of the five districts in Bakool region. It lies the north of the region and neighbours Afder and Godey regions of Ethiopia. About 95% of district population is pastoral (who rear mainly camel and goats and sheep with few of them having cattle) while the rest are agro-pastoralists and urban population living in El Barde town. For the last three years the district has experienced successive droughts that have undermined the resilience and coping mechanism of the livelihood groups in the area. In Deyr 05 and Gu 06 due to failed rains, pasture and water resources were severely depleted leading to high livestock mortalities, particularly cattle and shoats. In addition, chronic insecurity in the area contributes to human and asset losses disrupt market access and humanitarian response because of limited access. Past nutrition assessments have indicated a persistent critical nutrition situation in the district with global acute malnutrition of 15-19.9%. This underscores the need for constant monitoring of the nutrition situation in the district.

Between 15th and 25th December 2006, a joint nutrition assessment using a 2- stage cluster sampling methodology, was conducted by FSAU, IMC, UNICEF and WFP in **430** households where **934** children aged 6-59 months and measuring 65-109.9cm were sampled. Concurrent mortality survey was conducted in 900 households. The aim of the survey was to determine the nutritional status of children between 6-59 months or 65-109.9 cm using weight for height index and to establish underlying causes of malnutrition. Data quality was ensured by close supervision, review and control during data collection, entry and analysis (in EPI info and Excel).

The assessment results indicate Global Acute Malnutrition (WHZ<-2 or oedema) of **17.7%** (CI: 13.7-21.6) and Severe Acute Malnutrition of **3.2%** (CI: 1.4-4.9). The GAM rate is an indication of critical nutrition situation (WHO). The rates are slightly higher compared to the rate reported in the last nutrition assessment conducted in Jilaal March 2004 which reported a GAM of 15.7% and SAM of 1.3%. It should however be noted that the two assessments were conducted in different seasons, Jiaal and Gu and hence direct comparison is not feasible. The persistence of a critical nutrition situation could be explained by cumulative impact of inadequate food intake, water and pasture shortages resulting from past poor rainfall outcomes in the previous seasons (*Deyr/Gu '05* and *Gu '06*) in addition to high morbidity levels and poor child feeding practices.

Results showed that 44.4% of the children aged 6-24 months were not breastfeeding at the time of assessment with almost half (48.8%) of those not breastfeeding having stopped at the age of 6-11 months. Most of the children in this age category were reported to have been introduced to complimentary food at the age of 0 to 3 months and only 10.3% of the children were fed for the recommended five times in a day.

The retrospective crude and under five mortality rates were **0.64** (CI: 0.39 – 1.68) and **1.03** (CI: 0.39 – 1.68) deaths/10,000/day respectively and indicate an alert situation (Sphere 2004). Malaria, diarrhoea, ARI and complications at birth were the common reported causes of death among children. Maternal care services as well as general health services are limited in the district. Morbidity was high with 34.3% of the assessed children reportedly having suffered from one or more communicable diseases two weeks prior to the assessment which included diarrhoea 18.6%, ARI 20.3% suspected malaria/febrile illness and measles 5.3%. Malnutrition was significantly associated with morbidity as it was higher among those who had been ill ($p=0.0004$) Children who fell ill were 1.5 times more likely to be malnourished than those who were well two weeks prior to assessment (RR=1.45). In particular, ARI and measles had a significant association with malnutrition ($p<0.05$). Health programme (vitamin A supplementation, polio immunization, measles vaccination) coverage was notable below the recommended coverage of 95% (Sphere 2004).

Water quality and sanitation were poor with 95.3% of the sampled households drawing water from unprotected sources and 81.2% using bush for disposal of human waste. This may have

exacerbated diarrhea cases where the human waste is washed by rain water into the unprotected water sources. About 66% of the households had consumed 4 or more food groups reflecting a good dietary diversity.

Following discussions held after sharing the results with partners and detailed data analysis, both short- and long-term recommendations were made:

Short term recommendations

1. Enhance delivery of basic health services including intensifying EPI services.
2. Rehabilitation and treatment of severely and moderately malnourished children through existing feeding centres, strengthened outreach mechanisms to reach malnourished children and refer them for rehabilitation and use of community based care.
3. Intensify nutrition and health education targeting children care givers with messages on breastfeeding, child-feeding, health-seeking behaviour, hygiene and sanitation.

Long-term Recommendations

1. To enhance access to health services, there is need for support by agencies to re-establish and re-open health posts and centres that already exist but are not operational as well as establishing others in areas where there are no health facilities.
2. Enhance nutrition and health education programmes with a specific focus on good sanitation; hygiene, child feeding practices and health seeking practices.
3. Re-stocking programme to support the poor households that lost livestock during the drought.
4. Measures for brokering lasting peace in the district are needed to avoid recurring disruption of livelihood and enhance humanitarian response.
5. Rehabilitation of existing boreholes and wells, construction of new ones and establishment of mechanism for routine water treatment/chlorination to enhance water quality.
6. Regular and massive environmental cleaning to enhance hygiene and sanitation
7. Provision of sanitary facilities including building of latrine for appropriate disposal of human excretal waste.

Table 1 Summary of findings

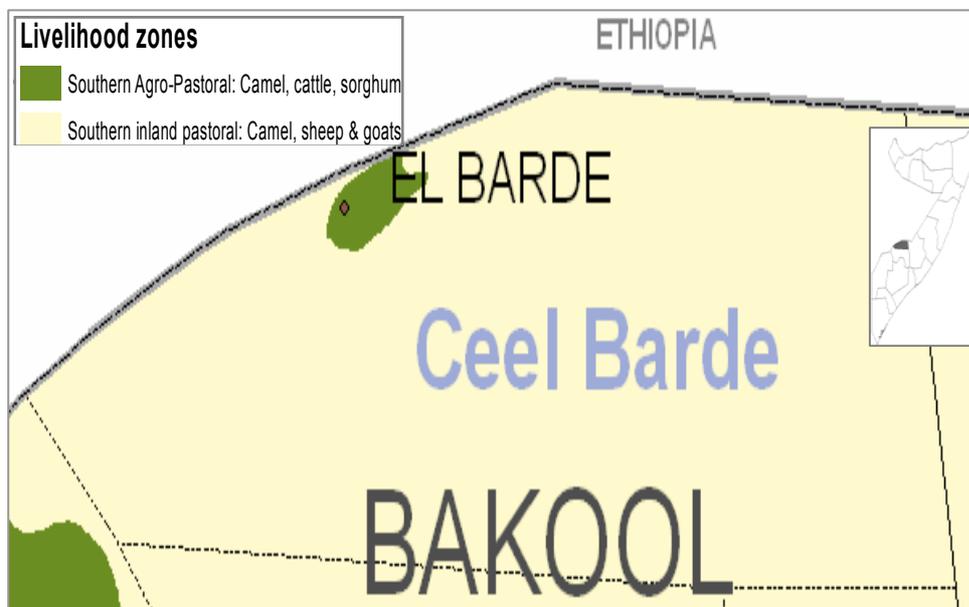
Indicator	No	%	95% CI
Total number of households surveyed	430	100	
Mean household size		6.3	(SD=2.2)
Mean number of children less than five years per household		2.2	(SD=0.8)
Total number of children assessed	934	100	
Global Acute Malnutrition (WHZ<-2 or oedema)	165	17.7	13.7 – 21.6
Severe Acute Malnutrition (WHZ<-3 or oedema)	30	3.2	1.4 – 4.9
Oedema	4	0.4	0.1 – 1.2
Global Acute Malnutrition (WHM<80% or oedema)	112	12.0	10.0 – 14.3
Severe Acute Malnutrition (WHM<70% or oedema)	13	1.4	0.8 – 2.4
Proportion of malnourished women (MUAC≤18.5; N=421).	1	0.3	0.01 – 1.4
Proportion of severely malnourished women (MUAC≤16.0; N=421)	0	0	
Proportion of malnourished pregnant women (MUAC≤23.0; N=75)	23	30.7	
Proportion of severely malnourished pregnant women (MUAC≤20.7)	2	2.7	
Children reported to have diarrhoea in 2 weeks prior to assessment	174	18.6	16.2 – 21.3
Children reported to have ARI within two weeks prior to assessment	190	20.3	17.8 – 23.2
Children with suspected malaria/Febrile illness in 2 weeks prior to assessment	168	18.0	15.7 – 20.7
Reported suspected measles within one month prior to assessment (N=866)	46	5.3	4.0 – 7.1
Children (9-59 months) immunised against measles in last 6 months (N=852)	577	66.6	63.4 – 69.7
Children who have ever received polio vaccine (N=919) in last 6 months	690	73.9	70.9 – 76.6
Children who received vitamin A supplementation in last 6 months	285	30.5	27.6 – 33.6
Proportion of households who consumed ≤3 food groups	147	34.2	29.7 – 38.9
Proportion of households who consumed ≥4 food groups	283	65.8	61.1 – 70.3
Proportion of children 6-24 months who are breastfeeding (N=287)	150	55.4	49.2 – 61.4
Proportion of children introduced to other foods before 4 months	161	59.4	53.3 – 65.3
Under five Death Rate (U5DR) as deaths/10,000/ day		1.03	0.39 – 1.68
Crude Death Rate (CDR) as deaths/10,000/ day		0.64	0.28 – 1.01

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Overview

El Barde district in Bakool region lies to the north of the region and neighbours Afder and Godey regions of Ethiopia. The predominant livelihood is pastoralism (95%) mainly keeping camels, sheep and goats with remainder being agro-pastoralist and urban population. The livelihood system in the district has been adversely affected by the impact of repeated rain failures including Deyr/Gu 05 and Gu 06.

This is complicated further by the chronic insecurity which often disrupts livelihood systems and humanitarian responses.



1.2 Survey Justification

Nutrition surveillance information has often depicted high levels of malnutrition in the area. The last nutrition assessment conducted in these districts (UNICEF/FSAU and partners) in March 2004 reported a serious level of malnutrition with global acute malnutrition of **15.7%** and severe acute malnutrition of **1.3%** (WHO Classification). Since then the available surveillance data from few selected areas does not show any significant improvement in nutrition situation. This creates a need for a nutrition assessment to determine the nutrition situation for the entire district. The aim of the survey was to determine the nutritional status of children between 6-59 months or 65-110 cm using weight-for-height index. The survey also sought to establish underlying factors influencing the nutrition status and to provide recommendations for interventions based on the findings.

1.3 Objectives of the study

1. To estimate the prevalence of acute malnutrition and nutritional oedema among children aged 6-59 months or with height/length of 65-109.5 cm.
2. To estimate the level of malnutrition among adult women aged 15-49 years in the district
3. To identify underlying causes of malnutrition in young children in the area of assessment
4. To estimate the prevalence of some common diseases (measles, diarrhoea, suspected malaria/febrile illness, and ARI) in the district
5. To estimate measles and polio vaccination and Vitamin A supplementation coverage among children in the district
6. To estimate the crude and under-five mortality rates in the area of assessment

2.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

2.1 General overview

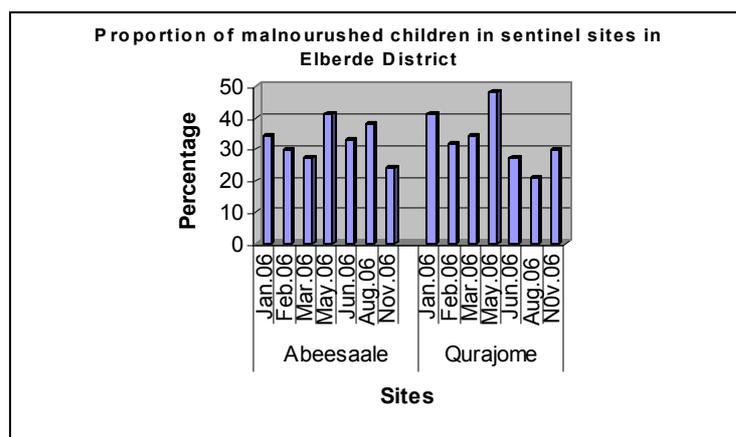
The food security and nutrition situation in El Barde district has remained precarious for a long time now. FSAU Post Gu'06 analysis classified parts of El Barde district as faced with humanitarian emergency while the rest in Acute Food and Livelihood Crisis with moderate risks of deterioration. The situation of concern is attributed to the recurring drought situation including very poor GU'06 rains. The impact of drought together with constant insecurity has adversely disrupted the livelihood system in the district. The insecurity has also led to limitation of humanitarian intervention in most parts of the district.

2.2 Humanitarian Interventions

Humanitarian activities are minimal in the district and are often disrupted by frequent episodes of insecurity in area. In 2000 ADRA started water projects with activities such as rehabilitation of boreholes and deepening shallow wells. IMC plays important role in the health sector with one MCH in El Barde town and five health posts, SFP activities and community therapeutic sites. MSF-B also manages one health post while WHO/UNICEF supports polio immunization activities. WFP has been supporting families with malnourished children admitted in the feeding programme with family rations to each recipient consisting of 2 bags of maize, 10kgs of beans and 4litres of oil.

2.3 Nutrition

El Barde district has experienced a critical nutrition situation according to the FSAU long term malnutrition estimates for 1999-2005. The last nutrition assessment conducted in the districts in March 2004 reported a critical (WHO Classification) level of malnutrition with global acute malnutrition of 15.7% and severe acute malnutrition of 1.3%. Prior to this, in August 2000, an assessment which covered both neighbouring Rab Dhure and El Barde (both similar livelihoods) reported a GAM of 13.7% and a SAM of 3.8%. The differing times of year do not make a direct comparison feasible however it is useful in indicating a slight increase in the recent trends of acute malnutrition.



The FSAU sentinel sites surveillance system started in 2006 records high levels of acute of malnutrition, over the year though the trend is declining in the recent rounds (see graph). The feeding centres in the El Barde town and Qurajome village have also been recording a high admission. Data from the Health Information System (HIS) data for the months of September to November 2006 showed that 39% to 45% of the screened children were identified as acutely malnourished. The morbidity

(especially diarrhea and suspected malaria) and poor dietary diversity and sub-optimal child care practices are the main factor associated with malnutrition.

2.4 Water and Environmental Sanitation

The main sources of water in the district are shallow wells and water catchments. With the frequent drought conditions experienced in the district, these sources dry up leading to acute

water shortage for both the people and livestock. During dry spells people have to cover long distance to get water, alternatively they spend large amount of money to purchase water. The water shortage often leads to out-migration to other regions in search of water and pasture for the livestock. Quality of water is another challenge in the district given that water is hardly treated leading to water born diseases.

Environmental sanitation is also generally poor in the areas with the majority of the households using bush to dispose human waste. This is a health hazard that has been associated with seasonal increase of diarrhea during rainy seasons.

2.5 Health issues

Health services are provided by the only one MCH managed by IMC and six health posts five of which are under management of IMC and the other one by MSF-B. Public health facilities are very limited hence inaccessible to the majority of rural population who have to trek for long distance to seek health services. Consequently, sick people resort to traditional healers, reading Koran or purchase of medicines from pharmacies. In other cases, people would seek for medical attention when their conditions have deteriorated which may result in an extended recovery period or even death.

Common illness reported in the MCH, health posts and sentinel sites include diarrhea, suspected malaria, ARI which are common during the wet seasons. Others health problems are intestinal parasite, anemia, skin and ear infection, wound and trauma and conjunctivitis.

2.6 Food security

El Barde district is predominantly pastoral mainly relying on camel and shoats for their livelihood. The past drought conditions have adversely affected the livelihood resulting to loss of livestock and hence exposing the majority of the population to food insecurity. The FSAU Post Gu'06 analysis classified part of El Barde district as faced with humanitarian emergency while the rest with Acute Food and Livelihood Crisis with moderate risks of deterioration. This was mainly attributed to the impact of very poor or failed Gu'05, Deyr'05/06 and Gu'06 rains and the resultant pasture and water scarcity, poor livestock body condition, low milk production and even death of livestock. With poor livestock body conditions, the animal can fetch very low prices in the market, making it hard to purchase the staple cereals. The remaining livestock were reported to have out-migrated to the neighboring areas of Ethiopia and to Juba regions hence depriving members of household milk for consumption and income. Even among the few agro-pastoral communities in the district, rain failure resulted in crop failures, meaning that they had to rely on food purchase or such means as food aid and informal support for food. However, the situation is likely to be reversed given good Deyr '06 rains received in the area but it would take more than one season to recover because of high depletion of productive assets.

3.0 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Assessment design

This was a cross-sectional study among the populations in El Barde district in which both qualitative and quantitative techniques were used. Quantitative data was collected through a standard household questionnaire for nutrition (see appendix 2). Retrospective mortality data for 90 days prior to the assessment was also collected among the study households (see appendix 3). Qualitative data was collected from key informants by assessment supervisors through focus group discussions and key interviews to provide further understanding of possible factors influencing malnutrition.

3.2 Sampling procedure

Using a two-stage cluster sampling methodology, 30 clusters were randomly selected based on population proportion to size. Initially a sampling frame was constructed from which a representative sample could be drawn. A list of all villages within the district with their respective populations was used to construct cumulative population figures for the assessment area. Using WHO Polio population figures, generated during National Immunization Days (WHO, November 2006) and the input of key informants from the region, all settlements/villages were listed in the sampling frame and their population estimates further verified for authenticity by the assessment team. An estimated population of 21941 from all settlements/villages was obtained from which 30 clusters were selected. Using the Nutrisurvey software a random number 662 was chosen to determine the first cluster. The subsequent clusters were determined systematically by adding the cluster interval 731 to the first randomly selected number (see appendix 1). From the 30 randomly selected clusters, a total of 934 children aged 6-59 months and/or height/length of 65-109.9 cm from 430 households were assessed.

In each of the clusters, mortality questionnaires were administered to 30 randomly selected households. The same sampling frame used for nutrition assessment was employed in cluster selection for the mortality assessment. In total, mortality data was collected from 900 households irrespective of whether or not the household had a child under-five.

Study population and sampling criteria

The study population consisted of people living in the El Barde district of Bakool region and comprised all the children aged 6-59 months or measuring 65-109.9 cm in height/length. The sampling procedure as outlined in the guidelines endorsed by the Nutrition Working Group of Somalia Support Secretariat (SSS) and that is compliant with SMART Guidelines, was followed in this assessment. On the visit to each cluster, the centre was identified and a pen was spun to determine the direction to follow in moving to the edge of the cluster. On reaching the edge of a cluster, a pen was spun a second round, until the pen pointed inward the cluster/village to determine the direction to follow in the systematic selection of the households with children aged 6 to 59 months. The households in this direction were counted / established as the team crossed to the other edge and given numbers. A random number within the total number of households encountered was drawn to enable random selection of the first household to be visited. From the first household, the team always moved to the right direction to the next household. This procedure was followed until the required 30 children were obtained in a cluster.

All sampled households were visited, the supervisor noting whether it was empty and whether children in the target age group were present or not. In households without children in the target age group only the mortality questionnaires were administered. If a cluster was exhausted of children before the required 30 children had been reached, a neighbouring area with similar characteristics was selected to complete the cluster. All eligible children in the households were

measured and if a child or primary caregiver was absent, an appointment was booked for a later visit in the course of the assessment.

3.3 Data collection.

3.3.1 Anthropometric measurements.

The anthropometric data were collected using the procedure stipulated by the WHO (1995) for taking anthropometric measurements. It was ensured that this procedure was adhered to. The protocol used was as follows:

Weight: Salter Scale with calibrations of 100g-unit was used. This was adjusted before weighing every child by setting it to zero. The female children would be lightly dressed before having the weight taken while clothes for the male children were removed. Two readings were taken for each child, shouted loudly and the average recorded on the questionnaire.

Height: For height, a vertical or horizontal measuring board reading a maximum of 130 cm and accurate to 0.1cm was used to take the height or length of a child. The child would stand on the measuring board barefooted; have hands hanging loosely with feet parallel to the body, and heels, buttocks, shoulders and back of the head touching the board. The head would be held comfortably erect with the lower border of the orbit of the eye being in the same horizontal plane as the external canal of the ear. The headpiece of the measuring board was then pushed gently, pressing the hair and making contact with the top of the head. Height/length was then read to the nearest 0.1cm. Two readings were recorded and the computed average used in the analysis.

Length: For children aged 6 to 24 months or between 65cm to 84.5cm length instead of height was taken. The child was made to lie flat on the length board. The sliding piece was placed at the edge of the bare feet as the head (with crushing of the hair) touched the other end of the measuring device. Then two readings were taken and the average computed.

Arm Circumference: The Mid Upper Arm Circumference was measured using a MUAC tape to the nearest 0.1 cm left arm. Two readings were taken and the average recorded for each child.

3.3.2 Child age determination

Where useful documents like growth monitoring/clinic attendance cards and birth certificates were available, they were used to determine the child's age. A calendar of events (appendix 5) was also used to estimate the age of the child. Though not entirely accurate, ages were still regarded as important indicators and were approximate/average pointers for identification.

3.3.3 Oedema

Oedema, defined as bilateral oedema on the lower limbs was assessed by gently pressing the feet to check if a depression is left after at least three seconds. It was confirmed, if present, by the supervisor and then recorded.

3.3.4 Morbidity

Morbidity pattern was assessed by asking about incidences of common communicable diseases i.e. diarrhoea, acute respiratory infection, suspected malaria/ febrile illness and measles in the two weeks prior to the assessment.

Diarrhoea: Diarrhoea was defined as 'three or more loose or watery stools per day'.

Measles: Defined as 'more than three signs of the following: fever, and skin rash, runny nose or red eyes, and/or mouth infection, or chest infection.'

Acute Respiratory Infection (ARI): Asked as *oof wareen or wareento*. Defined as 'cough, rapid breathing and fever'.

Suspected malaria/acute febrile illness: Defined as 'periodic chills, fever, sweating or coma.

3.3.5 Mortality

The mortality assessment was done concurrently with nutrition assessment in which a 30 by 30 cluster sampling methodology was used. The assessment methodology used for the nutrition assessment was adopted with the exception that households were selected as the final sampling unit. At least 30 households were randomly selected in each cluster and the mortality questionnaire (appendix 3) administered to a responsible member of that household. All households within the selected cluster were eligible for inclusion in the mortality assessment, whether there was a child under the age of five or not. Households were systematically surveyed until the 30th household. Each household surveyed was asked the composition of their members in two parts- those members less than 5 years and the total number of household members. The household was then asked how many if any of the household members had died, left or arrived in the last three months. A total of 900 households were included in the assessment.

The crude and under five mortality rates were generated automatically by the Nutrisurvey software as deaths per 10,000 persons per day using a recall period of 90 days. If a household member had died, the respondent was asked to describe the suspected causes or signs and symptoms of the illness likely to have caused the death and these were recorded.

Whereas mortality rates have previously been interpreted according to the WHO reference below

- For under-five years old children
 - Under-five mortality rates ≥ 2 deaths/10,000/day indicate a situation of alert
 - Under five mortality rate ≥ 4 deaths/10,000 children/day indicate an emergency
- For the total population
 - Mortality rates ≥ 1 deaths/10,000 persons/day indicate an alert situation
 - Mortality rates ≥ 2 deaths/10,000 persons/day indicate an emergency,

Sphere 2004 recommends levels below 0.44/10,000/day as acceptable for the Sub-Saharan African countries. In this assessment, Sphere 2004 recommendation is used in the analysis.

3.3.6 Dietary Diversity

Dietary diversity (when households consume four or more food groups) was determined by taking a simple count of various food groups consumed in a given household over the past twenty four hours. A total of 12 FAO recommended food groups were considered which included Cereals & cereal products; Roots & tubers; Vegetables; Fruits; Meat and meat products, Eggs; Fish; Legumes; Milk & its products; Fats & oil; Sugar & honey and Miscellaneous.

3.3.7 Vitamin A Deficiency

During the assessment, Vitamin A deficiency (VAD) prevalence was estimated by assessing if any member(s) of the households experienced night blindness.

3.4 Description of assessment activities

Six teams each consisting of two enumerators; one team leader and one supervisor conducted the assessment with each team handling one cluster in a day. An elder from each village/cluster assisted the teams in ground identification of the cluster and introduction to the community, its centre and boundaries. Team leaders and Supervisors were seconded from the participating partners namely; FSAU, IMC, UNICEF and WFP. The enumerators, team leaders and supervisors were selected on the basis of their experience with previous assessments, need for participation in future nutrition activities and ability to learn nutrition assessment procedures during training.

Table 2: Chronology of activities for the El Barde District Nutrition Assessment

Major Activity	Dates
Preparation of tools, methodology & review of secondary data (Nairobi) Resource mobilization; Joint planning meetings with partners	November 2006
Training of enumerators, pre-testing questionnaire and cluster Identification	December 16 th -19 th , 2006
Collection of data	December 20 th -25 th , 2006
Entry of data	December 21 st -26 th , 2006
Data cleaning and analysis	December 26 th -28 th , 2006
Presentation of preliminary results to partners	January 4 th , 2007
Circulation of draft report to partners	February 19 th , 2007
Circulation of final report	6 th , March, 2007

3.5 Quality Control Procedures

A comprehensive training of enumerators and supervisors was conducted covering interviewing techniques, sampling procedure, inclusion and exclusion criteria, sources and reduction of errors, taking of measurements, standardisation of questions in the questionnaire, levels of precision required in measurements, diagnosis of oedema and measles, verification of deaths within households, handling of equipment, and the general courtesy during the assessment.

Standardisation of measurement and pre-testing of the questionnaire and equipment was carried out in the villages in the outskirts of El Barde town. These villages were not selected clusters for the actual assessment. Pre-testing involved familiarising assessment teams with village/cluster entry; administering the questionnaire, sampling procedure, correct taking of measurements and recording. After the field exercise, views were exchanged to address the difficulties identified; appropriateness of the questions reviewed and necessary changes made.

Quality of data was also ensured through (i) crosschecking of completed questionnaires on daily basis and recording of observations and confirmation of measles, severe malnutrition and death cases by supervisors. All households sampled were visited and recorded including households without anyone present at the time (ii) daily review undertaken with the teams to address any difficulties encountered, (iii) progress evaluation was carried out according to the time schedule and progress reports shared with partners on regular basis, (iv) continuous data cleaning upon and after entry which made it easy to detect any outliers/ mistakes and to replace or repeat households depending on magnitude of error (v) monitoring accuracy of equipment (weighing scales) by regularly measuring objects of known weights and (vi) continuous reinforcement of good practices. Moreover, the CHECK program of EPI 6 computer package was used to control and eliminate errors during data entry by setting conditions such that any data outside the range was automatically rejected e.g. a child's age was set to have values from 6 to 59 and values outside this range were automatically rejected. All measurements were loudly shouted by both the enumerators reading and recording them to reduce errors during recording.

3.6 Data Processing & Analysis

3.6.1 Data entry, cleaning, processing and analysis

Data was entered and analysed using Nutrisurvey and EPI6 computer based packages. Running and tabulating all variable frequencies was carried out as part of data cleaning. The Nutrisurvey Anthropometry and EPINUT programmes were used to convert the measurements (weight and height) into nutritional indicators and comparison made with the National Centre for Health Statistics (NCHS) references as designed by WHO (1983). Cleaning and analysis of certain variables was undertaken in Microsoft Excel.

3.6.2 Characteristics of assessment population and other variables

Frequencies and cross-tabulations were used to give percentages, confidence intervals, means, standard deviations and associations in the descriptive and statistical analysis and presentation of general household and child characteristics.

3.6.3 Creation of nutritional status indices

The anthropometric measurement of weight and height were used to compute the WFH nutritional status indicators of the studied children. Weight for Height (WFH) expressed the weight of the child as a percentage of the expected weight for the standard child of that height as given by NCHS. WFH measures acute malnutrition or wasting. Using EPINUT, Z-scores were generated and the anthropometric indicator, WFH, was used to classify children into categories of nutritional status as follows:

< -3 Z-Scores or oedema	= Severe acute malnutrition
-3 Z-Scores \leq WFH < -2 Z-Scores	= Moderate acute malnutrition
< -2 Z-score or oedema	= Global/total acute malnutrition
\geq -2Z-Scores	= Normal

Similarly, MUAC measurements were also used to classify children into categories of nutritional status and mortality risks as follows according SACB Nutrition assessment guidelines:

<11.0 cm	= Severe malnutrition
\geq 11.0 < 12.5	= Moderate malnutrition
\geq 12.5 -- < 13.5	= At risk of Malnutrition
\geq 13.5 cm	= Normal

For adults, the following categories (WHO) were used:

a) For non pregnant women:

< 16.0 cm	= Severe Acute malnutrition
< 18.5 cm (with oedema)	= Severe acute Malnutrition
\leq 18.5 cm	= Global (Total) Acute Malnutrition
> 18.5 cm	= Normal

b) For pregnant women:

\leq 20.7 cm	= severely at risk
\leq 23.0 cm	= Total at risk
> 23.0 cm	= Normal

4 ASSESSMENT RESULTS

1.1 Household Characteristics of Study Population

The nutrition assessment covered a total of 430 households with a mean household size of 6.3 (SD= 2.2) persons. The mean number of the under fives per household was 2.2 (SD=0.8).

Table 3: Household Characteristics

Characteristics	n	%	95% CI
Total number of HHs assessed	430	100	
Household Size	Mean= 6.3		SD= 2.2
Number of Under-fives	Mean=2.2		SD=0.8
<i>Residential status: (N=430)</i>			
Residents	422	98.1	96.2 – 99.1
IDPs	4	0.9	0.3 – 2.5
Internal Immigrants	4	0.9	0.3 – 2.5
<i>Origin (N=8)</i>			
Within Bakool	4	50.0	15.7 – 84.3
Within El Barde	3	37.3	8.5 – 75.5
Other areas	1	12.5	0.3 – 52.7
<i>Duration of Stay (N=8)</i>			
2 months	4	50.0	15.7 – 84.3
3 months	2	25.0	3.2 – 65.1
1 months	2	25.0	3.2 – 65.1
<i>Reason for Migration (N=8)</i>			
Search for employment	4	50	15.7 – 84.3
Civil insecurity	2	25	3.2 – 65.1
Food shortage	2	25	3.2 – 65.1

The majority (98.1%) of the assessed households were classified as residents¹, while the rest were IDPs and internal immigrants 0.9% each. Half (50%, N=8) of the non residents were mainly from within Bakool region.

The non residents had stayed in their current locations for between one to three months with half of them (50%, N=8) having arrived two months prior to the time of the assessment. The main reasons reported for movement were search for employment food shortage and civil insecurity in their areas of origin.

Table 4: Distribution of households by means of livelihood and Source of Income

	n	% (CI)
<i>Livelihoods (N=430)</i>		
Pastoral	357	83.0 (79.1 – 86.4)
Urban	34	7.9 (5.6- 11.0)
Agro-pastoral	24	5.6 (3.7 – 8.3)
Destitute	15	3.5 (0.2 – 5.8)
<i>Main Source of Income (N=430)</i>		
Sale of animals (& products)	209	48.6 (29.6 – 38.1)
Casual labour	134	31.2 (26.9 – 35.8)
Trade	42	9.8 (7.2 – 13.1)
Crop sale	39	9.1 (7.2 – 13.1)
Salaried employment	5	1.2 (0.4 – 2.9)
Remittance	1	0.2 (0.0 – 1.5)

The majority (83.0%) of the assessed households were pastoral while the rest were either urban livelihood, agro-pastoral or destitute as shown in table 4. Sale of animals and their products (48.6%) and casual labour (31.2%) were the predominant sources of income to most households in the district. Other main sources of income were trade, crop sale, salaried employment and

remittances.

¹ Residents were taken as those who dwelt in the places of their residences for an extended period or permanently

1.2 Water Access and Quality

Most (96.3%) of the surveyed households drew water from unprotected water sources, mainly unprotected/open wells (77%) and water catchments (16.7%). Only 3.7% of the households had access to safe water from protected wells/springs.

Water access and Quality	N	% (CI)
<i>Main source of drinking water (N=430):</i>		
Unprotected/open well	331	77.0 (72.6 – 80.8)
Water catchments	72	16.7 (13.4 – 20.7)
Protected wells/springs	16	3.7 (2.2 – 6.1)
Others	11	2.6(1.4 – 4.7)
<i>Distance to nearest water point (N=430):</i>		
≤ 500 meters	153	35.6 (31.1 – 40.3)
501m - < 1 km	99	23.0 (19.2 – 27.4)
1 – 3 km	101	23.5 (19.6 – 27.8)
≥4 km	77	17.9 (14.5 – 21.9)
<i>Number of clean water containers:</i>		
1 - 2 containers	264	61.4 (56.6 – 66.0)
3 - 4 containers	110	25.6 (21.6 – 30.0)
5 containers	42	9.8 (7.2 – 13.1)
> 5 containers	14	3.3 (1.9 – 5.5)
<i>Method of water storage:</i>		
Covered containers	263	61.2 (56.4 – 65.8)
Open containers	134	31.2 (26.9 – 35.8)
Constricted neck (<i>Ashun</i>)	33	7.7 (5.4 – 10.7)

Only 35.6% of the households had the water sources located within reasonable distance of ≤500 metres recommended by Sphere guidelines (2004). This indicates that the majority households (64.4%) cover long distance to get water. Households also had insufficient clean water storage and collecting containers implying that they require frequent trips to fetch water. Most (61.4%) of the households have only 1-2 containers for fetching or storing water. Sphere guidelines recommend a minimum of 2 clean containers

of 10-20 litres for water collection alone, in addition to enough storage containers to ensure there is always water in the household. The majority (61.2%) of the assessed households store drinking water in open containers. This further expose water to dust and parasite contamination.

1.3 Sanitation and Hygiene Practices

Sanitation and hygiene	n	% (CI)
<i>Access to Sanitation facility (N=430)</i>		
Bush	349	81.2 (77.1 – 84.7)
Traditional pit latrine	76	17.7 (14.3 – 21.7)
VIP latrines	5	1.2 (0.4 – 2.9)
<i>Distance from latrine to water source (N=183)</i>		
≤ 30meters	8	9.9 (4.4 – 18.5)
≥ 30 meters	73	90.1 (81.5 – 95.6)
<i>Washing agent</i>		
Ash	141	32.2 (28.4 – 37.5)
None	95	22.1 (28.4 – 37.5)
Soap	93	21.6 (17.9 – 25.9)
Plant Extracts	85	19.8 (16.2 – 23.9)
Shampoo	16	3.7 (2.2 – 6.1)
<i>Method of Food Storage (N=430)</i>		
Suspended in hooks/ropes	3	0.7 (0.2 – 2.2)
Put in covered containers	3	0.7 (0.2 – 2.2)
Put in pots beside fire	146	34.0 (29.5 – 38.7)
Don't store	278	64.7 (59.9 – 69.1)

The majority (81.2%) of assessed households had no access to sanitation facilities and used the bush.

Traditional pit latrines (17.7%), and improved ventilated pit latrines (1.2%) were reported as the commonly used sanitation facilities. Among the households that had access to sanitation facilities, most (90.1%) of these facilities, are located at a distance of 30 or more metres from the water source. Sphere (2004) guidelines recommend a

minimum distance of 30 meters between underground water point and a latrine.

The most commonly used washing detergent were ash (32.2%) soap (21.6%) and plant extract

(19.8%). A significant 22.1% of the households were reportedly not using any washing detergent which may compromise the hygiene requirements.

The majority of the households (64.7%) were reportedly not storing any food while 34% stored food in pots beside fire. The remainder stored food either in covered containers or suspended in hooks/ropes.

1.4 Health Seeking Behaviour

Slightly above a third (34.3%) of the assessed children reportedly fell sick during two weeks prior to the assessment. The majority of them (42.5%) did not seek for health care assistance. The rest sought assistance from traditional healers (15.0%), private clinics/pharmacy (16.3%) public health facilities (9.1%) or used their own medication (17.2%).

Table 7: Health seeking behaviour (N=934)

	n	% (CI)
<i>Child fell sick?</i>		
Yes	320	34.3 (31.2 – 37.4)
No	614	65.7 (62.6 – 68.8)
<i>Where assistance was sought (N=320)</i>		
Public health facility	29	9.1 (6.3 – 12.9)
Traditional healer	48	15.0 (11.4 – 19.5)
Private clinic/ pharmacy	52	16.3 (12.5 – 20.9)
Own medication	55	17.2 (13.3 – 21.9)
No assistance sought	136	42.5 (37.1 – 48.1)

4.5 Formal and informal humanitarian support

Table 8: Formal and informal support

Only 3% of the households reported having received some informal support during the three months prior to assessment. This social support was in the form of zakat from better off households.

Formal support was received by a relatively larger proportion (18.4%, n=79) of the households and was mainly inform of food aid (43%) and supplementary food (57%).

Type of support	N	% (CI)
<i>Informal support (N = 430)</i>		
Received:		
Yes	13	3.0 (1.7 – 5.2)
No:	417	99.2 (97.8 – 99.7)
Type of support (N=430)		
Zakat from better off households	13	100
<i>Informal support (N=430)</i>		
Received:		
Yes:	79	18.4 (14.9 – 22.4)
No:	351	81.6 (77.6 – 85.1)
Type of support:		
Food Aid	34	43.0 (49.2 61.4)
Supplementary food	45	57.0 (45.4 – 67.9)

4.6 Characteristics of assessed children

Table 9: Distribution of children according to age and sex

Age	Boys		Girls		Total		Ratio
	n	%	n	%	n	%	
6-17 months	95	-20.4	108	23.1	203	21.7	0.88
18-29 months	100	-21.4	90	19.2	190	20.3	1.11
30-41 months	54	-24.7	98	20.9	213	22.8	0.55
42-53 months	87	-18.7	105	22.5	192	20.6	0.83
54-59 months	69	-14.8	67	14.3	136	14.6	1.03
Total	466	49.9	468	50.1	934	100	1.0

A total of 934 children were surveyed from 430 households of whom 49.9% were boys and 50.1% were girls. The ratio of boys to girls was 1.0², showing that sample selection in the assessment was not

² Ideally the sex ratio should be 1, but any value from 0.8 to 1.2 is acceptable (CDC/WHO) and indicates an unbiased sample.

biased. Each age group as shown in table 9 represented between 20% and 23% but for those over 54 months (14.6%).

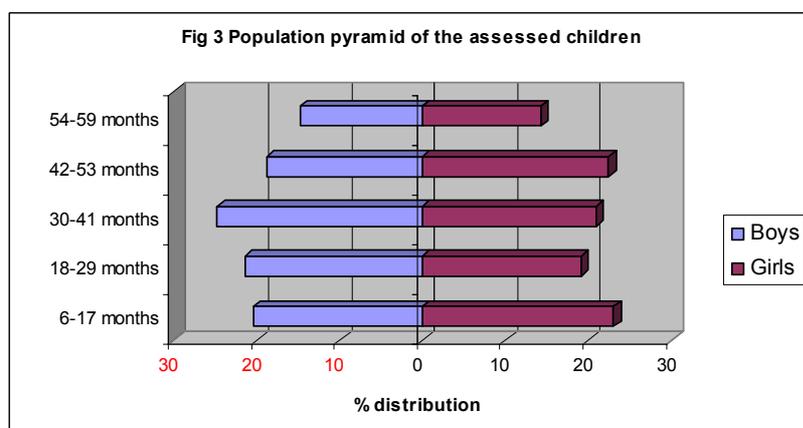


Figure 3 shows the population pyramid of the assessed 934 children in El Barde district. The pyramidal shape is typical for a normal population indicating that there was no bias in the selection of children by age.

4.7 Nutritional status of assessment children using anthropometry

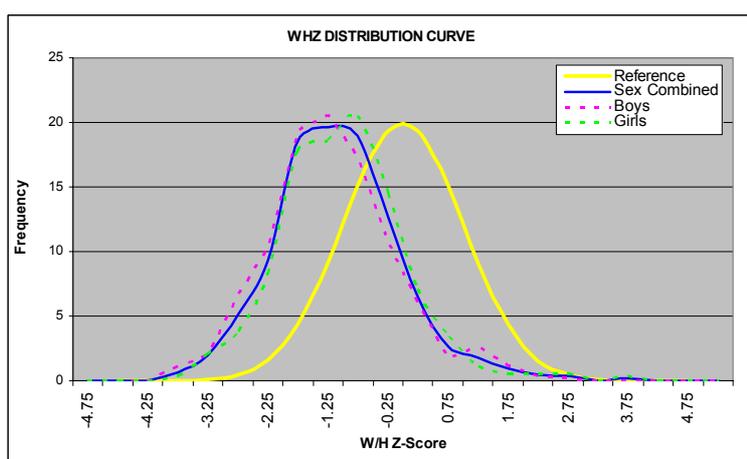
Table 10: Summary of Global Acute malnutrition and Severe Acute Malnutrition

Malnutrition Rates	No	Proportion
Global Acute Malnutrition (<-2 Z score or oedema)	165	17.7% (13.7 – 21.6)
Severe Acute Malnutrition (<-3 Z score or oedema)	30	3.2% (1.4 – 4.9)
Oedema	4	0.4% (0.1 – 1.2)

The global acute malnutrition using WFH Z score (<-2 z-scores or oedema) was 17.7% (CI: 13.7 - 21.6) while severe acute malnutrition (<-3 z-score or oedema) was 3.2 % (CI: 1.4-4.9). Four cases (0.4%) of oedema

were detected during the assessment and were referred by the assessment team to the health centre in El Barde town.

Distribution Curve for Weight for Height Z-score



Distribution of the weight-for-height scores (mean=-1.09; median=-1.14; SD=1.06) were skewed towards the left depicting a poorer nutrition situation according to international (WHO) standards (see Figure below).

Table 11: Distribution of children by nutritional status (WHZ-score or oedema) and child sex

Nutrition status categories	Males		Females		Total	
	No	% (CI)	No	% (CI)	No	% (CI)
Global acute malnutrition (WFH<-2 z score/oedema)	93	20.0 (16.5 – 23.9)	72	15.4 (12.3 – 19.0)	165	17.7 (13.7 – 21.6)
Severe acute malnutrition (WFH <-3 z score/oedema)	15	3.2 (1.9 – 5.4)	15	3.2 (1.9 – 5.4)	30	3.2 (1.4 – 4.9)
Oedema	1	0.2 (0.1 – 1.4)	3	0.6 (0.2 – 2.0)	4	0.4 (0.1 – 1.2)

Slightly more (20%) boys than girls 15.4% were acutely malnourished in the assessed population using weight for height <-2 Z score or presence of oedema. However, there was no significant difference in the distribution of malnutrition by sex ($p>0.05$).

Table 12: Distribution of Acute Malnutrition by Age

Age groups	Severe (WH<-3Z)	Moderate (WH>=-3Z<-2Z)	GAM (Total malnourished-WH<-2Z)	Normal (WH>=-2Z)	Total
6-17 months	8(3.9%)	28 (13.8%)	36 (17.7%)	167 (82.3%)	203 (21.7%)
18-29 months	4 (2.1%)	32 (16.8%)	36 (18.9%)	154 (81.1%)	190 (20.3%)
30-41 months	5 (2.3%)	25 (11.7%)	30 (14.1%)	183(85.3%)	213 (22.8%)
42-53 months	9(4.7%)	26 (13.5%)	34 (17.7%)	158 (82.3%)	192 (20.6%)
54-59 months	4 (2.9%)	25 (18.4%)	29 (21.3%)	107 (78.7%)	136 (14.6%)
Total	30 (3.2%)	136 (14.6%)	165 (17.7%)	769 (82.3%)	934 (100%)

The proportion of malnourished children was highest (21.3%) among the 54-59 months age category followed by 18-29 age bracket (18.9%) and was lowest (10.9%) among those in 30 -41 months age bracket. However, analysis of distribution of malnutrition between the breastfeeding age group 6-24 months and the 25-59 months category showed no statistical difference ($p=0.69$).

Table 13: Malnutrition prevalence using WFH percentage of median categories

Nutrition status categories	Males		Females		Total	
	No	Proportion (%)	No	Proportion (%)	No	Proportion (%)
Global acute malnutrition (WFH<80% or oedema)	63	13.5 (10.6 – 17.0)	49	10.5 (7.9 – 13.7)	112	12.0 (10.0 – 14.3)
Severe acute malnutrition (WFH<70% or oedema)	5	1.1 (0.4 – 2.6)	8	1.7 (0.8 – 3.5)	13	1.4 (0.8 – 2.4)

The global acute malnutrition among children aged 6 – 59 months using weight for height <80% of median or presence of oedema was 12% (CI: 10.0 – 14.3), while severe acute malnutrition <70% of median or presence of oedema was 1.4% (CI: 0.8 – 2.4%).

Using mid upper arm circumference (MUAC) measurements for children aged 12-59 months, 5.8% (CI: 4.4 – 7.7) of the children were identified as acutely malnourished (MUAC<12.5 cm or oedema). MUAC identified fewer children as acutely malnourished in comparison to weight-for-height Z score measurements. About 1.6% (CI: 0.9 – 2.8) were identified as severely malnourished (MUAC<11.0 cm or oedema).

Table 14: Nutrition status of Children (12-59 months) by MUAC

Malnutrition	Males		Females		Total (N=805)	
	N	%	N	%	N	% (95% CI)
Severe (MUAC <11 cm or oedema)	5	1.2 (0.4 – 3.0)	8	2.0 (0.9 – 4.1)	13	1.6 (0.9 -2.8)
Moderate (11≤MUAC<12.5 cm)	19	4.6 (2.9 – 7.3)	15	3.8 (2.2 – 6.3)	34	4.2 (3.0 – 5.9)
Total (MUAC <12.5 cm or oedema)	24	5.9 (3.9 – 8.7)	23	5.8 (3.8 – 8.7)	47	5.8 (4.4 – 7.7)
At risk (MUAC 12.5- <13.5 cm)	13	3.2 (1.8 – 5.5)	9	2.3 (1.8 – 5.5)	22	2.7 (1.8 – 4.2)
Normal (MUAC ≥13.5 cm)	305	74 (69.8 – 78.5)	314	79.5 (75.1 – 83.3)	619	76.9 (73.8-79.9)
Total					805	100

4.8 Morbidity, measles immunisation, polio vaccination and vitamin A supplementation

About 34% of the assessed children were reported to have suffered from one or more communicable illness two weeks prior to the assessment. This included incidence of diarrhoea (18.6%), ARI (20.3%) and febrile illness (18%) and were attributed to the prevailing wet conditions at the time of the assessment. The incidence of suspected measles among children aged 9-59 months one month prior to the assessment was 5.4%.

Table 15: Morbidity, measles immunisation, polio vaccination and vitamin A supplementation

	No.	%(CI)
<i>Incidence of reported major child illnesses (N=934)</i>		
Diarrhoea within two weeks prior to assessment	174	18.6 (16.2 – 21.3)
ARI within two weeks prior to assessment	190	20.3 (17.8 – 23.2)
Febrile illness/suspected malaria) within 2 weeks prior to assessment	168	18.0 (15.5 – 20.7)
Suspected measles within one month prior to the assessment (N=852)	46	5.3 (4.0 – 7.1)
<i>Immunization Coverage (N=934)</i>		
Children (9-59 months) immunised against measles (N=866)	577	66.6 (63.4 – 69.7)
Children who have ever received Polio dose (N= 934)	690	73.9 (77.5 – 90.3)
<i>Vitamin A supplementation (N= 934)</i>		
Children who received Vitamin A supplementation in past 6 months or before	285	30.5 (27.6 – 33.6)
<i>Micronutrients Deficiencies (N=430)</i>		
Households who reported night blindness (N=430)		
Member with night blindness (n=6):		
24 – 71 months	1	0.2 (0.0 – 1.5)
6 years or more	5	1.2 (0.4 – 2.9)

The coverage of health programmes was far below the recommended 95% level (Sphere, 2004). Measles vaccination coverage for eligible children (9-59 months old) was 66.6% while that for vitamin A supplementation and polio immunization was 30.5% and 73.9% respectively. Basing on admission criteria of weight for height percent of median, 10.7% (n=100) of the children were moderately malnourished (WHM<80% and WHM≥70%) and were qualified for admission to SFP, but only 22 of them were enrolled in a SFP while only 2 out of the 13 (1.4%) severely malnourished children (WHM<70 or oedema) were enrolled in TFC. Therefore, the SFP coverage was 22% while TFC coverage was 15.4%. These are below the recommended coverage level of >50% in rural areas.

4.9 Vitamin A Deficiency

About 1.3% of the households reported cases of night blindness, which is a proxy indicator of vitamin A deficiency. Most (1.2%) of these cases were reported among children and adults aged 6 years or more. The prevalence of Vitamin A deficiency (night blindness) of >1% among the children aged 24-71 months signifies a public health problem (Sphere 2004).

4.10 Feeding practices

Slightly above half (55.4%) of the children in the breastfeeding age group of 6-24 months were breastfeeding at the time of the assessment with most (71.3%) of them being breastfed on demand. However, none of the children in this age group was exclusively breastfed for the recommended first six months. Of those who had stopped breastfeeding (N=121), 14% had stopped breastfeeding before six months of age while the majority 48.8% and 33.9% before their first birthday and at age of 12-18 months respectively.

Table 16: Children feeding practices

Children aged 6-24 months (N=271)	N	% (CI)
<i>Is child breastfeeding?</i>		
Yes	150	55.4 (49.2 – 61.4)
No	121	44.6 (38.6 – 50.8)
<i>Breastfeeding frequency (N=150)</i>		
1-2 times	1	0.7 (0.0 – 3.7)
3-6 times	42	28.0 (21.0 – 35.9)
On demand	107	71.3 (63.4 – 78.4)
<i>Age stopped breastfeeding (N=121):</i>		
0 - 5 months	17	14.0 (8.4 – 21.5)
6 - 11 months	59	48.8 (39.6 – 58.0)
12 – 18 months	41	33.9 (25.5 – 43.0)
More than 18 months	4	3.3 (0.9 – 8.2)
<i>Introduction of Complementary feeding (N=271)</i>		
0 - 3 months	161	59.4 (53.3 – 65.3)
4 – 5 months	69	25.5 (20.4 – 31.1)
6 months	26	9.6 (6.4 – 13.7)
7 or more months	15	5.5 (3.1 – 9.0)
<i>Feeding frequency (n=271):</i>		
Once	20	7.4 (4.6 – 11.2)
2 times	128	47.2 (41.2 – 53.4)
3 – 4 times	95	35.1 (29.4 – 41.1)
5 or more times	28	10.3 (7.0 – 14.6)

Most (59.4%) of the children aged 6-24 were prematurely introduced to foods other than breast milk between the time of birth and the third month of life. Only 9.6% of the children were rightly introduced to complementary feeding at the recommended 6 months. The rest 25.5% and 5.5% were introduced to complementary feeding at 4-5 months and at 7 months or more respectively.

Infrequent feeding of the assessed children (6-24 months) was reported with some 7.4% of the children fed only once a day mainly on cereal-based diets. Almost half (47.2%) of the assessed children were twice in a day. Only 10.3% were fed 5 or more times as recommended by Facts for Life (2002). Early breastfeeding

stoppage, premature introduction of complementary foods and infrequent feeding of the children all indicate poor child feeding practices in the district.

4.11 Dietary Diversity

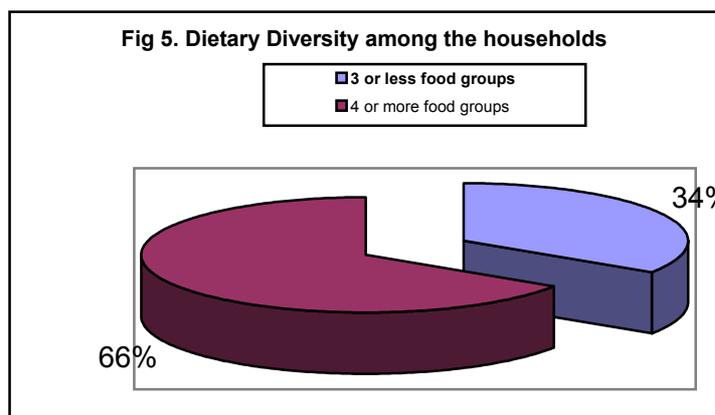
No of food groups consumed (N=430)	N	% (CI)
1 food group	3	0.7 (0.2 – 22.2)
2 food groups	31	7.2 (5.0 – 10.2)
3 food groups	113	26.3 (22.2 – 30.8)
4 food groups	134	31.2 (26.9 – 35.8)
5 food groups	102	23.7 (19.8 – 28.1)
6 food groups	26	6.0 (4.1 – 8.8)
7 food groups	4	0.9 (0.3 – 2.5)
8 food groups	9	2.1 (1.0 – 4.1)
9 food groups	8	1.9 (0.9 – 3.8)
1-3 food groups	147	34.2 (29.7 – 38.9)
≥ 4 food groups	283	65.8 (61.1 – 70.3)
Mean HDDS	4.14	SD= 1.4
Main source of food (N=430)		
Purchasing	310	72.3 (67.7 – 76.4)
Own production	64	14.9 (11.8 – 18.7)
Gifts/donations	36	8.4 (6.0 – 11.5)
Food aid	12	2.8 (1.5 – 5.0)
Traded	6	1.4 (0.6 – 3.2)
Borrowing	1	0.2 (0.0 – 1.5)

Households consumed an average (HDDS) of 4 food groups (SD=1.4) with the number of food groups consumed ranging from one to nine. Some 0.7% of the households had consumed only one food groups in 24 hours prior to the assessment. Four food groups were the most frequently consumed reported in 31.2% of the households within the same period.

Most (72.3%) of the assessed households obtained their food mainly through purchasing. The remaining obtained food through own production (14.9%), gift/donations (8.4%), food aid

(2.8%) barter trading (1.4%) and borrowing (0.2%), produced their own (0.4%) or obtained their food as gifts (0.2%).

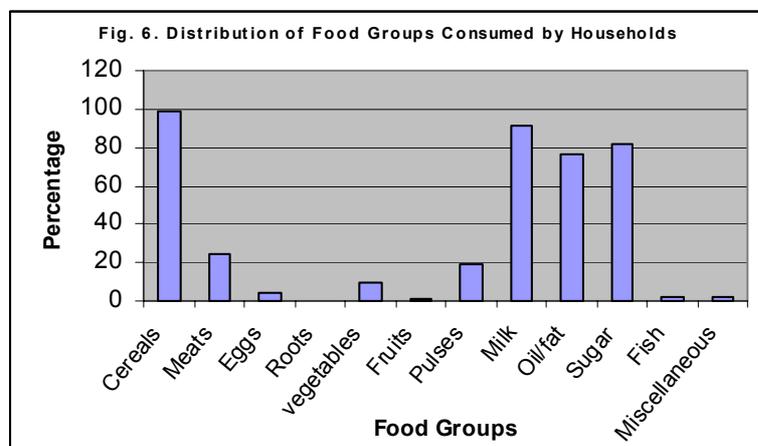
Table 17: Distribution of dietary diversity among households



As shown on figure 5, only about 34% of the households had consumed three or fewer food groups within 24 hours prior to the assessment. Most households (66%) consumed a more diversified diet comprised of four or more food groups.

An analysis of seven day dietary intake showed that 43% of the assessed households have poor or very poor consumption level, additional 17% is at borderline while the remainder 40% have good or very good consumption

level.



Cereals provided the bulk of the food in the household diet consumed by almost all the assessed households (98.8% as shown in figure 6). Other food items commonly consumed were milk (91.4%), oil/fat (76.3%) and sugar as tea (82.1%). The least consumed food groups were fruits, pulses, fish and eggs. None of the assessed households had consumed roots-based food items in the previous 24 hours to the assessment.

4.12 Adult Malnutrition by MUAC

Table 18: Adult nutrition status by MUAC

	n	%
Total mothers assessed	440	93.8
Total non mothers assessed	29	6.2
Total women assessed	469	100
<i>Non Pregnant (N=394)</i>		
Severe acute malnutrition (MUAC<16.0 cm)	0	0
Global acute malnutrition (MUAC≤18.5)	1	0.25
Normal	393	99.7
<i>Pregnant women (N=75)</i>		
Severe Risk (MUAC≤20.7 cm)	2	2.7 (0.3 – 9.3)
Total at risk (MUAC≤23.0 cm)	23	30.7 (20.5 – 42.4)
Normal	52	69.3 (57.6 – 79.5)

Only 0.25% of non-pregnant women (N=365) aged 15-49 years were identified as acutely malnourished (MUAC<18.5cm). Among the pregnant women (N=75), 30.7% were acutely malnourished (MUAC≤23.0cm) with 2.7% being severely malnourished (MUAC≤20.7). The high nutritional risk in the

pregnant women is may be attributed to inadequate dietary intake to meet increased nutrient demands in pregnancy and limited access to maternal healthcare services.

4.13 Relationship between acute malnutrition and other factors

Table 19: Risk factors and relation to total malnutrition (WHZ<-2)

Illness was significantly associated with malnutrition. Children who fell ill were 1.5 times more likely to be malnourished than those who did not fall sick ($p=0.0004$, $RR=1.45$; $CI: 1.19 - 1.76$). In

Exposure variable	N	(%)	Crude RR	95% CI	p-value
Child sex:					
Male	93	20.0	1.3	0.98 – 1.72	0.06
Female	71	15.4			
Age group					
6-24 months	50	18.5	1.05	0.82 – 1.36	0.68
25-59 months	115	17.3			
Morbidity patterns					
Illness					
Yes	76	23.8	1.45	1.19 – 1.76	0.0004*
No	89	14.5			
ARI					
Yes	51	26.8	1.78	1.29 – 2.24	0.0002*
No	114	15.4			
Diarrhoea:					
Yes	38	21.8	1.31	0.95 – 1.79	0.11
No	126	16.7			
Febrile illness/suspected malaria					
Yes	37	22.0	1.31	0.95 – 1.81	0.11
No	128	16.8			
Measles					
Yes	15	32.6	2.21	1.21 – 3.99	0.008*
No	138	17.1			
Health programmes					
Vitamin A Supplement:					
Yes	68	23.9	1.6	1.21 – 2.11	0.001*
No	97	14.9			
Measles vaccine (N=866)					
Yes	115	19.9	1.4	1.01 – 1.95	0.04*
No	41	14.2			
Dietary & feeding patterns					
Breastfeeding (N=271)					
Yes	26	17.3	0.87	0.53 – 1.44	0.6
No	24	19.8			
Breastfeeding frequency					
On demand	19	17.8	0.94	0.56 – 1.57	0.81
Infrequently	31	18.9			
Breastfeeding stoppage					
Before 12 months	43	19.0	1.22	0.59 – 2.54	0.58
At \geq 12 months	7	15.6			
Feeding frequency					
5 or more times/day	4	14.3	0.75	0.29 – 1.94	0.55
< 5 times/day	46	18.9			

particular, ARI ($p=0.0002$) and measles ($p=0.008$) showed a significant association with malnutrition. Interestingly, children who had received vitamin A supplement and measles vaccines were more likely to be malnourished than those who had not ($p<0.05$).

Further analysis revealed no statistically significant association between malnutrition and other factors like age group, child sex and feeding practices

4.14 Death rates

A total of 900 households were surveyed for mortality indicator with a recall period of 90 days prior to the assessment being used. The results generated by the Nutrisurvey software were as presented below:

Death rates;

For children aged 0-59 months (under-five mortality or death rate)

$$0\text{-5DR} = \left(\frac{\text{Number of deaths of children 0-5 years}}{\frac{\text{Mid point Population* no. of children 0-5}}{10,000}} \right) \times \text{Time interval} = \text{Deaths/10,000/day}$$

* Mid point population = (Population at present + Population at beginning of recall)/2
Population at beginning of recall = (population present + left + deaths) – (joined + births)

Under five population (mid point) in surveyed households	= 975
Number of under fives who joined the households	= 8
Number of under fives who left the households	= 4
Number of births	= 15
Number of under five deaths	= 9

Under five death rate (deaths /10,000 children per day) = **1.03** (CI: 0.39 – 1.68)

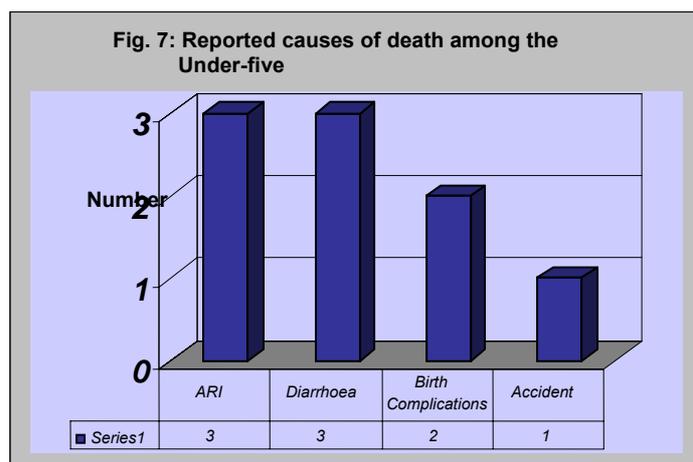
For the total population (Crude mortality/death rate):

$$\text{CDR} = \left(\frac{\text{Number of deaths}}{\frac{\text{Total Mid point Population}}{10,000}} \right) \times \text{Time interval} = \text{Deaths/10,000/day}$$

Total population in surveyed households	= 4634
Total people who joined the households	= 8
Total people who left the households	= 35
Total number of births	= 15
Total number of deaths in the households	= 27

CMR as deaths per 10,000 persons per day = **0.64** (CI: 0.28 – 1.01)

Both under five and crude death rates reflect an alert situation (Sphere 2004).



As shown on figure 5, ARI and diarrhoea were the main reported factors causes of the under-five mortality. Others were complications arising during birth and accidents. Among the adults, the reported causes of death included anaemia, malaria, bilharzias, ARI and diabetes.

4.15 Qualitative information

Qualitative information was collected from observations, focus group discussions and key informants. A total of 15 focus group discussions were held, with mothers and with men (elders). The discussions were centred on feeding and care practices, health care, food security, and water and sanitation issues.

4.15.1 Care and feeding practices

Breastfeeding duration for children is usually 12 months from birth. Water is given mostly at birth. A sugary solution is given to the baby within the first week of birth while most children are given complementary food (animal milk) before they are one month old. For most children, semi solid foods are introduced as early as before their 3rd month in life and solid foods like rice or canjera are introduced at the age of 8-12 months. Feeding frequency is below the recommended five times in a day with majority of the children being fed at a maximum of three times in a day.

4.15.2 Change in dietary consumption 3 months before the survey.

Households reported that milk consumption has improved after the sufficient *Deyr* rains due to an increase in livestock production among the poor and middle wealth group. However, the fact that livestock conception has been low and the reduced herd sizes during the past dry seasons, milk production is still low and expensive. The poor households felt that there was no significant change in dietary consumption but are optimistic that the situation will improve if the favourable conditions are sustained over long period of time.

4.15.3 Constraints faced by women in providing adequate food to their households.

Food insecurity and sometimes ill health were the reportedly major constraints to breastfeeding of young children below two years. Cultural beliefs and general lack of knowledge on breastfeeding also negatively affect breastfeeding practice. Lack of water, cooking & storage facilities and too much work for women are the main hindrances to food preparation while lack of storage facilities affects food storage. Women have to travel long distances at times (during dry spells) or spend a lot of time away from home and do not have enough time to prepare food.

4.15.4. Water and sanitation

The main sources of water are unprotected wells/springs and water catchments which are rarely or never treated at all. The distance to the water source for most households is beyond the recommended 500 meters radius. Most households use the bush for human waste disposal including that of the children. This practice is a health risks because the human waste may be washed into water sources hence predisposing to water-born diseases. For the few who have access to sanitation facilities the distance to the water source is at ≥ 30 meters. The recommended minimum distance between latrine and water source is 30 meters.

4.15.5. Main income sources.

Most households in the district are relying on sale of livestock, other products such milk or ghee. Other households depend on sale of crops, casual labour, petty trades and sale collection and sale of resins/gum for income

4.15.6. Common illnesses

Among the adults in the region the most common reported illnesses include suspected malaria, Bilhazia, anaemia and diarrhoea. For children the most common illnesses are diarrhoea, Acute Respiratory Infection (ARI) malaria and skin infections. Few measles cases are often reported in the district. The presence of stagnant water, especially during the rainy seasons forms ideal breeding site for mosquitoes and therefore contribute to the seasonal increase in malaria prevalence. Moreover poor sanitation leads to increased morbidity particularly diarrhoea.

4.15.7 Food security situation

Impact of Deyr 06 rains on livestock and crop fields

Overall Deyr 06/07 rain was above average resulting into increased water availability, pasture regeneration and return of the livestock that had migrated to Ethiopia. However, the pastoral area on the south east of the district received poor rainfall, thus poor water availability and pasture condition. Although the impact of rains on the crop was positive and good harvest is anticipated, the crop fields in the district are very small. In general livestock body condition significantly improved and water sources are adequately replenished. The only exception is in some areas including Salkudhooble and Figta where water in the catchments may not be sustained until the next Gu season. Notable still is the impact of the drought as reflected by very low or no livestock births especially for camel and cattle and limited milk production. In addition, there are reports of high camel mortalities (due to an unknown disease) during the months of Ramadan and Idd-Alfitr. Rate of death is however reported to have significantly declined in the month of December. On the positive side, the rate of livestock conception for all livestock is very good.

Market access and commodity prices

Access to market was reported to have improved following the resolution of the conflict among the warring clans. The people and livestock who had migrated to other areas in search of pasture and water and freeing from insecurity are returning into the district. Cereal price in the month of December dropped by about 30% (from 3,000 to 2,000 SSH). This is possibly attributed to food relief distribution in most villages in the district during that time. Livestock prices over the last few months have increased due improved livestock conditions and high demand. This has enhanced pastoralist's access to food and income. Income from milk, which is an important part of the annual income basket is however low due to low milk production, thus milk prices are very high about 8,000 SSH which is about 100% higher than prices at this time of the year.

Food security and Coping strategies

Poor and parts of the middle wealth groups were worst affected by the successive droughts in resulting to asset losses, limited production of milk, limited labour and self-employment opportunities and reduced social support. Among the current coping strategies used by these groups include increased reliance on food aid, collection and sale of resins/gum and increased sales of their few remaining livestock.

5.0 DISCUSSION

5.1 Nutrition Situation

The assessment results indicate Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) (Weight-for-Height <-2 Z score or oedema) of **17.7%** (CI: 13.7 – 21.6) and Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) of **3.2%** (CI: 1.4 – 4.9) which included four cases (0.4%) of oedema. These results indicate a critical nutrition situation according to WHO classification. The results are also consistent with long term malnutrition level estimates for the district and with the most recent assessment conducted in March (Jilaal) 2004 which reported a GAM of 15.7%. Even though direct comparison with the 2004 assessment results is not viable owing to the fact that the two assessments were done in different seasons, current results show slight deterioration of nutrition situation.

The persistence of critical nutrition situation could be explained by recurrent drought and civil insecurity that adversely affect food availability and access. During the drought period livestock migrate far from the houses depriving the children and women milk which is an essential source of nutrients for the Somali community. Drought has also led to depletion of productive assets including livestock, hence loss of income to purchase staple foods and other essential goods and services for the households. High morbidity in the district is also a major contributory factor to malnutrition in the district.

Malnutrition was significantly associated with morbidity and with the children who had been ill two weeks prior to the assessment being 1.5 times more likely to be malnourished (RR=1.45; p=0.0004). In particular, ARI (p=0.0002) and measles (p=0.008) had a significant association with malnutrition. The coverage of health programme, measles vaccination, polio immunization and vitamin A supplementations were all below the recommended 95% coverage (Sphere 2004). This makes the children miss the health benefits associated with these health programmes and ultimately making them more susceptible to illness. The history of high morbidity in the district may be explained by limited health facilities in the district which are located in major towns making them inaccessible to the majority of rural population.

The retrospective crude and under five mortality rates of **0.64** (CI: 0.28 -1.01) and **1.03** (CI: 0.39 – 1.68) deaths/10,000/day indicate an alert situation (Sphere 2004). The mortality of the both the under five children and adult was reportedly due to morbidity related causes including ARI and diarrhoea, malaria anaemia and bilharzias.

5.2 Child Feeding, Food Consumption and Food Security

As in most other parts of Somalia, child feeding practices especially breastfeeding and introduction of complementary food and feeding frequency are sub-optimal and major underlying causes of malnutrition in the district. During the assessment 44.6% of the children aged 6-24 months were not breastfeeding with the majority of them (48.8%) having stopped breastfeeding at the age of 6-11 months. There was even 14% who had stopped breastfeeding at the age below 6 months. Exclusive breastfeeding is rarely or never practiced given the rampant practices of giving water/sugar solution to new born babies. Most children (59.4%) were introduced to complementary food at the age of 0-3 months. This is far below the recommended six months of exclusive breastfeeding (UNICEF/WHO). The feeding frequency was also below the recommended rates of five times in a day.

Overall, the Deyr 06/07 rain was above average resulting into increased water availability, pasture regeneration and return of the livestock that had migrated to Ethiopia. This resulted in a significant improvement of livestock body condition due to availability of pasture and water. With the improved body condition the livestock can have better selling price and hence boosting the income needed to buy staple cereals and other essential goods and services. Income from the sale of income is still low due to the low production as a result of poor conception rates during the

past dry seasons. With the low supply of milk, the price is high making it inaccessible to poor households. However, milk production is expected to improve due to good conception rate that occurred during the Deyr '06/07 season. The dietary diversity is fairly good with about 66% of the assessed households having consumed meals comprised of four or more food groups in the last 24 hours prior to the assessment.

5.3. Water, Sanitation and Health issues

Overall, water availability and access for both human and livestock has greatly improved following the sufficient Deyr rains. Most of the population draw water from unprotected water catchments or wells. Most of these catchments that had dried up during the drought are now replenished with water. This has reduced the time spent in search of water as well as the income used to purchase water during dry seasons. However the quality of water, especially for human consumption, is poor because water from these sources are not protected from contamination and are rarely or never treated. Moreover households had insufficient water holding containers implying that they would require frequent trips to water sources. Where water sources are located far, taking frequent trips to fetch water may consume substantial amount of time for the household members. About 61% of the households have only 1-2 containers of 10-20 litres capacity for fetching or storing water. Sphere (2004) guidelines recommend a minimum of 2 clean containers of 10-20 litres for water collection alone, in addition to enough storage containers to ensure sufficient water in the household for use by each household member. With limited water collection and storage facilities household hygiene may be comprised.

The general sanitation of the population's residential areas is poor. Access to sanitation facilities is extremely low with majority (81.2%) using bush for both adult and child waste disposal. Open disposal of human waste is a health risk when washed by rain waters into predominant unprotected water sources. The use of washing agent is also low with about 22% of assessed households reportedly not using any washing agent. This, together with poor drinking water quality is likely to have contributed to incidences of diarrhoea.

6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Following discussions held after sharing the results with partners and detailed data analysis, both short- and long-term recommendations were made:

Short term recommendations

1. Enhance delivery of basic health services including intensifying EPI services.
2. Rehabilitation and treatment of severely and moderately malnourished children through existing feeding centres, strengthened outreach mechanisms to reach malnourished children and refer them for rehabilitation and use of community based care.
3. Intensify nutrition and health education targeting children care givers with messages on breastfeeding, child-feeding, health-seeking behaviour and hygiene and sanitation.

Long-term Recommendations

1. To enhance access to health services, there is need for support by agencies to re-establish and re-open health posts and centres that already exist but are not operational as well as establishing others in areas where there are no health facilities.
2. Enhance nutrition and health education programmes with a specific focus on good sanitation; hygiene, child feeding practices and health seeking practices.
3. Re-stocking programme to support the poor households that lost livestock during the drought.
4. Measures for brokering lasting peace in the district are needed to avoid recurring disruption of livelihood and enhance humanitarian response.
5. Rehabilitation of existing boreholes and wells, construction of new ones and establishment of mechanism for routine water treatment/chlorination to enhance water quality.
6. Regular and massive environmental cleaning to enhance hygiene and sanitation
7. Provision of sanitary facilities including building of latrine for appropriate disposal of human excretal waste.

7.0 APPENDICES

7.1 Appendix 1: Sampling Frame for El Barde District Nutrition Assessment

Settlements	UNDP	WHO	Verified Pop	Cumulative	Cluster	No of Clusters
Aata		400	400	400		
Abesale	630	750	750	1150	662	1
Axmed Korey		800	100	1250		
Baaley		300	200	1450	1393	2
Balacadale		155	100	1550		
Beerharti		800	12	1562		
Boholo Jiid		400	100	1662		
Buur Caliyow		400	300	1962		
Buur Macow		850	200	2162	2124	3
Celcali		165	400	2562		
Dhexkabood		100	150	2712		
Dhursheen Kus		150	500	3212	2855	4
Dudumuxaar		1650	290	3502		
El Caqable		250	450	3952	3586	5
El Kusow	115	850	150	4102		
Eladen		850	300	4402	4317	6
Elbaad		800	800	5202	5048	7
El Barde Town	4794	12400	6700	11902	5779, 6510, 7241, 7972, 8703, 9434, 10165, 10896	8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15
Eldheere2		250	200	12102	11627	16
Elmagad	680	600	800	12902	12358	17
Elqorin		800	320	13222	13082	18
Elriib		1100	200	13422		
Eltagabey		100	150	13572		
Faraq		100	100	13672		
Farta Balanbaal		400	200	13872	13820	19
Fikta	437	900	400	14272		
Ganaweyn		250	200	14472		
Garas-Awowe		600	200	14672	14551	20
Geera Dab		200	300	14972		
Haluul		300	200	15172		
Hiirey	285	300	600	15772	15282	21
Ildhoreyn		900	29	15801		
Jilible		200	250	16051	16013	22
Kurtunwaaley		200	120	16171		
Lawareeg	345	300	50	16221		
Libaxle		250	100	16321		
Maarey		200	200	16521		
Malable		850	90	16611		
Maroodi cade		900	480	17091	16744	23
Nohley		400	50	17141		
Qabsay		300	300	17441		
Quruc-Joome	1350	3000	3100	20541	17475, 18206, 18937, 19668, 20399	24, 25, 26, 27, 28
Rahle		210	250	20791		
Saankheerow		200	150	20941		
Salkudhoble	1575		350	21291	21130	29
Waaqsheen		300	400	21691		
Warcadey		300	250	21941	21861	30
Cluster Interval= 731		Random Number=662				

7.2 Appendix 2a: EL BARDE DISTRICT NUTRITION ASSESSMENT HOUSEHOLD QUESTIONNAIRE, 2006 (English Version)

Date _____ Team Number _____ Cluster Number _____ Name of enumerator _____

Name of Village _____ District _____ Household Number _____ Name of the Respondent _____

Q1-8 Characteristics of Household

- Q1** How many people live in this household (Household size)³ ? _____
- Q2** How many children are below five years in this household (Number of < 5 years)? _____
- Q3** What is your present household residence status? 1= Resident⁴ 2=internally displaced person (IDP)⁵ 3=Returnees⁶ 4=Internal immigrant⁷ 5=Other (specify) _____
If answer to the above is 1, then move to Question 7.
- Q4** Place of origin 1= Within El Barde District 2= Within Bakool region 3= South Somalia 4= Other areas, specify _____
- Q5** Duration of stay (in months) _____
- Q6** Reason for movement: 1= Civil insecurity/ fighting 2=Seeking jobs 3= Food shortage 4= Pasture/water shortage 5= Seasonal/climatic 6= Others; specify _____
- Q7** What is the main livelihood systems used by this household? 1= Pastoral 2=Agro-pastoral 3=Urban 4= Destitute 5= Others; specify _____
- Q8.** What is the household's main source of income? 1= Animal & animal product sales 2= Crop and crop sales 3= Trade 4= Casual labour
 5= Salaried/wage employment 6= Remittances/gifts/zakat 7= Others, specify _____

Q9-16 Feeding and immunization status of children aged 6 – 59 months (or 65 – 109.9 cm) in the household.

First Name	Q9 Exact Age in months (6-59 months) <i>(if child is more than 24 months old answer Q9 and then skip to Q15)</i>	Q10 (If 6-24 months) Are you breastfeeding ⁸ the child? <i>(if no, skip to Q12)</i> 1=Yes 2=No	Q11 (If 6-24 months) If breast feeding, how many times/day? 1=2 times or less 2=3-6 3=On demand	Q12 (If 6-24 months) If not breast feeding, how old was the child when you stopped breast-feeding? 1= less than 6 months 2=6-11 months 3=12 – 18 months 4=≥18 months 5= Never breastfed	Q13 (If 6-24 months) At what age was child given water/ foods other than breast milk? 1=0-3 months 2=4-5 months 3=6 months 4=7 months or more.	Q14 (If 6-24 months) How many times do you feed the child in a day <i>(besides breast milk)</i> ? 1= Once 2= Twice 3= 3-4 times 4= 5 or more times	Q 15 Has child been provided with Vitamin A in the last 6 months? <i>(show sample)</i> 1=Yes 2=No	Q16 (If ≥9 months old) Has child been Vaccinated against measles? 1=In past 6 months 2=Before 6 months 3=None	Q17 Has the child ever been given polio vaccine orally? 1=1-2 times 2=3 and above 3=Never
1									
2									
3									
4									

³ Number of persons who live together and eat from the same pot at the time of assessment

⁴ A person who dwells in a particular place permanently or for an extended period

⁵ A person or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights, or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized State Border" source, guiding principles on internal displacement

⁶ Refugees who have returned to their country (Somalia) or community of origin, Somalia, either spontaneously or through organized repatriation [UNHCR definition]

⁷ A person who moves (more or less permanently) to a different administrative territory due to a wide range of reasons (e.g. job related, security)

⁸ Child having received breast milk either directly from the mothers or wet nurse breast within the last 12 hours

Q17-27 Anthropometry and morbidity for children aged 6 – 59 months or (65 – 109.9cm) in the household

First Name <i>Follow same order as per table on page 1</i>	Q18 Child Sex 1=Male 2=Female	Q19 Oedema 1=yes 2=no	Q20 Height (cm)	Q21 Weight (kg)	Q22 MUAC (cm)	Q23 Diarrhoea ⁹ in last two weeks 1= Yes 2= No	Q24 Serious ARI ¹⁰ in the last two weeks 1=Yes 2=No	Q25 Febrile illness/suspected Malaria ¹¹ in the last two weeks 1=Yes 2=No	Q26 (If ≥9 month) Suspected Measles ¹² in last one month 1=Yes 2=No	Q27 [Applicable for a child who suffered any of the diseases in Q23 – 26) Where did you seek healthcare assistance when (Name of child) was sick? 1=No assistance sought 2=Own medication 3=Traditional healer 4=Private clinic/Pharmacy 5= Public health facility	Q28 Is the child admitted in SFP or TFC/CTC? 1= Yes –SFP 2=Yes –TFC/CTC 3=No
1											
2											
3											
4											

29: Anthropometry (MUAC) for adult women of childbearing age (15-49 years) present at the household

Serial No.	Name	Age (years)	MUAC (cm)	Physiological status 1=Pregnant 2=Non pregnant	Illness in last 14 days? If yes, what illness?	Codes for adult illnesses
1	Mother:					1=Diarrhea 2= Joint pain 3=ARI 4= Malaria 5=HIV/AIDS 6= Anemia 7= Others, specify
2						
3						

Q30 Does any member of the household have difficulty seeing at night or in the evening when other people do not? 1= 24- 71 months 2= ≥ 6 years 3= None

⁹ Diarrhoea is defined for a child having three or more loose or watery stools per day

¹⁰ ARI asked as oof wareen or wareento. The three signs asked for are cough, rapid breathing and fever

¹¹ Suspected malaria/acute febrile illness: - the three signs to be looked for are periodic chills/shivering, fever, sweating and sometimes a coma

¹² Measles (Jadeeco): a child with more than three of these signs– fever and, skin rash, runny nose or red eyes, and/or mouth infection, or chest infection

Q31-34 Access to water (quality and quantity)

Q31 Main source of drinking water 1 = Water catchments 2= Protected wells, boreholes 3 = Unprotected open /shallow wells 4=Others, specify _____

Q32 Average distance to the nearest water point 1= ≤500 meters 2=501m – 1 km 3= 1-3 km 4= more than 3 km

Q33 Number of water collecting and storage containers of 10-20 litres in the household: 1=1-2 containers 2= 3-4 containers 3=4-5 containers 4= more than 5

Q34 What is the method of water storage in the household? 1=Covered containers 2=Open containers 3=Constricted neck/end (*Ashuun*)

Q35-38 Sanitation and Hygiene (access and quality)

Q345 Type of toilet used by most members of the household: 1= Flush toilets 2= Improved pit latrine (VIP) 3=Traditional pit latrine/ Open pit 4=Bush (*If Bush skip to Q36*)

Q356 Distance between toilet and water source 1=0- 30 metres 2=30 metres or more

Q37 what washing agents do you use in your household? 1=Soap 2=Shampoo 3=Ash 4=Plant extracts 5=None

Q38 How do you store prepared food? 1= Suspend in ropes/hooks 2=Put in pots beside the fire 3= Put in covered containers 4= Don't store 5= Other, specify _____

Q 39 Food Consumption & Dietary Diversity

Twenty four-hour and seven day recall for food consumption in the households: The interviewers should establish whether the previous day and night/seven days were usual or normal for the households. If unusual- feasts, funerals or most members absent, then another day should be selected.

Food group consumed:	Did a member of your household consume any food from these food groups in the last 7 days? 1=Yes 0=No	If yes, how many days was the food consumed in the last 7 days?	Did a member of your household consume food from any these food groups in the last 24 hours (from this time yesterday to now)? Include any snacks consumed. 1=Yes 0=No	*Codes: 1= Own production 2=Purchases 3=Gifts from friends/families 4=Food aid 5= traded or Bartered 6=Borrowed 7=Gathering/wild 8=Others, specify_____
Type of food				What is the main source of the dominant food item consumed? (Use codes above)?
1. Cereals and cereal products (e.g. sorghum, maize, spaghetti, pasta, caanjera, bread)?				
2. Meat, poultry, offal (e.g. goat/camel meat, beef, chicken/poultry)?				
3. Eggs?				
4. Roots and tubers (e.g. potatoes, arrowroot)?				
5. Vegetables (e.g. green or leafy vegetables, tomatoes, carrots, onions)?				
6. Fruits (e.g. water melons, mangoes, grapes, bananas, lemon)?				
7. Pulses/legumes, nuts (e.g. beans, lentils, green grams, cowpeas)?				
8. Milk and milk products (e.g. goat/camel/fermented milk, milk powder)?				
9. Oils/fats (e.g. cooking fat or oil, butter, ghee, margarine)?				
10. Sugar and honey?				
11. Fish and sea foods (e.g. fired/boiled/roasted fish, lobsters)?				
12. Miscellaneous (e.g. spices, chocolates, sweets, etc)?				
<p>Q40 In general what is the <u>main</u> source of food in household? (*Use codes above) []</p>				
<p>Q41 Total number of food groups consumed (filled by enumerator): []</p>				

Q42 - 45 Informal and formal Support or Assistance in last three months

Q42 Did you receive any informal support within the last three months? 1=Yes 2=No

Q43 Which of these informal supports did you receive within the last three months if any? **(Circle all options that apply)**
1=Zakat from better-off households 2=Remittances from Abroad 3=Remittances from within Somalia (
4=Gifts 5=Loans 6= Other (specify) _____

Q44 Did you receive any formal support within the last three? 1=Yes 2=No

Q45 Which of this formal international or national aid support did you receive within the last three months if any? **(Circle all options that apply)**
1= Free cash 2=Free food/aid 3=Cash for work 4=Food for work 5=Supplementary food
6=Water subsidy 7=Veterinary care 8= Other (specify) _____

Checked by supervisor (signed): _____

7.2 APPENDIX 2B: EL BARDE DISTRICT NUTRITION ASSESSMENT HOUSEHOLD QUESTIONNAIRE, DECEMBER 2006 (Somali Version)

Taariikh _____ Lambarka kooxda _____ Lambarka goobta _____ Magacaha diiwaangeliyaha _____
 Magaca Tuulada _____ Degmada _____ Lambarka qoyska _____ Magaca la wareystaha _____

Q1-8 Astamaha qoyska

Q1 Immisa ruux baa ku nool qoyskan (Tirada qoyska)¹³ ? _____

Q2 Immisa ayaa ka yar shan sanadood (Tirada < 5 Sanadood)? _____

Q3 Waa side Xaaladdaada degganaansho? 1= Degaan 2=Gudaha ku soo barakacay¹⁴ 3=soo laabtey¹⁵ 4=Gudaha ka soo Hayaamay¹⁶ 5=Wax Kale (Caddee)

If answer to the above is 1, then move to Question 7.

Q4 Meesha uu ka yimid 1= Gudaha degmada El Barde 2= Gudaha Gobolka Bakool 3= Koonfurta Soomaliya 4= Meel kale, Caddee

Q5 Inta uu joogey (Bilo) _____

Q6 Sababta Guuritaanka: 1= Amni darro/ Dagaal 2=Shaqo doon 3= Cunto yaraan 4= Daaq/Biyo yaraan 5= Xilliyeed/cimileed 6= wax kale; Caddee _____

Q7 Waa maxay hab nololeedka ugu weyn ee qoysku isticmaalo? 1= Xoolo dhaqato 2=Xoolo-beeroqodato 3=Reer magaalo 4= Destitute 5=Waxkale; Caddee _____

Q8. Waa maxay Isha Dakhliga ugu weyn ee qoyskan? 1= Xoolaha iyo wax soo saarkooda 2= Dalagga iyo iibka dalagga 3= Ganacsi 4= Xoogsi
 5= Mushaari/shaqo Joornaati 6= XawaalaHaddiyad/zako 7= Wax kale, Caddee _____

¹³ Tirada dadka wada nool oo wax ka dheri isku mid xilligan assessment-ga la sameynayo.

¹⁴ A person or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights, or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized State Border" source, guiding principles on internal displacement

¹⁵ Qaxooti ku soo laabtey waddankooda (Soomaaliya) ama bulshada ay asal ahaan ka soo jeedaan, si aan qorsheysneyn ama si qorsheysan oo ay soo rartey UNHCR. (Qeexidda UNHCR)

¹⁶ Ruux u guurey dhul maamul kale ka jiro, ayadoo ugu wacan tahay sababo kale duwan (sida shaqo raadsi, amni dartiis)

Q9-16 Feeding and immunization status of children aged 6 – 59 months (or 65 – 109.9 cm) in the household.

Magaca Koowaad	Q9 Da'da saxda Bilo (6-59 bilood) (haddii cunug ka weyn yahay 24 bilood ka jawaab su'aal 9, u bood su'aal 15)	Q10 (If 6-24 months) Ma nuujisaa ilmaha (hadday tahay maya, U bood su'aal 12) 1=Haa 2=Maya	Q11 (If 6-24 months) Haddaad nuujiso, immisa jeer/Maalinkii 1=2 jeer ama ka yar 2=3-6 jeer 3=Ku xiran dalabka cunugga	Q12 (If 6-24 months) Hadduu nuugin, immisa jir buu ahaa markii aad ka gurisey naaska 1= Ka yar 6 bilood 2=6-11 Bilood 3=12 – 16 Bilood 4>=18 Bilood 5= Waligiis ma noogin	Q13 (If 6-24 months) Da'dee lagu bilaabay cunugga wax aan ahayn naaska sida biyo/cunto 1=0-3 Bilood 2=4-5 Bilood 3=6 Bilood 4=7 Bilood ama Ka badan	Q14 (If 6-24 months) Immisa jeer maalintii quudisaa cunuga? (aan ka ahayn biyo iyo caano) 1= Hal Mar 2= Laba Mar 3= 3-4 goor 4= 5 ama marar ka badan	Q 15 Ma la siiyey cunngga vitamin A lixdii bilood ee tagtey? (Tus Muunaddiisa) 1=Haa 2=Maya	Q16 (If ≥9 months old) Ma laga talaalay jadeeco 1. 6 dii bilood ee tagtey 2=6 billood ka hor 3=Marnaba	Q17 Cunuga weligiid afka ma laga siiyo talaalka Dabeysaha 1=1-2 times 2=3 and above 3=Never
1									
2									
3									
4									

Q17-27 Cabirka jirka and xaaladda cudurada carruurta da'doodu u dhaxeysa 6 – 59 Bilood or (65 – 109.9cm) ee qoyska

Magaca koowaad Follow same order as per table on page 1	Q18 Jinsi 1=Lab 2=Dhedig	Q19 Oedema 1=Haa 2=Maya	Q20 Dherer (cm)	Q21 Culeys (kg)	Q22 MUAC (cm)	Q23 Shuban 2 dii usbuuc ee tagey 1= Haa 2= Maya	Q24 Oof wareen xun 2 dii usbuuc ee tagey 1=Yes 2=No	Q25 Xanuun qandho leh/ malaria 2-dii usbuuc ee tagtay 1=haa 2=Maya	Q26 (If ≥9 month) Jadeeco ma looga shakiyey in ay ku dhacday bishii la soo dhaafay 1=Haa 2=Maya	Q27 Waxay khusaysa oo keliya ilmo ay ku dhaceen cuddurada su'alaha 23 – 25) Xagee gar-gaar caafimaad ka raadsatey markii (Sheeg magaca ilmaha) xanuunsaday/tay? 1.Wax gar-gaar ah ma helin 2=Iskay u daaweeyey 3=Dawo dhaqameed 4=Rug caafimaad gaar loo leeyahay/Farmasi 5=Xarumaha caafimaadka Dadweynaha	Q28 Cunuga ma la geliyey xarumaha xarumaha quudinta SFP or TFC/CTC 1= Haa –SFP 2=Haa –TFC/CTC 3=Maya
1											
2											
3											
4											

29: Cabirka jirka (MUAC) ee haweenka qaangaarka ah (15-49 sano) ee jooga qoyskan

Tirada	Magac	Da'da (years)	MUAC (cm)	1=Uureey 2=Aan Uur lahayn	Jirro 14 kii beri ee tagtey? Hadday Haa tahay, Cudurkee?	Codes cuduradda dadka qaan-gaarka 1=Shuban 5=HIV/AIDS
1						

2					
3					

2= Xubno xanuun 3=Oof wareenl 4= Duumada	6= Dhiig yaraan 7= wax kale, Caddee:
--	--

Q30 Does any member of the household have difficulty seeing at night or in the evening when other people do not? 1= 24- 71 months 2= ≥ 6 years 3= None

Q31-34 Helitaanka Biyaha (Tayada iyo Tirada)

Q31 Isha ugu weyn ee biyaha la cabo 1 = Waro 2= Ceel af daboolan, Riig 3 = Ceel af-furan oon ilaalsaneyn 4=Wax kale, Caddee _____

Q32 Celceliska fogaanta isha biyaha 1= ≤500 meters 2=501m – 1 km 3= 1-3 km 4= Ka badan 3 km

Q33 Tirada caagaga/weelasha biyaha lagu soo qaato ama lagu keydiyo 10-20 litres ee qoyska: 1=1-2 Caag/weel 2= 3-4 Caag/weel 3=4-5 containers 4= Ka badan 5

Q34 What is the method of water storage in the household? 1=Caagag/weelal daboolan 2=Caag/weel furan 3=weelal Leh yar (Ashuun)

Q35-40 Sanitation and Hygiene (access and quality)

Q35 Nooca Suuliga inta badan Xubnaha qoysku isticmaalaan: 1= Musqul Saxan leh 2= Musqul caadi ah oo god dheer leh 3= God furan 4=Meel loo cayimay 5=Duurka

S36 Masaafada u dhexaysa suuliga iyo isha biyaha: 1=0-30 mitir 2=30 mitir ama ka badan

S37 Muxuu qoysku ka isticmaalaa waxyaabaha wax lagu nadiifiyo 1= Saabuun 2= Shaambo 3 =Danbas 4= Buruqda Dhirta sida GASANGAS-TA 5= Waxba

Q38 Fogaanshaha u dhaxeysa Biyaha & Musqusha 1=0- 30 metres 2=30 metres or more

S39 Muxuu qoysku ka isticmaalaa waxyaabaha wax lagu nadiifiyo 1= Saabuun 2= Shaambo 3 =Danbas 4= Buruqda Dhirta sida GASANGAS-TA 5= Waxba

S40 Sidee u kaydisaan cuntada diyaarsan? 1= Meel kore lagu xiro/laga soo laalaadiyo 2=La dhigo dabka coonkiisa isagoo ku jira dheriga 3= Weel daboolan 4=Maba kaydino 5= Wax kale caddee _____

S41. Cunto cunidda iyo noocyadooda (dietary diversity)

Kooxda cuntada la cunay :	Xubin qoyskiina ka mid ah ma cunay cunto kooxeedyada hoos ku taxan 24kii saac/7dii maalmood ee tagtay 1=Haa 0= Maya	Haddii Haa tahay immisa maalmood ayaa la cunay cuntooyinkaas 7dii maalmood ee tagtey	Xubin qoyska ka mid ah ma cunay cunto kooxeedyada hoose 24kii saacadood ee tagatey (laga bilaabo shalay waqtigan oo kale ilaa hadda) 1=Haa 0=Maya	*Codes:
Nooca Cuntada				1= soo saartay qoyskan 6=Amaah 2=soo iibsaday 7=miroqurasho/ugaarsi 3=haddiyad ka timid saaxiibo/qaraabo 8=Wax kale, Caddee____ 4=Cunto Mucaawimo ah 5= Ganacsi iyo kala badalasho
1. Firileyda iyo waxa laga sameeto (sida masago,, Gallley, Baasto, caanjera, Rooti)?				
2. Hilib, digaag, calool (sida hilib ari, geel, Lo' IWM),				
3. Ukun?				
3. Xididley iyo buruqleey (sida bataati iyo bataati macaan.				
4. Khudaar (sida bagal, Ansalato, Ilanillo, karooto, basal)				
5. Furutka (Sida qaraha, Cambaha, Canabka, mooska, liinya)				
6. Digiraha/qolofleyda (sida digirta, misirta, salbukada)				

7.	Caanaha iyo waxa laga sameeyo (sida ariga, geela, lo'da, caana khamiiray, caano boore).				
8.	Saliid/Dux (Sida saliida wax lagu karsado, subagga, burcadka, Buurada)				
9.	Sonkor iyo Malab?				
10.	Kalluun iyo cunto badeed (aargosto) (sida la shiilay/kariyeydubay).				
11.	Walxo kale (Sida waxa cunatada lagu udgiyo, shukulaato, macmacaan)				
Q42 Guud ahaan maxay tahay isha badan ay ka soo gasho cuntada qoyskan. (*Isticmaal koodhadhka kore) []					
Q43 Tirada guud cunto kooxeedyada la cunay (Waxaa buuxinaya foom buuxiyaha): []					

Xusuusta cunatadii qoysku cunay 24kii saac iyo 7 dii maalmood ee tagay: wareystuhu ha hubiyo in maalintii shalay iyo muddo 7 cisho ah ee tagtay u ahayd qoyska caadi iyo in kale. Haddaysan ahayn caadi oo ay jirtay ciid, xus, duug haddaba u xulo maalin kae oo aad ku badasho middan.

Q44 - 47 Kaalmada toosan iyo midda dadban ee la helay 3 dii bilood ee tagtay

Q44 Ma heshay kaalmo dadban 3 dii bilood ee tagtey gudahooda? 1=Haa 2=Maya

Q45 Midkee kaalmooyinkan dadban ee hoose ayaad hesheen 3 dii bilood tagtey gudahooda? Haddii wax uun jireen. (*goobee doorashada ku habboon*)

- 1=Zako laga helay qoys hodan ah 2=Xawilaad dibadda ka timid 3=Xawilaad ka timid gudaha soomaaliya
 4=Haddiyad 5=Deyn 6= Waxyaabo kale (Caddee) _____

Q46 Ma heshay Kaalmo toosan 3 dii bilood ee tagtey gudahooda. 1=Haa 2=Maya

Q47 Midkee kaalmooyinkan toosan ee caalamiga ah ama maxaliga ayaad hesheen 3 dii bilood ee tagtey haddii? Haddii wax uun jireen? (*Goobee doorashada ku habboon*)

- 1= Lacag bilaash ah 2=Cunto kaalmo bilaash ah 3=lacag shaqo ku badalasho 4=Cunto shaqo ku badalasho 5=Cunto kabiid ah (la siiyo dadka
 nafawqada daran 6. Biyo kaalmo ah 7) Kaalmo xanaanada xoolaha ah 8) Waxyaabo kale (Caddee) _____

Waxaa eegay kormeere (saxiixay): _____

3.1 Appendix 4a: Prevalence of Stunting and under weight among children based on height for age Z-score

	<i>Males</i>		<i>Females</i>		<i>Total</i>	
	<i>No</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>%</i>
Total chronic malnutrition (HFA<-2 z score)	92	19.7 (CI:16.3 – 23.7)	79	16.9 (CI: 16.3 – 23.7)	171	18.3 (CI:15.9 – 21.0)
Severe chronic malnutrition (HFA<-3 z score)	40	8.6 (CI:6.3 – 11.6)	29	6.2 (CI:4.3 – 8.9)	69	7.4 (CI:5.8 – 9.3)

The prevalence of chronic malnutrition defined as height for age <-2 Z score was **18.3%** (CI: 15.9 – 21.0) and severe chronic malnutrition, defined as height for age <-3 Z score, was **7.4%** (CI: 5.8 – 9.3).

3.2 Appendix 4b: Prevalence of Underweight among children based on weight for age Z-score

	<i>Males</i>		<i>Females</i>		<i>Total</i>	
	<i>No</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>%</i>
Total Underweight Malnutrition (W/A<-2 z score)	137	29.4 (CI:25.3 -33.8)	112	23.9 (CI: 20.2 – 28.1)	249	26.7 (CI: 23.9 – 29.6)
Severe Underweight Malnutrition (W/A<-3 z score)	38	8.2 (CI:5.9 – 11.1)	25	5.3 (CI: 3.6 – 7.9)	63	6.7 (CI:5.3 – 8.6)

The prevalence of underweight malnutrition defined as weight for age <-2 Z score was **26.7%** (CI: 23.9 – 29.6) while the prevalence of severe underweight malnutrition, defined as weight for age <-3 Z score, was **6.7%** (CI: 5.3 – 8.6).

7.6 Appendix 5. Traditional Calendar for El Barde District Nutrition Assessment

Month	Season	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Jan	Jilaal bilowgii		47 Arafo/Haj	36 Arafo/Haj	24 Arafo/Haj	12 Arafo/Haj
Feb	Jilaal bartami hii	59 Sako	47 Sako	35 Sako	23 Sako	11 Sako
March	Jilaal dhama adkii	58 Safar (Dago)	46 Safar Dagalkii Ciraq	34 Safar	22 Safar	10 Safar
Apr	Gu' bilowgii	57 Mawlid	45 Mawlid Doorashadii Madaxweyne Riyaale	33 Mawlid	21 Mawlid	9 Mowliid
May	Gu' bartami hii	56 Malmadoone	44 Malmadoone	32 Malmadoone	20 Malmadoone	8 Malmadoone
Jun	Gu' dhama adkii	55 Jamaatul Awal	43 Jamaatul Awal	31 Jamaatul Awal	19 Jamaatul Awal	7 Jamaatul Awal
Jul	Karin bilowgii	54 Jamaatul akhir	42 Jamaatul akhir	30 Jamaatul akhir	18 Jamaatul akhir	6 Jamaatul akhir
Aug	Karin bartami hii	53 Rajab	41 Rajab	29 Rajab	17 Rajab	5 Rajab
Sep	Karin dhama adkii	52 shacbaan	40 shacbaan	28 shacbaan	16 shacbaan	4 shacbaan
Oct	Deyr bilowgii	51 Ramadhan	39 Ramadhan	27 Ramadhan	15 Ramadhan	3 Ramadaan
Nov	Deyr bartami hii	50 Eid Fidr	38 Eid Fidr	26 Eid Fidr	14 Eid Fidr	2 Eid Fidr
Dec	Deyr dhama adkii	49 Siditaal	37 Siditaal	25 Siditaal	13 Siditaal	1 Siditaal

Jilaal
IGU'
Xagaa
Deyr

7.7 Appendix 5: Nutrition Assessment Team.

Name & organization	Role/Responsibility
1. Mohammed Borle (FSAU) 2. Mohammed Hersi (WFP)	Overall Coordination of the Assessment
1. Mohamed Haji Nur (FSAU) 2. Yassin Mohammed 3. Fadumo Mohammed 4. Abdulkadir Hudow Osman (UNICEF) 5. Abdi Goy 6. Mohamed Ali Fahiye 7. Daweeye Ali Carte	Supervisors
Joseph Waweru (FSAU)	Data cleaning, analyses & report writing
Grainne Moloney (FSAU) Ahono Busili (FSAU)	Technical & managerial support

7.8 Appendix 7: Child Referral Form

REFERRAL FORM FOR MALNOURISHED CHILDREN

Name of the village: _____ Date: _____

Name of the child: _____ Sex of child: _____

Age of child: _____ Name of caretaker:

Child diagnosed with (state the condition):

Child referred to: _____

Child referred by: _____

.....

REFERRAL FORM FOR MALNOURISHED CHILDREN

Name of the village: _____ Date: _____

Name of the child: _____ Sex of child: _____

Age of child: _____ Name of caretaker:

Child diagnosed with (state the condition):

Child referred to: _____

Child referred by: _____

8.0 REFERENCES AND BIBLIOGRAHY

CARE and WFP: Field Methods Manual. The Coping Strategies Index – A tool for rapid measurement of household food security and the impact of food aid programs in humanitarian emergencies.

FEWS NET, 2003. Urban Assessment, Food economy

FSAU, Technical Series Report No V.9; 2006 Post Gu Analysis

FSAU, Technical Series Report No IV.8; 2005/06 Post Deyr Analysis

FSAU, September 2002: Food Utilisation in Somalia

FSAU, November 2003: Nutrition Training Manual: A guide to data collection, analysis, interpretation and use.

FSAU, April 2004: Dietary Diversity in Somalia

IRC and partners, Inter-agency Returnee Settlement Area Assessment, June 2002.

SACB: Nutrition assessment guidelines for Somalia.

Sphere (2004). Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response. The Sphere Project.

Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transition (SMART). Standardizing Assessment methodology. Technical Series. July 23 – 26, 2002. Washington, DC.

WHO, 1995: Guide on rapid nutritional assessment in emergencies