



Rapid assessments of the hunger-climate-conflict nexus: phase 1

Sarah Opitz-Stapleton, Leigh Mayhew, Mary Allen
Ballo, Teddy Atim and Muzzamil Abdi

Intro to phase 1: lived experiences and resilience narratives as crises unfold

- Aims

- Current state of food security and nutritional levels among households
- Existing household coping mechanisms within lives and livelihoods to cope with climate and conflict related shocks
- Access to external assistance

- Approach

- Primary data collection carried in out Mali, Somalia and South Sudan.
- 3 interview sites in each country:
 - Somalia: Baidoa, Barawe, Elbarde.
 - South Sudan: Thokchak (Jonglei), Mankuac and Rumameth (Warrap).
 - Mali: Arnassaye, Hondo bon Ababer and Tintelout (Tombouctou).
- Each site consisted of ~15 individual household semi-structured interviews and 6 focus group discussions.

Implications for humanitarian food security programming: key learning points

- ❖ **Key learning point 1:** *Across the three countries, both conflict and environmental impacts are preventing communities from practising their primary livelihood activities.*
- ❖ **Key learning point 2:** *Livelihood insecurity, as an outcome of fragility, conflict and losses due to climate and non-climate shocks, is resulting in households having to spend more in purchasing food, despite lacking the financial means to do so.*
- ❖ **Key learning point 3:** *Reports of malnutrition are not consistent across interview sites.*

Implications for humanitarian food security programming: key learning points

- ❖ **Key learning point 4:** *Communities are having to make livelihood decisions in the absence of information that could help both their short-term and long-term decision making.*
- ❖ **Key learning point 5:** *Gender-specific risks are driving vulnerability, by providing both primary care and provider roles, and certain structural conditions.*

Recommendations: addressing short-term needs

- ❖ **Recommendation 1:** *extend coverage of cash assistance.*
- ❖ **Recommendation 2:** *increase community health screenings.*
- ❖ **Recommendation 3:** *implement vitamin and mineral supplementation programmes.*

Recommendations: from crisis management to resilience

- ❖ **Recommendation 4:** *provide spaces for women's voices and support women's empowerment.*
- ❖ **Recommendation 5:** *education for both children and adults, job skilling and diversification programmes.*
- ❖ **Recommendation 6:** *support early warning and early action systems/forecasting and anticipation.*