

Emergency Market Mapping and Analysis (EMMA)

Kenya 2011 Drought Response
Wajir County



Traders store food in Wajir town



Donkey cart loaded with food to be transported to a small shop for sale

2nd – 6th August 2011



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Abbreviations and Acronyms

EMMA	Emergency Market Mapping and Analysis
FEWSNET	Famine Early Warning Systems Network
GAM	global acute malnutrition
KFSSG	Kenya Food Security Steering Group
KFSWG	Kenya Food Security Working Group
KRA	Kenya Revenue Authority
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
ODI	Overseas Development Institute
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
UN	United Nations

Executive Summary

Mercy Corps conducted an adapted Emergency Market Mapping and Analysis (EMMA) assessment in Wajir County of Kenya from 2-6 August 2011. The assessment was organized as a response to the hunger crisis resulting from the worst drought in the region in the last 60 years. The EMMA methodology was adapted for this chronic emergency that has seen a steady escalation over the preceding two years and focused on markets that could meet immediate food needs quickly.

Three critical market items were chosen to be analyzed: rice, maize and beans. Food items were preferred in order to respond to the immediate needs of the hunger crisis. Rice was chosen because it is the preferred staple food of households in Wajir, especially during Ramadan. It was anticipated to have the most robust market due to high demand and multiple trade routes. Maize was selected as the most commonly distributed staple food item. Beans were selected as the preferred source of protein after meat, which is currently limited and expensive.

The assessment covered 29 locations in Wajir County, including the major market centers. The team was comprised of 22 data collectors who participated in a one-day training and preliminary analysis workshop, three days of data collection, and a final day for data compilation and an analysis workshop. In line with the EMMA methodology, the team conducted a gap analysis to identify household food needs in the target villages, a market analysis to map the critical market items and a response analysis to provide suggestions for appropriate interventions.

The key findings of the gap analysis are that households are eating fewer and smaller meals with limited diversity compared with six months ago. Most households, especially in more rural locations, have low dietary diversity, dominated by staple foods, due to low milk production and limited availability of fruits and vegetables. In addition, food aid targeting has not been updated to include households who have recently settled after losing their livestock. Distribution quantities are also low with monthly distributions lasting households only a week after sharing with neighbors and livestock.

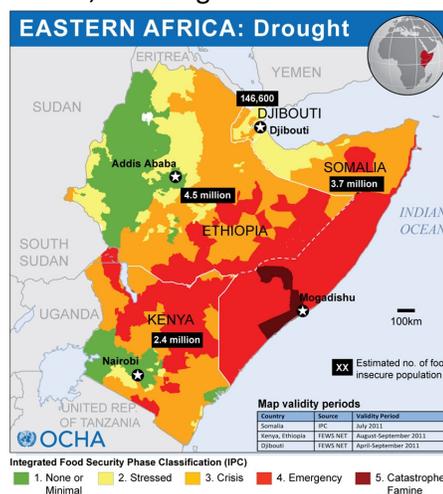
The key findings of the market analysis were that major trade networks have been minimally affected by the drought to date. Traders in Wajir continue to source food items from Ethiopia and Somalia as well as within Kenya, selecting items based on price and availability. However, the combination of reduced income, strained credit systems and decreasing purchasing power has reduced demand. Strong local credit systems that usually allow households to borrow food from retailers and traders until their income allows them to make payments have been stretched by lack of repayments, forcing some smaller retailers to close and traders to start limiting sales on credit. Strained credit systems are also threatening food accessibility in the future if traders further tighten credit availability.

Key recommendations for improving food security include both immediate and medium-term interventions. Access to food can easily be increased through vouchers and cash transfers for households since markets are robust enough to absorb an increase in demand. Increased purchasing power will also allow households to repay debts and rebuild the local

credit system. Dietary diversity could also be improved through vouchers for households and supporting traders to increase supplies of milk, fruit and vegetables for a guaranteed market. In the medium-term, productive assets for strengthened and diversified livelihoods need to be rebuilt.

Context

The Horn of Africa is experiencing the most severe food crisis in the world today following two consecutive seasons of significantly below-average rainfall, resulting in one of the driest years since 1995. Crops have failed, substantial livestock mortality has occurred, and local cereal prices are extremely high.¹ Over 12 million people in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia are severely affected and in urgent need of humanitarian aid.² While the recent UN famine declaration pertains to Somalia only, large parts of Ethiopia, Kenya and Djibouti are suffering from severe food insecurity. Constraints on already scarce economic and social resources of the neighboring countries are further heightened by significant inflows of Somali refugees.³ In July it was estimated that over 1,200 refugees crossed into Kenya daily. Most of these are women and children.



In Kenya, the drought conditions in the northern and north-eastern districts have deteriorated further following the poor performance of the March-June long rains. This has heightened food insecurity and water shortages, and increased the risk of disease outbreaks. There are currently 2.4 million people needing food aid assistance, and the numbers are expected to increase for the month of August. A mid-season Kenya Food Security Steering Group (KFSSG) assessment conducted in May 2011 indicates that up to 3.5 million people may require food aid assistance in the coming months.⁴ Recent nutrition surveys highlight a global acute malnutrition (GAM) prevalence of 23% in the county of Wajir East.⁵ And given the pressure on natural resources heightened by the drought, livestock movement in search of water and pasture continues to remain a driver of conflict, becoming one major obstacle to the free movement of pastoralists and their livestock, and therefore greatly contributing to pastoralists' chronic vulnerability in the region.⁶

Wajir County in Northeastern Province of Kenya is one of the worst hit by the current drought. It consists predominately of pastoral and agro-pastoral households, who rely on a nomadic lifestyle.⁷ In this context, livestock, which contributes to 70% of food and income, is suffering from decimated pasture and dried up water sources (estimated at 90%). Trekking distances to watering points have increased to 15-40 km from the normal 5-10 km, resulting in weakened animals, which in turn are leading to a drastic reduction of milk production (milk availability has reduced to 0.65 liters from normal 4 liters per animal per day), and high

¹ June 2011 | East Regional Alert | FEWSNET

² July 2011 | Humanitarian Requirements for the Horn of Africa Drought | UN

³ This heightened migration of Somalis is forcing recipient countries into a dilemma of balancing their international responsibilities to provide assistance to refugees and while simultaneously addressing the already heavy demands to meet the needs of their people. While a response is the current urgent objective, for the aforementioned reasons a regional approach to this mushrooming food crisis cannot be overlooked.

⁴ 21 July 2011 | Horn of Africa Drought Crisis - Situation Report No. 5 | OCHA

⁵ June 2011 | East Regional Alert | FEWSNET

⁶ November 2010 | Pastoralists' vulnerability in the Horn of Africa | Overseas Development Institute (ODI)

⁷ According to the Wajir County Annual Drought Bulletin (April, 2011), only a few locations (Tarbaj, Korondille and Diif) received 7mm-14.4mm of rainfall, whereas the long rains usually provide an average of 250-300mm for the county.

mortality rates (approximately 45% of all livestock species have died during the drought, and without rainfall in the next five months this figure could rise above 60%).⁸ As a result, the terms of trade for animals are at their lowest in years, while prices for basic foodstuffs are steadily increasing. The staple food items assessed have increased in price anywhere from 30 – 70% over the past six months. Consequently, Wajir County is currently experiencing an Acute Food and Livelihood Crisis.⁹ According to the Kenya Food Security Working Group (KFSWG) Mid-Season Report (2011), continued depletion of water sources and ongoing high food prices will move Wajir into a full blown food security emergency this month.

Markets play an important role of enhancing the four pillars of food security namely, food availability, food access, food stability and food utilization. Markets facilitate interaction between producers, traders and consumers to ensure exchange of goods and services. Generally, markets are well distributed throughout the district. However, performance of the markets largely depends on their relative remoteness. Less remote markets are easily accessible and appear to record better and reliable supply of goods and services unlike those in remote and distant locations.

Mercy Corps is dedicated to responding to this crisis in a way that ensures vulnerable households have immediate access to the food they need without compromising local food market systems. In the medium and long term, Mercy Corps aims to support households to recover their assets and build their resilience to future shocks.

⁸ May 2011 | Wajir County Drought Situation Report

⁹ KFSSG 2011 | Wajir District Short Rains Assessment Report

Methodology

This EMMA was conducted by Mercy Corps in Wajir County of Kenya from 2-6 August 2011. The assessment was organized as a response to the hunger crisis resulting from the worst drought in the region in the last 60 years.

Emergency Market Mapping and Analysis (EMMA) is a rapid market assessment used following the onset of a sudden crisis, usually when there has been some stabilization of the situation. Its purpose is to increase understanding of the most critical markets amongst responding agencies and donors and to assist in informing response activities that work with the market. The process follows a standard 10 step process (see Annex I)¹⁰.

The EMMA methodology was adapted for this chronic emergency that has seen a steady escalation over the preceding two years and focused on markets that could meet immediate food needs quickly. As there was not a distinct crisis tipping point, but steady erosion of livelihoods that has affected local purchasing, the EMMA focused on the present scenario for the gap, market and response analyses rather than comparison between before and after snapshots in time.

This EMMA selected the critical food market items of rice, maize and beans. Food items were preferred in order to respond to the immediate needs of the hunger crisis. Rice was chosen because it is the preferred staple food of households in Wajir, especially during Ramadan. It was anticipated to have the most robust market due to high demand and multiple trade routes. Maize was selected as the most commonly distributed staple food item. Beans were selected as the preferred source of protein after meat, which is currently limited and expensive.

The assessment covered 29 locations in Wajir County. A local leader was consulted in each location – either someone from the local administration or an elder. Households were selected along a transect walk with leaders running perpendicular to the road through the location. Teams purposefully selected half poor and half very poor households along this walk and aimed to talk with 16 in each location. Teams interviewed 10-12 traders in each location, purposefully sampling wholesalers, retailers and kiosks where available. Only traders were interviewed in Wajir town. Interview questionnaires were used (see Annex II).

The team was comprised of 22 data collectors who participated in a one-day training and preliminary analysis workshop followed by three days of data collection for six teams: Wajir town, Wajir North, Wajir West, Wajir East and two teams in Wajir South. The table below provides an overview of the amount of data collected. The teams joined back together on a final day for data compilation and an analysis workshop.

¹⁰ More information on the EMMA methodology can be found at <http://www.emma-toolkit.org>

Local leader, household and trader interviews were carried out in 29 locations as follows:

Locations	Local Leaders	Households	Traders
<i>Wajir North</i> Buna, Ajawa, Dahaba, Gurar, Godoma, Batalu, Bute	7	108	41
<i>Wajir East</i> Wajir, Tarbaj, Dambas, Sarman, Kotulo, Hungai, Elben	6	97	66
<i>Wajir West</i> Giriftu, Eldas, Hadado, Adhidohol, Arbajahan, Garsekoftu, Tulatula, Ademasagida	8	124	57
<i>Wajir South</i> Dulmanyale, Abakore, Habaswein, Biyamathow, Lagboqol, Sarif, Dadajabula, Sabuli	8	112	91
<i>Total</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>441</i>	<i>255</i>

Target Population and Gap Analysis

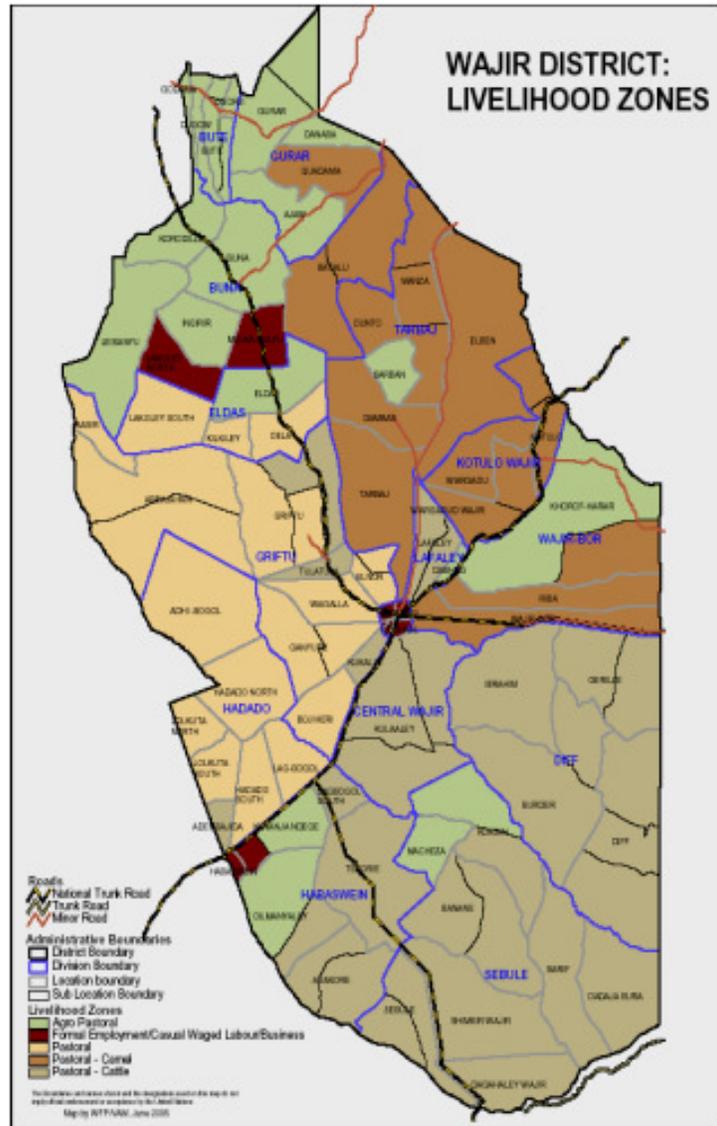
The target populations for this EMMA were displaced households, their host communities and the traders who serve them. As illustrated in the map below, households in Wajir County belong to five major livelihood groups – three pastoral zones, an agro-pastoral zone and the more urban populations engaged in daily labor and formal employment.

Administratively, Wajir is divided into four constituencies: North, primarily agro-pastoral; East, primarily camel and shoat pastoralism; West, primarily mixed pastoral; and South, primarily cattle, sheep and goat pastoralism. In Wajir East, there is also an active gum Arabic trade.

The EMMA focused on larger locations throughout the county, which are more likely to attract households who have lost all or most of their livestock and are in search of daily labor, government and aid assistance and support from their extended families. In each location, assessment teams interviewed both very poor households who had recently arrived in the town – displaced due to drought and loss of livestock – and poor households from the communities hosting them.

The population of the locations ranged from a few hundred to almost 3,000 households. Each household has an average of 8 people. Local leaders in all locations reported an increase in population, with an average of around 300 households settling per location over the last 6 months due to loss of livestock. Buna in Wajir North reported more than 600 new households have settled in search of food aid and other assistance after losing all or most of their herds. Smaller numbers of households – generally not more than 100 – have left some locations for other counties in search of water and rangeland.

Wajir Livelihood Zones



Communities throughout the county reported a decrease in water and pasture accessibility and in rangeland quality due to reduced rainfall. All interviewed households have lost most if not all of their herds. Many herders are waiting until their animals are on the brink of starvation before selling, with hope that the rains will come in time to save them. Ibrahim Omar in Ajawa lost more than 300 cattle in the last 6 months. Mohamed Isse from Giriftu walked his weak camel for four days along the 45 kilometer route to Wajir – a trip that usually takes one day and one night – to get it to market. He hoped to sell the camel that could have been worth up to \$450 when healthy for a mere \$25. A handful of communities reported incidents of human-wildlife conflict as herders fight for their livestock to access limited rangeland and water resources.

The main livelihood groups in Wajir are pastoral, with household income primarily coming from livestock sales. Limited water and rangeland has not been able to sustain previous herd sizes, and loss of livestock has resulted in lost income. As one trader explained, pastoral households in Wajir accumulate wealth through livestock using sheep and goats as cash accounts, cows as savings accounts and camels as investment accounts. Without livestock sales, purchases become difficult or impossible.

Few in number, the majority of households engaged in farming activities produce staple food crops and pulses for household consumption. Very few have excess produce to sell in local markets this season. Rainfed farms were not planted during the last season (March-May). Recent pastoral dropouts who have started farming by irrigating land from shallow wells have limited agricultural knowledge and skills. With improved inputs and knowledge, production could be increased during the next planting season.

The short rains (*deyr*) are expected from late October until mid-December. The rains are expected to bring kidding, calving, birthing and milk production from remaining livestock that are healthy enough. November is usually the peak livestock trading season, although this will be limited due to reduced herd sizes. Rainfed farmers will also have the opportunity to plant. Failure of another rainy season will severely limit household capability to recover. The seasonal calendar below illustrates major weather patterns and livelihood activities in Wajir per month.

Wajir Seasonal Calendar¹¹

Activity	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Weather	Short very dry and dusty Season (Jilaa)		Long Rain (Gu)			Long Dry Season (Months of June and July are cold while Aug to Oct it is dry and windy and humid (Hagaa)				Short rain (Deyr)		Short rains ends in mid Dec
Milk production			Rain start Mid to late March	Kidding, calving, birthing, milk production						Rain start late Oct		
Migration Period						Start MID JUNE						
Maize Harvest			Planting & Harvesting								Planting & Harvesting	
Vegetables			Planting & Harvesting									
Trading Season				Livestock Trading -Peak Season								
High Prices												
Casual Labour						Casual labour also available in the months of July to Oct						
Hunger Period				Up to Mid April		No planting, no harvest, no milk production, absence of fodder						
High Expenditures	Tuition fees/procurement of school supplies				Tuition fees/procurement of school supplies			Tuition fees/procurement of school supplies			Social activities- wedding, EID etc	

¹¹ Save the Children, April 2011

Leaders and households throughout the county prioritized water and food, including milk, as priorities for their communities. Wajir East also indicated human-wildlife conflict as a key concern as animals, livestock and people compete for limited natural resources. According to households, reduced incomes and increasing food prices were identified as the core restrictions to food access.

Currently, most poor and very poor households are reliant on food aid, either that is distributed to them directly or shared with them by others. Leaders in multiple locations complained that targeting for food aid has not been updated since the influx of new destitute households. The distribution quantities are also low and monthly distributions usually last around a week when shared with other families and livestock. Compared to six months ago, households are eating lower quantities of food. Halima Issa in Bute had not been able to feed her family for two days when she was interviewed. Fatuma Rashid in Gurar had lost her five-month-old daughter to starvation.

Dietary diversity is extremely limited. Households are primarily consuming rice, maize and sorghum. Milk production is low due to the reduced number of animals and animal health, so availability and consumption has reduced over the past six months. Vegetables and fruits are available in larger towns – like Wajir, Habaswein and Bute – but are only consumed by wealthier households and are rarely available in smaller locations.

In addition to water and food needs, leaders in Wajir North stressed the importance of improved infrastructure for trade and services. Communities in Wajir South stressed the importance of supporting households to restock their herds. One local leader suggested that drought camps be opened to serve pastoral dropouts in the way that refugees receive assistance. In his mind, their level of destitution is similar to that of the households arriving from southern Somalia.

Critical Market Mapping and Analysis

EMMA defines critical market systems as those that played, play or could play a major role in ensuring survival and/or protecting livelihoods of the target population in an emergency context. The Mercy Corps EMMA team selected three food items to be analyzed: rice, maize and beans. Food items were preferred in order to respond to the immediate needs of the hunger crisis. Rice was chosen because it is the preferred staple food of households in Wajir, especially during Ramadan. It was anticipated to have the most robust market due to high demand and multiple trade routes. Maize was selected as the most commonly distributed staple food item. Beans were selected as the preferred source of protein after meat, which is currently limited and expensive.

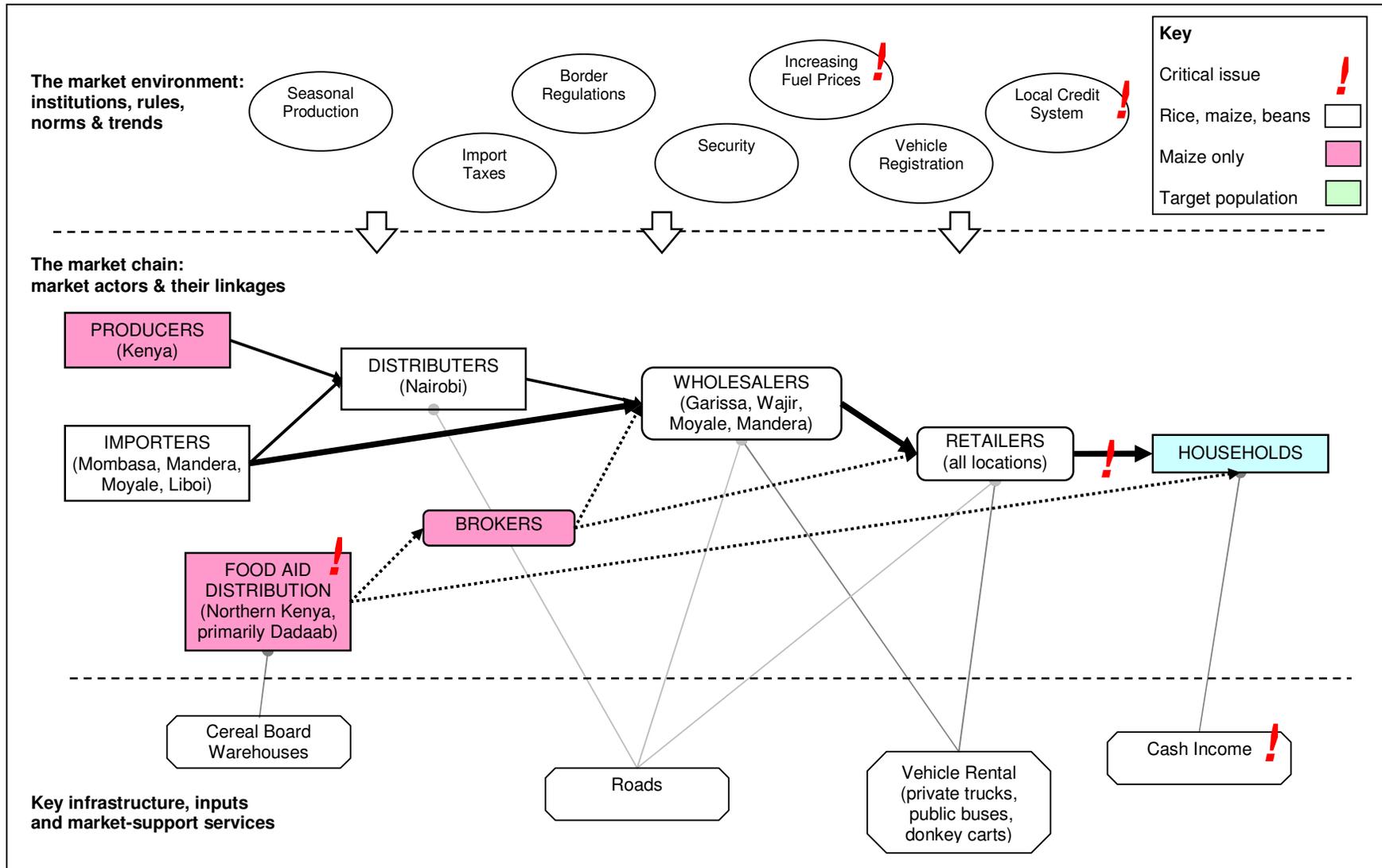
Trade flows into Wajir from all directions – Mombasa and Nairobi by road through Garissa County, Ethiopia through Moyale and Eastern Province, and Somalia through Mandera and Wajir's eastern border. Depending on prices, border regulations, taxes and quality, traders select the sources of items they bring into Wajir at any particular time. Wajir, Habaswein in the south and Bute in the north are the three most important markets for food items in the larger Wajir. These markets are connected with Nairobi, Mombasa, Moyale and Mandera.

The major constraint to food accessibility is the ability of households to purchase food. The majority of households in Wajir are pastoralists who depend on livestock sales for income. Increasing livestock deaths due to recurrent drought has caused households to lose substantial amounts of their wealth and left some families completely destitute. Diminished or eradicated herds have led to reduced incomes leaving many households unable to purchase the food they need.

As the recurrent drought has eroded livelihoods over the past few years, many households have been supported by strong local credit systems where traders loan commodities to retailers who loan to households until they can afford to make payments. However, as households are unable to make payments due to the loss of their productive assets, these credit systems have been stretched, and some small shops have closed and some traders have started to limit the amount of loaned commodities they are providing.

The following market map and description of key features provides a snapshot of market flows of the three critical market items in early August 2011. It is intended to inform humanitarian program design in response to the hunger crisis at this point in time. A discussion of trends found in the market analysis follows.

Wajir County Critical Food Market Systems



Key Features of Food Market Map

Actors - all food items

Importers: These actors import food items from outside of Kenya. Moyale is the main entry point for items from Ethiopia, Mandera and Liboi for items from Somalia and Mombasa for items from Dubai and beyond. Trade from Somalia had decreased over the past two years due to restrictions from the Kenyan government; however, there was evidence that traders are importing items from Somalia through non-official border points. The Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) taxes items that are imported through official borders.

Distributors: These actors buy and distribute food items that are either imported through Mombasa or produced in Kenya. Traders in Wajir County primarily engage with importers directly, but occasionally buy from distributors when importer stocks are low or their price is lower than importers. Items produced in Kenya are primarily purchased by traders from distributors.

Wholesalers: These traders are located in major towns in Wajir and neighboring counties and purchase food items from importers and distributors for sale to retailers. Some wholesalers also have retail shops connected with their business. These are the key actors to focus on in working to build local market systems since they maintain trade networks in all directions and supply the retailers selling to the target population.

Retailers: Shops, kiosks and sometimes rooms in wholesaler stores are the face of food retail in Wajir County. These are the actors from which the target population purchases food. They usually stock a variety of dry and packaged food items, including rice, maize and beans. In larger towns, some have vegetable and fruit available as well.

Households: This is the target population – households in Wajir County who buy their food from retailers.

Actors – maize only

Producer: These are farmers who produce maize for the Kenyan market. Maize produced by farmers in other parts of Kenya is sold to distributors in Nairobi who can supply traders from Wajir, among other places. Although maize marketing in Kenya is more complex than demonstrated on this simplified map, this EMMA is primarily concerned with the immediate supply of maize to households in Wajir which can be simplified in this representation.

Food Distribution and Brokers: Some wholesalers in Wajir also purchase food distributed by humanitarian actors, primarily from brokers who buy from households in and around the refugee camp in Dadaab. Relief food on the market is usually cheaper than food from other sources since transportation costs not paid by market actors and quantities are high immediately following distribution. The amount of relief food on the market affects purchases from other sources. Food distribution also affects household demand for food items.

Critical Issues

Cash Income: The impacts of recurrent drought has eroded household assets and reduced household incomes. Since cash fuels the market, this reduction has rippled up affecting traders across the market chain.

Local Credit System: The local credit system is rooted on the relationship between retailers and wholesalers. Wholesalers frequently allow retailers to take stock on credit and pay back once the items have been sold. Retailers also provide credit so trusted households. Households who have proven to be reliable in the past often take food items on credit until they are able to pay. This allows some flexibility that improves the terms of trade for pastoral households – families can take food on credit when it is needed and livestock can be sold when prices are favorable to pay back the accumulated balance.

However, due to loss of livestock and reduced income, households are becoming less reliable and some retailers have limited or stopped food from being taken on credit. In addition, there has been a mixed response of wholesalers as retailers accumulate growing balances as they are unable repay. Some wholesalers are not willing to take the risk, and have stopped giving food on credit. Communities reported that some retailers have been forced to close over the past six months due to bankruptcy resulting from lack of repayment.

Other wholesalers have continued giving food on credit either because their conscious calls them to assist in this time of need or they hope that their generosity will make them a preferred supplier in years to come. A major trader in Wajir town reported to have given out almost \$100,000 worth of food on credit to retailers. Due to the ongoing drought, he is unsure whether this will ever be repaid in full. However, he is continuing to give food out on credit because he believes it is his way of assisting communities during this time of need.

Household Purchases: Reduced household income and a tightening credit system have reduced household purchases both with cash and on credit.

Increasing Fuel Prices: Since they pay for transportation from importers and distributors to their warehouses and shops in Wajir County, increasing fuel prices in the country have forced wholesalers to increase food prices over the past six months to cover their costs. Some households were suspicious of these traders inflating the increase in fuel prices, but this was not observed in the assessment.

Current Trade Flows

Rice

Rice is preferred staple food of the predominantly Somali households of Wajir County, especially during Ramadan. In Wajir North, West and East, rice is currently the staple food with the highest stocks and highest demand. East and West are served by the main market in Wajir. Traders in Wajir buy rice from Mombasa and Somalia. In North, traders prefer to buy

rice from Moyale as well. In the South, traders prefer to buy rice directly from Garissa and Habaswein.

Retail traders in most locations stock one to three bags of rice at any particular time and sell in kilograms. Larger traders can stock up to 20 bags. In Wajir town, the major rice trader currently has more than 3,000 bags in stock. Medium traders in Wajir stock 400-800 bags. Retailers in most locations make purchases from wholesaler traders either weekly or monthly and use hired transportation – either lorries, buses or donkey carts.

Prices of rice have increased over the past six months. Average prices are shown in the table:

Average prices for 1kg of rice

Region	Previous Price (6 months ago)	Current Price	% change
Wajir North	~63 KES	~96 KES	52% increase
Wajir South	~63 KES	~89 KES	41% increase
Wajir East	~58 KES	~76 KES	31% increase
Wajir West*	~47 KES	~73 KES	55% increase
Wajir Town	~50 KES	~70 KES	40% increase

* The prices for Wajir West were converted from 50 Kg bag prices and so are slightly lower than the prices reflected for the other Wajir regions. Purchasing price at 1kg in West Wajir would actually be slightly higher than prices listed in the above table.

Maize

Maize is also consumed as a staple food by some households in Wajir County, usually when it is distributed as food aid. Some households prefer to sell maize to purchase rice or use maize as livestock feed. Other households consume maize as porridge or thicker *ugali*. Unlike the other constituencies, maize is currently bought in higher quantities than rice in Wajir North.

The maize market is highly affected by food distribution. In East and eastern South, retail traders are not currently stocking maize at all because they expect distributions of maize as food aid. Of 91 traders interviewed in Wajir South, 47% were not stocking maize. Similarly, in Wajir East of 55 traders interviewed, 69% did were not stocking maize. The majority of these have not stocked maize at all in the last six months.

In Wajir North, retail traders are primarily purchasing maize from Moyale and a few are purchasing from Wajir. In western South, many retail traders are purchasing maize from in and around the refugee camps in Dadaab and Dagahley. Retail traders in South tend to stock less maize than rice, while retail traders in North are stocking and selling more maize than rice.

Prices of maize have increased over the past six months. Average prices are shown in the table:

Average prices for 1kg of maize

Region	Previous Price (6 months ago)	Current Price	% change
Wajir North	~57 KES	~89 KES	56% increase
Wajir South	~37 KES	~64 KES	73% increase
Wajir East	~40 KES	~60 KES	50% increase
Wajir West*	~31 KES	~51 KES	65% increase
Wajir Town	~45 KES	~60 KES	33% increase

* The prices for Wajir West were converted from 50 Kg bag prices and so are slightly lower than the prices reflected for the other Wajir regions. Purchasing price at 1kg in West Wajir would actually be slightly higher than prices listed in the above table.

Beans

Although meat is preferred, beans are often consumed by households together with staple foods. The bean market system is similar to the rice market system, although traders in Wajir prefer buying from Moyale than Nairobi or Mombasa. North buys directly from Moyale, South buys primarily from Garissa and Habaswein and East and West buy from Wajir. Retail traders usually stock one or two bags and sell beans by the kilogram. In Wajir town, wholesaler traders currently have stocks of 50-100 bags. The largest trader has 350 bags.

Prices of beans have increased over the past six months. Average prices are shown in the table:

Average prices for 1kg of beans

Region	Previous Price (6 months ago)	Current Price	% change
Wajir North	~59 KES	~86 KES	46% increase
Wajir South	~62 KES	~87 KES	40% increase
Wajir East	~58 KES	~81 KES	40% increase
Wajir West*	~51 KES	~71 KES	39% increase
Wajir Town	~53 KES	~70 KES	32% increase

* The prices for Wajir West were converted from 50 Kg bag prices and so are slightly lower than the prices reflected for the other Wajir regions. Purchasing price at 1kg in West Wajir would actually be slightly higher than prices listed in the above table.

Response Options

Response Recommendation	Advantages & Positive Market Impacts	Disadvantages & Risks/Assumptions	Timing & Feasibility
<i>Improving Food Security and Strengthening Local Markets while Protecting and Recovering Productive Assets</i>			
Unconditional cash transfers to meet the emergency needs of vulnerable households	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased purchasing power • Supports local market chains • Reduces short-term food insecurity • Debts can be repaid to maintain credit system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Widespread poverty may make targeting difficult • Social/political risks associated with targeting • Inability to control choice of purchases with cash transfers • Artificial price inflation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quick, immediate response • Highly feasible
Food vouchers to diversify diets (e.g. vegetables, fruits, milk) of pastoral dropouts and their hosts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guarantees purchase of specific food items • Increased purchasing power • Supports local market chains • Reduces short-term food insecurity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vouchers cannot be used to repay debts to food traders • Food quality (esp. fruits and vegetables) can be • Vendor acceptability of vouchers • Widespread poverty may make targeting difficult • Social/political risks associated with targeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quick, immediate response • Moderately feasible
Transportation subsidies to support traders and retailers to increase and extend supply of vegetables and fruits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensures supply needed for increase in demand due to vouchers • Ensures timely transportation of perishable goods • Builds local markets for vegetables and fruits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quantity of required vegetables and fruits available in neighboring markets • Ability to transport perishable items in a timely fashion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quick, immediate response • Moderately feasible
Fodder vouchers to herders to purchase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduces use of human food for 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Widespread need might make targeting difficult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quick, immediate

fodder or supplementary feed for livestock	livestock feed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports local fodder and feed market chains • Preserves livestock as productive assets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social/political risks associated with targeting and works selection • Limited local fodder supply • Vendor acceptability of vouchers • Might encourage migration of livestock towards targeted areas 	response <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderately feasible
Cash-for-work for livelihood recovery and rehabilitation of agricultural land and market infrastructure (e.g. roads, markets)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased purchasing power • Supports local market chains • Facilitates rehabilitation and recovery • Increases income for households who are hosting the most vulnerable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Widespread unemployment may make targeting difficult • Social/political risks associated with targeting and works selection • High level of supervision and monitoring required • Land tenure may make it difficult to target farms and rangeland rehabilitation sites • Low availability of communal projects 	response <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium response • Highly feasible

Beyond improving food security, long term interventions are needed to strengthen and diversify livelihoods through recovering and building productive assets. These approaches should be tailored to livelihood zones in the region and work to increase household incomes and continue to strengthen local marketing. Recommended foci for future assessments to inform market-based programming include livestock value chains; livestock product value chains, especially milk marketing and processing; rangeland and water management as supporting functions in the livestock sector; farming inputs, skills, information and marketing; and gum Arabic trade.

Annex I Ten steps in EMMA

The EMMA process can be divided into ten steps, covering the general sequence of activities. However, EMMA is also an iterative process. In practice, activities in different steps will overlap, and we may return to particular steps repeatedly, as our analysis of each market system is revised. This continues until a ‘good-enough’ final picture is achieved.

1. Essential Preparation	Do background research and in-country briefings; consult preparation on the agency mandate, terms of reference and practicalities; identify target population and their priority needs
2. Market Selection	Select the most critical market systems for EMMA to study, selection using various specific criteria; and then identify the key analytical questions that will guide the investigation of each system
3. Preliminary Analysis	Draft initial provisional household profiles, seasonal analysis calendars, baseline and emergency-affected maps of the market system; and then identify key informants and useful leads for fieldwork
4. Fieldwork Preparation	Fieldwork Agree and set the fieldwork agenda; devise the preparation questionnaires, interview plans and information-recording formats needed for EMMA interviews and other fieldwork
5. Fieldwork Activities	Conduct fieldwork activities: interviews and other information activities gathering; this section includes guidance on interview methods and tips relating to different categories of informant
6. Mapping the Market	Mapping Produce final versions of baseline and emergency market the market maps, as well as seasonal calendars and household profiles that describe the situation, and will inform the three ‘analytical’ steps that follow
7. Gap Analysis	Finalize the gap analysis strand: use household profiles, analysis information on priority needs, shortfalls and access constraints in order to finally estimate the total gap which needs to be addressed
8. Market Analysis	Market Complete the market analysis strand: use market maps and analysis data to analyze availability, conduct, performance and thus estimate the capacity of the market system to meet the gap
9. Response Analysis	Response Finish the response analysis strand: make reasoned analysis recommendations, based on the market system logic, feasibility, timing and risks of different options, including cash, in-kind relief or other market support
10. Communicate Results	Consult with colleagues, and communicate EMMA’s results to results wider audiences (donors, agencies); using concise briefings and eye-catching map-based presentations and reports

Annex II Data Collection Tools

Local Leader Questionnaire

Introduction

Greet the person you are interviewing and introduce yourself. Explain that you are participating in an assessment team for Mercy Corps, an NGO that is interested in supporting food security and livelihoods programs in Wajir in a way that builds local markets and you would like to talk with households and local traders as well as local leaders. Ask the person if they are willing to be interviewed and if you are welcome in the village. If yes, start the interview. If no, do not ask any questions.

If yes, sign on their behalf: _____

Date: _____

Identification

Name		Survey No.	
Gender		Date	
Position		Interviewer	
District		Team Leader	
Village		Data Clerk	
Phone number			

Population

How many households live in your village?	
What are the main livelihoods in your village?	
What are the main sources of water for your village?	
Have new households come to your village in the last 6 months?	
If yes, how many?	
If yes, from where?	
If yes, why?	
Have any households left your village in the last 6 months?	
If yes, how many?	
If yes, from where?	
If yes, why?	

Services (only name services in the village itself)

What government services are available? (e.g. health, education, water, etc)	
How many primary schools do you have?	
How many secondary schools do you have?	
Which NGOs work in this village?	
What support is currently provided by NGOs? (be as specific as possible)	
How many shops do you have selling food items?	

Where does food in these shops come from?	
How many shops do you have selling clothes?	
How many shops do you have selling hardware?	

Challenges

What are the three most serious problems faced by household in your village?

(Probe until they mention three problems. Write whatever they say with direct quotations if possible.)

Problem	Description
1.	
2.	
3.	

Observation Notes *Please add any observations / comments about trade in the village.*

Household Questionnaire

Introduction

Greet the person you are interviewing and introduce yourself. Explain that you are participating in an assessment team for Mercy Corps, an NGO that is interested in supporting food security and livelihoods programs in Wajir. Ask the person if they are willing to be interviewed. If yes, start the interview. If no, do not ask any questions and move to another household.

If yes, sign on their behalf: _____

Date: _____

Identification

Name		Survey No.	
Gender		Date	
District		Interviewer	
Village		Team Leader	
Clan		Data Clerk	
Sub-Clan			

Household Profile

How many members of this household (by age)?	0-15: 56+:	16-25:	26-35:	36-45:	46-55:
Is this a female-headed household?	Yes	No			
Have you moved locations in the past 6 months?	Yes	No			
If yes, why?					
Has anyone from this household died in the past 6 months?					
If yes, how old were they?					
If yes, what was the cause of death?					

Household Livelihood Activities

Did your household participate in any of these activities before and after the crisis? Rank activities in terms of income.

Activity	6 months ago: Y/N	Before Rank:	Now: Y/N	Now Rank:
Rearing and selling animals				
Selling animal products				
Rearing and selling chickens and eggs				
Beekeeping and honey sales				
Cereal food crop production				
Root crops or pulses production				
Fruits and vegetable production				
Khat production				
Charcoal sales				
Firewood sales				
Water sales				
Salaried job Type:				
Daily labor				
Livestock trade				
Livestock product trade				
Food crop trade				
Other food trade				
Clothes and shoes trade				
Hardware trade				
Khat trade				
Craft production (e.g. baskets, mats)				
Henna				
Rent (housing, land, animals, cart, etc)				
Food shop (tea, meals)				

Other:				
Other:				
Other:				

Since 2008, have someone in your household ever done any livelihood activity that you do not do anymore?	Yes	No
If yes, what is that activity?		
If yes, why did you or that person stop doing it?		

Farming Activities (circle one)

Does your household own any land?	Yes	No
Did your household farm during the last season?	Yes	No
Do you have permanent water for farming nearby?	Yes	No
Do you irrigate your crops?	Yes	No
Do you use fertilizer or manure on your crops?	Yes	No
Do you have enough land for farming?	Yes	No
Do you sell your crops to other others?	Yes	No

How many livestock did you have six months ago and how many do you have now?		
	Before	After
Camels		
Cattle		
Goats		
Sheep		
Donkeys		
Poultry		

Livestock

	Before Crisis				Now			
	1=Excellent, 2= Good, 3=Poor, 4=Don't Know							
How is the access to pasture for animals?	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
How is the quality of pasture for animals?	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
How is the availability of water for animals?	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
How is the access to veterinary services?	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
How is the access to drugs for livestock?	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4

Transfers (in the last 3 months)

Have you borrowed food from friends / relatives?	Yes	No
Have you loaned food to friends / relatives?	Yes	No
Have you taken food on credit from a shop?	Yes	No
Have you received food aid?	Yes	No
Have you received a cash transfer?	Yes	No
Have you received inputs? (e.g. seeds, tools, livestock)	Yes	No

Water and Firewood

What is your main source of water in the rainy season?	
What is your main source of water in the dry season? (e.g. borehole, burka, shallow well)	
What is your main source of water now?	
How many hours do you spend fetching water in a week now?	
What is your main source of firewood?	
How many hours do you spend fetching firewood in a week?	

Food

What foods did you eat at home in the last week? (mark X in the box relating to how the food was accessed if consumed)

	Own Production	Purchased	Food Aid	Gift	None
Sorghum					
Maize					
Rice					
Wheat Flour					
Beans					
Meat					
Milk					
Eggs					
Vegetables					
Fruit					

Challenges

What are the three most serious problems that your household faces in making a living? (Probe until they mention three problems. Write whatever they say with direct quotations if possible.)

Problem	Description
1.	
2.	
3.	

Observation Notes *Please add any observations / comments about trade in the village.*

Trader Questionnaire

Introduction

Greet the person you are interviewing and introduce yourself. Explain that you are participating in an assessment team for Mercy Corps, an NGO that is interested in supporting food security and livelihoods programs in Wajir in a way that builds local markets. Ask the person if they are willing to be interviewed. If yes, start the interview. If no, move to another trader.

If yes, sign on their behalf: _____

Date: _____

Identification

Name		Survey No.	
Gender		Date	
Business Name		Interviewer	
District		Team Leader	
Village		Data Clerk	
Phone Number			

Food Items

Six months ago, which three food items did you sell the most of?	
Now, which three food items do you sell the most of?	

Complete the following for prices these items if available:

	Unit (e.g. 5kg bag, 1 cup, 3 tomatoes)	Price six months ago	Price now
Sorghum			
Maize			
Rice			
Wheat Flour			
Sugar			
Tea			
Beans			
Eggs			
Vegetable Type:			
Vegetable Type:			
Fruit Type:			
Fruit Type:			

Critical Market Item Supply

	Rice	Maize	Beans
Where do you buy from? (e.g. Wajir, Moyale, Dadaab, Mandera)			
Who are your major suppliers? (e.g. names of people or shops)			
Do you ever buy on credit? (Y/N)			
Do you pay for transport?			
What type of transport? (e.g. private truck, public bus)			
How much do you current have stocked? (e.g. unit: 50KG bag, amount: 107 bags)	Unit: Amount:	Unit: Amount:	Unit: Amount:
What is your restocking lag time? (e.g. 3 hours, 2 days)			

Critical Market Item Demand

	Rice	Maize	Beans
Who buys food from you? (e.g. households, NGOs for distribution)			
Compared with 6 months ago, what is the sale trend?	More Less Same	More Less Same	More Less Same
Do you ever sell on credit? (Y/N)			
Compared with 6 months ago, what is the trend on providing credit?	More Less Same	More Less Same	More Less Same
How much did you sell this week? (e.g. unit: cup, amount: 16 cups)	Unit: Amount:	Unit: Amount:	Unit: Amount:
What is the most you ever sold at one time?	Unit: Amount:	Unit: Amount:	Unit: Amount:

NGO Programs

Have you ever been involved in an NGO food program?	
If yes, what was your role in the program? (describe)	
If yes, how did the program benefit and/or affect you? (both positive and negative)	

Challenges

What are the three major constraints to expanding your business? (*Probe until they mention three problems. Write whatever they say with direct quotations if possible.*)

Problem	Description
1.	
2.	
3.	

Observation Notes *Please add any observations / comments about trade in the village.*