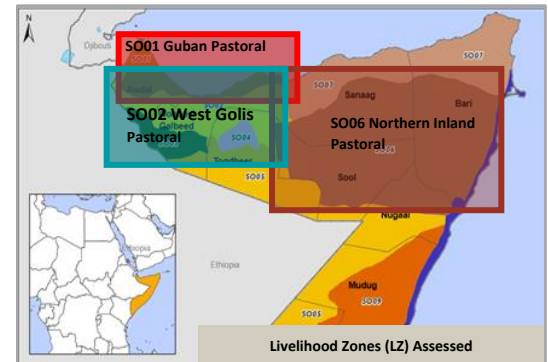


Household Economy Analysis - Baseline Assessment Guban (SO01), West Golis (SO02) & Northern Inland Pastoral Livelihood (SO06) Zones

BACKGROUND

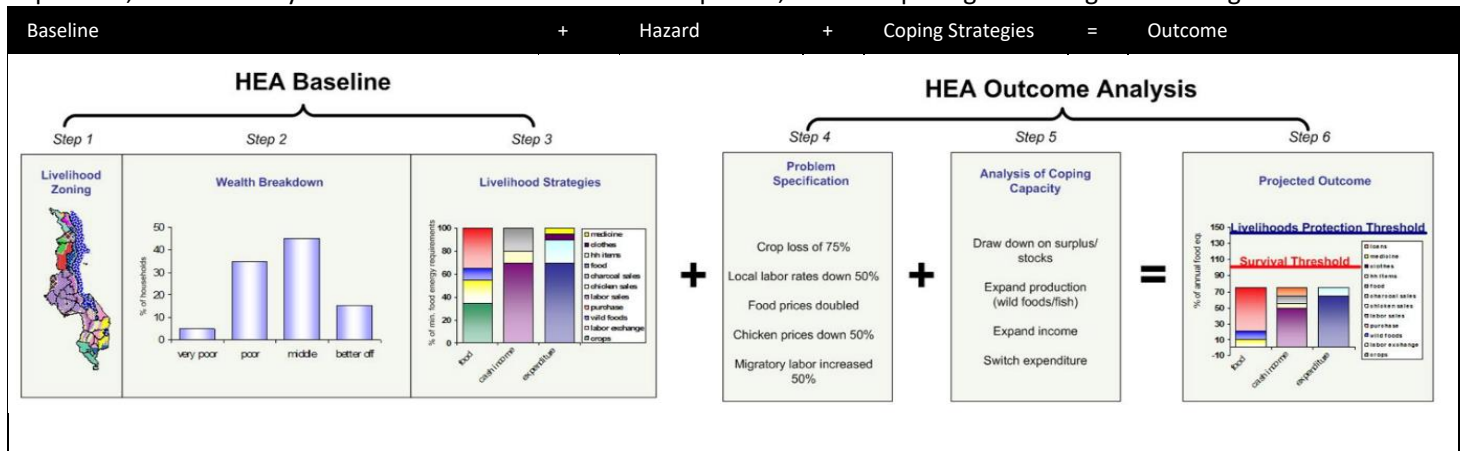
Since 1951, Save the Children International (SCI) has continued to actively deliver programmes to meet the needs of Somali children affected by poverty and by humanitarian crises. The overall purpose of this assessment is to provide robust evidence and an in-depth understanding of livelihoods in 3 northern pastoral livelihood zones in Somalia and Somaliland, this will update the old baselines (reference years 2010 and 2013). The data will be used to better equip SCI, the government, humanitarian and development partners to design and deliver appropriate livelihoods and resilience programming. With supplementary outcome analysis training, the baseline data can be used with the Livelihood Impact Assessment Spreadsheet (LIAS) to allow planners to quantify the magnitude of seasonal and/or annual food and income gaps against survival, livelihood protection and MEB thresholds.



HEA ANALYTICAL FRAMEWORK

HEA or Household Economy Analysis is an analytical framework that brings together livelihood baseline data with current year price and production data to analyse the effect of a shock on future access to food and income. Three types of household information are required in the HEA framework: (i) a baseline (food, income and expenditure data in a reference year (Normal year)), (ii) data on effects of hazard on prices and production data (i.e. events such as drought, conflict or market problems) and (iii) household coping strategies (i.e., food and income sources used by households to make up initial deficits created by a hazard).

In practice, the HEA analytical framework is divided into two phases, each comprising three stages.¹ See diagram below².



This assessment summarizes the findings from phase 1 of the HEA analytical framework, namely Step 2 and Step 3 of the baseline phase. Step 1, which in this case involved rezoning or updating the original livelihood-zoning map, is found on the FEWS NET Somalia website.³ The most recent livelihood zone map dates from August 2015.

RESULTS

The HEA baselines refer to the 2018 and 2019 reference years, which immediately followed the drought crisis of 2015-2017. This includes January – December 2019 for SO01 Guban Pastoral, April 2018 – March 2019 for SO02 West Golis Pastoral and October 2018 – September 2019 for SO06 Northern Inland Pastoral. Consequently, the data reflects these recent events, which include relatively small herd sizes post-drought, shorter lactation periods for camels, and continued humanitarian assistance.

¹ Detailed information on each step of the analytical framework can be found on: <http://www.foodeconomy.com> and in the Guide for HEA users (available in English and French) <http://www.savethechildren.org.uk/resources/online-library/practitioners'-guide-household-economy-approach>

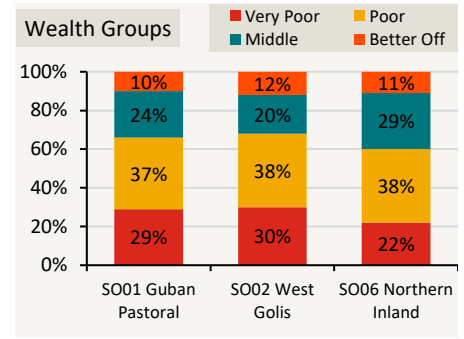
² <https://www.heacad.org/en-gb/Pages/Home.aspx>

³ <https://fewsn.net/east-africa/somalia/livelihood-zone-map/august-2015>

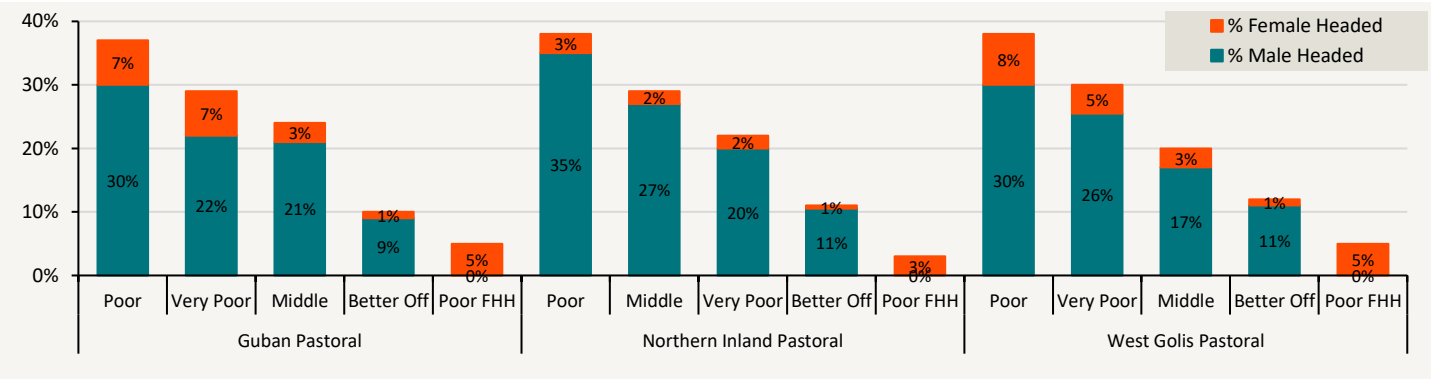
Population in the Northern Pastoral Zones Are Primarily Classified As Poor and Very Poor

These lower wealth groups comprised 66%, 68% and 60% of households in SO01, SO02 and SO06 respectively (see graph on the left). Indeed, this marks a change from the old baselines 6-10 years ago, before consecutive droughts and climate shocks, when the middle wealth group was the largest wealth group, comprising roughly 50% (SO01) of households. Poor and very poor households comprise the largest wealth groups in Guban and West Golis Pastoral zones while poor and middle households comprise the largest wealth groups in Northern Inland zone.

Female-headed households (FHH) make up a portion of all wealth groups with higher proportions found in the lower two wealth groups (see below graphs). This group has similar characteristics to poor male-headed households and faces similar constraints.

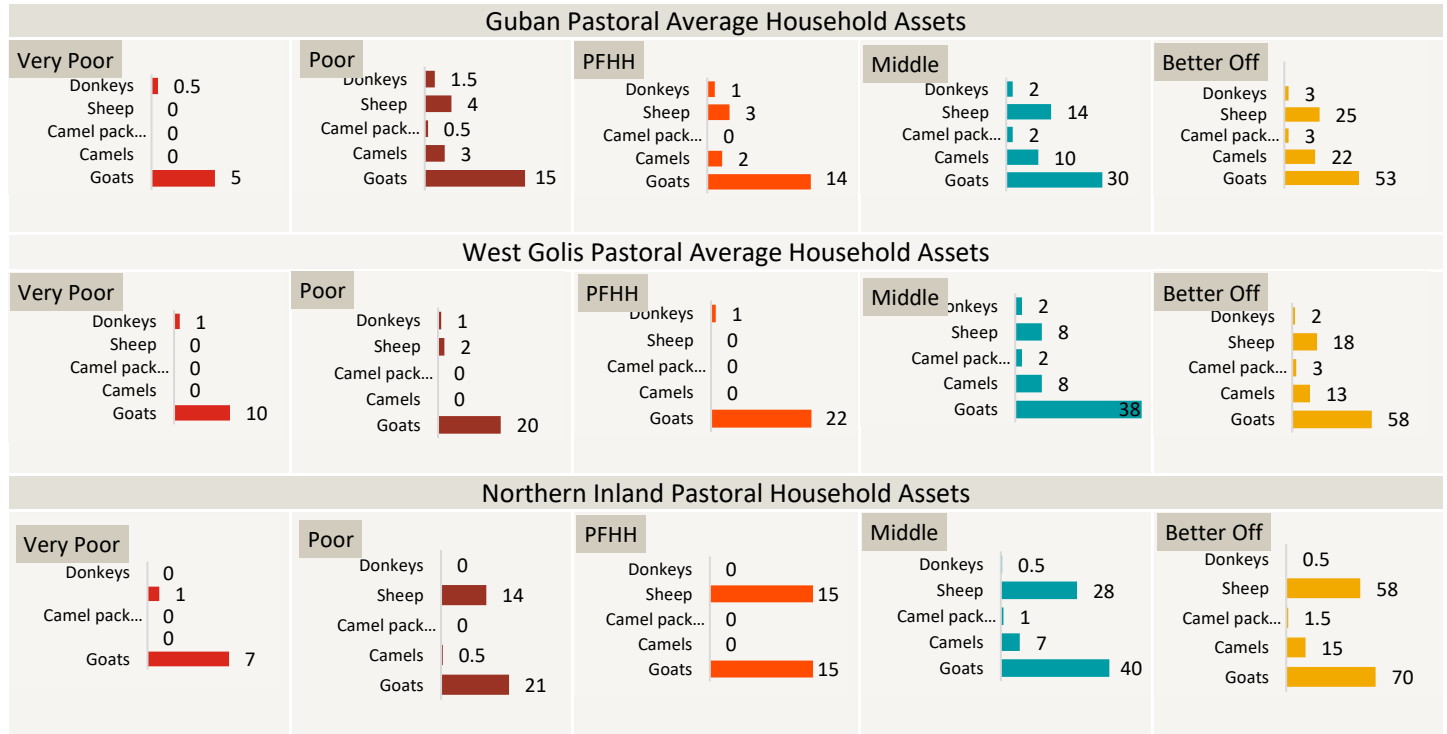


Percentage of Households (HH) per Wealth Breakdown



Main Determinant of Wealth Is the Size and Composition of Livestock Owned

The more animals a household owns, the greater their access to food and cash income. Camels are the most valuable animals as they provide milk for most part of the year and fetch a higher market price compared to the price of shoats.

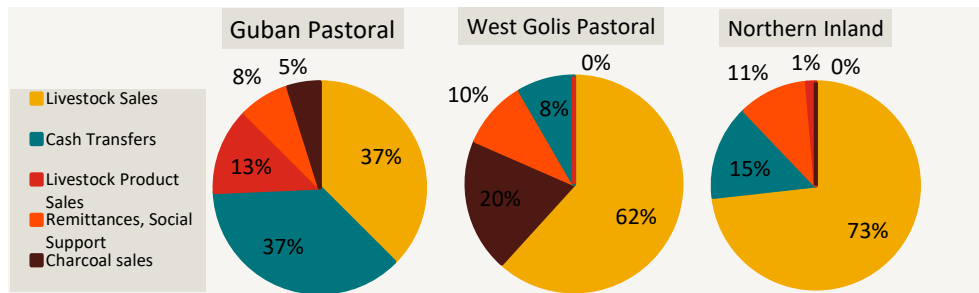


(0.5 of livestock means that some Households do not have such herds while some have 1)

Livelihood Patterns of These Three Northern Zones Are Still Primarily Pastoral

Pastoral economies are characterized principally by sales of milk, meat and livestock (camels, goats and sheep in this case) which generate income to meet basic needs. Using cash generated from these sales, staple food items such as rice, wheat flour and pasta are purchased in these livelihood zones. Own milk is also an important supplementary food for middle and better off households in particular.

Sources of Income per Livelihood Zone



Over the course of the reference year, herds typically grew, reflecting post-drought recovery. The previous 3 years were characterised by severe drought that reduced the number of camels in heat and thus conception and births.

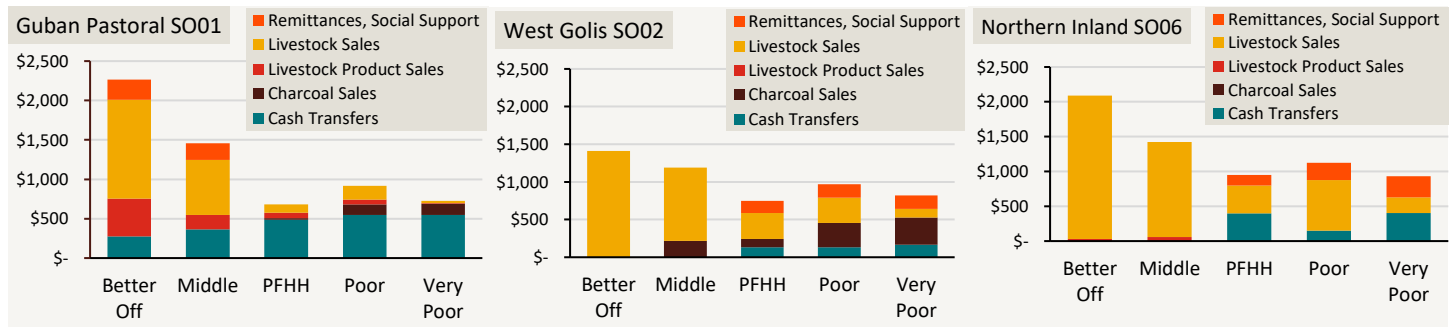
Number of Herds Sold in a Year

Sales per year	Guban Pastoral					West Golis Pastoral					Northern Inland				
	VP	P	PFHH	M	BO	VP	P	PFHH	M	BO	VP	P	PFHH	M	BO
Camel sales - export: no. sold	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Camel sales - local: no. sold	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
Goat sales - export: no. sold	2	4	3	9	12	3	8	7	13	17	1	3	0	3	2
Goat sales - local: no. sold	0	0	3	9	0	0	0	7	10	0	3	4	5	9	15
Sheep sales - export: no. sold	0	0.4	0.3	3	5	2	1	2	3		0	3	0	3	6
Sheep sales - local: no. sold	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	6	10

The primary sources of cash income for lower wealth groups is cash transfers (SO01 *Guban Pastoral* and SO06 *Northern Inland Pastoral*) and charcoal sales (SO02 *West Golis Pastoral*). Typically, income patterns amongst poor female-headed households were similar to

poor male-headed households but they earned significantly less annual cash income overall and less from charcoal sales in particular (a labor-intensive activity).

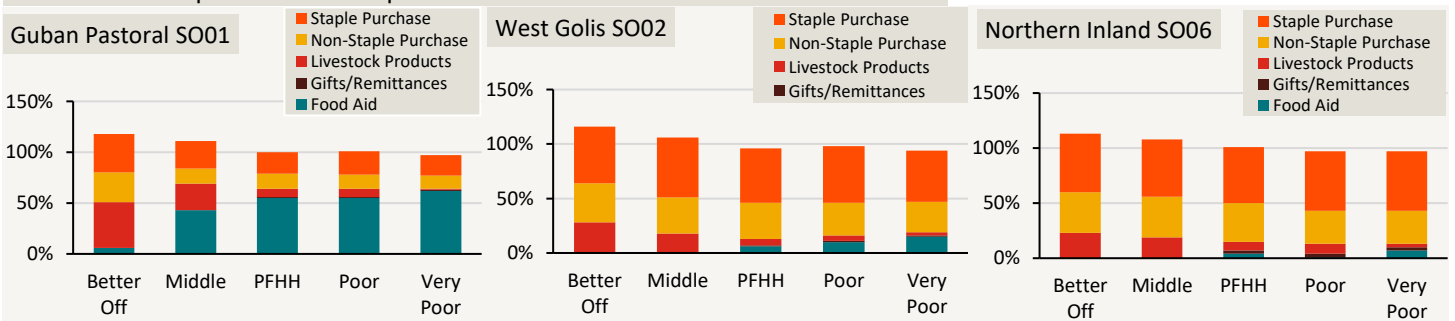
Sources of Income per Wealth Groups



Sales of Livestock and Livestock Products (Milk/Meat) Are Typically the Main Source of Cash Income

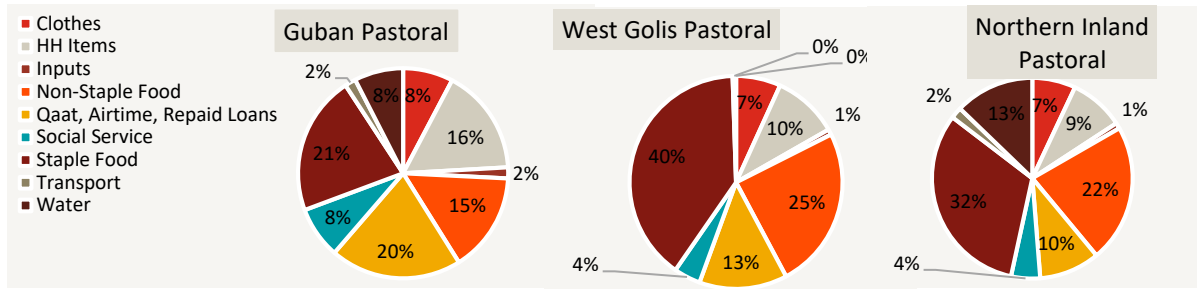
Livestock products (mainly milk but a little meat too) were found to be a major food source for middle and better off households (see graphs below). Food (staple) purchase was the other primary food source (indeed the dominant food source for the lower wealth groups) across all three zones. What also stands out is the enormous contribution of food aid from the drought recovery effort, notably in SO01 *Guban Pastoral Livelihood Zone*. The graphs below shows the proportion of food energy from each major food source by wealth group and livelihood zone quantified as kilocalories. Compared to the new 2019 HEA baseline where meat was the main livestock product sold, the old 2013 HEA baseline indicated milk sales as the main livestock product sold.

Sources of Food per Wealth Groups

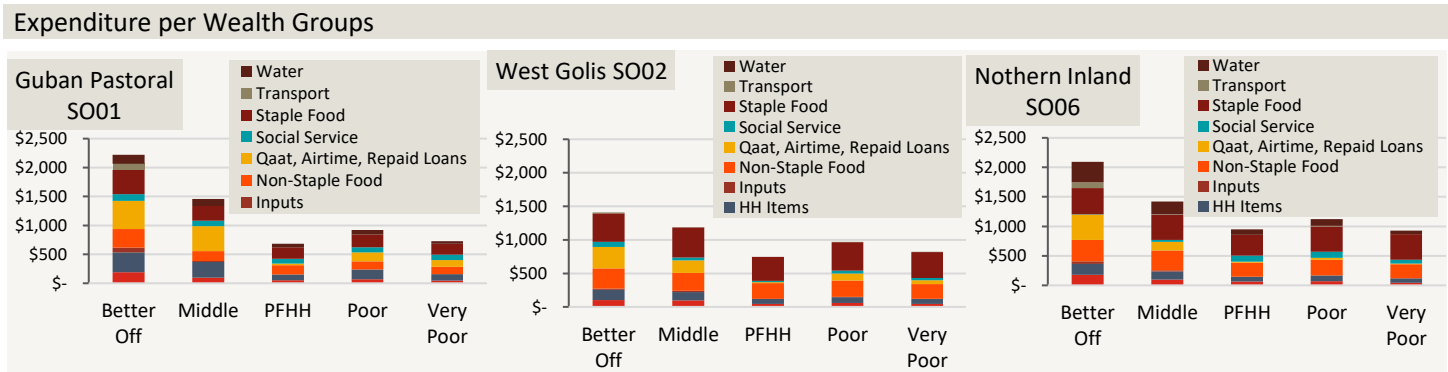


Pastoralists Spend Little on Items Other Than On Staple Food (Rice, Pasta, Wheat Flour, Vegetable Oil), Sugar and Tea

This pattern was very marked in SO02 (*West Golis Pastoral*) and SO06 (*Northern Inland Pastoral*) where humanitarian assistance was far less than in SO01 (*Guban Pastoral*) (see graphs below).



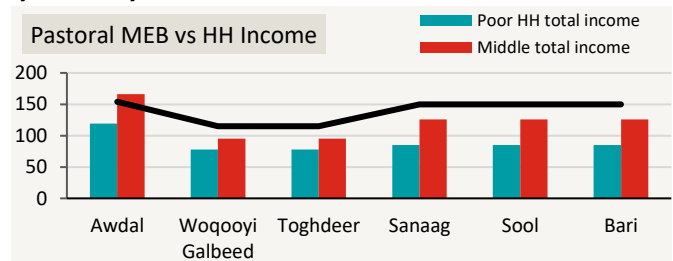
Other essential expenditures in the reference years common to all three zones included: water for household use and for animals (except in SO02); animal drugs; basic household inputs (salt, soap, torch and batteries, buckets, sleeping mats), cell phone airtime, some clothes, and transport as required. Social services include expenditures on education and health.



A pastoral economy in a fragile environment requires a fairly large herd. Thus, efforts to both strengthen the health of herds for households still firmly planted in the pastoral economy and efforts to support income diversification for those with more limited livestock are important steps to food security in these northern pastoral zones.

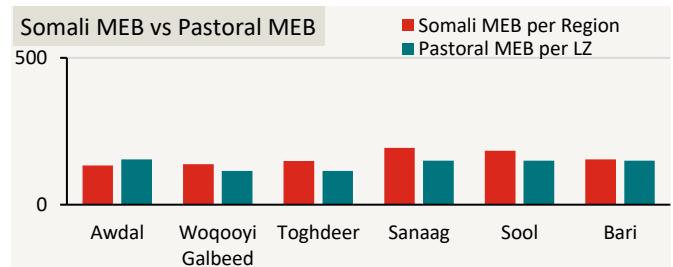
Value Of A Standard MEB Is Higher Than The Total Income Earned By The Very Poor And Poor Households.

The value of the MEB in SO02 and SO06 was higher than the total income of middle households (i.e., those zones with much lower levels of humanitarian assistance) (see graph on the right). This suggests that for the most part, very poor, poor and middle households cannot afford a minimum standard of living in their area.



Difference between Somali MEB per Region and Pastoral MEB per Livelihood Zone

The pastoral MEB for SO01, SO02 and SO06 was compared with the Somalia MEB for some of the regions in the baseline study, namely Awdal, Woqooyi Galbeed, Toghdeer, Sool, Sanaag and Bari Regions. Differences in value are due to differences in the composition of the baskets (both food and non-food). The pastoral MEB by zone reflects livelihood zone characteristics (i.e., food items included and whether water and firewood costs are added to the MEB) as well as basic sector standards (see graph on the right).



A few things to highlight with the Somalia MEB total basket:

- Adding firewood costs in the northern pastoral zones raises the value of the total basket significantly.
- The value of education and health in the Somalia MEB is relatively low compared to the pastoral MEB by zone and compared to poor and middle household expenditures.
- The value for soap should also be raised as it is low compared to actual expenditures and compared to sector recommendations.
- If a livelihood cluster approach is taken, food baskets should be adapted to better reflect the main food items consumed in those regions.