



### Methodology

115 sentinel sites were randomly selected, covering all 8 major livelihood zones and 2 refugees camps.

10 locations per livelihood are visited three times a year (May, September and December).

Households are randomly selected covering both beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries. Replacement sites are used when security prevents visit to original sampled site.

### Indicators

Each household has been assigned to a Food Security Index group based on a simple averaging process using the 4-point scale scores it attained for each indicator. Specifically, each household's Food Security Index classification is based on a simple average of their food consumption score (current status) and their coping capacity score. The latter is itself formed from a simple average of the food expenditure share score and the asset depletion score.

### Coverage

2181 households were visited of which 1078 (49%) were beneficiaries

# Kenya Food Security and Outcome monitoring (FSOM) Consolidated report

September 2016

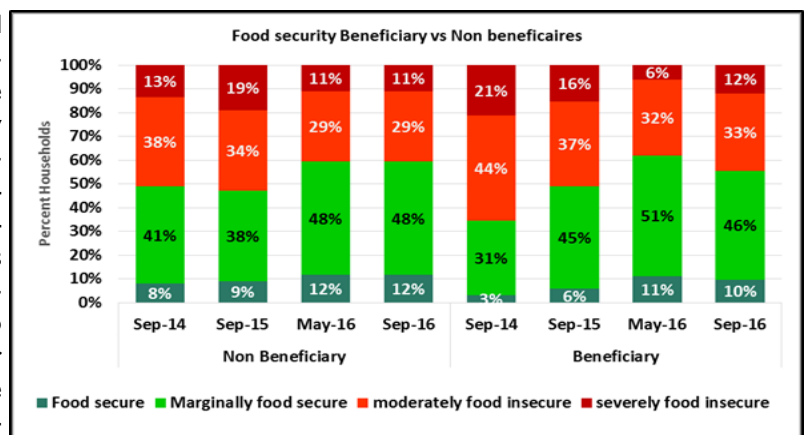
### Highlights

- The overall proportion of households who are food insecure remains high, though lower than the proportions that were food insecure for the same season 2014 and 2015
- Food consumption for beneficiaries remained generally stable but the Households who were receiving cash based transfers were better off in the quality of their diet than those receiving food under asset creation
- A critical nutrition situation has been reported in several counties by surveys carried out in June and July 2016, with Turkana, Baringo (East Pokot), Marsabit and Mandera counties reporting a critical nutrition situation (GAM above 20%)

### Food security situation

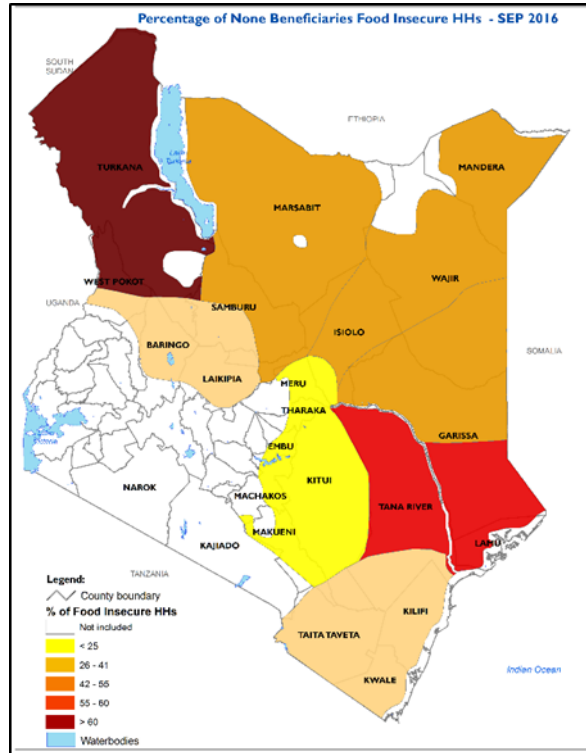
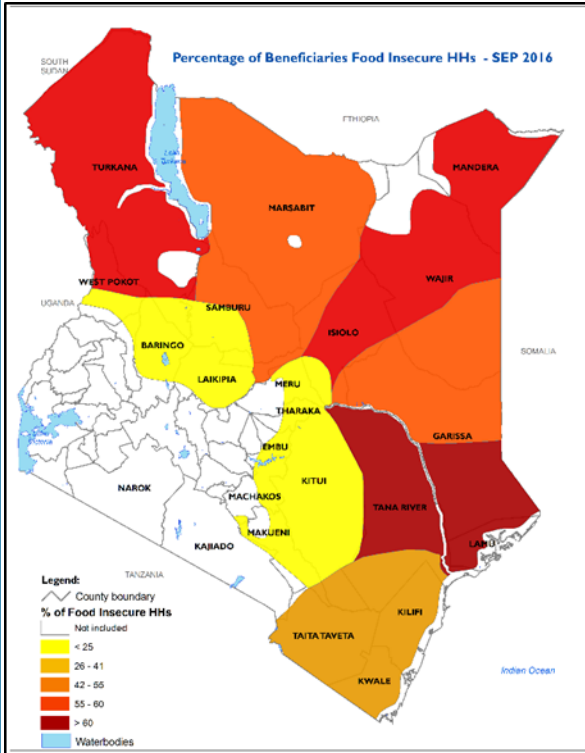
Overall, household food security has improved among those who are moderately and severely food insecure for both beneficiary and non-beneficiary households has improved in September compared to the same period over the last 2 years. The proportion of beneficiary households that are currently food insecure is 45 percent compared to 53 and 65 percent in September 2015 and 2014 respectively.

The non-beneficiary households who are currently food insecure is 40 percent compared to 53 and 51 percent in 2015 and 2014 respectively. This means that during the same period over the last 2 years, household food consumption has improved, expenditure share on food has been declining and the prevalence of asset depletion has been reducing.



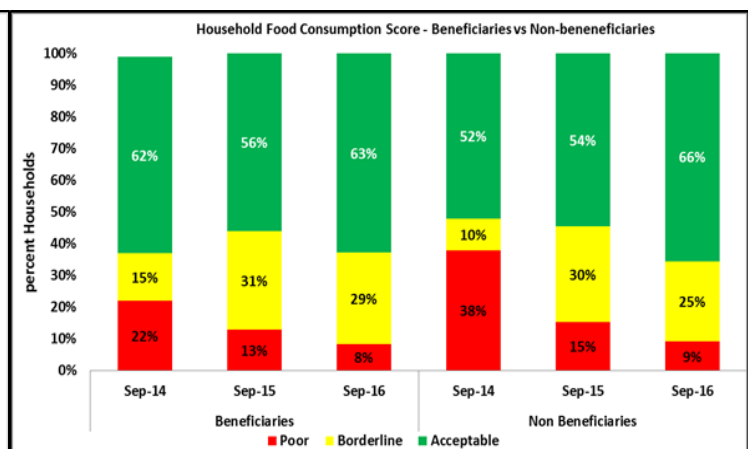
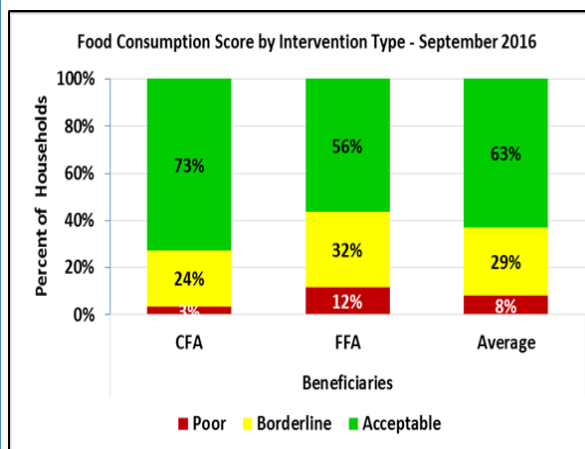
### Household Food security

Across most livelihood zones, food security has been improving compared to similar periods in previous years. Among beneficiary households, the Eastern pastoral zone (Tana River and southern parts of Garissa) are the most food insecure with over 60 percent of households either moderately or severely food insecure. Turkana and parts of West pokot in the North-west and Mander and parts of Wajir and Isiolo in the Northeast follows, where there are between 55 to 60 percent of households who are food insecure. In contrast, the non-beneficiary households who are the most food insecure are in the North-western pastoral zone followed by households in the Eastern pastoral zone. The South-eastern marginal and Western Agropastoral livelihood zones have the least food insecure households (less than 25%).



### Household food consumption

The food consumption among beneficiary and non-beneficiary households improved in the month of September compared to similar periods in the last 2 years. Beneficiary households with poor (8%) and borderline (29%) food consumption reduced by 7 percent from 44 percent in September 2015 to 37 percent in 2016. Similarly, non-beneficiary households in both food consumption groups dropped by about the same margin. Compared to the last round in May, the proportion of beneficiary households with poor food consumption have remained the same at 9 percent, though in May there was a higher proportion of those who had an acceptable consumption.



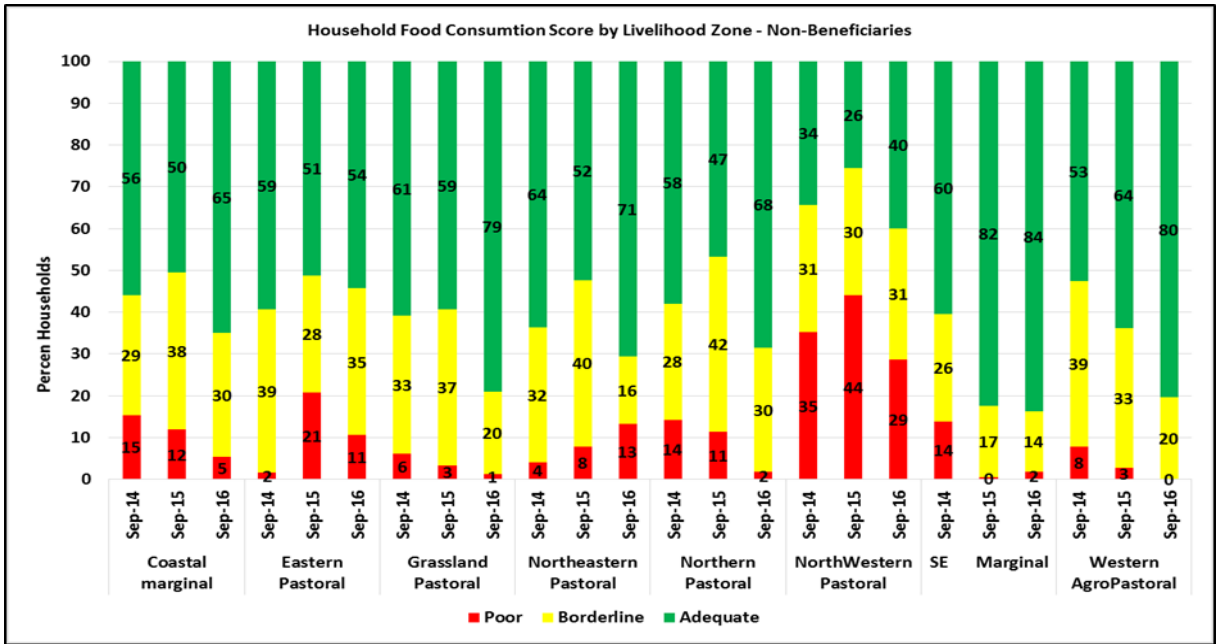
The availability of short cycled crops after the 2016 long rains as well as availability of casual labour opportunities improved household incomes and access to food, despite localized areas in the southeast and coast marginal agricultural areas having below average maize harvests during the long rains. In the pastoral areas, the impacts of the last two seasons has also improved grazing resources and livestock productivity and consequently, milk availability and consumption at household level. Several pastoral areas however, have had below average rainfall during the last two seasons and only realizing modest improvements.

### Household food consumption

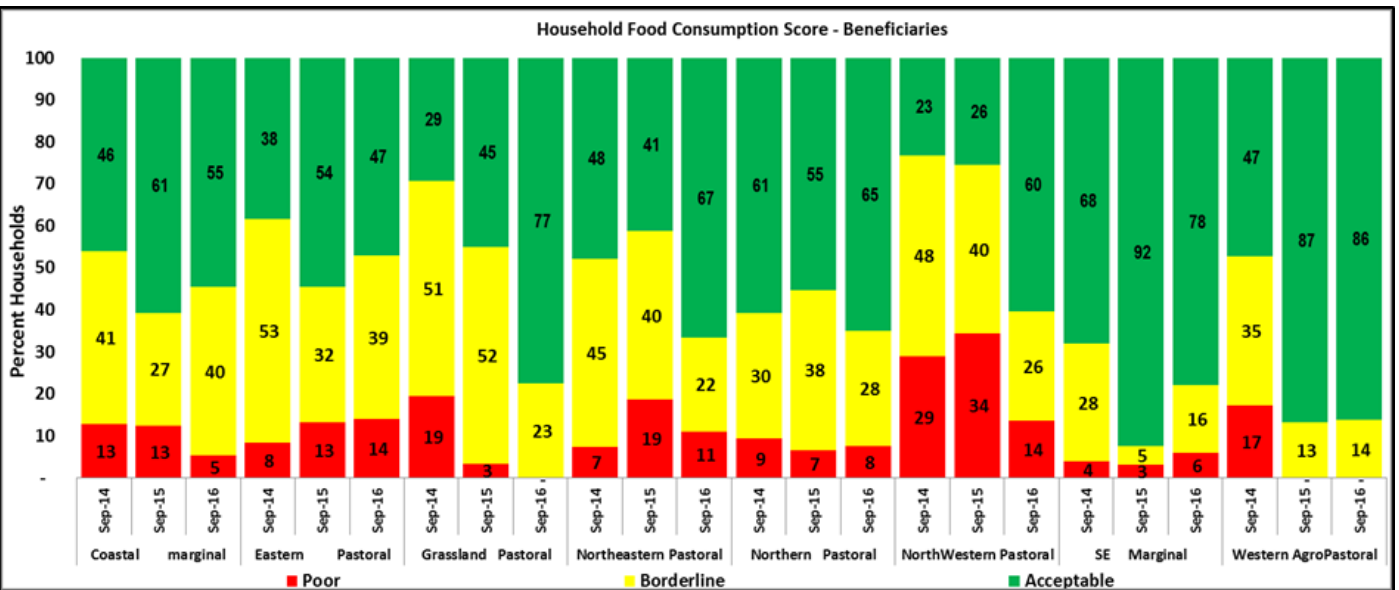
Households that were receiving cash based transfers were better off in the quality of their diet than those receiving food under asset creation. Beneficiary households under Cash for Assets (CFA) with poor and borderline food consumption were 27 percent compared to those under Food for Assets (FFA) at 44 percent. Some 12 percent of households in FFA had poor food consumption compared with only 3 percent of those under CFA. Households receiving cash generally have a wider choice in terms of the food groups they purchase and consume than those receiving food.

Food consumption among beneficiary households improved or remained stable in most livelihood zones during this round compared to the same period last year. However there was a deterioration in the South-east and Coastal marginal agricultural as well as Eastern pastoral livelihood zones where localized areas have had depressed rainfall with most households moving from acceptable to borderline food consumption. Crop and livestock productivity were compromised in these areas and any modest improvements had been short lived as the lean season peaked in September and households had less consumption days of meat and dairy products as compared to other livelihood zones.

In all livelihood zones the proportion of beneficiary households with poor food consumption was below 15 percent and though there was improvement in the North-western pastoral zone, it had the highest proportion (14%) of households with poor consumption and same as the Eastern pastoral zone. The Coastal marginal and Eastern pastoral zone



had the highest proportion of households who had borderline consumption at approximately 40 percent and who are likely to fall into the poor consumption group as the dry spell progresses. Among the non-beneficiary households, the North-western pastoral zone had the highest proportion of households (29%) with poor food consumption



Market Prices

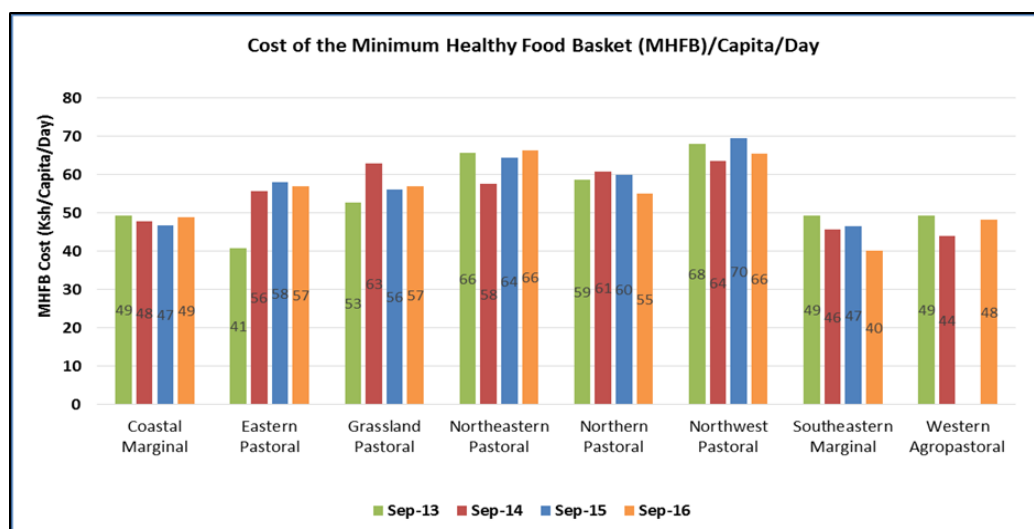


The Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS), September 2016 Inflation report, states that, the inter-annual inflation rate stood at 6.34 percent which was higher than the 5.97 percent in the same month last year; thus somewhat decreasing the purchasing power of Kenyan households –especially those in lower income groups.

The year on year food inflation stood at 10.94 percent in September 2016, a marginal rise from 9.81 percent, recorded in September 2015. This was attributed to increases in the average national retail prices of; potatoes (irish), spinach, banana (ripe), paw paws, oranges, fresh fish, fresh packeted milk, maize grain (loose), beans and sugar.

Price data collected during the September 2016 FSOM exercise shows that, nominal retail maize prices fell by between 4 percent in South-eastern marginal agricultural livelihood zone to 12 percent in northern pastoral zone, from a year on year comparison. Maize prices rose by between 6 percent in North-eastern pastoral zone, to 28 percent in Grassland pastoral zone. The rise was attributed to an increase in demand, as more households relied on the markets for food purchases, after exhausting food stocks at household level. The cost of the minimum healthy food basket (MHFB) has increased in the north eastern pastoral region, over the last three years. The cost rose by 2 percent (grassland pastoral), 3 percent (North-eastern pastoral) and 4 percent in coastal marginal, compared to same month last year.

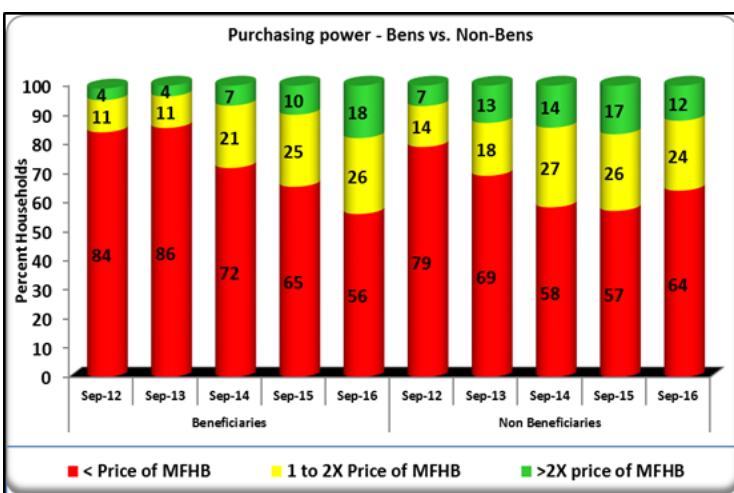
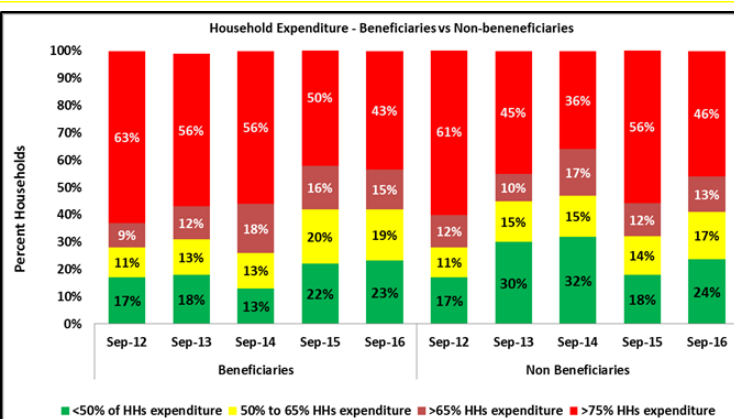
The northern pastoral region, has recorded a drop in food basket cost, over the past three years. The MHFB cost fell by 6 percent (northwest pastoral), 8 percent (northern pastoral), 10 percent (eastern pastoral) and 15 percent in south-eastern marginal regions, see the figure below.



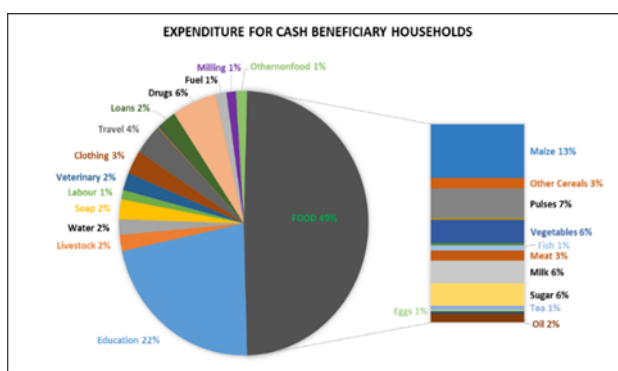
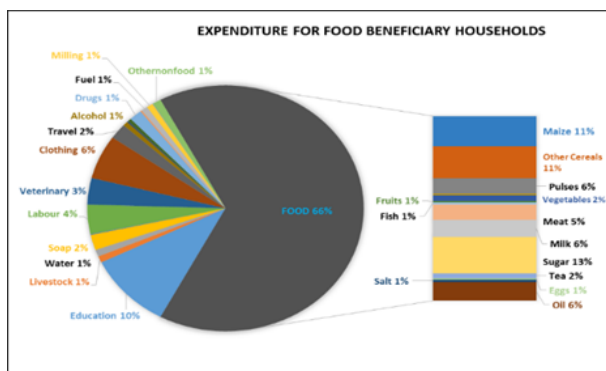
### Household Expenditure (income proxy)

Household expenditure among beneficiaries utilizing over 75 percent of their income to purchase food is the lowest (43%) in September 2016 compared to the last 4 years, where the proportion of households who have been spending over three quarter of their income on food has been between 50 to 63 percent. The proportion has also reduced compared to the last round in May 2016 when it was 45 percent. The proportion of non-beneficiary households has also reduced to 46 percent compared to 56 percent last year. The households spending less than 50 percent of income on food have increased for non-beneficiaries compared to the previous year and are currently about 24 percent. Staple food prices have remained stable and within seasonal norms and livestock prices have remained above average, translating to favourable pastoralists' terms of trade. Overall, there was a gradual improvement in households' purchasing power, compared to the previous four years, as food prices in some zones reduced. Some 44 percent of beneficiary households were able to afford the minimum healthy food basket compared to 35 percent last year. However during this round, the proportion of non-beneficiaries who could afford decreased from 43 percent last year to 36 percent in September 2016.

Households participating in WFP asset creation programme, and who received food, spent an average of 66 percent of their overall income on food, while cash beneficiaries spent 49 percent on food. Education remained to be the largest non-food expenditure item, covering 10 percent of FFA households and 22 percent of cash recipient households' total income. Drugs, clothing, veterinary services, travel and communication, livestock/agriculture inputs, and other household goods expenditure lines covered 1 percent to 6 percent of total income.



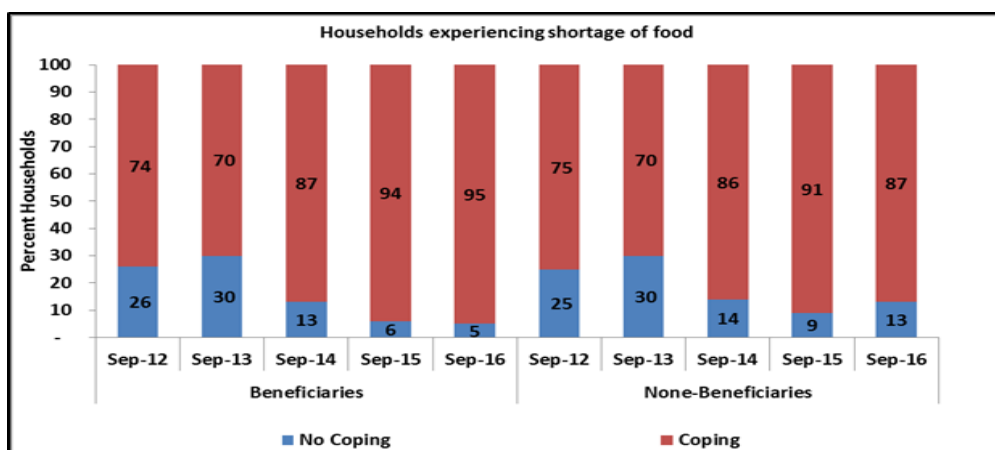
Maize was the most purchased food item among cash beneficiaries, who spent 13 percent of their food expenditure on this item. In contrast, among food beneficiaries, the highest proportion (13%) of food expenditure was on sugar followed by maize (11%). Food and cash beneficiaries spend nearly the same proportion on high value protein items, unlike the same time in the previous year, when food beneficiaries spent a larger proportion, compared with cash beneficiaries.



All livelihood zones apart from Northern pastoral, South-eastern marginal agricultural and North-eastern pastoral zones, improved compared with previous years. Northern, South-eastern marginal and North-eastern pastoral, remained the areas with the highest proportion (49%, 68% and 90% respectively) of households, who were not able to purchase the basket, which partly was caused by high food prices and also unreliable income sources

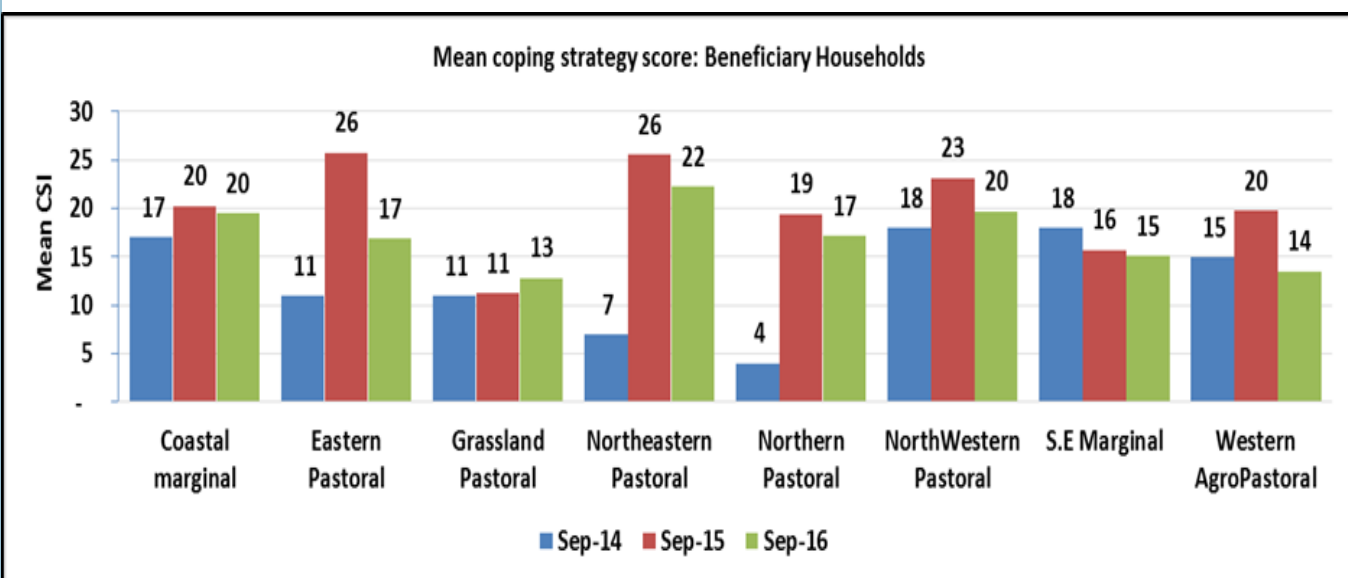
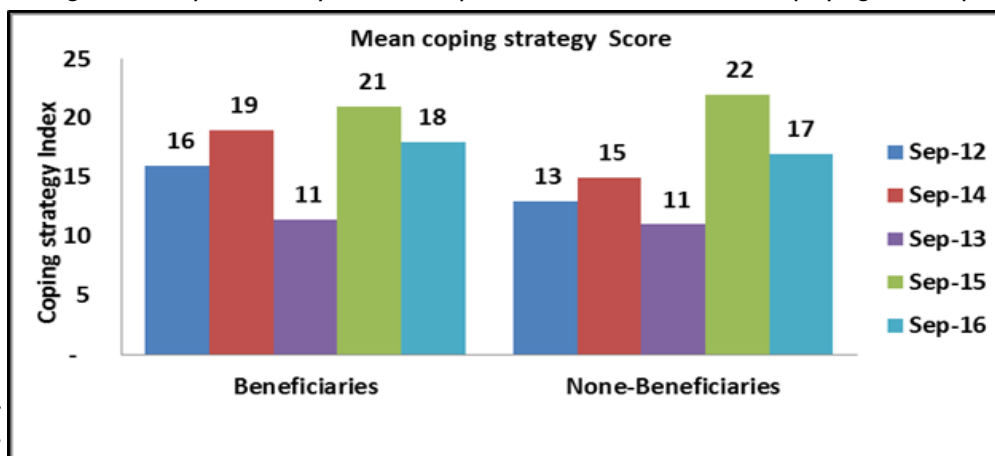
### Household Coping Strategies (CSI)

There has been no significant change in the proportion (95%) of beneficiary households reporting having faced shortages of food or cash to purchase food in September 2016 compared to September 2015. Non-beneficiary households (87%) who were using coping strategies in September this year reduced compared to the same period last year when they were 91%. However, it is an increase compared to the last round (84%) in May 2016 as September is the peak of the lean season while in May impacts of the long rains on improved household food security usually begin to be realised.



The mean coping strategy index (CSI) for both beneficiary and non-beneficiary households reduced from approximately 22 in September 2015 to around 17 during the same period this year. This implies that households were employing consumption related strategies less frequently than they were last year and also the number of non-beneficiary households not coping had reduced.

Across the different livelihoods, the mean CSI among non-beneficiaries household reduced in all the livelihood zones with the exception of the Grassland Pastoral Zone where there was a slight increase. However this particular zone remains one of those with the lowest CSI of around 13. Despite recording an improvement, the North-western pastoral zone still has the highest CSI (20) compared with the other livelihood zones for both beneficiary and non-beneficiary households.



### Nutrition Situation and Household Dietary Diversity

There is a critical nutrition situation in the ASAL counties as reported by surveys carried out in June and July 2016. The surveys indicate a critical nutrition situation (GAM above 20%) in Turkana, Baringo (East Pokot), Marsabit and Mandera counties. West Pokot County is at emergency levels (15%). An additional five counties (Samburu, Tana River, Garissa, Isiolo and Wajir) have serious acute malnutrition levels (10%-14%). Malnutrition contributes to half of all deaths in children under five with children affected by acute malnutrition facing a four- to nine-fold increased risk of mortality. The following table shows the results of surveys carried out in 2016.

County	Global Acute Malnutrition	Severe Acute Malnutrition
Turkana South & East	30.30%	8.90%
Turkana Central	24.50%	5.60%
Turkana North	23.40%	4.10%
Baringo, East Pokot	23%	3.50%
Marsabit, North Horr	22.80%	4.10%
Mandera County	22.60%	3.70%
Marsabit, Laisamis/ Loyangalani	21.80%	4.60%
West Pokot	15.30%	2.90%
Garissa	14.70%	2.10%
Samburu	14.50%	2.40%
Turkana West	14.40%	4.80%
Tana River	14.00%	1.50%
Wajir West, East & South	13.40%	2.10%
Isiolo	12.30%	1.20%

New admissions into Management of Acute malnutrition programmes significantly increased in August 2016, compared to the same month in 2015, as shown in the flowing table. This increase was due to the scaling up of nutrition services, particularly screening and outreaches for the hard to reach areas, in response to the increased malnutrition levels in arid counties.

