

# ASSESSMENT FINDINGS FOR SOMALI CASH CONSORTIUM'S (SCC) CCCM-BASED<sup>1</sup> APPROACH

**FEBRUARY, 2025**  
**KISMAYO, SOMALIA**  
**KEY MESSAGES**

- The proportion of households (HHs) with a poor Food Consumption Score (FCS) significantly decreased from 97% at baseline to 2% at endline, while those with an acceptable FCS increased from 0% to 58% during the same period, reflecting improved food access. Moreover, by endline, 66% of HHs were at least marginally food secure (vs. 5% at baseline), **with only 2% facing severe food insecurity, demonstrating rapid stabilization.**
- The percentage of HHs spending above the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) increased from 0% at baseline to 25% at endline, indicating **improved financial capacity and signalling stronger economic resilience.** However, food remained the primary expense, limiting resources for other essential needs.
- The proportion of HHs using emergency coping strategies declined from 32% in the baseline to only 4% in the endline assessment, explaining a decline from 4.1 to 2.4 in the average Livelihood Coping Strategies Index (LCSI) score.

## KISMAYO DISTRICT MAP



Funded by  
European Union  
Humanitarian Aid



SOMALI CASH  
CONSORTIUM

## CONTEXT & RATIONALE

Kismayo, a port city in Lower Juba, Somalia, has an estimated population of 581,000 and serves as the commercial capital of Jubaland.<sup>2</sup> Located 528 km southwest of Mogadishu near the Jubba River, the city has a semi-arid climate with seasonal monsoons and irregular rainfall.

In January 2025, the Protection and Return Monitoring Network (PSMN) recorded the highest number of internal displacements in Kismayo (5,850) followed by Banadir (5,350) and Qandala (4,300) districts.<sup>3</sup> The primary drivers of displacement were conflict and insecurity, which accounted for 20,489 cases (68%), and drought, which led to 8,268 cases (27%).

To address the challenges faced by these vulnerable households, SCC<sup>4</sup>, with funding from the European Union Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid (ECHO), **delivered three rounds of cash transfers to mitigate the negative impacts of floods between August and October 2024.**

A total of 1,000 beneficiary HHs in New Luglow and New QaamQaam IDP camps in Kismayo received the three cycles of the multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCAs). This intervention was implemented using the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) based NAT 2.5 approach.

**NAT 2.5 is a tool developed by the CCCM Cluster and used to track movements of new displacement to IDP sites across Somalia. This methodology enables weekly household data collection and registration of new arrivals entering CCCM-managed IDP sites in Kismayo.**

SCC has integrated the NAT 2.5 registration and vulnerability assessment system, aligned with the Integrated Response Framework (IRF) – ECHO 2023, to ensure an efficient and effective response to newly displaced IDPs. The NAT 2.5 system introduces three key improvements: verification of phone numbers against official records, the option to register an additional HH number with consent, and food security scoring using core food security indicators. **This system minimizes assessment fatigue and optimizes resources by enabling a single registration to trigger the IRF.**

## ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW

Newly arrived displaced persons in Somalia face challenges in accessing essential services, including food, water, shelter, healthcare, and education. To improve Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) activities, the Somali Cash Consortium (SCC) has collaborated with CCCM partners to enhance processes and provide better support to displaced families. This initiative aims to improve food security and access to basic services.

**This factsheet presents key findings from the endline assessment, as well as indicative comparisons of key indicators from the baseline assessment for the assessed IDP households in Kismayo.**

**For more information on the methodology, please refer to "METHODOLOGY".**

1. Camp coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) approach entails using the New Arrival Tracker (NAT 2.5) tool to register Internally displaced persons (IDPs) upon arrival at the camps.

2. [Kismayo, Somalia Area Population](#).

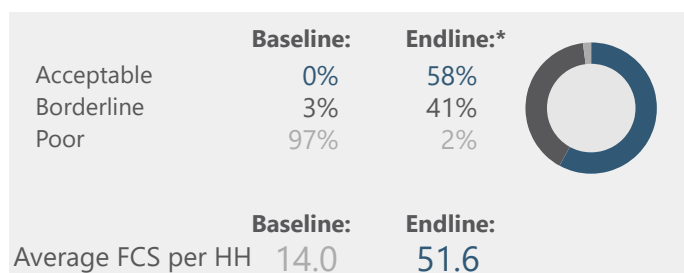
3. [UNHCR Population Dashboard](#).

4. SCC is led by Concern Worldwide and further consists of ACTED, Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), and Save the Children (SCI).

## FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS (FSL)

### FOOD CONSUMPTION SCORE (FCS)<sup>5</sup>

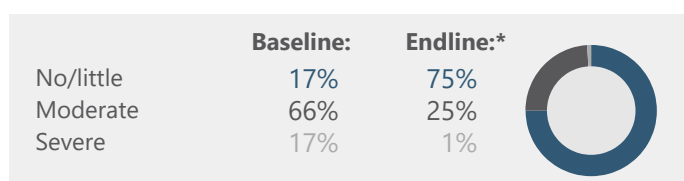
% of HHs by Food Consumptions Score category:



The comparison between the baseline and endline surveys revealed a positive trend in HH FCS. There was a notable increase in the number of HHs with acceptable and borderline FCS, which contributed to an overall improvement in the average FCS, indicative of an acceptable FCS. **These results highlight a positive short-term impact of the MPCA on the FCS per household.**

### HOUSEHOLD HUNGER SCALE (HHS)<sup>6</sup>

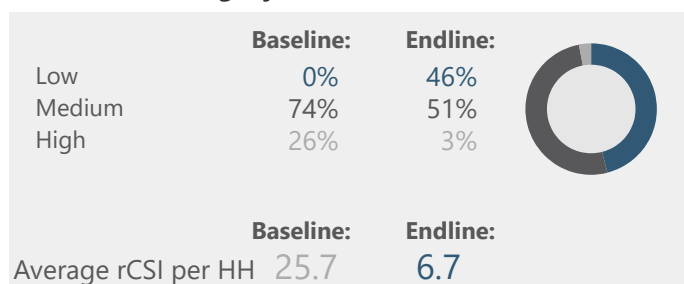
% of HHs by levels of hunger in the HH:



Following three cycles of MPCA, only 1% of the HHs experienced severe hunger at the time of endline assessment. There was remarkable improvement in the proportions of HHs who experienced little or no hunger, increasing from 17% to 75% between the baseline and endline. **These findings highlight the positive short-term impact of MPCA in improving HH food security, significantly reducing hunger levels, and strengthening the capacity of vulnerable HHs to meet their basic nutritional needs.**

### USE OF COPING MECHANISMS

% of HHs by average reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI) category:<sup>7</sup>



The most commonly adopted coping strategies were found to be:\*\*

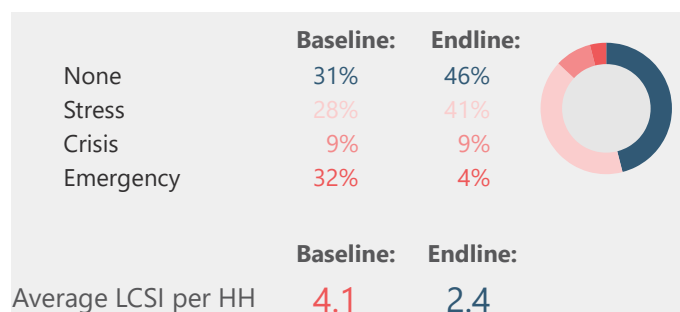
% of HHs reporting coping strategies adopted	Average number of days per week per strategy	
	Baseline	Endline
Relied on less preferred, less expensive food	4.4	1.4
Reduced the number of meals eaten per day	3.0	0.8
Reduced portion size of meals	3.0	0.8
Borrowed food or relied on help from friends or relatives	6.9	0.9
Restricted adults consumption so children can eat	8.5	0.6

During the endline assessment, the proportion of HHs with a high rCSI score had decreased from 26% to 3%. Concurrently, the proportion of households with low rCSI scores had increased from 0% to 46% over the same period. Moreover, the average rCSI score had declined from 25.7 to 6.7, **indicating a significant reduction in the use of negative coping strategies.**

**These results suggest that the implementation of MPCA has played a key role in decreasing reliance on negative coping mechanisms, reflecting improved household resilience and better access to essential resources.**

### LIVELIHOOD-BASED COPING STRATEGIES (LCS)<sup>8</sup>

% of HHs by LCS category in the 30 days prior to data collection:



The proportion of HHs using emergency coping strategies declined from 32% in the baseline to only 4% in the endline assessment, explaining a decline from 4.1 to 2.4 in the average LCS score.

**These results seem to indicate that household were able to utilize available resources to meet their basic needs. Cash assistance support likely strengthened their capacity to sustain themselves and enhance their long-term stability.**

5. Find more information on the food consumption score [here](#). The cutoff criteria utilized for Somalia were as follows: HHs with a score between 0 and 28 were categorized as "poor," those with a score above 28 but less than 42 were considered "borderline," and HHs with a score exceeding 42 were classified as "acceptable." These categorizations were determined based on the high consumption of sugar and oil among the beneficiary HHs. **High average FCS values are preferred since low average values indicate a worse food situation.**

6. The Household Hunger Scale (HHS) is an indicator to measure HH hunger in food insecure areas. Read more [here](#).

7. The reduced Coping Strategies Index (rCSI) is an indicator used to compare the hardship faced by HHs due to a shortage of food. The index measures the frequency and severity of the food consumption behaviours the HHs had to engage in due to food shortage in the 7 days prior to the survey. The rCSI was calculated to better understand the frequency and severity of changes in food consumption behaviours in the HH when faced with a shortage of food. The rCSI scale was adjusted for Somalia, with a low index attributed to rCSI <=3, medium between 4 and 18, and high if higher than 18. Read more [here](#).

**The three rCSI cut offs indicate different phases of food security situations, and in this context, lower average values of rCSI are preferred.**

8. The Livelihood Coping Strategies Index (LCSI) is an indicator used to understand the medium and longer-term coping capacity of HHs in response to a lack of food or lack of money to buy food and their ability to overcome challenges in the future. The indicator is derived from a series of questions regarding the HHs' experiences with livelihood stress and asset depletion to cope with food shortages. Read more [here](#).

\* Due to rounding up, findings may exceed 100%.

\*\* Respondents could select multiple options. Findings may therefore exceed 100%.

## LIVELIHOODS

### HHS' INCOME SOURCES

Top reported primary sources of HH income in the 30 days prior to data collection:<sup>\*</sup>

	Endline
Humanitarian assistance	64%
Casual labour (farm labour)	40%
Casual labour (wage labour)	39%
Cash crop farming	19%

Average reported monthly amount of income for HHs that received any income in the 30 days prior to data collection (100%): <sup>9</sup>	Baseline	Endline
	16.59 USD	108.55 USD

### HHS' EXPENDITURES

Average reported monthly expenditure for HHs that had spent any money in the 30 days prior to data collection (100%):	Baseline	Endline
	16.89 USD	104.34 USD

Reported average HHs expenditures , by top most expenditure type in the 30 days prior to data collection:

Expenditure category	Average amount spent in the 30 days prior to data collection by HHs reporting spending >0 USD in this category		Proportion to total spending across all HHs including HHs who spent 0 USD <sup>10</sup> at the endline
	Baseline	Endline	
Food	10.83 USD	57.61 USD	56%
Debt repayment for food	1.49 USD	11.88 USD	6%
Rent	7.50 USD	0.65 USD	1%
Clothing	0.34 USD	6.63 USD	6%
Medical expenses	0.72 USD	8.44 USD	8%
Debt repayment for non-food items	0.25 USD	6.32 USD	6%

Despite facing financial strains at the baseline, during the endline assessment, food and debt repayment for food were the predominant expenses for the assessed HHs, averaging to 57.61 USD and 11.88 USD respectively. This was a considerable increase in the amount spent in these categories compared to the baseline, thus suggesting that food was available to the assessed HHs. **This indicates that the cash assistance targeted the most in need.**

### SPENDING DECISIONS

Proportion of HHs by the primary decision maker on how to spend:

	Baseline	Endline
Joint decision-making	40%	46%
Female members of the HH	53%	39%
Male members of the HH	7%	15%

### HHS' SAVINGS & DEBT

**61% of the HHs were found to have debts, the amount of which averaged to 50.11 USD at the endline.** This was a decrease from the baseline, where 91% reportedly had debts averaging to 83.21 USD.

**9% of the HHs reportedly had savings averaging to 2.52 USD during the endline.** During the baseline assessment, the proportion of HHs found to have savings was 30% averaging to 3.72 USD.

### ECONOMIC CAPACITY TO MEET ESSENTIAL NEEDS<sup>11</sup>

% of HHs who reportedly spent above the minimum expenditure basket (MEB):

	Baseline	Endline
Yes	0%	25%
No	100%	75%

% of HHs by most commonly reported primary sources of food in the 7 days prior to data collection:

	Endline
Market purchase with cash	45%
Own production	20%
Food assistance	9%

**During the assessment period, the proportion of HHs exceeding the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) increased from 0% at the baseline to 25% at the endline.**

**A significant proportion of HHs (64%) relied on humanitarian assistance.** Despite this dependence, some of the assessed HHs managed to supplement their income through casual farm labour (40%).

<sup>\*</sup> Respondents could select up to three options. Findings may therefore exceed 100%.

<sup>9</sup> At the endline, it was observed that approximately 84% had incomes exceeding 130 USD. CMU categorizes households with incomes above 130 USD as high-income households.

<sup>10</sup> For each category, the proportion was calculated based on all HHs including those HHs that had not made any spending on each expenditure category. All HHs had made some spending 30 days prior to data collection.

<sup>11</sup> The distributed amounts varied from one region to another depending on the regional cost of the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB). No HH made spending equal to or above the MEB cost. February 2023 regional MEB cost was used to calculate the ECMEN value. ECMEN is a binary indicator showing whether a HH's total expenditures can be covered. It is calculated by establishing HH economic capacity (which involves aggregating expenditures) and comparing it against the Minimum Expenditure Basket to establish whether a HH is above this threshold.

## ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED POPULATION

**38%** Of the assessed HHs reported being aware of at least one option to contact the NGO (Acted) during the endline assessment.

Of HHs reporting being aware of any option to contact Acted (38%), the most frequently known ways to report complaints and problems in receiving the assistance were:\*

	Baseline	Endline
Use the dedicated NGO hotline	67%	88%
Talk directly to NGO staff	33%	33%
Use the dedicated NGO desk	0%	7%

**99%** Of the HHs reportedly had immediate needs within the HHs during the baseline.

The top mentioned immediate needs of the households were:\*

	Baseline
Shelter	84%
Health	79%
General food distribution	76%
Nutrition services	68%

The top mentioned comments and feedback by about 26% of the assessed HHs who provided comments were:\*

	Baseline	Endline
Shelter support	20%	64%
Livelihood support	56%	52%
WASH support	36%	52%
Food assistance	29%	45%
Build hospital	33%	40%
Long term support	33%	31%

During the endline, 38% (a 6% point increase from the baseline) of the respondents reported being aware of any options to contact the NGOs. Of these respondents, a majority (88%) of HHs reported being aware of the existence of a dedicated NGO hotline, while another 33% reported that they knew they could directly talk to NGO staff during field visits or at their offices.

The findings also indicate that approximately 42% of the assessed HHs provided suggestions for enhancing cash assistance to better align with their needs and the main suggestions were to increase the duration and the amount of the cash transfers. Moreover, approximately 26% of HHs had mentioned shelter support (64%), livelihood support (52%) and WASH support (52%) as their primary needs during the endline assessment.

### CONCLUSION

The findings highlight the positive short-term impact of targeted cash assistance in enhancing food security and financial stability among displaced populations in Kismayo.

Households had improvements in income, expenditure, and their ability to meet essential needs, as reflected in the increased proportion of HHs with acceptable FCS, lower average rCSI, and a considerable decreased use of emergency LCSI.

Additionally, economic stability improved, with significant increases in household income and expenditures over time. Food remained the primary expense, with notable growth in spending, including on food-related debt repayment. Approximately 25% of the HHs spent above the MEB costs, reflecting a stronger financial position and reduced vulnerability compared to the baseline. These improvements seem to indicate effectiveness of cash assistance interventions in enhancing food security, reducing reliance on harmful coping strategies, and strengthening economic resilience for displaced communities. However, sustained support and long-term livelihood initiatives will be essential to ensure continued progress and stability. **In addition this also indicate that MPCA is targeting the most vulnerable households.**

**Findings indicate a need for increased CRM awareness, as it was low among the assessed households (38%).** Those who were familiar with the available communication channels primarily relied on dedicated hotlines and direct interactions with NGO staff during field visits or at their offices.

### Completed Consolidated Approach to Reporting Indicators of Food Security (CARI) Console\*

			Food Secure		Marginally Food Secure		Moderately Food Insecure		Severely Food Insecure	
Domain	Indicator		(1)		(2)		(3)		(4)	
			Baseline	Endline	Baseline	Endline	Baseline	Endline	Baseline	Endline
Current Status	Food	Food Consumption Group and rCSI	Acceptable and rCSI<4 0%	Acceptable and rCSI<4 32%	Acceptable and rCSI>=4 0%	Acceptable and rCSI>=4 25%	Borderline 3%	Borderline 40%	Poor 97%	Poor 2%
Coping Capacity	Economic Vulnerability	Economic Capacity to Meet Essential Needs (ECMEN)	0%	25%	N/A		1%	73%	99%	2%
	Asset Depletion	Livelihood Coping Strategies	None 31%	None 46%	Stress 28%	Stress 41%	Crisis 9%	Crisis 9%	Emergency 32%	Emergency 4%
CARI Food Security Index			0%	5%	1%	61%	32%	32%	67%	2%

\* [Technical Guidance for WFP on Consolidated Approach for reporting Indicators of Food Security \(December, 2021\)](#). HHs are classified as **food secure** if they are able to meet essential food and non-food needs without depletion of assets or **marginally food secure** if they have a minimally adequate food consumption, but are unable to afford some essential non-food expenditures without depletion of assets or **moderately food insecure** if they have food consumption gaps, or, marginally able to meet minimum food needs only with accelerated depletion of livelihood assets and **severely food insecure** if they have huge food consumption gaps, or extreme loss of livelihood assets that will lead to large food consumption gaps.

## METHODOLOGY

A quantitative phone-based household survey was conducted for both the baseline and endline assessments, targeting MPCA beneficiaries. The baseline assessment was conducted between 18<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of August 2024, while the endline assessment followed **after the third and last round of cash transfer**, from 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> of November 2025.

A probability simple random sampling approach was employed to achieve a 95% confidence level with a 7% margin of error and the data is representative at the district level. Of the 1,000 beneficiary HHs, **a total of 314 HHs were interviewed remotely via telephone during the baseline and endline assessment**. A 15% buffer was applied to account for potential non-responses and surveys that may need to be excluded during the data cleaning process.

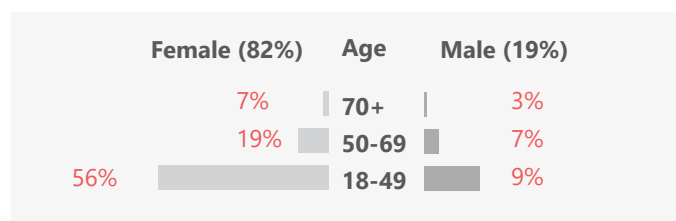
Baseline data collection was a collaborative effort between IMPACT and ACTED. ACTED gathered part of the baseline data during the registration process using the NAT 2.5 tool, which registers households upon arrival at IDP camps, while IMPACT collected data related to accountability. The endline assessment was conducted solely by IMPACT.

## LIMITATIONS

- Findings referring to a subset of the total population may have a wider margin of error and a lower level of precision. **Therefore, they may not be generalizable and should be considered indicative only.**
- Certain indicators may be under-reported or over-reported due to subjectivity and perceptions of respondents (in particular "social desirability bias" - the tendency of people to provide what they perceive to be the "right" answers to certain questions). HHs may sometimes try to give answers they feel will increase their chances of getting more assistance.
- Due to slight differences between the baseline and endline demographics, only endline demographics are reported.

### ENDLINE DEMOGRAPHICS\*

% of HHs by head of the HH demographic characteristics:\*\*



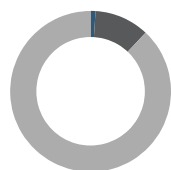
Average age of the head of HH **45**

Average HH size: **7**

**53%** Of the endline interviews were conducted with members who identified as the IDPs

**52%** Of surveyed HHs at the endline included six or more HH members, thus classified as big HHs.

Livelihood Zone breakdown:



Of the Somali Cash Consortium (SCC) beneficiary households surveyed, **1% were categorized as urban households, 11% as pastoral and 88% as agro-pastoral.**

\*Endline and baseline demographics are not 100% similar

\*\* Due to rounding up, findings may not add up to 100%.

### PARTNERS LEADING NAT 2.5



### ABOUT IMPACT

IMPACT Initiatives is a Geneva based think-and-do-tank, created in 2010. IMPACT is a member of the ACTED Group. IMPACT's teams implement assessment, monitoring & evaluation and organisational capacity-building programmes in direct partnership with aid actors or through its inter-agency initiatives, REACH and Agora. Headquartered in Geneva, IMPACT has an established field presence in over 30 countries. IMPACT's team is composed of over 300 staff, including 60 full-time international experts, as well as a roster of consultants, who are currently implementing over 50 programmes across Africa, Middle East and North Africa, Central and South-East Asia, and Eastern Europe.