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96191

## **Report of Activities under Task Order 215**

### **IMPACT Project**

**Development of a Household Economic and  
Consumption Survey to Evaluate the Food Security  
of Liberian Refugees in Ivory Coast and Guinea**

**Submitted by Nancy Beth Mock, Dr.P.H.  
December 1994**

## Introduction

The purpose of this assignment was to assist REDSO Abidjan in developing an assessment strategy for determining the food aid needs of Liberian refugees who are being hosted by neighboring Ivory Coast and Guinea. The Liberian refugee situation represents an interesting precedent for the application of food and nutrition monitoring methods. Refugees have been pouring into neighboring countries since 1990. Thus food aid programs are addressing a chronic problem as opposed to an emergency relief operation. Historically, refugee relief activities have been more acute and transitory in nature. The Liberian situation, however, while novel, is already becoming a more common place phenomenon elsewhere on the continent as protracted civil strife increases.

USAID and other donors now need new approaches to food aid programming in this emergent context. No longer are refugees temporarily displaced persons with no linkage to the socioeconomic context in which they are housed. Liberian refugees are increasingly integrated into the social fabric of their host communities. Donors, therefore, require a strategy for adapting food aid programs accordingly.

In the early part of 1994, a multi-donor food aid mission identified socioeconomic, consumption and nutrition information as a critical need in developing a coherent approach to food aid programming. The United Nations High Commission on Refugees (UNHCR) assumed the tasking of the socioeconomic and consumption information collection. They engaged a local team of Ivorian professionals from the national university to design and execute a socioeconomic and consumption survey. REDSO contacted the IMPACT project to assist in ensuring that USAID information needs were addressed.

By the time that the IMPACT project was contacted to provide technical assistance, the planning of the survey was almost complete. Initial pretests had already been executed and the local Ivorian and Guinean UNHCR offices had already programmed resources for the exercise. The survey design laid out by the consultant team, while responsive to the charge of UNHCR, only partially addressed the information needs as identified by REDSO.

The original scope of work for this consultancy was modified to be more consistent with the realities and needs of the field. The survey instrument was judged to need major revisions, including the addition of dietary practices and nutritional status measures. Prior to the consultant's departure, however, an executive decision was not reached to retool the survey. Thus the instrument drafted in the field remains a rough draft. As it turns out, the UNHCR and other donors decided that a later more comprehensive survey might be undertaken under the guidance of another donor.

The remainder of this report reflects consultant recommendations resulting from the field visit and then follow-up recommendations based on communications from the field after her departure. Section one is the final trip report which documents the activities of the trip and recommends approaches that might be taken to improve the utility of the survey for USAID programming needs. Section 2 of the report is a follow-up memo to REDSO suggesting ways to improve the utility of the UNHCR survey data for the spring multi-donor mission's use. The memo, as requested, also outlines approaches to the development of an on-going information

system to monitor the food security of the refugee population. Finally, the third section of the report contains the rough draft of the revised questionnaire developed during the field visit.

As stated in communications from REDSO, REDSO's information needs included an assessment of food self sufficiency of refugees as well as identification of vulnerable groups within the refugee population and their food needs.

## **Trip Report:**

**Liberian Refugee Study**  
Nancy Mock, IMPACT Project

Guinea: August-September 8  
Ivory Coast: August 28-30, September 9

### **Introduction:**

The purpose of this TDY was to provide methodologic suggestions to the UNHCR-sponsored refugee household consumption study (HHCS) planned to be completed by December of this year. The survey is particularly targeted to the information needs of the multi-donor assessment mission scheduled for February, 1995. During this mission decisions relating to food ration allocation and phase out, targeting, commodity choice, and complementary interventions will be reached. The survey is intended to complement other sources of information including:

- an agricultural assessment (to be undertaken by FAO)
- nutritional assessment surveys (to be undertaken by Medecins Sans Frontiers)

USAID engaged my services through the IMPACT Project to ensure that the survey along with available complementary information would provide an assessment of the food self-sufficiency of refugees, and identify the characteristics and needs of vulnerable groups.

### **I. Consultancy activities:**

I worked with a team of two consultants from the University of Ivory Coast, Professors Michele Zinsou and Basil Kobi. These individuals are contractors to UNHCR for the design and execution of the study. The consultants already had designed the study, obtained a signed contract and field tested the survey instrument to be used in the Ivory Coast.

My time was highly programmed by UNHCR. We spent the majority of the time traveling or in the field. A schedule of the itinerary and activities is as follows:

- |            |   |   |
|------------|---|---|
| August 28: | * | Greeting by Robert Sears  |
| August 29: | * | Meeting at UNHCR with Sears, Baker, Zinsou, Kobi???? to discuss the purpose and itinerary of my trip                          |
|            | * | Informal discussion with Baker and Sears regarding USG expectations from my consultancy and survey                            |
| August 30: | * | Travel to Danane Province   |
|            | * | Discussions with HCR Administrator regarding administration of survey and refugee situation                                   |
|            | * | Meeting with Danane Prefet to discuss local government assessment of refugee situation and problems posed to local government |
| August 31: | * | Travel to Nzerekore, Guinea   |
|            | * | Collection of background information on study population: maps, census data, briefing by Program Officer and HCR consultant   |

- September 1: \* Initial meeting with potential interviewers for survey
- \* Focus group meeting with potential interviewers
- \* Meeting with MSF Administrator and evaluation consultant to review nutritional conditions of refugees and MSF activities
- September 2: \* Travel to Guekedou
- \* Meeting with HCR program officer to discuss administration of survey
- \* Meeting with potential interviewers to organize next 3 days of work
- \* Focus group work with interviewers to gather information on socio-economic and consumption patterns of refugees
- September 3 \* Interviewer training
- \* Preparation for field survey test
- September 4: \* Field survey test
- \* Debriefing with interviewers
- September 5: \* Debriefing with interviewers
- \* Visit to local hospital
- \* Travel to Conakry
- September 6: \* Meetings with HCR program officers to discuss survey objectives
- \* Meetings with HCR administrator to discuss survey administration
- \* Team meeting to review survey strategy
- September 7: \* Instrument reformulation
- \* Meeting with HCR Program Officer
- \* Team meeting
- September 8: \* Meeting with World Food Program Officers-Guinea
- \* Return to Abidjan
- \* Team meeting
- September 9: \* Team meeting
- \* Donor meeting to discuss survey objectives, methods, survey workplan
- \* Departure for U.S.

## II. Field Observations:

During the field work, I had the opportunity to speak with several program administrators, 20 potential interviewers (the majority refugees themselves), and was able to interview a small number of refugees living in urban Guekedou and three camps. These opportunities were invaluable for understanding constraints to the interview as well as providing an opportunity to assess the utility of the survey instrument.

### Qualitative observations on the refugee situation:

#### A. Economic viability:

My observations were consistent with many field reports regarding the remarkable adaptation of refugees in both C.I. and Guinea. In all cases, it is clear that refugees are highly resourceful and have indeed developed functional economies. In order to reasonably interpret these observations, however, it would be very useful to have a better picture of who stayed and left the country of origin and the timing of departure. Based on limited observations, many of those who I had contact with were clearly educated-many middle class before their departure. This

may vary by time of departure-therefore having implications for refugee program management.

Some of the economic activities being undertaken by refugees may have longer term negative consequences for this population. Especially important is the possibility that older children are not being educated because they must work to supplement the family economics. For example, prostitution was brought up as an activity more frequently undertaken by adolescent and younger women. It was noted by many refugees that lost educational opportunities were among the major problems of the population.

#### B. Vulnerability of population segments

- place of residence(country of settlement, urban/rural status, camp versus non-camp residence, and size of camp): It is clear that the situation in Guinea is more fluid and more complex in nature than that of Ivory Coast. As opposed to being sponsored by local host families as is the case in Ivory Coast, many refugees live in large camps in Guinea. They therefore are swamping the local population and have limited capabilities to integrate into the local economy.

Urban dwellers appear to have a broad array of economic opportunities, often outcompeting locals for entry level service and manual labor jobs. The complexity of the urban informal economy presents great obstacles to accurately measuring the consumption/income of the urban population through survey measurement, however.

- spend down of financial capital available to households initially: As mentioned earlier, many refugees, especially those who came in earlier waves, probably brought with them significant capital. They therefore were in a better position to adapt to displacement. Whether more recent refugees have similar socioeconomic profiles is unknown. They therefore may be more or less able to cope with their refugee status than their predecessors.
- demographic groups: infants and young children have special nutritional needs that are not being addressed systematically by donor programs. It is important to note here that survey data produced by MSF and CARITAS seems to be misinterpreted by donors. The data as presented by MSF sheds light on acute nutritional emergencies but not food security and self-sufficiency per se.

The weight/height index detects famine conditions well, however, it does not capture long term nutritional deficits. It has been shown in other populations that children may adjust their growth when they are chronically undernourished; however, although weight/height may be within the normal range, these children are poorly nourished.

The MSF data include other parameters such as height/age and weight/age. Together with weight/height these data provide a more complete picture of the nutritional status of young children. Reanalysis of a portion of MSF data during our field trip suggests that some of the populations of children may indeed be very undernourished.

In Guekedou, frank malnutrition was common in the local hospital(about 30 at the time of the

visit). Although both Guinean and refugee children were affected, this problem should be investigated more intensively. Based upon limited field observations, the severely malnourished refugees appeared to be new arrivals. The specific clinical form of malnutrition commonly found suggests that diets are low in protein as well as deficient overall in energy content.

Another concern relating to young children is breastfeeding practices among Liberian women. Anecdotal discussions suggest that Liberian women may breastfeed less than women from neighboring countries. If this is true, it may have a particularly negative impact on child nutrition and health.

In short, nutritional status of young children as well as other vulnerable demographic groups requires further examination, especially since the food ration program does not address the specific needs of these groups.

#### C. Comments regarding commodity substitution

The question of commodity substitution has been hotly debated in the Liberian refugee context. Non-preferred commodities are frequently distributed as food aid such that the aid is self targeting to those in most need. The acceptability of such lower cost options as CSB or CSM has been cited as a reason not try new commodities (even though these commodities may be superior from a nutritional perspective).

In Nzerekore, potential interviewers suggested that corn meal was regularly used as a weaning food in Liberia. During focus groups, refugees suggested that corn-based staple flours are not foreign to Liberians, nor is there a particular problem with the consumption of these. However, rice is clearly the preferred product and appears to be more easily traded by refugees.

#### D. Methodologic considerations for undertaking survey work

The local consultants have done an excellent job in identifying many of the important dimensions of the refugee economy. This is a particular challenge given the novelty of the refugee situation in the region. There are no prototype studies or questionnaires. Therefore, any effort such as this one requires careful design and testing. Much progress has been made in elaborating the survey design. Thus all my comments should be couched in the context of a great appreciation for the skill with which work to date has been executed.

##### 1. Survey objectives and information needed for the multi-donor mission

There is a discrepancy between the implicit information needs of the donors and the survey objectives as stated in survey documents. The survey instrument is designed to respond to objectives which are highly descriptive in nature but do not address questions such as food self-sufficiency and the identification/needs of vulnerable groups.

It is important that agreement be reached on what the objectives of the survey are and therefore what information is needed from the survey.

The survey instrument was designed on the assumption that **household expenditure data is the**

cornerstone information required. This assumption is consistent with the stated objectives in the document describing the survey but may not respond to information needs of donors for phase down, reorientation or targeting of food aid resources. Food consumption and nutrition-related data is minimal in the survey instrument as originally conceived.

If expenditure data is to be relied on exclusively, then more detail in gathering such data should be added to the questionnaire. I have provided suggestions to the consultants as well as prototype questionnaires from studies executed recently.

## 2. Interview integrity:

Gathering reliable information on income and expenditures is particularly a problem in the case of the Liberian refugees. Refugees appear to be highly sensitized to entitlements and to the possibility of aid discontinuation. Therefore it is very important that objective measures be incorporated in household survey instruments to the extent possible. Great care must be taken in formulating questions carefully and in interviewer training.

Subjective data (reported income, expenditures, etc.) should be complemented with qualitative methods such as key informant and focus group methods and result should be cross-validated.

## 3. Inter-country differences:

It is clear that there will be some differences between the survey instruments and possibly the sampling strategy to be used in the two countries. This will require further refinement and pretesting of the survey instrument.

## 4. Finalization of survey items:

Although I worked intensively during the trip on the formulation of the questionnaire, certain items will require further strengthening through field testing. Certain questions will require more precise formulation for acceptably accurate measurement. As a team, we have worked to identify and modify such questions.

## IV. Recommendations:

A. It is recommended that a food consumption and nutritional component be added to the survey. A range of options are available depending on information needs and resources available: from minor to more comprehensive inputs. A nutritionist should be added to the consultant team who has expertise in anthropometric assessment and food consumption assessment methods. Minimal information should include:

- anthropometric assessment of children under 5 (preferably other vulnerable groups such as women and elderly)
- dietary assessment: at least qualitative assessment of dietary intake of household and vulnerable groups, particularly children of weaning age. Preferably quantitative intake data should be collected using a 24 hour recall technique.

- season patterns of food consumption and expenditures
  - morbidity experience of vulnerable groups
- B. Other recommended modifications to the survey instrument, More precise information on :
- ration entitlements and household ration use, including seasonality
  - income generating activities and estimates of revenue, including seasonal patterns
  - agricultural production and the use of agricultural produce
  - household expenditures, including seasonal patterns
  - education among the refugee populations
  - household demography dynamics

The survey instrument draft reflects many of these suggestions.

- C. **The regional problem of refugees being examined here is a new one but one which is likely to be repeated in other areas of Africa and elsewhere. Therefore, it is recommended that donors program resources for the development and implementation of information systems that will permit donors to make well-informed decisions relating to similar emergent problems. This concern was voiced in the multi-donor assessment mission last year and should be underscored. The problem is not unique to Liberian refugees. Modest resource allocation to the establishment of systematic information systems could result in substantial improvement in the efficacy and efficiency of USG and other donor resource utilization.**

The Liberian regional problem could serve as a test case for the development of such an approach as the refugee situation is highly dynamic. A broad range of refugee assistance management issues are represented in this region. The displacement of refugees dates back almost five years and has continued until now. It is anticipated that refugees will continue to arrive. Assessment procedures developed here are likely therefore to have widespread applicability to the African region.

It is recommended that AID consider assuming a leadership role among donors in developing such an information tool kit for the refugee assessment problem. AID has a comparative advantage among donors in its available program resources and its institutional capacity to support such analytical activities.

V. Follow-up activities:

- A. Decision regarding addition of nutrition/consumption component(UNHCR)
- B. Selection and training of nutrition consultant based on A above(Mock to assist as requested)

- C. Finalize questionnaire and sampling(local consultants with Mock inputs as requested)
- D. Collection of data(local consultant team).
- E. Analysis of survey data and other relevant data(consultants. Also recommended that another consultant be added to pull data from other sources and to work with consultants on analysis of UNHCR survey)

Mr. Bah, UNHCR Abidjan

Joni Baker, First Secretary, Refugee Officer, American Embassy, Abidjan

Pierre Boudru, Consultant, UNHCR Nzerekore

Joseph Budara, Director of Operations, WFP Guinea

Alberto Cabeia, Program Officer, Nzerekore

Dominique Dubourg, MSF evaluation consultant, Nzerekore

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Gustave Ngango, Protection Officer, UNHCR Guinea

Robert Sears, USAID REDSO WCA

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Sadigou Tounkara, Program Officer, Guekedou

Robert Verbruggen, MSF Country Coordinator, Nzerekore

Bridgette Waterkeyn, Program Officer, UNHCR Nzerekore

**TO:** Bob Sears  
**FROM:** Nancy Mock

**RE:** Information needs for the Liberian refugee situation

As a follow-up to our discussions, and taking in to consideration the evolution of the survey work, I am providing further suggestions on how one might proceed in order to better assess the food security situation among the Liberian refugee population. Note also that I am including a revised version of my trip report.

Given the turn of events with respect to the addition of a nutrition module, I have not included a new draft questionnaire. I did, however, leave both a hard and disk copy of all work that I had completed with the local consultants. If you or they would like any further assistance in finalizing the questionnaire, please let me know and I will be happy to do provide help.

In the pages below, I outline suggestions on what might be done in order to:

1. Provide a quantitative and timely (in time for February mission) assessment of the food aid needs of the refugees who have been in receiving zones for one or more years in the countries of Guinea and Ivory Coast.
2. Provide on-going routine information on the evolution of food security among the refugees.

Related to the first item, I was concerned to learn that there may be an interest in separating the income/consumption/expenditure from the nutritional information needs. I am not entirely clear why this approach is being considered as a strategy to meet the February mission information needs.

My conclusion was that given the uniqueness of the information needs for the donor survey, dietary practices and nutritional status should be added to the income/expenditure/consumption survey. I believe there are compelling reasons for taking this approach, including:

1. Identification of nutritionally needy groups based on SES and demographic criteria
2. Validation of income/expenditure information
3. Identification of factors that determine food self-sufficiency

Types of information to be collected during the survey would include the following:

1. Household demographics, including age, migratory patterns and transient movements, education, ethnic group membership, relationship to head of household, length of time since arrival, and entitlement status.
2. Nature, magnitude, and frequency of household food and other entitlements.
3. Uses of entitlements by refugee families, including bartering, selling and consumption.
4. Coping behaviors such as loans, gifts, the contributions of refugees.
5. Reliance on assets accumulated before the war
6. Household economic activities and their yields, seasonality, regularity (this is tricky to measure, I have already done substantial work on this section of the survey before I left).
7. Household consumption/expenditures for food and non-food items using a list recall format and a flexible recall period.
8. Nutritional status of household members as measured by weight, height and arm circumference. Evaluation of micronutrient status is advisable but would have significant resource implications that might be mobilized through the global OMNI project.
9. Dietary practices including a qualitative 24 recall approach for consumption of key household members, breastfeeding and weaning practices, types and frequency of weaning foods, seasonal consumption patterns.
10. Morbidity and health problems.

Given the need to complete the survey in time for the analysis to be completed before the February mission, a couple alternatives might be considered:

1. Mobilize a consultant to work with the local hire team beginning in early November, assuming a December 20 completion date for survey data collection. This person probably would need to be mobilized from outside the country. They should have experience in consumption/expenditure and nutritional assessments and be familiar with central/western African populations.
2. Provide additional technical assistance for analysis of HCR and other available data sources to meet the multi-donor mission information needs. It is advisable to engage an analyst who has experience in the analysis of food and nutrition problems for a 2-4 week assignment to analyze and synthesize available data for the multi-donor mission. I am willing to perform this long distance to the extent that data such that data can be made available to me. I would also be happy to read and provide suggestions for analysis.
3. Do 2 above with the understanding that a more complete survey would be done in the early part of the year. This survey might provide data for the next programming cycle as well as the analytic base for the development of an on-going monitoring system for the displaced populations.

With respect to the establishment of an on-going monitoring system, my assumption is that the purpose of this activity would be to track the evolution of the food security of the refugee population as well as to detect deterioration in vulnerable groups. Types of information required would include nutritional status as well as measures of "food self sufficiency". Basic demographic data should be included and other risk factors for food insecurity as identified from preliminary field or survey work. Ideally, the survey exercise would point to vulnerable groups, risk factors for and indicators of food insecurity. These findings would guide the development of an efficient monitoring system.

There are at least two major strategies that might be employed to collect data. One approach would be to build the monitoring system into on-going data collection efforts such as the refugee registration system and the public health clinic system. There are several ways that this could be developed depending on how we decide to go with the survey.

Another approach would be to execute repeated streamlined household surveys. This approach has the advantage of being population-based and also provides contact with refugees where they live.

Either approach could be sustained by one of the donor agencies through the hiring and training of local staff. Probably one or two consultancies would be required to develop the monitoring system and to recruit and train personnel. Ideally, a long range involvement of IMPACT or another qualified organization would be advisable in order to provide on-going backstopping to the system as well as to address special information requirements as the refugee situation evolves.

I would be happy to discuss these issues further with you at your convenience.

I. Shelter

\* Type of housing (note this, do not read the question) \_\_\_\_\_

- 1 - modern house
- 2 - communal lodging
- 3 - hut

\* Are you? \_\_\_\_\_

- 1 - the owner of the house
- 2 - renting the house
- 3 - being hosted by a family

\* Where you obtain your drinking water \_\_\_\_\_

- 1 - a faucet inside the house or in the compound
- 2 - a community faucet
- 3 - a household well (modern)
- 4 - a community well (modern)
- 5 - a spring
- 6 - other (specify):

\* How far do you go in order to get water(in minutes)? \_\_\_\_\_

\*\* What does your family use for relieving themselves? \_\_\_\_\_

- 1 - flush toilet
- 2 - pit latrine
- 3 - nothing(nature)

\* Is it \_\_\_\_\_

- 1 - in your compound
- 2 - a community toilet/latrine

\* Are you or is anyone in your household?

|  | Since What Date<br>(month/year) | Sponsored by Which<br>Organization |
|--|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Participating in income<br>generating activities |                                 |                                    |
| Farming/gardening projects                       |                                 |                                    |

\* I would like to know your expenses for housing:

| Item             | Frequency Paid | Cost |
|------------------|----------------|------|
| electricity      |                |      |
| water            |                |      |
| kerosene/candles |                |      |
| wood/charcoal    |                |      |
| cooking gas      |                |      |
| rent             |                |      |

## II. Household composition

Now I would like to speak with you about the conditions of the various members of your household:

\* Are you? \_\_\_\_\_

- 1 - married and monogamous
- 2 - married and polygamous
- 3 - unmarried but in a free union
- 4 - unmarried
- 5 - widowed
- 6 - divorced

\* From which ethnic group are you? \_\_\_\_\_

\* Where did you live before the war? \_\_\_\_\_

- 1 - Liberia urban
- 2 - Liberia rural
- 3 - Sierra Leon urban
- 4 - Sierra Leon rural

\* Is your HH being hosted by a Guinean family? \_\_\_\_\_

- 1 - yes
- 2 - no (go to..)

\* (If yes), in what ways do they help you? \_\_\_\_\_

- food
- money
- work
- other(specify)

\* Do other refugees help you to meet your basic needs? \_\_\_\_\_

- 1 - yes
- 2 - no (go to...)

\* (If yes), In what ways? \_\_\_\_\_

- provide shelter
- provide food
- provide child care/household help
- other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

\* How many people are living with you or depend on you for food, shelter, and basic needs?

\* I would like to know some information about each of them:

### III. Health

I would like to know about recent illnesses/accidents or wounds that your HH members have had in the last month?

Table 2: Children under 5:

\* Have any of your children had diarrhea, malaria, colds/coughs, measles or any other illnesses during the past 2 weeks?

| child # | Illness  | First Treatment  | Second Treatment | Medications | Cost Treatments |
|---------|--|--|------------------|-------------|-----------------|
|         | 1 = diarrhea<br>2 = malaria<br>3 = respiratory<br>4 = measles<br>5 = other | 1 = modern health facil.<br>2 = trad. healer<br>3 = modern self<br>4 = trad self |                  |             |                 |
|         |  |  |                  |             |                 |
|         |  |  |                  |             |                 |
|         |  |  |                  |             |                 |

\* Has your youngest child received any vaccinations?

- 1 - yes
- 2 - no

\* which vaccinations?

Have your children had any other health problems in last month or has anyone else in your family had any other health problems in the past month?

| Person #/ Name | Health Problem | Treatment 1 | Treatment 2 | Cost Consult | Cost Medication |
|----------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------|
|                |                |             |             |              |                 |
|                |                |             |             |              |                 |
|                |                |             |             |              |                 |
|                |                |             |             |              |                 |

\* Has anyone in your HH gone to the health center/hospital for any other reason during the past month?

| Person Name/Number | Reason<br>1 = prenatal<br>2 = vaccination<br>3 = growth monitoring<br>4 = other | Where Went<br>1 = modern facility<br>2 = trad healer | Cost |
|--------------------|---|--|------|
|                    |   |  |      |
|                    |   |  |      |

\* Then, how much did you spend in the past month on:

- total \_\_\_\_\_
- consultations \_\_\_\_\_
- medications \_\_\_\_\_

#### IV. Household food consumption

I would like to know about what your family eats, how often, and what resources you use in order to get your food. First I am going to ask you about what was prepared and eaten yesterday in your household

\* Table-24 hour family recall

| Food | Ingredients | Quantity | Measure | How many ate it |
|------|-------------|----------|---------|-----------------|
|      |             |          |         |                 |
|      |             |          |         |                 |

\* Was any food that was prepared yesterday not eaten by your HH members?

- how much food?
- what was done with it?

\* Did you use rice ration in preparing your food yesterday?

- 1 - yes
- 2 - no (go to...)

- 1 - less than 25% of the total amount prepared
- 2 - between 25 and 50% of the total prepared
- 3 - between 50 and 75% of the total prepared
- 4 - more than 75% of the total prepared

\* Did you use oil ration in preparing your food yesterday?

- 1 - yes
- 2 - no

\* Was other oil used in the preparation of your food yesterday?

- 1 - yes, red oil
- 2 - yes, other oil
- 3 - no

\* Yesterday, did your family eat?

- 1 - the same as usual
- 2 - more than usual
- 3 - less than usual

\* When you take meals, tell me who usually eats first and last

- HH head
- mothers
- elderly
- young children
- older children
- boys
- girls
- women
- men

#### Consumption of youngest child

\* Is (name) receiving breastmilk?

- 1 - yes
- 2 - no

\* How many times did he/she breastfeed yesterday? \_\_\_\_\_

(go to...)

\* (If no), when did he/she stop breastfeeding?

Table youngest child meal pattern

| Child | Food | Ingredients |
|-------|------|-------------|
|       |      |             |
|       |      |             |

\* How many times did your child eat yesterday (not including breastfeeding) \_\_\_\_\_

\* How much did you spend on food yesterday? \_\_\_\_\_

Table: Family food consumption patterns and expenditures

I would like to know about your family eating patterns during the past week and how you got the food

| Food             | # Times | Per<br>1= Day<br>2= Week | Where<br>Obtained | Quantity Used<br>Last Week | Cost Last<br>Week |
|------------------|---------|--------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| rice             |         |                          |                   |                            |                   |
| fufu             |         |                          |                   |                            |                   |
| cassava          |         |                          |                   |                            |                   |
| corn meal        |         |                          |                   |                            |                   |
| potatoes         |         |                          |                   |                            |                   |
| yams             |         |                          |                   |                            |                   |
| bread            |         |                          |                   |                            |                   |
| poultry          |         |                          |                   |                            |                   |
| meat             |         |                          |                   |                            |                   |
| fish             |         |                          |                   |                            |                   |
| eggs             |         |                          |                   |                            |                   |
| groundnuts       |         |                          |                   |                            |                   |
| green leaves     |         |                          |                   |                            |                   |
| other vegetables |         |                          |                   |                            |                   |
| corn             |         |                          |                   |                            |                   |
| eddoe            |         |                          |                   |                            |                   |
| fruits           |         |                          |                   |                            |                   |
| oils/butter      |         |                          |                   |                            |                   |
| milk/cheese      |         |                          |                   |                            |                   |
| sugar            |         |                          |                   |                            |                   |
| other            |         |                          |                   |                            |                   |

\* How often do you eat and buy each of the following food often at the beginning of the rainy season and dry season?

|            | Rainy Season |     |         |     | Dry Season |     |         |     |
|------------|--------------|-----|---------|-----|------------|-----|---------|-----|
|            | Eat          |     | Buy     |     | Eat        |     | Buy     |     |
|            | # Times      | Per | # Times | Per | #          | Per | # Times | Per |
| rice       |              |     |         |     |            |     |         |     |
| cassava    |              |     |         |     |            |     |         |     |
| fruits     |              |     |         |     |            |     |         |     |
| bead       |              |     |         |     |            |     |         |     |
| mat        |              |     |         |     |            |     |         |     |
| fish       |              |     |         |     |            |     |         |     |
| fruits     |              |     |         |     |            |     |         |     |
| vegetables |              |     |         |     |            |     |         |     |
| oil        |              |     |         |     |            |     |         |     |

V. Farming and gardening

\* Does your family grow any crops or garden foods?

- 1 - yes
- 2 - no (go to ...)

\* Is the land owned by you?

- 1 - yes (go to...)
- 2 - no

\* Is the land:

- loaned to you in exchange for produce
- rented to you
- other(specify)

\* How much land did you farm/garden last season (in hectars) \_\_\_\_\_

| What Crops/Foods | How Much Harvested Last Season | Unit | How Much Sold | Unit Price | Total Price |
|------------------|--------------------------------|------|---------------|------------|-------------|
|                  |                                |      |               |            |             |
|                  |                                |      |               |            |             |

\* How much land did you plant this year (in hectars??) \_\_\_\_\_

What crops Do you expect production to be normal, better than normal or poor

\* Do you raise any animals for food or sale?

1 - yes

2 - no (go to...)

| Which Animals | How Many | How Many Sold | Unit Price | Total Price |
|---------------|----------|---------------|------------|-------------|
|               |          |               |            |             |
|               |          |               |            |             |

\* Did you farm or garden in Liberia before the war?

1 - yes

2 - no (go to ...)

\* How much land did you farm/garden in Liberia? \_\_\_\_\_

#### VI. Household expenditures

| Types of Expenses    | Last Week | Last Month | Last Year |
|----------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| food                 |           |            | -----     |
| clothing             |           |            |           |
| cigarettes, tobacco, |           |            | -----     |
| drinks               |           |            | -----     |
| cleaning and         |           |            | -----     |
| domestic equipment   |           |            |           |
| furniture            |           |            |           |
| transportation       |           |            |           |
| loans                |           |            |           |
| repayment of loans   |           |            |           |
| educational          |           |            |           |
| health care          |           |            |           |
| agricultural         |           |            |           |
| other business       |           |            |           |

#### VII. Family activities (include occupation in Liberia/Sierra Leone)

\* Can you tell me, which family members are engaged in farming, gardening, business or activities which help you to meet the needs of your family:

| Person Name | Activity 1 | When Last Done | When Began | Date Mon... | Month/Year | Salary | Basis |
|-------------|------------|----------------|------------|-------------|------------|--------|-------|
|             |            |                |            |             |            |        |       |
|             |            |                |            |             |            |        |       |

(Repeat table for activities 2 & 3)

### VIII. Assistance

\* Does your household receive food rations?

1 - yes (go to ...)

2 - no

\* (If no), Did you receive food rations in the past?

1 - yes (go to...)

2 - no

\* why not? \_\_\_\_\_

(go to...)

\* Why don't you receive rations currently? \_\_\_\_\_

(go to...)

\* When did your family last receive food ration? \_\_\_\_\_

\* How many of your household members are entitled to rations? \_\_\_\_\_

\* For each of the following foods, please tell me where you get the food, and how much ration you receive at each distribution for everyone in the HH.

| Food       | Source 1 | Amount 1 | Source 2 | Amount 2 |
|------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| rice       |          |          |          |          |
| oil        |          |          |          |          |
| CSM/bulgar |          |          |          |          |
| beans      |          |          |          |          |
| other      |          |          |          |          |

\* Many families sell or trade their rations in order to buy fuel, pay rent or meet basic needs, Has your family sold or will you sell any of its last ration?

- 1 - yes
- 2 - no (go to..)

| What Ration | Sold/Intend | How Much | What Price | Use of Money |
|-------------|-------------|----------|------------|--------------|
|             |             |          |            |              |
|             |             |          |            |              |

(go to..)

\* Did you or will you trade any part of your rations?

- 1 - yes
- 2 - no (go to..)

| What Ration | Traded/Intended | How much | What Traded For |
|-------------|-----------------|----------|-----------------|
|             |                 |          |                 |
|             |                 |          |                 |

| What Ration | How Much to Sell or Trade | What Price | What Commodity |
|-------------|---------------------------|------------|----------------|
|             |                           |            |                |
|             |                           |            |                |

\* Did you or will you give any of your ration to anyone else?

- 1 - yes
- 2 - no (go to..)

| What Ration | Given/Intended | How Much | To Whom | For What Purpose |
|-------------|----------------|----------|---------|------------------|
|             |                |          |         |                  |
|             |                |          |         |                  |

\* Does your HH receive-aid other than food?

- 1 - yes
- 2 - no

\* (If yes), do you get:

|            | First Time Received | From Whom | What Quantity |
|------------|---------------------|-----------|---------------|
| blankets   |                     |           |               |
| furniture  |                     |           |               |
| clothing   |                     |           |               |
| medication |                     |           |               |
| money      |                     |           |               |

IX. Household amenities

\* Does your house have:

- electricity
- telephone
- gas cooker
- refrigerator

\* Does your HH own the following items:

- simple radio
- radio-cassette player
- tape recorder
- bicycle
- television
- video
- Hi-fi channel, gramophone
- electric fan
- motor bike
- car or truck
- furniture