

Rural households' food security status and coping strategies for seasonal food shortage: The case of South Achefer Woreda, North Western Ethiopia

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The purpose of this study was to assess rural households' food security status, its determinants and food insecurity coping strategies practiced by rural households in South Achefer Woreda, North Western Ethiopia. A multistage sampling method was employed to select sample households. The Woreda was stratified based on agro ecology in to three; and four kebeles out of 18 were randomly selected. Total of 130 sample household heads were selected randomly proportional to size technique. Both primary and secondary data were collected from relevant sources. Primary data were collected by direct interview, focus group discussions and key informant interview from sample households. Supplementary, secondary data were collected from various sources. Household caloric acquisition recall method for the last seven days was used to measure food security status of sample households. The data were analyzed using descriptive statistics such as mean, percentage, tables, standard deviation and econometric model. Chi-square and t-test were used to see the difference among the two groups. The survey result showed that 63.8% of sample households were found to be food insecure. Binary logistic regression model was used to reveal the effect of different variables on household food security status. Out of seventeen explanatory variables entered to the model eight of them were significant at less than 10% probability level including age of household head and oxen ownership related positively whereas family size, dependency ratio, cultivated land size, access to credit, insect and pest problem, and land rent out negatively at less than 10% probability level. Coping strategies commonly practiced by sample households in the study area were eating less preferred food, skipping of meal, borrowing grains and cash from relative, reduce size and number of meal, and migrate to other places and so on. Thus, thorough interventions should develop with respect to diversification and integrated approach so as to enhance rural poor food insecurity in a sustainable manner in the area. At the point when the common asset blessing of a nation misses the mark, human organizations can step in to lessen a shortage of food. For instance, Conley stated, Japan is an industrialized and created economy. "In any case, they need more arable land to deliver the food, principally rice, to take care of the entirety of their kin. Also, they realize that." So the Japanese government-the human organization for this situation, he said-gives significant endowments and motivations to ranchers to develop rice. That way, the nation doesn't need to be as reliant on different nations for rice, which is a staple food in Japan. Similarly, Conley stated, the public authority of Mexico imports corn since it realizes the nation's common assets can't deliver enough corn for populace.