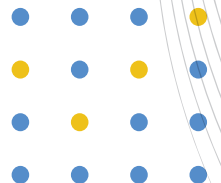




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Federal Republic of Somalia

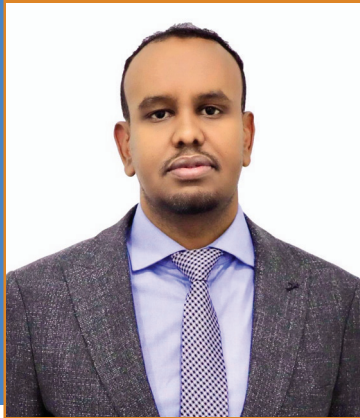
**SOMALIA HOUSEHOLD
SHOCKS AND RESPONSES
REPORT**

2024





FOREWORD



It is with great pride that the Somalia National Bureau of Statistics presents the Somalia Household Shocks and Responses Report. This critical report utilizes data from the Somalia Integrated Household Budget Survey launched in 2023, providing a strong examination of the impacts of shocks and the coping mechanisms employed by households across the nation. The primary level data explored in this report demonstrates the important role robust data plays in informing and shaping effective policies and fostering resilience among Somalia's households.

Understanding how households experience and respond to various shocks is vital for evidence-based policymaking.

The insights in this report go beyond statistics by providing a detailed narrative of how economic, environmental, social, and health-related disruptions, such as food price inflation, droughts, floods, livestock losses, conflict, or the loss of a breadwinner, disrupt household stability. The findings reveal the significant financial strain these events impose, often forcing households to resort to extreme measures, such as selling assets, reducing consumption, or incurring debt.

This data underscores the importance of developing policies that address immediate vulnerabilities while strengthening the long-term resilience of households. The report highlights key disparities in how different demographic groups absorb and recover from shocks, drawing attention to the heightened vulnerabilities of specific populations. It also reinforces the critical role of social safety nets, community support, and targeted interventions in mitigating the adverse effects of these events.

Reliable data on shocks and household responses is indispensable for designing policies that strengthen resilience and improve lives. By identifying the gaps and challenges faced by Somalia's households, this report equips policymakers and stakeholders with the information needed to craft sustainable strategies that enhance economic stability, protect livelihoods, and promote recovery.

This Report serves as a source of crucial data and a call to action. We encourage all relevant institutions and stakeholders to utilize the findings and recommendations within this report to build a stronger, more resilient Somalia.

On behalf of the Somalia National Bureau of Statistics, I express my deepest gratitude to the teams who worked hard to bring this report to life and to the households whose experiences and contributions underpin these insights. Together, let us prioritize the power of data to create meaningful change for our communities.

Abdisalam Abdirahman Mohamed

Director General

Somalia National Bureau of Statistics

Acknowledgment

The successful completion of this report would not have been possible without the contributions, dedication, and support from numerous colleagues. Firstly, special thanks and appreciation goes to the senior leadership of the Somalia National Bureau of Statistics, Mr. Abdisalam Mohamed, the Director General and Mr. Abdirahman Omar Dahir, the Deputy Director General, for their visionary leadership, resources and understanding during the report writing period which was crucial to the success of this report. Special acknowledgment is also extended to the former Director General Mr. Sharmarke Farah for making valuable contributions and refinement to the report.

Special gratitude is also extended to Miss. Fadumo Mumin, the Director of Policy, Planning, and Coordination Services, for her steadfast dedications, humble guidance, exceptional leadership and support in prioritizing the subject matter and steering the report towards its successful completion. Her invaluable expertise, patience and instructions are deeply appreciated and valued as they ensured the report's relevance and accuracy.

Sincere acknowledgment and warm appreciation are extended to the authors of this report from the Governance Statistics Section of the Directorate of Policy, Planning, and Coordination Services, Zakariye Hashi Mohamed, Kadra Yusuf Omar, and Abdirisak Dahir Mahamoud for their collective dedication, professionalism and expertise in translating complex data into actionable insights. Their collaborative efforts and attention to detail have been the cornerstone to the successful completion of the report.

Finally, it is important to acknowledge and extend gratitude to all the personnel involved in the 2022 Somalia Integrated Household Budget (SIHBS) Survey published by the Somali National Bureau of Statistics in early 2023, whose diligent efforts and hard work provided the data that served as the foundation for this report. Together, these collective efforts have shaped a report with significant value, shedding light on the dynamics of household shocks and response strategies. We are deeply appreciative of the dedication and expertise of everyone involved in this important Survey.



Abstract

This report presents an in-depth analysis of the impact of Shocks on Somalia's households, analyzing the extent of the impact to lives, the way in which households respond to and manage those shocks, offering insights into how households navigate various natural, economic, social, and health disruptions.

Specifically, the report systematically examines the impact of a range of shocks including but not limited to food price rises, droughts/severe water shortages, floods, livestock deaths, conflicts, or death of a household breadwinner on household income and asset losses revealing how these events contribute to significant financial strain and asset depletion among affected households. Primary data used in the report derives from the 2022 Integrated Household Budget Survey (SIHBS).

Key findings indicate that food price inflation and environmental shocks, lead to immediate and severe income drops, forcing households to sell assets, reduce consumption, or incur debt to cope. Additionally, the death of a breadwinner or loss of livestock exacerbates economic vulnerability, often leading to long-term impoverishment. Furthermore, the report highlights disparities in the ability of different demographic groups to absorb and recover from shocks, with particular attention to vulnerable populations.

The findings also underscore the critical role of social safety nets, community support, and policy interventions in enhancing household resilience. This report is a reflection of societal issues that need to be addressed by relevant government institutions that have both the responsibility and mandate of responding by utilizing policy recommendations aimed at strengthening households' capacities to withstand and recover from future shocks, thereby contributing to broader household economic stability and improved lives.

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List of abbreviation

BW	Breadwinner
COVID	Corona Virus Disease
DPPCS	Directorate of Policy, Planning and Coordination Service's
EAs	Enumeration Areas
FGS	Federal Government of Somalia
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
HH	Household
HIPC	Heavily Indebted Poor Countries
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
MDAs	Ministries, Departments, and Agencies
NGOs	non-governmental organizations
NTP	National Transformation Plan
OOPs	Out of Pocket
PTSD	Post-traumatic stress disorder
S-HoSAR	Somalia's Household Shocks and Responses report
SIHIBS	Somali Integrated Household Budget Survey
SNBS	Somalia National Bureau of Statistics
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UN-ISDR	United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
WHO	World Health Organization
WMs	Working Members
WWII	World War Two



Executive Summary

The Somalia Household Shocks and Responses Report aims to provide a comprehensive overview of how various shocks such as economic, environmental, social and health shocks affect household stability and well-being. This report analyzes the frequency, types, and impacts of these shocks, as well as the effectiveness of household responses and coping mechanisms based on primary level data from the Integrated Household Budget Survey between 2018 and 2022. Data from this report demonstrates that while many households employ effective coping mechanisms, there is a clear need for improved response strategies. It is SNBS's aim that policymakers and stakeholders utilize the data presented in this report, so they can better support households in navigating and recovering from shocks, ultimately fostering greater stability and well-being.

Key Findings on Household Shocks

Economic Shocks

The report identified fluctuations in income, unemployment, and rising prices as major stressors that significantly affected households' ability to cope with shocks. These economic challenges intensified the vulnerabilities of already struggling households, as they disrupted financial stability and exacerbated the strain on limited resources. For example, 36% of targeted respondents reported experiencing price increases for food, a trend that severely impacted household budgets. The combined impact of fluctuating incomes, unemployment, and price rises created a cascade of challenges that left households increasingly vulnerable. Those with fewer savings or lower earning potential were hit hardest, as their financial resources were often exhausted, leaving them with no buffer to withstand additional shocks. As a result, many households found themselves trapped in a cycle of poverty, with limited capacity to recover from the economic stresses they faced.

Natural Shocks

The findings of the report clearly highlight the impact of climate-related events, such as floods, droughts, and water shortages, which have become prominent stressors affecting Somalia's household livelihoods. For instance, 35% of households reported experiencing droughts or severe water shortages, which are directly linked to climatic shocks. These environmental disruptions have had profound consequences, particularly in rural and peri-rural communities where agriculture and livestock are the primary sources of income.

For these communities, droughts and water shortages result in reduced access to water for crops and livestock, directly threatening agricultural productivity and food security. The absence of sufficient water leads to the drying up of crops, resulting in poor harvests, and further deteriorates soil quality, which makes future planting difficult.

In addition to this, livestock which is a critical asset for many households in these areas, suffer from dehydration, disease, and malnutrition during drought periods, leading to decreased milk production, lower market value, and in worst case scenario, livestock deaths. As a result, 11% of the population surveyed reported significant livestock losses, which represents not only a loss of food and income but also a depletion of essential household assets that many families rely on for their economic survival.

Recovery from these climate-related shocks can be slow and costly for households. The loss of crops, livestock, and property means that many families are left with little to no resources to rebuild their livelihoods. For those who rely on agriculture or livestock, the process of recovering lost assets, replanting fields, and rebuilding homes can take months or even years, depending on the availability of external support. Additionally, the financial burden of recovery often forces households to take on debt or sell valuable assets, which can perpetuate a cycle of poverty and leave them even more vulnerable to future shocks.

Social and Security Shocks

The findings of the report also highlight the presence of social and security-related shocks, which, though reported by only 4% of households, are nonetheless devastating in their impact. In 2022, substantial amount of criminal cases were referred to the Office of the Attorney General of the Federal Government of Somalia; among the cases Banadir Region alone recorded 1,678 cases mainly from murder, robbery, assault, gender based violations, abduction and so on (Governance Statistics Report, 2022)¹ .

These shocks, while less frequent compared to economic, climatic, or health-related shocks, have far-reaching consequences for the affected households and communities resulting displacement, family disintegration, death and so on. At the community level, security shocks are marked by confrontations and violence that stem from competition over increasingly scarce resources. For example, in regions where droughts or environmental shocks have led to resource scarcity, disputes over land, water, or grazing areas can escalate into violent conflicts between households or even larger groups within the community. These confrontations often lead to physical assaults, property damage, and even death, leaving communities deeply fractured. The resulting destruction not only impacts the physical well-being of individuals but also creates long-term divisions and mistrust between different groups, sometimes along, tribal, or clan lines. These conflicts can leave a legacy of hate and bitterness that is difficult to heal and may lead to further cycles of violence in the future.

Health shocks

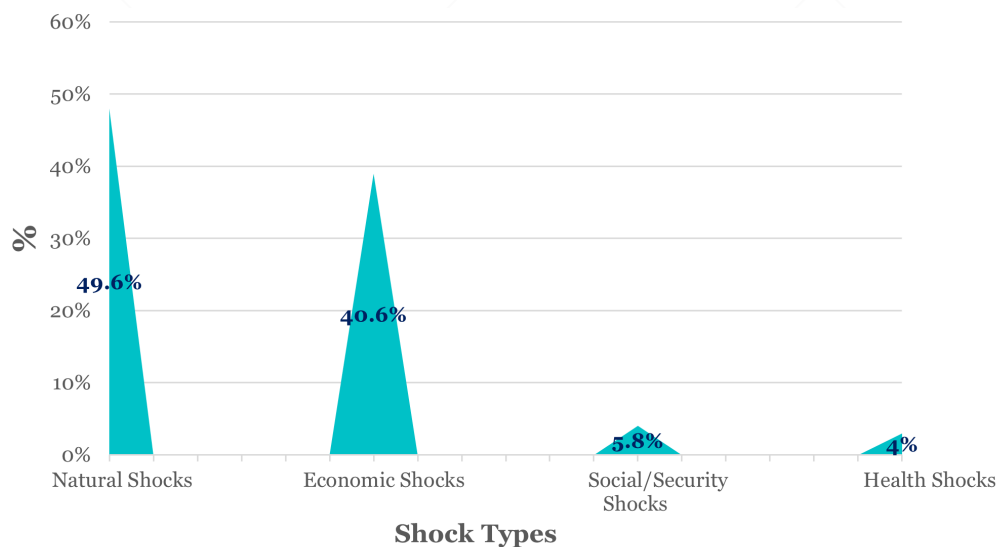
The findings also reveal that health-related shocks impacted 4% of the population, a relatively small percentage compared to natural and economic shocks, yet their consequences are profound and far-reaching for the affected households. These health shocks include a range of medical emergencies, such as minor or severe injuries to the household's breadwinner, the onset of serious illness in either the breadwinner or other family members, or the death of household head. Each of these shocks severely disrupts the functioning of the household and can lead to a significant reduction in the overall quality of life, especially for families that are already economically vulnerable.

¹ Somali National Bureau of Statistics, Governance Statistics Report, Source: office of the Attorney General, 2022



The death of a breadwinner or another family member due to a health-related shock is perhaps the most catastrophic outcome, as it permanently alters the structure and economic stability of the household. The loss of a breadwinner means the immediate cessation of the primary source of income, leaving the remaining household members, particularly children, elderly relatives, or dependents, in a state of extreme vulnerability. Moreover, a serious medical condition affecting the breadwinner or other members of the household may require long-term treatment, rehabilitation, or hospitalization. This not only results in prolonged loss of income but also imposes heavy medical expenses, which many households are not equipped to bear.

Distribution of main shocks types from 2018 to 2022



Key findings on Household Responses

Adaptive Strategies: Households employed a wide range of coping mechanisms to manage the adverse impacts of shocks, reflecting both the diversity of challenges they faced and the resources they had available. Among these strategies, 19% of households relied on their savings, depleting financial reserves accumulated over time to meet urgent needs such as food, shelter, and medical care. However, the effectiveness of this strategy depended on the amount of savings a household had, with those having limited savings facing greater vulnerabilities once their reserves were exhausted.

Another 13% of households coped by cutting back on food consumption, reducing both the quantity and quality of their meals. This strategy, while necessary in the short term to stretch limited resources, posed significant risks to long-term health and nutrition, especially for children, pregnant women, and the elderly, potentially leading to malnutrition and other health problems.

Social networks played a crucial role in providing support, with 10% of households receiving help from friends or relatives, often in the form of food, money, or shelter. Such support systems were vital for households lacking other resources, but their availability often depended on the broader community's ability to offer assistance in times of widespread hardship. Additionally, 8% of households reported taking loans from relatives, which provided temporary financial relief but could increase future financial strain due to the obligation to repay the loans, particularly if income levels did not improve.

Notably, 39% of households turned to prayer as a critical coping mechanism. While prayer did not directly address material needs, it served as a source of emotional and psychological support, helping households to manage stress, foster hope, and maintain a sense of resilience amidst uncertainty. Prayer often created a collective sense of solidarity and spiritual strength, which helped families and communities endure during difficult times.

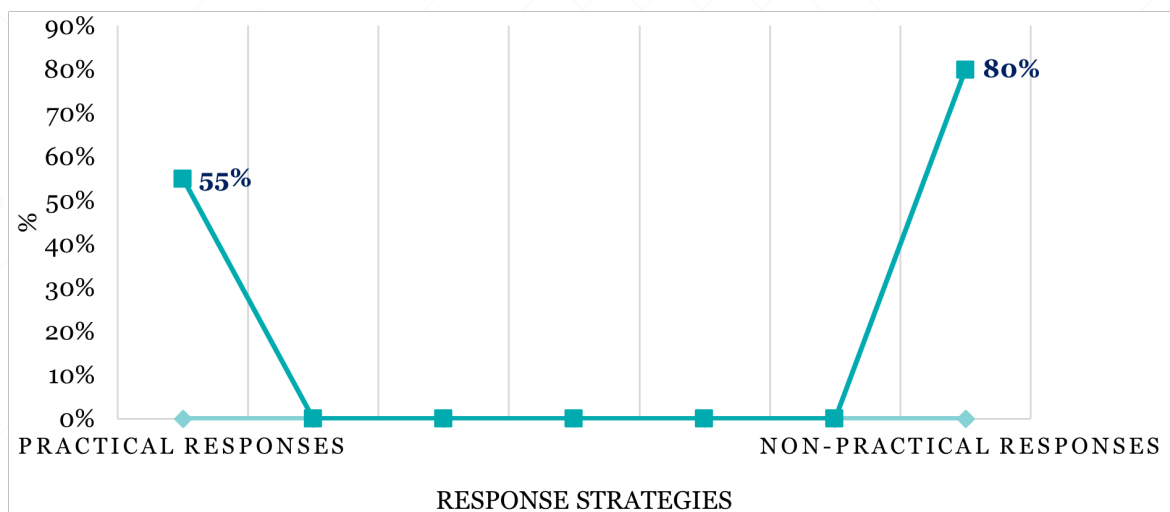
The effectiveness of these coping strategies varied significantly depending on the severity of the shock and the resources available to each household. For example, households with substantial savings were better positioned to absorb financial shocks, while those without savings had to rely more heavily on external support. Similarly, households with strong social networks were more likely to receive aid from friends and relatives, while others in more isolated or marginalized communities might struggle to find help. The combination of these strategies, though essential, often proved insufficient in the face of prolonged or repeated shocks, highlighting the need for more sustainable and formal safety nets.

Policy Interventions: 8% of the responses to household shocks were provided by the Federal Government, local and international organizations; these interventions include the provision of essential services such as food, shelter, clean water, financial assistance programs, and disaster relief efforts. USAID has been the chief funder of Somalia's humanitarian action, contributing nearly \$707 million in humanitarian aid for the people of Somalia in 2022². These interventions played a critical role in alleviating the immediate impacts of various shocks, helping to stabilize affected communities and prevent further deterioration of living conditions.

Despite these efforts, several challenges hindered the overall effectiveness of the response. Gaps in coordination among different actors, such as the government, NGOs, and other stakeholders, resulted in corruption and overlaps in some areas while leaving other communities underserved (UK Humanitarian Innovation Hub, 2023).³

Additionally, the geographical coverage of these interventions was often limited, with remote or hard-to-reach regions receiving insufficient aid. Furthermore, access to aid was not always equitable, as logistical, political, and security issues prevented some vulnerable groups from fully benefiting the aid. As a result, while the interventions mitigated the impacts of shocks to a certain extent, more streamlined and comprehensive approaches are needed to enhance the effectiveness of future responses.

Distribution of response strategies adopted by type 2018 to 2022



² Refugee International Org: The national interest: Somalia's 2022 famine is predicted and preventable, 2022

³ United Kingdom Humanitarian Innovation Hub's report on how Somalia responds to crises 2023



The graph illustrates the strategies households employed to cope with shocks, categorizing them into practical and non-practical approaches. Practical strategies involve tangible actions that directly address the economic impact of shocks, such as spending cash savings, selling or depleting assets, working extra hours, and reducing food consumption. These actions reflect a hands-on attempt to mitigate immediate challenges. Conversely, non-practical strategies include relying on external support or passive measures, such as prayer, receiving aid from religious institutions, government, NGOs, or remittances, and even doing nothing. These approaches indicate a reliance on external help or faith, highlighting the limitations some households face in implementing direct, actionable solutions to shocks.

Recommendations

1. Strengthen Data Collection Systems

- ◇ SNBS should implement regular, standardized surveys to collect data on household-level shocks (e.g., drought, food insecurity, health crises). This should cover nomadic, urban and rural areas, ensuring a holistic view of vulnerability across different regions.
- ◇ Deploy mobile or web-based platforms for real-time data collection, allowing households to report shocks as they occur. This could integrate with humanitarian or governmental monitoring systems to trigger faster responses.
- ◇ Given the overlap between conflict and climate-induced shocks, better integrated conflict-climate vulnerability assessments are needed. Linking displacement data with climate data would help predict future household vulnerabilities and target interventions more effectively.
- ◇ Incorporating satellite data (e.g., rainfall patterns, vegetation health) with household surveys to get a more accurate and real-time picture of environmental shocks (droughts, floods) and their impact on livelihoods is recommended.

2. Expand Data on Coping Mechanisms

- ◇ SNBS should collect more data on formal and informal coping mechanisms (borrowing from family, selling livestock, etc.) to better understand how households respond when shocks occur. This would require qualitative and quantitative approaches to capture nuanced behavior.
- ◇ Given the importance of remittances in Somalia, improving data collection on the frequency, volume, and impact of remittance flows on household resilience would help policymakers assess their role in mitigating shocks.
- ◇ Conduct rigorous data analysis, such as randomized control trials (RCTs), household surveys, or before-and-after comparisons to assess the effectiveness of interventions. This data can guide adjustments in response strategies over time.

3. Encourage Data-Sharing and Open Access

- ◇ SNBS should create a national data repository where humanitarian, development, and government actors can upload, access, and share household-level data related to shocks and responses. This could be managed by SNBS, in partnership with international organizations.
- ◇ SNBS should implement formal agreements that clarify data ownership, access, and confidentiality, encouraging greater collaboration among agencies. These agreements should balance the need for data sharing with the need to protect sensitive information, especially in conflict zones.
- ◇ Encourage collaboration between local universities, government agencies, and international organizations in data collection and analysis to ensure comprehensive coverage and eliminate duplication of efforts.

4. Develop Predictive Analytics and Early Warning Models

- ◇ Use advanced data analytics to predict future shocks based on historical data. For instance, analyzing past drought patterns alongside household responses could help forecast when and where future crises are likely to occur.
- ◇ Create a dynamic, data-driven vulnerability index that incorporates both static factors (poverty levels, access to infrastructure) and dynamic factors (weather patterns, market prices). This index could trigger early warning systems when certain thresholds are breached.

5. Leverage Big Data and Social Media

- ◇ Use data from mobile payments and market transactions to monitor food prices and household purchasing power. Market price volatility can act as a proxy for household stress in response to economic shocks, and tracking this data would help identify crisis points.

In conclusion, the report underscores multifaceted challenges that households face when confronted with economic, natural, health and social shocks. These shocks disrupted stability and have profound impacts on household well-being, manifesting in economic strain, environmental damage, and social strain. Despite the resilience and adaptability of many households, current coping mechanisms are often insufficient to fully mitigate the effects of severe shocks.

Effective response strategies and support systems are crucial for enhancing household resilience. Improved data collection and analysis are also necessary to better understand shock impacts and refine response strategies. Overall, addressing these data challenges with targeted policies and support systems will not only alleviate immediate hardships but also promote long-term stability and well-being for households.

INTRODUCTION





1.0 Introduction

Somalia's households like other families around the world confront various types of shocks, including, economic, climate, environmental and conflict-related shocks. These shocks affect the livelihoods of households in various ways like physical, psychological, and capital; and in developing countries where power can be centralized and resources limited to help abolish or minimize these shocks, households are constrained to adopt risky response strategies in order to guarantee adequate security in food and welfare.

Somalia's households especially marginalized urban and rural communities, deal with many types of shocks on a daily basis. The approach in which they use often center around ways to minimize and cope with these risks. The majority of working members (WMs) in these households are involved in informal sector activities to maintain their households' welfare security, support them to meet their subsistence needs and to respond to other risks that could be brought by natural, economic, social and health shocks. The surprising shocks that these households have to deal with are shown, discussed and analyzed in this report.

This report delves into the prevalence and nature of household shocks such as idiosyncratic or micro sized shocks; these are a type of shocks that are unique to an individual or family and covariate or macro sized shocks; these are type of shocks that affect groups or communities of people in the same area at the same time (Chaudhuri, 2002)⁴ and assesses how these events influence household stability and well-being. By analyzing the frequency and types of shocks experienced, as well as the effectiveness of different response strategies, the report aims to offer valuable insights into the resilience and vulnerabilities of Somalia's households.

The findings are intended to inform policymakers, aid organizations, and community leaders in designing targeted interventions and support systems to enhance household resilience and address the challenges faced by Somalia's families. SNBS's primary goal in preparing this report is to analytically and empirically present data pertaining to the numerous types of shocks experienced by Somalia's families and reveal the evidence based response strategies adopted to cope with the various levels of shocks.

1.1 Purpose of the report

It is our hope that this Report gives policymakers insightful information on the various types of shocks that Somalia's people at households and community levels experience along with the different response strategies they use to mitigate it.

It will also be a useful source of reference for anyone working on household shocks and response strategies, including those working in public sectors, donors, nongovernmental organizations, research and academic institutions and so on. The report also provides insightful recommendations that are based solely on the findings and a reflective conclusion as well.

⁴ Chaudhuri S. Mimeo, Department of Economics, Columbia University; New York: 2002. Empirical Methods for Assessing Household Vulnerability to Poverty.

1.2 Scope, Methodology and Data Structure

The S-HoSAR report employs a comprehensive methodology to understand the impact of various shocks on household dynamics and the subsequent responses from affected populations. This analysis is crucial for informing effective intervention strategies and policy decisions in the context of Somalia's unique socio-economic and environmental challenges.

The report integrates a quantitative and qualitative approach in order to capture a holistic view of household experiences from economic, natural, social and health crises by utilizing the SIHBS-2022 survey as well as using qualitative texts from articles, academic texts and reports by thematic experts to achieve well informed descriptive statistical analyses. The report also employs advanced statistical methods to analyze quantitative data, identifying patterns and correlations between shocks and household responses. Both quantitative and qualitative methodology has helped to ensure the robustness of our analysis in this report.

This approach not only enhances the depth and accuracy of the findings but also supports the development of targeted recommendations for FGS and humanitarian aid, policy development, and program implementation as it provides a comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by Somalia's households and the effectiveness of their responses to shocks.

Data Collection and Preparation

For the report, data is primarily sourced from the Somalia Integrated Household Budget Survey 2022, which is a national survey that gathered reliable primary level data on the livelihood, basic expenditure and consumption of goods and services of Somalia's households as well as other socioeconomic indicators. The completion of the Survey was one of the country's conditions for achieving the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) completion point. The Directorate of Policy, Planning and Coordination Service's team (DPPCS), who prepared this Report, utilized the raw data in the Statistical Package for Social Services (SPSS) form, which enabled the comprehensive quantitative analysis of complex data. By leveraging the SIHBS data, the report systematically assesses the frequency and impact of household shocks, as well as the coping mechanisms employed by the households. The SIHBS's comprehensive data offers the opportunity for a robust analysis, enabling the report to accurately capture the nuances of how different shocks affect household well-being and responses across Somalia.

According to SIHBS-2022 a total of 7,212 households were selected from 601 Enumeration Areas (EAs) which were distributed across Somalia; 63% of them were men while 37% of them were female. About 35 EAs were sampled in each of the 17 covered regions, with 12 HHs interviewed per EA, adding up to about 420 HHs per region. Questions related with shocks were classified into two categories; questions that targeted households (where households addressed issues of their own experience, or an experience from their own household members) and questions that targeted community (where households addressed issues that affected some, most or all of the households in the given community).



Data Analyses

The Report classifies the nature of the shocks and its typology by conducting descriptive statistical analyses to assess the extent/nature of shocks and coping strategies.

The analyses will identify the key shocks (Natural or Non-natural) that Somalia's people face and how they respond to those shocks. Moreover, the report will provide disaggregated analyses to understand more on shocks across urban, rural and nomadic populations in the country. The findings through the methodology adopted and the essential stage of filtering, shaping, and examining the reliability of the data will pave the way for the report.

Report Structure

The report is organized into several key sections that guide the reader through the introduction, analysis, and recommendations; the below description is intended to help readers navigate the report and understand the flow of information.

Executive summary: A concise overview of the report's message, and key findings, giving readers a snapshot of the analysis.

Introduction: This section introduces key concepts of the study, it outlines the purpose, scope, and structure of the report to provide clear context for understanding household shocks summarized. Readers will also find an explanation of the rationale of the report methodology, the data that is used and the approach used to assess it at the same time.

Data Analysis: Here, the report presents core findings and statistical analyses in the form of graphs and charts and interprets the data to highlight trends in household shocks, the frequency and severity of shocks, and the types of responses employed. It also provides a deeper understanding of the implications of the data analysis, offering insights into what the findings suggest about household resilience and vulnerability at the time.

Recommendations: Based on the analysis, this section outlines specific, evidence-based recommendations aimed at policymakers, development organizations, and other stakeholders. These recommendations focus on strengthening data availability in order to track household shocks and resilience to future shocks. The section also provides a conclusion which highlights key findings and the need for proactive strategies to manage household shocks and build long-term sustainability.

1.3 Key Concepts and Definitions

In this section a detailed key concept on numerous types of shocks that households face is projected, this aids the reader in providing a basic understanding about the various economic, social, or environmental shocks that any given community may face along with potential strategies they employ to cope with or mitigate shocks at the time. These shocks are categorized into four main forms and they are discussed below.

1.3.1. Natural shocks

Natural shocks also known as environmental shocks are concrete and visible events that in some occasions hit hard and result migration. These include droughts, floods, earthquakes. They could hit its target in the form of climate change or through man-made activities, such as forest fires and accidents.

Natural shocks that physically come into contact with people or their property have the potential to cause death, serious injury, interruption of socioeconomic activity, damage

To or destruction of property, natural resources, and other tangible assets and given that some of these resources can be converted into income enhancing endeavours that entitles households access potential wellbeing such as food, shelter, water, health and so on; its depletion or obliteration due climatic possibilities can cause temporary swings in welfare and force people into unexpected poverty.

The most noticeable impact on any livelihood is undoubtedly the injuries, disabilities, and fatalities caused by natural calamities, especially when they affect the breadwinner (BW) or any other working members; for instance, the catastrophic effects of the December 2004 of Indian Ocean tsunami, took the lives of over 200,000 people in a dozen countries, left 1.5 million homeless and caused US\$7 billion worth economic loss (World bank 2005)⁵ .

The period between 1990 and 2005 alone accounted for more than half of all recorded natural disasters, causing global economic losses more than seven fold greater than observed during the 1960s (UNDP 2008⁶ , Van den Berg et al. 2009⁷ , ISDR 2010⁸).

In Africa natural shocks are common occurrences, they come year in year out. In 2023 alone thousands of lives were lost and millions of homes destroyed by these shocks, these include Libya floods, morocco earthquake, Algeria wildfires, Mozambique cyclone, Rwanda floods and Somalia's most recent food security crisis that resulted more than 40,000 deaths and edged to be a catastrophic countrywide famine.

A joint report released early last year by the FGS Ministry of Health & Human Services, WHO and UNICEF suggests that an estimated 43,000 excess deaths might have occurred in 2022 in Somalia resulting from a deepening drought when compared with 2017 and 2018 drought crisis and half of these deaths might have occurred among children under the age of 5 (UNICEF 2023)⁹ .

Somalia's economy heavily counts on agriculture and livestock and any climate shocks, particularly prolonged dry periods and erratic rainfall patterns, can lead to crop failures and loss of livestock. This reduces household income and food availability, worsening economic conditions, droughts and severe water shortages can also result in significant livestock deaths, impacting both income and the ability to maintain livelihoods.

Climatic shocks resulted in crop failure, livestock death, inadequate food supply particularly among children and vulnerable populations, waterborne diseases as a result of exacerbated water shortages, migration to urban areas in search of better living conditions and resources, and last but not least competition over scarce resources which by the way exacerbated existing tensions among clans and impacted social cohesion.

Impacts of natural shocks have been different for developed and developing countries, it is crystal clear that developed countries have strong institutions, considerable amount of resources and most importantly risk management experts in place to quickly respond these risks; while in other parts of the world resources are very limited to mitigate shocks that are related to nature.

5 World Bank Response to the Tsunami Disaster. The World Bank. Washington, D.C.

6 UNDP Reducing Disaster Risk. A Challenge for Development, 2008

7 Van den Berg, Natural hazards and risk aversion: Experimental evidence from Latin America 2009

8 ISDR (International Strategy for Disaster Reduction) (2010), Disaster statistics 1991- 2005.

9 UNICEF 2023: (<https://www.unicef.org/press-releases/new-study-finds-43000-excess-deaths-may-have-occurred-2022-drought-somalia>).



1.3.2 Economic shocks

Economic shocks also known as macroeconomic shocks are random, unpredictable events that have a widespread impact on the economy, they disrupt the normal functioning of a given economy and lead to a sudden and substantial impact the likes of GDP, inflation, unemployment, interest rates, and exchange rates. Economic shocks can have both short and long-term impact and can be puzzling for governments and businesses to mitigate.

Africa's economic situation is deteriorating, these crises that have severity still remain to be fully recognized by African leaders. Most of the economic shocks that hit Africa are climatic; worsening climate changes including global warming, floods and droughts damaged the leading food sectors like agriculture, livestock and as well fish productions that frame Africa's macroeconomic security.

Economic fluctuations, such as price rise, wage cuts, job losses, and inflation are often blamed for the poor economic performance of low-income countries and these fluctuations can lead to job losses and reduced income for households.

In Somalia, where informal employment is prevalent, economic downturns can severely impact daily earnings and financial stability and for a good portion of households, livestock and agriculture are primary sources of income and economic shocks can decrease market prices for livestock and crops, reducing income and affecting their ability to survive, or invest their sources of income such as farming or animal husbandry.

Shocks classed as economic often lead to increased food prices, making it more difficult for households to afford essential food items, this leaves households to reduce food intake and rely on less nutritious food, exacerbating malnutrition and food insecurity. Economic shocks can escalate poverty and push households below the poverty line by depleting savings and assets. This is particularly concerning in Somalia, where economic instability can lead to higher poverty rates and deeper levels of deprivation and in response to that pressure, households may be forced to sell assets, such as livestock or land, to cover immediate expenses. This can undermine long-term economic stability and reduce future

income opportunities and can also affect household budgets for healthcare and education, leading to reduced access to medical services, and children dropping out of school. Anxiety over economic uncertainty and financial pressures can affect family wellbeing causing mental health issues and can also trigger social tensions within communities, leading to conflicts over resources and worsening existing social divisions.

The degree to which an exogenous shock does not cause a regional economy to deviate from its pre-existing equilibrium condition is a related concept of resilience. This could entail preventing the shock completely (for instance, by creating a local economy independent of an industry that is likely to encounter a negative demand shock) or enduring the shock with minimal to no negative effects (for instance, by having an economy that is sufficiently diversified to minimize the macroeconomic effects of shocks) Briguglio, et al. (2006)¹⁰ Moreover, resilience can also refer to the degree to which a shock's initial effects are mitigated, preventing significant fluctuations in output or other macroeconomic variables in the area. This definition of resilience expresses a preference for regional macroeconomic stability Duval, et al (2007)¹¹ .

10 Briguglio, Lino, Gordon Cordina, Nadia Farrugia, and Stephanie Vella. 2006. "Conceptualising and Measuring Economic Resilience". In L. Briguglio, G. Cardigan E. J. Kisanga (eds), *Building the Economic Resilience of Small States*. Malta: Islands and Small States Institute and London: Commonwealth Secretariat, 265-87.

11 Duval, Romain, Jorgen Elmeskov, and Lukas Vogel. 2007. "Structural Policies and Economic Resilience to Shocks." *Economics Department Working Paper 567*. Paris: Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development.

In response practices the strategy most households use depends solely on the severity of the shock, for example many families preserve assets for bad times; they accrue assets in good times and deplete them in bad times to maintain livelihood security, however, this is not common among marginalized and rural households. These shocks have far-reaching effects on households, impacting income, food security, health, and social stability.

The resulting strain can lead to increased poverty, reduced access to essential services, and social unrest. Understanding these impacts and developing effective strategies for resilience and recovery is crucial for improving the well-being of affected household and communities.

1.3.3 Social shocks

Social shocks also known as security shocks are any shocks that affect a large proportion of the population simultaneously and it is very common for households living in crisis-prone areas. Keen D, 1997; Stewart F, 1993¹² argued that conflict has historically been viewed in the economic research as a temporary exogenous shock but recently there have been increasing recognition that conflict is inherently endogenous to the development process.

These include crimes, violence, social upheavals, changes in social dynamics, wars among communities within a country (civil wars) or with an outside country/organization (state of war) have significant and multi-dimensional impacts on households and communities. Social shocks, particularly armed conflicts and violence, lead to the forced displacement of communities. IDPs and refugees face precarious living conditions, including inadequate shelter, lack of access to basic services, and heightened vulnerability to exploitation and the influx of displaced people into urban areas can strain existing infrastructure, leading to overcrowded settlements, serious security issues, increased competition for resources, and deterioration of living conditions.

These shocks also hinder economic growth and deter investment, by destroying businesses, markets, and infrastructure; limiting employment opportunities and economic development in affected areas. The trauma and stress associated with social shocks can lead to significant mental health issues, including anxiety, depression, and PTSD; it also contributes to poor health outcomes due to disrupted healthcare services, lack of medical supplies, and increased exposure to disease, displacement and overcrowding further impair health risks, including the spread of communicable diseases. Furthermore, social shocks lead to higher crime rates and violence, further compromising safety and security; households may experience theft, assault, and other forms of human rights abuses, including forced recruitment into armed groups, abductions, and exploitation leading to family separation, loss of caregivers, and changes in family roles. This can strain familial relationships and create additional burdens on remaining family members.

Some mentionable social shocks include the 2003 second Congo war, the war and its aftermath took the lives of 5.4 million people principally through diseases and malnutrition, making the second Congo war the deadliest conflict worldwide since WWII¹³ .

12 Keen, D. (1997). 'A Rational Kind of Madness'. Oxford Development Studies, 25 (1): 67–76. — (2001). 'The Political Economy of War', in F. Stewart and V. Fitzgerald (eds), War and Underdevelopment, Volume 1: The Economic and Social Consequences of Conflict. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press.

13 International Rescue Committee, mortality in the DRC: an ongoing crises report, 2008



The 1994 Rwanda genocide that took the lives of nearly a million people and still remain to be one of Africa’s deadliest wars¹⁴ , and of course Somalia’s 1991 civil war¹⁵ and more recent terrorist attacks which have both lead to the loss of countless lives, some of the households flee from affected areas in order to keep their household members safe; this response strategy is common among communities regardless of their social status.

1.3.4 Health shocks

Health shocks are any illness that prevented a breadwinner from doing usual activities that generates income to the household, these came in the form of serious illness, health problems, disability, or injury that could finally result death of the household member.

Inadequate health among breadwinners can increase the risks of a household livelihood insecurity making the household destitute if there are significant Out of Pocket (OOP) healthcare expenditures incurred to obtain healthcare. Even if OOP treatment expenses are circumvented, the members of the family could still lose earnings if there are work-days lost by the sick breadwinner and any out-of-pocket treatment costs can be substantial and strain household finances, especially in regions with limited health insurance coverage. The household size is also a major concern as the exposure to financial risks of health shocks is also influenced by the size of the household. Because there is a greater chance that one of the members may become ill and because there are fewer economies of scale available for medical care, larger households have larger health care budgets (O’Donnell et al. 2005)¹⁶ .

Individuals affected by health shocks may be unable to work, leading to a loss of income; this can be particularly devastating for households that rely on the income of a single breadwinner or those living paycheck-to-paycheck, also caregiving for a sick family breadwinner can reduce the ability of other household members to work as a substitute or attend school, impacting overall productivity of the households and if the ill breadwinner is prolonged or severe it can create emotional and physical stress for caregivers.

Many households among rural communities deploy substitute breadwinner to cover for the sick breadwinner at the time; the strategy is not common as notable number of the households use other strategies including but not limited to selling assets, using savings, taking loans and so on.

Table 1.1 notable shocks that Somali households face

	Idiosyncratic	Covariate
Economic Shocks	Crop failure Livestock death Livestock theft Business failure – non agriculture Wage cuts Loss of remittance	Food price increase Decrease in crop demand Increase in agriculture inputs Inflation
Health Shocks	Breadwinner death Serious illness Injury Death of remittance sender	Pandemics like COVID19 Diseases caused by droughts Diseases caused by floods
Natural Shocks	Fire due to gas cylinder blast Home destruction caused by rains Thunder strikes – rural areas	Droughts Floods Storms Water shortage
Social Shocks	Eviction Family disintegration – divorce Breadwinner arrest Assault	Marketplace fires Crimes Wars Conflicts among clans

14 BBC’s article on Rwanda genocide: 100 days of slaughter, 2019

16 Twentieth Century Atlas – Death Tolls and Casualty Statistics for Wars, Dictatorships and Genocides, 2011

17 O’Donnell, O., van Doorslaer, E., Rannan-Eliya, R.P., Somanathan, A., Garg, C.C., Hanvoravongchai, P.M., Huq, N., Karan, A., Leung, G.M., Tin, K., Vasavid, C. (2005). ‘Explaining the incidence of catastrophic expenditures on health care: Comparative evidence from Asia’.EQUITAP Working Paper #5,Eramsus University, Rotterdam and IPS, Colombo.

DATA ANALYSIS SECTION

2



2.0 Data Analysis

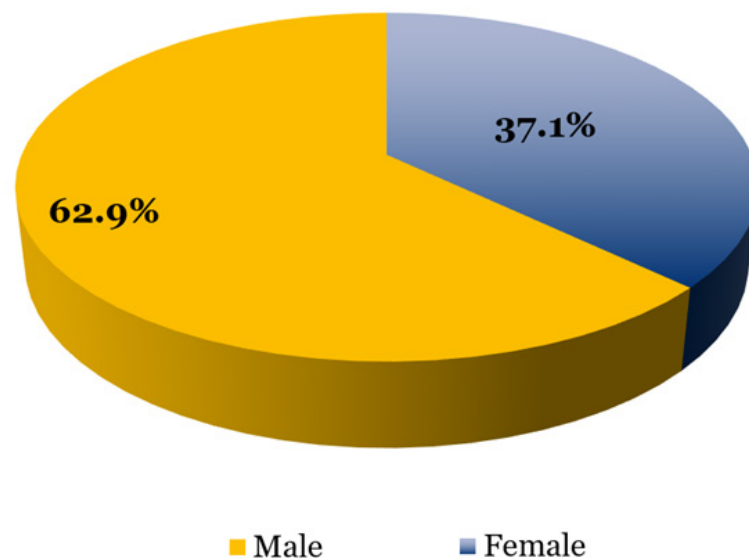
2.1 Introduction

This section provides an in-depth examination of the core findings, focusing on pivotal variables that shape the dynamics of household resilience. Central to this analysis is the assessment of household exposure to a variety of shocks, characterized by frequency, type, and severity. These shocks encompass a range of economic, social, and environmental disturbances, including but not limited to price fluctuations, droughts, conflicts and so on. By mapping out the incidence and distribution of these shocks, the analysis reveals how different households and communities experience shocks depending on their given circumstances.

In addition to exploring the nature of shocks encountered, this section also sheds light on the diverse strategies that households employ to mitigate and adapt to these challenges. Through reflective visualizations such as tables, charts, and sound interpretation of the patterns and trends within the dataset are revealed. These tools provide a clear depiction of the factors that contribute to household resilience, highlighting disparities in coping capacity between different communities and household compositions.

Finally, the analysis offers valuable insights into the broader socio-economic and environmental landscape, emphasizing the need for targeted interventions to strengthen household resilience and mitigate the long-term impacts of recurring shocks.

Figure 2.1.1: Distribution of Household Respondents by Male and Female



The chart displays the gender distribution of household respondents, with 62.9% being male and 37.1% female. This suggests that men are more commonly recognized as household representatives, likely due to their involvement in economic activities such as farming and livestock management. Despite the smaller percentage, women play a vital role in household decision-making, particularly in essential areas such as food security and family welfare. This disparity in gender representation suggests that different social, economic, and structural factors may influence how each gender navigates shocks at the time.

Impact of Shocks on Men (62.9% of household respondents)

Given the cultural context in Somalia, where men are typically household heads and primary breadwinners, the higher percentage reflects their role as decision-makers and providers. They represent a more significant portion of the workforce, particularly in physical labor and high-risk industries such as agriculture, construction, or fishing.

This exposure to manual labor and outdoor activities means that men are likely more affected by shocks related to employment and income, especially if their sectors are heavily impacted by economic shocks or environmental changes, such as droughts or floods.

For instance: if there is a natural disaster (e.g., drought), men working in agriculture could experience crop failures, leading to loss of income. Economic shocks might cause mini industries and other businesses where men are overrepresented to reduce operations or lay off workers, further straining household finances.

Losses of income or reduced ability to provide for their families could lead men to psychological stress, increased pressure, and potentially higher levels of social instability (e.g., substance abuse or domestic tensions).

Impact of Shocks on Women (37.1% of household respondents)

Women, although a smaller portion of the population in this data, often face a unique set of challenges due to structural inequalities and their traditional roles within the household. Household shocks could disproportionately affect women due to their dual roles in income generation (in informal sectors or part-time jobs) and as caretakers of the family.

Women may face increased vulnerability to economic shocks because they are often employed in informal and lower-wage jobs, such as small-scale trade, domestic work, or caregiving. These jobs are usually less stable and may be the first to disappear during economic crises. At the same time, women bear the responsibility of maintaining household stability, so:

- ◇ They might experience higher levels of food insecurity as they prioritize feeding their children and family members over themselves during times of scarcity.
- ◇ If the shock is related to health, women often shoulder the burden of caring for sick family members, which can increase their time poverty and reduce opportunities for income generation.

Women may suffer from increased stress and anxiety as they attempt to manage both household needs and financial pressures. In the absence of a supportive male partner due to substance abuse, disability, or incarceration, women bear the brunt of every shock, making them particularly susceptible to extreme physical and psychological difficulties.

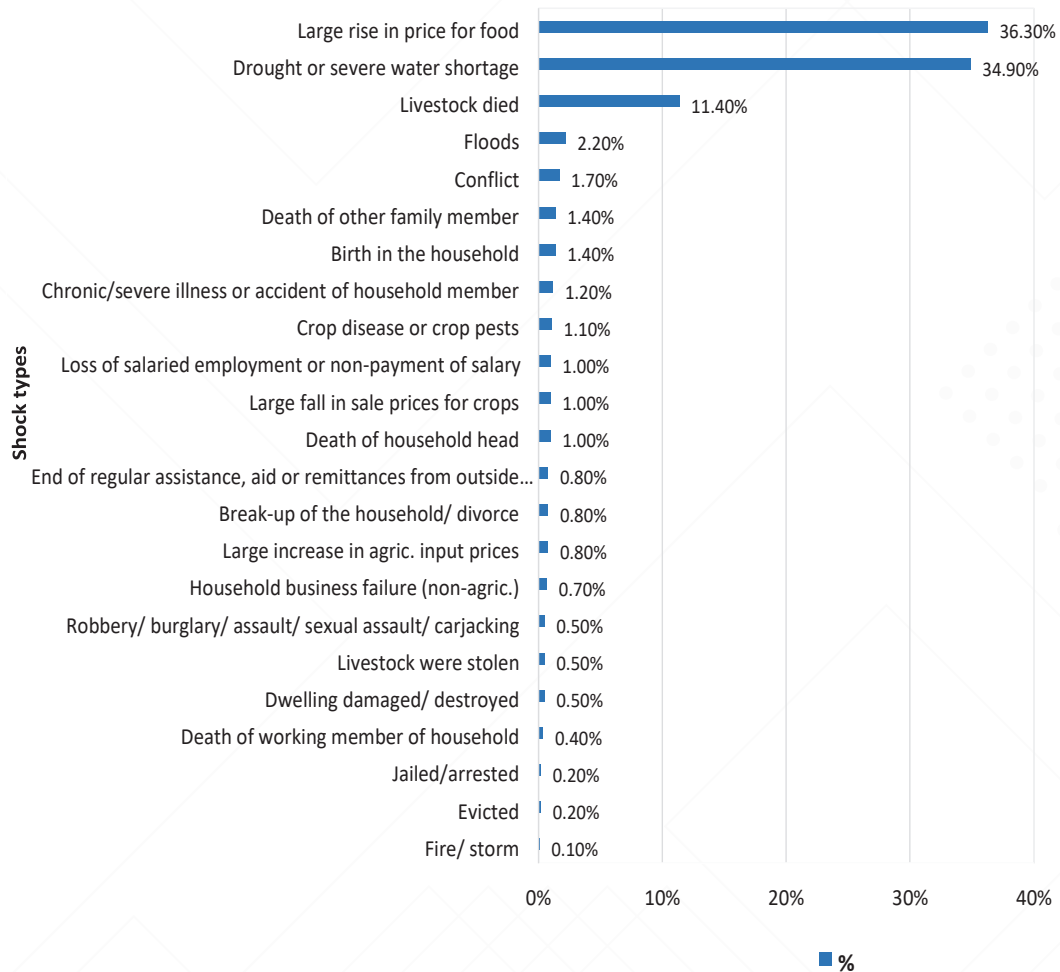
Response to Shocks

In coping strategies both Men and Women that serve as household heads take precarious steps to minimize or mitigate shocks; these include cutting back on food in order to reduce household expenses, use previous savings, seeking loans, or sometimes they run out of technical options and start praying; hoping that God will listen and ease their burdens.



In summary, the gender disparity in the data shows that men representing 62.9% are the traditional household head and while they may bear the brunt of shocks through employment and income instability, women (37.1%) are more vulnerable to the cascading effects on household management; as they have had to step into the Men’s role due to social challenges such as substance abuse, disability, or death of household head. As a result, these women face unique vulnerabilities and challenges, particularly when household shocks occur. Women in these positions, despite cultural expectations, are often more severely impacted by shocks, as they must navigate the dual roles of caregiver and income earner with limited resources and support.

Figure 2.1.2: Distribution of household shock types from 2018 to 2022



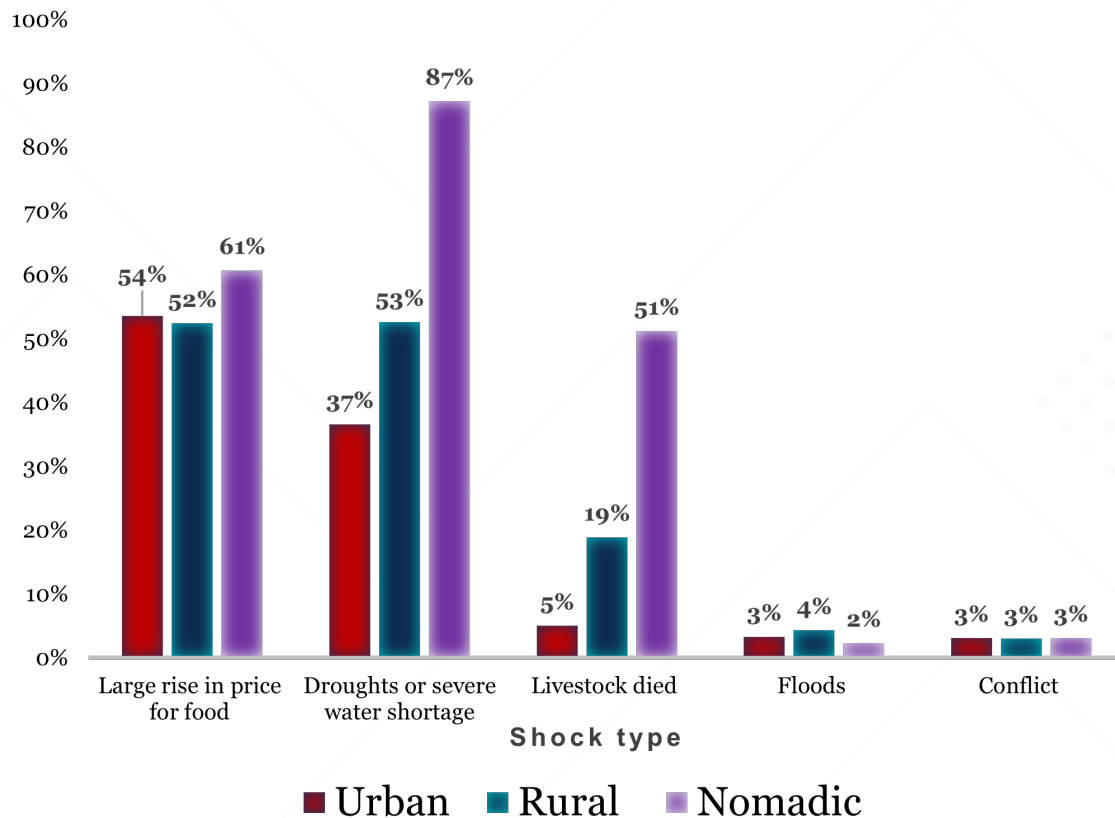
The chart shows a sharp increase in certain household shocks, particularly food price rises, droughts, and livestock deaths in the last five years. These shocks are the most frequent, while others like conflict, crop disease, and floods show less dramatic changes. Food prices and water problems being the main issues that households have to deal with, livestock death is the next in the row, which is equally critical particularly for agrarian communities too. Apart from these, social, health-related, and other shocks, although less frequent, still perpetuate the population’s overall vulnerability.

A solution to these will require targeted programs that specifically tackle the problems of food insecurity, lack of climate resilience, and social support systems.

The fact that these two types of shocks (food inflation and drought or severe water shortage) occur much more frequently than others indicates that they might be more prevalent or more impactful in the country.

This could point to systemic issues such as economic instability or climate-related challenges and knowing which shocks are most prevalent can help policymakers and organizations target their support and interventions more effectively. For example, if food price increases and droughts are the most common, resources could be directed toward programs that address food security and water management.

Figure 2.1.3: Distribution of Major Shocks Experienced by Urban, Rural, & Nomadic Households from 2018 to 2022



The data vividly paints a picture of the most touching shocks faced by Urban, Rural, and Nomadic populations, highlighting significant variations in their exposure to certain hardships.

Large Rise in Food Price

The impact of rising food prices is relatively uniform across all three groups. This suggests that rising food costs are a widespread problem, transcending lifestyle and geographic distinctions. Prices potentially rise due to the increasing production and transport costs, fuel prices, and most importantly dependence on markets for food in both urban, rural and nomadic areas.



Staples are often the core food items that sustain people, and any increase in their prices would be felt across all populations. In urban areas, where people depend almost entirely on market-purchased food, even a small increase in staple prices can significantly affect household budgets. In rural areas, even if some food is produced locally, staple purchases are necessary for daily consumption, especially in areas with less agricultural productivity. Nomadic communities, though more self-sufficient in meat or dairy, still need to buy key staples, and price rises hit hard as they might travel long distances to access markets.

By incorporating staples into the food price context, we can understand why all groups are equally sensitive to food price fluctuations—they all rely on purchasing essential items that are subject to the same market pressures, regardless of their lifestyle or location.

Drought or Severe Water Shortage

There is a significant disparity in the impact of drought and water shortage, with the nomadic population being the most affected, followed by rural and urban populations.

These gaps show that nomadic communities are highly dependent on natural water sources and are directly affected by environmental changes, especially as their livelihoods rely on livestock and mobility in arid regions. Rural populations, while also reliant on agriculture and livestock, often have better access to infrastructure like wells, small reservoirs, or irrigation, which quite reduces the impact compared to nomads. Urban areas, by contrast, generally have more developed water supply systems such as piped water and storage facilities, insulating them from immediate effects of drought or water shortages.

In nomadic and rural communities, water is an essential resource for survival, agriculture, and livestock. During droughts or severe water shortages, water becomes scarce, leading to competition over the remaining sources like wells, rivers, or ponds. When access to water is reduced, it creates tension between groups that need the water for similar purposes (drinking, crop irrigation, or livestock). What might start as a small dispute over access to a well or river can escalate into broader conflicts involving weapons and raids, as groups seek to secure access or retaliate for perceived injustices. Nomadic and rural communities may engage in raids or violent confrontations that take the lives of dozens to defend or seize control of water sources, which at the end lead to wider clan conflicts, disrupting social cohesion and causing displacement.

Livestock Loss

Nomadic populations rely heavily on livestock for their livelihood, making them the most susceptible to these shocks, when livestock are lost, due to reasons such as disease, drought, or theft. Livestock provide food, income, and are often a cultural asset and any loss of livestock; whether due to disease, drought, or theft creates a severe economic shock for them. Without alternative sources of income, the loss of animals can lead to financial ruin, food insecurity, and the collapse of their nomadic lifestyle.

Rural populations also engage in livestock rearing, but they are generally less reliant on it compared to nomads. They typically have more diverse sources of income, such as farming, wage labor, or running small businesses. This diversification acts as a buffer, softening the blow when livestock are lost. While still a significant loss, their dependence on livestock is not as all-encompassing as it is for Nomadic people, making them less vulnerable overall to such shocks.

Urban populations are the least affected by livestock loss. In urban areas, people primarily rely on jobs, businesses, and other services for their livelihoods, with little or no direct dependence on animals. Consequently, the impact of livestock loss is minimal for urban dwellers, as their income and survival are not tied to livestock in the same way as rural or nomadic populations.

Floods

The impact of floods is relatively low and similar across all three groups, with rural populations being slightly more affected than urban and nomadic populations.

Rural areas are more exposed to floods primarily because their agricultural activities are often situated in flood-prone areas, such as near rivers or low-lying lands. These areas are chosen for their rich soil and access to water, but they carry a higher risk of flooding, especially during heavy rains. Moreover, rural communities may not have advanced flood management infrastructure, such as levees or drainage systems, leaving their fields and homes more vulnerable when floods occur.

Urban areas, on the other hand, tend to have better drainage systems and flood management infrastructure. Cities are typically designed with systems to channel rainwater away from streets and buildings, reducing the impact of floods. While urban areas may still experience flooding during extreme weather, these infrastructures help mitigate the damage, meaning fewer households report being severely affected.

Nomadic populations have an inherent advantage due to their mobility. Since they are not tied to specific lands like rural farmers, they can move their camps away from areas prone to flooding. This flexibility allows them to avoid the worst impacts of floods, which explains why fewer nomadic households report being affected by flooding.

Conflict

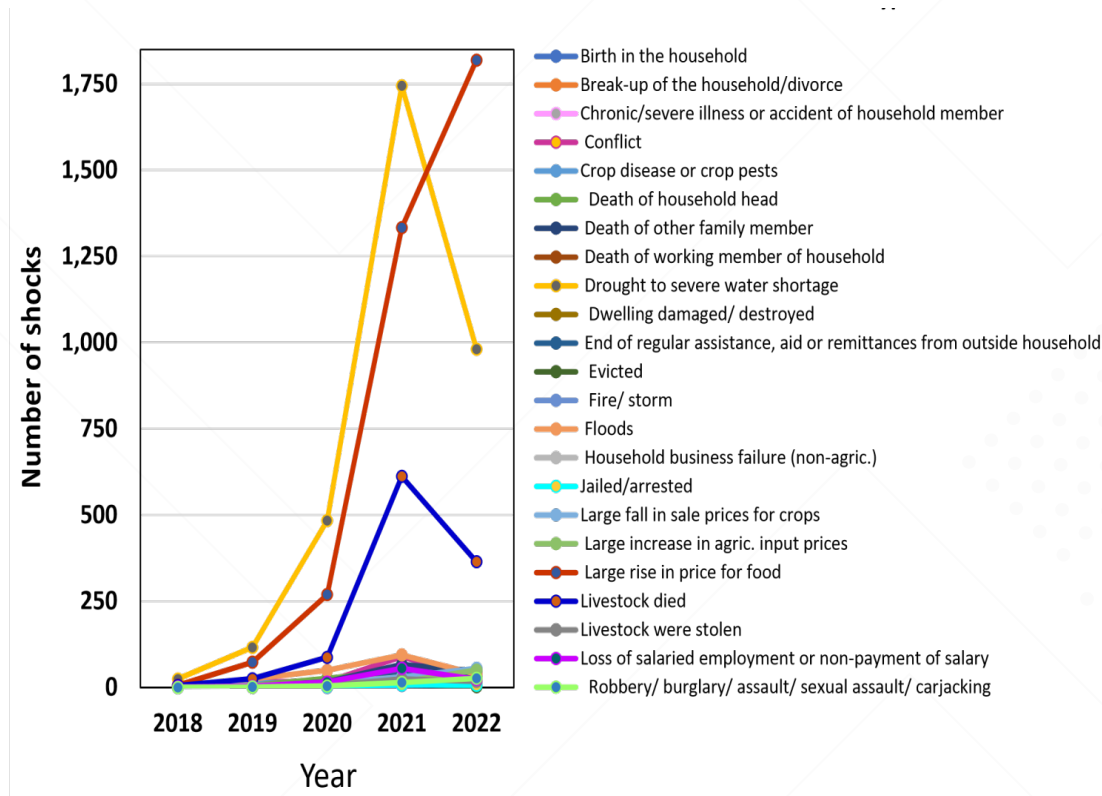
The impact of conflict is low across all three groups, with urban and nomadic populations reporting slightly higher levels of being affected compared to rural populations.

Urban areas are often more vulnerable to conflicts because of their higher population density and political importance. Cities are typically centers of government, economic activity, and social unrest, making them potential hotspots during political turmoil, protests, or planned attacks by insurgencies; this means even small-scale conflicts can affect many households. Additionally, urban areas may be located near targeted centres, such as government buildings or key infrastructure, where armed conflicts may be more likely to erupt.

Nomadic populations, though mobile, can still be vulnerable to conflict, particularly when it involves competition for resources like grazing land or water. In regions where resources are scarce or highly contested, nomads may find themselves entangled in conflicts, especially in border areas or rural conflict zones. For example, disputes over access to pastureland or water sources, particularly in arid regions, can lead to clashes between nomadic groups or between nomads and settled communities. Their mobility can provide some protection, but they are still exposed to resource-based conflicts, especially in areas with weak governance or law enforcement.

Rural populations are somewhat more insulated from conflict, particularly if they are located far from political bases or disputed territories. Rural areas, especially those in isolated or remote regions, may not be directly affected by large-scale conflicts or political violence. However, rural communities can still be exposed to conflict if they are near areas of ongoing insurgencies, criminal activity, or land disputes. In general, rural populations might experience less direct impact from conflict compared to urban areas, particularly if they are located in relatively stable regions.

Figure 2.2.1: Trends of household shock types over years



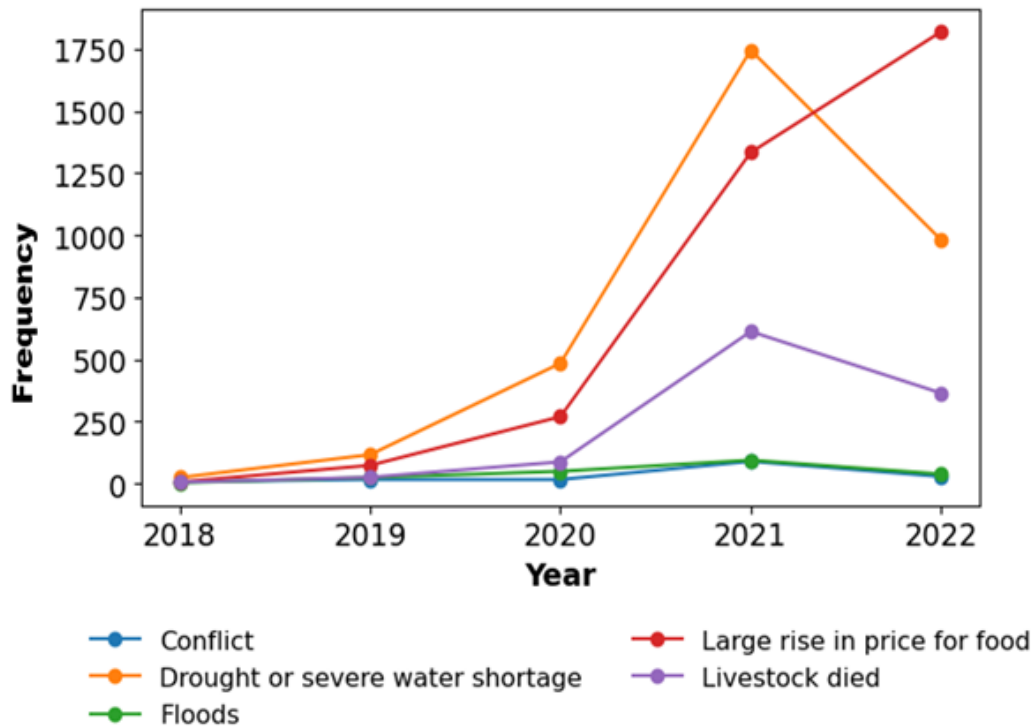
The chart shows that major household shocks, such as drought or severe water shortage, large rises in food prices, and livestock deaths, have sharply increased. Shocks related to conflict and flooding have also risen, but at lower levels compared to the others. The results indicate that households have become increasingly vulnerable to growing environmental and economic crises in recent years.

The significant rise in drought frequency during this period suggests worsening climatic conditions or environmental stress. This increase could impact water availability, agriculture, and local economies. There is also a large rise in food prices which is often linked to agricultural stress caused by droughts and from economic perspective droughts lead to reduced crop yields, which in turn drives up food prices and that is where it affects households' cost of living and food security.

The pattern also shows that livestock deaths are rising over the years and this is directly related to droughts due to lack of water and feed. When droughts reduce the availability of pasture and water, it can certainly lead to increased mortality among livestock.

The increased frequency of household shocks could be a consequence of the compounded effects of droughts, rising food prices, and livestock deaths and due to these major issues households' financial obligations, food security, and economic solvency were exacerbated.

Figure 2.2.2: Trends in major household shock types over years



The chart shows that the top five major household shocks, specifically, drought or severe water shortage, large rises in food prices, and livestock deaths, have sharply increased recently. Shocks related to conflict and flooding have also risen, but at lower levels compared to the others. Shocks, such as “large rise in food prices” and “drought or severe water shortage,” follow particular patterns as they are becoming more common; with certain spikes occurring in recent years.

Conflict leads households to significant economic disruption, including job loss, reduced income, and damaged infrastructure. Households may face increased expenses and reduced access to services and resulted in forced displacement, leading to overcrowded living conditions and additional strain on resources in refugee or internally displaced persons camps. It has also increased social stress, leading to mental health issues and strained family relationships.

Households that depend on agriculture experienced income loss and food insecurity

Droughts reduced crop yields and livestock productivity, leading to food shortages and increased food prices.

Severe water shortages impacted daily living of these households, including cooking, cleaning, and drinking water; it also costed a decreased agricultural output that lead households to economic strain, affecting the budget and overall household solvency.

Several floods occurred over the years and caused extensive disruption of local economies and loss of crops or livestock, the floods damaged homes and infrastructure, leading to costly repairs and displacement. Many households lost personal belongings and faced long-term recovery challenges. These floods also resulted waterborne diseases and other health issues, putting additional strain on household resources.

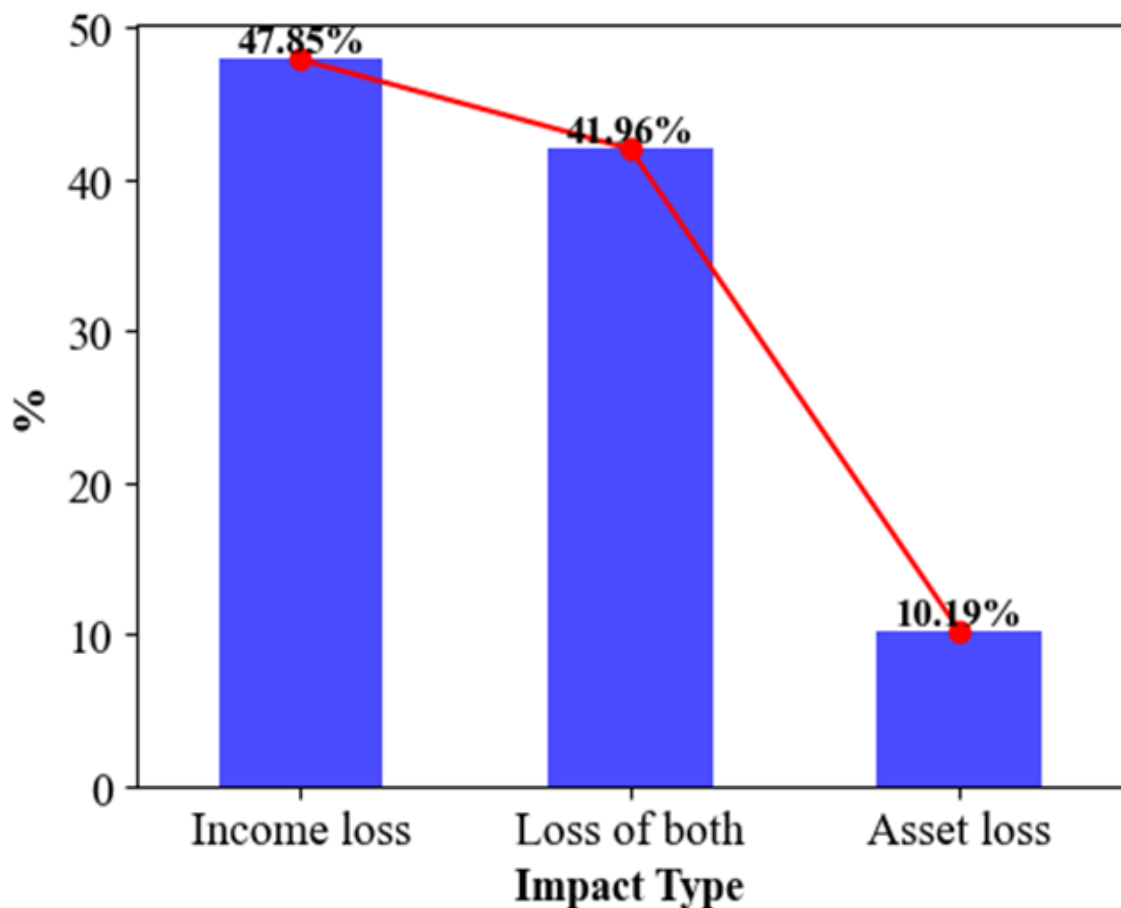


In addition to this, rising food prices strained household solvency with 9/25, and made it difficult to afford essential nutrition; higher food prices impaired financial stress, particularly for low-income households, reducing their overall quality of life. Persistent food price increases also lead to social unrest and dissatisfaction, affecting community stability and social cohesion.

A large portion in the society depend on livestock and their products for income and for these household livestock deaths resulted in significant financial losses and reduced income, the costs of replacing lost livestock or adapting farming practices placed additional financial strains on these households.

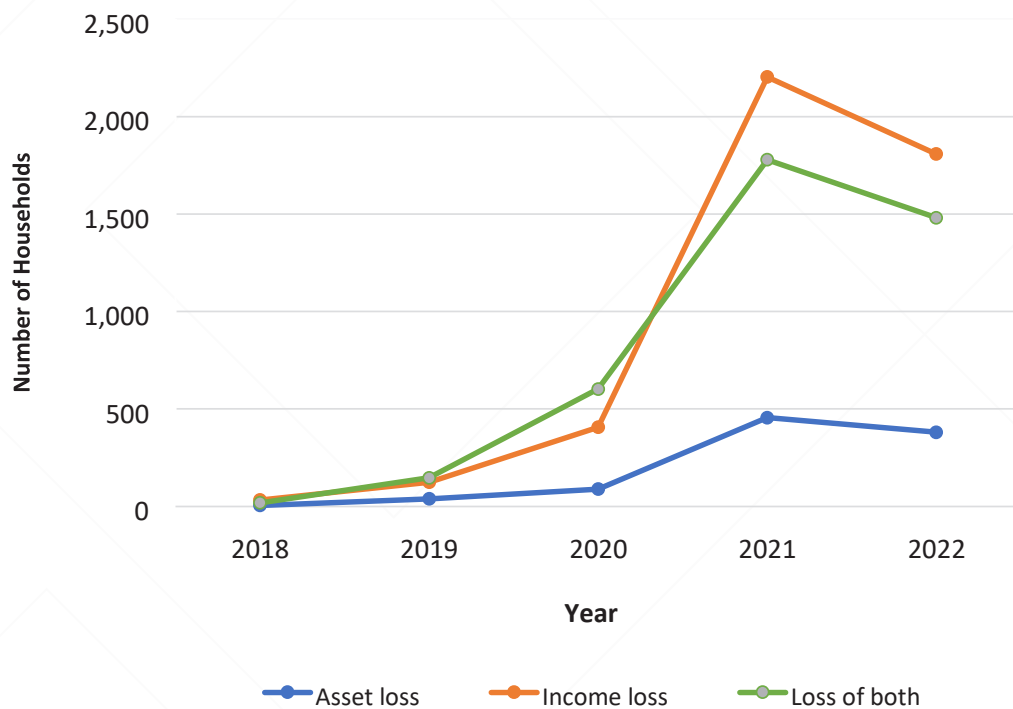
On the other hand, losses of livestock also affected some households on food security, especially if essential nutrients of livestock are a primary source of protein for the given

Figure 2.2.3: Distribution of household impact types from 2018 to 2022



The chart highlights that income loss is the most significant impact for households, followed by the loss of both income and assets. Asset loss alone is much less frequent. This suggests that households are primarily affected economically, but a significant number are also losing both financial and material resources. This enables a rapid comparison of the various impact types as the graph depicts the association between different types of shocks and their most typical outcomes. These are different forms of effects (e.g. income loss, asset loss or loss of both); each type is represented separately in the chart, it also shows how often each impact type occurs.

Figure 2.3.1: Trends of household impact types over years



The graph demonstrates a steep rise in income loss and combined loss of income and assets. Asset loss have also risen recently but to a much smaller extent. This indicates that recent years, have seen households facing significant financial challenges, with income loss being the most common issue, followed by the combined loss of income and asset.

Table 2.1: Distribution of household shock types and their primary impacts from 2018 to 2022

Shock types	Impact Type			Total
	Asset loss	Income loss	loss of both	
Birth in the household	14	101	16	131
Break-up of the household/ divorce	3	45	27	75
Chronic/severe illness or accident of household member	8	62	42	112
Conflict	22	53	86	161
Crop disease or crop pests	17	55	39	111
Death of household head	10	43	45	98
Death of other family member	28	52	54	134
Death of working member of household	2	30	9	41
Drought or severe water shortage	232	1446	1694	3372
Dwelling damaged/ destroyed	16	15	17	48
End of regular assistance, aid or remittances from outside household	3	59	18	80
Evicted	4	6	10	20
Fire/ storm	4	4	6	14
Floods	41	66	103	210
Household business failure (non-agric.)	7	36	20	63
Jailed/arrested	4	10	2	16
Large fall in sale prices for crops	6	57	34	97
Large increase in agric. input prices	5	42	32	79
Large rise in price for food	273	2051	1180	4504
Livestock died	243	287	575	1105
Livestock were stolen	24	13	12	49
Loss of salaried employment or non-payment of salary	3	79	15	97
Robbery/ burglary/ assault/ sexual assault/ carjacking	16	12	19	47



This table depicts the association between different types of shocks and their most typical outcomes. The most severe effects on households are due to agricultural and food price shocks, notably droughts and price spikes. These shocks cause widespread income losses and combination losses of income and assets. On the other hand, shocks such as divorce and incarceration mostly result in income loss, with very little impact on assets.

Price rise for foods

Income Loss as a result of price rise for foods (59%) is the most common impact among all; this high percentage suggests that households frequently experience financial strain when food prices increase, likely due to reduced purchasing power. Household income loss as a result of a price rise for foods can have significant effects on a household's financial stability and well-being; for example, when food prices rise, households face higher expenses for essential items. If a household's income remains the same, the increased expenditure on food reduces the amount of money available for other essential needs and savings and number of households had to reallocate their budgets, cutting back on other expenditures, such as education, healthcare, or non-essential goods and services, to cover the increased food cost; specifically, households with fixed or low incomes, this strain can be severe, leading to financial stress and reduced quality of life.

The frequency of asset loss (8%) is relatively low compared to income loss. This suggests that while food price rises do affect assets, it is not as common or severe as the impact on income. Household asset loss as a result of rising food prices can occur through several mechanisms. When food prices increase, households may be forced to sell assets or reduce their asset holdings to cope with the higher cost of living and to cover the increased cost of food, number of them were forced to sell valuable assets such as land, livestock, or personal property; this is particularly common in lower-income households where the cost of essential goods, like food, consumes a significant portion of the budget.

A significant proportion of households also experienced both asset and income loss (33%) due to rising food prices. This combined effects indicate a severe financial strain, where number of households were forced to sell assets to cope with higher food costs. When households face both asset and income loss due to an increase in food prices, the economic strain can be particularly severe and result household's purchasing power decreases; this means that the same amount of income buys less food forcing the household breadwinner to take actions such as generating more income or liquidating assets in order to cope food price fluctuations at the time.

Droughts/Severe Water Shortage

Income loss as a result of droughts and water shortages (43%) is also a major issue; this is expected, as they typically disrupt farming and other income-generating activities. The figure suggests that nearly half of the households facing droughts and water shortages saw a decline in their income. This is a significant proportion, highlighting that droughts and water shortages have a considerable impact on household income especially if they rely heavily on agriculture or livestock for their livelihood. For instance, reduced water availability can lead to poor crop yields, failure of crops, or livestock death which directly reduces income that comes from those sources and perhaps households experiencing income loss are more vulnerable to other economic shocks as reduced income can limit their ability to save, invest, or manage future risks. The statistics highlights that a substantial portion of affected households face reduced income as a result of these environmental challenges. This underscores the severe economic impact of droughts and water shortages on household finances, necessitating targeted support and interventions to alleviate the financial strain and build resilience against future shocks.

Asset loss due to droughts (7%) is relatively low compared to income loss. However, the high frequency of combined losses indicates that the impacts are broader than just asset or income alone. The statistic indicates that, among households affected by droughts and water shortages, 7% face a reduction in their assets. This doesn't mean all households lose assets, but rather a subset of them do. Asset loss can encompass various types of resources including livestock, farming equipment, and machinery that become non-functional or are sold off, savings and investments that are depleted to cover the costs associated with the drought or water shortage, land or buildings that might be sold or lose value due to the inability to maintain them effectively. For example, a farmer might be forced to sell livestock because they can't afford to feed them due to high costs driven by the drought. Alternatively, a household might have to use savings to buy water or other necessities, depleting their financial reserves at the time. Asset loss due to droughts undermined a small but notable proportion of household's economic stability and resilience, impacted their immediate financial stability and had caused long-term consequences for their economic well-being making it more difficult for them to recover from the drought and increased vulnerability to future shocks.

Half of the households (50%) affected by droughts and severe water shortages experienced losses in both their assets and income and this dual impact reflects a severe and multifaceted impact of financial stress on these households. This simultaneous loss compounds the financial pressure on households. They not only lose valuable resources but also face reduced income, which left substantial number of people at the stark of a financial hardship.

Livestock Loss

Income loss due to livestock loss (26%) is quite making a notable heat among the three shocks and this indicates that while livestock are important for income, the primary impact is on asset loss. Income loss due to livestock loss can be significant and multifaceted, depending on various factors including the role of livestock in the household's economy and the type of livestock involved. For many households, especially in rural or agricultural areas, livestock (such as cattle, goats, sheep, or poultry) are a primary source of income.

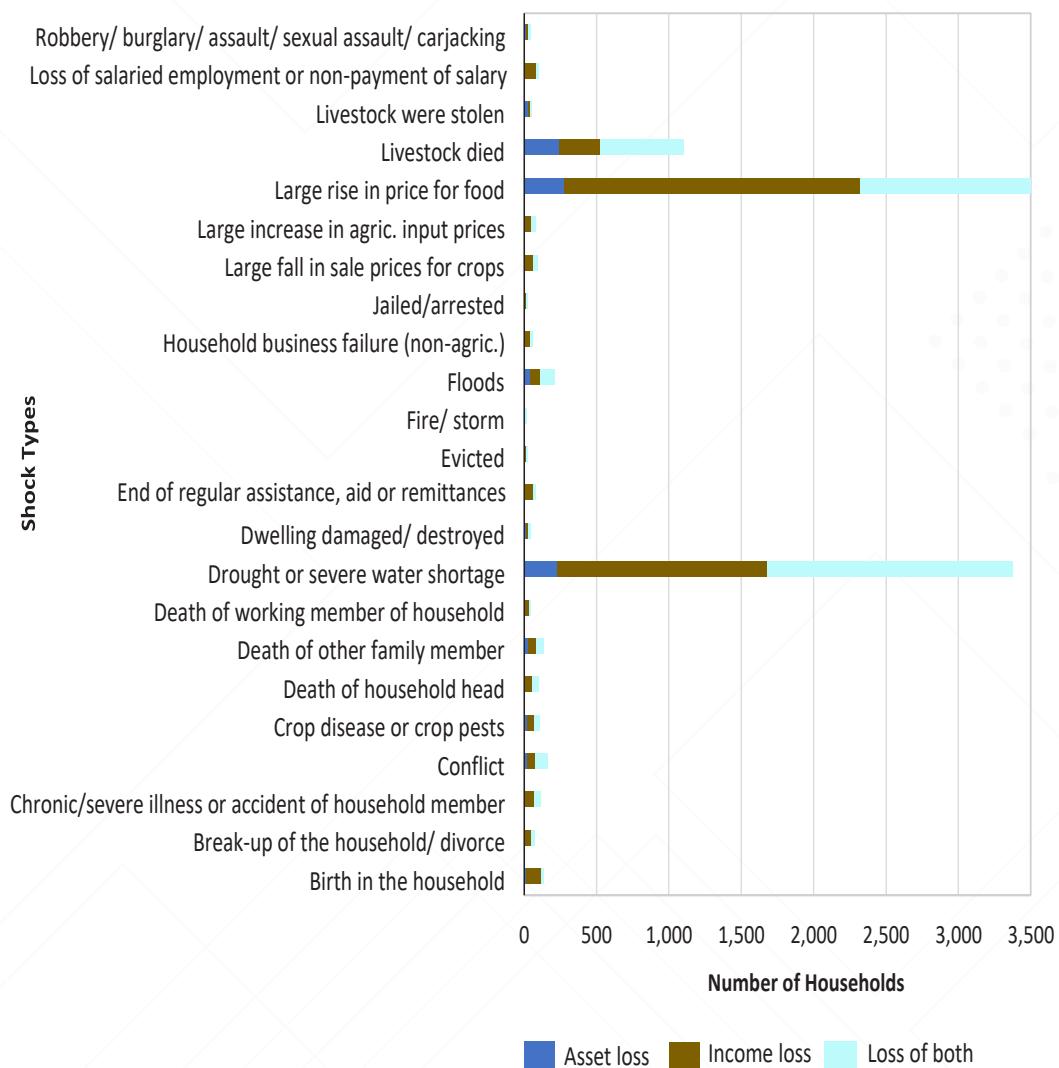
They can be sold for cash, or their products (such as milk, eggs, wool, or meat) generate regular income. The loss of livestock directly reduces this income stream and household solvency. Livestock often play a role in farming and agricultural productivity. For example, cattle can be used for plowing fields or transporting goods. Losing livestock can decrease agricultural output and, consequently, reduce income from farming activities and losing them often result households to lose the ability to sell these animals or their products. This leads to an immediate loss of income that was previously generated from these sales.

Livestock loss also led to a significant asset loss for 22% of the households. This percentage shows the critical role of livestock as assets and the substantial economic impact of their loss. The figure indicates that a notable number of households, or roughly one-fifth, have experienced asset loss due to their death. Livestock is often a crucial asset for many households, particularly in rural communities.



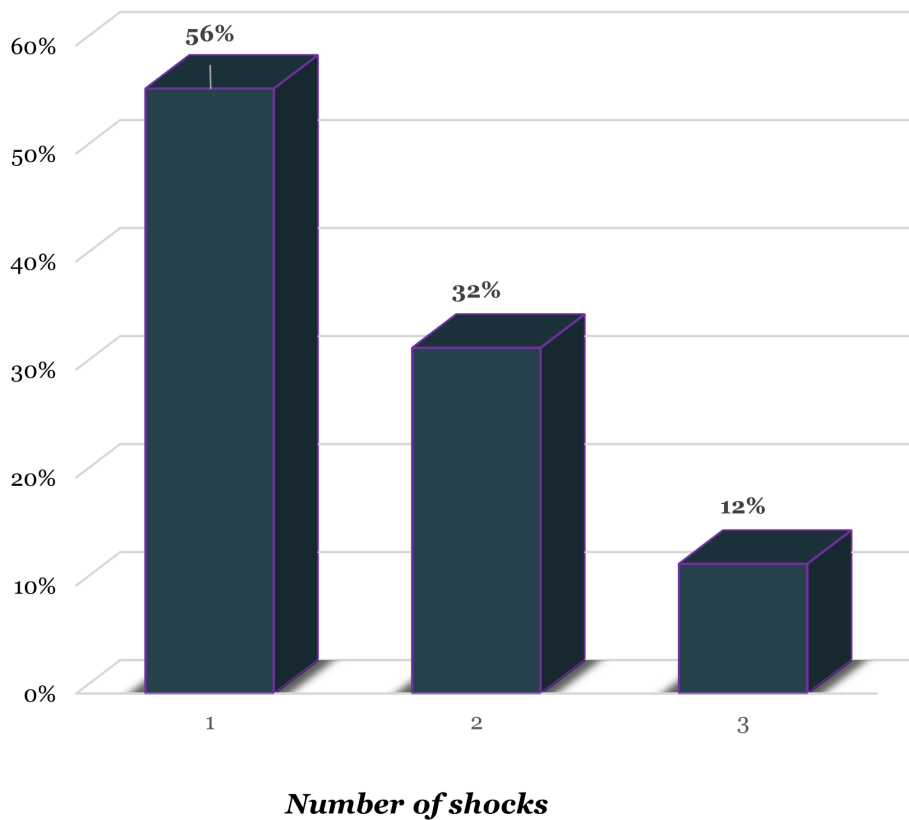
The table shows a significant majority (52%) of households affected by livestock death experience a dual financial burden—loss of both assets and income. This is the highest percentage for combined losses across other shocks, reflecting the severe impact of losing livestock, which are often both a key asset and a primary income source. The statistic reflects that not only are these households losing valuable assets (the deceased livestock) but they are also experiencing a reduction in their income, which added a fuel to their financial difficulties; they are vulnerable to any potential shocks in the future and may find it challenging to recover from the losses, as their financial cushion is depleted and their income-generating capabilities are reduced.

Figure 2.3.2: Distribution of Asset, Income, and Combined Loss by shock type from 2018 to 2022



The chart shows that the most significant shocks affecting households are the large rise in food prices and drought or severe water shortage, both of which have caused substantial losses in both income and assets. Livestock deaths have also caused considerable impact, leading to losses in both income and assets. Other shocks, such as floods, crop diseases, and conflicts, have a smaller impact and mostly result in income loss only. Overall, the most critical challenges faced by households are related to economic and environmental issues.

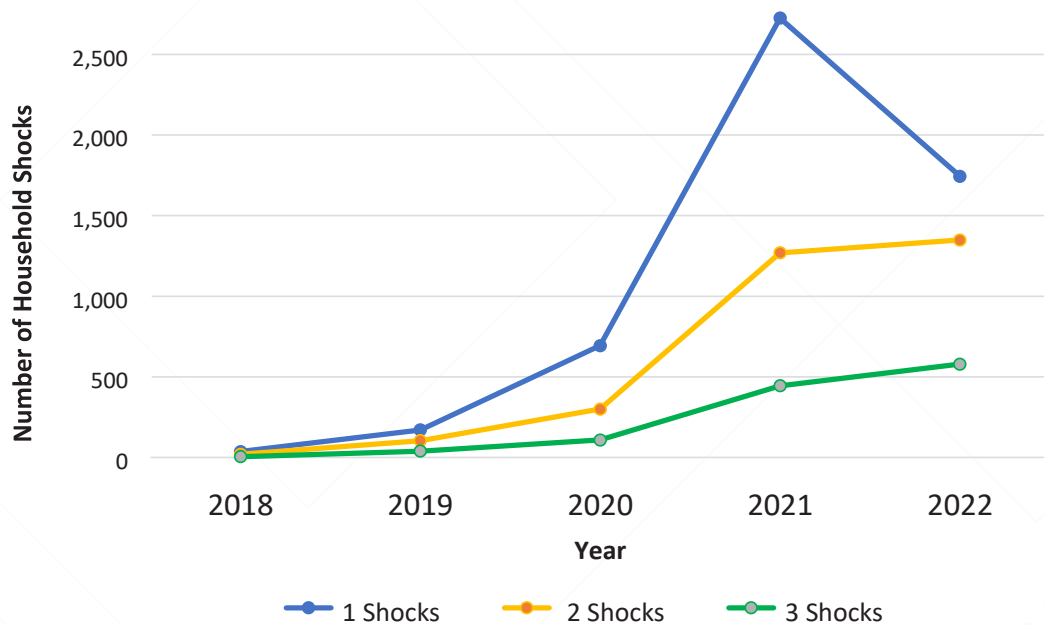
Figure 2.3.3: Distribution of households by number of shocks from 2018 to 2022



The chart reveals that the majority of households, 56%, reported experiencing only one shock, indicating that while shocks are prevalent, they are often isolated events for most households. However, a significant portion of households (31.7%) experienced two shocks, suggesting a smaller but notable share of the population faced compounded challenges. Finally, 12.3% of households reported encountering three shocks, reflecting that the occurrence of multiple shocks, though less common, is still a reality for a minority of households. These figures suggest that while single-shock events dominate, a meaningful percentage of households are exposed to more frequent and potentially more severe disruptions, which could have a deeper impact on their resilience and recovery capacity.

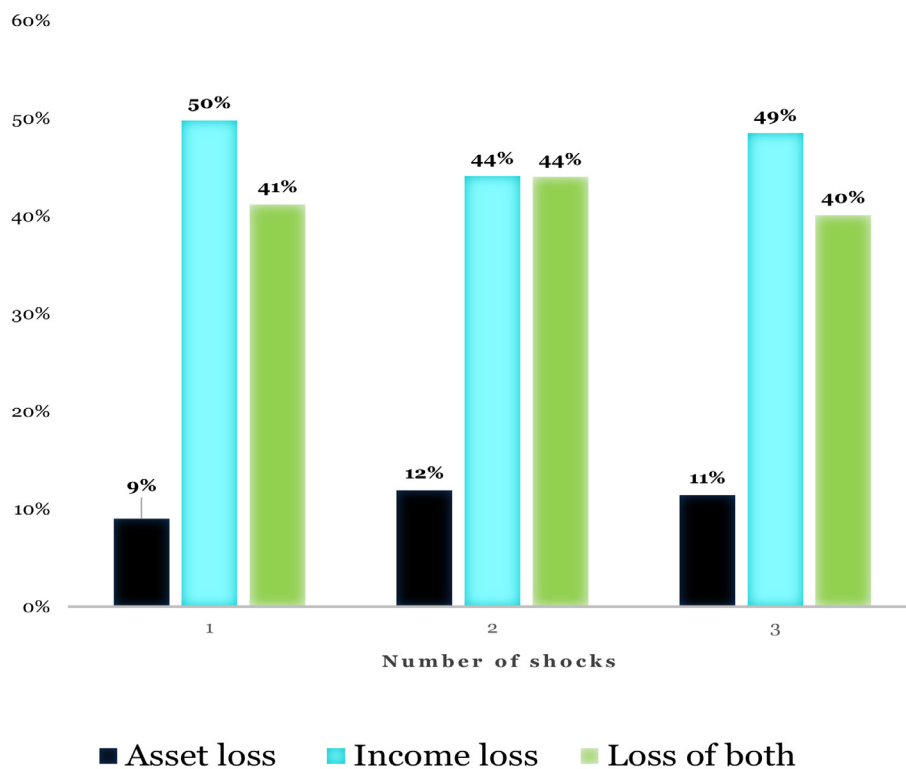


Figure 2.4.1: Number of Households experiencing shocks over the years



The graph shows a significant increase in the number of households experiencing shocks since 2018. Most households experienced one shock, with the number exceeding 2500 by 2020. Households that faced two shocks also saw a sharp rise, while those experiencing three shocks were fewer but still increased. This indicates that households are becoming increasingly vulnerable to multiple shocks over the years.

Figure 2.4.2: Distribution of shocks by impact type: Asset, Income or Loss of both from 2018 to 2022

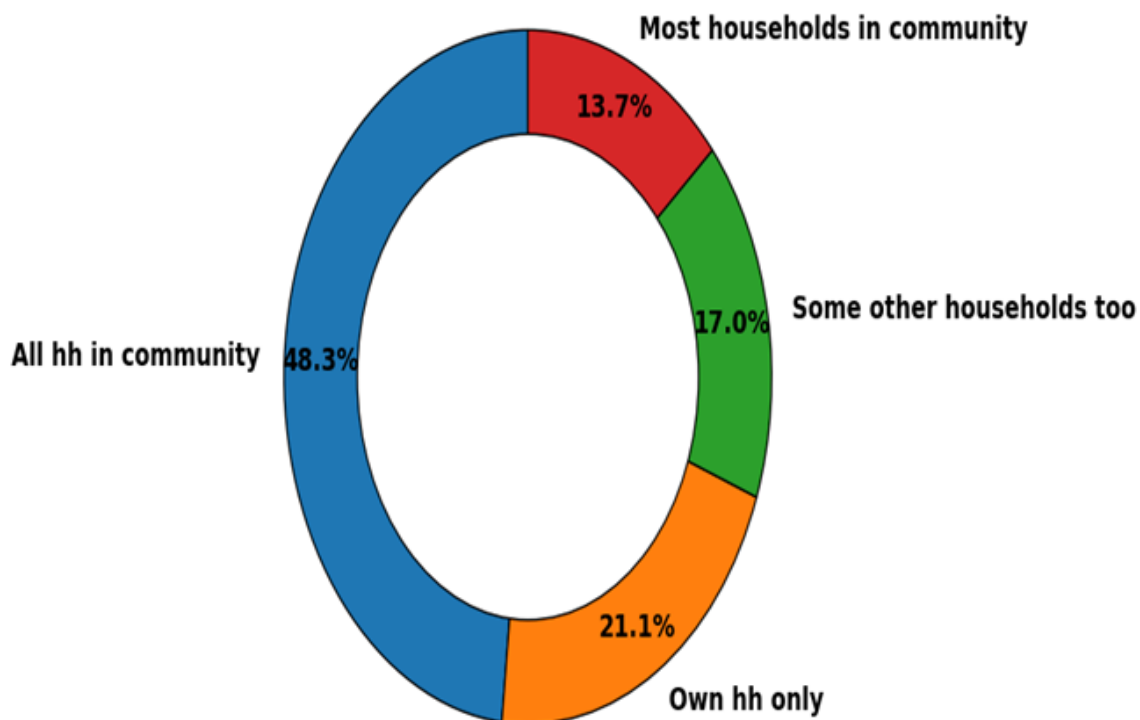


The chart shows that households primarily experience income loss when facing one or three shocks; this suggests that income, being a more fluid and immediate resource, is typically the first to be affected when a household encounters a disruption. For households experiencing two or three shocks, the likelihood of both income and asset loss increases, indicating a more severe and widespread impact. These households are not only losing their regular income but are also forced to liquidate or lose valuable assets, such as livestock, property, or savings, to cope with the ongoing shocks.

Interestingly, asset loss in isolation is the least common outcome, meaning that households rarely lose assets without also experiencing some form of income reduction. This pattern implies that asset depletion is usually a secondary effect, occurring after income has already been compromised, which weakens a household's financial safety net.

Overall, this data highlights the high vulnerability of households to economic shocks, particularly when facing multiple, interconnected shocks. The compounded effect of simultaneous income and asset loss places households in an even more precarious position, making recovery more difficult. This underscores the need for targeted interventions that protect both household income streams and critical assets, especially for those facing repeated shocks.

Figure 2.4.3: Distribution of household shocks by community level from 2018 to 2022



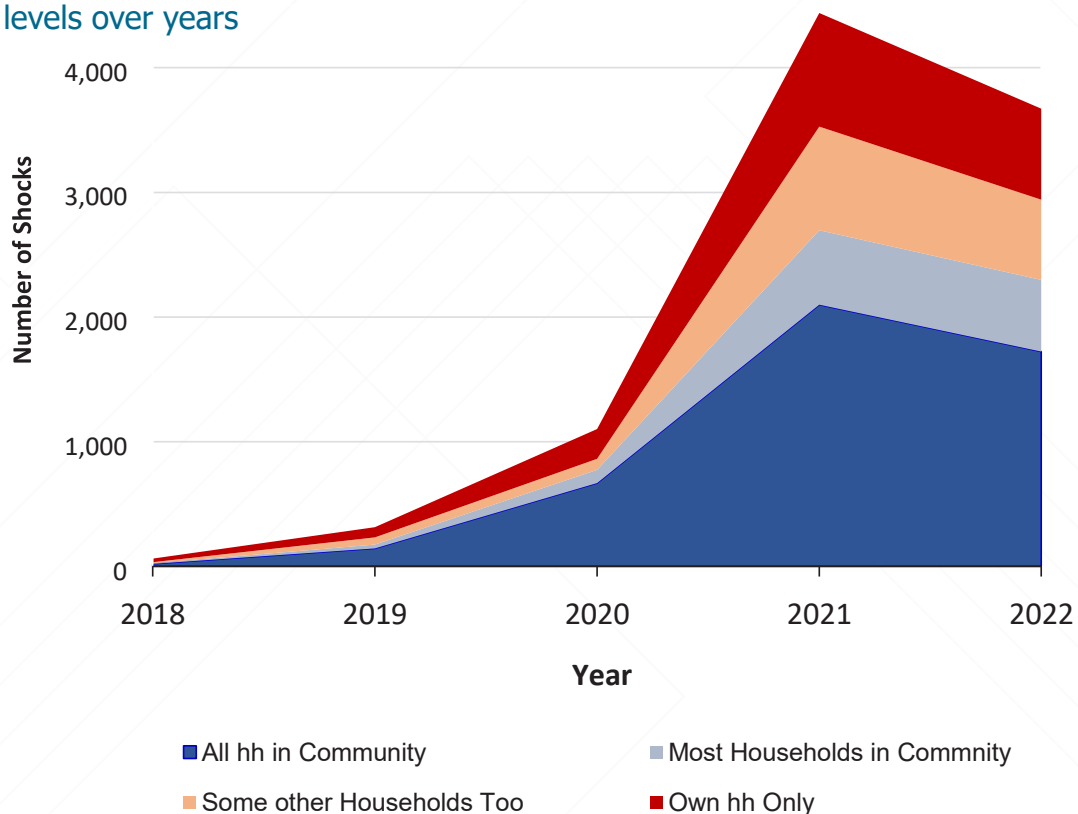


Community is classed as a group of people that live in the same place; and as the chart shows, the largest portion of households, 48.3%, experienced shocks or events that affected all households in the community. This suggests that almost half of the households were impacted by widespread community-level shocks, possibly due to environmental or economic factors that created a ripple effect across the entire community. Such shocks tend to be large-scale, external events that are beyond the control of individual households and highlight the collective vulnerability of communities to external forces. In contrast, 21.1% of households experienced shocks that affected only their own household. These individual-level shocks could include personal crises such as the loss of employment, a sudden drop in household income, the death of a family member, or health emergencies. These types of shocks, while highly disruptive for the affected household, are not widespread and may not reflect broader trends within the community. However, they still represent significant challenges for the households involved, often requiring personal resilience or support networks to recover.

Additionally, 17.0% of households faced shocks that affected some other households as well, but not the entire community. This could point to localized issues or events that were more specific to certain groups within the community, but not widespread enough to affect everyone. Though these shocks are not as widespread as community-level events, they still impact a meaningful segment of the population, illustrating the presence of uneven vulnerabilities within the community. Finally, 13.7% of households were affected by shocks that impacted most but not all households in the community. This points to a significant event that had some spread but not nationwide, such as a State's clans based conflict and confrontation over scarce resources, a natural disaster that spared some States, or a health crisis that affected many in the given State. This type of shock creates disparities in recovery efforts, as households affected by the shock may require different levels of support compared to those States that were not impacted.

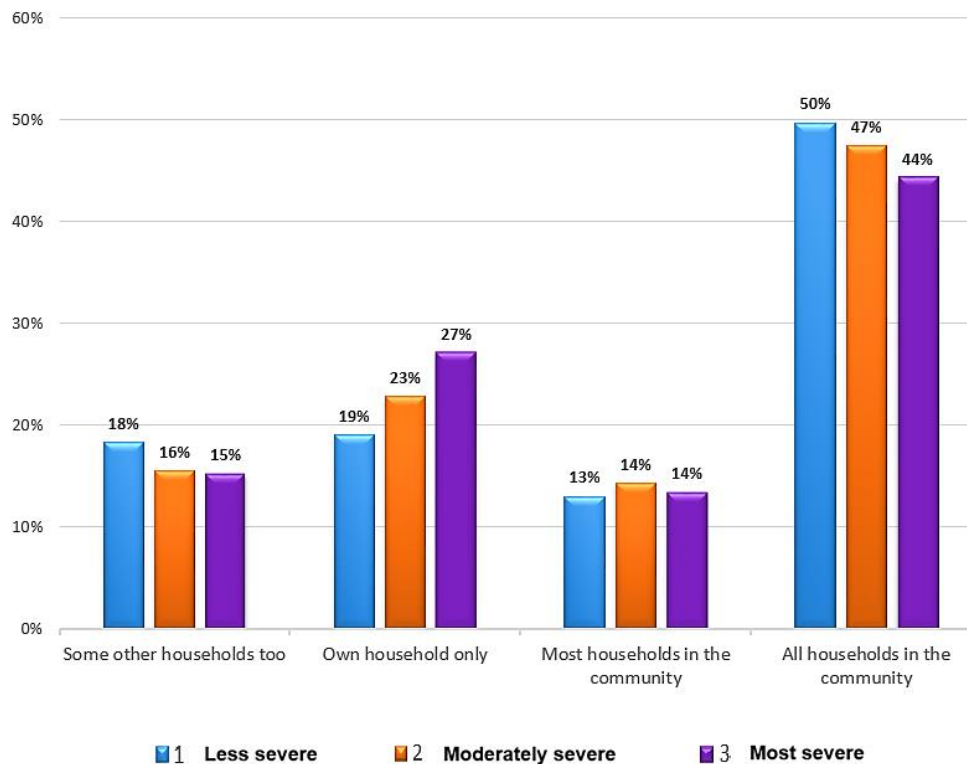
However, these statistics highlight the need for broad interventions to address widespread issues that affect entire communities, as well as targeted intervention tailored to support for households dealing with more individual or localized challenges.

Figure 2.5.1: Trends of shocks experienced by Households across community levels over years



Since 2018, there has been a significant increase in the number of households affected by shocks, especially those that impacted all households in the community. The chart shows that nearly all households in the community have faced widespread events, such as droughts, food price hikes, or other economic challenges. Meanwhile, some households experienced more isolated shocks that affected only their own household or a smaller group of households in the community. However, the number of these more localized shocks is smaller compared to the community-wide impacts. This highlights the need for broad interventions to address widespread issues that affect entire communities, as well as targeted support for households dealing with more individual or localized challenges.

Figure 2.5.2: Distribution of shocks experienced by households across community levels from 2018 to 2022



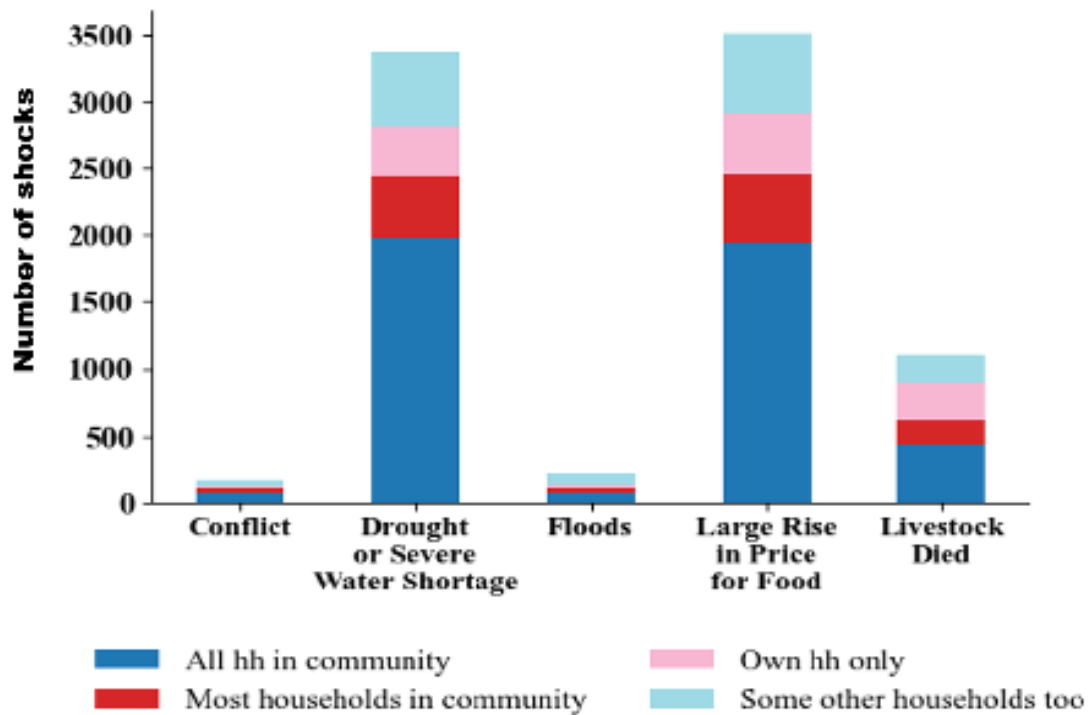
The chart visually represents how communities of different sizes and compositions experience varying degrees of shocks, highlighting both the frequency and severity of these shocks. Each shock is distinguished by colour and intensity, and the impact across different community settings varies significantly:

Shock 1: This represents a type of shock that is less severe but more frequent. It predominantly occurs in larger communities where many households are affected. Due to the interconnectedness and scale of these communities, this type of shock spreads quickly, but its effects on individual households are generally less devastating.

Shock 2: This is a moderately severity, affecting a broader section of the community. It is common across most households in the community regardless size. While the severity is higher than others, it is not as widespread in larger communities but impacts households more deeply.

Shock 3: Representing the most severe form of shock, this is usually experienced by individual households or smaller community groups. The intensity of Shock 3 is much greater compared to the other types, leading to significant hardship or potentially irreversible damage for those affected.

Figure 2.5.3: Number of shocks vs . the top five impacts experienced by households across community levels 2018 - 2022



The chart highlights the differing impacts of various shocks across all community levels, revealing key patterns in how communities experience and respond to these challenges.

Conflict: Interestingly, conflict shows a relatively low impact across all community levels. This suggests that while conflict may be present, it does not exert a significant direct burden on most households within these communities. It’s possible that the effects of conflict are more indirect, or that communities in this context are either isolated from major conflict zones or have developed coping mechanisms to manage its effects. Another possibility is that other shocks, like economic or environmental factors, are more immediately pressing and overshadow the impact of conflict.

Floods: Like conflict, floods also have a lower impact on all community levels. This might indicate that flooding events, while disruptive, are either infrequent or communities have adapted to their occurrence through mitigation strategies, such as infrastructure improvements, early warning systems, or better drainage systems. Alternatively, floods may not affect all regions equally, which could explain the lower impact on the broader community.

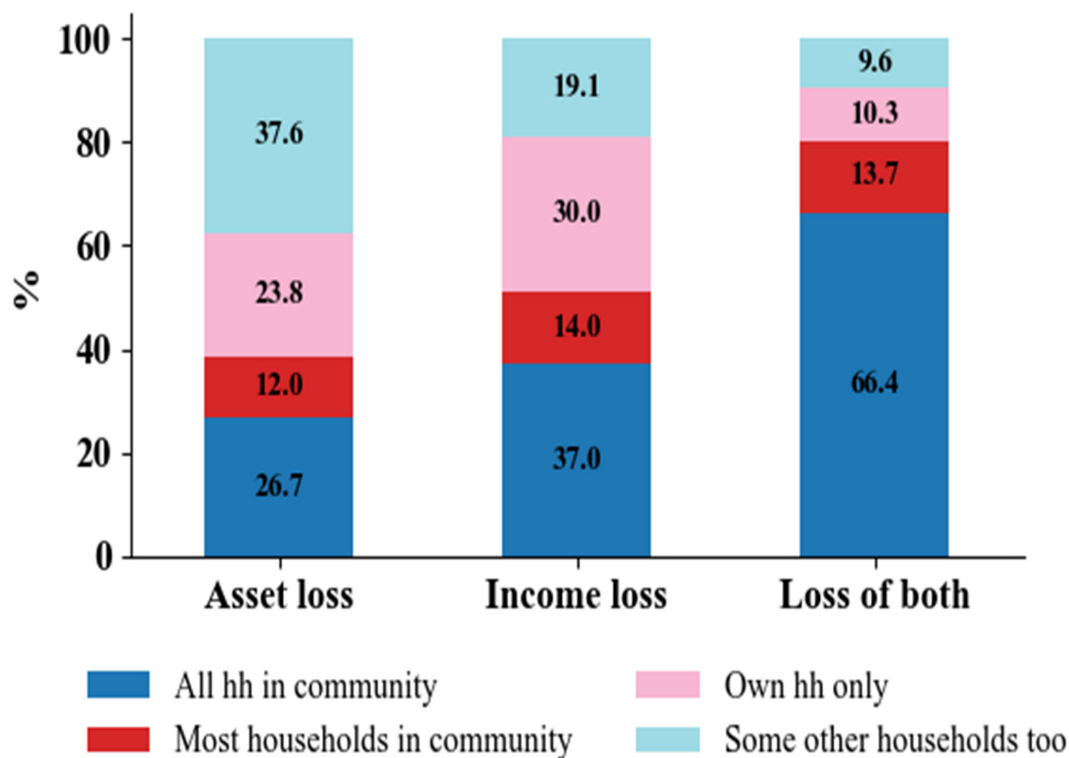
Large Price Rise for Food: The most striking observation is that large food price increases have a significant impact across all community levels. This reflects the widespread vulnerability to price shocks, as households in both rural and urban settings are deeply affected by rising costs of basic necessities. Food price shocks often lead to immediate strain on household budgets, forcing families to cut back on essential items, seek alternative income sources, or rely on aid. This widespread impact underlines the importance of food security and price stability as critical factors in the resilience of these communities.

Droughts: Similar to food price rises, droughts also show a high impact on all community levels. This suggests that droughts are a pervasive and severe shock in these areas, likely due to their effects on agriculture, water availability, and livelihoods, particularly for communities that rely on farming or livestock. The widespread nature of this shock points to the long-term and cascading consequences of droughts, such as crop failure, food shortages, and water scarcity, which have profound effects on the entire community's stability.

Livestock Death: The death of livestock shows a moderate impact on community levels, likely reflecting its significance in areas where pastoralism or animal husbandry is an important economic activity. While not as widespread as drought or food price rises, livestock deaths still affect many households, especially those that rely on livestock for their livelihoods. This impact might be felt more strongly in rural or semi-rural areas where livestock is a key asset, affecting both income and food security for the affected households.

In summary, the chart demonstrates that economic and environmental shocks, such as large food price increases and droughts, have the most significant impacts on communities, affecting all levels. In contrast, conflict and floods have relatively lower impacts, possibly due to mitigation efforts or less frequent occurrences. The death of livestock, while not as widespread, still holds significant importance in certain areas, highlighting the varied nature of shocks and their effects on different aspects of community life. There are; however, other shocks such as robbery, job loss, and family member deaths that tend to be localized, impacting individual households with less widespread effects.

Figure 2.6.1: Distribution of Asset, Income or both losses on community levels from 2018 to 2022





The chart shows how different types of losses asset loss, income loss, and both are distributed across various levels of the community, revealing important insights into how shocks impact households and communities at large.

The most severe type of loss, where households lose both assets and income, predominantly affecting entire communities. A striking 66.4% of households reported that this combined loss impacted all households in the community. This suggests that certain shocks, such as droughts, or price rises for basic needs, have far-reaching consequences that ripple through the entire community, leaving no household untouched.

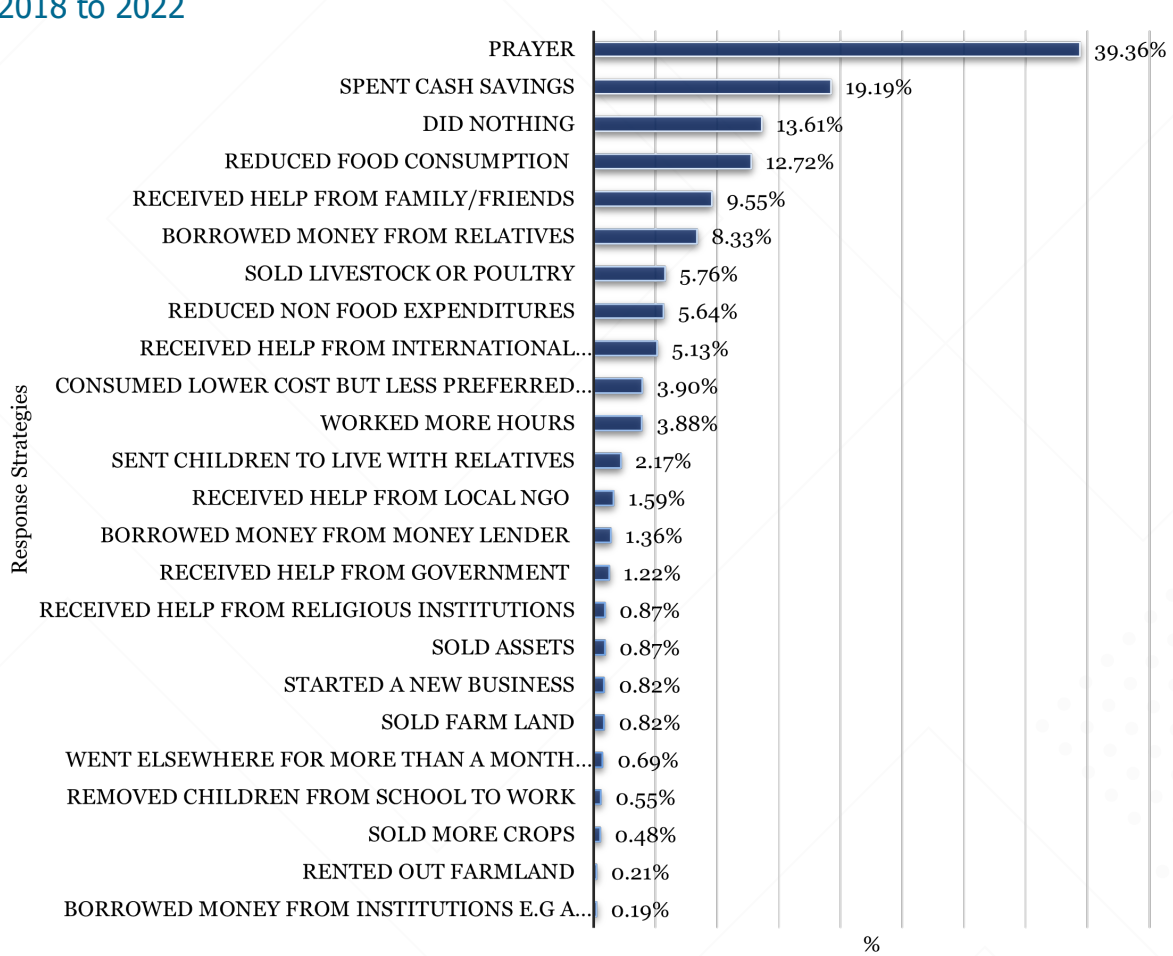
The fact that this loss is so widespread across entire communities underscores the devastating nature of shocks that compromise both income and assets simultaneously. These types of events likely lead to widespread economic destabilization, pushing entire communities into deeper poverty and making recovery far more challenging, as both immediate cash flow and longer-term assets are depleted.

Asset loss, on the other hand, tends to be more localized as per the chart, 37.6% of households affected by asset loss fall under the “some other households too” level, meaning that the loss impacted only certain groups within the community but did not extend to every household. This type of loss may be tied to localized events or shocks that are more targeted, such as livestock deaths, theft, or localized flooding, which tend to affect specific households depending on their livelihood or geographic location.

Income loss shows a more balanced distribution across community levels. The chart indicates that 37% of households experienced income loss on a community-wide level, meaning a substantial portion of households lost income due to shocks that affected the broader economy. This could be a reflection of widespread economic disruptions, such as price hikes or crop failure, which reduce income-generating opportunities for entire communities.

In addition to this, 30% of households reported that the income loss was limited to their own household, suggesting that income loss can also be highly individualized. This type of loss may stem from personal shocks, such as job loss, illness, or other household-specific events that don't necessarily affect the larger community.

Figure 2.6.2: Household Response strategies towards different shocks from 2018 to 2022



This chart represents different responses of household shocks and how people cope with unexpected crises. The following paragraph highlights a breakdown of four most common strategies households use to reduce or mitigate shocks.

Respondents were questioned if they employ cash saving strategy as a response approach to shocks and nearly 20% of them indicated that they use this approach to manage any potential shocks.

This suggests that a substantial portion of individuals has financial reserves they can draw on in times of need. This demonstrates that having savings is a critical coping mechanism for dealing with unexpected financial strains and highlights the importance of financial planning and emergency savings. The cash saving strategy these households used involves setting aside money in saving accounts, emergency funds, or cash reserves as a precaution against future financial difficulties or shocks such as economic downturns, health emergencies, or natural disasters and the approach aims to create a financial buffer that can be used to cover unexpected expenses or losses, thereby reducing the immediate impact of shocks on the household's financial stability. Households that use cash saving strategies are likely to be better prepared for unexpected shocks. Having savings available can help them manage crises more effectively without resorting to high-interest loans or selling off assets but for many households, setting aside savings might be challenging due to limited income, high living costs, or existing debts.



Approximately 13% responded that they made a decision to cut back on food consumption. This response reflects a direct and practical adjustment to manage limited resources and reveals small but relatively significant portion of households using food consumption reduction as a coping mechanism during times of financial stress or adverse events. Reducing food consumption is a common strategy when faced with financial constraints, indicating prioritization of basic needs. It also points to potential issues with food security during times of financial stress.

This strategy involves decreasing the amount or less quality of food consumed to save money; for example, eating fewer meals per day, opting for less expensive and of course avoiding non-essential or luxury food items. In short term reducing food consumption can provide immediate financial relief by cutting down on one of the major household expenses and this might help households manage other pressing needs or expenses, while in long-term or severe reduction in food consumption could potentially lead to nutritional deficiencies, health problems, and decreased overall well-being to the given households.

Respondents were also questioned if they use prayer as coping approach and nearly 40% of respondents relied on prayer as a response to household shocks. This is the most prevalent response among the options provided. The high percentage indicates that a significant number of people turn to spiritual or religious practices for comfort or hope during crises. This may reflect cultural or community norms where spirituality plays a key role in coping mechanisms.

Prayer offered emotional and psychological comfort and for many, it served as a source of hope, peace, and strength during difficult times and it can help individuals manage stress and maintain mental resilience during times of adversity; and perhaps for those who are religious or spiritual, prayer is often viewed as a way to seek divine assistance, find meaning in their struggles, or gain reassurance that they are not alone in their hardships.

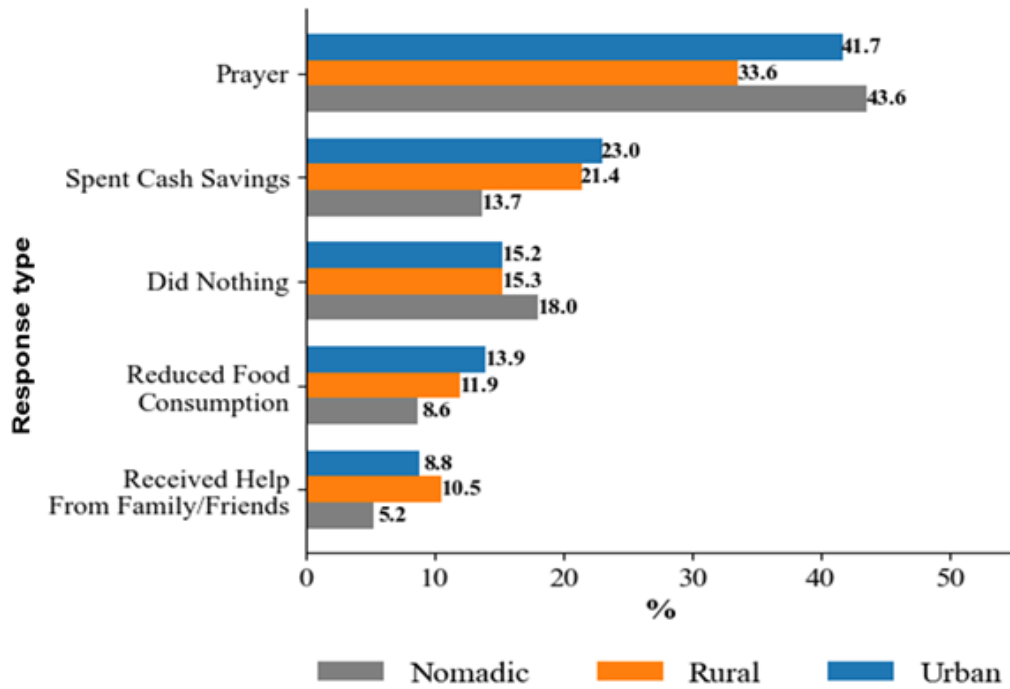
It might be used alongside other coping strategies; it does not replace practical measures like financial planning or seeking assistance but can complement them by providing emotional support at the time.

About 14% of households responded that they did not take any action in response to the shock. This could indicate a sense of helplessness or lack of effective coping strategies. It might also reflect a lack of awareness or resources to address the situation actively. This means that this proportion of households chose not to implement any specific strategies or interventions to manage their situation; the number is relatively small compared to other coping mechanisms, it still represents a meaningful subset of the population.

These households may not have the financial or material resources needed to take action and without resources, options such as saving, investing, or seeking external help might be unavailable and on contrary to that some households might not be aware of available coping strategies or may not know how to access resources or seek support. There may also be a belief by the households that taking action would not improve their situation or that the effort required to address the shock outweighs the potential benefits and for that reason they may feel overwhelmed or hopeless, leading to inaction as a form of resignation.

This response data shows a mix of practical and spiritual coping strategies in response to household shocks. While financial and practical adjustments like spending savings or reducing food intake are important, a significant reliance on prayer suggests strong spiritual or religious influences in the coping process. The presence of inaction also highlights the need for additional support or resources for those who feel unable to take effective steps.

Figure 2.6.3: Distribution of Major Household Response Strategies to Different Shocks in Rural, Urban, and Nomadic Communities from 2018 to 2022



Prayer

Prayer emerges as a common coping mechanism across all groups, with the highest usage seen in nomadic populations, followed closely by rural, and slightly less by urban households. The strong reliance on prayer, especially among nomadic and rural groups, may reflect their deeper integration into traditional or spiritual practices as a means of seeking solace in times of hardship. The lower percentage in urban areas could suggest that urban residents may lean more towards practical or secular approaches, though prayer still plays a significant role for many.

Spending cash savings

Using financial reserves is another strategy, but its usage is notably different across these groups. Urban households rely most on their savings, suggesting they might have better access to financial reserves, possibly due to more stable or diversified incomes. Rural households use this strategy slightly less, likely reflecting a mix of subsistence farming and less cash flow. Nomadic populations, however, use their cash savings low, indicating they may have limited financial reserves, either because of less access to formal banking or due to a livelihood that involves more barter or asset-based wealth.



Did nothing

This strategy in response to a shocks is reported by all three groups, but the percentage is slightly higher for nomadic populations. Nomadic populations report a higher percentage of inactivity in response to shocks, which reflects their limited coping options due to geographical isolation and heavy reliance on natural resources like water and livestock. Their vulnerability to crises, such as droughts, is amplified by their lack of access to markets, formal safety nets, or emergency services.

This leaves them feeling powerless and without clear alternatives when a crisis strikes, making “doing nothing” a common response because they have fewer available solutions compared to urban and rural groups.

Urban households report similar levels of inactivity during crises, though slightly less than nomads. In cities, while people have better access to markets and social services, they can still face moments of helplessness during major shocks like food price increases or economic downturns. Unemployment, high living costs, and market dependencies can limit their ability to act, leading to temporary inactivity when immediate solutions, such as switching jobs or cutting costs, are not available or sufficient to cope with the crisis.

Rural households, like their urban counterparts, show comparable levels of inactivity during shocks. Despite their reliance on agriculture and closer proximity to natural resources, rural families can also face periods of inaction when coping strategies, like selling surplus produce or finding alternative work, are not feasible. Crop failure, lack of market access, or loss of income opportunities may limit their responses, leading to similar levels of inactivity as urban areas when no immediate solutions exist during a crisis.

Reducing food consumption

This strategy is more common in Urban areas, with slightly less use in Rural households, and the lowest rate among Nomadic populations. This might suggest that urban dwellers, more dependent on markets for food, feel the need to cut back when prices rise or their income drops. Rural and Nomadic groups, who may rely on self-produced or naturally sourced food, might not have to resort to this as frequently, though it could also reflect better food security strategies in non-urban settings.

Receiving help from family or friends

This is a strategy used most by Rural populations, possibly due to the strength of social networks in more tight-knit rural communities where families tend to live closer together. Urban households also use this strategy, though perhaps slightly less due to the anonymity and social fragmentation of city life. Nomadic populations, however, use this strategy the least, likely because their mobility and more dispersed social ties make it harder to rely on immediate help from friends and family during shocks.

2.2 Limitations

While the S-HoSAR report offers valuable insights into the shocks and responses of Somali households, several gaps should be acknowledged:

- ◇ There was a constraint in data availability, the report relies on data from the SIHBS-2022, which, while comprehensive, may not fully capture all regional nuances or recent developments and in some areas data collection may have been limited due to accessibility or security concerns, leading to potential gaps.
- ◇ There was a temporal limitation in report, the data reflects household conditions at a specific point in time. As shocks, particularly economic and environmental ones, can be highly dynamic, the findings may not fully account for evolving circumstances, such as changing weather patterns or conflict.
- ◇ The regional disparities should also be acknowledged; given the diverse geographic and socioeconomic conditions across Somalia's regions, certain localized shocks and responses may not be adequately represented in the national survey dataset. This may lead to generalizations that do not fully capture the specific realities of some regions, especially remote or conflict-affected areas.
- ◇ The survey questionnaire on shocks was not entirely inclusive and did not cover all possible shocks with precise detail. This limitation may have led to the underreporting of certain types of shocks that households experienced, potentially affecting the comprehensiveness of the analysis.

Together these limitations should be considered when making any future survey/research and addressing these gaps could potentially provide a more detailed understanding of household shocks and coping strategies in Somalia.



CONCLUSION & RECOMMENDATIONS

3.0 Conclusion

In this section, the S-HoSAR summarizes the overarching trends and implications by highlighting key findings to address areas that need significant concern. This is followed by recommendations that focus on the importance of strengthening data availability and coordination for effectively identifying and addressing shocks and responses among Somali households as improved data availability ensures timely access to reliable, comprehensive, and accurate information on the subject. These recommendations are intended to guide policymakers, development partners in improving data for addressing the root causes of shocks and building a more secure and prosperous future for Somalia's households.

Summary of findings

The S-HoSAR Report offers a critical examination of the impact of various shocks on Somalia's households and the efficacy of the responses to these challenges. SNBS' central goal of this report is to systematically assess and document the impacts of various shocks on household well-being, and to evaluate the effectiveness of response mechanisms adopted by the households to cope with startling shocks. Through an in-depth analysis of household vulnerabilities, economic disruptions, and the adequacy of current interventions, the report underscores several key findings and actionable insights.

The findings reveal that Somalia's households continue to face significant challenges from a range of shocks, including natural, economic, social/security and health shocks respectively. These shocks have exacerbated vulnerabilities, leading to increased food insecurity, disrupted access to essential services, and heightened economic stress. Each shock has different response strategies based on the extent of impact it has had differing from one area to another based on the circumstances caused by them. Despite ongoing efforts by various stakeholders, there remain notable gaps in the effectiveness and reach of response mechanisms.

Key findings

Households are experiencing multifaceted impacts from shocks, including reduced income, increased displacement, and deteriorating health conditions. The compounded nature of these shocks often results in greater cumulative effects on household well-being. The findings show that the Large rise in price for food, Drought or severe water shortage, and Death of livestock to be the three leading shocks among others; which are also rated from the least impacted shocks over time to the most impacted shocks over time. Moreover, the data analysis demonstrated the correlation between shock type and its impact, for instance, a conflict shock has a more impact on the income loss than asset loss when compared to each other. On the contrary, livestock stolen had more impact on the asset side than the income side. While fire/storm equally impacted both income and asset. This illustrates that shocks have variable frequencies and diver from a place to place based on the nature of shocks and household ability to manage the shock. The findings demonstrated the comparison of shock types and their impact on community wellbeing, climate and economic related shocks such as price rises for food, droughts and livestock death have the highest impact on all household communities; while social and health related shocks have less impact on the communities.



The findings drew that prayer emerges as a vital tool highlighting its integral role in holistic approaches to dealing with life's unexpected disruptions and serves as a significant response mechanism for households navigating various shocks and adversities. It provides a source of emotional support, instills a sense of hope, and fosters resilience in the face of uncertainty. By offering a framework for coping and finding meaning during difficult times, prayer not only helps individuals and families manage immediate stress but also strengthens their ability to endure and recover from challenges. A substantial portion of households employed cash savings in response to the shocks as Somali community has a culture of saving money for future purposes; the saving strategy is common in urban communities where banks are easily accessible unlike rural areas.

Another considerable number, did nothing in response to shocks; this can be a nuanced response mechanism for households facing shocks, reflecting a deliberate choice to pause and assess rather than react impulsively. This approach may allow families to avoid hasty decisions that could exacerbate their situation, providing time to gain clarity, evaluate options, and strategize more effectively. Contrary to that, households that used this strategy could've been severely marginalized, helpless and left with no choice but to stay home and do nothing in response to the shocks they encountered at the time. While response efforts from government bodies, NGOs, and international agencies have made notable strides and saved the country from a catastrophic famine, there are still areas where the response has been insufficient or misaligned at the time.

3.1 Recommendations

When analyzing household shocks and responses in Somalia, understanding the data availability and gaps is crucial for effective assessment, especially given the country's protracted humanitarian crises, political instability, and recurring natural disasters. Effective data coordination is crucial to avoid fragmented findings and contradictions, which can lead to flawed decision-making by policymakers. Without proper coordination, agencies operating independently often produce inconsistent data, which confuses the overall picture and undermines efforts to develop coherent, targeted policies. In the context of Somalia, where multiple shocks like drought, conflict, and displacement intersect, data coordination is even more critical for ensuring that interventions are well-informed, timely, and effective. The report provides the following recommendations:

Strengthen Data Collection Systems

- ◇ SNBS should implement regular, standardized surveys to collect data on household-level shocks (e.g., drought, food insecurity, health crises). This should cover nomadic, urban and rural areas, ensuring a holistic view of vulnerability across different regions.
- ◇ Deploy mobile or web-based platforms for real-time data collection, allowing households to report shocks as they occur. This could integrate with humanitarian or governmental monitoring systems to trigger faster responses.
- ◇ Given the overlap between conflict and climate-induced shocks, better integrated conflict-climate vulnerability assessments are needed. Linking displacement data with climate data would help predict future household vulnerabilities and target interventions more effectively.
- ◇ Incorporating satellite data (e.g., rainfall patterns, vegetation health) with household surveys to get a more accurate and real-time picture of environmental shocks (droughts, floods) and their impact on livelihoods is recommended.

Expand Data on Coping Mechanisms

- ◇ SNBS should collect more data on formal and informal coping mechanisms (borrowing from family, selling livestock, etc.) to better understand how households respond when shocks occur. This would require qualitative and quantitative approaches to capture nuanced behavior.
- ◇ Given the importance of remittances in Somalia, improving data collection on the frequency, volume, and impact of remittance flows on household resilience would help policymakers assess their role in mitigating shocks.
- ◇ Conduct rigorous data analysis, such as randomized control trials (RCTs), household surveys, or before-and-after comparisons to assess the effectiveness of interventions. This data can guide adjustments in response strategies over time.

Encourage Data-Sharing and Open Access

- ◇ SNBS should create a national data repository where humanitarian, development, and government actors can upload, access, and share household-level data related to shocks and responses. This could be managed by SNBS, in partnership with international organizations.
- ◇ SNBS should implement formal agreements that clarify data ownership, access, and confidentiality, encouraging greater collaboration among agencies. These agreements should balance the need for data sharing with the need to protect sensitive information, especially in conflict zones.
- ◇ Encourage collaboration between local universities, government agencies, and international organizations in data collection and analysis to ensure comprehensive coverage and eliminate duplication of efforts.

Develop Predictive Analytics and Early Warning Models

- ◇ Use advanced data analytics to predict future shocks based on historical data. For instance, analyzing past drought patterns alongside household responses could help forecast when and where future crises are likely to occur.
- ◇ Create a dynamic, data-driven vulnerability index that incorporates both static factors (poverty levels, access to infrastructure) and dynamic factors (weather patterns, market prices). This index could trigger early warning systems when certain thresholds are breached.

Leverage Big Data and Social Media

- ◇ Use data from mobile payments and market transactions to monitor food prices and household purchasing power. Market price volatility can act as a proxy for household stress in response to economic shocks, and tracking this data would help identify crisis points.
- ◇ The integration of advanced data strategies transforms the approach to household shock response from reactive to proactive. A data-centric system fosters resilience by anticipating crises, mitigating impacts, and targeting responses more effectively. Additionally, it enhances collaboration among actors, drives continuous improvement through accountability, and empowers local communities by placing actionable information in their hands. These recommendations emphasize improving the accuracy, timeliness, and usefulness of information in household shock analysis, ensuring that responses are better tailored to the specific needs and vulnerabilities of Somali communities.



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