

Situation of Women and Children in Southern Tanzania: From questionnaires in Ifunda, Iringa with focus on food-intake and health

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I. Introduction

1. Health and nutrition status in Tanzania

Zero hunger, good health, and well-being are important goals for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), yet many people have not been able to fulfill this situation. In Tanzania, on the east coast of Africa, great improvement has been seen in Under-5 Mortality Rates (U5MR) and Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) at 66.5 and 46.2 per 1,000 births respectively, almost reaching the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) of 64 and 38 per 1,000 births¹. However, MDG to reduce hunger shows a mixed picture. The prevalence of underweight for children under-5 is 13.4% which is close to reaching the target of 12.5%, as well as the Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) or wasting measured by weight-for-height at 3.8%. However, chronic malnutrition or stunting measured by height-for-age remains at 34.7%.²

Regional disparities are also prevalent in Tanzania. According to the 2012 Census, national life expectancy at birth is 61.8, but Njombe Region, which has previously been part of Iringa Region, has the lowest life expectancy at 52.8 years, followed by Iringa Region at 55.4 years. Highest is Arusha at 70.5 years. Similarly, Njombe Region, has the highest Crude Death Rate (CDR) of 13.5 deaths per 1,000 persons followed by 12.5 of Iringa, whereas Arusha had the lowest 5.4 and the national average was 9.3.³

Regions with a higher adult mortality rates were Njombe (13 deaths per 1,000 persons), Pwani (11.5 deaths 1,000 persons), and Iringa (11.3 deaths per 1,000 persons), whereas the national average was 8.3 deaths

per 1,000 persons, and the lowest was Arusha at 4.9⁴.

As for U5MR, Kagera (93.9 per 1,000), Iringa (90.7), Katavi (88.0), Zanzibar Kusini Unguja (85.9), and Njombe (81.4) Regions have the highest rates and have not reached the MDG. Similar tendency is seen in the IMR with Kagera (61.8 per 1,000), Iringa (59.8), Katavei (58.2), Zanzibar Kusini Unguja (56.8), and Njombe (54.5) Regions with the highest rate. Lowest U5MR and IMR are in Arusha (37.3, 29.0 respectively) and Kilimanjaro (38.5 and 29.6 respectively) Regions⁵.

Chronic malnutrition also prevails diversity and dynamics between regions. In the 2010 Tanzania Demographic Health Survey (TDHS, Map 1), Dodoma (56%), Lindi (54%), and Iringa (57%) Regions have the highest percentage of stunting over 50%⁶. TFNC survey 2014 earmarks Kagera (51.9%), Njombe (51.5%), and Iringa (51.3%), as regions of stunting over 50%.⁷

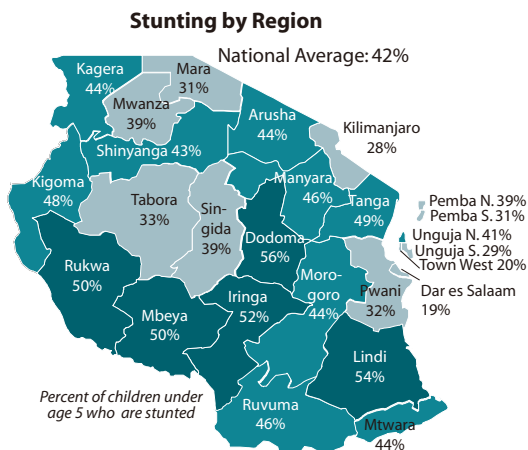
On the other hand, Iringa has the lowest rate of acute malnutrition (GAM, wasting) at 0.7%, whereas Zanzibar (7.2%), Dodoma (5.2%), Tanga (4.8%), Mara (4.9%), and Singida (4.7%) have the highest⁸. As for underweight, Kagera (22.2%) and Dodoma (21.8%) Regions have the highest, followed by Kigoma (18.8%), Pemba South (18.1%), Pemba North (16.7%), and Iringa (15.5%). Dar es Salaam has the lowest percentage of underweight (6.6%)⁹.

Tanzania has improved children's mortality and underweight at the national level, but has high level of chronic malnutrition. Furthermore, there are steep disparities among regions. Iringa Region has high mortality (crude, adult, under-5, and infant) with

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Map 1. Stunting of children by Region (2010)



Source: Tanzania 2011, p.10.

short life expectancy rate. It continues to have high percentage of chronic malnourished children, but has the least acute malnutrition.

2. Research area

Iringa Region has been the first pilot project of the UNICEF nutrition programme that started in the 1980s, where malnutrition and child mortality was

understood as manifestations of various immediate, underlying, and structural causes, and the method of children’s growth monitoring at the community level was taken¹⁰. This method has been considered successful, and the growth monitoring has gone in scale, not only nation-wide in Tanzania, but also globally. The author has done a comprehensive study to identify the influencing factor on child mortality in deprived regions of Tanzania as of the 2002 census data¹¹, but has not looked into the reasons for the situation of Iringa Region which has become a region with high U5MR and IMR as of 2010 census data. The southern highland is considered as cultivating ample food, yet the statistical health and nutrition situation indicate that food availability is not the only determinant for their situation. One previous study in the Iringa Region with high health facility delivery coverage indicated that poorer women were less likely to deliver their babies at a health facility¹². Furthermore, DHS survey indicated that Iringa Region has the second highest high HIV prevalence rate of 13%¹³. However, baseline information is not enough to

Map 2. Ifunda Village, Iringa in Tanzania



Source: Created by the author from google map.

understand and explain the situation of Iringa Region, which will be one of the objective of this research.

The research took place in Ifunda Ward, Iringa District, Iringa Region, and collected information of respondents from Ifunda (63%) and Bandabichi (35%) Villages of the same ward, and also women from Ibumila (1%) and Malandege (0.6%) Villages from other wards in Iringa District who used the health services in Ifunda Ward. The location of Ifunda is about 40km away from Iringa City indicated in Map 2. The population of Ifunda Ward is 12,199 (as of 2012), Ifunda Village is 2,630 (673 households) and Bandabichi is 3,067 (811 households, as of 2018). The majority are the Hehe ethnic group, who are famous for fighting the Germans during the colonial rule. Ifunda has also welcomed the Polish refugees during the Nazi invasion, and this built a relationship up to today for the Polish to contribute to the Ifunda Technical Secondary School.

The research area Iringa District has IMR and U5MR of 56.1 and 84.7, which is slightly lower than the regional average¹⁴. According to a nurse, patients came to the dispensary for diarrhea, Urinary Tract Infection (UTI), skin infection or rashes, upper respiratory infection, and abscesses. Health workers indicated malaria, HIV/AIDs, tuberculosis, diabetes, blood pressure, and pneumonia as common diseases.

3. Methodology

The questionnaire interview was based on a comprehensive questionnaire in Swahili. The questions included 75 questions about the respondents, marriage and family, livelihood, groups, mutual assistance, children, health, and food intake. Questions on health is based on the standardized SF-12, and the Swahili translation has been based on the verified Swahili SF-36¹⁵. Questions on food intake frequency has been based on research in Japan¹⁶, adjusted to food in Tanzania based on *Tanzania Food Composition Tables*¹⁷ and discussions with nutrition specialists in Tanzania. Questions on groups and mutual assistance has been formulated with reference to *Measuring Social Capital*¹⁸. Other questions have been formulated

based on the author's previous questionnaire interviews¹⁹.

The questionnaires were targeted to mothers with small children to understand the situation of children and young women, especially mothers, and done on the day when mothers came to weigh their children. Questionnaire nos. 1 to 63 were done in a dispensary located in Kibaoni Hamlet on 10 June 2019. Questionnaire nos. 64-127, 171 were done in Ifunda Technical Secondary School on 19 June 2019. Questionnaire nos. 128 to 170 were done again in a dispensary in Kibaoni on 6 July. The objective was explained with the support of a health worker, and the answers were written either by the respondent or the health worker. Total 171 questionnaires were registered: 108 women from Ifunda Village (at least 41 from Kilimehawa A Hamlet, 39 from Kibaoni A, 6 from Ulolage, 4 from Mgondo, 2 from Kiperu, and 1 from Mlafu), 60 from Bandabichi (28 from Bandabichi Hamlet, 12 from Ifunda Secondary, 6 from Kibaoni B, 6 from Kilimahewa B, 5 from Kivavali A, and 1 from Kivavali B), 2 from Ibumila, and 1 from Mlandege. The sample does not represent any of the villages nor hamlets, but purposively selected to capture the situation of women (or parents) with children under-5 who utilized the services in Kibaoni Hamlet and Ifunda Technical Secondary School of Ifunda Ward.

Research ethics were followed in accordance to the rule and regulations of the Utsunomiya University (permission granted as H18-0008), such as asking prior approval to interview. In this paper, result of a preliminary compilation of the answers to the questions will be reported, followed by its analysis and summary.

I. Results

The Original Swahili questionnaire, English translation, and the major results are indicated in Table 1. Results of questions indicated with "+" are indicated elsewhere, either in the text or other tables. Percentage is calculated based on the total valid answers for each question. All the table are created by the author based on the questionnaire unless otherwise stated.

Table 1. Questionnaire interview (Swahili and English) and its major results

Swahili original	English translation	+	0	%	1	%	2	%	3	%	4	%	5	%	Total	Average
Entry code	English		No	Yes											n	
Swahili	[Translation omitted when No/Yes question]		Hapana	Ndiyo												
Mkoa:	Region	+													171	
Wilaya:	District	+													171	
Kijiji:	Village	+													171	
Kitongoji:	Hamlet	+													141	
Jina ya Mhojaji:	Interviewer	+													171	
Tarehe:	Date	+													171	
Jiografia binafsi	About yourself															
1. Jina:	Name	-													171	
Jinsia: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Ke <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Me	Sex: 1 Female 2 Male			128:	96%	6:	4%								134	
2. Mwaka wa kuzaliwa? 19	Year born?														151	
a) umri:	age	2+													151	28.36
<input type="checkbox"/> b) sijui	don't know			5:											5	
3. Dini yako? <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Muislami <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Mkristo <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Nyingine	Your religion? 1 Islam 2 Christian Other			12:	7%	148:	91%	3:							163	
4. Kabila:	Ethnic group	3+													171	
(5) Umechezwa unyago au jando? <input type="checkbox"/> 0 Hapana <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Ndiyo	Have you had your initiation?		114:	81%	27:	19%									141	
6. Ulisoma shule? <input type="checkbox"/> 0 Hapana <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Ndiyo:	Did you study in school?		7:	4%	158:	96%									165	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 msingi tu	Elementary only		69:	57%	52:	43%									121	
msingi	Elementary (all)		14:	12%	107:	88%									121	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 sekondari	Secondary		59:	52%	55:	48%									114	
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 madrasa	Madras		112:	98%	2:	2%									114	
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 nyingine	Other	+	107:	94%	7:	6%									114	
Kuhusu ndoa na familia	About marriage and family															
7. Umewahi kuoa/kuolewa? <input type="checkbox"/> 0 Hapana →Q11 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Ndiyo →Q8	Have you ever been married?		40:	25%	119:	75%									159	
(8) Je nani alitoa namuzi ya wewe kuoa/kuolewa?:	Who decided about your marriage?:				32:	24%	104:	76%							136	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Wazazi <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Mwenyewe	1 Parents 2 Yourself*		45:	32%	95:	68%									140	
(9) Je familia yako (au wewe mwenyewe) ilipokea au kulipa mahari?	Have your family or yourself receive or paid bridewealth?															
<input type="checkbox"/> 0 Hapana →Q11 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Ndiyo			18:	14%	111:	86%									129	
(10) Je walipata/ kulipa nini kwa ajili ya mahari yako?	What did they receive/pay as bridewealth?															
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Pesa:	Money															
TSh	TSh	+	55:	46%	65:	54%									66	743,182
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Mifugo:	Livestock														120	
gani mingapi?	How many of what kind?	4+														
11. Sasa ndoa yako ni ipi?	How is your marriage now?				30:	21%	92:	65%	4:	3%	12:	8%	4:	3%	142	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Hamna ndoa (unmarried)	1 Unmarried															
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Umeo(ewa)wa (married) →Q11b	2 Married															
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Mmetachwa (Mtaliki divorced)	3 Divorced															
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Unakaa mahali tofauti (separated)	4 Separated															
<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Mjane/ Mgane (widowed)	5 Widowed															
(11b) Je ndoa yako ni ya mke mmoja au zaidi matala (polygamy): Wangapi?	Is your marriage of one wife or more (polygamy): How many?	4+														1.10
12. Je unaitishi pamoja na mume/mke au mwenzwa wako?	Do you live with your husband/wife or partner?		43:	30%	101:	70%									144	
<input type="checkbox"/> 0 Hapana <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Ndiyo																
13. Je unaitishi na watu wangapi nyumbani? a) Jumla wangapi: _____	How many people live in your house? Total:	4+													138	4.55
b) Watoto chini ya miaka 5 ni wangapi: _____ 0→Q14	How many children under-5?	4+													138	1.45

Swahili original	Entry code	English translation	+	0	%	1	%	2	%	3	%	4	%	5	%	Total	Average
				No		Yes										n	
Swahili		English															
Kuhusu watoto		[Translation omitted when No/Yes question]															
33. Wakati ulipokuwa (mwenzu wako) mjambito ulipata chakula cha kutosha? <input type="checkbox"/> 0 Hapana <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Ndiyo	33	When you (or your partner) was pregnant did you (or your partner) get sufficient food?		18	12%	137	88%									155	
34. Maziwa ya mama yanatosha? <input type="checkbox"/> 0 Hapana <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Ndiyo	34	Was breastmilk sufficient?		12	8%	139	92%									151	
35. Watoto walianza kula chakula gani? <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Uji wa: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 mahindi <input type="checkbox"/> 2 mchele <input type="checkbox"/> 3 mtama <input type="checkbox"/> 4 mubogo <input type="checkbox"/> 5 _____	35.1	What was your child's first food? 1 Porridge of: 2 maize 3 rice 4 sorghum 5 cassava		7	4%	159	96%									166	
36. Chakula cha watoto kinatosha? <input type="checkbox"/> 0 Hapana <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Ndiyo	35.11	maize		12	12%	89	88%									101	
37. Nani anaamua mtoto ngonjwa apelekwe wapi? <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Mke/mwanamke tu <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Mume/mwanamme tu <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Mume na mke/wote	35.12	rice		95	95%	5	5%									100	
	35.13	sorghum		96	96%	4	4%									100	
	35.14	cassava		98	98%	2	2%									100	
	35.15	other		88	87%	13	13%									101	
	35.2	2 Other		146	88%	20	12%									166	
36. Chakula cha watoto kinatosha? <input type="checkbox"/> 0 Hapana <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Ndiyo	36	Was children's food enough?		25	16%	130	84%									155	
37. Nani anaamua mtoto ngonjwa apelekwe wapi? <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Mke/mwanamke tu <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Mume/mwanamme tu <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Mume na mke/wote	37	Who decided to send the children where when s/he was sick? 1 Wife/women only 2 Husband/men only 3 Husband and wife/all		10	6%	149	92%	3	2%	83	52%	34	21%	4	3%	162	
Kuhusu Afiya		About health															
41. Je kwa ujumla unaonaje hali yako kiafya? <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Nzuri kupita kiasi <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Nzuri sana <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Nzuri <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Ya wastani <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Hapana. Haizuii kabisa	41	[GH: General Health] In general would you say your health is: 1 Excellent 2 Very good 3 Good 4 Fair 5 Poor		3	2%	35	22%	83	52%	34	21%	4	3%			159	3.01
Shughuli zilizoorodheshwa hapa chini ni shughuli unazoweza kuzifanya kila siku. Je afa yako hivi sasa inakuzuia kuifanya shughuli hizi? Kama ndiyo kwa kiasi gani? <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Ndiyo. Inazuia sana <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Ndiyo. Inazuia kiasi <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Ndiyo. Inazuia kiasi <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Ndiyo. Inazuia kiasi <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Hapana. Haizuii kabisa	42	[PH: Physical Functioning] The following questions are about activities you might do during a typical day. Does your health now limit you in these activities? If so how much? 42. Moderate activities such as carrying water, washing clothes, and carrying children: 1 Yes, very limited 2 Yes, limited a little 3 Yes, limited a little 5 No, not limited at all		14	9%			44	30%							148	4.03
43. Kufanya kazi nzito. Kupanda mlima mkali: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Ndiyo. Inazuia sana <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Ndiyo. Inazuia kiasi <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Ndiyo. Inazuia kiasi <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Ndiyo. Inazuia kiasi <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Hapana. Haizuii kabisa	43	Heavy activities: To climb a steep mountain: 1 Yes, very limited 2 Yes, limited a little 3 Yes, limited a little 5 No, not limited at all		17	14%			34	28%							123	3.89
Katika kipindi cha mwezi uliopita je umewahi kupata moja ya matatizo yafuatayo katika utendaji wako wa kazi ikiwa ni matokeo ya matatizo ya afa yako? <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Ndiyo <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Ndiyo <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Ndiyo <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Ndiyo <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Hapana	44	[RP: Role Physical] During a month have you had any of the following problems with your work or other regular daily activities as a result of your physical health? 44. Accomplished less than you would like? 1 Yes 2 Yes 3 Yes 5 No		76	52%											147	2.93
45. Umeshindwa kuifanya baadhi ya kazi au shughuli? <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Ndiyo <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Ndiyo <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Ndiyo <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Ndiyo <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Hapana	45	Were limited in the kind of work or other activities? 1 Yes 2 Yes 3 Yes 5 No		53	38%											138	3.46
Katika kipindi cha mwezi uliopita uliwaahi kupata moja ya matatizo yafuatayo katika utendaji wako wa kazi ikiwa ni matokeo ya maawazo? <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Ndiyo <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Ndiyo <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Ndiyo <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Ndiyo <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Hapana	46	[RE: Role Emotional] During a month have you had any of the following problems with your work or other regular daily activities as a result of any emotional problems (such as feeling depressed or anxious)? 46. Accomplished less than you would like? 1 Yes 2 Yes 3 Yes 5 No		82	55%											150	2.81

Swahili original	English translation	+	0	%	1	%	2	%	3	%	4	%	5	%	Total	Average
Entry code	English		No		Yes										n	
63	[Translation omitted when No/Yes question] Choose one answer for each question: During the dry season: How many times do you eat staple food (cereals, tubers, or bananas)? * 0 Don't eat 1 Less than 3 days a week 2 4,5,6 days a week 3 Once every day 4 More than 2 times a day		6	4%	39	27%	25	17%	21	15%	53	37%			144	2.53
64	64. Unakula mboga mboga mara ngapi? *		4	3%	17	12%	23	16%	32	23%	66	46%			142	2.98
65	65. Unakula nyama mara ngapi? **0 Sili ** 0 Don't eat 1 Mara 1 au chini kila wiki 2 2,3 days a week 3 4,5,6 days a week 4 Every day		9	6%	64	45%	55	38%	11	8%	4	3%			143	1.56
66	66. Unakula samaki au daga mara ngapi? **		6	5%	43	33%	67	52%	8	6%	5	4%			129	1.71
67	67. Unakunywa maziwa mara ngapi? **		23	17%	48	36%	38	28%	11	8%	15	11%			135	1.61
68	68. Unakula mikuunde mara ngapi? **		25	19%	42	31%	47	35%	10	7%	11	8%			135	1.56
69	69. Unakula mbegu mara ngapi? **		36	27%	29	21%	41	30%	14	10%	15	11%			135	1.58
70	70. Unakula matunda mara ngapi? **		8	6%	25	19%	47	35%	25	19%	29	22%			134	2.31
71	71. Unakula chakula nyinginyi ya pori mara ngapi? **		40	29%	30	22%	30	22%	15	11%	21	15%			136	1.61
72	72. Unatumia mafuta mara ngapi? *		10	7%	16	12%	28	20%	35	25%	49	36%			138	2.70
73	73. Unatumia chumvi mara ngapi? *		6	4%	7	5%	29	21%	37	27%	60	43%			139	2.99
74	74. Unatumia sukari mara ngapi? *		7	5%	15	11%	26	19%	52	37%	40	29%			140	2.74
75	75. Wakati ya masika... Unakula chakula (nafakara, mizizi, au ndizi) mara ngapi? *		8	6%	22	17%	27	21%	33	25%	41	31%			131	2.59
76	76. Unakula mboga mboga mara ngapi? *		5	4%	18	13%	31	23%	24	18%	57	42%			135	2.81
77	77. Unakula nyama mara ngapi? **		7	6%	56	44%	43	34%	11	9%	9	7%			126	1.67
78	78. Unakula sarmaki au daga mara ngapi? **		7	5%	43	33%	55	43%	12	9%	12	9%			129	1.84
79	79. Unakunywa maziwa mara ngapi? **		14	11%	45	35%	33	26%	10	8%	26	20%			128	1.91
80	80. Unakula mikuunde mara ngapi? **		22	17%	34	27%	40	31%	12	9%	19	15%			127	1.78
81	81. Unakula mbegu mara ngapi? **		25	22%	24	21%	33	28%	13	11%	21	18%			116	1.84
82	82. Unakula matunda mara ngapi? **		7	6%	29	23%	37	30%	12	10%	39	31%			124	2.38
83	83. Unakula chakula nyinginyi ya pori mara ngapi? **		40	32%	26	21%	25	20%	7	6%	26	21%			124	1.62
84	84. Unatumia mafuta mara ngapi? *		10	8%	17	14%	24	19%	26	21%	48	38%			125	2.68
85	85. Unatumia chumvi mara ngapi? *		5	4%	15	12%	26	21%	29	23%	51	40%			126	2.84
86	86. Unatumia sukari mara ngapi? *		6	5%	14	11%	21	17%	39	31%	46	37%			126	2.83

Note: + = Further information available; Number+= Information available in the respective table; - = Confidential

Table 2. Age groups of respondents (2ab)

Age groups	Frequency	Valid Percent
10s	9	5.3
20s	94	55.0
30s	37	21.6
40s	8	4.7
60s	2	1.2
Unknown	21	12.3
Total	171	100.0

Table 3. Ethnic groups of respondents (4)

Ethnic groups	Frequency	Valid Percent
Hehe	102	59.6
Bena	26	15.2
Kinga	5	2.9
Wanji	5	2.9
Nyiha	4	2.3
Other	17	9.9
n.a.	12	7.0
Total	171	100.0

Table 4. Numerical results of the questionnaire

Entry code	English translation	Average	Unspecified	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	20	30	50	Total
10.2	How many livestock for bridewealth? (livestock unspecified)					3	3		2					1					1			10
	Cow		8		4	21	4	4	3													36
	Chicken		2			2			3		1											6
	Goat		4																			0
	Sheep		1																			0
11b	Is your marriage of one wife or more (polygamy): How many?	1.10		4	93	6	0	1	0	1												105
13a	How many people live in your house? Total:	4.51			5	3	39	33	21	20	6	4	3	1	0	0	1	1				137
13b	How many children under 5?	1.45		5	86	35	8	2	1	0	1											138
16	Do you have livestock?			83	65																	148
ngombe	How many? Cows	4.17			2	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1								6
mbuzi	Goat	2.60			4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1									5
kuku	Chicken	4.61			29	6	1	1	5	0	0	0	0	5	0	1			1	1	1	51
21.1	Which months did you have insufficient food?			30	117																	147
	Total sufficient months	9.17		12	5	0	0	4	2	13	4	9	8	12	48	52						169

1. About the respondents

Most (96%) of the respondents are women as targeted. Majority of the respondents are in their 20s (55%), followed by those in their 30s (22%, Table 2). Most of their religions are Christians (91%). The majority ethnic groups are the Hehe (60%), followed by Bena (15%), Kinga (3%), Wanji (3%), and Nyiha (2%, Table 3). There were 2 respondents of Luguru, Makonde, Pare, and Romani, and 1 respondent each of Kifumi, Matengo, Ndali, Ngoni, Nyakyusa, Pagwa, Sagala, Siyamu, and Zanaki, indicating a variety of ethnic groups.

Only 19% participated in their initiation, but most studied in school (96%). Among those who went to school, majority went to elementary school (88%), and among them 43% finished their education at the elementary level, whereas 48% progressed to secondary. Two percent went to madras, and 6% went to other schools including 1 to university, and 2 to higher technical schools.

2. About marriage and family

Among the respondents, 75% have the experience

of being married. Majority (76%) decided their marriage on their own, but 24% had their marriage decided by their parents. Most (68%) of their family received bridewealth: 86% of them received money and 54% livestock. Average amount of bridewealth in money was TSh743,182, ranging from TSh20,000 to TSh9,000,000. The most frequent amount of livestock received was 2 cows common to 21 respondents, and ranged from 1 to 5, but possibly 10 or 20 (if responses with type of livestock unspecified are cows). Others received chicken ranging from 2 to 7, or combination of chicken, goat, cow, and sheep (Table 4).

Presently, majority of respondents were married (65%), but 21% were unmarried, 8% were separated, 3% were divorced, and 3% were widowed. Most of their marriages were monogamy, but 6 of the husbands had 2 wives, 1 had 4 wives and another had 6 wives (Table 4). Majority (70%) lived with their spouse or partner. Average of 4.51 people lived in the same house, but ranging from 1 to 14, and the most common number of people were 3, followed by 4, 5, and 6 (Table 4). Most of the respondents (62%) had one child under-5 in the house, followed by 2 (25%), and also up

to 7 (Table 4).

As for the nutrition status (weight) of children under-5, 73% considered it sufficient (green), 9% considered that it could become insufficient (gray), and 2 % considered it insufficient (red). Total of 16% did not know the status.

Among the respondents, 10% experienced death of children under-5: 8 (5%) respondents lost one child, 4 (2%) respondents lost 2 children, and 1 (1%) respondent lost 3. Most of them did not know the reason (6, 40%), but 2 (13%) indicated malaria, pneumonia, and jaundice each, and 1 indicated convulsion at pregnancy.

3. About livelihood

Majority are farmers (77%), but 14% do business, 4% are pastoralists and teachers each, and a few are employees (2) or waiting to be recruited (3). Although many did not consider themselves pastoralists, 44% had some kind of livestock. Only 6 respondents had a cow, and the number ranged from 1 to 10 (Table 4). Five respondent had goats, 4 of them only 1 goat, but 1 respondent had 9 goats. Fifty-one respondents had chicken: 29 respondents had 1 chicken, 5 respondents had 5 and 10 chickens each, and 1 respondent had 3, 4, 12, 20, 30, and 50 chickens each (Table 4). Others had duck (3 respondents), pigs (3 respondents), sheep, and guinea pig (*simbilisi*, 1 respondent).

Majority had a farm (74%) and/or a garden (60%). The major crop was maize (97%), but a few cultivated cassavas, potatoes (*viazi*), kidney beans (*maharage*, 2 respondents each), rice, and sorghum (1 respondent each). Majority cultivated for food (95%), and some for business (4%). Majority answered that they made decisions about the crop with women and men together (85%).

Majority (70%) indicated that they had sufficient food these days to last a year. Most respondents (92%) had enough food during July to September 2018. February was the month when relatively more respondents (32%) lacked food the most, followed by March (26%), December (21%), and January (20%, Table 1). Average month of food sufficiency was 9.8

months. Fifty-two respondents had food throughout 12 months a year, 48 had for 11 months, 12 for 10 months, 13 for 6 months, and 12 for none of the months (Table 4).

When food is insufficient, 38% got food from the forest, 27% decreased the number of meals, 17% sold livestock, and 7% let children eat at relatives of neighbors. Majority consider that food (75%) is the most important use of income, followed by health (26%), education (15%), agriculture (11%), and clothes (9%). Majority answered that they made decisions about the cash with women and men together (82%). Majority considered their situation as average (82%) within the village, whereas 15% considered themselves poor, and 3 % rich.

4. About groups

Majority were not participating in any group (58%), but 34 % participated in 1 group, 7% in 2 groups, and 1% in 3 groups. Some of the names of the groups were: Village Community Bank (*Kikoba* or *Vikoba*) with 15 respondents, Agriculture (*Kilimo*) with 4, and 3 were “Ujirani Mwema”, but there were many other group names. Major objectives of the groups were savings and borrowing (58%), followed by agriculture (37%).

5. About mutual assistance

Among the respondents, majority considered that they were not assisted when they needed food (63%), but majority considered that they helped others (61%) when others needed food. On the other hand, relatively more people considered that they were helped when they needed money (55%), and that they also helped when they needed money (66%). The majority generally considered that people helped each other in the village (75%).

6. About children

Majority also considered that they had enough food when they were pregnant (88%), and breastmilk was also sufficient (92%). The most common children’s first food was maize porridge (88%), but porridge

of “nutrition” (*uji wa lische*, 8 respondents), rice (5), sorghum (4), finger millet (*ulezi*, 3), cassava (2), and soya beans were also given. Other food such as fruits (4), peanuts (3), milk (3), breastmilk (2), small fish (*dagaa*), vegetables, mixture, banana, and stiff porridge were also given.

Majority considered that children’s food was sufficient (84%). Majority (92%) answered that both husband and wife decided to send the children where when the child is sick.

7. About health (SF-12)

[GH: General Health] In general, 52% considered that they had good health, 22% fair, and 21% very good. Only 3% answered that they had excellent health and 2% as poor health.

[PH: Physical Functioning] In relation to moderate activities, 61% felt that they were not limited at all, 30% as limited a little, and 9% very limited. As for heavy activities, 59% were not limited at all, 28% were limited a little, and 14% were very limited.

[RP: Role Physical] However, relatively more felt that they accomplished less than they would like (52%), in comparison to those disagreeing (48%). On the other hand, relatively more were not limited in the kind of work or activities (62%), in comparison to those who were (38%).

[RE: Role Emotional] As for emotional problems also, relatively more felt that they accomplished less than they would like (55%) in comparison to those disagreeing (45%). However, more indicated that they were not less careful than usual (58%) in comparison to those who felt that they were less careful (42%) also due to emotional problems.

[BP: Body Pain] Many of the respondents indicated that pain did not interfere with their normal work at all (42%), 19% indicated a little bit, 27% moderately, 11% a little bit, and 1% extremely.

[MH: Mental Health] In regard to feelings, 37% felt calm and peaceful all the time, 22% most of the time, 34% some of the time, and 7% none of the time. Those who felt down-hearted and blue none of the time were 36%, some of the time was 41%, most of

the time was 11%, and all of the time was 5%.

[VT: Vitality] Among the respondents, 40% felt a lot of energy all of the time, 17% most of the time, 39% some of the time, and 4% none of the time.

[SF: Social Functioning] In regard to physical health or emotional problems interfering with social activities, 38% considered it as none of the time, 45% as some of the time, 9% as most of the time, and 7% all the time.

8. About food intake

The most typical staple food was maize (92%), followed by tubers such as various potatoes (50%), rice (43%), bananas (38%), cassava (23%), millet (22%), wheat (22%), and sorghum (18%). Other food such as *kande* (cooked maize and beans), cowpea (*kunde*), fruits, and vegetables were mentioned, and 4 respondents specifically mentioned taro (*maghimbi*) registered as tubers. Two respondents indicated *ugali*, stiff porridge, a typical way of eating maize and other main food.

As for relish, 86% of the respondents indicated vegetables, 54% fish, 41% meat, 39% milk, and 27% beans. Other specific responses included vegetables such as carrots (4 responses) and ladies’ fingers, cowpea (2), and small fish which have been counted in their respective categories.

During the dry seasons, 37% of the respondents eat staple food more than 2 times a day, 15% eat once every day, 17% eat 4-6 days a week, and 27% eat once a week or less. As for vegetables, 46% eat more than 2 times a day, 23% eat every day, 16% eat 4-6 times a week, and 12% eat once a week or less. As for meat, 45% eat once or less than once a week and 38% eat 2-3 days a week. As for fish or small fish, 52% eat 2-3 days a week, and 33% eat once or less a week. For milk, 36% drink once or less a week, and 28% drink it 2-3 days a week. As for beans, 35% eat it 2-3 days a week and 31% once or less a week. Thirty percent eat seeds 2-3 days a week, and 35% eat fruits the same frequency. Food from the forest is eaten by 22% once or less, and 2-3 days a week respectively. Thirty-six percent use oil more than 2 times a day, and 43% use salt for the same

frequency, and 31% use sugar 4-6 days a week. Twenty-nine percent do not eat food from the forest, 27% do not eat seeds, and 19% do not eat beans.

During the rainy season, 31% eat staple food 2 times a day, 25% eat once a day, and 21% 4-6 days a week. As for vegetables, 42% eat it more than 2 times a day, and 23% eat it 4-6 days a week. As for meat, 44% eat it once or less a week and 34% eat it 2-3 days a week. As for fish, 43% eat it 2-3 days a week and 33% eat it once or less. Drinking milk is once or less a week by 35%, and 2-3 days a week by 26%. Thirty-one percent eat beans 2-3 days a week, 28% eat seeds and 30% eat fruits for the same frequency. Food from the forest is eaten once or less per week, or everyday by 21% respectively. Use of oil is more than 2 times a day for 38%, salt is 40%, and sugar is 37% for the same frequency. Thirty-two percent do not eat from the forest, 22% do not eat seeds, and 17% do not eat beans.

II. Analysis and Limitations

1. Under-5 Mortality and Underweight

Among the respondents, 17 people (10%) experienced the loss of a child before the age of 5. Number of children's death adds up to 19; if we calculate the 5 respondents who did not answer the number of children as 1 child each, it will at least add up to 24.

Two percent of children were severely underweight, and 9% were moderately underweight, which totals to 11% underweight. Although the cut-off point is likely to be different from the national data, it is lower than the national average of 13%, lower than the Iringa average of 15.5%, and below the target of 12.5%.

However, it is striking that 16% did not know the nutrition status of children under-5 in spite of the fact that the questionnaire was taken at the occasion when and where the children were weighed at the dispensary. It is important that mothers/parents understand the nutrition status of children so that measures can be taken by the family and community to improve them when necessary, and this is the main objective of growth monitoring. In case all 16% are underweight, the percentage will add up to 27%, which will be at an alarming situation.

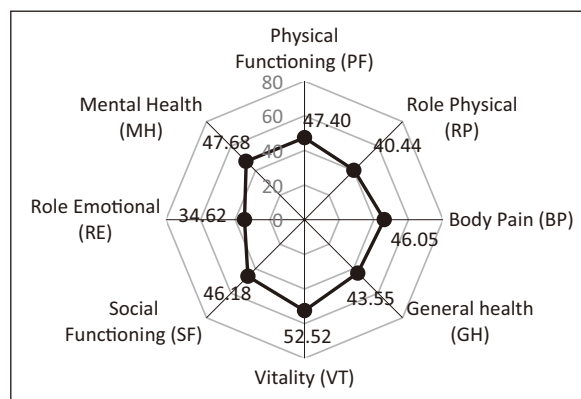
2. Subjective health evaluation of adults

Scores of subjective health is calculated in reference to SF-12 (Diagram 1). According to the calculation, the score ranges from 34.62 to 52.52: Role Emotional (RE) is the lowest and Vitality (VT) is the highest.

3. Quantity and balance of food intake

Majority considered that they had enough food during pregnancy (88%), and that children had enough breastmilk (92%), and enough food for children (84%). Also a majority considered that they had enough food (70%). Food shortage was not a big issue for the majority throughout all the month (Diagram 2), and even in February during the rainy season when it is considered to have less food, 68% had enough food. Harvest season of maize is expected during July to September when 92% of the respondents had enough food, which matches with the general understanding.

Diagram 1. Subjective health evaluation of adults



Source: Calculated by Ohmori with reference to SF-12

Diagram 2. Food sufficiency/insufficiency in 2018

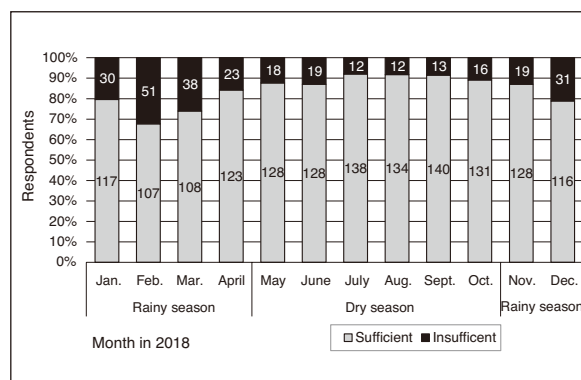
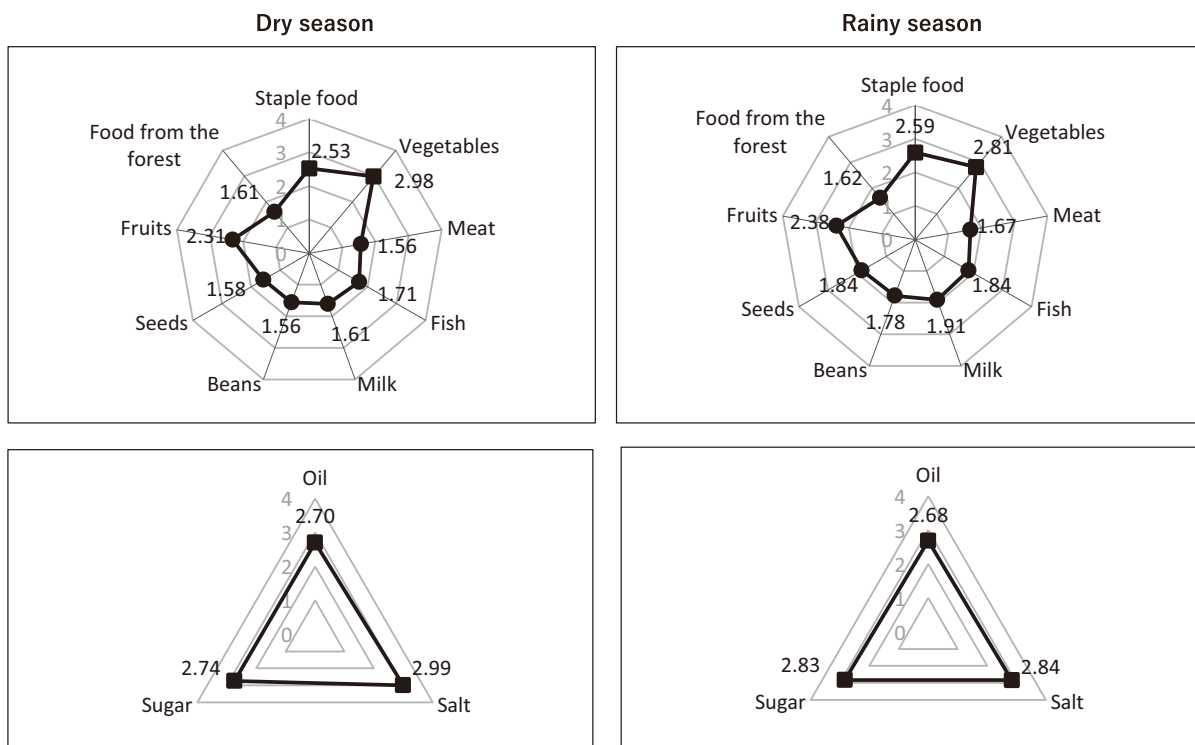


Diagram 3. Balance of food intake by seasons



Note: ■ = 4: More than 2 times a day, 3: Once every day, 2: 4,5,6 days a week, 1: Less than 3 days a week, 0: Don't eat
 ● = 4: Every day, 3: 4,5,6 days a week, 2: 2,3 days a week, 1: Once or less than once a week, 0: Don't eat

According to the average of responses, many people eat vegetable and staple food almost every day. Salt, sugar, and oil are also taken almost every day, more frequently than staple food in average. Fruits are taken more than 2-3 days a week. Fish, milk, food from the forest, seeds, meat, and beans are taken more than once a week (the former more frequently in this order) during the dry season. The frequency does not drastically change in the rainy season, and rather increases in average and for all except vegetables. Order of average frequency change, and people eat/drink milk, fish, seeds, beans, meat, and food from the forest, the former more frequently. Eating food from the forest differ among the respondents: 29% don't eat but 15% eat every day. The difference becomes steeper during rainy season: 32% don't eat but 21% eat it every day.

The decrease of meat, fish, and milk during the dry season was not so obvious in daily life, nor to the dispensary nurse or a health worker. But further interviews to the health workers gave various explanation centering on the seasonal income and

consumption of the villagers. A health worker indicated that villagers may buy less meat and fish during the dry season due to lack of money. Another health worker indicated that farmers do get money during August to October during the dry season by selling maize, potatoes, and beans, but they may lack money if men use up the money for buying alcohol. During the rainy season, there are expenditures such as fertilizers and school expenses in January. A different health worker indicated that since there are ample opportunity for casual labor in the rainy season, villagers get income, and some of them buy meat and fish. During the dry season, the expenditure is not as high, so they are able to buy vegetables.

However, at the same time, there were a few concerns regarding the questionnaire especially in relation to the results of seasonal food intake. Looking at the registered answers, question 21, and questions 63 to 86 may have been difficult to answer for some due to the way it was asked. Question 21 asked the insufficiency (or sufficiency) of food for each month by entering "X" (or "O"), but some answered it with

a tick. Questions 63 to 86 asked the frequency of each food categories for each season, but some probably became tired and did not answer the situation in the rainy season. The categorization of the frequency, and categorization of food may also have been difficult. Therefore, the results need to be interpreted with caution.

4. Decision making and social capital

Majority make decision within the household together with men and women, especially to decide where to send children when s/he is sick (92%), followed by usage of crops (85%) and usage of income (82%). Majority of respondents generally help each other, especially with money, 55% being helped and 66% to help. Most popular group for participation is savings and borrowing (58%) followed by agriculture (37%). A related background may be that majority (82%) consider themselves average, not rich nor poor.

Less people get help for food (37%), most probably since majority have enough food. People also tend to emphasize the answer that they help others, rather than being helped. In any case, majority also consider that people in the village help each other.

Conclusion, and Future Analysis

Iringa Region had high mortality at all ages, and this case study of Ifunda also indicated incidents of death of children under-5. The study also underlined the general understanding of the Iringa Region for having ample food especially maize. The relatively sufficient food in Iringa solves the problem of acute malnutrition (wasting), but not necessarily chronic malnutrition (stunting) nor mortality. Stunting is likely to be the result lack of protein, and further analysis is necessary to underpin the reason. In regard to mortality, it is difficult to conclude since it is a manifestation of various reasons including sickness (e.g. the high HIV prevalence), but the frequent usage of salt, sugar, and oil (which is more frequent than eating staple food) could be one of the factors influencing mortality.

These findings are not conclusive, but preliminary.

The following analysis are planned to further understand the situation: (i) In-depth analysis of food intake and subjective health situation; (ii) Analyzing correlations between manifestation of health/nutrition status and other factors; (iii) Comparison with other regions based on the same questionnaire. Furthermore, individual responses on respondent's subjective health evaluation and food intake will be provided as feedback so that it may give an opportunity for improvement of individual health.

Acknowledgement

Ninawashukuru wanawake wa Ifunda kwa kushirikiana katika utafiti huu.

Firstly, I would like to thank the women of Ifunda village to have answered the questionnaires, and Mr. Luca Sanga to have assisted in writing them.

I would also like to thank Dr. Anita Wagner and Dr. Barbara Gande to have shared the Swahili version of their SF-36. Appreciation goes to Dr. Onesmo Mella to have checked and advised on the original Swahili questionnaire, and also to Dr. Joyceline Kaganda to have advised on the food categories at the initial stage.

Thanks to Mr. Kenta Idenoue and Ms. Mai Kikuchi for inserting the questionnaire results, Ms. Yuki Fujiya for inserting and double checking the inserted work, Mr. Parinya Khemmarath for inserting, double checking, and compiling them. With all the thanks for those that were involved, the author has checked and corrected their work and is fully responsible for the final compilation and reporting.

Among the authors, Sakamoto and Ohmori are responsible for formulating the questionnaire. Okui is responsible for overseeing registration of the questionnaire, providing information on the local context. Ohmori is responsible for evaluating the response on health and food intake. Sakamoto is responsible for supervising the input/check of data and the first and final draft. All authors have gone through the manuscript and provided contributions and accepted.

The research is supported by the Japanese Government, JSPS Grants-in-Aid for Scientific

Research (KAKENHI): mainly “Possibilities of wild edible plants and traditional meals in East Africa (18H03438)”, partly supported by 18H00776 and 15H05139; and Research assistance system of the Office for Promotion of Gender Equality, Utsunomiya University.

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⁶ Tanzania (2011), p.10.
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¹⁰ UNICEF and Tanzania (1993)
¹¹ Sakamoto (2020)
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¹⁵ Wyss, Wagner et al. (1999)
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Situation of Women and Children in Southern Tanzania: From questionnaires in Ifunda, Iringa with focus on food-intake and health

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Abstract

The Iringa Region is considered to be a major producer of staple food in Tanzania and has the lowest acute malnutrition rate among children (0.7%), yet is one of the regions with high chronic malnutrition (51.3%), underweight (15.5%), IMR (61.8 per 1,000), U5MR (90.7), adult mortality (11.3 per 1,000), and low life expectancy (55.4). Questionnaires to 141 parents (mostly women) of children in the Iringa Region on the occasion of child growth monitoring in Ifunda confirmed that majority of the respondents had enough food throughout the year (70%), during pregnancy (88%), and for children (84%), and had enough breastmilk (92%). Under-5 underweight was 11%, but 16% did not know their children's nutrition status. Total of at least 24 children of 10% of the respondents have died under-5. Self-evaluation of their health is balanced on the average, but has relatively high Vitality (VT) and low Role Emotional (RE). Most of the people grow (97%) and eat (92%) maize. The frequency of various nutrition group is relatively balanced, but (i) fish is more frequently eaten than meat, (ii) vegetable is eaten more frequently in the dry season, (iii) other foods including fish and milk are eaten more frequently in the rainy season, (iv) salt, sugar, and oil is frequently taken. Further analysis is needed to understand the consequences of their food intake, and excessive intake of salt, sugar, and oil needs to be given attention.

要約

イリンガ州は、タンザニアの食糧庫と認識されるほど十分な農作物を生産し、最も低い子どもの急性栄養失調（0.7%）を誇るが、慢性栄養失調（51.3%）、低体重（15.5%）、乳児死亡率（1,000人中61.8人）、幼児死亡率（同90.7）、成人死亡率（同11.3人）は最も高い州の一つであり、平均寿命も55.4歳と低い。イリンガ州のイフンダにおける子どもの体重測定の日に合わせて、141名の親（主に女性）に対して質問票調査を行った結果、回答者のほとんどは一年間十分な食料があり（70%）、妊娠中の食事（88%）も、子どもの食料（84%）も、授乳（92%）も充分であったと感じていた。5歳未満児の低体重は11%であったが、加えて16%が体重を把握していなかった。成人の健康の自己評価は、一般的にバランスがとれていたが活力（VT）は高く、日常役割機能（精神、RE）は低かった。ほとんどの人はトウモロコシを生産し（97%）、主食としていた（92%）。食事の栄養素もバランスが取れているが、(i) 肉よりも魚の摂取が多く、(ii) 野菜は乾季に、(iii) 魚や牛乳を含む他の栄養素は雨季により頻繁に食され、(iv) 塩・砂糖・油の使用頻度は高かった。これらの特徴の影響については、更なる調査が必要となるが、過度な塩・砂糖・油の接種の影響については注視する必要がある。

(2019年11月1日受理)