Monthly meeting
June 2020

Food Security and Agriculture Cluster in Afghanistan
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Presenting Agency</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Review of the previous action points</td>
<td>FSAC</td>
<td>5 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>FSAC revised HRP numbers</td>
<td>FSAC</td>
<td>10 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Results from PSEA survey</td>
<td>FSAC</td>
<td>5 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Results from Impact of COVID-19 on programs survey</td>
<td>FSAC</td>
<td>10 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Cash virtual capacity trainings presentation</td>
<td>CVWG</td>
<td>20 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Presentation by CRS on behavior change programs</td>
<td>CRS</td>
<td>20 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Update on FSAC field missions to the different regions</td>
<td>FSAC</td>
<td>25 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>SFSA Workplan and key activities that will require members support</td>
<td>FSAC</td>
<td>10 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Election of SAG results and discussion on NGO Co-chair</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>10 min</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**AoB:**
- Next FSAC meeting
- FSAC 5 min
## Previous meeting action points

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AP/N</th>
<th>ACTION POINTS</th>
<th>RESPONSIBLE PARTY</th>
<th>TIMELINE</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>IPC acute analysis report will be shared with all partners after being endorsed by MAIL</td>
<td>FSAC</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>Achieved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>FSAC will prepare a draft of new PiN, target, vulnerable groups and activities and it will be shared with FSAC partners / SAG for their inputs.</td>
<td>FSAC partners</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>Achieved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Partners interested to join Hazard’s and Crisis Analysis Group (HCAG) should contact FSAC IMO</td>
<td>FSAC</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>Achieved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Partners interested and have resource to support Juvenile released due to COVID-19 should contact FSAC IMO</td>
<td>FSAC</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>Achieved</td>
</tr>
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</table>
FSAC revised HRP numbers 2020
## Overall Revised HRP Numbers 2020

### Before the Revision:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>People in Need</td>
<td>9.4M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planned Reach</td>
<td>7.1M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirements (US$)</td>
<td>733M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### After the Revision:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>People in Humanitarian Need</td>
<td>14M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HRP Planned Reach</td>
<td>11.1M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirements (US$)</td>
<td>1.1B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COVID-19</td>
<td>5.8M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-COVID-19</td>
<td>8M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COVID-19</td>
<td>396M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-COVID-19</td>
<td>735M</td>
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### Revised PiN, Target and budget for 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Vulnerable group</th>
<th>PIN before revision</th>
<th>Revised PIN 2020</th>
<th>Target before revision</th>
<th>Revised target for food assistance</th>
<th>Unit cost</th>
<th>Duration of assistance/m</th>
<th>Total budget</th>
<th>Target before revision</th>
<th>Target for livelihoods assistance</th>
<th>Unit cost</th>
<th>Number of months</th>
<th>Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>People displaced due to conflict and natural disaster</td>
<td>375000</td>
<td>400,000</td>
<td>375,000</td>
<td>400,000</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>22,800,000</td>
<td>Nil</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,750,000</td>
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<td>People affected by sudden onset natural disaster</td>
<td>170000</td>
<td>115,000</td>
<td>170,000</td>
<td>115,000</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4,370,000</td>
<td>132,866</td>
<td>92,000</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,840,000</td>
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<td>Refugee returnees from Iran and Pakistan</td>
<td>45000</td>
<td>22,500</td>
<td>45,000</td>
<td>22,500</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1,710,000</td>
<td>Nil</td>
<td>Nil</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Undocumented returnees from Pakistan</td>
<td>61125</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>61,125</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2,280,000</td>
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<td>Undocumented returnees from Iran</td>
<td>113500</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>113,500</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7,600,000</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Number of Pakistani refugees</td>
<td>70000</td>
<td>72,465</td>
<td>70,000</td>
<td>72,465</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4,347,900</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>COVID-19 affected population</td>
<td>7,370,245</td>
<td>12,446,768</td>
<td>4,481,100</td>
<td>3,000,004</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>60,000,080</td>
<td>230,387</td>
<td>60,000</td>
<td>12</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Seasonal Support</td>
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<td>4,601,000</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>184,040,000</td>
<td>1,918,092</td>
<td>1,918,092</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td>38,361,840</td>
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<td>Asset Creation</td>
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<td>330,000</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>69,600,000</td>
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<td>Assessment cost for SFSA</td>
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<td></td>
<td>200,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Cluster coordination cost</td>
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<td>550,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>8,204,870</strong></td>
<td><strong>13,186,733</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,315,725</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,340,969</strong></td>
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<td><strong>287,897,980</strong></td>
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<td><strong>9,791,061</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>82,294,840</strong></td>
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</table>

Total Target is reduced by one million with an assumption of duplication between food and livelihoods.
Food Security and Agriculture Cluster in Afghanistan

Results from PSEA survey
Responses to PSEA Survey

- 29 overall responses showing that FSAC members have good levels of gender-balance and awareness of gender safeguarding

- Close to 60% of respondents have established a confidential and safe incident reporting system for both staff and beneficiaries to make anonymous complaints however training on referral pathways on how to process complaints and ensure a culture of openness to speak up about abuses needs additional work.

- Only half of respondents have trained staff available to investigate incidents or ensure support to survivors.

- Special distribution systems to ensure access by the most vulnerable needs additional attention along with ensuring that the food basket/quality meets their most urgent needs.
Results from Impact of COVID-19 on programs survey
Responses to C19 Impacts Survey

- 32 Respondents out of over 180 members – most respondents was from INGOs and from the areas of Herat, Nangarhar and Kabul, low rate of responses from Kunar, Faryab, Kapisa, Nuristan
- No change in the ability of partners to deliver emergency assistance including agriculture assistance with additional activities of health awareness messaging with 30% of partners having to reduce their staff numbers in country
- Most beneficiaries continue to depend on small shops for the net food purchases
- Partners have had to stagger their distributions/increase crowd management, increase their health awareness messaging, reduce field work, procure PPEs, change PDM modalities/change indicators to C19 related items, increase price monitoring and establish work from home arrangements
- Partners looking to move more towards e-vouchers and remote monitoring to avoid virus spread and protect staff
- Struggle to move staff and materials as private and commercial transporters reduce their operations/increase costs or inability of beneficiaries to find easy/cheap transports
Anticipated Impacts of COVID-19 – as per guidance sheets shared

• Livestock interventions should focus on protecting livestock conditions to limit the sale/destocking at reduced prices, those dependent on transhumance and women dependent on backyard livestock; decentralized markets and health guidance/awareness to be promoted at live animal markets; humanitarians to monitor changes in end-market demand for meat products

• GBV rates are widely expected to increase during this latest crisis, where possible networking opportunities/referral pathways should be explored between protection-FSAC; given your community level access and understanding

• Given the dependence on informal seed exchanges (~90%) the seed access is unlikely to be affected by C19 but access to supply chains and markets will affect what and when farmers plant, such as faster growth food crops instead of higher value cash crops, avoid seed fairs, Decision-making and planning processes relating to seed interventions need to start much earlier if seed-related support is to be provided in time – be realistic! Ensure you flag you intent to support seeds through FSAC to reduce duplication of effort.

• Market functionality assessments in your AO require your understanding of the impact on capacities, change in demand and volume of trade for different goods and promoting basic health awareness and guidance is followed at congested market areas

• Help FSAC by identifying which areas you work in are experiencing specific C19 impacts that is affecting on and off-farm livelihoods and need cross-sectoral advocacy
FSAC CVA Presentation

24 June 2020
Objectives

- Inform the Food and Agriculture Partners of available Cash and Vouchers Assistance (CVA) capacity building available through Cash and Vouchers Working Group.

- Encourage partners to share specific CVA topics they want presented/discussed.

- Share capacity building proposed plan.
Cash and Vouchers Working Group (CVWG)

1. CVWG Co-Leads
   - World Food Programme (Toma)
   - Danish Refugee Council (Aban).

2. Advisor to the CVWG (Darias, Cashcap)
   - One critical need in September 2019: capacity building in CVA.
   - Eight regional CVA awareness workshops targeting senior staff in regional offices (need was capacity building for Technical staff).
   - Plan was to conduct technical workshops as from March to August 2020.
   - Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund (need) through virtual trainings (two pilots and final workshop coming in a week’s time)
COVID Response

1. Increased needs in food security and agriculture, Protection and NFI/Shelter clusters.
2. Advisor moved to World Food Programme (4\textsuperscript{th} June).
3. Currently consulting on CVA needs for different clusters and will be sending out a tool for partners to identify CVA capacity building topics (already done for CWVG partners). FSAC, NFI/Shelter and Protection are next.
4. Plea to National NGOs to participate in the capacity assessment.
5. Plan for workshops
Expected workshop participants

Group 1: Those with CVA basic training. Gone through CaLP level 1 or similar.
- This group to identify specific topics they want discussed/elaborated on (presentations are needs driven).
- Some participants to facilitate sessions.
- Share experiences and lessons in Cash and Voucher Assistance.
- Discuss and share Covid 19 response experiences and learnings.
Expected workshop participants cont....

Group 2

- Colleagues/participants without basic CVA training but have interest or/and are involved in CVA.
- Technical, Support staff (logistics, finance) and Grant writers.
- Start with basic CVA concepts and why CVA.
- Given time trainings on relevant topics.
Proposed topics to be covered

1. Conducting Market Assessments
2. Cash modalities (Cash grants, Vouchers and Cash for Work) and dis/advantages.
3. The Cash and Vouchers Assistance (CVA) risks and how to mitigate the risks.
4. CVA feasibility (How to decide on whether cash or in-kind).
5. Calculation of Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) and decision on Multi-Purpose Cash value.
6. How to decide on cash modalities for sectoral/cluster specific objectives.
7. Data protection (how to ensure beneficiary data is protected).
8. Beneficiaries’ identification, verification, selection and registration.
9. When and when not to use (Advantages and disadvantages) of delivery mechanisms and instruments.
10. What to consider when engaging Financial Service Providers
11. Setting Cash for Work working hours and wage rates.
Proposed plan

- Complete capacity assessment by first week of July.
- Trainings from second week of July to end July.
- Follow up sessions and support from July to end August.
- CVWG Co-Leads first port of call for any support.
- Refresher trainings in September especially for Group 2 participants.
NORWEGIAN CAPACITY
OPERATED BY NRC
Agricultural Behavior Change Approach

FSAC Presentation (June 24, 2020)
Social Behavior Change (SBC) on Agricultural Livelihoods

• In the livelihoods sector, CRS Afghanistan works with farmers in poor and marginalized communities who have limited information and poor agricultural practices.

• CRS work is based on a Social Behavior Change approach to encourage farmers to adopt improved practices that meet five criteria:
  • Immediately relevant to people’s priority concerns
  • Simple
  • Low-cost
  • Low-risk
  • Capable of giving measurable increase in productivity (30+%)
Principles of Training Design & Delivery

- Target both genders to facilitate decision making
- Target all households within community to include innovators and adopters
- Open sessions reach everyone in community to help reach tipping point to convince more conservative/risk averse poor & vulnerable HHs

Responsive, Simple, Low-risk, Low-cost, Quick result  

Inappropriate, Complex, Time-consuming Reliant on others Long-term results
Training and Interaction with Farmers

CRS training sessions are designed based on Adult Learning Principles:

- Participatory approach to identify needs & ensure relevance
- Training sessions:
  - Practical experience when possible
  - Keep it short – less than one hour
  - Stay focused on 2-3 key messages per training
  - Accompaniment visit after training
- **Farmer Feedback Sessions** to seek farmer’s insights

• **Catalytic moment** to see the result:
Example: Potato storage – behavior change in practice

- Potato is a primary cash crop in Central Highlands
- Storage loss of 30% to 100% over winter
- Demonstration and visual materials
- Low cost and local materials

Moist, warm air

Underground storage with ventilation system

Healthy potato seed in a collective storage in early spring
Example: Potato storage – behavior change in practice

• Improved ventilated potato storage, decreased potato losses from over 30% to less than 5%.
• Storage time increased from 2-3 months up to 6-9 months.

• Farmer feedback:

Haji Abdul Hussain from Nawor village, Panjab district of Bamyan province, who built a potato pit in 2017 “Now I can store potatoes after harvesting time [late September] for 9-10 months up to spring for seed and consumption.
CRS has applied the same SBC approach across both crop and livestock management, as well as on natural resource management (NRM). For further information, please see the following learning briefs:

Introduction: [Introducing social behavior change to agricultural development](#)

Brief 1: [Improved storage transforms potato crops](#)

Brief 2: [Efficient fertilization and well-timed irrigation boost potato yields](#)

Brief 3: [Reallocation of feed doubles livestock productivity in a year](#)

Brief 4: [Improved stable conditions boost livestock productivity](#)

Brief 5: [Reduced seed rate and fertilizer adjustments build wheat resilience](#)
Overview on FSAC meetings with Regional Focal Points - NE

• The remote areas of NE have limited arable land and depend on rainfed agriculture however the strength of these areas is the access to good quality rangeland in good precipitation years

• Animal husbandry interventions and support to SWC can increase access to arable land and the food security situation/access to remote districts remains difficult particularly given higher level of violence this year

• Variable rainfall and late snows has impacted upon the fragile and limited agricultural crops in NE and intermittent border closures with Tajikistan
Cultivation/production of high value crops such as pomegranate, grapes, plums, figs require export market linkages, particularly given recent closures/limited cold storage options in Kandahar.

Border closures/interruptions have caused a level of product wastage.

Crop pests such as wheat rust are causing concerns in terms of this year’s yield for local wheat grain varieties, limited availability/use of certified wheat grains.

Cross border movement through informal crossings causing less domestic access to some staples and high value crops.

Overview on FSAC meetings with Regional Focal Points - South
• The market access for Spring/Summer crops including okra, beans, squash has been difficult given movement restrictions

• Limited lockdowns have had a significant impact on the most vulnerable particularly IDPs and day labourers

• Concerns about the risk for increased criminality in Jalalabad to due lack of durable livelihood opportunities

• Cross border movement including export of Afghan goods to gradually increase but the impact has already been felt by producers

Overview on FSAC meetings with Regional Focal Points - East
• Mazaar market activities continue as per normal with low levels of adherence to health guidance
• Livelihoods of the urban poor have been disrupted and IDP communities have seen their purchasing power drop and arable lands were affected by flash flooding, concern as to support levels to IDPs
• Cross border cargo movement working as normal given the multiple transport options and direct rail access to central Asian markets working well, a reliable high-flow crossing point
• Smarter harvesting and cultivation practices are required for better NRM including more communal asset creation opportunities
• Explore women’s access to value chains or scale-up of their home based economic activities
Overview on FSAC Meeting with Regional Focal Point - Central

- Zero energy storage options using local construction materials are more durable and sustainable particularly given the remote access and limited energy options.
- Prior large scale SWC projects are sometimes not sustained due to the lack of behavior change or community ownership.
- Balancing livelihood activities with protection of historical sites.
- Large scale losses in tourism sector for this year, good precipitation and delayed snow melt has caused an abundance of available irrigation, storage and promoting alternative practices to be approached carefully.
High levels of returnees continue to put pressure on transit and host communities in the west along with increasing caseload of C19.

Projects in VST for urban poor have had to be adjusted or postponed.

Producers unable to move seasonal products or forced to sell at low price points, reoccurring yearly issue.

Assistance to drought affected IDPs is increasingly politicized with a low level of durable solutions, quick impact IGA to be explored.

Pull factor back into Iran increasing, low levels of health screening of transporters.
Participation of FSAC Members

- There are approximately 78 Members who have had low levels of participation in the cluster recently (2019-now)
- This is measured by level of participation in FSAC coordination, reporting and contributions to SFSA
- 32% of these are INGOs and 68% are NNGOs
SFSA Workplan and key activities that will require members support
Seasonal Food Security Assessment (SFSA) 2020

- SFSA 2020 will be conducted in 34 provinces and 11 urban areas to capture post-harvest food security situation.
- Capturing the impact of COVID-19 on peoples’ lives and livelihoods will be one of the main objectives of this assessment.
- SFSA 2020 data will be fed into IPC, HNO and HRP processes.
- Hybrid approach for data collection: remote data collection as well as in person interviews.
- Data will be collected (for in person interviews) by MAIL extension workers and NGOs.
- SFSA tools are currently under review and will be finalized soon.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>Name of activity</th>
<th>Responsible</th>
<th>June</th>
<th>July</th>
<th>August</th>
<th>September</th>
<th>October</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Pre-assessment activities</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>Finalizing TOR's for SFSA consultant</td>
<td>FSAC</td>
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<td>w2</td>
<td>w3</td>
<td>w4</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>Hiring of consultant</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>Review and finalizing data collection tools (+Translation) and enumerators' training materials</td>
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<td>1.4</td>
<td>Drawing sample and printing maps</td>
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<td>1.5</td>
<td>Identification of NGOs and MAIL extensions workers for data collection</td>
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<td>1.6</td>
<td>Training of Trainers (ToT)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>Regional training of enumerators (6 regions / 34 provinces)</td>
<td>AWG</td>
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<td>Output:2- Data collection, monitoring of the process and data punching</td>
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<td>Data collection</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>Hiring data clerks and training on data entry</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>Developing Database for data entry</td>
<td>VAME/Consultant</td>
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<td>2.5</td>
<td>Data punching in the data base</td>
<td>Data clerks/MAIL</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Output:3- Analysis of data, initial data presentation and final report submission</td>
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International NGOs:
1. OXFAM
2. ACTED

National NGOs:
1. CoAR
2. ORCD

Discussion on FSAC NGO co-chair selection
Thanks 😊

FSAC contact: Javedkhan.Bazargkheil@fao.org