Key Updates
2020 – 2021 Agricultural Season

FAS Meeting
3 December 2020
Presentation Outline

- Agro-Climatic Conditions and Observations
- Crop Situation
- Livestock & Rangeland Situation
- Agricultural Production Inputs
- Conclusions & Recommendations
- **September 2020:** Low amounts of rainfall in Latakia and Tartous.

- **October 2020:** There was no rainfall at all in all Governorates.
**November 2020:** Precipitation was generally good in most Governorates. It exceeded the long-term averages by between 10 to 169 % in most of the Governorates. While it decreased below average up to 30 % in some Governorates,

**Seasonal Performance:** Cumulative precipitation (Sept. to Nov. 2020) higher than long term averages (44 to 90%) in the southern Governorates, while it is below averages (13 to 45 %) in the rest of the Governorates.
September 2020:

- Temperature was generally higher than the long-term averages (on average about 5 C° higher),
- Temperature was 12% higher than the long-term average in the Coast and 24% higher in Quneitra.
October 2020:

- Temperature was higher than its long-term average (on average about 4.3 °C),
- Temperature was 12% higher than long-term average in Lattakia and Da’ra and 20% higher than long-term average in Raqqa,
November 2020:

- The temperature in Rural Damascus was 1°C less than the long term average.
- For the rest of the Governorates, the temperature was 1°C higher than the long term average.
Crop Situation

Barley:
- Sowing barley began in mid-October 2020.
- The cultivated area to date has reached 50% of the area planned for cultivation.

Wheat:
- The cultivated area to date has reached 30% of the area planned for cultivation.
Livestock & Rangeland Situation

- **Rangeland**: Significant improvement in vegetation cover due to heavy rains received in November 2020.
- **Livestock**: It is the pregnancy season for sheep and gouts in most governorates. Generally livestock in acceptable to good conditions,
Agricultural Production Inputs

Availability:

- There is limited availability of Fertilizers and Fuels in most regions and governorates.

- Availability of Seed, Feed, Veterinary medicine and Agro-chemicals is quite varied across Governorates. *(refer to FAO Market Bulletin, October 2020).*
Agricultural Production Inputs

Prices:

- Most of the **fodder commodity prices** continued to rise at an average of 22% from September 2020 to October 2020.

- Other input prices increased by an average of 21% over the previous month, while it rose 45% in the last three months.
Conclusions

- **Agricultural production** depends mainly on weather conditions, therefore, despite the heavy rains that fell during November 2020 in most Governorates, it is not possible to say that the agricultural season is good, fair or bad except at harvest.

- The **availability of agricultural production inputs** (good quality, sufficient quantities and at appropriate times) also has an important role in the quality and quantity of production.

- **Good agricultural production** means achieving food security for population, at the same time, it means achieving a good source of livelihood and food security for farming households.
Recommendations

- It is important for partners and farmers involved in agricultural activities to closely monitor the **weather conditions** (*Rainfall, Temperature and Humidity*),

- Based on the above monitoring and analysis, there is need to disseminate **timely and appropriate advice** to cope with weather-related shocks,

- Scaling-up support for farmers by providing **agricultural production inputs** during the current winter agricultural season to enhance access to inputs,

- Crucial for partners in the FAS to **coordinate effectively and fully** (*especially with FAO*), for planned agriculture-based livelihood interventions to ensure maximum benefit and avoid duplication or overlaps of activities, also to ensure that the right interventions are adopted.
Questions?