



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

Support to Food Security Information System in Syria by FAO



Introduction and background

The 11Th Five-year plan (2011-2015) consists of five main goals to enhance the performance of the agricultural and food sector as follows:

- ❑ Goal One: Achieving FS and ensuring the availability of basic food goods complying with the domestic demand.**
 - ❑ Goal Two: Ensuring the sustainability of natural resources,.**
 - ❑ Goal Three: Improving the marketing of agricultural products.**
 - ❑ Goal Four: Expanding the role of the banking sector in the field of financing and agricultural insurance.**
 - ❑ Goal Five: Alleviating poverty by adopting an overall rural development.**
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In order to achieve the above goals related to food security, it is needed to improve prevention and response mechanisms at national level. To do that so the following constrains, need to be addressed:

- **Inadequate of consistent, credible, timely and decision-focused FS and agriculture information.**
 - **Lack of understanding of the overall impact of the crisis on the FS and livelihood among various and livelihood groups in Syria;**
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- **Absence of reliable, relevant and easily accessible data, information and objective analysis;**
 - **Weak capacity of the FSEWU in Syria**
 - **Weak institutional set up for FSI and coordination; and**
 - **Poor coordination mechanisms with multiple players often overlap or partly duplicate the same functions.**
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Title: “Strengthening Food Security Information and Early Warning Systems
Affected by the Protracted Syrian Crisis”

Overall Objectives: To contribute to the development and establishment of
functional FS&EWIS to support improved decision-making.

Outcomes: Enhanced capacity within the relevant national institutions for the
design and maintenance of FS&EWIS:



Existing food security information and early warning systems in Syria assessed, mapped, and recommendation for improvement made

Food security thematic area	Stakeholders
Agricultural information	MAAR/CBS/FAO
Land, water and climate information	MAAR/MOWR/RSO/MET/FAO
Market Information	MITCP/CBS/WFP
Early Warning Information	MAAR/EWS/RSO/MET/FAO/WFP/UNICE
Households Socio Economic information	CBS/MAAR/MOH/FAO/WFP/UNICEF
Vulnerability assessment and mapping	WFP
Health and nutrition	MOH and UNICEF
Demographic information	UNFPA??



In-depth capacity assessment undertaken of key national stakeholders responsible for the production and use of food security information

Food Security Pillars	Major stakeholders	
Availability	MAAR/MITCP/CBS	FAO/WFP
Access	MITCP/MOLAE/CBS	FAO/WFP/UNICEF
Utilization	MOH/MoWR/	UNICEF/WFP
Stability	MITCP/MAAR/CBS/ MoWR/MoLAE	



Prioritized actions identified to strengthen the capacity of MAAR in the areas of FSI, and risk management, particularly EWS, price monitoring and natural resource management

Gaps

- ✓ Little or no coordination between institutions of an information system
 - ✓ Data collection and transmission
 - ✓ Knowledge gaps in data processing and analysis
 - ✓ Lack of reliable, up-to-date and accessible data for objective analysis
 - ✓ Absence of inter-sectoral institutional set up for food security information and coordination
 - ✓ Policy direction for inter-sectoral institutional set up
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Prioritized actions identified to strengthen the capacity of the MAAR in the areas of FSI, and risk management, particularly EWS, price monitoring and natural resource management

Recommendations

- ✓ Review existing standards, methodologies, and tools for data collection, transmission, analysis and dissemination and update or formulate according to international standards: (Involve academic research Institutions; specialized UN agencies and INGOs as required)
 - ✓ CD will ensure standards, methodologies and tools described above are effectively utilized and data and information become reliable, timely, and consistent over time.
 - ✓ **Ongoing**: capacity in the area of (I. Food security information system. II. collection and analysis of food security information. III. Management and control of natural resources. IV. Use of satellite imagery and remote sensing technologies in FSIS)
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Project documents for establishment of fully-fledged FSIS in Syria developed and submitted for donor funding

- ✓ Output 4 will be addressed through second phase of the project which will focus on capacity development for an effective food security information system.
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