Introduction

• This day which is gaining global momentum as it approaches its third anniversary calls on governments, all those who work with food, and consumers to take action.

  • Ensure it’s safe
  • Grow it safe
  • Keep it safe
  • Know what’s safe
  • Team up for food safety

• In a period characterized by acute observations of food chains and the risks of foodborne disease, World Food Safety Day is a prescient reminder that the consumption and production of safe food have immediate and long-term benefits for people, planet and the economy.
Climate

- Tropical climate, semi-arid in the north, and humid and rainy in the rest of the country.
- Temperatures are high throughout the year, however, they decrease during the rainy season, when the air is humid.
COVID-19 Pandemic

- Supply chain (close outs, running of raw materials,
- Science on COVID-19 still being questioned as it never provided direction on when the virus would end.

Crisis

- Security situation continues to be tense in NWSW regions.
- Many people displaced
  - homes and farms abandoned,
  - schools closed and
  - some locations not accessible by humanitarian actors

Social-economical

- Typical for lower-medium-income countries, Cameroon facing challenges on having robust food safety standards
Any link between Context and Food Safety?

Climate

• Prolonged rains, reported to cause black pods on cocoa trees and blight in some food crops like yams
• The growth and survival of pathogens in foods. Increases in disease notifications, are frequently preceded by weeks of elevated ambient temperature (Kovats et al., 2005)
• Higher temperature and humidity in the week before infection has been correlated with decreased hospitalization rates for children diagnosed with rotavirus (D’Souza et al., 2008)

Humanitarian Crisis

• Displacements – limited options on selection of what to eat/reduced intake of proper/preferred food
• Unprotected crops from pests and diseases – high risk of food contamination
• School closure – education of children on health, sanitation and related topic
• Environmentalists say the crisis has brought many projects intended to help farmers fight climate change to a standstill.
How do we contribute to food safety?

Practical Actions by All

• Policy influencing?
• Peace building?
• Standards development facilitation and reinforcement?
• Environmental sensitive programming?
• Systems set up?
• Partnerships that can promote consumption of safe foods? Research, Testing, Packaging etc

https://youtu.be/Lz3zL-Y-kns