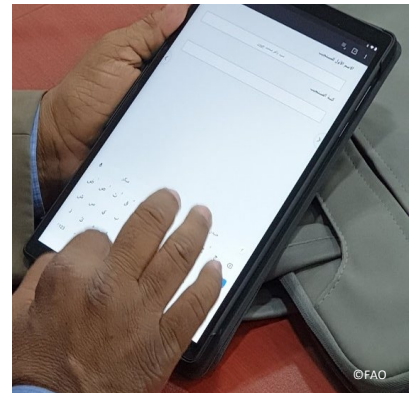




Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

STRENGTHENING THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE STATISTICS SYSTEM OF BAHRAIN

In Bahrain, the Ministry of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture (MMAA) and Information and eGovernment Authority (IGA) are the entities that are mandated to provide agriculture and food security statistics to support evidence-based policy and decision-making. To carry out their mandate, these entities required support to enhance the country's agriculture and food security statistics system and ensuring that it is aligned with international standards. This project was therefore formulated to improve the system so that it may provide data for national and international use, increasing the country's capacity to monitor and report on international frameworks, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



WHAT DID THE PROJECT DO?

The project originally had eight Outputs, but was reprogrammed to six after discussions with the government counterpart. Even with the changes made, the project successfully enhanced the capacities of the MMAA and IGA to collect, process and analyse high-quality, reliable agriculture and food security statistics within the related system to meet the needs of decision-makers.

To support the functioning of the food security and agriculture statistics system, the project conducted an in-depth assessment of its capacity to produce required data. Enhancements for the system were laid out in the Strategic Plan for Agriculture Statistics 2021–2025 (SPAS), which included a census and survey calendar. The Plan was submitted to the MMAA. National staff benefited from capacity-development activities on planning and conducting the above-mentioned annual surveys to produce data for national and international agencies, and a pilot data collection methodology was developed and tested. Staff also honed their skills on analysing food security data through further capacity-building activities, and on collecting data on Sustainable Development Goal 2.1.1 (Prevalence of Undernourishment) and SDG 2.1.2 (Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale). Finally, a tool for the compilation of a Food Balance Sheet (FBS) was developed and training was provided on FBSs and Supply Utilization Accounts (SUAs). These activities culminated in the creation of Bahrain's first-ever FBS.

KEY FACTS

Latest Approved Budget
USD 320 000

Duration
September 2019–December 2023

Resource Partner
Government of Bahrain

Partners
Ministry of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture (MMAA)

Beneficiaries
The MMAA and Information and eGovernment Authority (IGA)

IMPACT

The project's results are expected to lead to improved evidence-based planning, policy formulation, decision-making and performance monitoring to support targeted interventions for the development of Bahrain's agriculture sector.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

ACTIVITIES

- An inception workshop was carried out to garner support for the project among MMAA leaders and to provide information about the project to its Technical and Steering Committees. It also introduced participants to the significance of enhancing food and agriculture statistics for the sustainability of the agriculture and livestock sectors in Bahrain.
- The in-depth assessment of the agricultural statistics system examined how the existing system met user data needs for reporting on sustainable agrifood systems and the SDGs. A report was produced on the assessment.
- The agriculture survey and census calendar for the SPAS was developed, and the mission, vision, strategic objectives and other key elements of the Plan were discussed and agreed during two workshops.
- The Bahrain Agricultural Survey methodology, survey tools and CAPI tools were developed and tested during the pre-test mission of February 2022.
- Training was provided to MMAA staff on the Bahrain Agricultural Survey methodology, survey tools and CAPI tools.
- The Bahrain Agricultural Survey Pilot Survey Mission of May 2022 was conducted.
- The Bahrain Agricultural Survey analysis mission was conducted in October 2023.
- Training was provided on SDG Indicators 2.1.1 and 2.1.2.
- Two training sessions and technical support were provided for the compilation of the SUA and FBS.



Project Title
Strengthening the Statistical System for Collection, Analysis and Reporting of Food and Agriculture Statistics in the Kingdom of Bahrain



Project Code
FAO: UTF/BAH/004/BAH

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