



STRENGTHENING FOOD SECURITY INFORMATION SYSTEMS IN COUNTRIES AFFECTED BY THE SYRIAN CRISIS

One of the most serious shortcomings with regard to proper planning for emergency, recovery and development interventions is the absence of comprehensively reliable information to assess the exact impact of the various facets of the unfolding Syria crisis on the rural settings and agriculture sectors of Syria and its neighbouring countries. To effectively respond to the food security concerns of the Syrian crisis subregion, it is important to have robust, evidence based, cross-sectoral food security analysis. Against this background, the project aimed to assess national and subregional capacities for food security information analysis and early warning systems (FSIEWS) in Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon, as well as fill critical technical gaps, and provide reliable data to better inform policy-makers and decision-making processes.



WHAT DID THE PROJECT DO?

The information gap analyses, recommendations, validation workshops, emerging proposals and several training courses conducted helped the governments of Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon to assess some of the impact of the Syria crisis on food security, and to provide reliable data to better inform policy-makers and decision-making processes. The training programme constituted the beginning of a more comprehensive effort of building national capacities across the various food security pillars (e.g. production, markets, value chains, early warning, nutrition and health), and was fully directed to priorities identified together with counterparts in government. Over 600 participants were trained in fundamental topics such as food security concepts, food security and livelihoods assessments, and visualization of food security data and mapping.

IMPACT

The project contributed to reducing food insecurity in three countries affected by the protracted Syrian crisis, by improving food security information and early warning systems for effective resilience-based response.

KEY FACTS

Contribution

USD 500 000

Duration

March 2015 – December 2017

Resource Partners

FAO

Partners

Ministries of Agriculture in Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon

Beneficiaries

Government institutions that produce and/or use food security and early warning information, including Ministries of Agriculture, and relevant entities such as the Ministry of Health, Social Services, Economics and Trade, Planning; Statistics and Weather Services; food-insecure rural households, including farmers and herders in the target countries

ACTIVITIES

- Training sessions organized in support of the capacity assessment of FSIEWS of the Regional Food Security Analysis Network national focal points from Jordan, Lebanon and Iraq.
- Capacity-development assessments conducted on national food security information and early warning systems for Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon.
- Food security training sessions tailored on the basis of the gaps identified and the priorities of key governmental institutions.
- Iraq: National Food Security Committee Road Map generated, outlining the roles and responsibilities of this committee and its members, as well as setting priority actions. The Prime Minister's Office ratified and adopted the Road Map in November 2017.
- Jordan: technical support and capacity development provided to Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) and Department of Statistics (DOS); series of capacity development modules developed in various areas of food security, based on the capacity-development needs and priorities of the Government of Jordan; 11 training courses conducted for MOA and DOS staff; enumerator training course held on newly introduced Food Insecurity Experience Scale.
- Lebanon: consultation provided on the "Introduction to the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES) Indicator" for MOA; short project document on the Support to the Food Security and Agriculture Cluster in Lebanon prepared.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Project Code
TCP/RAB/3502

Project Title
Strengthening of Food Security Information and Early Warning Systems (FSIEWS) for Effective Resilience-based Response in Countries Affected by the Protracted Syrian Crisis

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