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[Click here](#) for a List of completed, ongoing and upcoming Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Analyses (CFSVA) for 2009.

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[CLICK HERE FOR THE LATEST CFSVA REPORTS AVAILABLE](#)

1. WHAT'S NEW

Welcome to the **twenty-first issue** of the Assessor!

This last issue of the year covers the months of November and December.

You have certainly noticed the two main innovations this issue brings about: first, the graphic layout of the Assessor has been redesigned, to make it more reader-friendly for an "on-screen" consultation and in line with the new WFP branding policy. Second, all links to assessments, guidelines and publications as well as contact e-mail addresses for each section (in **orange**) can now be found on the left column as well as in the main body and immediately activated with a click.

To easily navigate through the Assessor, use the Bookmarks menu in your Adobe Reader by clicking on this icon  on the left menu.

Highlights of this issue

- [Post Disaster Needs Assessments in Asia, Africa and Latin America](#)
- [First consolidated Global Monitoring Update released in October](#)
- [New project: understanding the impact of shocks](#)
- [New JAM guidelines released in October](#)
- [New market analysis Technical Guidance Sheets available](#)
- [Response Analysis Workshop in Rome](#)
- [State of Food Insecurity Report 2009](#)

2. FOOD SECURITY ASSESSMENTS

a. Baseline studies - CFSVA

During 2009, more than **25 CFSVAs** or in-depth food security analysis were implemented across all regions, out of which 10 were funded under the Melinda and Bill Gates Foundation. In total, 15 reports have been released or are about to be finalized. All CFSVAs were conducted in partnership with Government and development partners, including but not limited to FAO, UNICEF, WHO, World Bank, IFPRI and NGOs.

LINKS TO ONGOING AND PLANNED FOOD SECURITY ASSESSMENTS 2009-2010

Asia

Middle East, Central Asia and Eastern Europe

Southern, Eastern and Central Africa

West Africa

Latin America and Caribbean

Sudan

JAM

Please send updates to:

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[Click here](#) for the first **Global Monitoring Update, October 2009** (covering June-September 2009).

The second issue will be released in January 2009

Contact:

Issa.Sanogo@wfp.org and Cheng.Fanq@fao.org

[Click here](#) for the latest

b. Emergency food security assessments

Occupied Palestinian territory Finalisation of a comprehensive review of latest surveys and analyses for OPT (October-November), and organization of a Response Analysis Workshop in view of the preparation of the next PRRO 2010-2011.

Contact: agnes.dhur@wfp.org, antoine.renard@wfp.org

Post-Disaster Needs Assessments (PDNAs) A series of Post-Disaster Needs Assessments (PDNAs) has been launched or will start in the coming weeks in countries recently affected by typhoons and floods in Asia (e.g. The Philippines, Laos, Cambodia, Indonesia), Africa (e.g. Burkina Faso, Senegal) and Latin America (e.g. El Salvador). WFP Country Offices have been encouraged to participate in these PDNAs which typically consist of a Damage and Loss Assessment at macro-level led by the World Bank and the European Commission, with relatively less attention paid to assessing needs for "human recovery" at micro-level. The current PDNA guidance produced by the Cluster Working Group for Early Recovery (CWGER) led by UNDP aims at improving the implementation of a coordinated "human recovery assessment" but it needs to be revised in the light of these recent experiences. WFP staff who have been involved in the PDNAs are strongly encouraged to share their feedback, concerns and suggestions with OMXF in view of this revision which will start in December and continue next year.

c. Monitoring food security and prices

Strengthening Food Security Monitoring

Mid-November, Madagascar has entered the roll-out phase of the FSMS pilot project. WFP has been tasked by the government (supported by the EU) to lead the redesign the Food Security and Early Warning system in drought-prone South of the country. WFP will also provide technical support to a consortium of US-sponsored NGOs (ARDA, CARE, CRS, LOL) to replicate this system in the cyclone-prone East of the country.

WFP's technical support will include an innovative use of SMS and PDA technology for community-based monitoring and bottom-up early warning.

Global Monitoring Update: the first consolidated quarterly global monitoring update, presenting food security trends in a number of selected countries, was released in October. The analysis is based on information from existing food security monitoring systems and complemented by secondary sources.

Understanding the impact of shocks: In the framework of the project, two missions were carried out in Nepal and Bangladesh (15 to 25 November) to introduce the project, develop national contacts and identify potential national working group members. Next country visits (Burkina Faso, Malawi, Pakistan) will take place from February onward.

On 3 December, the first Steering Committee meeting of the project took place at FAO in Rome.

Quarterly Price Trends Bulletin

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[Click here](#) for a List of completed, ongoing and upcoming Joint Assessment Missions for 2009.

Contact:
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[Click here](#) for the CFSAM Yemen report

REMINDER: new VAM guidelines available on-line:

EFSA (Emergency Food Security Assessment)

handbook: this second edition is available in English, French and Spanish. An EFSA measures the impact of a shock on the food security situation of households in the area affected by the shock.

CFSVA (Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Analysis) guidelines: this first edition provides guidance in conducting an in-depth analysis of the food security situation in a country in a non-crisis year.

JAM (Joint Assessment Mission) Guidelines: a JAM assesses the needs, risks, capacities and vulnerabilities of refugees and IDPs in collaboration with UNHCR.

CFSAM (Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission) guidelines: a CFSAM assesses the crop and food security situation with emphasis on the supply and demand for staple foods, uncovered import requirement, and access to food.

Topic-specific VAM guidelines: covering, for example, population estimates, qualitative analysis, sampling.

Quarterly Price Trends Bulletin, The third issue of 2009 was released in October, presenting the changes in prices of staple food commodities and the overall cost of the food basket in 60 of the most vulnerable countries. The next issue of the bulletin will be available as of mid-January. Its preparation will start from mid-December.

d. Joint assessments

Joint Assessment Missions (JAM)

JAMs have taken place in six countries in the final quarter of 2009 (Algeria, Cameroon, Chad, Djibouti, Gambia and Uganda) making use of the revised guidelines.

Crop and Food Security Assessment Missions (CFSAM)

Yemen FAO/WFP Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission visited Yemen from 3 to 17 October 2009 to estimate the 2009 main season cereal production and assess the overall food security situation for the 2010 marketing year.

South Sudan Field work was carried out from 25 October and 12 November. The report is being prepared.

Guatemala Data collection was undertaken from 1 to 30 November. Report being finalized.

Ethiopia Data collection ongoing.

3. GUIDELINES

JAM Guidelines: hard copies of the new guidelines in English have been disseminated to all country offices with refugee programmes. Copies in French are expected shortly. **Download** from the WFP website.

Market analysis technical guidance sheets (TGS) New TGS on how to conduct traders' survey were prepared. A training package will be shared by end December, in addition to a training package on basic price analysis. Two other TGS of particular interest for P4P activities are being finalized on net buyers'/net sellers' status and value chain analysis. The preparation of a market analysis framework is also starting in December as part of the guidance materials. Existing TGS related to market and price analysis are available **online**.

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A Review of Nutrition and Mortality Indicators for the IPC: Reference Levels and Decision-making, by Helen Young, Feinstein International Centre, Tufts University, and Susanne Jaspars, Overseas Development Institute (ODI) has been finalized, under the leadership of the Standing Committee on Nutrition (SCN) Task Force on Assessment, Monitoring and Evaluation (TF-AME), co-chaired by WFP and FAO. The purpose of the review was to provide guidance on the significance and use of nutrition and mortality indicators in the specific context of the IPC. The report will be made available shortly on the IPC Website (www.ipcinfo.org).

Contact: Agnes.Dhur@wfp.org and Angie.Lee@wfp.org

To search for other guidelines click [here](#)

For hard copies contact:
Caterina.Bianchi@wfp.org

TRAINING ACTIVITIES FOR DECEMBER AND JANUARY:

29 November-4 December, Bangkok: Advanced EFSA training for OMB countries. Please **Contact:** Rita.Bhatia@wfp.org

7 – 11 December 2009, Addis Abeba: A joint UNHCR/WFP JAM training in English covering OMJ and some OMD countries. **Contact** Kathryn.Ogden@wfp.org

7-11 December 2009, Rome: An Advanced Quantitative Analysis training for HQ and some country office staff. **Contact:** Claudia.AhPoe@wfp.org or Cinzia.Papavero@wfp.org

25-29 January 2010, Dakar: Advanced EFSA in French covering OMD, OMK and potentially OMP (Haiti). Please **Contact:** Koffi.Akakpo@wfp.org or Nanuar.Labidi@wfp.org

Contact: Valerie.Ceylon@wfp.org

Click [here](#) for the RAP workshop report

Contact: Claudia.AhPoe@wfp.org, Yukako.Sato@wfp.org

Guidance on how to use Food Consumption Score for IPC analysis: Guidance on how to use Food Consumption Score and Food Consumption Group data as a key reference outcome in an IPC analysis (with thresholds for the appropriate phase classification) will be developed to further facilitate the use of WFP data for IPC purposes. This work will be aligned to the ongoing technical revision of the IPC approach whereby a revised version of the Technical Manual and User's Guide (V.2) is foreseen by early next year.

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4. CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES

Enhanced Capacity in Food Security and Response Analysis (ENCAP)

Consultations are ongoing with the Regional Bureaux to identify which food security analysis (FSA) training activities are eligible for ENCAP support. A simplified "Training Needs Analysis" (TNA) tool was circulated to assist Regional VAM officers with the development of their regional FSA capacity-building strategies. Training course materials prepared by the respective OMXF teams are ready or are nearly finalized on Initial EFSA, Advanced EFSA, three levels of Quantitative Analysis, basic and intermediate Price Analysis, and Trader Survey methods. Additional supporting materials to assist in selecting participants, estimating costs and assessing and monitoring outcomes will be made available to RBs/COs prior to implementation of each course.

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JAM training: JAM training took place from December 7th -10th in Addis Ababa. It brought together staff from WFP, UNHCR and partners.

5. RESPONSE ANALYSIS

A **Response analysis workshop** took place in Rome on 11-12 November, with Programme, VAM, RAP and emergency preparedness staff from Country Offices, Regional Bureaux and the Headquarters, as well as FAO. The workshop highlighted the fact that response analysis activities have been insofar largely focused on post-assessment workshops and that more efforts should be put in strengthening consultation within WFP and with partners at the time of assessment design and validation and of report writing. The workshop identified the different inputs, beyond food security analysis, needed in the response identification process and clarified the share of responsibilities with regard to response analysis between VAM, programme and preparedness staff. A number of recommendations were formulated that are taken into account to review regional work plans.

Yemen Following a joint OMXD/OMXF mission to Yemen in August 2009 to support a response analysis consultation as well as prepare design of a Comprehensive Food Security Survey (CFSS), a second mission took place from 14 to 19 November. The objectives were to monitor the progress made regarding the survey implementation as well as guide the Country Office on various food security initiatives including the development of a national food security strategy in close collaboration

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All tools can be found on the
[cluster website](#)

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with the Government, World Bank, IFPRI and other partners. It was agreed to organize a joint workshop in January 2010 to validate CFSS and IFPRI food security modelling findings and identify sector-level priorities for programme interventions.

RAP workshop in Rwanda: Based on the findings from the CFSVA & Nutritional Survey completed in July 2009, a consultation will be held in Rwanda in February with the objective to provide qualitative enrichment to the situational analysis and to identify areas of interventions. The consultation, to be held at sub-national level (Karongi and Bugesera), will involve Government and partners and be followed up by a national meeting.

RAP consultation in Mozambique (December) - WFP has also preliminarily scheduled to implement a RAP-project-funded Response Analysis consultation (RAP) mission to Mozambique to take place in the period between 14 and 18 December. The mission will draw upon the CFSVA, concluded in August 2009, the report on which (English version) was presented to authorities on the 4th December 2009.

6. INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION

Cluster Approach: The IASC Global Nutrition Cluster (GNC) held its annual meeting in London in October. Since its inception the cluster has concentrated on developing a number of tools for use by country level clusters. For assessments this includes a tri-cluster (health, nutrition, WASH) initial rapid assessment tool (IRA). There will now be a shift in emphasis to support country clusters in the use of these tools. OMXF is a member of the GNC Assessment Working Group and thus plays an active role in the cluster.

IASC Needs Assessment Task Force (NATF) WFP participated into a workshop in Geneva on 4-6 November to (i) review the main characteristics and improvements required on the pilot Humanitarian Dashboard, and (ii) launch a process of identification of indicators and development of guidance for multi-sectoral/multi-agency needs assessments. As next steps, key conceptual and technical issues of the Humanitarian Dashboard will be reviewed in December, and Clusters/sectors/Cross-cutting issues focal points (e.g. gender, protection) will review the indicators they collect during initial and rapid assessments and present them at a follow-up workshop in mid-January. WFP/OMXF is member of the Humanitarian Dashboard's Technical Group and the NATF and actively involved to provide inputs to the various processes, especially to ensure that food security information and assessment methods are adequately taken into account.

Enhancing urban analysis: WFP has been actively involved in the preparation of the 75th IASC Working Group Meeting held in Nairobi (11-13 November). A special focus was on Meeting Humanitarian Challenges in Urban Areas (MHCUA) Task Force (TF). The meeting proposed the extension of the MHCUA TF mandate to the end of 2010, with a focus on humanitarian action, including preparedness. The proposed strategy for 2010 emphasised the necessity to give priority to inter-agency approaches on urban issues. In line with the recommendations of the MHCUA TF meeting co-hosted by FAO and WFP in Rome (7-9 September), the Nairobi meeting proposed some priority areas of interest for analyses such as urban targeting and beneficiary identification, adjustment of organizational and analytical tools and guidelines.

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Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC)

Cote in d'Ivoire. The fourth round of the IPC exercise in Cote d'Ivoire took place in October bringing together UN, Government and other partners.

Southern Africa: A coordinated roll out of the IPC process in interested countries of the SADC region (Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Malawi and South Africa) is currently in development under the auspices of the VAC system. As a first step, a Regional Coordinator has been recruited by the RVAC - IPC Technical Working Group to oversee country support activities. Also, a regional IPC training was organized in November to provide a detailed orientation to staff and partners at regional and national level.

Eastern Africa: An IPC Regional Technical Workshop for Central and Eastern Africa was organized by the Regional Food Security and Nutrition Working Group (FSNWG) in October. The workshop convened technical food security professionals from the region to develop a regional Food Security and Nutrition Situation Analysis using the IPC approach and discuss possible ways to harmonize the unique data collection and institutional settings in each country. In addition, a Training of Trainers was organized in November with the aim to strengthen in-country capacity in IPC analysis and establish a pool of advanced IPC trainers.

A multi-agency proposal has been submitted to ECHO for a Phase 2 (2009-2010) development of the IPC by global partners. The proposal includes dedicated IPC Field Advisors who will be posted in the field to provide enhanced country support and a central Support Unit hosted by FAO with a Programme Manager, a Technical Manager, a Capacity Development Manager and support staff (communications, administration and finance). Regional and country level consultations will be held by early next year at the latest to identify eight focus countries that will be the primary recipients of technical support and resource allocation during the Phase 2 period.

7. INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

VAM is continuing the implementation of the International Household Survey Network (IHSN) project, an initiative aimed at increasing the availability of household survey data. The IHSN has invited participants from our country offices and regional bureaus to join in training sessions on their software, which is used to archive and share surveys. In December, VAM staff attended trainings in Egypt (6-10) and in Cote d'Ivoire (7-11). More sessions are being scheduled for 2010.

8. STAFF NEWS

Valerie Ceylon has recently come back to the Food Security Analysis service (OMXF) at HQ as the new Response Analysis Project (RAP) Manager. Previously WFP global IPC focal point, she will continue to be involved in IPC activities, in support to the new IPC focal point, Angie Lee.

Sigrid Kuhlke is the new Response Analysis Project Focal Point for the Regional office in Dakar. She brings in an extensive experience both in assessment and programme strategy development acquired with different INGOs in the field (i.e. ACF, German Agro Action, Oxfam GB).

Laura de Franchis is the new VAM officer in Pakistan. Previously VAM officer in the Lao PDR, Laura will manage the unit in the production of the food security related analysis and maps, with a reticular focus on the conflict affected areas of Pakistan and on the continuing high food prices and their impact on food security. Another priority for Laura' will be to strengthen the links between VAM and M&E, in particular by integrating corporate Food Security indicators into M&E.

Byron Poncesegura has joined the Afghanistan team as VAM officer. Byron worked with FAO managing food security information projects in Southern and Eastern Africa, Afghanistan, Latin America and the Caribbean. He also prepared the P4P assessment for Guatemala. In Afghanistan, Byron will focus on strengthening links with Programme, helping better targeting support the improvement of national information systems on early warning and food security monitoring.

Samuel de Castro has recently joined the Regional Office in Johannesburg as OMJ Response Analysis Focal Point. He has nearly 30 years of experience with WFP, starting as Admin/Logistics/Programme/Reporting Assistant at Brazil CO, then internationally, as Programme officer & Head of Sub-office/Base Manager, but also as International Observer (OFF/Iraq)/M&E and Reporting Officer.

Sam Chimwaza is the new VAM officer in Zimbabwe. Before joining WFP, Sam was FEWS NET Country Representative in Malawi for 15 years. Sam will support the development of the new Country Programme, ensuring that assessments and M&E are aligned and responsive to the new information needs and activities.

Andrea Berardo has recently joined the DPRK office as the new VAM officer. He was previously VAM officer in OMK, coordinating CFSVA in the region. In DPRK, Andrea is going to be in charge of VAM and M&E. In the next months, he will be working specifically on targeting for the next PRRO.

Rogério Bonifacio has joined OMXF as the Spatial Risk Analyst/GIS Team Leader. He worked for the VAM unit in Sudan from May 2005 to March 2007 where he was responsible for remote sensing, agro-meteorological and crop monitoring analysis. Thereafter, he moved to the FAO Sudan Food Security Information for Action, where he has been until now.

Cheng Fang has joined OMXF as Programme Adviser, seconded from FAO. He will co-lead the joint WFP-FAO impact modelling work over the next year, to develop a modelling system to estimate the impact of a number of shocks on household food security, livelihood and nutrition.

Mario Musa is the new Communication Adviser at the Food Analysis Service. He will be responsible for the development and implementation of the Food Security Analysis communication strategy. Before WFP, he worked for the ICRC and FAO, both in communications and operations management at field and headquarters levels.

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Our [website](#) is updated daily.
Check it out for more
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NEXT ISSUE OF THE ASSESSOR
(JAN-FEB 2010) TO BE RELEASED
END OF JANUARY 2010.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

9. OTHER

The [State of Food Insecurity in the World 2009](#) was released on 14 October.

Focus of this edition of the report, the first prepared jointly by FAO and WFP, is the impact of the global economic crisis on already food-insecure and vulnerable people.

[Joyce Luma](#) and [Arif Husain](#) from OMXF served on its Editorial Board. OMXF also substantially contributed to the SOFI 2009 by preparing the chapter on case studies (Armenia, Bangladesh, Ghana, Nicaragua and Zambia).

OMXF Retreat OMXF staff met on 30 September 2009 in Rome to define the vision, core functions and strategy for its 2010-2011 workplan.

The retreat identified priorities organised around three thematic areas:

- *Technical/Analytical Improvements*

Priority areas included the need to i) strengthen the climate change analytical capacity to understand the long - and medium-term effects and integrate into FS analysis ii) improve preparedness, modelling and analysis of the impact of unforeseen and global crises and to iii) ensure availability of effective technologies, systems and related skills to support data collection, spatial analysis, modelling, archiving and dissemination

- *Capacity Building and Development*

Priority areas included i) improve capacity to inform innovative food assistance responses under the new strategic plan ii) support to integrate food security analysis, inter-agency assessments and initiatives iii) strengthen quality assurance of food security products

- *Strengthen food security analysis communication and information dissemination skills*

Priority areas included i) develop and implement a communications strategy ii) train staff on report writing/communications iii) further develop user friendly communication tools iv) strengthen the Food Security Analysis Webpage as the "one stop shop" for all FSA-related information.