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LINKS TO FOOD SECURITY ASSESSMENTS SCHEDULE 2010

Asia

Middle East, Central Asia and Eastern Europe

Eastern and Central Africa

Southern Africa

West Africa

Latin America and Caribbean

Sudan

2011 Assessment schedules are no longer updated as they will be available in the Assessment Tracking Database and accessible to external users. In the meantime, information on the planned assessment can be requested to the Regional Bureaux.

Welcome to the **twenty-eighth issue** of the Assessor, the WFP Food Security Analysis newsletter, covering the months of **March and April 2011**.

1. WHAT'S NEW

- **North Africa emergencies and food security**
- **Focus on high food prices**
- **RAP project Phase III completed**
- **UNICEF and WFP to develop a Joint Approach for Nutrition and Food Security Assessments**
- **Proposal for a Food Security Information Network**

LATEST REPORTS AVAILABLE ON THE WFP FOOD SECURITY WEBPAGE (click on the title to access the report)

Afghanistan - Market Price Bulletin, March 2011
Afghanistan - Market Price Bulletin, March 2011 (Supplement Issue)
Cambodia - Food Price and Wage Bulletin, No. 24, February 2011
Bangladesh - Food Security Monitoring System: Special Issue, January 2011
Bangladesh - Food Security Monitoring System: No. 3, November - December 2010
Bénin - Système d'information sur les marchés: No. 17, Janvier 2011
Bénin, Niger, Nigéria, Tchad - Marchés et sécurité alimentaire dans le Bassin Est, Mars 2011
Bolivia - Reporte de Monitoreo de la Seguridad Alimentaria Junio - Noviembre 2010
Cambodia - Food Price and Wage Bulletin: No. 23, January 2011
Chad - Marchés et sécurité alimentaire, Février 2011
Democratic People's Republic of Korea - WFP/FAO/UNICEF Rapid Food Security Assessment Mission, March 2011
Haiti - Bulletin d'analyse approfondie des marchés: No. 3, Janvier 2011
Lao People's Democratic Republic - FAO/WFP Crop and Food Security Assessment, March 2011
Ethiopia - Cross Border Trade, March 2011
Liberia - Comprehensive Food Security and Nutrition Survey, 2010
Liberia - Market Price Monitor: No. 14, December 2010
Madagascar - Food Security Monitoring System: 4th Quarter 2010, February 2011
Nepal - Crop Situation Update: A Joint Assessment of 2010 Summer Crops and Outlook for 2011 Winter Crops
Niger - Albichir: Analyse approfondie des marchés et de la sécurité alimentaire: No. 15, Janvier 2011
occupied Palestinian territory - Socio-Economic and Food Security Survey, February 2011
Southern Africa - Regional Food Security Update, March 2011
Southern Africa - Regional Food Security Update, February 2011
Southern Sudan Annual Needs and Livelihoods Assessment 2010-2011
Sudan - Trends in Staple Food Prices in Selected Vulnerable States, March 2011
Sudan - Emergency Food Security Assessment: White Nile, October 2010
Sudan - Emergency Food Security Assessment: South Kordofan, October 2010
Sudan - Emergency Food Security Assessment: North Kordofan, October 2010
Sudan - Kassala State: Round 2, November 2010
Sudan - Red Sea State: Round 2, November 2010
Sudan - Sennar State: Round 3, November 2010

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

Contacts:

Siemon.Hollema@wfp.org
Chiara.Brunelli@wfp.org
Perrine.Geniez@wfp.org
Amit.Wadhwa@wfp.org
Darryl.Miller@wfp.org

[Click here](#) for a **List of completed, ongoing and upcoming Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Analyses (CFSVA) for 2010 and 2011.**

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

Contacts:

Asif.Niazi@wfp.org
Anne-Claire.Mouilliez@wfp.org
Kathryn.Ogden@wfp.org
Naouar.Labidi@wfp.org
Siemon.Hollema@wfp.org

WFP is co-chairing with FAO the **Regional Food Security Coordination sector** in Cairo and is inputting information on the food security sectoral webpages established by OCHA. [Link](#)

Contacts:

Karina.Schmitt@wfp.org
Margaretha.Barkhof@wfp.org

Contact:

Bernard.Owadi@wfp.org

2. FOOD SECURITY ASSESSMENTS

a. Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Analysis (CFSVA)

Reports for **Armenia, China, Dominican Republic, the Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Kenya** (urban), **Senegal** and **Sierra Leone** are under finalization. **Madagascar** and **Zambia** reports are under compilation.

Analysis is underway for **El Salvador** and **South Sudan**. Preparatory work (survey design and enumerators' training) for a CFSVA in **Cameroon** is ongoing, with field work scheduled for April/May 2011.

As a result of the **WFP - World Bank global agreement**, CFSVA core food security modules are being integrated into the Living Standards Measurement Studies - Integrated Surveys on Agriculture (LSMS/ISA) surveys in countries of "mutual interest". The fieldwork in **Malawi** started in March 2010 and will conclude in March 2011. The second visit (post harvest) in **Nigeria** is on-going and data will be available in July 2011. Field work is ongoing in **Tanzania** and **Uganda**. Questionnaire design and pilot test is underway in **Ethiopia**.

WFP and World Bank are jointly undertaking a food security analysis in **Moldova**, using the Household Budget Surveys data from 2006 to 2010.

Dialogue is ongoing with FAO on the **joint FAO/WFP proposal** to support **a series of national SOFIs** (State of Food Insecurity) in 5-10 countries.

b. Emergency food security assessments

North Africa/Libya crisis

WFP and partners have launched a number of assessments to determine the food security situation in one of the most food import dependent regions in the world, **following the unprecedented wave of social and political changes that has marked the first quarter of 2011.**

A **regional secondary data review** will be undertaken in April to establish the pre-crisis food security status in **Libya, Tunisia** and **Egypt**.

In Tunisia, a joint FAO/WFP rapid qualitative assessment was conducted between 15 and 19 March in rural areas vulnerable to food insecurity with the highest number of returnees from Libya. WFP is also conducting an **in-depth household food security survey in rural areas**, due to be completed by the second week of April.

In **Libya**, Market prices and data collection in collaboration with ACTED, and an OCHA-lead interagency rapid needs assessment are taking place in Benghazi.

In **Egypt**, a joint **UNICEF-WFP rapid assessment for returnees** took place from 15-17 March. WFP is also preparing a **food security assessment in the rural areas** vulnerable to food insecurity, focusing on 10 governorates of Upper Egypt.

An EFSA was carried out in March in **Guatemala**. Data analysis is ongoing.

An EFSA is taking place in **Liberia** in April.

[Click here](#) for the latest **Global Monitoring Update**

Contact:

Wanja.Kaaria@wfp.org

[Link](#) to the Special Issue

Contacts:

Claudia.AhPoe@wfp.org
Nicolas.Bidault@wfp.org

Contact:

Claudia.AhPoe@wfp.org
Eric.Kenefick@wfp.org

Contact:

Kanna.Schmitt@wfp.org

[Click here](#) for the latest **Market Monitor**

Contacts:

Issa.Sanogo@wfp.org
Rossella.Bottone@wfp.org

Contacts

Stephanie.Brunellin@wfp.org
MalikiAmadou.Mahamane@wfp.org

Contact:

Issa.Sanogo@wfp.org

Contact:

Rossella.Bottone@wfp.org

c. Monitoring food security and prices

Global Update The fourth issue of the biannual bulletin for the period covering second half of 2010 is available **online**. This edition is accompanied by a **Special Issue** focusing on price and food security updates in countries of concern and covering the first quarter of 2011.

In the framework of **strengthening the linkages between food security monitoring and programme performance monitoring**, two missions were fielded to **Yemen** (2-9 March) and **Afghanistan** (12-25 March).

In **Yemen**, the Country Office was supported in the design of a food security and nutrition outcome monitoring system, as a joint VAM and M&E activity.

In **Afghanistan**, the link between food security analysis and programme implementation was assessed. Recommendations were provided to improve food security and nutrition assessments and analysis, beneficiary targeting, project monitoring and outcome measurement.

Guatemala WFP is providing support to the National Food Security and Nutrition Secretariat (SESAN) in improving its Food Security Monitoring System, in terms of methodology, indicators used and reporting format. Consultations and working sessions were held with staff of SESAN, Ministry of Agriculture and National Institute of Statistics. This initiative is coordinated with other stakeholders, particularly ACF and FEWSNET.

Market Monitor The 11th issue– monitoring staple food prices in 63 countries – was released early April.

Globally, cereal prices **have increased by 14 percent** during the first quarter of 2011 compared to previous quarter. It is difficult to predict if this upward trend will continue as the international situation with the Northern Africa tensions and the Japanese crisis could have an unpredictable impact on cereals prices in the coming months.

In many countries the increase in staple **on the cost of the food basket** food prices had a **very high impact** (over 10 percent). The highest increases were recorded in Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Chad, Djibouti, El Salvador, Georgia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Ethiopia, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan and Zimbabwe.

Country specific market monitor reports were also published in **Afghanistan, Benin, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Haiti and Niger**.

The **DRC Country Office** is carrying out a Cash Pilot evaluation and a Market assessment in the Katanga, northern and southern Kivu regions to assess the possibility of scaling up of WFP cash transfers intervention.

The **Egypt Country Office** is providing support to the national market surveillance system, by initiating a monitoring system for prices, availability of main food items and market practices. The CO and government agencies (IDSC and FSIC) are exploring partnership opportunities for the establishment of a joint monitoring system.

The market team is working towards the standardization of all price data made available from CO, with the aim of setting up a **web based price monitoring tool**. The system is being tested with RB s and Cos and will be progressively implemented in all regions.

Contacts:

Micheal.Sheinkman@wfp.org
 Arif.Husain@wfp.org

CLICK HERE FOR THE LATEST JAM REPORTS AVAILABLE**Contacts:**

Kathryn.Ogden@wfp.org
 Wilfred.Nkwambi@wfp.org
 Elise.Benoit@wfp.org

Contacts:

Mark.Gordon@wfp.org
 Dan.Chizelema@wfp.org

Contacts:

Debora.Hines@wfp.org
 Carmen.Galarza@wfp.org or
 Margaretha.Barkhof@wfp.org

Contacts:

Valerie.Ceylon@wfp.org
 Fabio.Bedini@wfp.org

Contacts:

Valerie.Ceylon@wfp.org
 Fabio.Bedini@wfp.org

Contact:

Alexis.Hoskins@wfp.org
 Report writing course material in English, French and Spanish will be available by mid- April in the **Learning Toolkit**

Contact:

Mario.Musa@wfp.org

Contacts:

Alexis.Hoskins@wfp.org
 Technical support:
 Wael.Attia@wfp.org or
 George.Muammar@wfp.org;
Link to Assessors Database
 All VAM staff who have not updated their information in the new system are urgently requested to do so.

d. Joint assessments

A joint FAO, UNICEF and WFP, **Rapid Food Security Assessment Mission (RFSA)** was carried out in the **Democratic People's Republic of Korea** from 21 February to 11 March, in response to a request from the Government for food assistance. The mission assessed the winter and spring 2011 production. It also updated the cereal import capacity and requirements for 2010/11 and the food assistance needs, based on the October 2010 FAO/WFP Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission (CFSAM).

Joint Assessment Missions (JAM)

A JAM will take place mid April in **Chad** for Sudanese refugees in the east and Central African Republic refugees in the south.

A pre-JAM household/child food security and nutrition assessment of refugees will be undertaken in **Rwanda** at the end of April. The JAM is planned for the middle of May.

A JAM was completed in **Ecuador** in March.

The **Lao CFSAM** report is available **online**.

3. GUIDELINES

Secondary Data Analysis Guidelines were drafted in the framework of the RAP to provide methodological advice on how to review secondary data in order to make the best use of information available prior to any primary data collection in pre-crisis or post-shock situations.

A **RAP Guidance document** to enhance the use of food security and nutrition information in designing interventions was drafted. The guidance complements and updates existing CFSVA and EFSA guidelines.

Both drafts are being finalized and will be circulated mid-April for comments.

4. CAPACITY BUILDING

Enhanced Capacity in Food Security and Response Analysis (ENCAP)

Recent or planned training courses Two additional rounds of the **online report writing course** in English and French were completed by 36 VAM officers from all regions.

A Trader Survey training (TST) is planned to be held in ODB and ODJ/Kampala during the 2nd or 3rd quarter of 2011. This training directly complements the Price Analysis training held in all Regional Bureaux, focusing on data analysis. It will provide basic skills in primary data collection methods to support market analysis. The TST training materials are available for review on the **Learning Toolkit**.

The revised **Assessors Database** has been now been rolled out to all Regional Bureaux, enabling HQ and RB VAM managers to analyze capacities in their respective geographic locations. The next step is to develop a search function to allow managers to match assessment needs with the assessor's profile.

5. RESPONSE ANALYSIS

Contact:

Elise.Bendit@wfp.org

Contact:

Deborah.Hines@wfp.org

Contacts:

John.Prout@wfp.org

Andree.Turpel@wfp.org

Contacts:

Valerie.Ceylon@wfp.org

Fabio.Bedini@wfp.org

Contact:

Yvonne.Forsen@wfp.org

Phase III of the Response Analysis Project came to end at the end of March. Follow up activities will be carried in ODXF will be closely coordinated with ODXP and ODXC.

Contacts: Issa.Sanogo@wfp.org

Alexis.Hoskins@wfp.org

Link to the [Nutrition cluster website](#)

Contact:

Eric.Kenefick@wfp.org

Contact:

Kathryn.Ogden@wfp.org

Contact:

Wael.Attia@wfp.org

Contacts:

George.Muammar@wfp.org

Amit.Wadhwa@wfp.org

Wael.Attia@wfp.org

Chad A consultation between Government, WFP and main stakeholders was held on 17-21 of February. The consultation provided inputs to the ongoing UNDAF process, WFP programming and new assessments design, fostering intersectoral and donor partnerships.

Ecuador A RAP consultative process was held on 17-18 March to validate the findings of a Secondary Data Analysis with key stakeholders and to identify WFP responses to the refugee population and host communities, in the border province of Esmeraldas (Coast) and Imbabura (Highlands).

ODXF and ODXP piloted a **Transfer Modality Review (TMR)** in **Cambodia** and **Tanzania** in order to compile key information required to support decisions on the selection of transfer modalities. The pilots indicated that further refinements to the TMR process are required, to ensure alignment of current cash and voucher programme design processes with existing Response Analysis and Market Analysis Framework tools.

The **Kenya** Country Office will hold a preliminary response identification workshop in April, in collaboration with the Kenya Food Security Steering Group Short Rains Assessment lesson learned workshop.

RAP Recommendations:

At the end of phase III of the RAP the following recommendations were formulated: (1) To mainstream response analysis in WFP by adopting overall response analysis approach as tested in this phase. (2) To sustain working collaboration between ODXF and ODXP with increased coordination of missions and support provided to country office and by expanding regional responsibilities in ODXF. (3) To pursue global inter-agency collaboration with continued global technical engagement with FAO on response analysis.

6. INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION

WFP received support from the Transition Opportunity Fund to work with UNICEF to develop a **Joint Approach for Nutrition and Food Security Assessments** for the region. The first Technical Advisory Group meeting took place from 4 to 6 April in Kampala.

A global Nutrition Cluster meeting was held in Nairobi from 23 to 25 March. Synergy with the Global Food Security Cluster and especially for assessments was a key element of discussions.

7. INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

The **Assessment Tracking Database** will be rolled out to all regions between mid April and end of May. The database is a key tool for WFP to strengthen planning and accountability of food security analysis activities. By tracking food security assessments/analyses at Country Office, the database ensures that the available information is timely used for WFP programming, strengthening the link between assessments, projects and strategies.

The Information Management team in Rome is investigating various innovative technical solutions for capturing data including: household surveys, market price monitoring, and Food Security Monitoring

Contacts:

Astrid.Mathiassen@wfp.org
George.Muammar@wfp.org
Wanja.Kaaria@wfp.org

Contacts:

Joyce.Luma@wfp.org
Arif.Husain@wfp.org

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information!

Otherwise, follow us on



<http://twitter.com/WFPVAM>

For questions, comments and
suggestions contact:

Mario.Musa@wfp.org

You can subscribe or
unsubscribe to this newsletter by
sending an email to:

Mario.Musa@wfp.org
or Wael.Attia@wfp.org

**NEXT ISSUE WILL BE RELEASED
END OF MAY/EARLY JUNE 2011.**

Systems. To encourage participation from all potential users, a SharePoint project page is being created and a brief survey will be launched mid-April to identify the functional and technical requirements of existing and planned data collection projects conducted by the Country Offices and Regional Bureaux.

ODXF provided technical support to the design and piloting of **gender sensitive FSMS/Outcome monitoring tools** to be used with the Mobile delivery and tracking (MDT) system in the Zambia Food Voucher Programme. Tools include a set of community based and household level questionnaires that can be combined or used separately depending on programme objectives. Questionnaires collected at distribution points will be transmitted via mobile phones to the MDT database and be available on line in real-time. This monitoring system will soon be replicated in Mozambique and Zimbabwe cash and voucher programmes.

8. STAFF NEWS

With the end of the phase III of the RAP project, **Valérie Ceylon** has left ODXF to take up a temporary assignment at the Global Food Security Cluster.

Maliki Mahamane has returned from Haiti to reintegrate the HQ Market team.

10. OTHER

Proposed Food Security Information Network

The need to establish a Food **Security Information Network** (FSIN) was discussed at the September 2010 EC-FAO Symposium on Information Systems for Food security. The proposed Network aims at strengthening country and regional food security information in the most at-risk regions, setting food security information standards and methods and sharing best practices, and advocating for a multilevel global food security information for crisis prevention and disaster risk management, poverty reduction, improved food and nutrition security and climate change adaptation.

A draft proposal and a road map were developed by an informal committee (with participation of WFP) and are being circulated to stakeholders for comments, in view of a FSIN consultative conference to be held during the summer in Nairobi.