

Monitoring Food Security

Technical Guidance Sheet 1

Reporting Structure and Content

August 2012



World Food Programme

Fighting Hunger Worldwide



Monitoring Food Security,

Technical Guidance Sheet 1: FSMS Reporting Structure and Content

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Food Security Analysis Service

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Monitoring Food Security Technical Guidance Sheet 1: Reporting Structure and Content provides guidance for technical staff on how to synthesize and present information for food security monitoring.

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1. The consultation was attended by representatives from the Bangladesh, Kenya, Swaziland and Zimbabwe Governments, the Southern African Development Community, the *Comité permanent Inter-Etats de Lutte contre la Sécheresse dans le Sahel*, *Action Contre la Faim*, FAO, FEWS-NET, USAID, the International Livestock Research Institute, the International Research Institute for Climate and Society and the Joint Research Center.

Acronyms

BMI	Body Mass Index
CFSVA	Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Analysis
CIIFEN	<i>Centro Internacional para la Investigación del Fenomeno de El Niño</i>
CILSS	<i>Comité Permanent Inter-États de Lutte contre la Sécheresse dans le Sahel</i>
CPC	Climate Prediction Center (NASA)
CPI	Consumer Price Index
CSI	Coping Strategy Index
EFSA	Emergency Food Security Assessment
ENSO	El Niño Southern Oscillation
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FCS	Food Consumption Score
FEWS NET	Famine Early-Warning Systems Network
FSMS	Food Security Monitoring System
GAM	Global Acute Malnutrition
GIEWS	Global Information and Early-Warning System
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
IRI	International Research Institute for Climate and Society
ISFNS	Information Systems for Food and Nutrition Security
MUAC	Mid-Upper Arm Circumference
NDVI	Normalized Difference Vegetation Index
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NOAA /CPC	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration / Climate Prediction Center (National Aeronautics and Space Administration)
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SATCA	<i>Sistema de Alerta Temprana para Centroamérica</i>
TGS	Technical Guidance Sheet
ToT	Terms of Trade
UN	United Nations
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VAM	Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping
WFP	World Food Programme

Introduction

The WFP corporate strategy on Information Systems for Food and Nutrition Security (ISFNS) aims at developing information systems that respond to the needs of decision-makers. It seeks to promote long-lasting, national multi-stakeholder partnerships and to respond to a growing demand for in-depth analysis of the structural and emerging factors that cause food and nutrition insecurity.

WFP's support to information systems is defined by four pillars, based on the organization's operational and technical strengths: a) in-country food security and nutrition assessment and monitoring; b) capacity development at country level; c) the development of standards, methods and tools; and d) the delivery of statistics, information and analysis. These pillars are aligned with WFP's Strategic Plan.

Overview of FSMS

WFP defines food security monitoring as a system that tracks and reports on household vulnerability to food insecurity, the objectives being to:

- monitor and analyze trends of food availability, access and utilization;
- identify and monitor risks and opportunities for household food security; and
- provide timely and relevant information for decision-making.

Thus, the role of an FSMS is to flag a deteriorating or improving food security situation. It does not necessarily explain why changes in food security are occurring – it simply indicates that something is happening.

Following the 2009 FSMS stocktaking exercise and subsequent in-house and stakeholder consultations,² there was an agreement on the need to strengthen food security monitoring.

Recommendations were also made to ensure FSMS are designed as “lite” and flexible. They should have a few indicators sensitive to detecting and measuring food security changes at national, sub-national, community and household level. They should also require limited human and financial resources. The consultation

2. See WFP. June 2009. *Stock Taking Report* and WFP. June 2009. *Stakeholder Consultation Report*.

meetings endorsed the need for FSMS to provide regular information, building wherever possible on existing systems, with sufficient national ownership and preferably as a collaborative process with partners including governments, UN agencies and NGOs.³

FSMS reports should be prepared regularly: in most cases a quarterly report is ideal. Where possible, data should be compared with baselines, which could be those established by a CFSVA, National Household Surveys, food production statistics, or wholesale and/or retail price levels.

These guidance sheets describe how to implement an FSMS that is both sufficiently comprehensive and “lite”. They attempt to address challenges related to system sustainability, the effectiveness and harmonization of reporting, the selection of indicators, and the implementation of a national FSMS.

There are four guidance sheets that will be consolidated into one set of guidelines. They are briefly presented below:

TGS1 - FSMS Reporting Structure and Content: guidance on how to structure an FSMS report and how to present data for each information domain/indicator.

TGS2 - FSMS Indicator Compendium: a compendium of a core set of indicators for FSMS, meant to measure progress or setbacks against benchmarks over time.

TGS3 - Survey Methodology for Monitoring Food Security: survey methods and tools to generate primary data in the context of regular food and nutrition security monitoring.

TGS4 - Supporting the Implementation of a National FSMS: a conceptual framework and practical tools for the capacity development of an FSMS operated by a national organization.

3. Collaboration and partnerships should be reflected on the cover page, e.g. through logos. A list of sources should be included at the end of the report.

About this Guidance

This guidance sheet presents the chronological structure and content for a quarterly report focusing on food availability, access and utilization, including a risk analysis and information about hazards and shocks. It includes examples of how to present data for each information domain and indicator, as well as sample reports and a report template.

Partnerships and Reporting

Where reports are prepared with partners, their frequency may vary and content may differ from the proposals in this guidance sheet.⁴ The focus may shift from one issue to another: different issues could emphasize annual cereal production, rainfall or household-level data. WFP country offices should agree with partners as to the inclusion of priority information domains such as food consumption, retail food prices and terms of trade. Monitoring frequency may be increased during periods of increased food insecurity.

FSMS Report: Structure and content

The main text should not exceed eight pages and should include small graphics only. A map should appear on the first page to highlight food insecurity areas, risks and hazards. More detailed maps and graphics should be included in the Annexes.

The report should be structured as follows:

1. Summary and highlights.
2. Environmental, economic and governance issues.
3. Food availability: supply/demand, production estimates, market information.
4. Food access and consumption, household income and expenditure, coping mechanisms and purchasing power.
5. Food utilization, nutrition and health.

This structure reflects an ideal situation where information is regularly available. Bear in mind that this may not always be the case.

4. Structure and content may vary in accordance with agreements between partners. WFP emphasizes food access, consumption and utilization, which often receive limited attention. Reports arising from FSMS partnerships, e.g. with the Famine Early-Warning System Network (FEWS NET), may generate more detailed information.



In countries where an FSMS is being set up, the system should initially focus on the sections for which information is regularly available from secondary sources. This could be information on environmental and economic issues, crop production estimates and prices.

In countries where a market monitoring system is in place, the FSMS should build on this system and introduce additional information domains such as food price trends and variability, terms of trade between staple food units and heads of livestock, and other reference indicators for household food access or utilization.

Ideally, an FSMS analysis is based on a combination of primary and secondary data. When data from WFP/partner surveys are lacking, secondary sources should be used. These may come from the government, NGOs and/or international organizations and projects.

1. Summary and Highlights



This section of an FSMS report should include the following:

- Changes since the previous report(s) and an account of the current situation;
- The outlook for the next three to six months. This could be in terms of national staple food production, food consumption and nutrition, issues that could signal a food security shock, and any opportunities that might arise; and
- The implications for assessments and programming. This may include, for example, inputs for contingency plan to ensure a rapid response to food security shocks, a recommendation to launch an emergency food security assessment or to conduct more detailed monitoring in specific regions.

An example of a summary with highlights is presented in box 1.

BOX 1. EXAMPLE OF SUMMARY OF AN FSMS REPORT

1. The northern and north-western provinces remain the most food insecure of all regions. The situation in most zones in northern provinces has deteriorated, especially in the high-altitude areas of the Mountain and Highland districts. Early-warning indicators for these areas have been confirmed.
2. Food insecurity levels in other parts of the country have changed little since January 2009, largely because of the range of coping strategies applied by households and the external assistance provided to vulnerable families. Moderate food insecurity has been rising, however. It is now detected in zones that were previously unaffected. This is mainly because of lost remittances and increased unemployment. If households remain unable to cope, the situation may deteriorate further, especially in northern parts of the country.
3. Terms of trade (ToT) for rural and urban households have remained stable.
4. Implications for action: short-term for WFP and partners, but medium-term to long-term with regard to the ability of the communities to recover from the shock through improved employment and agriculture. Priority should be given to disaster-affected areas.
5. Recommendations: close monitoring needed; no Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA) is required for the coming three months.

2. Environmental, Economic and Governance Issues



This section mainly examines potential hazards and shocks.⁵ The FSMS gives priority to hazards and shocks that may impact nutrition or food security status. Risks and impacts should be analysed when a hazard or shock is probable, focusing on the reasons why household vulnerability to food insecurity may increase.⁶ Conditions that could generate a hazard or shock must be analysed regularly, with a focus on new opportunities that could improve an adverse situation.

There are three categories: i) environmental conditions; ii) economic conditions; and iii) governance. Details are given in Annex 1.

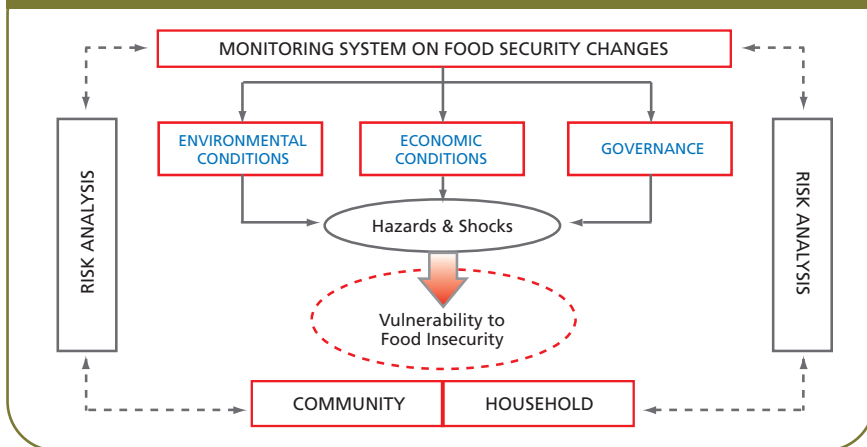
It is important to use the available information to improve the analysis of environmental, economic and governance issues and to identify links between risk analysis and early warning. This should include a description of the type and magnitude of shocks impacting community and household food security.

Figure 1 presents the framework for FSMS analysis, particularly for risk analysis at community and household levels.

5. Food security analysts use the term *shock* for events that have a negative impact on food security or nutrition status; they generally do not use the term *hazard*, which in early-warning literature refers to “a potentially damaging physical event, phenomenon or human activity that may cause the loss of life or injury, property damage, social and economic disruption or environmental degradation”. Although *hazard* has a broader meaning, it is not normally associated with events arising from economic conditions, which may also affect food security and nutrition.

6. Risk = [probability of an event or phenomenon occurring] x [impact of an event or phenomenon occurring]. The focus should be on systemic risks which may affect particular groups or areas. A surge in idiosyncratic risks or pandemics may also be reported.

FIGURE 1. FSMS AND RISK ANALYSIS



2.1. Environmental Conditions

This sub-section of an FSMS report deals with the agricultural seasons in countries where crop and livestock production are significant for rural livelihoods and national food availability. Where the livestock sub-sector is of primary importance for rural livelihoods, there should be a reference to water and pasture conditions during the year.

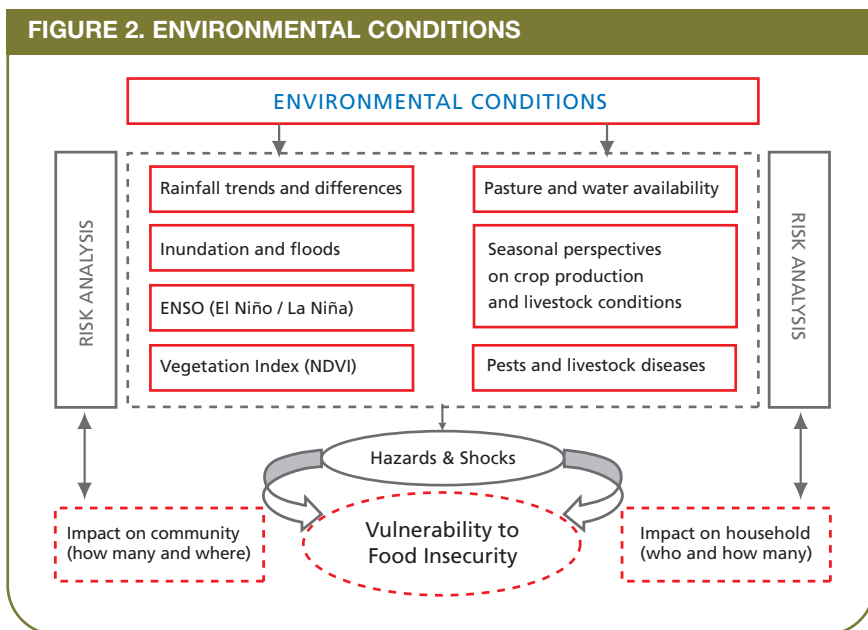
Variables and phenomena to be monitored include the following:

- rainfall anomalies or differences over a period of time, with a map graphic;
- seasonal rainfall forecast and the medium-term climate outlook;⁷ the normalized difference vegetation index (NDVI) wherever adequate technical skills are in place. NDVI data can also support information on main crop cycles and enhance monitoring of the growing season; they are related to information such as land use and agricultural practices, which can be displayed on a map (see Annex 3/5);
- el Niño or el Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO), when relevant;
- inundations and floods;
- hurricanes and earthquakes;

7. Long-range rainfall forecasts are available from the International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI), the NASA Climate Prediction Center (CPC), the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts and national meteorological agencies such as the Africa Data Dissemination Service (<http://earlywarning.usgs.gov/adds/index.php>). Their information may be included in a specialized agro-meteorological report, but may not be the most useful for FSMS reports. For information on seasonal forecasts, WFP staff should contact local institutions. For further information on environmental conditions, please see FSMS TGS2, section 1.1.

- pest outbreaks;
- pasture and water shortages; and
- livestock diseases and mortality.

Figure 2 illustrates the relationship between variables for environmental conditions and the analysis of community and household food security risks.



Three examples of the presentation of rainfall data are given in Annex 3/1, 3/2 and 3/3; an example of a seasonal rainfall forecast can be found in Annex 3/4. Such information is obtainable from national meteorological and early-warning organizations. For countries with unimodal rainfall, it is not necessary to present this type of information for the dry season.



For rapid-onset disasters, the focus should be on post-disaster monitoring. Risk analysis should focus on all types of potential and actual hazards: the issues to be covered will depend on the circumstances of the country, but the rainfall and medium-term climate outlook should always be included in order to outline possible future scenarios.

2.1.1 Seasonal perspectives for crop and livestock production

This element is most important because it leads to an initial risk analysis that may identify, for example, evidence of an impending drought. It is also the most difficult part of monitoring, because it involves an ability to relate weather and vegetation data to cropping cycles and water resources. The information is normally available from secondary sources such as national meteorological and early-warning organizations. In large countries with variable conditions, it is important to note sub-national variations.

Box 2 gives an example of a seasonal perspective and an analysis of agriculture and livestock in South Sudan and North Sudan, where crop development is less advanced because the seasonal rains arrived late.

BOX 2. SUDAN: SEASONAL PERSPECTIVES FOR CROP AND PASTURE CONDITIONS (JULY 2009)

South Sudan: The dominant crop is sorghum, of which there are many varieties with growth cycles of between three and six months, which are planted at different times so that sequential harvests are obtained. The early varieties provide the first cereal, along with green maize planted in gardens, to break the hunger gap; however, the long-term varieties are the preferred staple in most of the region. The season started in April with significant rainfall, followed by dryness in May and June. This dryness delayed early planting and the start of the growing season shifted forward. From North Bher El Gazal to Jonglei and Upper Nile, there were delays of four to six weeks. Delayed planting will shift the harvest date of the early variety and consequently lengthen the hunger gap. Pasture development is seriously affected in many areas, in particular the region between North Bahr el Ghazal and Upper Nile. Low rainfall will lead to a scarcity of water resources. A severe negative impact on livestock can be expected. There is still time for recovery if rainfall improves. Farmers can opt for varieties with the best chance of success, alternate sorghum with groundnut and increase planting in August. Close monitoring is required.

North Sudan: Sorghum is the dominant crop in south Kordofan, together with some millet, groundnut and sesame. Sorghum is usually planted first. A late start to the season is expected to lead to a delay in planting of two to three weeks. In southern Abyei, sorghum and sesame planting were delayed by four to five weeks. Pasture development is also generally late. In Blue Nile, where the dominant crop is sorghum with some sesame, delays in planting reached five weeks; elsewhere they are three to four weeks. The dominant variety is long-maturing sorghum, harvested in November and December. These delays represent a serious risk to the growth of this crop. Pasture development is also affected, particularly in Geissan and Kurmuk.

Source: Sudan Seasonal Monitor, Issue 4. Sudan Meteorological Authority and Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, July 2009 (prepared with support from FAO/SIFSIA-Northern Sudan).

The length of seasonal perspectives will vary with the conditions and size of the country concerned and the degree of regional disparity.⁸

The following points should be noted:

- The assessment is qualitative because reliable quantitative estimates are rarely available, at least at the beginning of an agricultural season.
- In large countries such as Ethiopia and Pakistan, FSMS reports should reflect the disparities in the crop calendar for each region; reporting should focus on the most likely scenario for the next three to six months for each region, depending on their crop calendar.
- In countries with large irrigated areas, it is important to consider the extent of irrigation and its impact on crop production.

2.1.2 Risk analysis

This will evolve as the season progresses and the implications for food security begin to emerge. If there is flooding or inundation, estimates must be provided of the number of people likely to be affected and of the consequences for household livelihoods and food insecurity. Estimating people in need is not always possible and may need a follow up assessment.

In the case of drought, it is difficult to assess the impact on livelihoods and food insecurity, and the number and characteristics of people affected, because the effects are normally evident later in the growing season. But early-warning systems may foresee a reduction in the harvest and could estimate the number of people who would experience a food shortfall. Where rainfall follows a multi-modal rainfall pattern, or where there is supplementary irrigation, risk analysis becomes more complex and requires a comprehensive understanding of farming systems, crop calendars and rural livelihoods.



National meteorological departments and ministries of agriculture may have reasonable area-based data on weather conditions and agriculture and livestock production. The challenge, however, is to analyse the probable impact on food security. Box 2 contains an example of a seasonal perspective analysis. In practice, it is not easy to obtain this analysis from other sources, except in countries with developed agro-meteorological capacity in their national meteorological and early-warning organizations.

8. An outlook or seasonal analysis is available from FEWS NET reports, which cover 29 countries. FAO/GIEWS Country Briefs also have this kind of information, mainly from a food availability perspective.

2.2. Economic Conditions

There is limited experience of reporting on economic conditions and associated shocks in FSMS, but ideas can be found in the “WFP Report on the Effects of the Global Financial Crisis” and recommendations made at the technical consultation in June 2009.⁹

The latter identified wide-ranging information requirements, including:

- macro-economic data on growth, inflation rates, external balances and remittances;
- the consumer price index (CPI) – actual retail prices and the cost of food basket;
- food imports;
- migration patterns;
- household incomes and expenditures;
- food consumption and coping strategies; and
- nutrition.

This subsection examines macro-economic information. Household level economic issues are covered in chapter 4 and 5.

2.2.1 Macro-economic information

Updates on economic growth and major economic developments should always be included. Where information on the effects of the global economic crisis is available, reporting may focus on trade, migration and remittances, which are important for many households in developing countries.¹⁰



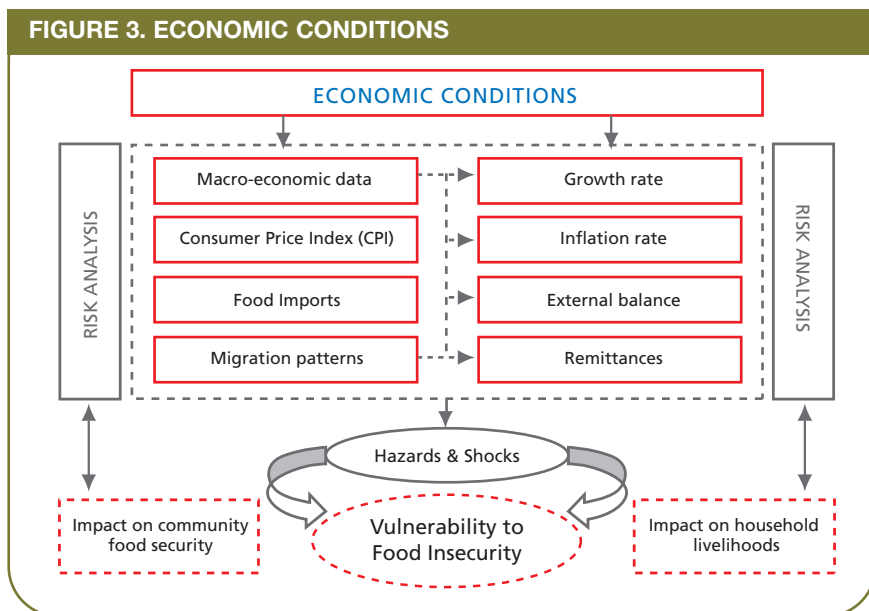
As emphasized in the WFP technical consultation report, household food security can be affected when the global financial crisis impacts major points of economic integration such as remittance flows between countries. Understanding the flow of impacts through transmission channels would provide early warnings for policy-making and programming.

This section should include information on the CPI and food imports, which contribute to the national availability of food. Where foreign exchange constraints

9. See WFP technical consultation report “Implications of the Global Financial Crisis for Household Food Security”, 15–17 June 2009, Rome.

10. Mainly remittances at the macro level, such as the percentage decrease or increase reported by the central bank or national statistics office. Remittances should also be reported as a source of income under household food access.

are an obstacle to food imports, they should be mentioned. Figure 3 shows selected macro-economic variables and their links with the risk analysis of community and household food security.



An example of reporting on economic conditions is given in box 3. The example is based on a one-off WFP assessment. It would therefore be necessary to source secondary data to obtain relevant variables on a regular basis.

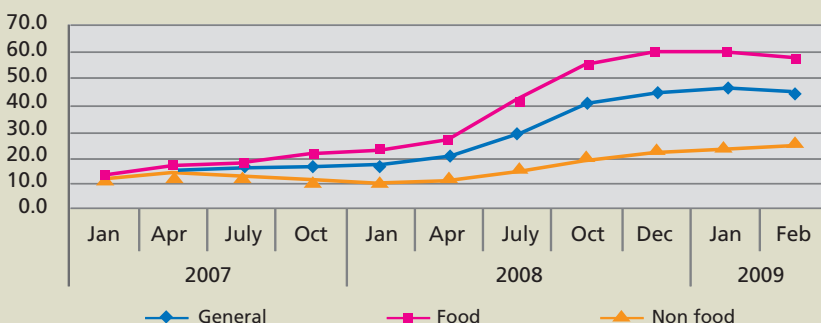
BOX 3. BANGLADESH: UPDATE ON ECONOMIC CONDITIONS (MAY 2009)

Bangladesh continues to be affected by the global financial and economic crisis, but the reductions in remittances, migration and exports have evened out. Remittances, which dropped by 9% between October 2008 and February 2009, declined by only 2% between February and May 2009; migration stabilized after falling by 40% between January and March 2009. The volume of trade, which had declined by 5.3% between July and December 2008, fell by only 1.5% between December 2008 and May 2009.

Source: "Effects of the Financial Crisis on Vulnerable Households", WFP Bangladesh, May 2009. Figures are given as examples and are not based on reported data.

A paragraph or two should present data on CPI trends, including trends for food and non-food prices in rural and urban areas or by region. Trends should be presented in a graph, as in box 4.

BOX 4. ETHIOPIA: GENERAL, FOOD AND NON-FOOD INFLATION (2007-2009)



Source: WFP VAM unit, Ethiopia.

2.2.2 Risk analysis

The impact of an economic shock should be analysed in relation to household livelihoods and food security status. The challenge is to relate the selected macro-economic variables to household food access indicators (see Chapter 4). Unless a pre-crisis baseline analysis is available, it is difficult to separate the impact of an economic shock from general poverty. For countries importing large quantities of staple foods, the risk analysis should note foreign exchange constraints.

2.3. Governance

Governance refers to the implementation of policies, the provision of services, and law enforcement. This section of the report should consider issues such as conflict, national policies on poverty (or lack thereof), hunger issues, government inability to resolve land issues, and control over natural resources. The reasons behind conflict do not have to be covered in the FSMS report.

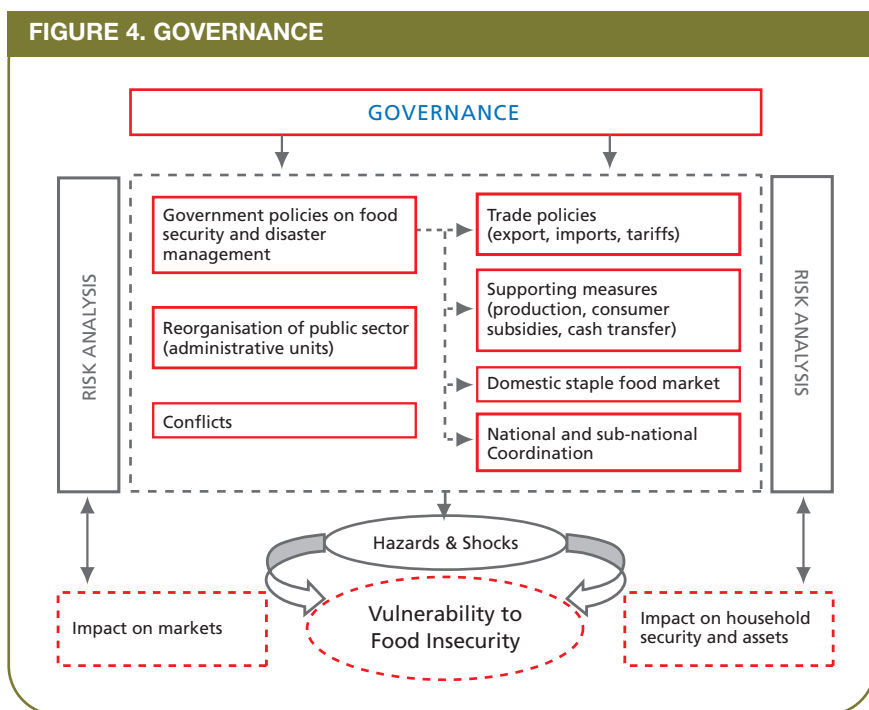
2.3.1 Government policies

This sub-section comments on issues such as changes in the implementation of measures or policy decisions that may affect economic performance and food security at national or sub-national levels, for example with regard to input supply, export and import policy, or domestic market restrictions. It may also comment on planned actions that could affect food security in the future.

Issues may include:

- changes in food security and disaster management and coordination, e.g. the establishment or re-organization of national coordination bodies;
- sector support or social protection measures, e.g. production support measures, consumer subsidies and cash transfers;
- trade policies, e.g. export/import regulation or import tariffs; and
- changes in government intervention in domestic staple food markets, e.g. strategic food reserves, price stabilization measures or restrictions on movement.

Figure 4 shows selected governance-related variables and their links with risk analysis, and community and household food security.



Box 5 contains an example of a report on government actions in Egypt in relation to rising food prices in 2008.

BOX 5. EGYPT: MEASURES ADOPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT TO ALLEVIATE THE IMPACT OF HIGH PRICES (2008)

On 1 April 2008, the government issued a ban on rice exports until October 2008. In May, it increased the minimum wage by 30 percent with immediate effect, and the bread subsidy budget. The government also opened a ration card system, scheduled to run until 30 June; the amount of rice to be received by card-holders has been doubled. The last changes introduced to the ration card registry were made in 1988.

The ration card system covers 55 million of Egypt's population of 75 million people. Under the new changes, card-holders will be able to buy 2 kg rice, 2 kg of sugar, 1.5 kg of oil and 50 g of tea per person per month for EGP15.

Source: FAO/GIEWS; text adapted for an FSMS Report.

2.3.2 Conflict

Humanitarian situations arising from conflict are normally covered in reports by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and others but tend to be ignored in regular food security monitoring. As WFP has considerable field presence, an effort should be made to report on key indicators, like number of IDPs and movement of IDPs, as well as on risk factors for conflicts. A report on conflict and food insecurity in South Sudan is given as an example in box 6.

BOX 6. SOUTHERN SUDAN: CONFLICTS AND FOOD INSECURITY (2009)

The food insecure population is still largely concentrated in eastern and north-western areas of Southern Sudan. According to FEWS NET and preliminary reports by the humanitarian community, those most affected are returnees, chronically food insecure people, conflict-affected households and some refugees. Some of the 73,000 displaced people in areas that produce surplus crops (particularly in Yambio, Ezo, Maridi, Yei and Mundri) are now food insecure because of the rise in Lord's Resistance Army attacks since December 2008, which has disrupted cultivation.

The humanitarian community in South Sudan will undertake joint assessments to ascertain food needs.

Source: OCHA. Humanitarian Action Southern Sudan Report, Week 27, from 29 June to 5 August 2009.

2.3.3 Risk analysis

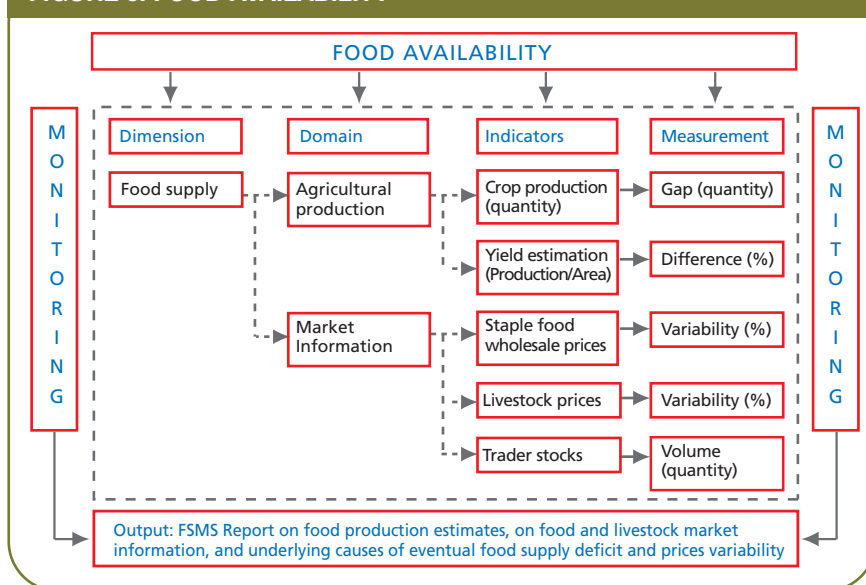
Risk analysis in relation to governance is context-specific and may refer to the probable impact of a government measure in relation to markets, such as an import ban, restrictions on the domestic grain trade or the removal of consumer subsidies. In cases of conflict, risk analysis would refer to security issues and their probable impacts on matters such as agriculture, transport and refugee movements.

3. Food Availability



Information on food availability to be reported includes agricultural production, main crop yields by area, and market information on the prices of staple foods and livestock. The aim is to predict whether food supply will meet current levels of demand and those of the next few months, using an overview of crop production, market price trends and trading patterns, and a comparison of the current production, trade and stock situations with those of recent years. Figure 5 shows a selection of indicators to be monitored.

FIGURE 5. FOOD AVAILABILITY



3.1. Agricultural Production

National supply figures for staple foods are normally available annually, but information about each crop depends on the season. A crop calendar displays the phases of the agricultural season, which may have to be adjusted in line with area-specific conditions. Crop or seasonal calendars are available from some CFSVA

reports and FAO/GIEWS country briefs. FEWS NET has prepared seasonal calendars for 20 countries; the charts include critical events such as hunger seasons and cereal price increases. FAO/GIEWS country briefs, which cover around 100 countries, have a simplified calendar for major food crops.

Where crop estimates are prepared during the season, they should be mentioned, but ignore estimates that could be subjective. Standard practice in most countries is to prepare three estimates, with the third giving the final production figures for the season. Data from these estimates are available from ministries of agriculture, but they may be published before the final estimate is ready. Crop estimates are sometimes supported by a systematic collection of samples for yield estimates. More frequent estimates may be made based on regular reporting from ministry field offices.

For countries with more than one agricultural season and with diverse crop calendars, each season should be reported during the year. Absolute figures are required, but the main issue is variability from one year to another, or from multi-year averages. As far as possible, production estimates should be presented by region or agricultural zone and at aggregate national level. The FSMS is concerned with final production estimates: if preliminary estimates are cited, the final estimates should be reported when they become available.¹¹

Annual updates of cereal balances in African countries are available from the FAO/GIEWS website (see Annex 3/6). These should be reported wherever they are updated regularly by the government, for example in relation to import requirements.

3.2. Wholesale Prices

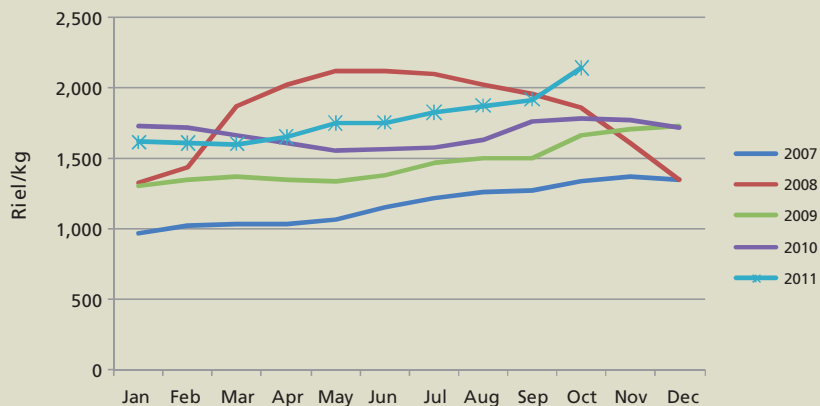
Information on wholesale prices of staple foods in the main markets should be presented, preferably on a monthly basis and if possible compared with the five-year average. The information is normally available from ministries of agriculture or trade and market corporations or chambers of commerce.

It is sufficient to present the nominal wholesale prices of the main staples, with comments on the reasons behind any changes.¹² An example is given in box 7.

11. For further information on food availability indicators, please see FSMS TGS2, section 2.1.

12. WFP price monitoring focuses on retail prices but may also include wholesale prices. Many country offices provide inputs to the Market Monitor, a quarterly price bulletin prepared at Headquarters. It is therefore recommended that this information be incorporated into FSMS reports and that priority be given to the calculation of purchasing power (see Chapter 4).

BOX 7. CAMBODIA: WHOLESALE PRICE OF MIXED RICE (2007-2011)



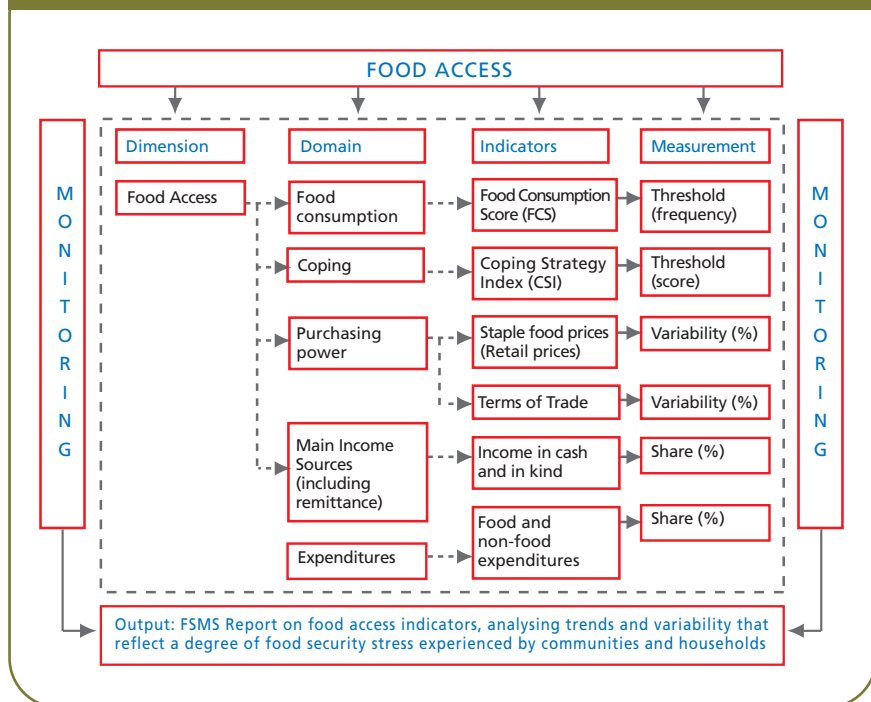
Source: Cambodia Agricultural Market Information Service, MAFF
<http://www.agriculturalmarketinformation.org.kh>

4. Food Access



Adequate food availability at national level does not imply food security at household or individual level. Food insecurity exists when food is not accessible because people's ability to acquire adequate food is eroded. An understanding of household access to food over time and of livelihood strategies is therefore vital for accurate monitoring. The risk of livelihood failure influences a household's level of vulnerability to insecurity in terms of income, food, health and nutrition. In the FSMS, the choice of livelihood groups should be based on information from CFSVAs, EFSAAs and national household surveys. Wage rates and the prices of produce, livestock and food are available from national statistics offices, other government sources and WFP. Figure 6 gives details of a group of indicators to be monitored.

FIGURE 6. FOOD ACCESS



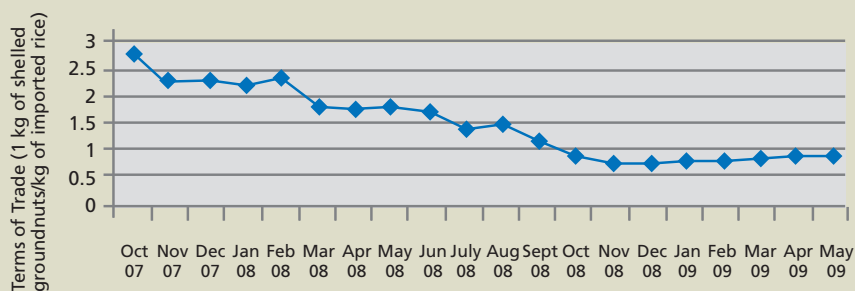
4.1. Purchasing Power

This section of the report should include calculations of terms of trade (ToT) for two or three livelihood groups and relevant staple foods, for example:

- subsistence farmers/casual rural labourers: daily rural wage rate/quantity of maize flour;
- pastoralists: one head of sheep/quantity of millet;
- small cash crop farmers: 1 kg of produce/quantity of rice;
- fishermen: 1 kg of fish/quantity of rice; or
- urban poor: daily urban wage rate/quantity of bread or wheat flour or rice.¹³

An example of presentation is given in box 8.

BOX 8. SENEGAL: TERMS OF TRADE (2007-2008)



Source: FSMS TGS2.

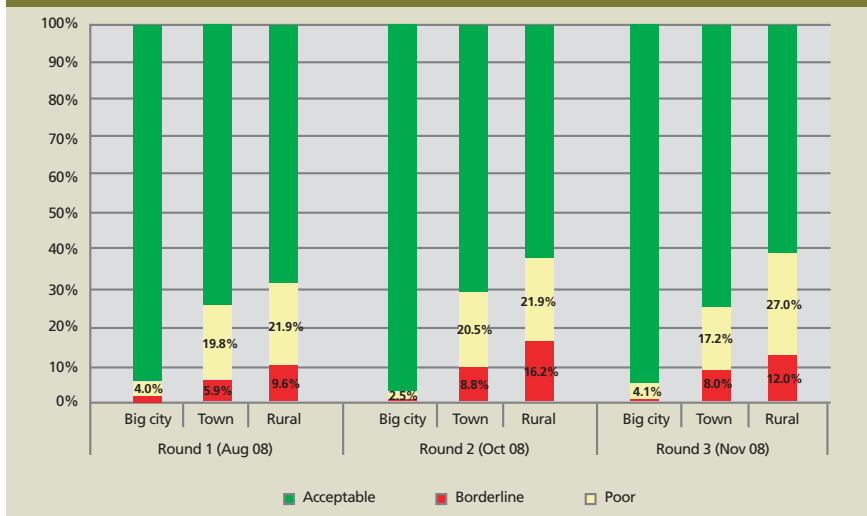
4.2. Food Consumption

The food consumption score (FCS) is a food access proxy indicator. Information is normally collected at household level. FCS is based on dietary diversity (the number of food groups a household consumes over a reference period) and food consumption frequency (the number of days on which a particular food group is consumed in a reference period). FCS is normally classified as poor, borderline or acceptable.¹⁴ An example of how to present FCS results is given in box 9.

13. For further information on ToT calculations, please see TGS2, subsection 2.2.3.

14. For information on calculating FCS, please see FSMS TGS2, subsection 2.2.1.

BOX 9. INDONESIA: FOOD CONSUMPTION (AUGUST–NOVEMBER 2008)



Source: Pilot Monitoring of High Food Price Impact at Household Level in Selected Vulnerable Areas, Indonesia, WFP/UNICEF, 2008.

Data are collected and analysed by major geographical region or area classification.

4.3. Income Sources

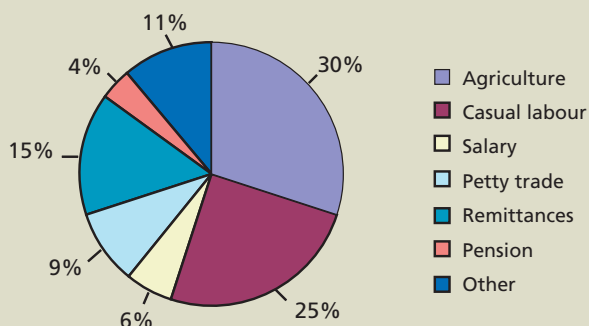
Income sources constitute a food-access indicator that identifies the reliability and sustainability of household income sources and levels of household earnings. These may vary during a year as a result of seasonal production or demand for labour: sources of income are thus directly related to the economic activities of household members. In view of the difficulty of quantifying some incomes (particularly the value of home-grown food, in-kind payments for casual labour, gifts and donations), all cash and in-kind income sources should be identified to ensure that the basis for sustaining households is accurately reported.

Recent CFSVAs prepared by WFP provide detailed information on livelihood groups, together with economic activities and their contribution to household incomes. Information collected on a regular basis for food security monitoring may not provide the same level of detail as CFSVAs, which report by livelihood group.¹⁵

An example of how to present income sources is given in box 10.

15. For further information on income analysis, please refer to FSMS TGS2, subsection 2.2.6.

BOX 10. HOUSEHOLD PRIMARY INCOMES SOURCES



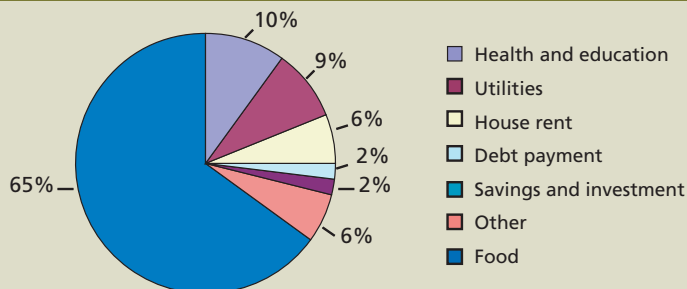
If data are available on secondary income sources, a similar presentation may be prepared. But because the information deals with income sources only and not income itself, the data cannot be consolidated into an income estimate.

4.4. Expenditures

Information collected on expenditures – particularly on food – tends to relate to cash expenses only and omits the value of home-grown food, gifts and donations. This leads to an underestimation of food expenditure in relative and absolute terms. Where information on non-cash based food expenditure is lacking, the report should indicate that this is the case.¹⁶

For FSMS purposes, a simplified expenditure summary can be prepared that indicates total expenditure on food and the main categories of non-food expenditure. An example is given in box 11.

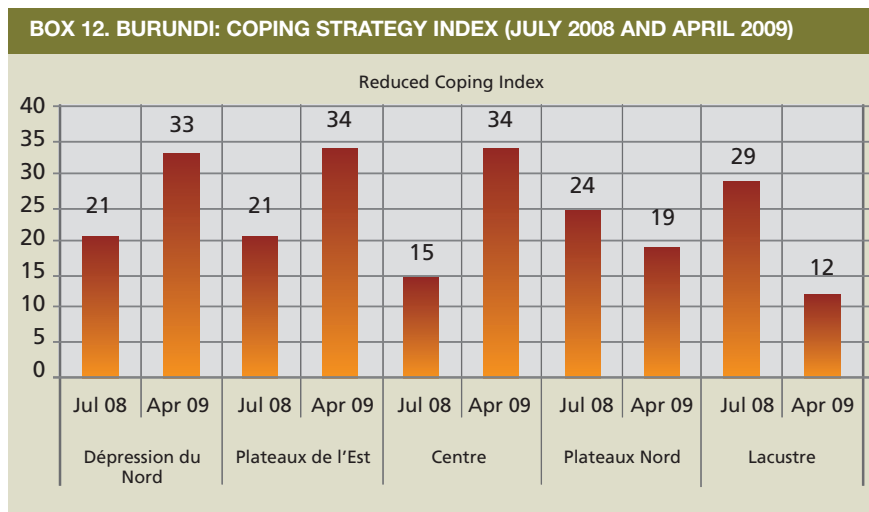
BOX 11. HOUSEHOLD FOOD AND NON-FOOD EXPENDITURES



16. For further information on household expenditures, please refer to FSMS TGS2, subsection 2.2.7.

4.5. Coping Strategies

The coping strategy index (CSI) is a food-access proxy indicator for food security that shows how households cope with shortfalls. WFP encourages reporting a reduced CSI because it enables comparison of food security across different contexts on the basis of a set of behaviours each of which has a standard severity weighting.¹⁷ CSI is usually reported as a mean score in a bar graph or table, showing the score by geographical area or livelihood group.¹⁸ An example is given in box 12.



Source: First Round Bulletin, Food Security Monitoring System (FSMS), WFP, Burundi, April 2009

There are other household emergency coping behaviours that indicate the severity of food insecurity: examples are increased theft, migration, school drop-outs or absences, and prostitution. These may be reported if relevant.

17. The behaviours measured by the reduced CSI are: eating less preferred / expensive foods; borrowing food or relying on help from friends and relatives; limiting portion sizes at meal times; limiting adult intake so that children can eat; reducing the number of meals per day.

18. For information on how to calculate the CSI, please see FSMS TGS2, subsection 2.2.2.

5. Food Utilization

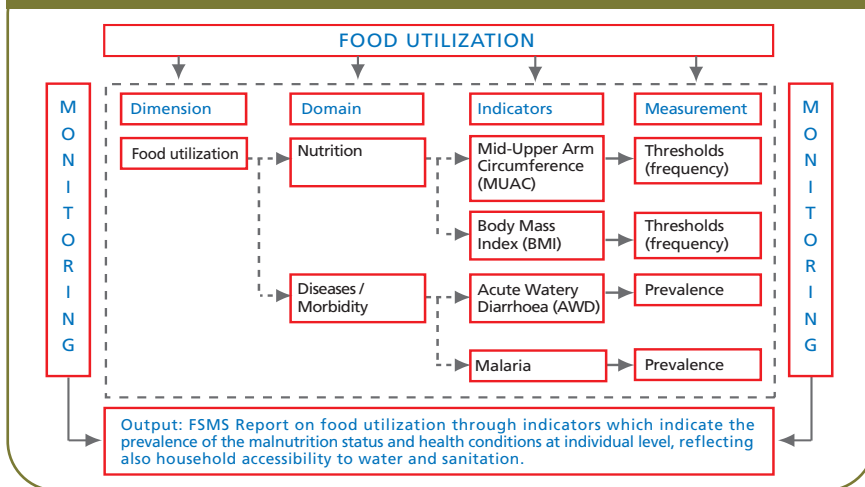


Food utilization refers to an individual's ability to absorb and metabolize nutrients.¹⁹ Monitoring the impact of disease, care quality, sanitation and the quality and composition of diet on nutritional outcomes is essential for a full understanding of food security.

5.1. Nutrition

WFP's nutritional monitoring through FSMS has generally relied on its own food security surveys; in some cases, reference is also made to government or NGO surveys. The use of nutrition data from government health facilities is rare, but it is an option when primary data are not collected. In protracted crises or post-emergency situations, nutrition data from other humanitarian organizations may be used. Figure 7 shows the relationships between food utilization, nutrition and health observed through a set of indicators suitable for analysing changes in individual well-being.

FIGURE 7. FOOD UTILIZATION



19. The conversion efficiency of the body.

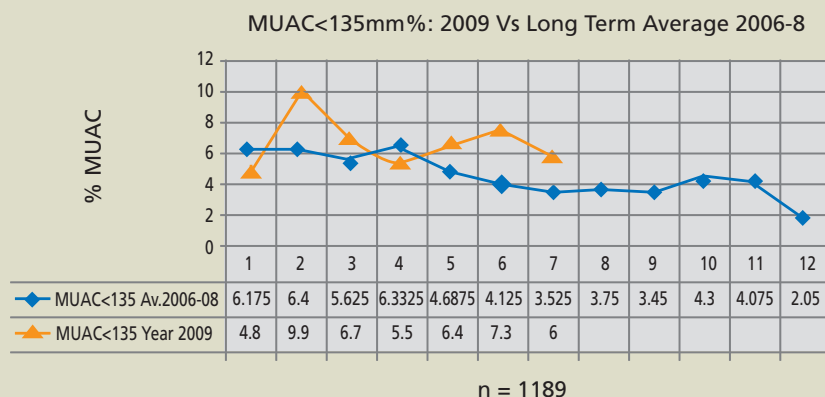
It is vital to monitor nutrition in the context of seasonality and geographical areas with known pockets of malnutrition.

Where primary monitoring data needs to be collected quickly, Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) is the recommended indicator. As data on MUAC are normally not probabilistic or representative, any interpretation of these data should state that findings cannot be extrapolated to wider areas or larger populations.²⁰

An example of the presentation of MUAC data is given in box 13.

BOX 13. KENYA, LAMU DISTRICT: NUTRITION STATUS OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 (2009)

The nutrition status of children under 5 has improved slightly during the month. The percentage of children rated at risk of malnutrition (with MUAC < 135mm) is 6%, which is lower than last month's rate of 7.3%. This shows an improving nutrition status due to the incoming harvest. However, the rate is higher than the 2006-8 long term average of 3.5%. The livestock farming livelihood zone has reported the highest rate at 10%, comparable to the previous month's level of 9.2%.



Source: Arid Lands Resource Management Project II, Drought Monitoring Bulletin, Lamu District, Kenya, July 2009.

A more accurate estimate of the prevalence of acute malnutrition can be obtained by measuring weight-for-height. This approach allows for the calculation of the global acute malnutrition rate based on a statistically representative sample. Avoid comparing nutritional status data based on small surveys with results from large statistically representative surveys.

20. For further information on MUAC, please refer to FSMS TGS2, subsection 2.3.1.

5.2. Diseases and Morbidity

This type of information, normally available from government health facilities, is a good option when primary data are not collected. In some cases, data on diseases and morbidity can be collected from the ministry of health and/or NGOs.

Most operational FSMS do not collect or report data on morbidity, but disease outbreaks during the monitoring period should be reported. Indicate the people and areas affected and the potential effects on nutrition and food security.²¹

21. For more information on disease incidence indicators, please see FSMS TGS2, subsection 2.3.3.

Annexes

Annex 1. Monitoring Hazards and Shocks

Hazards and shocks originate from occasional environmental, economic or governance crises. Monitoring the main variables helps to identify threats to food security. Crises resulting from hazards and economic shocks often overlap with chronic or structural weaknesses such as a lack of import capacity or chronic poverty, so the probable consequences of these context-specific causes should be mentioned as well.

In practice, monitoring will be based on specific national or sub-regional variables and knowledge of the country concerned in order to make an initial risk or impact analysis. A crop season, for example, will be monitored during the relevant months, but it is useful to provide an end-of-season assessment with estimates of annual production.

Variables will be expressed in maps, graphics, statistics or text: rainfall, for example, may be presented in maps or bar charts, whereas vegetation status is normally presented in a map. Government policies or conflict situations may be described in text; economic variables will appear in absolute or relative figures.

Variables, type of information and sources

Root causes, variables, phenomena, types of information and sources are summarized in the table below.

Root causes	Variable/ phenomenon	Type of information	Source
Environmental Conditions	Rainfall anomaly	Secondary	National Meteorological Department FAO/GIEWS FEWS NET IRI ²²

(continue....)

22. International Research Institute for Climate and Society

(...continue)

Root causes	Variable/ phenomenon	Type of information	Source
Environmental Conditions	Vegetation status or similar if provided by a WFP partner organization	Secondary	SPOT-VGT ²³ United States Geological Survey FAO/GIEWS National Early-Warning Unit
	Medium-term climate outlook	Secondary	National Meteorological Department or Sub-regional Climate Consensus Forum NOAA/CPC ²⁴ , CIIFEN ²⁵
	El Niño/ La Niña	Secondary	CIIFEN
	Inundation and floods	Secondary	National Meteorological Department OCHA USAID ²⁶
	Pests and livestock diseases	Secondary	Sub-regional food security information system – CILSS, ²⁷ SADC/FANR, ²⁸ SATCA ²⁹ Ministry of Agriculture FAO Locust Watch
	Seasonal perspectives on crop and livestock production	Primary/ Secondary	National Early-Warning Unit Meteorological Department Ministry of Agriculture WFP

23. Satellite System for environmental monitoring.

24. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration/Climate Prediction Center (National Aeronautics and Space Administration).

25. Centro Internacional para la Investigación del Fenomeno de El Niño.

26. United States Agency for International Development.

27. Comité Permanent Inter-États de Lutte contre la Sécheresse dans le Sahel.

28. Southern African Development Community/Food Agriculture and Natural Resources Directorate.

29. Sistema de Alerta Temprana para Centroamérica.

Root causes	Variable/ phenomenon	Type of information	Source
Economic Conditions	Macro-economic situation – growth rate, external balance, remittances, food imports	Secondary	Ministry of Finance/Planning/Trade Central Bank
	CPI	Secondary	National Statistical Office
Governance	Government policies	Secondary	Planning documents Annual budget and expenditure reports National press United Nations (only programmes of direct relevance for food security)
	Conflicts	Primary/ secondary	OCHA WFP Country Office USAID National press
<p><i>Note: The frequency of FSMS reporting would not normally allow for reporting on quick-onset events such as cyclones. These are covered by early-warning services, but their impact on food security should be covered by monitoring, particularly in post-emergency and recovery phases.</i></p>			

Annex 2. Overview of FSMS Indicators and Information Sources

This table presents an overview of FSMS indicators and their respective sources of information.

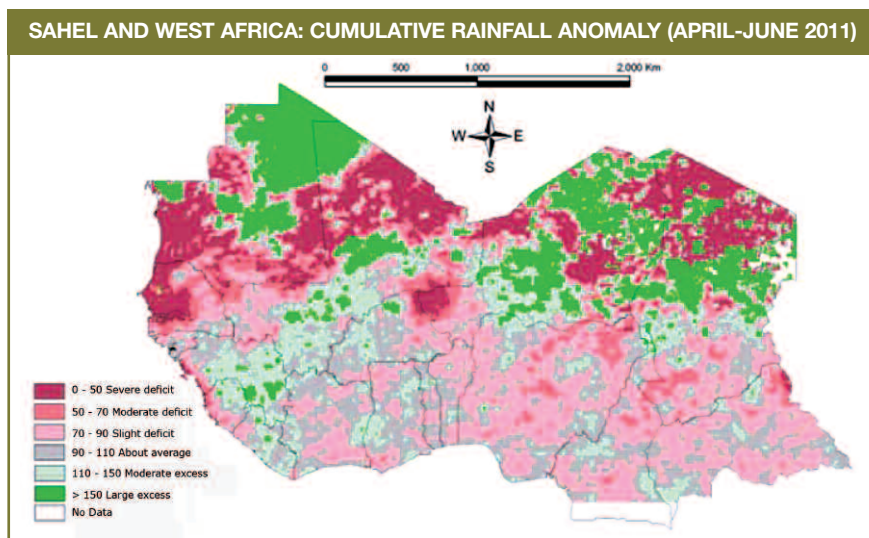
Food Security Dimension	Analysis Plan		Sources of Information		
	Information Domain	Summary of Indicators	Primary	Secondary	Some Secondary Sources
Food Availability	Agricultural Production	Crop production		✓	Ministry of Agriculture/ Livestock/ Rural Development, FAO/GIEWS.
	Prices	Wholesale staple food prices	✓	✓	Ministry of Agriculture/ Livestock/ Rural Development, FEWS NET, FAO/GIEWS
		Wholesale livestock prices	✓	✓	Ministry of Agriculture/ Livestock/ Rural Development, FEWS NET, FAO/GIEWS
Food Access	Purchasing Power	Retail prices of basic food products	✓	✓	National Statistical Office, FEWS NET
		Terms of Trade (ToT) between agric. commodity/livestock sold/basic food product	✓		N/A
		ToT between casual labour or wage rate/basic food product	✓	✓	FAO/GIEWS, FEWSNET, National Statistical Office
	Expenditures	Food and non-food expenditures	✓		N/A

Food Security Dimension	Analysis Plan		Sources of Information		
	Information Domain	Summary of Indicators	Primary	Secondary	Some Secondary Sources
Food Access	Main Income Sources	Sources of income	✓		N/A
	Coping	Coping Strategy Index	✓		N/A
	Food Consumption	Food Consumption Score	✓	✓	FAO/GIEWS, FEWSNET
Food Utilization (Nutrition)	Malnutrition	Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC)	✓	✓	Ministry of Health, NGOs
		Body Mass Index	✓	✓	Ministry of Health
	Diseases	Diseases	✓	✓	Ministry of Health/NGOs

Annex 3. Maps, Graphs and Tables

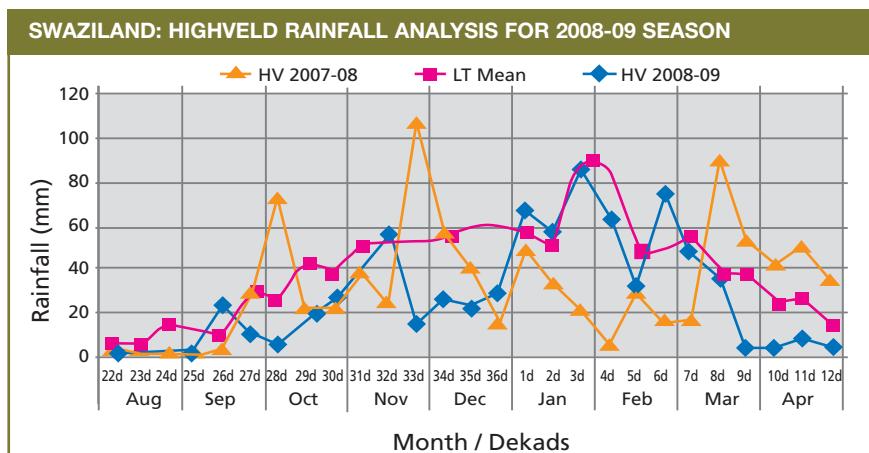
Annex 3 shows examples of ways of presenting information, in particular rainfall information. Such maps and graphs presented should generally be presented as an annex to the FSMS report.

3/1. Cumulative Rainfall Anomaly for the period 1 April - 30 June 2011, compared with Average (2006-2010).



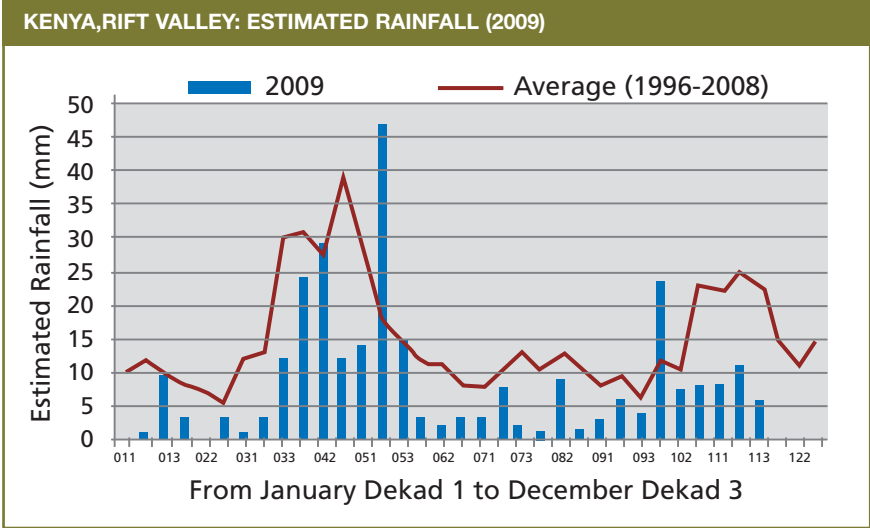
Source: FEWS NET, Sahel and West Africa: Food Security Outlook Update, July 2011.

3/2. Seasonal rainfall compared with previous season and long-term mean.

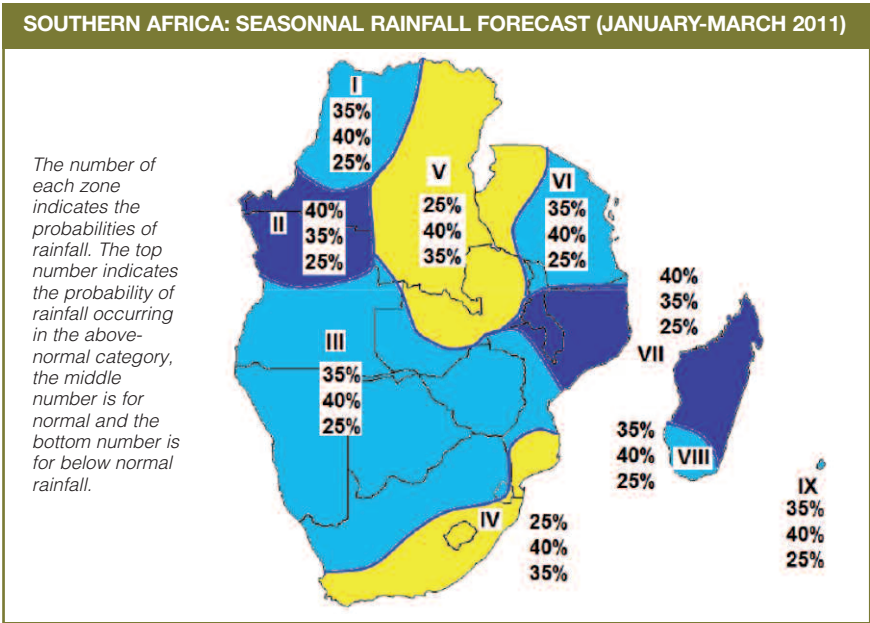


Source: Swaziland Meteorological Services.

3/3. Interpolated estimated decadal rainfall, Rift Valley, Kenya.



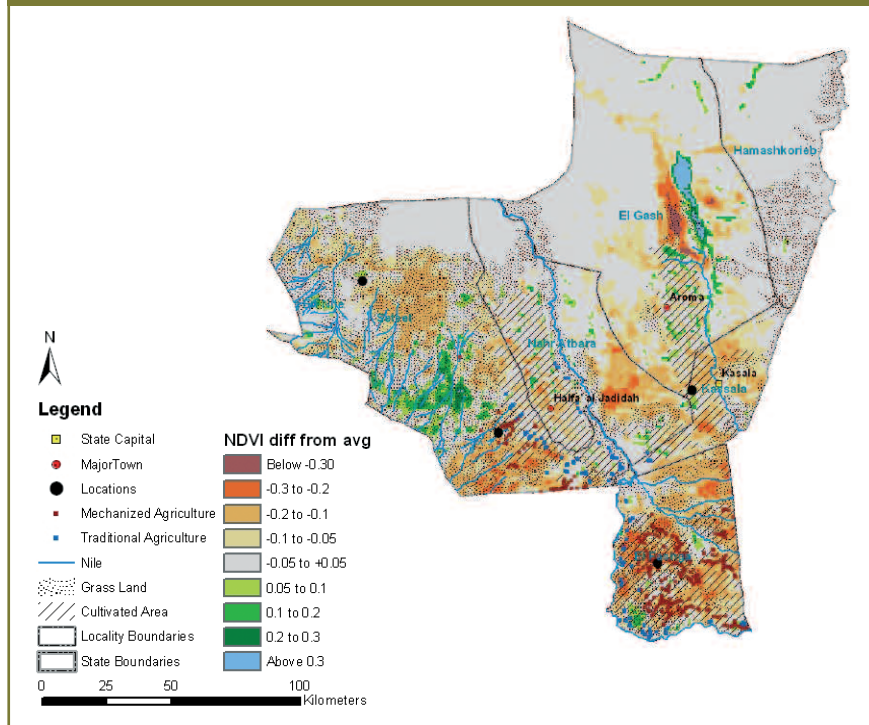
3/4. Seasonal Rainfall Forecast for Southern Africa, January-March 2011.



Source: SADC-DMC, Seasonal Consensus Outlook, Harare, 26-27 August 2010.

3/5. Normalized difference vegetation index for Kassala, Sudan, 2009.

SUDAN, KASSALA STATE: NDVI MAXIMUM DIFFERENCE FROM AVERAGE (2009)



Values -0.05 to below -0.30 indicate that vegetation growth is below average (from 5 to more than 30%), while values 0.05 to above 0.30 indicate that growth is above average (from 5 to 30%).

3/6. National Cereal Supply/Demand Calculation: Example for Malawi.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 2009/10 MARKETING YEAR (April/March)				
	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total cereals
Cereal supply and utilization data	thousand tonnes			
Previous year production (incl. paddy rice)	2	115	2 871	2 989
Previous five year average production (incl. paddy rice)	3	82	2 399	2 484
Previous year imports	68	10	109	186
Previous five year average imports	67	15	169	251
2009/10 Domestic availability	16	85	3 747	3 848
2009 Production (incl. paddy rice)	3	131	3 747	3 881
2009 Production (incl. milled rice)	3	85	3 747	3 835
Possible stock drawdown	13	-	-	13
2009/10 Utilization	66	95	3 748	3 909
Food use	66	61	2 113	2 240
Non-food use	-	10	1 175	1 185
Exports or re-exports	-	2	200	202
Possible stock build up	-	22	260	282
2009/10 Import requirement	50	10	1	61
Anticipated commercial imports	50	50	-	60
of which: received or contracted	-	-	-	-
Food aid needs	-	-	1	1
Current aid position				
Food aid pledges	-	-	1	1
of which: delivered	-	-	1	1
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	3	3
of which: for local use	-	-	3	3
of which: for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated per caput consumption (kg/year)	4	4	138	147
Cereal supply and utilization indices	percentages			
2009 Production compared with average (incl. paddy rice)	93	160	156	156
2009/10 Import requirement compared with average	75	67	1	24
Cereal share of total calorie intake				58
Additional information				
Major food crops	Maize, pulses, roots, tubers, rice			
Lean season	February to March			
Population (thousands)	15 263			
GNI per capita in 2007 (US\$)	250			

Source: FAO/GIEWS

Annex 4. Template for a Report

The template covers issues to be dealt with in the report when information is available. This template is a guide that can be adapted.

NAME OF THE COUNTRY OR REGION COVERED

NAME OF THE REPORT (FSMS BULLETIN) – ISSUE NO.X

DATES OF PERIOD COVERED – DATE OF ISSUE



World Food Programme

(add the logo of any partner agencies)

In this issue (add a table of content)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Mention donors' support. Possibly add their logo.

Highlights *(first page- one page)*

1. Before you start: this section should focus on the main conclusions. Decision-makers may read only this section.
2. Paragraph describing the major changes in food security since the last report(s), why it has changed and a description of the current food security situation.
3. Highlight the geographical areas of particular concern.
4. Provide back-up evidence supporting the main message given above, with information on food availability, prices, coping strategies and malnutrition. Give any information which helps the reader understand the situation and recent changes.
5. Present the outlook for the next three to six months, explain how the situation is likely to evolve and identify potential shocks and opportunities.
6. List the main recommendations regarding assessments, policy, programming and contingency planning.

Map

Add a country map highlighting the food insecure and vulnerable areas, hotspots and other relevant information. The map and legend must not be overloaded with information: the simpler and clearer, the better. The map can be on the second page, depending on the length of the highlight section.

Contact information *(bottom of the first page)*

Give names and contact details of relevant staff only. If the bulletin is prepared with other organizations, the list should be decided with partners. Make sure the person to contact is available, knows the report and is in a position to pass on technical questions to the VAM officer.

Provide the web link to the document at www.wfp.org/food-security/reports/FSMS

Content of the report

1. Environmental, economic and policy context and conditions *(maximum 2 pages)*

Start reporting on the most relevant and important issues. For example, if there have been significant policy changes, the information should be the first one. The order below is indicative. Important early warning information should be prioritised (and included in the Highlights).

1.1. Environmental conditions

Report on the seasonal perspectives for crop and livestock production.

- Report on climatic conditions (rainfall deficit/difference, inundations, floods, drought, etc). If possible include a forecast analysis and information on the likely impact on crops and national food availability.
- Make reference to pests, locust outbreaks, if relevant.
- Make a reference to water and pasture conditions and livestock disease/death, if relevant.

1.2. Economic conditions

- Provide an update on economic growth and major economic developments, reporting relevant macro-economic data (growth and inflation rates, external balance, etc), the Consumer Price Index, food prices and food imports to understand national availability, migration and remittances.
- Mention if any foreign exchange constraints which may represent an obstacle to food imports.
- Describe the potential impact of households' livelihoods, food availability and access (risk analysis).

1.3. Political and policy context

- Report on government actions and policies which may have an impact on food security (e.g. export/import policy, domestic marketing restrictions, consumer subsidies, price control, etc), describing the potential impact on markets, food availability and access (risk analysis).
- Report on conflicts which may have an impact on food security, describing security and transport constraints, movement of populations, the potential impact on production (risk analysis).

2. Food availability *(maximum 1 page)*

The purpose of this chapter is to explain whether food supply is able to meet the demand now and in the coming months.

2.1. Agricultural production

- Provide information on supply and demand, referring to current production, stocks and crop estimates for the main staples.
- Provide absolute numbers for crop estimates, when available, but also a comparison with previous year or a multi-annual average to give an idea of production variability.

(continue....)

(...continue)

- Present production estimates by regions/agricultural zones and as aggregate national level.
- Provide information on food imports (estimates and percentage to national production) and on possible import constraints.

2.2. Market Information

- Provide information on wholesale prices for staple foods and livestock on the main markets, price trends and reason for change. Add if possible a comparison with the five-year average.

3. Food access *(maximum 2 pages)*

The purpose of this chapter is to describe households' capacity to access food.

3.1. Food Consumption

The food consumption score is a key WFP indicator, when information on food consumption is available it should be reported in the top part of the summary section.

- Provide information on households' food consumption. Explain what poor food consumption means (type of food eaten) and the consequences of such a diet.

3.2. Coping Strategy

- Describe how households are coping, and whether they use severe forms of coping.

3.3. Purchasing Power

- Report on households purchasing power, by calculating the Terms of Trade (using e.g. wage rates, food retail prices, livestock prices) for two or three major livelihood groups and indicate changes from last quarter.

3.4. Main Income Sources and Expenditures

- Report households main income sources, including cash and in-kind sources.
- Report households expenditures (food and non food expenditure), presenting a simplified expenditure summary, indicating total food expenditure and the main categories of non-food expenditures.

4. Food utilization *(maximum 1 page)*

The purpose of this chapter is to report on the nutritional situation and health conditions.

4.1. Nutrition

- Indicate the prevalence of malnutrition through data available on MUAC, BMI and other anthropometric indicators (such as GAM rates). Possibly indicate recent changes and trends.

4.2. Diseases morbidity

- Report disease outbreaks such as Acute Watery Diarrhoea, malaria, measles, etc.
- Present data on morbidity if available.

5. Food security outlook *(maximum half a page)*

- Present the possible scenarios.

6. Recommendation *(maximum half a page)*

- Present recommendations to address the current situation, but also the most likely scenario.
- Mention issues that require a special follow-up.

Background information on the FSMS:

At the bottom, provide information on the FSMS, its purpose, periodicity and geographic coverage. Add brief and relevant information on the method used, i.e. secondary data analysis, household interview, etc. If primary data are collected, state the numbers of villages visited and households interviewed, and their location.

Advice:

1. Ideally, the report should be no more than 8 pages.
2. The audience is diverse and ranges from humanitarian decision-makers and managers to technical staff both within and outside WFP. Given the diversity of this group, avoid using WFP-only acronyms and overly technical language.
3. Make sure that the highlights, key conclusions and recommendations are presented clearly, convincingly and concisely. Carefully check the consistency of the information. Each recommendation should be backed up by proper evidence.
4. Make sure you don't overload the reader with information. Cover only what is relevant and will back up the main message you want to convey about the food security situation and changes. Remember that it is better to provide less information and focus on the really relevant information, so that it will stay in the reader's mind. "Less is more".
5. Add relevant graphs, diagrams and tables to present figures and to facilitate reading.
6. All reports are put on to WFP's public website on the Food Security Analysis page; please be sure to send the final versions to the Food Security Analysis Service at Headquarters who will handle this task.

Annex 5. Examples of FSMS Reports

Annex 5/1. Bangladesh Food Security Monitoring May-July 2010 - page 1

  	<h1>BANGLADESH FOOD SECURITY MONITORING BULLETIN</h1>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="507 1090 966 1409"> <h2>ISSUE No. 1</h2> <h3>May - July 2010</h3> <h2>INSIDE THIS ISSUE</h2> <p>Environmental Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flooding & Monsoon (page 2) <p>Economic Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consumer Price Index (page 2) Remittances (page 2) </td> <td data-bbox="507 292 966 1090"> <h2>HIGHLIGHTS</h2> <p><i>The overall food security situation remains stable as a result of the good harvest during the winter crop season, which offset the impact of rising food prices. Favourable monsoon rains is going to benefit the wet season of Aus and Aman paddy crops, currently being planted.</i></p> <p>Intermittent flash flooding in the northeast regions of Haor has affected about 350,000 households and brought significant damage to crops. There was substantial rainfall in June with the onset of the Monsoon season.</p> <p>Food price inflation is still of high concern due to the price hike of rice in the domestic market. The inflow of remittances has diminished from April onwards, mainly due to the job losses, salary decreases abroad and</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<h2>ISSUE No. 1</h2> <h3>May - July 2010</h3> <h2>INSIDE THIS ISSUE</h2> <p>Environmental Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flooding & Monsoon (page 2) <p>Economic Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consumer Price Index (page 2) Remittances (page 2) 	<h2>HIGHLIGHTS</h2> <p><i>The overall food security situation remains stable as a result of the good harvest during the winter crop season, which offset the impact of rising food prices. Favourable monsoon rains is going to benefit the wet season of Aus and Aman paddy crops, currently being planted.</i></p> <p>Intermittent flash flooding in the northeast regions of Haor has affected about 350,000 households and brought significant damage to crops. There was substantial rainfall in June with the onset of the Monsoon season.</p> <p>Food price inflation is still of high concern due to the price hike of rice in the domestic market. The inflow of remittances has diminished from April onwards, mainly due to the job losses, salary decreases abroad and</p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Economic growth (page 2)</i> <p>Food Availability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Winter Crop Production (page 3)</i>• <i>Food Grain Import and Public Grain Stock (page 4)</i> <p>Food Price Monitoring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Rice and wheat wholesale prices (page 4)</i>• <i>Retail Prices (page 5)</i>• <i>Terms of Trade (page 5)</i> <p>Food Security Outlook</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Crop Production Estimation (page 6)</i>	<p>the return of about 10 percent of migrants to Bangladesh</p> <p>Production of rice and wheat crops were good in most areas of the country. Aus rice crop is expected to mature later this year and harvest will shift to August/September. Food Import in 2009/10 was higher than previous year's amount to replenish the Public Grain Stock which has steadily declined in the last months, due to a significant reduction in rice procurement by the government.</p> <p>Wholesale prices of rice have risen since January and reached their peak in July whereas price of wheat has remained stable over the last three months.</p> <p>The cost of the food basket has shown an upward trend since the retail prices of the most essential commodities have gone up, particularly rice. The purchasing power of agricultural labour worsened from May to June by 17.4 percent.</p> <p>Given the normal rainfall trend and the limited monsoon flooding, it is expected that the target production for Aus and Aman harvests will be achieved in the ongoing agricultural season.</p>
<p>Acknowledgement: The Spanish Government provides financial support for the strengthening of WFP's Food Security Monitoring in Bangladesh. The support also covers the preparation of this bulletin.</p> <p>Contacts: for comments or queries, please contact Nusha.Choudhury@wfp.org (Head, VAM Unit, WFP Bangladesh) or Malik.Kabir@wfp.org (Programme Officer, Data Management, VAM Unit, WFP Bangladesh).</p>	

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ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

FLOODING / MONSOON SEASON

- Intermittent flash floods in March and April severely affected the north east Haor districts, particularly Sunamganj, Sylhet and Moulvibazar, causing damage to Boro crops that were awaiting harvest. In Sunamganj district harvest of Boro crop was 33% less compared to 2009, which is mainly attributed to crop damage due to early flash flood.¹ Around 350,000 households were affected in the three districts, out of which 50,000 received food and cash assistance from the government². An assessment by OXFAM (May 2010) reported that 70 to 80 percent of the affected people could not eat three meals a day, which is not a normal scenario at this time of the year. Selling of assets, particularly cattle, was one of the most common coping strategies in this region.
- Many of the people affected by the flash flood in the Haor community were also hit by the early monsoon flooding in June. Some damage to the cultivated fields in this area with crop losses of Aus paddy was reported. Local Administrations provided relief food and cash to the affected people, though it was not sufficient.³
- Rain started with the onset of the monsoon season which runs from mid-June to September. In June, the Bangladesh Meteorological Department recorded 14 percent above average rainfall while in July it was reported to be 37 percent below average. The planting time for rain-fed Aus crop is from March to mid-May and abundant rains in June have benefited the growing of Aus crops and of the rain-fed Aman crops, that is currently being planted.

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, REMITTANCES AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

- During the first semester of the year, the inflation rate - as measured by the point-to-point (p-t-p) variation in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) - fluctuated between 8.5 and 9 percent, and came down to 7.2 percent in the month of July. Similar trend was recorded both in rural and urban areas. The dominance of the food inflation is still substantial since the index is at 8.7 percent, and it is outlined by the fact that the “food, beverage and tobacco” component rose by 2.1 percent (on monthly basis). Therefore food price inflation is still a concern mainly due to the high price of rice in the domestic market.
- Following an upward trend till March, the inflow of remittances diminished from April onwards; compared to previous year it declined by 2.9 and 3.1 percent in June and July. This significant decline might have negative effects on the food security of the households whose main sources of income is remittance. The reduction in the amount and frequency of remittances is mainly attributed to job losses, salary decreases abroad and the return of about 10 percent of migrants to Bangladesh.

¹ The estimate is based on actual production data of Boro rice in 2009 and 2010, Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics

² Field visit report by WFP Dhaka Sub-office staff

³ Ibid

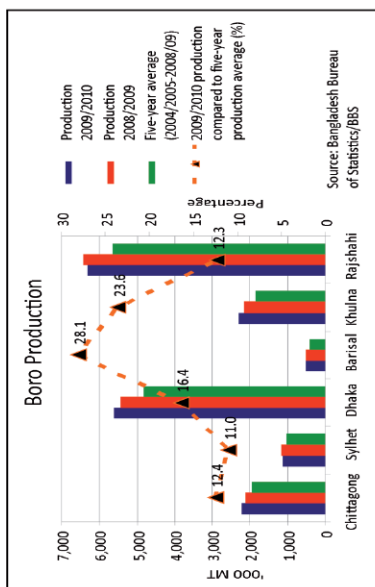
- In the Fiscal Year 2010 (July 2009-June 2010), Bangladesh experienced a 6 percent growth in the GDP, despite a significant drop in the export-led sectors of tea, frozen food, leather goods and to some extent woven garments, due to a slowdown in international demand.

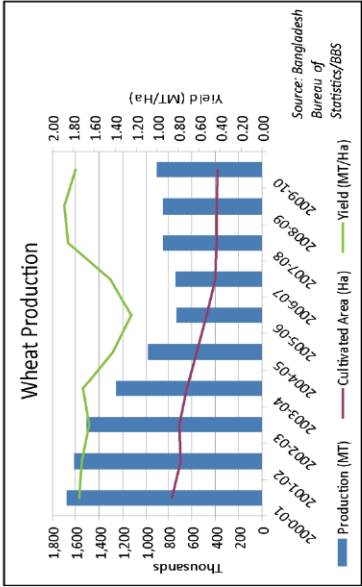
FOOD AVAILABILITY

CROP PRODUCTION, FOOD IMPORT AND PUBLIC GRAIN STOCK

- Winter Crop Production (Boro rice and wheat harvests)*

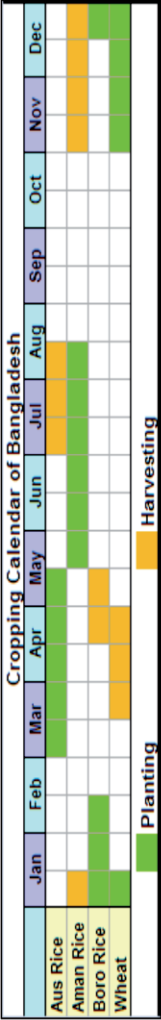
Boro rice has the largest share in the domestic food grain production of Bangladesh. Despite few small scale flash floods in some border districts, the overall Boro crop production was good throughout the country which reached 18 million metric tons on about 4.7 million hectares. There has been an overall increase in the production of the crop compared to last year as well as five years average, 1.4 percent and 15.2 percent respectively. Rajshahi division in the North West remains the main basket of Boro rice, although there has been a slight setback compared to the previous harvest. Farmers made every effort to increase Boro production by extending areas under irrigation, particularly in the south and southeast divisions of Barisal and Khulna, and they have been supported by the government with subsidized fertilizers, improved varieties of seed and power supply.





This year *Wheat* crop production has also increased due to favourable weather conditions. Compared to previous year and 5-years average, the wheat production was 6.18 percent and 8.8 percent higher respectively. The north-western regions (Rajshahi) are by far the most productive areas while wheat is becoming more and more marginal in Sylhet and Barisal divisions. Wheat is an important crop since Atta (wheat flour) is the second staple for Bangladeshis. Due to insufficient domestic production, wheat is at the top of the food grain imports.

Since there was a reduction in the rainfall in July, the Aus crop is expected to mature late and the harvest period will most likely shift to August and September.



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- ***Increased Food Grain Import in 2009/10 while public stock steadily declined up till June***

Total food grain import in the fiscal year 2009/10⁴ was 3.8 million metric tons, i.e. 14 percent higher than previous year. Eighty four percent of the total food grain import was conducted by private sector, of which only 1.2 percent was rice and 98.7 percent was wheat. Aid import stood at 47.2 thousand metric tones, while the government imported 508.62 thousand of metric tones, i.e. representing about 13percent of the total food grain imported. Public stock of food grains has significantly decreased from 1.36 million tons in July 2009 to 0.61 million tons in June 2010.

Over the past months procurement of rice by the government has been much less than the target, as many farmers sold their crop to private traders at a higher price. International procurement of wheat has faltered due to recent ban on wheat export by Russia, where the worst drought in four decades has adversely affected this year's wheat production. This may entail negative implications for food distribution to the poor population through social safety nets.

FOOD PRICE MONITORING

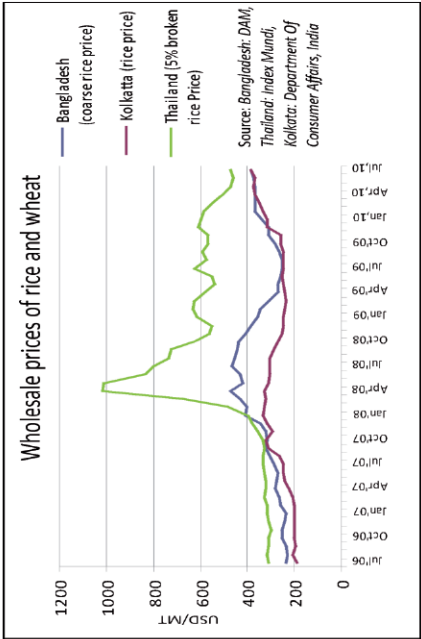
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL PRICES, TERMS OF TRADE

- ***Wholesale prices of rice and wheat***

In the months of May - July, when Boro production reached the market, the wholesale price of rice in Bangladesh rose by 2.6 percent from the previous quarter; this rise is probably due to an increase in stock by different stakeholders in anticipation of higher future prices.

A similar trend was registered in Kolkata market - the main market for Bangladesh to import rice (located in West Bengal, India) - where price went up by 5.5 percent. By contrast, the price of Thai rice (a benchmark for Bangladesh) went down by 23 percent in the same period, at a level of 473 USD per MT in July 2010 from nearly 600 in January, given the abundant supplies.

It is worth noting that during the 2007/08 global food crisis period the Thai rice increased to 1,015 USD per MT and rice price in Kolkata market also went up. In Bangladesh, the price of rice was highest in April 2008 (USD 469/MT) and it came down to the lowest level (USD 253/MT) in July 2009. Since then, price of rice in Bangladesh and Kolkata started increasing and it has reached a nearly same price of 383 and 384 USD per MT, respectively.



⁴ Fiscal year ends in June.

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Annex 5. Examples of FSMS Reports

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The wholesale wheat price in July 2010 was 238 USD per MT. Wholesale price of wheat was stable during the last 3 months and also in comparison to the previous quarter from January to April 2010. In the first six months of this year, wholesale wheat price from Mexico - the main market for Bangladesh to import wheat - stands at 190 USD per MT.

- **Retail prices for main staple food commodities:**

In Bangladesh, rice is by far the most important food among other essential food commodities like wheat, oil, lentil etc. Rice accounts for more than 60 percent of the total calories consumed by urban areas and more than 70 percent in rural areas⁵. The retail prices are collected on monthly basis from the main market of the following six administrative divisions: Dhaka, Rajshahi, Barisal, Khulna, Chittagong and Sylhet. The following table compares the quarterly change in the retail prices of the most essential food commodities (rice, wheat flour, palm oil and lentil) from previous years.

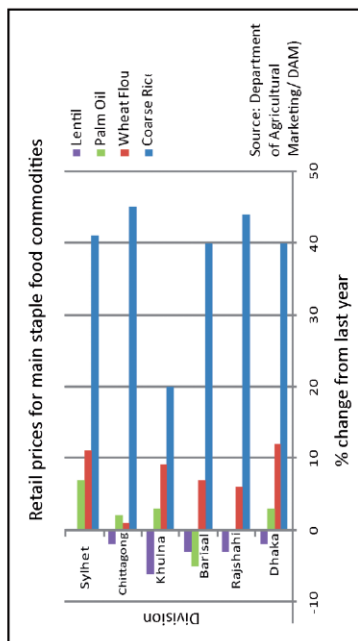
Food Commodity	Time Frame	% change from 2009	% change from 2008	% change from 2007	% change from 3 years average (2004-2006)
Coarse Rice	May-July	↑↑ (38)	↓ (-10)	↑↑ (36)	↑↑↑ (71)
Wheat Flour	May-July	↔ (8)	↓↓ (-38)	↔ (-6)	↑ (15)
Palm Oil	May-July	↔ (2)	↓↓ (-32)	↔ (2)	↑↑↑ (57)
Lentil	May-July	↔ (-3)	↑ (12)	↑↑ (53)	↑↑↑ (63)

Source of price data: Department of Agricultural Marketing (DAM), Ministry of Agriculture

The retail price of rice has increased during the May-July 2010 quarter compared to the same quarter of last year, of 2007 and of three years average (2004-2006). However the retail price of rice is only 10 percent than 2008, when the food price was quite high. Prices of other food commodities have slightly increased from 2009, with the exception of lentil (Masur), which went down by 3 percent. When compared to the 2004-2006 average, the prices of all the monitored food commodities have steadily increased, with wheat flour (Atta) to a lesser extent.

When compared to last year, the quarterly (May-July) average prices of the four monitored food items show variations in six divisions. The maximum change was marked in the price of rice in the Chittagong division (45 percent) in contrast with Khulna division where there was a moderate change (20 percent).

The price of wheat flour has increased much less than rice, showing a peak in Dhaka (12 percent) while the price of palm oil has increased by 5 percent. The lentil price went down in all the divisions, with a higher extent in Khulna where it decreased by 6 percent.



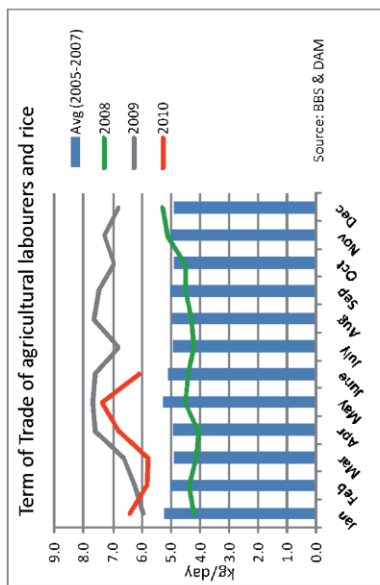
⁵ Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES), 2005

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• Term of Trade of agricultural labourers and rice

The Terms of Trade (ToT) is a proxy indicator to assess household purchasing power based on changes of food prices and of daily wage rates. In this case, ratio of the wage rates of daily agricultural labourers and price of rice are used to identify trends in the food purchasing power of vulnerable groups in rural areas of Bangladesh. Apart from the effects of seasonality on agricultural wages, in general agricultural wage rate has increased over years. Nevertheless, in Bangladesh usually the wage rate is not adjusted to account for inflation.

The most vulnerable livelihood group exposed both to economic and natural disaster shocks - are daily agriculture labourers. The average daily wage of agricultural labourers was 196 Taka/day and 170 Taka/day in June and July 2010 respectively, while the price of rice has increased from 26.6 Tk./Kg to 28 Tk./Kg over the same period. Therefore, the ToT declined from 7.36 kg/day to 6.07 kg/day, which entails a 17.4 percent decrease in the amount of rice that a daily agriculture labourer can purchase with his daily wage. The decrease in the daily wage is mainly attributed to a slowdown in the demand of labour force following the harvest of Boro rice in April and May.



Source: BBS & DAM

In 2008, day labours' purchasing capacity declined in comparison to the 2005-2007 average, with an upturn from November onwards which continued throughout 2009, due to a reduction in the price of rice. This, in turn, led to a remarkable improvement in terms of trade since it was accompanied by enactment of government measures to support an increase in wages. However, starting from September 2009 up until the first quarter of 2010, the terms of trade has fallen again.

FOOD SECURITY OUTLOOK

The overall availability of food grain in the country during the reporting period is more or less satisfactory. Given the normal rainfall trend and the limited Monsoon flooding, it is expected that the target production for Aus (2.40 million tons) and Aman (12.74 million tons) set by the Government will be achieved. The food grain production target for the current 2009/10 fiscal year is set at 35.05 million metric tons which is 9 percent higher than last year's actual production and 31.3 percent higher than five-years (2002/03-2006/07) average. Despite the damage to Boro crop at the Haor areas the actual production of Boro rice was only 4 percent less than the target.

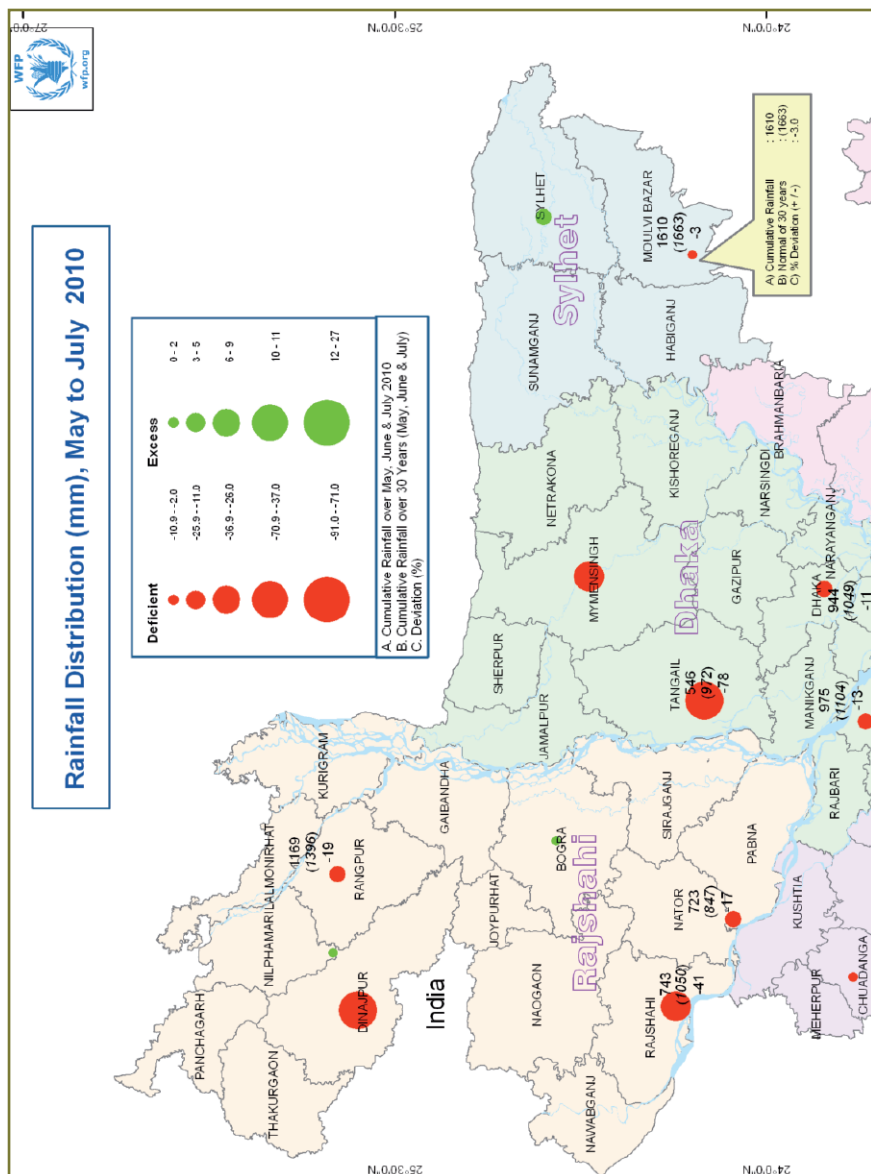
The food market in Bangladesh is fully operational. The prices of major food commodities in the market are expected to keep an increasing trend. The food purchasing capacity of general poor wage labourers will go down if an improvement of wages is not achieved to offset the food prices increase over time.

The overall food security situation in the country is considered to remain stable over the coming three months provided that no catastrophic Monsoon flooding and cyclone occur.

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Annex 5. Examples of FSMS Reports

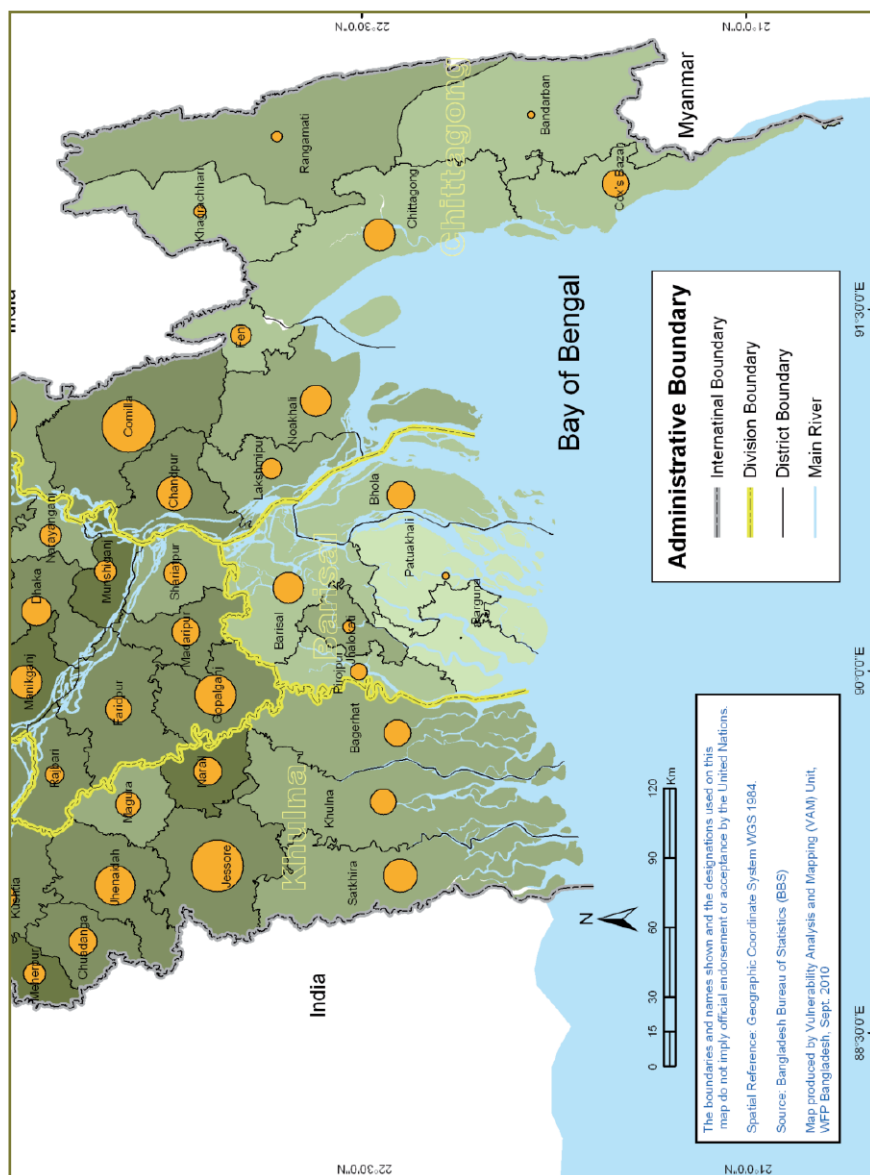
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Annex 5/2. Madagascar Food Security Monitoring System Quarterly Bulletin - page 1

Madagascar Food Security Monitoring System Quarterly Bulletin

1st Quarter 2010

February 2010

Updates

- An interventions Impact Assessment Mission will be conducted in March in the drought prone southern districts by the "Food Security and Livelihood" Cluster, led by WFP and FAO, with NGO partners.
- On 16 February, A TROPICAL CYCLONE "GELANE" was formed in the Indian Ocean and is located 688 miles from the NE coast of Madagascar.



Summary for 1st Quarter 2010

- According to the World Bank, the local economy has been certainly in recession since the second quarter of 2009 and prospects are even worse for 2010.
- The agricultural sector benefited from previous investments and good climatic conditions, as evidenced by the 10-15 percent expansion in rice production (in volume) between 2008 and 2009, reaching the record level of 4.5-5.0 million tons.
- The good rice harvest offered a crucial buffer to many rural households, helping to preserve social stability since access to food is viewed by most households as the prime factor in determining whether they are in or out of poverty.
- In the capital city, the food consumption pattern has improved slightly between August and November 2009.
- Between January 2009 and November 2009, prices of basic commodities have been relatively stable (except surges on certain products during the first quarter - the peak of socio-political crisis). Overall, for all food items, the average monthly price increase was only around 0.01% during the period (against 0.98% in 2008).
- While the HIV and AIDS prevalence remains at below one percent, tuberculosis remains a major public health concern and is linked to poverty and under-nutrition. More than 40,000

Inside this issue:		TB cases are expected by year, while only 22.812 had been accounted by the National Tuberculosis Programme in 2007.	
Political and Economic Crisis	1	• Prevalence of stunting in children 6-59 months is as high as 53 percent and underweight is 38 percent (DHS Madagascar 2003-2004), an indication of long-term under-nutrition.	
Economic Conditions	2	Political and Economic Crisis	
Agricultural Production	2	• Foreign aid has been reduced drastically due to the political crisis. The island's civil service has collapsed and aid agencies have found it difficult to engage their Malagasy government counterparts because the international community could not fully recognize Rajoelina's self-appointed administration, the Higher Transitional Authority.	
Food Consumption	3	• According to the World Bank, the local economy has been certainly in recession since the second quarter of 2009 and prospects are even worse for 2010.	
Markets and Prices	3	• During 2009, private sector activities suffered simultaneously from the global recession and the political crisis. Export-oriented sectors were in disarray, with plummeting production and job losses in textiles, shrimps, and tourism.	
Madagascar - Key Facts	4	• Another key sector exposed to the crisis has been construction, while contributing to almost 1/5 of economic growth between 2003 and 2008, its production decreased by an estimated 40 percent in 2009. This decline is linked to the fall in public investment, notably in infrastructure.	
Health and Nutrition	4	• At the same time, a few economic sectors were isolated from the global recession and the political crisis. First, the agricultural sector benefited from previous investments and good climatic conditions, as evidenced by the 10-15 percent expansion in rice production (in volume) between 2008 and 2009, reaching the record level of 4.5-5.0 million tons. The second sector that moved positively in 2009 was mining because of the start in the production of Rio Tinto in May 2009.	

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Economic Conditions

“Assessing the current economic situation in

Madagascar is hard because of the lack of monitoring and reporting.”

(World Bank)

- At the end of 2008, prospects for Madagascar were high with a projected economic growth rate above 7 percent. A year later, the situation changed drastically with the impact of the global financial crisis and the persistence of the political crisis.
- All in all, income per capita went down in 2009. Even with the official estimates of 0.6 percent GDP growth, the average Malagasy household is poorer today than one year ago because the population growth rate is estimated at 3.0 percent per year.
- It is worth noting the differential impact between urban and rural areas, since like for previous political crises, the decline in economic activities was mainly concentrated in urban centers where are located most industries and services.
- The good rice harvest offered a crucial buffer to many rural households, helping to preserve social stability since access to food is viewed by most households as the prime factor in determining whether they are in or out of poverty.
- Furthermore, the recession in 2009 was not as deep as the 12 percent GDP decline that occurred during the 2002 crisis.

Agricultural Production

- Rice harvest in 2009 was good, but maize and cassava in southern provinces was sharply reduced due to poor rainfall.
- The outlook for the 2010 main season rice and other cereal crop is uncertain. After a favourable start of the rains in October and November, a 3 weeks dry spell has reduced

“Madagascar lies

*in the main path
of storms crossing*

the western

Indian Ocean and

is battered by

cyclones every

year; five have

struck it in the

last two years,

affecting over

463,000 people.

The cyclones

season runs from

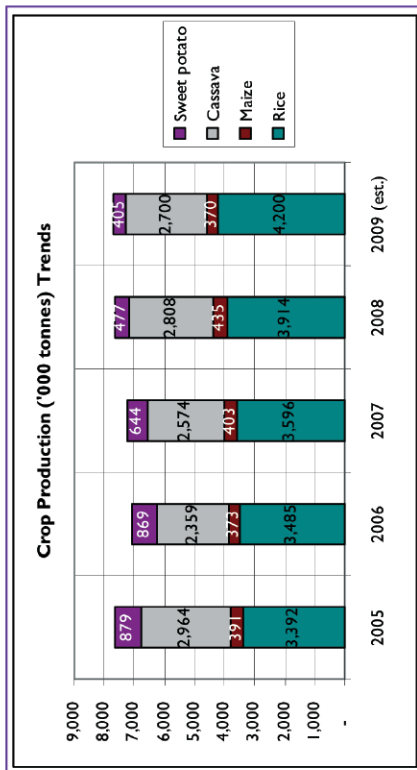
December

through April."

soil moisture in central and southern Madagascar and crop development is likely to have been affected in several areas.

- Low producer prices for rice, prior to the planting period for the 2009/10 agricultural season in November, could have led to a reduction in rice intensification efforts by small producers. In addition, the unstable political situation has disrupted the level of technical and financial support provided to the agriculture sector by the Government. In particular the programme of Government distribution of subsidized fertilizers and seeds supplies has been suspended.

- On February 2, tropical depression FAMI landed in the commune of Belo (Mendobe region in Toilary province) at 12h00 local time and continued its trajectory across the Southern part of the country to exit into the Indian Ocean in the vicinity of the city of Nosy Varika the day after. The physical damages were limited but the consecutive rains received lately in the South will have a very positive impact on this drought prone area.



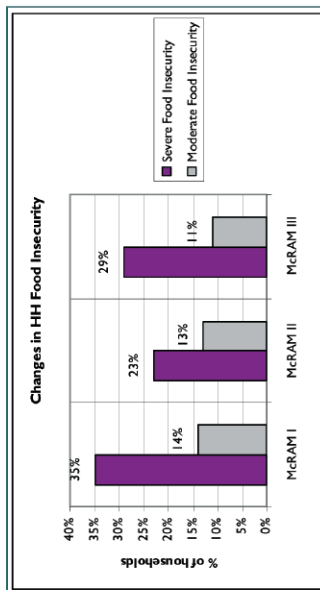
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Food Consumption

In the rural South, according to the Early Warning System SAP in December 2009, most of the *communes* report a normal diet with some mild changes of food consumption patterns noticed in a few municipalities in South Betsiky, Ambovombe, Ampanihy West and Beloha districts.

In the capital city, the food consumption pattern has improved slightly between August and November 2009. (McRAM Round III, November 2009). A total of 53% of households have a food consumption profile classified as "good" in November 2009 against 56% in August 2009.

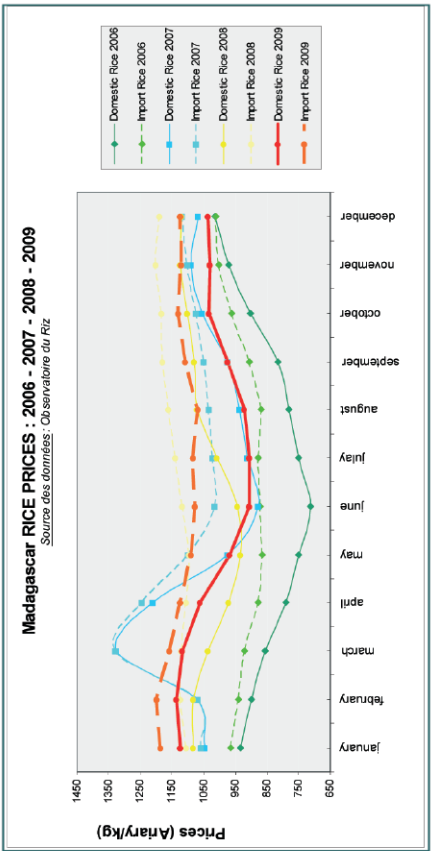
The comparison of the household food insecurity for the 3 rounds of McRAM in Antananarivo is presented in the graph on the right. The percentage of households, with limited or moderate food consumption during these 3 rounds has improved over time and then stabilized between August and November 2009 despite the lean season (29% in May and 21% respectively in August and November 2009) and such is the evolution of household food insecurity. The frequency of consumption of the various food groups remained stable over time except for *brèdes* (green leaves) and vegetables whose average consumption increased between May and August (high season).



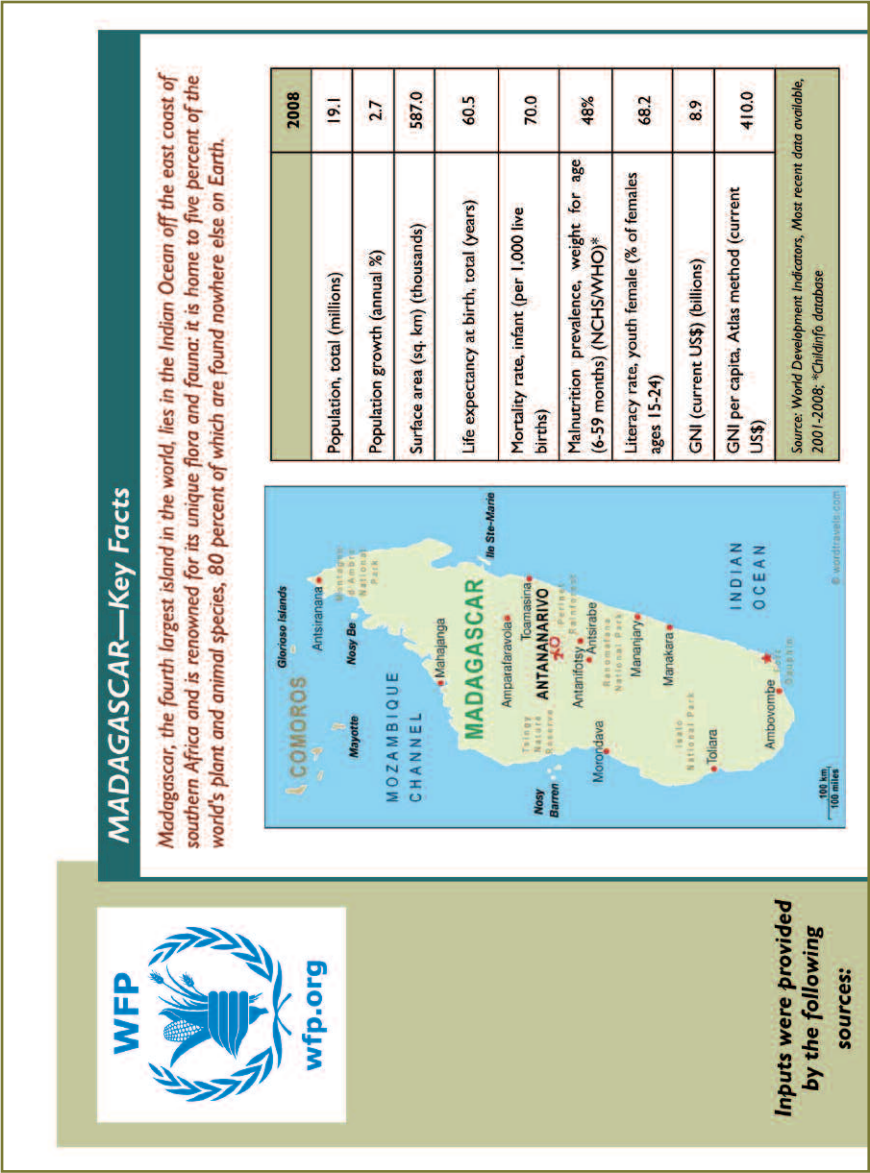
Markets and Prices

- The political crisis did not affect market performance in the capital. Apart from the seasonal context, foods and other commodities are always available. During the lean season (starting in August), the prices of staple -*Produits de Premiere Necessite* (PPN) - in 2009 was very stable compared to previous years. This reflects a stable or lower price of certain food items (rice, oil, dairy products, etc.), charcoal and energy.

- Compared to 2008, the "transport" has also been a slight decrease of 0.2%. In addition, according to data from the Observatoire du Riz (ODR), the price of rice is currently below the price of the two previous years. The fall in prices reflected the increased market availability following improved rice harvest in April-June 2009.
- According to the last round of McRAM, survey (600 HH) conducted in 11 Fokontany of the capital in November 2009, compared to earlier in the year, households in the capital tend now to diversify their source of income often for less stable sources. Households' expenditure has slightly risen throughout 2009. Expenditure on rice fell between May and August (probably because of the season) then it has risen between August and November.
- Between January 2009 and November 2009, prices of basic commodities have been relatively stable (except surges on certain products during the first quarter - the peak of socio-political crisis). Overall, for all food items, the average monthly price increase was only around 0.01% during the period (against 0.98% in 2008). Attention is raised by the low producer prices for rice that would affect small land holders.
- At the beginning of February 2010, a price surge for some basic essentials goods was observed. The price of sugar increased by 50% due to disruption in supply caused by the disorganization in the international market following the rise in demand from China and India. The flour market also observed upward fluctuations. The country is exclusively importing its flour following the closure of the major local flour-mill company, owned by the dismissed President, in the aftermath of the political crisis. The price of this commodity evolves according to the dollar exchange quotation, which is now very high as compared to the Malagasy Ariary.



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UN WFP • UNICEF • FAO • ONN • Observatoire du Riz • SAP • IMF • The World Bank 	<h2>Health and Nutrition</h2> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Madagascar is one of the 36 countries where 90% of the world's stunted children live (UNICEF <i>Tracking Progress on Child and Maternal Nutrition</i>. New York, December 2009). • Prevalence of stunting in children 6-59 months is as high as 53 percent and underweight is 38 percent (Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) Madagascar 2003-2004 converted into the new 2006 WHO standards), an indication of long-term under-nutrition. • There is no HIV and AIDS epidemic in Madagascar (UNAIDS 2008), with only 400 people living with HIV and AIDS. • While the HIV and AIDS prevalence remains at below one percent, tuberculosis remains a major public health concern and is linked to poverty and under nutrition. More than 40,000 TB cases are expected by year, while only 22,812 had been accounted by the National Tuberculosis Programme in 2007. • More recently, the household survey and anthropometric measurements taken during the baseline of the USAID funded project Strengthening and Accessing Livelihood Opportunities for Household Impact (SALOH) in October/ November 2009, 44% of children aged 6 to 59 months in the areas surveyed (7 regions of Eastern and South Eastern Madagascar) were chronically malnourished or stunted while 35% of children aged 0 to 59 months were underweight. • Malnutrition affects more boys than girls irrespective of the geographic area. It affects mainly children in the Central regions, almost equally the children of the South Eastern and Eastern areas. But it affects far fewer children in the South. • This improved situation in the South is confirmed by follow-up SMART surveys done in November. This can be explained by an improved second harvest in 2010 and extensive food distributions.
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The Spanish Government is providing financial support for the strengthening of Food Security Monitoring Systems in Southern Africa.

Annex 5. Examples of FSMS Reports

Other examples of FSMS are reports are available at:

www.wfp.org/food-security/assessments/food-security-monitoring-system

In particular, the following reports can be consulted:

Nepal, Food Security Bulletins

www.wfp.org/content/nepal-food-security-bulletins-2011

Swaziland, VAC Monitoring System Quarterly Bulletin

www.wfp.org/content/swaziland-vac-monitoring-system-quarterly-bulletin-2010

Bolivia, Food Security Monitoring

www.wfp.org/content/bolivia-food-security-monitoring-2010

Notes

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Monitoring Food Security

Technical Guidance Sheet 1

Reporting Structure and Content

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