



STRENGTHENING CAPACITY TO GENERATE AND ANALYSE DATA ON FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION IN AFRICAN COUNTRIES

As African countries strive to end hunger by 2030, improved country data is critical in tracking progress towards achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 - “End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture”. The indicators used to monitor progress towards the achievement of SDG 2 are the prevalence of undernourishment (PoU) and the prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES). However, the quality of data that are necessary to produce these indicators has historically been limited. This hinders the ability to evaluate and implement effective policies to eliminate hunger and ensure food security in many African countries. Against this background, the project aimed to address the core problem of limited data quality by improving survey design, data collection methods and data analysis capacities in four target countries (Angola, Mali, Senegal, United Republic of Tanzania), using robust and reliable measurement methodologies and indicators to inform policy-making and reporting on SDG 2.



Angola National Census of Agriculture Data Collection, 2020

WHAT DID THE PROJECT DO?

The project delivered major improvements in survey tools, methods and their implementation across the four beneficiary countries. It supported the development and administration of new surveys focused on food security and helped establish new national survey programmes. In this context, the project provided technical assistance to the target countries on the analysis of food data collected and the use of the ADePT-Food Security Module to estimate food security and nutrition (FSN) indicators. This support has strengthened the analytical abilities of target countries to effectively process and understand food data collected through surveys, empowering them to make data-driven decisions and implement suitable policies related to FSN. In addition, proposed amendments to outdated modules and the development of innovative COVID-19 adapted tools have advanced harmonized, evidence-based FSN monitoring across the beneficiary countries. Capacity building was a core component of the project. Over 150 food and nutrition security analysts from the four beneficiary countries acquired the necessary skills to collect and analyse data on food insecurity and nutrition indicators as a result of targeted training sessions. The beneficiary countries were also assisted in implementing an extended FIES module, capturing not only moderate and severe food insecurity but also the most acute and recent food insecurity experiences of the surveyed groups.

KEY FACTS

Latest Approved Budget
USD 938 278

Duration
March 2019-March 2023

Resource Partners
Government of Japan, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF)

Partners
National Food and Nutrition Security Secretariats; Ministries of Agriculture; National Statistical Offices (NSOs); Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Country Teams; and academic institutions and governmental and non-governmental institutions

Beneficiaries
National Statistical Offices (NSOs) and government agencies responsible for food security and nutrition data in the target countries

IMPACT

The project achieved its objective to strengthen national capacity in generating and using food security data through integrated support, spanning the entire cycle - from improved data collection to evidence-based policy-making. The outcomes substantially improved the beneficiary countries' ability to systematically oversee and tackle issues of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition.



ACTIVITIES

- Assessment of existing survey systems, survey tools and monitoring frameworks conducted for the four beneficiary countries.
- Food consumption module drafted and finalized for adoption by beneficiary countries.
- Revision finalized of all survey materials in line with new PoU and FIES methodologies.
- Beneficiary countries assisted in developing and implementing comprehensive food consumption and FIES modules in their surveys, enabling collection of reliable and accurate data on FSN indicators.
- National Statistical Offices assisted in crafting comprehensive and context-specific survey instruments tailored to unique needs and challenges of each country.
- Seven in-country workshops conducted and attended by more than 200 participants to discuss results, derive policy recommendations, and share with relevant government units.
- Final national food and nutrition security reports validated and methodology reanalysis workshops conducted.
- Seven national reports on food and nutrition security produced, validated and disseminated in beneficiary countries, which will serve as foundation for policies and investments that leave no one behind.



Angola National Census of Agriculture Data Collection, 2020 ©FAO/Tercio Sardinha



Masahiro Hosaka (MAFF, Japan) speaks to the Media at the Tanzania Comprehensive FSN Report Validation Workshop, Zanzibar, October 2022 ©FAO/Alice Maro



FAOR for South Africa Ahmadu Babagana, opens the Regional FSN Report Dissemination Workshop, Pretoria, March 2023 ©FAO/Teopista Mutesi



ENSA Data Collection in Senegal, 2022 ©FAO/Abdou Badiane



ASSISTANT FAOR (PROGRAMME), Charles Tulahi speaks to the press at the Tanzania Comprehensive FSN Report Validation Workshop, Zanzibar, October 2022 ©FAO/Alice Maro

Project Title

Supporting Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2.1 Monitoring by strengthening Food Security and Nutrition Information in Africa

Project Code

FAO: GCP/GLO/943/JPN

Contact

Jose Rosero Moncayo (Budget Holder)
ESS-Director@fao.org

Partnerships and Outreach
For more information, please contact: Reporting@fao.org

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla
00153 Rome, Italy