



EC/FAO FOOD SECURITY PROGRAMME - 'INFORMATION FOR ACTION'

Training Course: Producing Food Security Information Products that Result in Action

Note for Participants

« Food Security exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life ». (World Food Summit, 1996, Action Plan).

Overview

The EC/FAO Food Security «Information for Action» Programme aims at strengthening national capacity in generating, managing and using food security information from different sectors to support food security policy formulation, programming and targeting. This training course will assist countries in producing relevant and credible food security information products (FSIPs) that result in action, leading to greater food and nutrition security. FSIPs are materials (such as reports, bulletins, website releases, maps) that include food security-related information produced to support decision-making.

This training course is based on the experience gained in a number of countries that shows that the low relevance and credibility of the information provided for decision-making is often one of the key factors that explain the limited use of food security-related information for action. Better understanding of information needs of target user groups and improved communication between users and producers of information are essential for tailoring information products to actual needs and building trust and credibility.

During the training, we will review together the FSIPs being produced in your department or organization and identify priorities to be addressed, taking your country's specific circumstances into account, to ensure greater impact on food security planning.

Training course objectives

- Strengthen the capacity of national institutions at central and decentralized levels to produce FSIPs that result in action for improving food security, through improved communication with users.
- Prepare a Plan of Action for improving and creating effective FSIPs with a communication strategy that will improve dialogue and collaboration between information users and producers and a calendar for implementation.

Participants' profile

- Professional discipline related to food security: technical analysts, policy formulators, planners and programme managers from national institutions, with various fields of expertise including agronomy, statistics, nutrition, social and economic sciences.
- Current involvement in the preparation of FSIPs on a regular basis or expected involvement in the preparation of FSIPs soon after the training.

Participant's learning objectives

By the end of the training, you will have acquired the skills and knowledge to:

- Assess FSIPs based on a country specific "Food Security for Action" framework, developed during the training course, to identify and analyse the factors influencing the impact of FSIPs on action.
- Assess users' information needs for decision -making.
- Establish and maintain a productive dialogue between users and producers of information.
- Improve and design FSIPs that are relevant for decision-making and support action.
- Identify the priorities to be addressed for improving FSIPs in your country.

Expected outputs

- A plan of action presenting participants' recommendations for producing FSIPs that have more impact on action with a suggested calendar for implementation.
- Recommendations for post-training follow-up and reinforcement; FAO, in collaboration with partner institutions, will monitor the implementation of the plan of action until the end of the programme.

Programme Summary

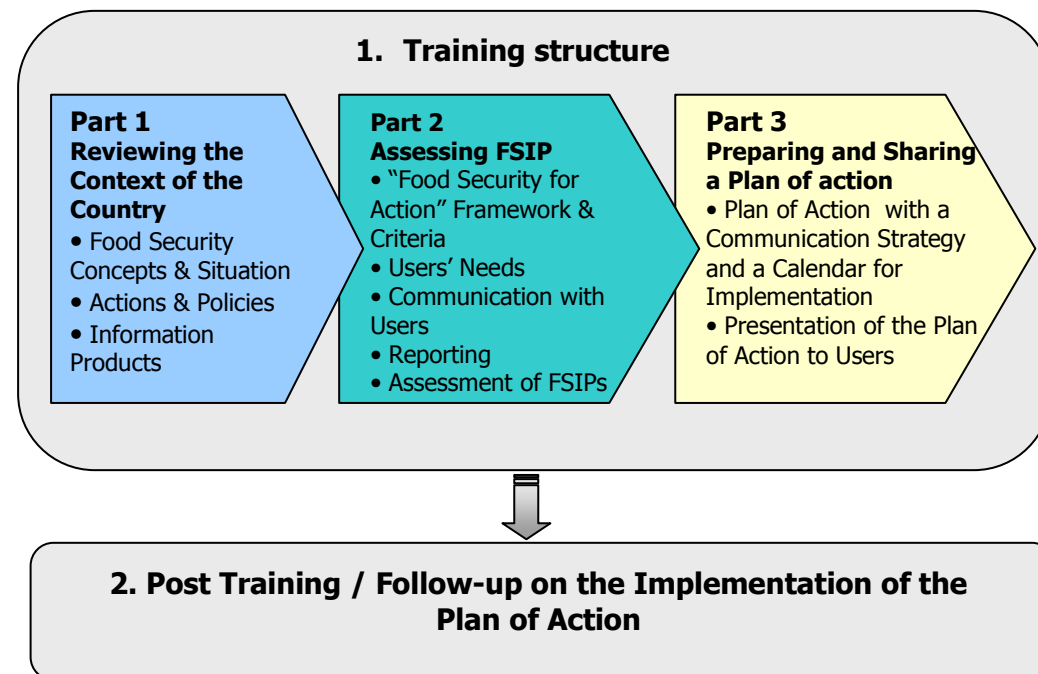
Day 1	<p>Opening – Reviewing the Context</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of FS situation and action undertaken in the country • Review of country-specific decision making needs • Review of existing FSIPs
Day 2 & 3	<p>Assessing FSIP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing a “Food Security Information for Action” framework • Assessing decision-making needs • Developing effective communication with users • Improving reporting
Day 4	<p>Preparing a Plan of Action for Producing FSIPs that Result in Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying priorities • Developing a communication strategy • Establishing a calendar for implementation
Day 5	<p>Evaluation – Presentation of the Plan of Action - Closing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation of the training • Presentation of the plan of action to users for validation

Training methods

Active participation in the learning and training process is the key to success. We will encourage learning not only from the trainers but also from other participants. Various learning methods will be used: brief introductory lectures and presentations, plenary discussions and group work. Your own experience in producing FSIPs is a core element of the training. The training will be delivered in Portuguese. Experienced facilitators will encourage participation and cooperation among all participants.

Before the course, you will be asked to prepare a short presentation of your work related to FSIPs. Guidelines will be provided. This presentation will contribute to reaching a common understanding among the participants of the products analyzed during the training course.

The participation of selected representatives from national institutions and partner organizations will help (a) articulate specific information needs into a more clearly identified demand for particular FSIPs, and (b) receive preliminary feedback on the workshop’s findings and recommendations (Plan of Action).



Dates

The course will be held from the 23rd to the 27th of April, Tarrafal, Santiago Island, Cape Verde

For further information, please contact:

EC/FAO Programme, Rome

Ms Françoise Trine
Food Security Analyst, FAO
francoise.trine@fao.org

*Direcção dos Serviços de
Segurança Alimentar (DSSA)*

Tel: 2647849/41
E-mail: dssamaap@cvtelecom



The EC-FAO Food Security Information for Action Programme is funded by the European Union and implemented by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
<http://www.foodsecinfoaction.org>

