



EC/FAO Food Security Programme - Phase II
'Food Security Information for Action'

Programme Workplan for the Republic of Kenya

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Implementing Agency:	FAO
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Building on the achievements of Phase I, the Programme will continue strengthening national capacity in the collection, analysis and dissemination of food security information necessary for policy formulation. It will assist the Government of Kenya (GoK) in a) supporting district level capacity in food security assessment and response under national supervision, b) supporting national capacity to collect, manage, analyse and utilize food security information for addressing acute and chronic food insecurity in the country, c) providing assistance in the collection and analysis of food security information. The Programme will focus on the following specific aspects that were prioritized during discussions with Government, the FAO Representation in Kenya, the EC Delegation in Kenya and international organizations collaborating with GoK on Food Security:

- 1. Support of national and district level capacity for food security information generation, analysis, reporting and utilization for response through the introduction of the Integrated Food Security and Humanitarian Phase Classification System (IPC).*
- 2. Support DISK (Data and Information Sub-committee of Kenya) to develop and manage a core food security data management and information system within the Office of the President, building capacity for government management. In particular, this will involve the introduction of the Global Information and Early Warning (GIEWS) Workstation for linking data sources centrally to support enhanced food security analysis, including the IPC and Early Warning System data.*
- 3. Technical assistance in the analysis of food security and food consumption data collected from the Kenya Integrated Household Budget Survey (KIHBS).*
- 4. Development and implementation of simple tools for monitoring food access/consumption at the household level for use in national and sub-national surveys and monitoring exercises.*
- 5. Lessons learned on the roll-out and implementation of the IPC tool in Kenya leading to a proposal for the further development of the tool, especially at the food secure and chronically food insecure end of the spectrum.*

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Background

The Kenyan economy has been recovering, albeit slowly, since 2002 after negative performance in the 80s and 90s due to recurrent droughts and poor policies. The real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth has increased from 0.4% in 2002 to 2.8% in 2003 and to 4.3% in 2004. Although the 2004 mid-year drought and higher oil prices disrupted strong economic activity, the latter revived in the last quarter of 2004 after the short-rains and with strong positive performance in the horticulture and textile export sectors, tourism, and growth in manufacturing, transport and telecommunications, wholesale and retail trade and repairs.

Agriculture is the main engine for growth of Kenya's economy and two thirds of the population depend on it for their livelihoods. The sector directly accounts for 26% of GDP, and for a further 27% through upward and downward linkages with non-farm sectors, namely manufacturing, distribution and service-related sectors. Agriculture is also the main source of foreign exchange from exports of horticulture, coffee, tea, pyrethrum and other products.

Food security in Kenya is usually understood as an issue related to emergency food aid interventions that are managed by the Kenya Food Security Meeting (co-chaired by the Office of the President and the World Food Programme) or as a problem to be solved by increasing food production/availability. The other dimensions of food security (access, stability and food utilization) are not adequately addressed by Government.

Food insecurity in Kenya is related to poverty, a high risk of drought, and the HIV/AIDS pandemic. Specific causes of food insecurity include inadequate protection and management of natural resources, low agricultural productivity, and poor marketing and trade infrastructures, especially those of transport. Approximately 82% of the land area in Kenya is arid or semi-arid (ASAL); efforts by government and nongovernmental organizations to address deteriorating household livelihoods and food insecurity in these lands has had a limited impact due to some socio-cultural, ecological and geographic constraints. In addition to chronic poverty due to deteriorating livelihoods, the area is subject to frequent and devastating droughts, contributing to further vulnerability to food insecurity. Droughts and inadequate rains are shocks that often lead to crisis situations necessitating large inputs of food aid.

Ongoing Activities in Food Security Information Systems

After the drought emergency in 1999/2000, the Kenya Food Security Coordination Structure was formed under the Office of the President (OP) to develop a systematic, comprehensive and multi-agency early warning, food security status monitoring and assessment system for Kenya. Central to the structure is the Kenya Food Security Steering Group (KFSSG), a technical subgroup of the Kenya Food Security Meeting (KFSM) comprising government departments, UN agencies donors and NGOS. The KFSM is co-chaired by the National Project Coordinator of OP/ Arid Lands Resource Management Project (ALRMP) and the World Food Programme (WFP).

The ALRMP currently covers 22 districts in arid and semi-arid lands (ASAL). FAO supported the expansion of the system into 11 semi arid districts through a TCP in 2003/4. More recently, FAO with funding from SIDA has worked with ALRMP to expand the Early Warning System (EWS) still further into five coastal districts. Monthly early warning bulletins are produced at the district level on the food security situation in the ASAL districts, drawing in data collected at district level. At the national level, a bulletin is presented to the KFSM on the EWS information, and data provided by WFP/VAM, the Ministry of Agriculture and remote sensing information from FEWS NET. The system is currently backed up by a twice-annual Rapid Food Security Assessment Mission (RFSAM) which is designed to validate available information from district, national and remote sources. The Data and Information Sub-Committee (DISK) of the KFSSG (chaired by WFP) is actively engaged in supporting the EW and response system through enhancing data management and analysis. At present DISK is engaged with the development and validation of a Livelihoods Zone database that acts as a planning instrument and analytical tool for food security assessments as well as a baseline for EW; development of a computerized contingency planning application that includes trigger points, responses and a database for response capacity at district level; and work aimed to integrate various food security databases and applications into one platform to enhance overall food security analysis and dissemination. Improved food security analysis and contingency plans at the district level are prerequisites for the operation of a National Contingency Fund mechanism, and will link directly with such a mechanism.

While all food security information activities involve partnerships between Government of Kenya and international agencies, the Government is very active and assumes responsibility for these tasks, as shown by the activities of KFSG, KFSSG, DISK and the ALRMP which are housed under the Office of the President. Efforts

that are being made to increase the capacity of districts in assessing their food security situation and bringing them in as full partners in decision-making are very important to the Government, and there is full appreciation of FAO's involvement in this work.

Problems to Be Addressed

The Workplan addresses current strengths and weaknesses in the EW food security information domain, while facilitating the link between short and longer-term work interventions under an integrated situation analysis and evidence-based response framework. There is lack of capacity and standardization at the national and district level in gathering and interpreting data and using the information for the classification of food security and linking with contingency plans for different alert levels. Improving this capacity is essential for enhancing the effectiveness of response mechanisms, that link directly with district and national contingency fund mechanisms. The integration of the IPC in existing systems in Kenya will harmonise food security assessments and analysis of data, allowing comparability between livelihood zones across the country and ultimately add to regional analyses.

Government does not have sufficient capacity to manage its own food security data and information systems in a sustainable way. Early warning systems, livelihood zone baseline data, remote sensing data and contingency planning database are not part of an integrated data platform that addresses all aspects of food security. The website for the Kenya Food Security Meeting / Kenya Food Security Steering Group (KFSSM/KFSSG) should function as a portal to an integrated data platform. Specifically this will involve technical support for the introduction of the GIEWS Workstation. The integrated data platform will eventually include longer-term food security data and information collection, management, analysis and communication, such as regular surveys undertaken by CBS: Kenya Integrated Household Budget Survey (KIHBS), Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) and Multiple Cluster Survey (MICS).

There is insufficient capacity to analyse complex datasets arising from the Kenya Integrated Household Budget Survey. The integration of national and subnational-level dietary and nutrition data with other types of information is weak and needs to be achieved to adequately address food insecurity and poverty.

There are no standardized approaches to monitoring household level food access and household dietary diversity, which is important to assess food-related causes of micro-nutrient malnutrition (not detected by anthropometry). Standardized indicators/monitoring tools to measure these aspects of food and nutrition security should be incorporated in household assessment of food access and food consumption. Intra-household food distribution and nutrition-related gender issues should also be considered.

The IPC framework has proved to be a very successful tool in the context of Somalia, but has yet to be put into practice in other food security environments. The roll-out of the IPC in Kenya provides a different learning environment to that of Somalia, that could lead to further development of the tool, particularly focusing on the 'food secure' and 'chronically food insecure' end of the spectrum.

Expected Outcomes at the End of the Programme

1. Integration of the IPC methodology into existing early warning and food security assessment and analysis systems in the country; systems are enhanced through being more evidence-based and transparent; and comparability across livelihood zones is achieved.
2. Consolidation and better access to data pertaining to food security collected by various government entities, private voluntary organizations and international institutions through the strengthening of the Data and Information Sub-Committee of the Kenya Food Security Steering Committee.
3. Enhanced analytical capacity of food security information to identify vulnerable persons and to better understand food security and food consumption information at the national and subnational level. This should lead to less reliance on emergency aid but more sustained development, poverty eradication and livelihood support of affected persons.
4. Availability of culturally-specific simple standardized monitoring tools to assess food security, food access and food consumption within households and among household members in urban and rural sectors for use in national and sub-national surveys.
5. Effective feedback and learning on the IPC tool as it is rolled out in Kenya and during the implementation phase leading to a proposal for undertaking further development of the tool especially at the food secure/ chronically food insecure end of the spectrum.

Objective, Outputs and Activities

The activities envisaged in the present work plan are consistent with the overall logical framework defined in the EC-FAO Food Security Overall Programme Document, as shown in the following table:

The areas of intervention (AOI) and expected outputs of each intervention have been identified as follows:

1. “Support of national and district level capacity for food security information generation, analysis, reporting and utilization for response through the introduction of the Integrated Food Security and Humanitarian Phase Classification System (IPC).”

Description: Provide technical support to the process of rolling-out the IPC tool in Kenya at the national and district levels to strengthen food security analysis and assessments, linking to contingency planning and funding mechanisms.

Action Orientation: While the Early Warning and Response system is operational and relatively effective, there are some acknowledged weaknesses in the overall EW and assessment system, particularly in terms of capacity of District Steering Committees to conduct their own district food security assessments to trigger contingency plans at the district level and link directly to contingency funds at both district and national levels. Training districts to integrate the IPC tool into existing EW information, and to harmonise assessment methodology will enable comparisons to be better made across livelihood zones and to link early warning to response through evidence-based and transparent analysis, provide the situation analysis for informed response planning, and link to existing and future contingency planning and funding mechanisms, including the National Drought Contingency Fund (NDCF) envisioned under the EC Drought Management Initiative (DMI). This support of capacity-building will reduce current dependency on the bi-annual Rapid Food Security Assessment Mission mechanism in assessing food security issues and help to restore a sense of trust between district and national levels. Linkages with district profiles will also strengthen the use of food security information for informed responses.

Output: Technical support in rolling out the IPC methodology at national and district level, such that stakeholders are fully aware of the IPC tool and receive detailed training in its application.

Activities: Support to awareness raising and capacity building workshops at the national and district levels, establishing standardised food security assessments based on IPC indicators, and linking contingency planning process with contingency funding mechanisms at the district and national levels.

2. “Support DISK (Data and Information Subcommittee of Kenya) to develop and manage a core food security data management and information system within the Office of the President, building capacity for government management. In particular, this will involve technical support for the introduction of the GIEWS Workstation, linking data sources centrally to support enhanced food security analysis, including the IPC and Early Warning System data.”

Description: Reviewing and further developing an integrated reporting application aimed at integrating various food security databases and applications into one platform to enhance overall food security analysis and dissemination. The review will determine the potential for linking with the GIEWS Workstation application and with FSAU’s data management and analysis system.

Action Orientation: The Early Warning System operating in the OP/ALRMP with the support of DISK is the best example of an existing food security information system in Kenya and would be the logical base for an expanded information system that addresses chronic as well as acute food security, thereby enhancing decision-making for a full range of responses from emergency relief to livelihood support.

Output: Continued review and development of a common data platform (GIEWS), designing information products, enhancing food security analysis and dissemination through the KFSM Website.

Activities: The work will focus on a technical review of the current information management environment including key institutions taking part in the process, human and IT capacity, in collaboration with FSAU and FAO Rome. Specific recommendations will be made concerning the steps required to introduce the GIEWS Workstation including system sustainability, capacity and training requirements and general logistical and infrastructure issues. The existing FAO office within ALRMP/OP will act as a base for agencies to provide technical support and capacity.

3. “Technical assistance in the analysis of food security and food consumption data collected from the Kenya Integrated Household Budget Survey (KIHBS).”

Description: Activities include capacity building of Central Bureau of Statistics statisticians in data analysis and interpretation of the food security module of the survey and in dissemination of survey results to national and international stakeholders. Data collection for the KIHBS is currently underway and will be completed in May 2006.

Action Orientation: This survey provides an important baseline for the identification of food insecure households and contributing causes of their condition as well as knowledge of their food consumption patterns. This information should be used to drive policy and programmes to address deficits in food availability, access and consumption associated with vulnerability to food insecurity and poor nutritional status. The information arising from the survey should be integrated into the overall food security information and analysis unit under the OP and will provide valuable data for analysis of the food security situation and for planning in Kenya (see no. 2). The results and raw data will also be accessible to the public through a CBS website, available to all government ministries and other decision-makers.

Output: Publication of the "Food Security Assessment Report" for use by decision-makers at national and regional level, with a launch to introduce the results to stakeholders. Sharing of information with the food security analysis unit operating under the OP. The survey will also provide useful input for improving the food quantity data in construction of Food Balance Sheets.

Activities: Two week training workshop for CBS statisticians responsible for KIHBS data analysis. Media release or similar launching mechanism of results in form of a national workshop.

4. "Development and implementation of simple tools for monitoring food access/consumption at the household level for use in national and sub-national surveys and monitoring exercises."

Description: This project will involve the refinement and implementation of two simple tools to measure household food security and dietary intake. The tools to be considered include the household food insecurity scale and a dietary diversity scale. This activity will take place in varied settings in Kenya (urban, rural, Western Kenya) for assessment of food security and dietary practices of poor households.

Action Orientation: Development of simple, universal monitoring tools to assess household food insecurity and food consumption patterns for use across different countries and different contexts within a country will facilitate the standardization and interpretation of this aspect of food insecurity. Standard ways of scoring scales and classifying households by food security status will enable a common understanding of how households react when faced with food shortages, and how the composition of the diet changes over time in response to crises or to policies and programmes promoting dietary diversity. Both of these scales are simple to apply, are scored as composite indicators, and provide easily collected and interpretable information of household food access and dietary patterns that can be made available, within the context of other relevant food security indicators, to describe a food security situation or to guide policy and action for food insecure households. This activity could be an opportunity to gain knowledge of dietary and food security experience in households in urban settings and in settings other than the ASAL, where many food security assessments are located. The tools could be used also to investigate intra-household food access and dietary quality, including food-related gender issues.

Output: Simple tools that bridge food security and nutrition will be adapted to cultural and linguistic contexts in Kenya to identify what is actually consumed by households and individuals within households and how households behave in times of food shortage. A national workshop will be held for training in a cross-country setting and a final international workshop will be held to share tools with other government and non-governmental stakeholders. A Regional Report and training manual will be published and disseminated for other potential users of these tools in several African countries.

Activities: Hold a 3-day international workshop in Kenya with participants from Kenya, Malawi and Mozambique, to provide training in the adaptation and use of these scales to improve local comprehension. FAO will provide technical assistance to up to 3 field sites where the tools will be adapted and used in surveys. Different versions will be converged to develop country-specific scales that have a common interpretation for use in national and sub-national surveys or monitoring exercises. A follow-up national workshop will introduce the process and the outcome to other interested users. A report will be produced and disseminated.

5. "Lessons learned on the roll-out and implementation of the IPC tool in Kenya leading to a proposal for the development of the tool especially at the food secure and chronically food insecure end of the spectrum."

Project Description:

The IPC framework was developed in Somalia and has been in use for the past two years. It has proved to be a very successful tool in the context of Somalia, but has yet to be put into practice in other food security

environments. It is largely acknowledged that food insecurity in Kenya is fundamentally a factor of underlying poverty and vulnerability that quickly develops into an acute situation when there are external 'shocks' such as drought. The roll-out of the IPC in Kenya provides a different learning environment to that of Somalia, that could lead to further development of the tool, particularly focusing on the 'food secure' and 'chronically food insecure' end of the spectrum.

Activities:

- Develop and implement a feedback and lessons learned process as an integral part of the IPC roll-out in Kenya, including the first year of its use. This will involve active work within the DISK (as the technical group responsible for the roll-out) together with feedback mechanisms and workshops with district level practitioners.
- Channeling lessons learned through the FAO-managed system to contribute to global development of the tool, and assist with roll-out in other countries.

Inputs

- Five learning workshops during roll-out and implementation at national and district levels.
- National consultant to consolidate the lessons learned and develop a proposal for undertaking further development of the tool in Kenya and elsewhere.
- FAO staff time, and travel to workshops.

Outputs

- Production of a document on the lessons learned during the roll-out and implementation phases for dissemination in Kenya and elsewhere.
- Production of a proposal detailing the requirements to further develop the IPC tool, with a focus on improving the sensitivity of the tool at the more food secure/chronically food insecure end of the spectrum.
- Website postings of the document.
- Links with global efforts to develop the IPC tool to be more effective at classifying both acute and chronic food insecurity.

Table 1: Global Framework and Kenya Activities

Specific Global Objectives	Results	Outputs	Areas of Intervention
1 - Improve availability and quality of relevant food security information	A - Collection of food insecurity and vulnerability data and information is improved or strengthened	1.A.1 - Food insecurity and vulnerability data and information are improved	2
		1.A.2 - Food insecurity and vulnerability data and information management are strengthened	1,2,4
	B - Analysis of food insecurity and vulnerability data and information is strengthened	1.B.1 - National and regional capacity to analyze food insecurity and vulnerability data is strengthened	1,2,3
		1.B.2 - Capacity of using environmental monitoring tools and data for food security assessment are strengthened	2
		1.B.3 - GIEWS Workstation is established at global and national levels and capacity in its use is strengthened	2
		1.B.4 - National and regional capacity for food security assessment is reinforced	1,2,3,4
2 - Reinforcing capacity in formulating food security policies, strategies and programming based on food insecurity and vulnerability information	A - National and local capacity to produce and use information for policy making are reviewed and updated	2.A.1 - Gaps in national and local capacity to produce and use information for policy making are identified	1,2
	B - National and local capacity to produce multi-sector food security information is strengthened	2.B.1 - Response mechanisms to crises and food security policy formation are improved	2
		2.B.2 - National institutional structures and systems are reviewed	5
	C - Dissemination of food insecurity and vulnerability data and information is strengthened	2.C.1 - Integrated food insecurity and vulnerability data and information dissemination systems are strengthened	2
	D - Capacity to formulate appropriate food security policies in different contexts using adequate information is increased	2.D.1 - Methodological approaches for integrated use for household, food insecurity and vulnerability data are strengthened	2,3,4
		2.D.2 - Guidelines to switch from rehabilitation to development using appropriate data and information are prepared	2
		2.D.3 - Awareness to embody gender aspects in policies using gender disaggregated information is increased	
		2.D.4 - Capacity to formulate food security and rural development policies in countries with natural resources under pressure is increased	
		2.D.5 - Support to selected countries in preparing strategies and operational plans for food security agricultural and rural development is provided	
	3 - Raise awareness of governments, local actors and international community, on impact of food insecurity & poverty	A - Causes of food insecurity and vulnerability are better understood	3.A.1 - National context analysis of food insecurity and vulnerability are better understood
B - Good practices in food security, poverty and rural development, institution building and networking are identified, analysed and disseminated		3.B.1 - Good practices in food security, vulnerability, institution building and networking are identified, analyzed and disseminated at national level	1,2
		3.B.2 - Good practices in food security, poverty and rural development are disseminated	1,2
C - Dialogue and exchange of experience within the international community are improved		3.C.1 - Dialogue and exchange of experience among international community are facilitated	5
		3.C.2 - Improved information in qualitative and quantitative terms is provided to the GDPRD	

