

## Working Procedure

Active participation is required from participants. Professional facilitators will encourage cooperation and participation among all those attending the workshop by building on the principle that *everybody knows something but nobody knows everything*. Group work, partly based on the participants' own working situations, and intensive plenary discussions are core elements of the workshop. Georgian and English are the working languages.

## Programme

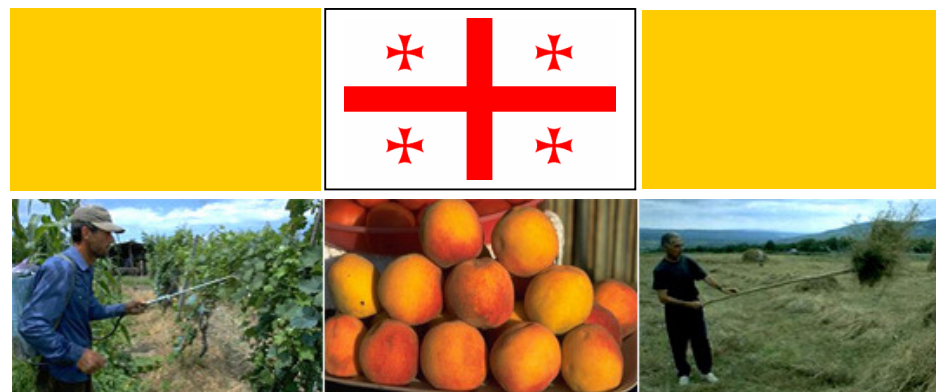
<b>Wednesday 30 August</b>	Opening + introduction + objectives + programme; The concept of Food Security and related development strategies; Group work : Food Security issues in Georgia - what information is necessary?; Presentation of group work;
<b>Thursday 31 August</b>	Discussion: what information is or will become available? Presentation of questionnaire results; Group work: How do bulletin indicators measure up to food security concepts, the issues in Georgia and information needs?;
<b>Friday 1 September</b>	Presentation of group work; Concluding discussion: Content and periodicity of a revised bulletin; Evaluation and closing; Presentation of findings to decision makers;

## Contact

If you wish to participate please contact:

Mr George Kvinikadze,  
Room 620  
Department of Statistics,  
Ministry of Economic Development  
4, K. Gamsabhidia Avenue  
Tbilisi. Georgia  
Tel: (995.32) 33 70 26  
mob (995 99) 91 64 72  
E-mail: gkvinikadze@statistics.gov.ge

Ms Marijke Drysdale  
Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the UN  
Rome. Italy  
Tel +39 06 57052949  
E-mail: Marijke.Drysdale@fao.org



## Evaluation Workshop: “Georgia Food Security Situation – Trends in Figures” Published by the Department of Statistics

30 August to 1 September, 2006

Sheraton Metechi Palace Hotel  
Salkhino Room  
30 Telavi Street  
0103 Tbilisi, Georgia



« **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). Women and children are particularly vulnerable to food insecurity. For example, in Georgia, 12 percent of children under five years old are stunted.

To raise awareness of this problem, the European Commission Food Security Programme (EC-FSP) has been financing a Food Security Observatory in the Department of Statistics in Georgia since 2000. Its purpose is to provide regular information for assessing and monitoring the food security situation in Georgia to national decision makers and development partners. The information provided should be the basis for targeted remedial actions. The quarterly bulletin “Georgia Food Security Situation – Trends in Figures” is the main vehicle of communication. As its name implies, the bulletin provides mainly statistical information on agriculture, food prices and the Household Budget Survey.

After more than 5 years of publication, the Chairman of the Department of Statistics invites you, in the framework of the EC/FAO Programme “Food Security: Information for Action”, to a workshop which will assess the usefulness and timeliness of the data and analysis in the bulletin. It will also assess the relevance of the information provided to the current food and nutrition security situation, poverty alleviation concerns and government goals.

## Objectives

The aim of this workshop is to bring together (potential) users and producers of the quarterly bulletin “Georgia Food Security Situation - Trends in Figures”, to evaluate the usefulness of this publication to their work. They will also discuss if and how the bulletin should be changed to better meet the needs of users and decision makers.

Participants will look at the results of the survey conducted on the quality and usefulness of the bulletin. They will also discuss its purpose in the current political and socio-economic environment. The discussion will focus on what information and analysis users would like to see in the bulletin and the extent to which producers of the bulletin can meet their requests. Participants will aim at reaching consensus on the periodicity, content and lay-out of the revised bulletin.

As food and nutrition security is a cross-sectoral issue, the bulletin will include perspectives from many disciplines – agriculture, economics, nutrition, health, sociology and education.

## Target Participants

Target participants include representative (potential) users of, and contributing organizations to, the “Georgia Food Security Situation – Trends in Figures” bulletin; professionals working in programmes and projects (governmental and non-governmental) aimed at improving livelihoods and food security in Georgia; developers of sectoral, national development and poverty reduction strategies; and academics interested in food security.

As food and nutrition security information needs cut across ministries, representatives from the following ministries are invited to participate: Agriculture, Economic Development, Labour, Health and Social Services, Education, Finance and the Institute of Sanitation and Hygiene. Statisticians and analysts from the Department of Statistics working on food security related areas will also be invited to participate.

## Content

The concept of food security and situation analysis will be used to determine key food security information needs for formulating appropriate cross-sectoral actions and strategies in Georgia and monitoring their results. The following topics will be addressed:

- the concept of food security, including its dimensions and analytical framework;
- the role of food security in poverty reduction and development strategies; and
- information requirements for monitoring developments in the food security situation in Georgia
- a presentation of new food security information to become available.