

Food Security Programme at ESCWA: Pathway towards a monitoring framework

Economic And Social Commission For Western Asia

**Training Workshop: Food security monitoring
in the Arab region**

Tunis, 29 July-01 August 2019



UNITED NATIONS

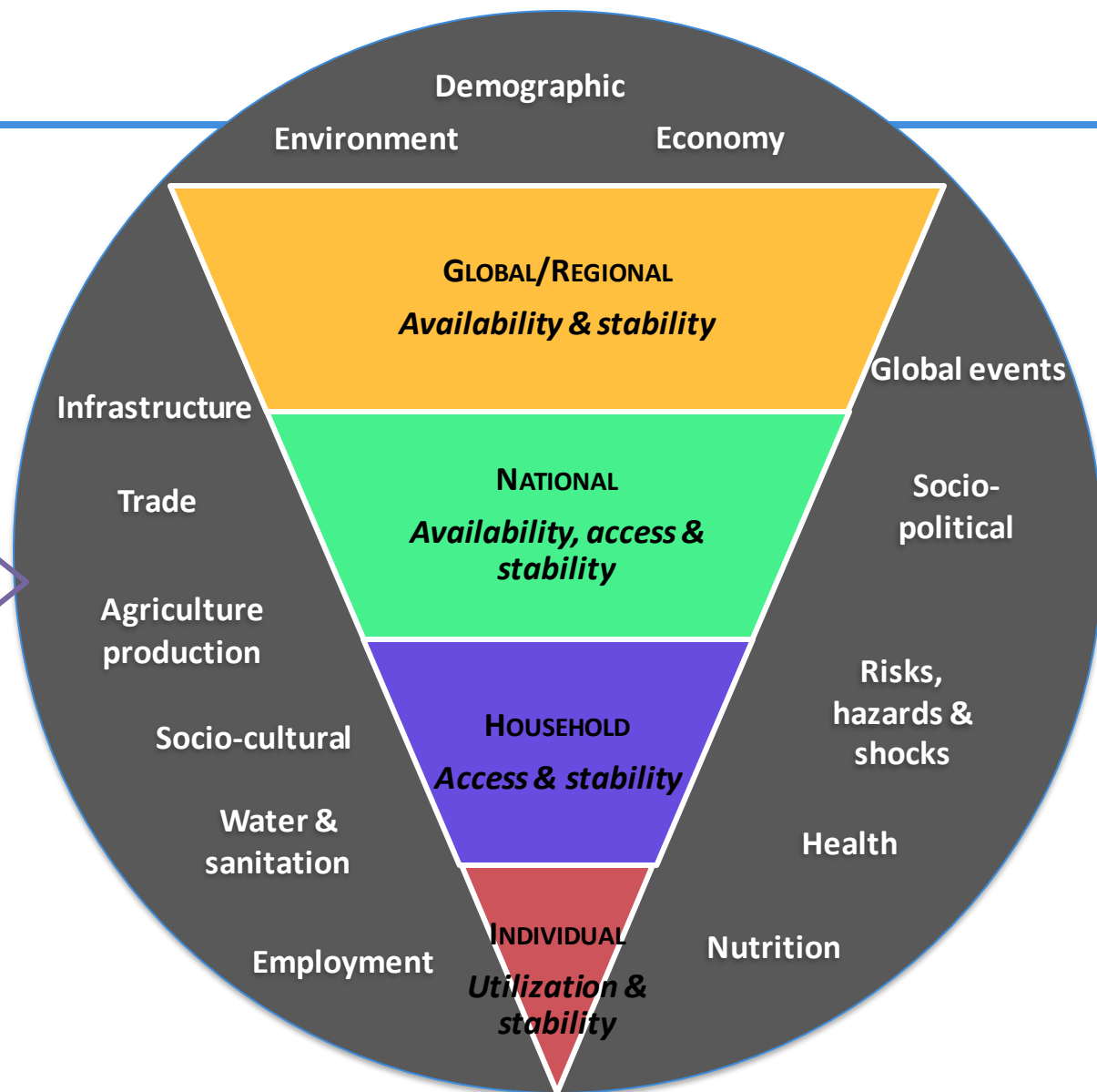
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40
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Quick overview of food security

Food security exists when **all people**, at **all times**, have **physical, social and economic access** to sufficient, safe and nutritious food, which meets their **dietary needs** and food preferences for an active and healthy life (FAO, 1996)

- ✓ **Availability**
- ✓ **Access**
- ✓ **Utilization**
- ✓ **Stability**



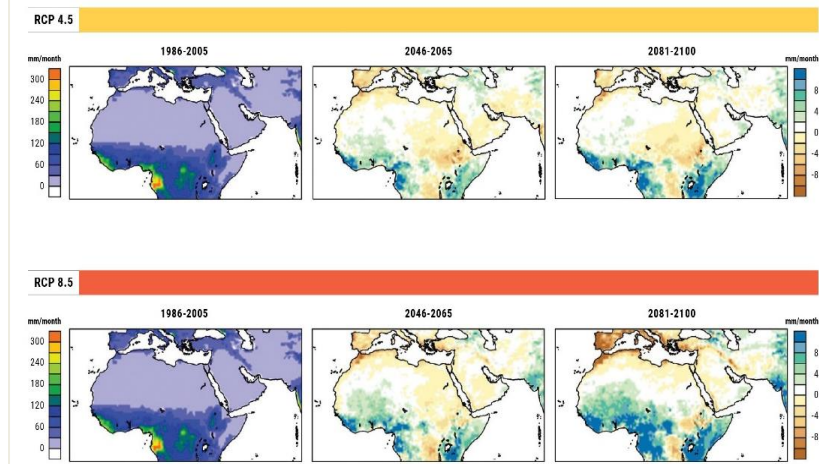
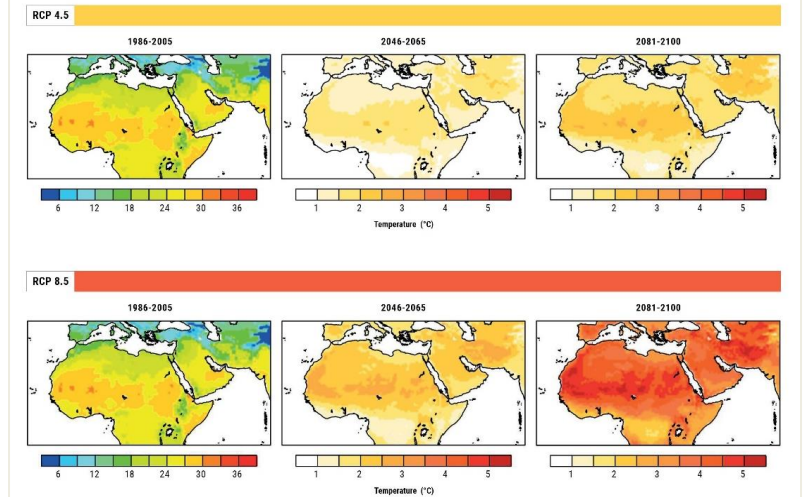
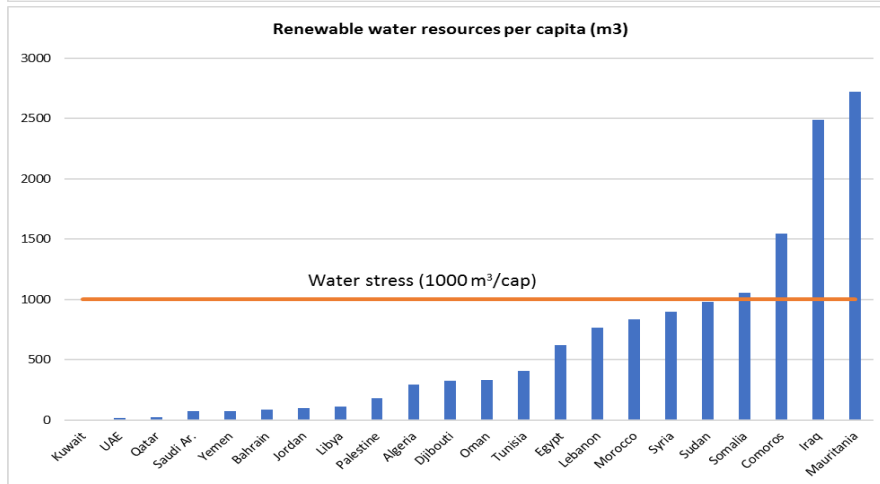
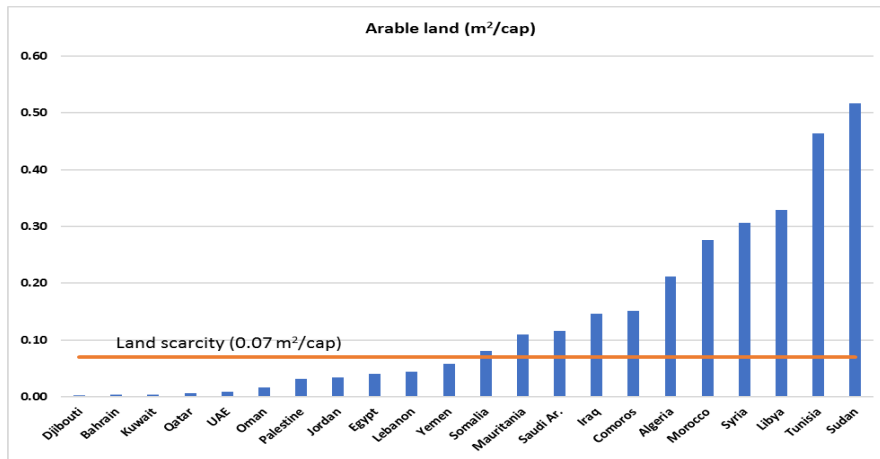
Situation in the Arab region

Based on the publication Arab Horizon 2030

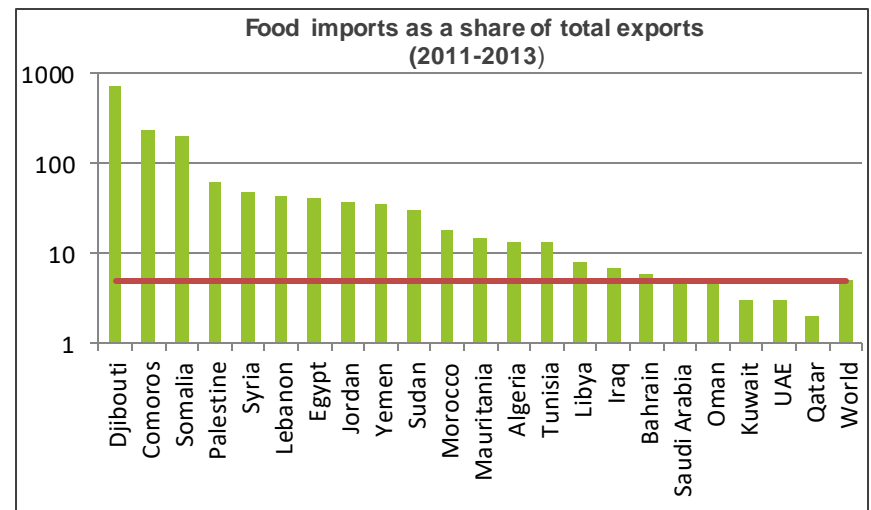
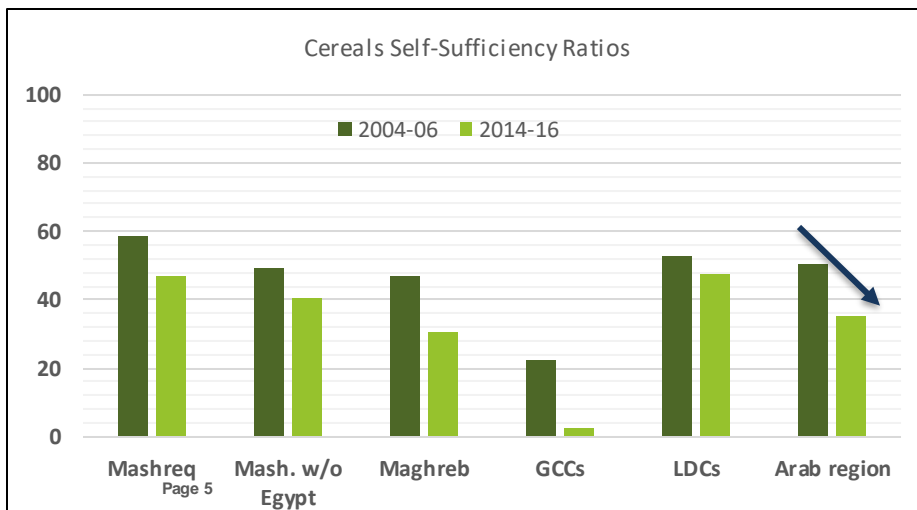
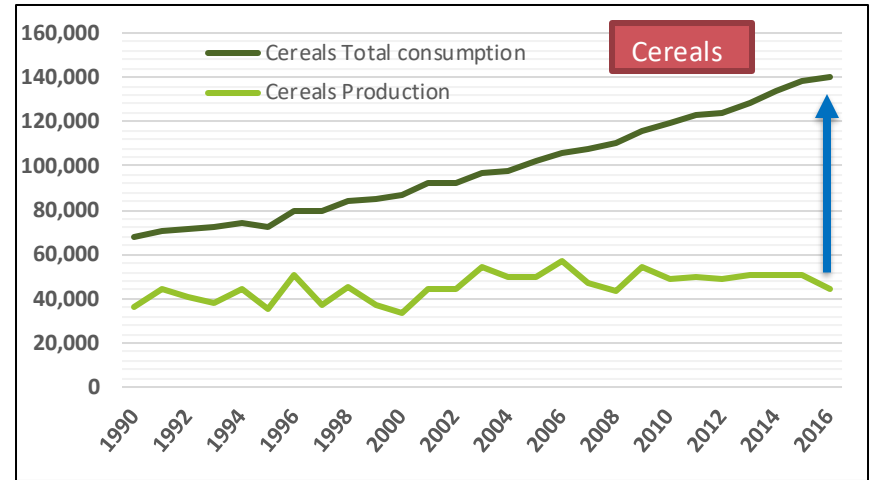
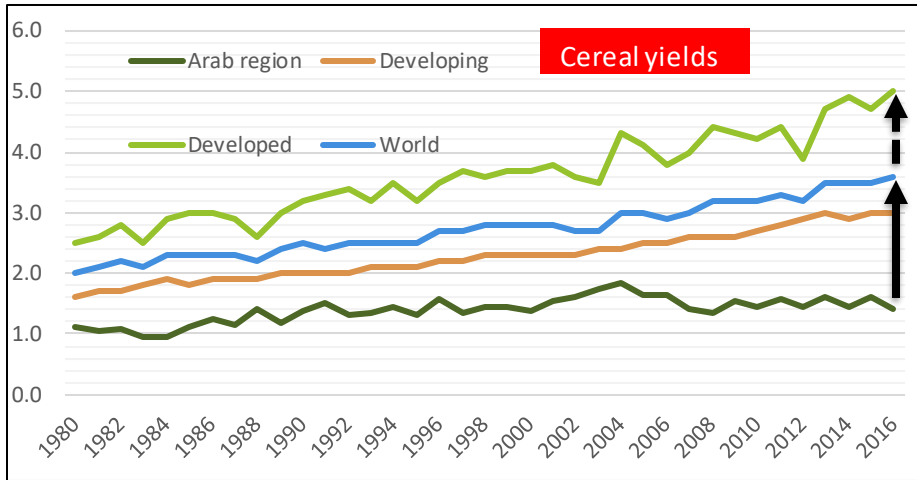


- **Reviews issues related to food security** in the Arab region notably **challenges and opportunities** in the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- It reviews suggested **policies to enhance food security** at the national and regional levels

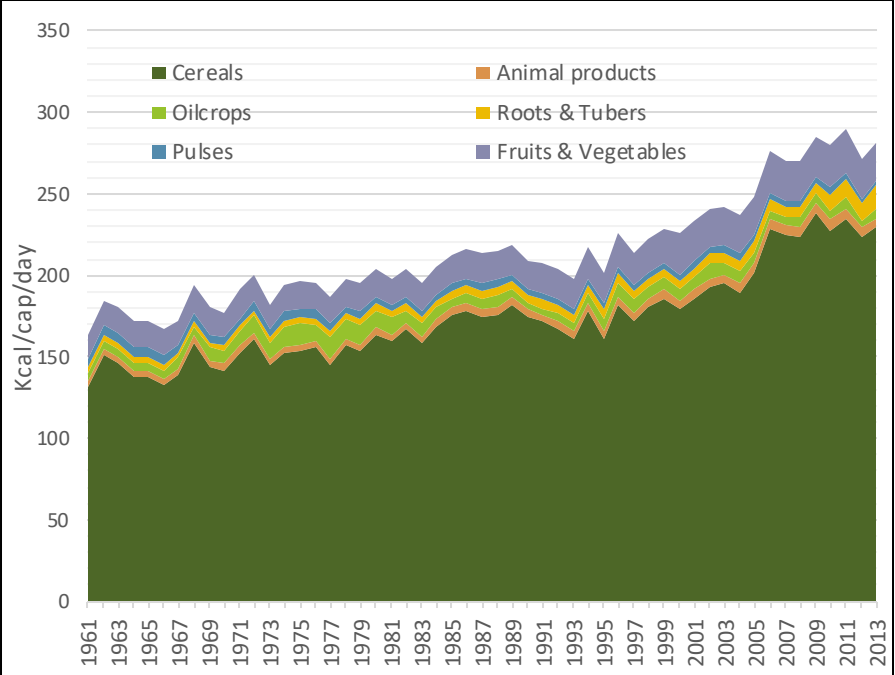
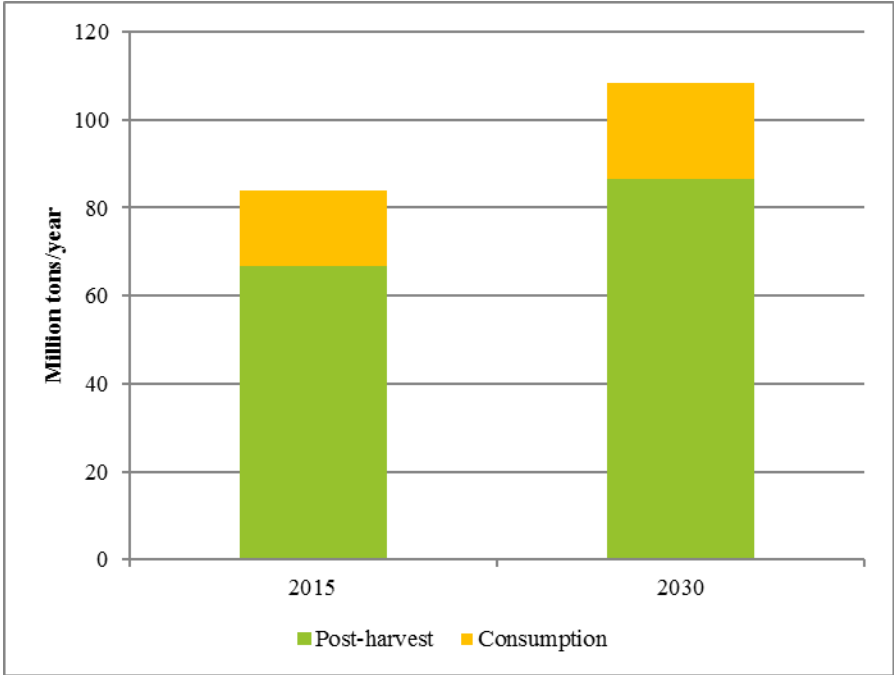
- Increasing scarcity of water and land resources, and
- Growing challenge due to potential impact of climate change



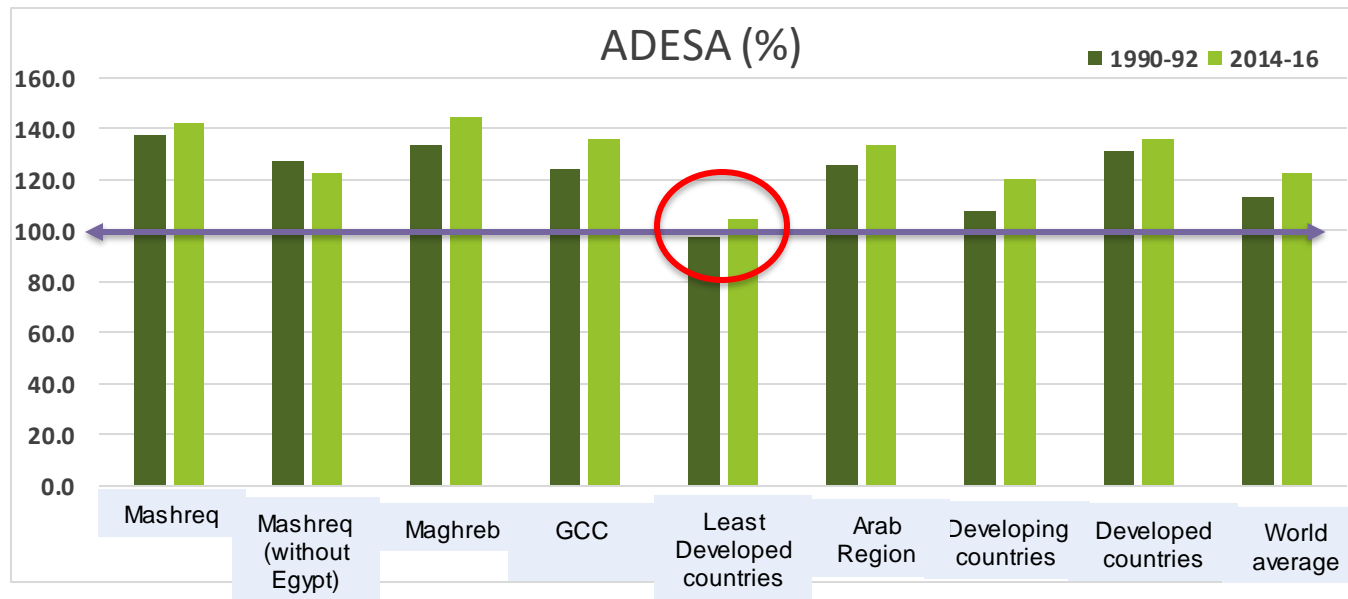
- Slow growth in productivity and production,
- Growing gap between production and consumption,
- Increased reliance on imports to meet demand, and
- Challenge to fund food imports in Arab LDCs



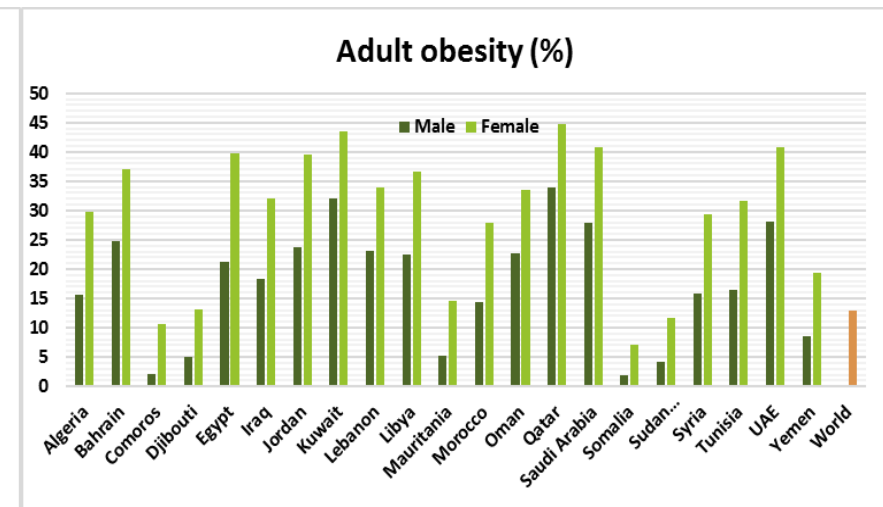
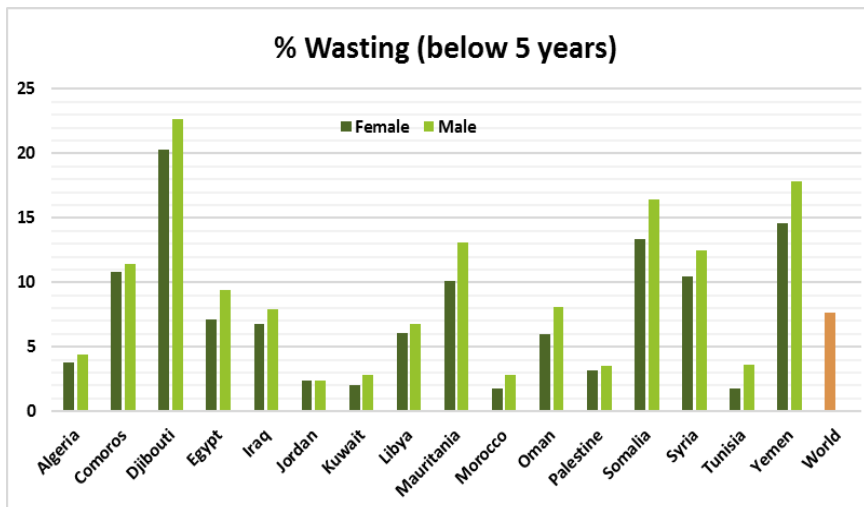
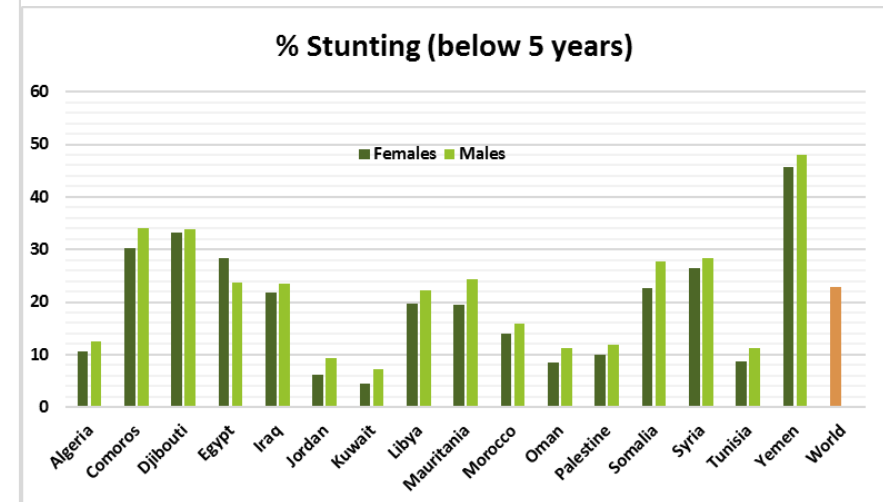
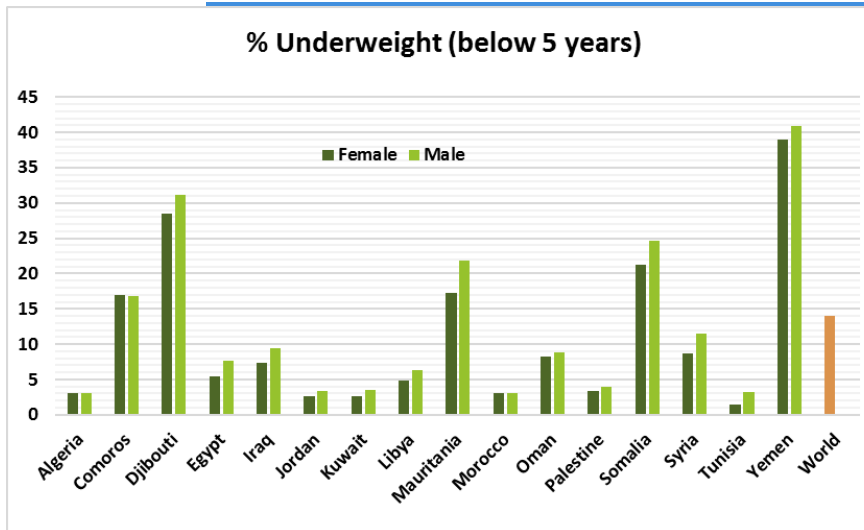
- High levels of food loss and waste projected to keep increasing



- High levels of undernourishment related to poverty and conflict, and
- Increasing rates of obesity due to unhealthy consumption patterns



- High levels of undernourishment related to poverty and conflict, and
- Increasing rates of obesity as a result of unhealthy consumption patterns



Serious challenges which require regular monitoring to better advise policy-making but also raise awareness

Project: Promoting Food and Water Security through Capacity Development in the Arab region



Objective

Promote food and water security in the Arab region through improved and coordinated policy design, strategy development and programme implementation



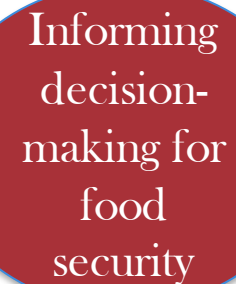
Building
resilience to
climate
change



Unifying
visions &
policies on
water &
agriculture

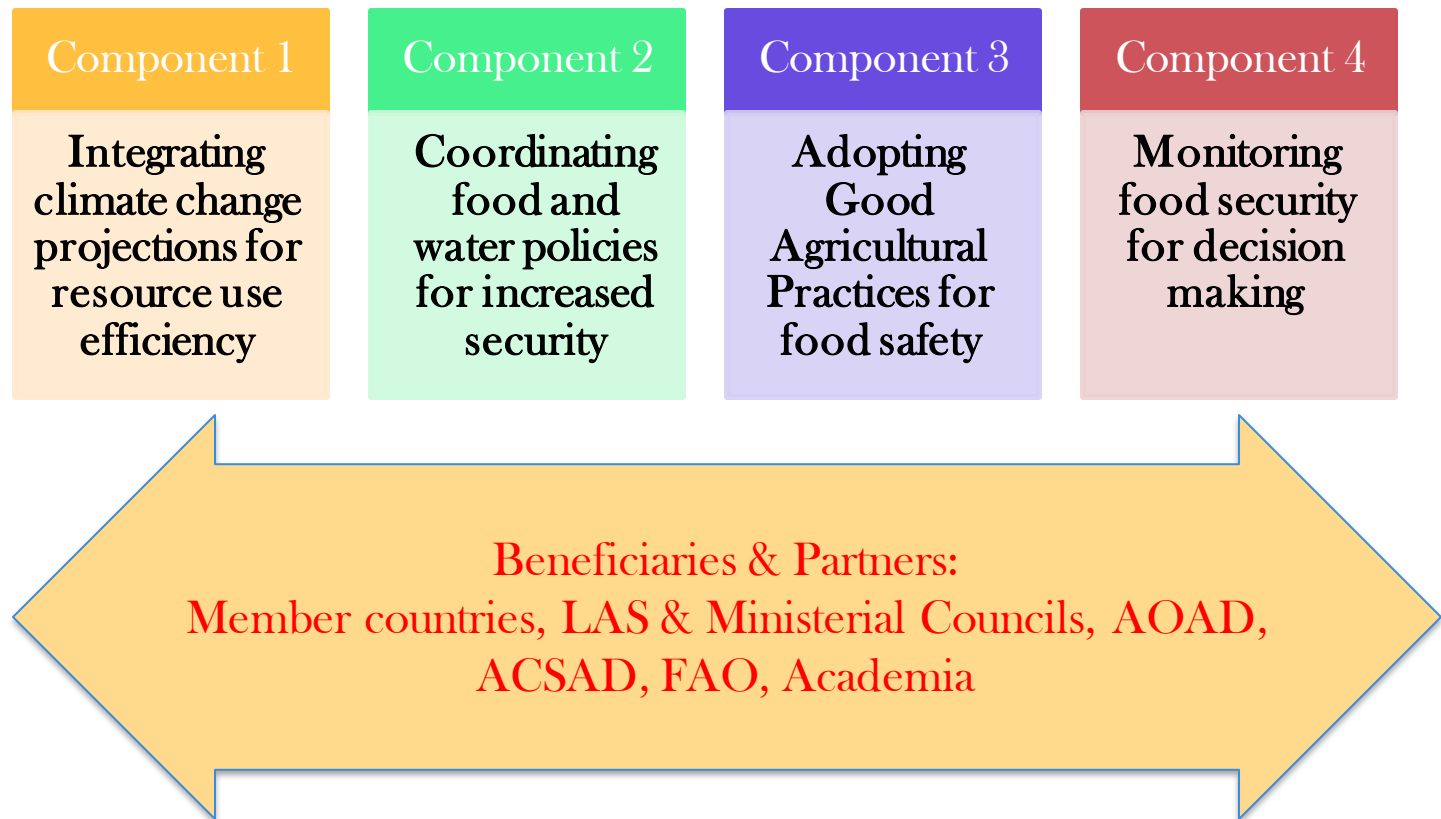


Enhancing
food safety
in local
markets



Informing
decision-
making for
food
security

- 4 components implemented through a collaborative approach





Adopting Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) for Enhanced Food Safety in the Arab Region

اعتماد الممارسات الزراعية الجيدة لتحسين سلامة الأغذية في المنطقة العربية



Informed Decision Making for Food Security

EA-4: Enhanced assessment capacity of the status of food security in the Arab countries

To develop a clear set of indicators for monitoring the state of food security at the national and regional levels taking into consideration regional specificities and global directions.

- Consultations led to increasing the scientific knowledge as well as reaching consensus among national focal points on monitoring the state of food security and collecting the necessary data
- Statistical reports to provide adequate information to policy makers on current state and related challenges of Food security at the national level.
- Policy makers are better informed to formulate adequate strategies and development plans to improving national food security status.

Informed Decision Making for Food Security

ESCWA is cooperating with FAO and AOAD in monitoring and assessing the status of food security in the Arab region.

Main Challenges

- 1- Lengthy process to ensure endorsement of monitoring framework by Countries
- 2- Data deficiencies
- 3- Engagement of stakeholders

Activities Undertaken

- Regional monitoring system and unified methodology for data collection and indicator calculations;
- Three Consultative meetings for focal points and experts on Food Security Assessment and Monitoring in the Arab Region
- Endorsement of the monitoring framework by AOAD Executive Council- 28 March 2019

Remaining Activities:

- Training national authorities on the methodology of the monitoring system for Food Security
- Preparation of the first “Report on the Status of Food Security in the Arab Region” to be used as a diagnostic tool that describes the status of food security and identifies improvement areas of possible interventions.

THANK YOU!

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