



Background to indicators:

In 2012, when the Assessment Working Group (AWG) of the global Food Security Cluster (gFSC) was mandated to compile a core list of humanitarian food security situation and performance indicators mapped against the four IASC phases of a humanitarian emergency response. To achieve this goal, the AWG looked at the indicators currently being used in humanitarian responses, both sudden-onset and protracted, as well as indicators used in CAP and Work Plan documents.

The resulting Core List of Humanitarian Food Security Indicators is attached for your information. The purpose of this list is to provide country FS clusters and partners a guide to recommended indicators during the various phases of an emergency. Partners and clusters are not obliged to use these indicators. They were developed to provide a guide and to adapt as and if needed. It is planned to review and revise this list as necessary based on feedback and comments from field implementation every 6 months.



FOOD SECURITY CLUSTER

Strengthening Humanitarian Response

FOOD SECURITY CLUSTER SUGGESTED SET OF CORE INDICATORS

These food security indicators have been developed as a guide for national clusters and partners. The indicators were developed through a consultative process for over a year with partners, country coordinators and Information Management Officers, and can be adapted and revised as needed. Disaggregation of data will be especially helpful for determining which groups are most at risk and affected by a crisis. Whenever possible each indicator should be disaggregated by sex (girls and boys/ women and men), age and disabilities. If any other criteria is relevant (such as urban/rural areas, community, households, religious, ethnic or political identities), it is recommended to use it. This is valid for all relevant indicators. The effectiveness of different indicators by different disaggregation can change with location and time; the factors by which data can be stratified should be selected on the basis of the situation analysis.

SITUATION INDICATORS

Category	Ref. No.	Name of Indicator	IASC Phase*	Comments
Food Access	1	% change in food consumption patterns	1, 2, 3, 4	Current compared to pre-crisis. Frequency of meals, dietary diversity, increase/decrease of certain food items. Context specific (HH, Community, Individual).
	2	% change in food source	1, 2, 3, 4	Sources include: food purchase, food production, borrowed food, food aid, gifts, barter, wild foods. Current compared to pre crisis.
	3	% of HHs with less than three daily meals for children less than 5 years old	1, 2, 3, 4	Nutrition Cluster formulation: minimum meal frequency: % of infants 6-23 months of age who receive solid, semi-solid and soft food the minimum number of times or more.
Income Access	4	% change in main source of income	2, 3, 4	Sale of assets including other income sources and coping strategies such as emergency destocking, early marriage of girls, human trafficking and remittances. Compared to pre-crisis.
	5	% change in expenditure patterns	2, 3, 4	Compared to pre-crisis. Expenditure includes for example: food, housing, health, transportation, fuel, water, terms of trade.
	6	% change in income available for expenditure	2, 3, 4	Actual compared to pre-crisis level, measurement of purchasing power.
	7	% of HHs with productive and non-productive assets	1, 2, 3, 4	Including animals as appropriate. Current compared to pre-crisis.

Market Access	8	% of communities without physical access to functioning markets	1, 2, 3, 4	Current compared to pre-crisis.
	9	% change in key food & non-food commodity prices	1, 2, 3, 4	Compared to pre-crisis Key Commodities: staple foods, cooking fuel, heating fuel, animals in peri-urban and pastoral contexts, water.
	10	% of communities where food prices have significantly increased	1, 2, 3, 4	Significantly: context-dependent.
Availability	11	% of HHs by duration of staple food stock	1, 2, 3, 4	Food stocks or capacity to have access.
	12	% change in production compared to previous year's harvest by commodity	2, 3, 4	Crops, cereals, vegetables, fruit.
	13	% of HHs/communities unable to plant for next season	1, 2, 3, 4	Compared to pre-crisis. Seeds, agricultural tools, access to land, etc.
	14	% of HHs/communities that have lost animal reproduction assets	1, 2, 3, 4	Animals. Compared to pre-crisis.
	15	# reported animal disease outbreaks	2, 3, 4	Current compared to pre-crisis.
	16	% of HHs with suitable daily water and fodder consumption for livestock	1, 2, 3, 4	Quality and quantity.
Utilization	17	% of individuals having daily access to an appropriate amount of safe water	1, 2, 3, 4	Information often coming from WASH or Health clusters.
	18	% of households that have changed intra-household food distribution	1, 2, 3, 4	Compared to pre-crisis.
	19	% of HHs with capacity to prepare	1, 2, 3, 4	Cooking equipment, storage, fuel, safe water, hygiene.
	20	% of infants 0-5 months of age	2, 3, 4	Information coming from nutrition cluster.
	21	% of children 6-23 months who receive food from 4 or more food groups	2, 3, 4	Information coming from nutrition cluster.

OUTPUT INDICATORS

Category	Ref. No.	Name of Indicator	IASC Phase*	Comments
Agriculture & Livestock	1	# of beneficiaries receiving agricultural inputs as % of planned beneficiaries	2, 3, 4	Animals
	2	# of hectares of land under cultivation in targeted areas in current year as % of the number of hectares of land under cultivation in targeted areas in previous year	2, 3, 4	
Food Assistance	3	Tonnage of food distributed, amount of cash/voucher as % of planned distribution	2, 3, 4	
	4	Quantity of fortified foods, complementary food and special nutritional products distributed, as % of planned distribution	2, 3, 4	
	5	# of beneficiaries receiving food, non-food items, cash transfers and vouchers as % of planned	2, 3, 4	

*As per MIRA guidance, the IASC presents an approach to follow during each of the four phases in which an assessment is conducted and can be found in "Operational Guidance for Coordinated Assessments in Humanitarian Crises" at <http://www.humanitarianinfo.org/iasc>.