



FOOD SYSTEM CRISIS OBSERVATORY & RESPONSE (FS-COR) MECHANISM

FS-COR RATIONALE

Food system resilience requires a set of conditions that allow the systems to sustainably ensure the availability of and access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food for all over time and in the face of any disruption. Building resilient food systems can help reduce micronutrient deficiency or hidden hunger, one of the most prevalent and worrisome forms of malnutrition. Devising effective policies that can build the resilience of food systems for malnutrition reduction requires evidence of the (predicted) impact of disruption, including economic and natural shocks, on hidden hunger in communities through income and food price changes. However, despite the political commitment to reduce malnutrition, the capacity to anticipate, measure, and understand the impact of shocks on malnutrition in a timely fashion remains limited in several African countries. In response to this evidence gap, AKADEMIYA2063 has developed the Food System Crisis Observatory and Response (FS-COR) mechanism to predict the impact of disruptions for better-targeted policy outcomes.

WHY ARE WE DOING THIS?

FS-COR provides evidence to equip stakeholders involved in malnutrition reduction in African countries to:



Assess the impact of food system disruption on malnutrition



Simulate alternative interventions to mitigate the impact of disruption on malnutrition



Serve as a decision-support tool to identify priority avenues and interventions that can address micronutrient deficiencies

HOW ARE WE DOING THIS?



Operational FS-COR Platform covering multiple African countries; strengthened capacities of policy analysts and development practitioners.



Community Vulnerability Mapping – classification of communities based on several indicators representing different dimensions of vulnerability.



Nutrient Adequacy Mapping – mapping of nutrient adequacy levels and identifying key food items that could potentially contribute to filling nutrient gaps.



Policy Screening Interface – providing information on the dynamics of household food consumption in the face of food price and income shocks.



Interactive Portal – nutrient adequacy dashboard to visualize and identify, at disaggregated levels, the main challenges related to energy and micronutrient gaps.



AKADEMIYA

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OVERVIEW OF THE FS-COR MECHANISM

Understanding the nature, patterns, and drivers of community vulnerability will be critical to guiding effective programmatic interventions and policy action. In addition, investing in understanding the root causes of vulnerability will allow governments to fine-tune responses during times of crisis, equipped with data on which communities are likely to be hit first and hardest and what levers to use to boost capacities to absorb shocks.

The FS-COR mechanism's interventions contribute to building resilient food systems by enabling better targeting and planning, including the identification of:



Populations most affected by nutrient adequacy gaps and expected impacts of changes in food prices and household incomes.



Spatial patterns of vulnerability along multiple dimensions, including health systems, food security, and climate change vulnerability.



Key local commodities that can be supported to meet households' nutrient needs.



Location-specific disparities in nutrient adequacy levels between male- and female-headed households.



Potential location-specific strategies to increase nutrient adequacy through food price subsidies or cash transfers.

A DIGITAL DASHBOARD FOR THE SIMULATION OF SHOCKS & PROJECTED INTERVENTIONS FOR NUTRITION & NUTRIENT ADEQUACY



Based on income, food commodity prices, and nutrient elasticities derived from the estimation of the Quadratic Almost Ideal Demand System (QUAIDS) and households' intake of calories and micronutrients.



Visualization of countries' micronutrient adequacy gaps by area, region, department, or district, including calorie and micronutrient adequacy map, top food items that contribute to households' micronutrient intake, prices per nutrient for each of these top foods, and share of top food items.



Simulation and visualization of shocks, policy impacts, and assessment of the status of progress using a set of policy-relevant indicators.