



Islamic Organization for Food Security
l'Organisation Islamique pour la Sécurité Alimentaire
المنظمة الإسلامية للأمن الغذائي

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

“OIC COUNTRY EXPERIENCE IN FOOD SECURITY GOVERNANCE FOR STRENGTHENING SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION”

Organized by the Islamic Organization for Food Security

**Wednesday, 22 December 2021
(15:00-17:30, Nur-Sultan time, GMT+6)**

Registration: <https://bit.ly/IOFS-governance-registration>



BACKGROUND

Following the food crisis in 2007-2008, the food security turned into one of the global issues that need to be addressed by international community. Despite the world efforts of tackling the hunger and malnutrition, food security remains highly important on the international agenda as it closely linked to other problems, such as climate change, energy market turmoil and global recession (Candel, 2014). Over the last years, the state of food security around the world has been severely exacerbated by the direct and indirect effects of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) that disrupted the food security systems and increased the number of people suffering from hunger and malnutrition (FAO, 2020).

These challenges showed that the food security demands the appliance of good governance at international, regional and national levels (McKeon, 2013) to ensure the sustainable food systems. In fact, certain studies indicated that most factors of food insecurity are results of poor governance (Sahley et al., 2005; Boyd, 2011). While good governance is able to counter a food crisis and tackle various issues of food insecurity, as well as maintain the sustainable food security systems and agricultural development (Pereira et al., 2012; UN HLTF, 2010). Therefore, the governance plays a key role in formulating food security legal frameworks and strategies, integrating inter-sectoral activities at all levels with the engagement of various stakeholders, as well as constantly monitoring and evaluating the results achieved to respond ever-changing and different socio-economic needs.

In order to achieve food security objectives and align with interests of governmental and non-governmental actors, it is also crucial to find the right and optimal level of engagement between government and other stakeholders (Kropff et al., 2013), because governing food security includes the interconnected four pillars: availability, access, utilization and stability. The process of ensuring all these pillars is influenced by a number factors posed at different levels. These factors include economic, social, political, agricultural and ecological at micro- and macro-levels, such as distribution of food through supply chains, food trade and food prices, social protection and humanitarian programs, employment, minimum wages, use of natural resources, population growth, etc.

Therefore, the current food security governance shall go beyond the maintenance of food supply, regulatory actions, and just promotion of agricultural development and production. Particularly, it has to cover the development and implementation of inter-sectoral food policies, sustainable food supply chains resilient to external shocks, consumption of adequate food and nutrition by all society members, building the state model that incorporates the activities of various government and non-government actors and interests into the decision-making process, as well as establishing the coordinating body at the highest level of government that monitors and evaluates the progress achieved.

The government performance in food security is measured by four levels of good governance (COMCEC, 2020; FAO, 2011) :

1. Policy and Legal Framework.
2. Coordination and Coherence.
3. Implementation and Enforcement.
4. Monitoring and Evaluation.

The IOFS emerges as a key regional opportunity of South-South Cooperation for the OIC in ensuring good practices in Food Security Governance. With the increased participation of the OIC member countries, especially those that face food insecurity and malnutrition problems, the IOFS is establishing necessary program activities that help to develop and coordinate a coherent policy framework for member countries. Figure 1 shows the approach of the IOFS within the implementation of the program.

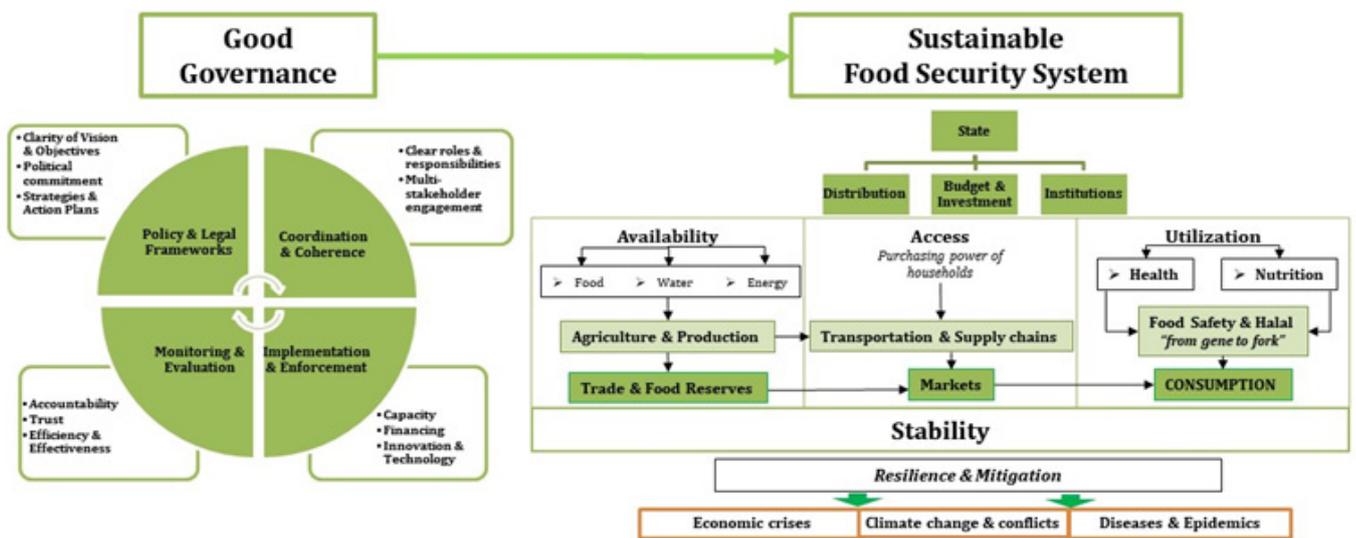


Figure 1. IOFS approach of Food Security Governance

The framework of food security governance shall provide a broad diversity in its structure to include all social and political sectors. Complex social issues in food security, such as hunger, malnutrition, rural development and agricultural production can only be managed through cooperation and coordination among all actors at national and local levels and with the inclusion of interest groups. The international practices show the importance of the coordinating bodies of food security systems, in order to harmonize the inter-sectoral actions together with determining roles and responsibilities among stakeholders. In terms of implementation, it is necessary to implement mechanisms for transparency and accountability that builds a trust and creates the greater confidence among society members.

FOOD SECURITY PRACTICES IN OIC MEMBER COUNTRIES

The Good Governance Practices for Food Security especially with the new international and global scenarios pose the food system faced with the need for restructuring and developing a better resilient model. This model of development is complicated linked to its ability to identify and adopt strategies capable of combining competitiveness and sustainability. Some OIC member states showed the substantial improvement in addressing the challenges and gaps in their countries by establishing a set of government entities for the promotion of food and nutrition security policies, establishing legal frameworks and strategies for implementation of activities at national and local levels, as well as engaging various stakeholders, including government, private sector, research institutions and communities.



BANGLADESH

Country in South Asia, spanning 147,570 square kilometers. The world's 8th most populous country with a population nearing 165 million. Since the World Food Summit of 1996, the Government of Bangladesh has undertaken an in-depth and consultative process of food security policy reform. The Government of Bangladesh has adopted several policies to ensure food and nutrition security: National Food Policy- 2006; National Nutrition Policy (2015); National Social Security Strategy (2015); National Agricultural Policy (2018); Country Investment Plan (2011-2015) for Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition; Country Investment Plan (2016-2020) for Nutrition Sensitive Food System; National Food and Nutrition Security Policy 2020

Food security is governed by several institutions in Bangladesh, including agriculture, rural development, women and children affairs, health, finance, commerce and disaster management. Four main bodies are charged with formulating and implementing food security policies: 1) Food Planning and Monitoring Committee (FPMC); 2) Food Policy Working Group (FPWG); 3) Food Planning and Monitoring Unit (FPMU); 4) Thematic Team.

The Government of Bangladesh made the following achievements in food and nutrition security.

- Bangladesh has achieved self-sufficiency in food production especially in rice. The production of rice (staple food of Bangladesh) was assumed to be tripled over the last 30 years.
- The production of other foods like fruits, vegetables, fisheries, and livestock products has also been increased significantly since those are the primary source of all nutrients to provide safe and diversified diets to all.
- The government has taken measures to strengthen storage facilities for cereals across the country by establishing silos and providing household-level silos.
- The government has also taken initiatives to enhance storage facilities for other perishables foods particularly fruits and vegetables.
- The Ministry of Food is implementing various Social Safety Net programs in coordination with the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief and the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs such as – Vulnerable group development, Vulnerable Group Feeding etc. throughout the year.
- During the COVID-19 pandemic: special Open Market Sales (OMS) program had been launched to distribute cereals in April-June 2020 to meet the food needs of all the unemployed people living in the urban areas; under the food-friendly program, the government has distributed rice among the vulnerable group of people.

INDONESIA

Indonesia with almost 271 million people, which is the fourth populated country in the world, inhabited in more than 17 000 islands and 32% of its major labor force working in agriculture.

The main recognized challenge facing the Indonesian food system is the vast country areas and islands that limit transportation and logistics used in food delivery, water, and land resources, and coordination of food security stakeholders. Remarkable efforts to improve food security in the country has been taken since 1980. The institutional framework for food security governance in Indonesia comprises the Presidency, the Government of Indonesia, the Food Security Council, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of National Development Planning, and 20 other ministries coordinated under the current legislation of the Food Security Council. It has a specialized unit, the Food Security Agency, within the Ministry of Agriculture. Besides, There are also national agencies such as the National Food Logistics Agency (BULOG), the Food Safety Competent Authority (OKKP), and the Food and Drug Supervisory Agency (BPOM).



The legal framework for food security and nutrition policies includes four distinct legislations. In 2006, the Presidential Regulation of 83/2006 led to the establishment of the Food Security Council. The main task of the Food Security Council is to assist the President in the formulation of policies that ensure national food security among others. In the raking-based decomposition analysis, Indonesia is located among the countries that have higher cereal yields, and larger governance capacity. The Indonesian state has established four participation mechanisms for stakeholders. The action platforms include (i) the government and the parliament, (ii) civil society organizations and media, (iii) philanthropy and businesses, and (iv) academics.

QATAR

Qatar's population has more than quadrupled since 2000, increasing dependence on food imports and leading to a growing sense of national food insecurity. By 2015, Qatar imported about 80 percent of its food, primarily from the Middle East and to a far lesser extent from the United States, Europe, Asia, Australia, and New Zealand. Qatar relied on imports for a wide range of food products, including cereals, dairy, meat, fruits, and vegetables.

Considering these challenges, the Qatar National Food Security Program (QNFSP) was established in 2008 to reduce Qatar's reliance on food imports through improved self-sufficiency. The QNFSP developed recommendations for food security policy and worked with foreign governments and non-governmental organizations to develop practices that utilize resources efficiently within the agricultural sector. In particular, it has implemented water-conserving agricultural technologies, improved local food standards and testing, built an aquaculture industry, and developed climate-resistant crops.

The Ministry of Municipality and Environment has teamed up with Hassad Food, the agricultural investment arm of the Qatar Investment Authority, to lead private sector execution on QNFSP plans. Their strategy focuses on increasing local production of perishable goods, implementing measures for sustaining a reliable local strategic reserve, diversifying sources of food imports, and maintaining sufficient supply in the local market.

Along with the challenges posed in the recent years, the Government adopted Qatar National Food Security Strategy 2018-2023 to increase production of local vegetables and table eggs to 70 percent, fish to 90 percent, shrimp to 100 percent and production of red meat to 30 percent of total domestic demand by 2023.

Particular pillars include:

- » **International Trade and Logistics** – to ensure that Qatar's food import strategy is resilient against potential.
- » **Domestic Self-sufficiency** – to ensure Qatar's self-sufficiency in strategic commodities (i.e., perishables that Qatar can produce competitively) and shift production towards best practice technologies to drive yield improvement.
- » **Strategic Reserves** – to put in place adequate but sensible reserves to act as a buffer against temporary import or production disruptions and as an insurance policy against longer term shocks to the system. The strategic food reserves have a double purpose - act as a short-term buffer against shocks and an insurance policy against longer disruptions.
- » **Domestic Markets** – to bring transparency and efficiency in the food supply chain to ensure fair commercial practices for all value chain participants, reduced waste in the supply chain, and better food quality for end-consumers



National Food Security Committee (NFSC) has been established to oversee and monitor the situation to ensure the food security in the country. The Committee is under the supervision of the Prime Minister of the State of Qatar. It consists of Departments working on the above mentioned Four Pillars. Five sub-committees comprised of multiple stakeholders will be supporting the NFSC in developing and monitoring strategy.

TURKEY

Turkey, situated at the crossroads of the Balkans, Caucasus, Middle East, and eastern Mediterranean, is among the larger countries of the region in terms of territory and population. As an upper middle-income country with a growing population of approximately 81 million, Turkey is one of the world's 20 largest economies. The country is also a significant producer and exporter of agricultural commodities on global markets and is estimated to be the world's 7th largest agricultural producer, particularly a top producer and exporter of crops ranging from hazelnuts and chestnuts to apricots, cherries, figs, olives, quinces, tobacco and tea.

Historically, the agricultural sector has been Turkey's largest employer and a major contributor to the country's GDP, exports and rural development. Although in relation to the industrial and service sectors, share of agriculture has been declining in importance, it nonetheless continues to play a fundamental role in Turkish society, employing about a quarter of the workforce and generating most of the income and employment in rural areas.

The principal objectives of Turkish agricultural policy can be summarized as follows:

- meeting the food security needs of a growing population;
- increasing productivity and reducing vulnerability to adverse weather conditions; improving self-sufficiency levels;
- raising farm incomes and providing more stability;
- enhancing competitiveness;
- developing rural areas;
- ensuring food safety and harmonizing the country's agricultural and rural development policies and institutions with those of the European Union.

Turkey has been very active toward building the National Pathway in the framework of the United Nations Food Systems Summit. Turkey's national pathway towards sustainable food systems is drawn upon assessments of outputs from the National Dialogue Process and measures and actions that are already determined in a national strategy or a plan that is related with food systems. Main framework of Turkey's policy, strategy, action plan, project, support documents regarding sustainable food system including national pathway is based on National Development Plans at national level in addition to international agreements, conventions and memorandums of understanding.

The National Plans include: the 11th Development Plan covering the period of 2019-2023, the Economic Reform Package of 2021, the New Economy Program covering the period of 2019-2021, the Strategy Document of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry covering the period of 2019-2023, outputs of the 3rd Agricultural Forest Council, Turkey's National Strategy Document On Prevention, Reduction And Monitoring Of Food Loss And Waste And Its Action Plan, National Energy Efficiency Action Plan (2017-2023), National Strategy Document Against Desertification (2013-2023), National Basin Management Strategy (2014-2023), Strategy Document and Action Plan for Women's Empowerment (2018-2023), Climate Change Action Plan (2011-2023), Action Plan for Prevention and Control Of Adult And Childhood Obesity And Physical Activity (2019 - 2023), National Rural Development Strategy (2021-2023) and relevant sections of strategy documents and action plans of



of other relevant Ministries, Investment Programs and relevant sections of other national-scale programs, policies and documents. These plans have many actions and measures that reinforce the national pathway's objectives under each action track. This integrated structure is significant in the sense that it shows the intention of transforming into sustainable food systems from many governmental agencies.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Due to the limited supply of arable land, water, and a heavy reliance on imported food, food security has become a key policy priority for the UAE. Despite importing about 80% of its food supplies, the UAE is considered food secure due to its capacity to purchase food on the international market even if at higher costs. However, food security remains a concern, particularly on a long-term basis, due to supply challenges for production and importation.

Recognizing the importance of food security and the necessity to achieve self-sufficiency in food, as well as to address country's food security challenges, in October 2017 the UAE Government established the Ministry of State for Food and Water Security that oversees the development of the necessary infrastructure to ensure that the country's food security objectives are in line with the UAE Centennial 2071 Plan.

In November 2018, the National Strategy for Food Security 2051 was approved. The strategy defines the Vision 2051 to become the world's leading hub in innovation-driven food security, and to champion agribusiness trade facilitation through a whole-of-nation apparatus and to ensure food security under all circumstances through enabling technology-based production and supply of food, promoting international trade partnerships, and enforcing policies and regulations to enhance nutritional intake and reduce food loss and waste.

In February 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic challenges, the UAE Cabinet launched the Emirates Council for Food Security (ECSF) to strengthen the efforts of national authorities to achieve food security, as well as for meeting the goals of the National Food Security Strategy. Members: Minister of State for Food Security chairs the council, membership to which includes representatives from Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, Ministry of Energy and Industry, Ministry of Health and Community Protection, Ministry of Education, and National Authority for Emergency, Crisis and Disaster Management.

On 28 June 2020, the UAE Cabinet approved the National System for Sustainable Agriculture to improve the efficiency of farms, enhance self-sufficiency in food and create new opportunities to ensure that the agriculture sector is always ranked among the best.

RELEVANCE OF CONDUCTING THE ACTIVITY

The IOFS Program "Food Security Governance" had the unanimous support of member states in the Third General Assembly meeting of IOFS on 2-3 December 2020 in Ankara, Turkey, as well as further emphasized its implementation within the Fourth General Assembly meeting of IOFS on 8-9 September 2021 in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan.

The Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation (COMCEC) published the Report on "**Good Governance for ensuring food security and nutrition in OIC Member States**" in 2020. The conclusions of this study highlighted the importance of the role of IOFS in assisting member states building resilient food systems and implementing various



activities in food security governance.

In connection with the above, the **Islamic Organization for Food Security (IOFS)** plans to conduct the International Workshop titled **“OIC Experience in Food Security Governance for Strengthening South-South Cooperation” on 22 December 2021** in Zoom platform to present best practices of OIC member states in Food Security Governance, as well as discuss among participants the possibility of organizing by IOFS in partnership with other stakeholders Regional Training Workshops (in-person participation) for capacity-building of responsible government officials of member states in Strategy Planning and Policy Development in Food Security.

WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

The principal objectives of Turkish agricultural policy can be summarized as follows:

- To share best OIC practices in governing Food Security Systems by presenting the country experiences;
- To discuss the perspectives of conducting capacity-building training workshops with focus on “Strategic Planning and Policy Development” in 2022 for concerned government specialists of OIC member states to be conducted in-person with extending to online participation;
- To receive the feedback of participants regarding the interested areas of Food Security Governance for planning future IOFS activities;
- To review the opportunity of developing the Analysis of Food Security Policies of OIC member states and presenting within planned activities of IOFS in 2022.

WORKSHOP DETAILS

Format: Online (Zoom platform)

Date: 22 December 2021

Language: English (interpretation into Arabic, French, Russian)

Participants: The workshop participants will include representatives of government authorities, responsible for strategic planning and policy development in food security and agriculture, including strategic planners, policy developers, legislators and program analysts.

Registration: To attend the Workshop and receive informational materials regarding the event please register: <https://bit.ly/IOFS-governance-registration>



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