



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



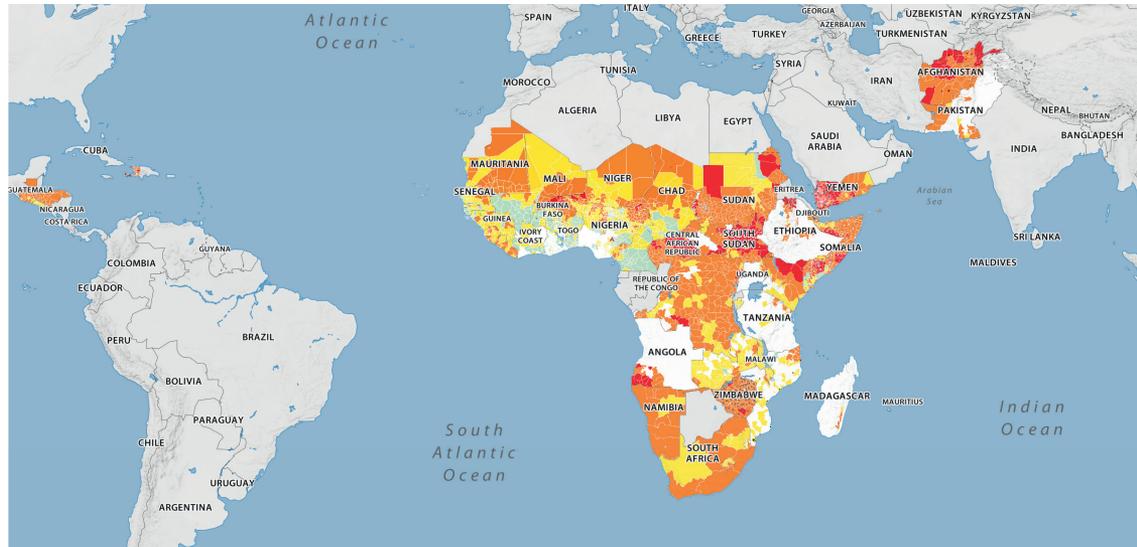
2022

IOFS YEAR OF AFRICA





THE BLEAK HUNGER SCENARIO IN AFRICA



IPC Map Key: Acute Food Insecurity



Disclaimer: The information shown on this map does not imply that the IPC and CH officially recognizes or endorses physical and political boundaries.

Source: IPC and Cadre Harmonisé*

*Cadre Harmonisé applies to countries in West Africa, the Sahel and Cameroon.

- ❑ Africa has been particularly affected and vulnerable within the backdrop of the once-in-a-century pandemic (COVID-19), which was followed by the crisis in Ukraine, resulting in strong inflationary pressures around the world linked, ominously, to a surge in global food and energy prices.
- ❑ In such a bleak situation, about 21% of people in Africa suffered from hunger in 2020, a total of **282 million people**. Between 2019 and 2020, in the aftermath of the pandemic, 46 million people became hungry in Africa. No other region on the world presents a higher share of its population suffering from food insecurity.

IOFS MEMBER STATES (as of 01.09.2022)

- ❑ *Hunger Hotspots Report 2021*, conveyed the drastic situation of food insecurity in 11 Member States of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), namely Afghanistan, **Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Mozambique**, Lebanon and Yemen, bringing the total amount of affected people to the scary number of around **66 million**.
- ❑ As majority of the aforementioned countries are African and Muslim, current Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation Hissein Brahim Taha pays exclusive attention to supporting African MCs and so all OIC institutions started in 2022 more joint activities there. So did the Islamic Organization for Food Security (IOFS).

(RATIFIED THE STATUTE)

1. Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
2. People's Republic of Bangladesh
3. Burkina Faso
4. Arab Republic of Egypt
5. Republic of the Gambia
6. Republic of Kazakhstan
7. State of Kuwait
8. Republic of Mali
9. Republic of Niger
10. Islamic Republic of Pakistan
11. State of Palestine
12. State of Qatar
13. Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
14. Republic of Turkey
15. United Arab Emirates
16. State of Libya
17. Republic of Tajikistan

(SIGNED THE STATUTE)

1. Republic of Benin
2. Republic of Cameroon
3. Republic of Chad
4. Union of Comoros
5. Republic of Côte d'Ivoire
6. Republic of Djibouti
7. Republic of Guinea
8. Republic of Guinea-Bissau
9. Islamic Republic of Iran
10. Islamic Republic of Mauritania
11. Kingdom of Morocco
12. Republic of Mozambique
13. Federal Republic of Nigeria
14. Republic of Senegal
15. Republic of Sierra Leone
16. Somali Republic
17. Republic of the Sudan
18. Republic of Suriname
19. Republic of Tunisia
20. Republic of Uganda

OIC MEMBER STATES

ASIA: Republic of Azerbaijan, Republic of Indonesia, Republic of Uzbekistan, Brunei-Darussalam, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyz Republic, Republic of Maldives, Malaysia

AFRICA: Togolese Republic, Gabonese Republic

MENA: Kingdom of Jordan, Kingdom of Bahrain, People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, Republic of Iraq, Sultanate of Oman, Lebanese Republic, Republic of Yemen

SOUTH AMERICA: Republic of Guyana

EUROPE: Republic of Albania

The 4th IOFS General Assembly, held virtually in September 2021, decided to adopt 2022 as the “IOFS Year of Africa” to ensure that the Organization would focus its main attention to that continent.

Development and implementation of projects within the “IOFS Year of Africa” has been carried out not only by IOFS, but also by the responsible Embassies of the African region in Kazakhstan and in the OIC Member States, as well as the Ministries of Agriculture of African countries, OIC and regional/international relevant organizations.

All projects and activities are united by a common goal – to improve food security with special focus on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and **IOFS Strategic Vision 2031**.

More than twenty activities were to focus on the African Regional Group within the OIC geographical distribution, which is composed of the following 16 countries: **Benin, Cameroon, Chad, Gabon, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Côte d’Ivoire, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo, and Uganda.**



Due to global pandemic, Fourth General Assembly of IOFS was held virtually.

IOFS YEAR OF AFRICA: OBJECTIVES

The IOFS Year of Africa was designed to achieve the following objectives:

1. Raising awareness on the bleak reality on all matters related with food security.
2. Implementing suitable initiatives/projects in the field of food security and agricultural transformation needed to accelerate the progress of agriculture and food sector in African Member States.
3. Gathering required resources to catalyze and sustain implementation of programmes under the *IOFS 2031 Strategic Vision*.
4. Expanding contacts and sharing experience among
5. citizens, institutions of science, culture, education, business entities and structures.
6. Furthering capacity-building of government officials, representatives of science/research entities and other stakeholders in the domain of food security and agriculture.



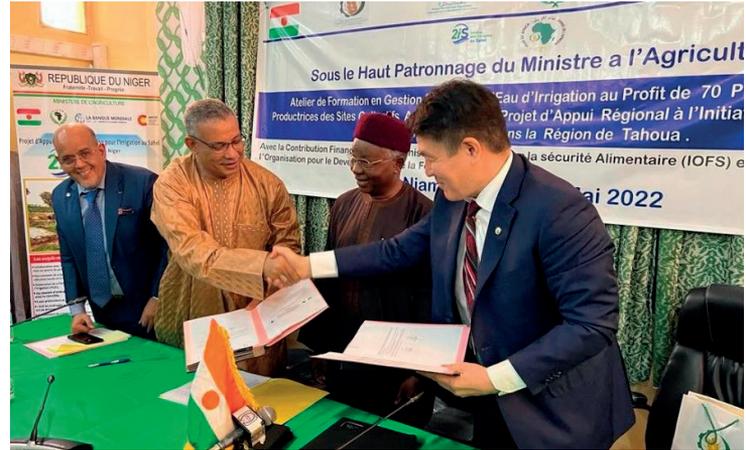
THE KICKOFF



The kicking of the celebration of “2022 IOFS Year of Africa” was marked with two back-to-back events held on 16-19 May 2022 in Niamey, Republique of Niger, which was:

- ❑ a *Capacity Building for Farmers on Water Management in Agriculture for more than 70 farmers from Niger*
- ❑ a *Workshop on the Development of Databases on Agricultural Statistics with participation of 12 countries.*

The Opening Ceremony was presided over by H.E Mr. Alambédji Abba Issa, Minister of Agriculture, Republic of Niger, and counted with important statements by H.E. Mr. Abdoulaye Mohamadaou, CILSS Executive Secretary, H.E. Dr. Afnan Alshuhaiby, WDO Executive Director, read out by Ms. Rabiatou Ahmadou, WDO Senior Program Officer, and the IOFS Director General.



Mohamed Abdellahi Ebbe Director-General of CILSS Sahel Institute, Abdoulaye Mohamadaou, CILSS Executive Secretary, Alambédji Abba Issa, Minister of Agriculture of Republic of Niger, and Yerlan Bidaulet, Director General of IOFS. Water Management Training in Niamey. 16 May 2022

Official Visits of HE the IOFS Director General



The Director General visited the Republic of Chad on 12-13 May 2022 to follow-up on the meeting with H.E. Mr. Cherif Mahamat Zene, Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Integration and Chadians Abroad of the Republic of Chad, held on the sidelines of the *48th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM)* in Islamabad, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, on 22-23 March 2022.

On 15-17 May 2022, he was in the Republic of Niger to meet high level Member of the local Government

As for the Republic of Guinea, he was there on 18-20 May following the invitation of H.E. Dr. Ibrihima Kalil Kaba, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Guineans Abroad of the Republic of Guinea. The visit was also symbolic considering that that the IOFS was officially born in Conakry during the holding of 40th CFM (09-11 December 2013), when OIC Member States decided to adopt and start signing the Statute of the new OIC Specialized Organ on Food Security.

During those bilateral meetings, as mentioned in a letter addressed to His Excellency Mr. Hissein Brahim Taha, OIC Secretary General, on 24 May 2022, the IOFS Director General was impressed on the expectations Member States have on the IOFS, and he had to clarify that the Organization is programming based with scarce resources to respond to several challenges posed by food insecurity in visited countries and beyond. In this context, he requested the Secretary General, in his bilateral meetings, to advocate for the IOFS by highlighting the projects and programs designed to benefit the aforementioned Member States and other that are part of world hunger hotspots.



Director General of IOFS and Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation, African Integration and Guineans Abroad, H.E. Dr. Morissanda Kouyate. May 18, 2022

OTHER ACTIVITIES



IOFS has been working on the Programme on Development of Strategic Commodities and the initiation of Creation of Centers of Excellence (CoE) within the OIC for development of certain commodities, including Wheat, Rice and Cassava. As for cassava, the IOFS jointly with Nigerian National Root Crops Research Institution (NRCRI) on 23 September 2021 held the First Meeting of CoE for Cassava for Sub Saharan Group II.



IOFS High-Level Forum on Food Security, on 8-9 June, 2022, in Almaty, Kazakhstan



H. E. Mr. Said Hussein Iid, IOFS Special Envoy for Africa

In August-September 2021 IOFS has organized a Water Hub Workshop with online participation of 10 African Member Countries. Subsequently, the IOFS is launching a Water Integrated Plan for Niger and all Sahel Region. Within the same understanding, the IOFS conducted a training on “Genetic Resources and Genebank Management” on 20-28 June 2022 in Tunis, Republic of Tunisia, in cooperation with the local Ministry of Environment and National Gene Bank. On 20-21 September 2022, IOFS with the support of COMCEC and IsDB organized the two-day Regional training workshop on strategic planning and policy development in food security in Cairo, Egypt.

In September 2022, on the sidelines of the African Green Revolution Forum Summit (AGRF) held in Kigali, Republic of Rwanda, IOFS signed two important memoranda of understanding with Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) and Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM).

On 8-9 June 2022 in Almaty, several high-level delegations from Africa actively participated at the First High-Level Forum on Food Security to exchange views on the subject and visited high-tech laboratories of the local Agrarian University (KazNARU). During the Forum different related entities signed Water Integrated Plan for Niger, which is expected to be implemented soon.

It is also worth to mention that in 2022 Said Hussein Iid, the former Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation of Somalia, became the IOFS Special Envoy for Africa.

CHAD BECOMES 37th IOFS MEMBER STATE

It is remarkable that the visit of IOFS Director General to Chad brought a sense of accomplishment when His Excellency Mr. Zakaria Fadoul Kittir, Ambassador of the Republic of Chad to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and Chad's Permanent Representative to the OIC, signed, in the presence of OIC Secretary General, himself a Chadian, on 27 July 2022, the IOFS Statute. In fact, the important development of Chad becoming the 37th full-fledged IOFS Member State was a culmination of intensive bilateral consultations that were undergoing for some time.

It is to be highlighted the meetings of IOFS Director General with H.E. Ms. Mayanan Kamougue née Déné-Assoum, Chadian Minister of Agricultural Development, on the sidelines of the 8th Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development, held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, on 25-27 October 2021, with H.E. Mr. Cherif Mahamat Zene, Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Integration and Chadians Abroad, on the margins of the 48th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM), held on 23-24 March 2022, in Islamabad, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, and personal involvement of OIC Secretary General.



*H. E. Mr. Zakaria Fadoul Kittir,
Ambassador of the Republic of Chad to the Kingdom of Saudi
Arabiasigns the Statute of IOFS.
July 27, 2022.*

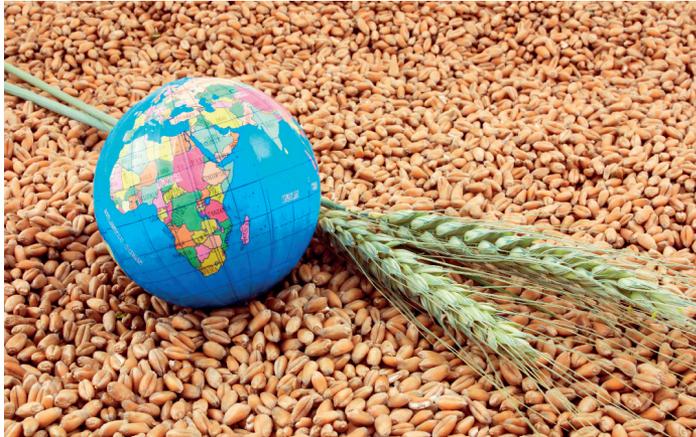
5TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN AFRICA

The climax of the IOFS Year of Africa celebration is to be marked with the holding of the 5th General Assembly of the Organization in city of Tunis on 10-11 October 2022, a demonstrated recognition of the overall kind support the Republic of Tunisia provides to the IOFS.

Member States are expected to adopt important programmes to further develop agriculture and address food insecurity particularly in Africa. These include:

- ❑ the **Sheep Farming Fund** investment project, which shall provide sustainable intra-OIC supplies of top-quality meat with the planned capacity of 40 thousand tons per year. Investment needs for one case project are preliminary estimated at USD 100 million. IOFS shall facilitate financing from institutional investors of OIC Member States with the support of member countries' IPAs. Upon successful implementation, this fund is to be replicated in other OIC countries, such as Somalia, Sudan, etc.
- ❑ **OIC Food Security Reserve System (FSRs)**, which it is expected for it to see the light of the day without delay, as it has been on the OIC agenda since 1981. The main purpose of the FSRs is to facilitate access to food in the Member States by forming regional food reserves to guarantee supplies in times of food shortage and by monitoring and forecasting the situation. The IOFS Secretariat, following a research study, proposes the establishment of six regional Food Reserves.
- ❑ **the Grain Fund**, which is geared towards increasing intra-OIC economic cooperation particularly in the field of agricultural development and food security with emphasis on funding and grain supply. It should be underscored that the Grain Fund may be an important tool for Member States to avoid different factors that destabilize the grain market price policy, while reducing the price risk of purchase of agricultural products, as well as currency risk in attracting loans from foreign financial institutions. It is also hoped that this Fund, when fully replenished, would provide for strengthening ties with Islamic financial institutions through the IOFS to attract investment in agricultural development and food security, including the development of food safety production and value chain.

THE WAY FORWARD



The IOFS currently has 37 members, and every year, seeing the efforts and contribution of the Organization for the development of agriculture and food security, it is expected that more and more countries have not yet signed the IOFS Statute, confidently express their intention to do so. In Africa, the IOFS is yet to be joined by Algeria, Gabon and Togo, and it is expected that soon these countries would become full-fledged IOFS Member States, as they have been benefiting from different capacity building programmes that the Organization has been convening within the framework of celebrating 2022 as IOFS Year of Africa.

It is important to remark that it is well known that “...hunger is the world’s greatest solvable problem.

Africa has tremendous potential to be a part of the solution. This requires progress on reforms that could rapidly and sustainably boost food production, including wheat, rice, and other cereal crops. These reforms would significantly help African economies become more resilient to shocks, more peaceful, and more prosperous...” , goals that the IOFS shares with the remaining international community when it comes to developing the agriculture sector in Africa while addressing the growing threat of food insecurity of its people. The time to act is now and all should say present for Africa to strive and reach the potential that is well recognized by the world at large.

It should be noted that all of the above is just a beginning and IOFS is planning more activities for the next years. In this regard, as the 5th General Assembly calls for “Partnerships for sustainable food security”, the IOFS Secretariat invites all members countries, national, regional and international organizations to build up strong partnerships to support needy African states and their people.

IOFS ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR OF AFRICA

	EVENT	VENUE AND TIME
1.	Capacity Building for Farmers on Water Management in Agriculture.	16-17 May 2022, Niamey, Niger
2.	Workshop on the development of a database on agricultural statistics "Agricultural Database Development for Better Policy Making and Ensuring Food Security"	18-19 May 2022, Niamey, Niger
3.	Capacity-building activity for African genetic resources specialists (francophones)	20 June – 28 June 2022, Tunis, Republic of Tunisia
4.	Regional training workshop on strategic planning and policy development in food security	20-21 September 2022, Cairo, Egypt
5.	OFS Training on Gene Bank Management for African and Asian OIC Member States	26-30 September 2022, Ankara, Türkiye
6.	5th IOFS General Assembly	10-11 October 2022, Tunis, Republic of Tunisia
7.	IFPA Forum for Africa	12 October 2022, Tunis, Republic of Tunisia

IOFS ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR OF AFRICA

	EVENT	VENUE AND TIME
8.	IOFS sponsored and participated in the 13th Arab Plant Protection Congress	16-21 October 2022, Tunis, Republic of Tunisia
9.	Round Table “Policy Guidelines for Sustainable Water Management in Agriculture in OIC Member Countries” within the Cairo Water Week	16 October 2022, Cairo, Egypt
10.	African Agri-Business Forum	24-26 October 2022, Maputo, Mozambique
11.	27th Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC (COP27)	6-18 November 2022, Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt
12.	Training Workshop on “Strengthening the Cassava Value Chain Technology Transfer and Capacity Development for More Sustainable Cassava Production”	31 October – 4 November 2022, Abuja, Nigeria
13.	Regional Training Workshop on “Strategic Planning and Policy Development in Food Security”	1-2 November 2022, Abuja, Nigeria
14.	International Conference on “Rice Development and Trade”	2 November 2022, Abuja, Nigeria

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