

المنتدى العربي للبيئة والتنمية  
ARAB FORUM FOR  
ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT



البيئة 2014  
ARAB ENVIRONMENT 2014

# ARAB ENVIRONMENT•7

## FOOD SECURITY

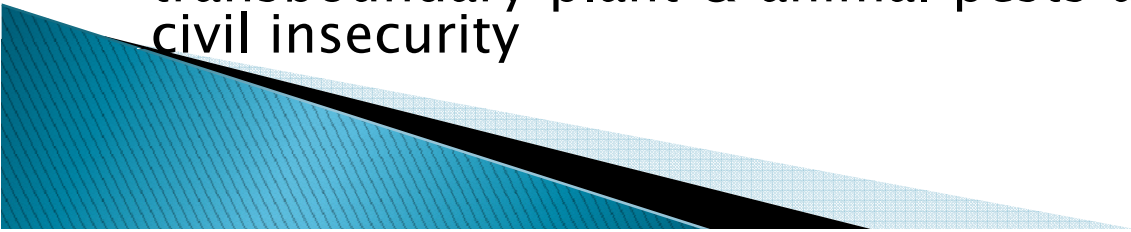
### CHALLENGES AND PROSPECTS

FAO Regional Initiative – Resilience for Food Security and  
Nutrition

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# FAO REGIONAL INITIATIVE ON “BUILDING RESILIENCE FOR FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION IN THE NEAR EAST AND NORTH AFRICA”

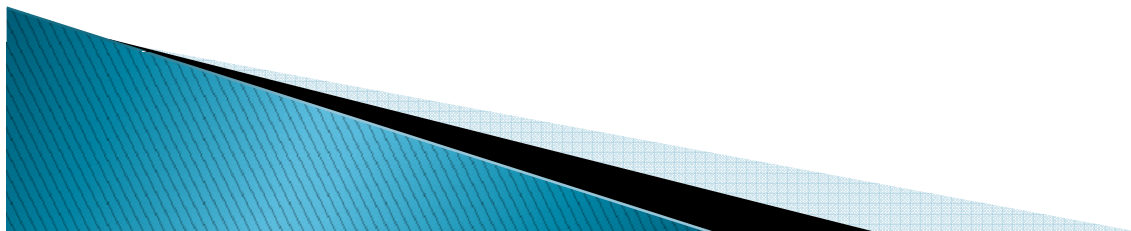
## Why the Initiative?

- ▶ Lack of progress on the MDG on hunger
    - Increase in the proportion of undernourished since 1990–92
    - Double burden of malnutrition
  
  - ▶ Severe structural constraints to food security and nutrition
    - Supply–side: limited and fragile natural resource base; low productivity
    - Demand–side: high population growth, growing urbanisation, starch–rich consumption
  
  - ▶ High vulnerability of countries to a broad set of hazards and risk drivers of man made and natural disasters: drought, transboundary plant & animal pests and diseases, conflicts and civil insecurity
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# BUILDING RESILIENCE FOR FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION IN THE NEAR EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

## Overall Objective of the Initiative

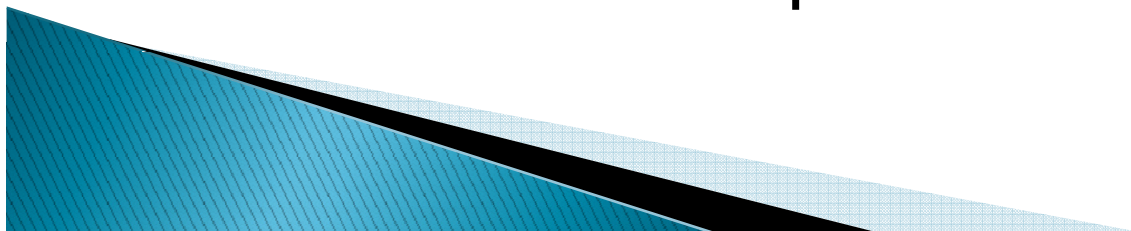
Within the existing regional policy framework, assist countries address short and long-term vulnerabilities and acute shocks and stresses to agriculture and food systems through building resilient FSN institutions, communities and households



# BUILDING RESILIENCE FOR FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION IN THE NEAR EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

## FOCUS COUNTRIES

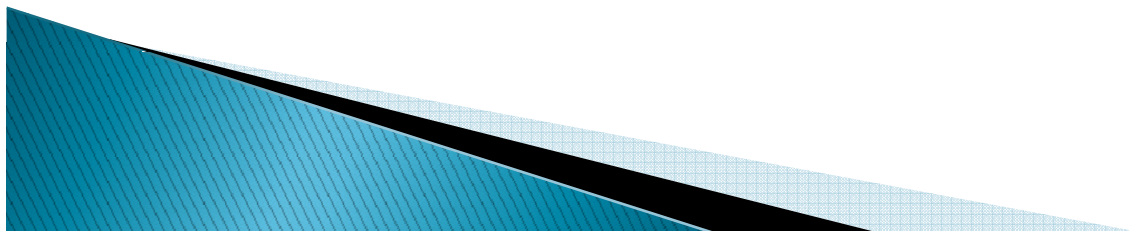
- Countries in protracted crises and LDCs (Palestine, Sudan, Yemen, Mauritania)
  - Syria-crisis affected countries (Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq)
  - Countries in transition (Egypt)
  - Countries with high exposure to vulnerabilities of external food supplies.
- 
- ▶ **7 countries have been selected in 2014:**  
Yemen, Sudan, Palestine, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and Iraq



# BUILDING RESILIENCE FOR FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION IN THE NEAR EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

## Main pillars/intervention areas

- ▶ Developing **FSN policy & strategy framework**
- ▶ Strengthening **FSN information & knowledge exchange systems**
- ▶ Promoting efficient and effective food value chains: with focus on **food losses and waste**
- ▶ **Promoting nutrition and food safety**
- ▶ Building **resilience of households and communities** – protect, restore and strengthen livelihoods and the agro-eco systems



# BUILDING RESILIENCE FOR FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION IN THE NEAR EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

## Principles and prerequisites

- Partnerships: the Arab Emergency Food Security Programme and RCM
- Setting the appropriate policy and institutional framework
- Developing appropriate food security information and knowledge sharing systems
- Innovation: identifying and scaling up of good resilience practices



# BUILDING RESILIENCE FOR FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION IN THE NEAR EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

## PROGRESS ACHIEVED SO FAR

### Support to Country Planning and Programming

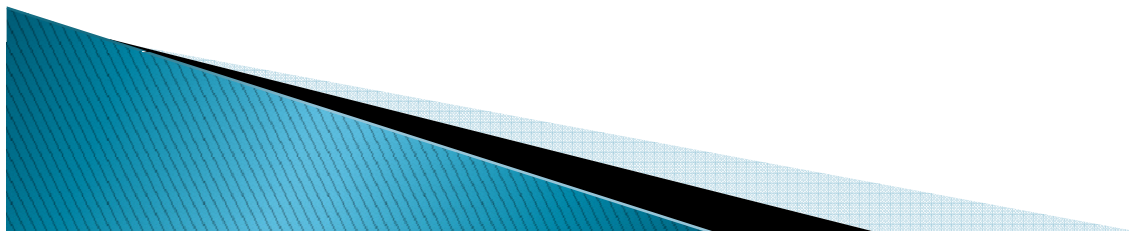
- ▶ Resilience based action plans for agriculture, food security and nutrition have been developed for 8 countries (Lebanon, Jordan, Yemen, Sudan, Egypt, Palestine, Iraq, and Syria);
- ▶ Sub-regional PoA anchored in resilience approach combining emergency and development interventions has been formulated for the Syria crisis-affected countries
- ▶ Support to regional programmes of UN and other partners

## BUILDING RESILIENCE FOR FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION IN THE NEAR EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

In 2014, countries were assisted in mobilising a total of USD 54 million in support of their resilience plans of action.

### Food security information (FSIS) and policy development

- A sub-regional programme on FSIS has been launched aiming at timely gathering and analysis of food security and nutrition information for the Syria crisis affected countries
- Three country pilot projects are under implementation in Sudan, Yemen and Iraq (Kurdistan region of Iraq)
- Promoting exchange of knowledge and information at the regional and country level
  - cooperation with partners in the region: Regional Cooperation Mechanism
  - Regional multi-stakeholder forum on food security and nutrition





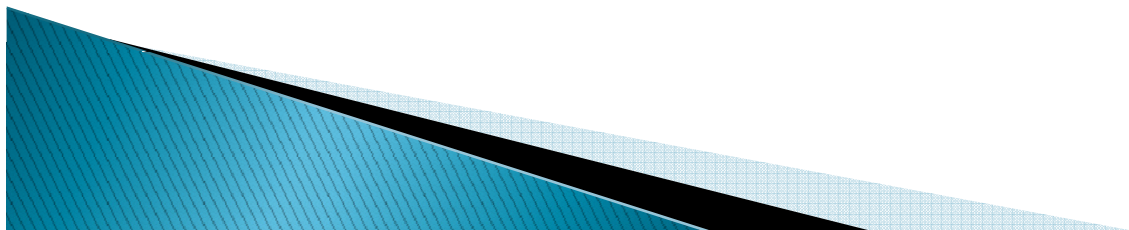
# BUILDING RESILIENCE FOR FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION IN THE NEAR EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

## Food value chains

- Development of regional strategic framework for reducing food losses and waste
- Comprehensive assessment of food losses and waste in the region;
- Supporting the establishment of a regional network on food losses and waste
- Support to control of **transboundary plant and animal pests and diseases**: avian flue, locust, FMD, rift valley fever

## Resilience of communities and households:

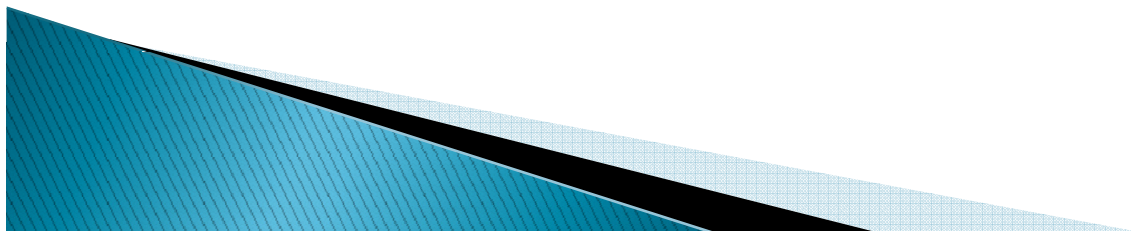
- Food security and livelihood assessment: Syria crisis-affected countries
- Country assistance focusing on livelihoods support, restoring small-scale farmers was provided
- **Examples**
- More than 40,000 families in Syria; 28,000 small holders in Iraq (agric inputs, animal feed, and vet services)
- 800,000 livestock heads vaccinated in Lebanon



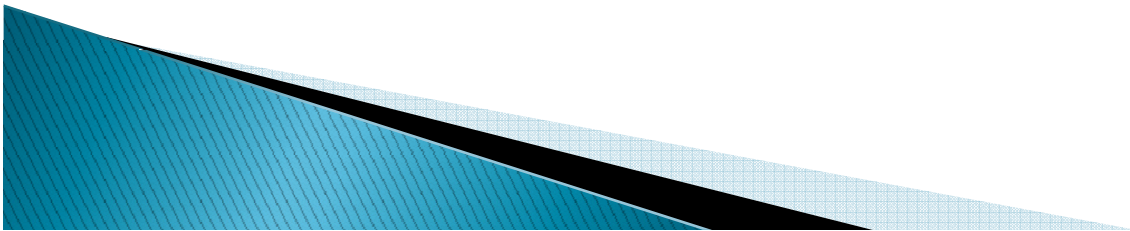
BUILDING RESILIENCE FOR FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION IN  
THE NEAR EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

## What is Next?

- Identifying good practices
- Strengthening partnerships



THANK YOU



# What do we mean by resilience?

FAO defines resilience as:

*“The ability to prevent disasters and crises as well as to anticipate, absorb, recover and adapt from them in a timely, efficient and sustainable manner.*

*This includes protecting, restoring and improving food and agricultural systems under threats that impact agriculture, food and nutrition security, and food safety.”*