

Knowledge Centre for Global Food and Nutrition Security

Advancing Knowledge towards
Zero Hunger and Sustainable Food Systems



For more info on each topic covered by
the KC-FNS go to the web portal:
[https://ec.europa.eu/knowledge4policy/
global-food-nutrition-security](https://ec.europa.eu/knowledge4policy/global-food-nutrition-security)

Contact: EC-KCFNS@ec.europa.eu

The European Commission's Knowledge Centre for Global Food and Nutrition Security

Advancing knowledge towards zero hunger and sustainable food systems

WHY

About **155 million people** in **55 countries** face food and nutrition crises

149 million children under 5 suffer from restricted physical development due to chronic malnutrition

Food systems must become more **sustainable and resilient**

WHAT

The Knowledge Centre supports the EU's commitment towards food and nutrition security, and sustainable food systems.

It facilitates collaborative work on cross-sectorial policy areas
It is a one-stop source of information and knowledge

It supports evidence-based policies

HOW

We gather, organise and make accessible the most relevant data, information and tools

We analyse and synthesise available knowledge

We promote networking between experts and policy makers

WHO

 **EU Services**

United Nations agencies & European and international partners

For more information:
<https://ec.europa.eu/knowledge4policy/global-food-nutrition-security>

Purpose and Scope

The Knowledge Centre for Global Food and Nutrition Security (KC-FNS) supports EU global commitment to end hunger, achieve food and nutrition security, and promote sustainable food systems through a dedicated science-policy interface. It facilitates collaborative work on cross-sectorial policy areas including international networking, it offers a one-stop source of curated information and knowledge, and creates new knowledge on key topics. The ultimate objective of the KC is to support evidence-based policies. Its geographical scope encompasses the developing countries in which food and nutrition security and sustainable agriculture are key sectors.

The overarching policy context is the EU Green Deal and in particular, the international dimension of the Farm to Fork Strategy, and the United Nations Agenda 2030 and its Sustainable Development Goal # 2: "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

Topics of the KC-FNS

Covid-19 and Food and Nutrition Security



The Coronavirus pandemic threatens food security and nutrition across the world. The Knowledge Centre has developed a knowledge base on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on global food and nutrition security. A good understanding of the magnitude of the risks and potential impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on food and nutrition security is essential for an appropriate response to contain food insecurity and malnutrition.

Sustainable Food Systems



The EU supports the global transition to sustainable agri-food systems, in line with the objectives of the Farm to Fork Strategy and the Sustainable Development Goals. Sustainable food systems foster inextricable links between healthy people, healthy societies and a healthy planet, and the objective of the KC-FNS is to facilitate collaborative work on this cross-sectorial policy area. The KC-FNS allows as well taking stock of the preparation of the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit through a dedicated section.

Policy Impact Analysis and Food Security



Under the aegis of the African Union and the EU partnership, the Pan-African Network for economic Analysis of Policies (PANAP) develops research on agro-economics and policy issues. PANAP aims to strengthen the liaison between researchers/scientists and policymakers in Africa, and to stimulate their cooperation on selected topics linked to policy priorities that reinforce the stability of African agriculture and food sectors.

Agroecology



Agroecology, through a set of farming practices, minimises the reliance of farmers on chemical inputs, improves and secures ecosystem services, while taking into consideration social values and fairness. Agroecology is gaining momentum at all levels and its scaling-up contributes to the transition towards sustainable food systems that enhance food and nutrition security. The KC-FNS aims at building a knowledge base of good practices, showing where and under which conditions agroecology is providing environmental, social and economic benefits to farmers and communities.

Food Security and Food Crises



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Globally, every year more than 100 million people face periods of acute hunger. The primary triggers of food crises are conflict and insecurity, climate shocks and economic turbulence. Appropriate knowledge and level of information is essential to allow efficient measures to prevent and manage food crises. The action on food crises is to continue to develop and improve the knowledge base needed to inform the EU response to food crises and favour the international coordination through the Global Network against Food Crises.

Nutrition



Malnutrition affects all regions, age and socioeconomic groups. Acute malnutrition and children's growth retardation or stunting are among the most urgent and persistent malnutrition problems in developing countries. The EU is convinced that investing in improving nutrition - a focus area of its international cooperation - is one of the most effective investments to improve children's health and education, and the development of the community. The KC-FNS offers a privileged access to information, data and knowledge on nutrition.

Country Dashboards



The Country dashboards are a one-stop-shop for infographics about food/nutrition security and relevant macroeconomics and agro-economics indicators, produced by several organizations and gathered by country. The dashboards cover the countries where food/nutrition security and sustainable agriculture are key sectors for EU intervention.

Fisheries and Aquaculture and Food and Nutrition Security



The nutritional value of fish, shellfish and algae, the prominence of small-scale fisheries in developing countries, the fast development of the aquaculture sector and the international trade dynamics confer to the fisheries and aquaculture sector the potential to significantly step up its contribution to global food and nutrition security and facilitate the transition to sustainable food systems. The EU is committed to promote sustainable fisheries and to strengthen fisheries governance across the globe. The KC-FNS curates and synthesises knowledge on the topic.

Climate Extremes and Food Security



Climate extremes such as droughts, storms, floods and heatwaves contribute to food insecurity and malnutrition worldwide as well as global hunger. Their frequency and severity are generally expected to further increase with climate change. To reduce the risks associated with climate extremes on food security and develop effective climate change adaptation strategies, it is necessary to strengthen current understanding and modelling ability on concurrent and recurrent extreme events and their impacts in the entire food system.

Mycotoxins and Food Security



In developing countries and in Africa in particular, mycotoxin contamination remains a major source of concern with adverse effects not only on health and nutrition quality, but also on food supply, commodity trade and on the economy in general. Mycotoxins are a threat to food safety and food security. The prevention of mycotoxin contamination remains challenging. The KC-FNS promotes international cooperation to develop the knowledge base on mycotoxins and to improve capacities in mycotoxins risk modelling in Africa.

Research and Innovation



New technologies, science, research, and innovations are recognised as powerful drivers for inclusive and sustainable socio-economic development. Several European programmes support research and innovation aiming at improving food and nutrition security of vulnerable populations in developing countries, as well as at supporting sustainable and resilient agriculture and food systems. The KC-FNS provides at a glance the main European policies and activities in this field.