



# The FAO Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in the central region: Our story

## Establishment

21 February 1967

## Member countries

Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanese, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian, Emirates and Yemen.

## Role of the Commission



- strengthen the cooperation and coordination between member states;
- encourage joint activities at the national, regional and international levels on desert locust survey and control operations;
- encourage member states to implement the preventive control strategy against the desert locust;
- introduce modern technology in desert locust management, survey and control;
- provide financial and technical support to member states affected by desert locust outbreak.

## Seat of the Commission



The Regional Office for the Near East and North Africa  
The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)  
Arab Republic of Egypt, Cairo

## Commission activities



Since its establishment 50 years ago, the Commission has implemented numerous activities to strengthen member countries in their battle against the desert locust:

- sessions, executive, and ad-hoc meetings to coordinate activities and review the locust situation;
- enhanced regional interaction and cooperation between the affected countries;
- contribution to the development of improved early detection and early warning systems;
- promotion of bilateral and multilateral assistance and donations;
- capacity-building through national and international training courses, regional and interregional workshops, and scholarships;
- development of Master Trainers training programme and material, including standard operating procedures and field guides;
- organization of joint cross-border surveys;
- support for the introduction of economic and environmentally safer control technologies, including evaluations of sprayers used in Desert Locust control;
- development of contingency planning tools and rapid deployment plans.

## Achievements in the development of national capacity: 2000 – 2018



**100**

**Workshops and specialized training courses**



**240**

**Plant protection staff and specialists trained on desert locust survey and control operations in invasion countries**



**1 220**

**Locust and plant protection officers trained on desert locust survey and control operations in breeding countries**



**77**

**Pilots and spray specialists trained on aerial spray techniques**



**85**

**Specialists trained on the maintenance and operation of ultra low volume sprayers**



**43**

**Graduates of the Desert Locust Management Diploma course at the University of Khartoum**



**10**

**MSc graduates with desert locust specialization**



**17**

**Desert locust information officers trained in data management and analysis**

**FAO CRC**

<http://desertlocust-crc.org>  
**Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations**  
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla  
00153 Rome, Italy



Some rights reserved. This work is available under a CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO licence