Agenda Item VIII: Policy Roundtable

Food security in protracted crisis
The nature of protracted crises

Protracted crises are fundamentally different from the model of acute disasters
Characteristics of protracted crisis include:

- Duration or longevity of the crisis
- Conflict
- Governance institutions weak
- Unsustainable livelihood systems and poor food security outcomes
- Breakdown of local institutions
Towards a working classification of country in protracted crises

1) The longevity of the crisis

2) Levels of humanitarian assistance

3) Low-income food-deficit countries (LIFDCs)
22 countries are in protracted crisis

- Afghanistan
- Angola
- Burundi
- Congo, Dem Rep
- Congo
- Eritrea
- Ethiopia
- Iraq
- Liberia
- Sierra Leone
- Somalia
- Sudan
- Tajikistan
- Central African Republic
- Chad
- Cote d’Ivoire
- Guinea
- Haiti
- Kenya
- Uganda
- Zimbabwe
- North Korea
Food Security in Countries in Protracted Crises

- Approximately 166 million undernourished people in countries in protracted crisis
- Roughly 20 percent of the world’s undernourished people live in countries in protracted crisis which rises to a third some of the larger countries are excluded
- In general: food insecurity high in CPCs except where crises are localized
The proportion of undernourished people is about three times as high in countries in protracted crisis as in other developing countries.

Percentage undernourished

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Countries in protracted crisis</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China and India</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other developing countries¹</td>
<td>13%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Vote: Data are for 2005–07.

¹ Excluding countries in protracted crisis, China and India.

Source: FAO.
Improving Food Security in Countries in Protracted Crises

- Understanding protracted crises
  - Important livelihood adaptations take place in protracted crises situations
  - Gender dimensions in the effects of protracted crises
  - The role of local institutions
Improving Food Security in Countries in Protracted Crises

• Revisiting Assistance to countries in protracted Crises
  – Support the protection and promotion of livelihoods and institutions
  – Ensure adequate level of social protection
    • Food Assistance
    • Broader Social protection Systems
  – Address inadequacy and distribution of aid flows
  – Modify Aid Architecture
Matters to be brought to the attention of the CFS:

- **Endorse the recommendations contained in this background document**
  - a. Support further analysis and deeper understanding of people’s livelihoods and coping mechanisms in protracted crises in order to strengthen their resilience and enhance the effectiveness of assistance programmes
  - b. Support the protection, promotion and rebuilding of livelihoods, and the institutions that support and enable livelihoods, in countries in protracted crisis
  - c. Revisit the architecture of external assistance in protracted crises to match the needs, challenges and institutional constraints on the ground

- Support the organization of a High-Level Expert Forum on Protracted Crises, no later than 2012, to discuss the current state of knowledge and stakeholder experiences regarding food security in protracted crises and project the way forward. The High Level Panel of Experts will play a key role in the preparation of the High Level Forum

- Launch a new “Agenda for Action for Food Security in Countries in Protracted Crises”. The Agenda for Action will establish principles and modalities for addressing effectively and efficiently the specific food security needs of these countries. Progress towards the establishment of an Agenda for Action will be monitored by the Committee’s inter-sessional process
For more information

The State of Food Insecurity in the World

The international reference on global hunger issues

Available in English, French, Spanish, Russian, Arabic and Chinese

www.fao.org/publications/sofi