



## **Review and Discussion Paper**

Food Security and Nutrition Actions Mapping

In support of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS)

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## I. Background

1. At the 36th Session of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) in 2010 the Committee endorsed the proposed development and implementation plan contained in document CFS: 2010/3 Mapping Food Security Actions at Country Level. That document outlines a process towards developing and implementing a tool to support mapping actions for food security and nutrition (FSN) that is country-driven, builds on existing institutional structures and adds value to existing systems. A step-wise approach is proposed to ensure that:
  - a) we 'learn by studying' existing tools/methods that can contribute to design and development of a mapping tool for FSN actions;
  - b) we 'learn by doing' from those countries who are already involved in mapping FSN actions; and
  - c) we bring these two together in such a way so as to present an integrated proposal for CFS to consider.
2. This document represents an important step in this process and presents a review of existing mapping systems in order to draw lessons and identify information gaps from on-going national systems and developmental activities. The review is intended as a discussion paper to inform a technical consultative workshop that will discuss the findings of the review with representatives of these existing systems with a view to engaging a broad base of stakeholders in the planning process for developing and implementing such systems. This includes recommendations for consideration by countries and CFS.
3. Given the diversity of FSN-related contexts in different countries and the complexity of the issues, a review of this type is a major challenge, particularly as the concept of actions mapping is relatively new. How to assist national governments build or enhance structures, systems, and capacities to map actions is still unclear. An important starting point is to have a common understanding of what is meant by 'actions mapping'. In this document:
  - ✓ **Actions** refer to programmes, projects, interventions, and responses that support FSN objectives
  - ✓ **Mapping** refers to comparing actions against needs, policies, strategies, plans, and donor funding (internal and external) for improved planning and implementation.
4. The purpose of 'mapping' actions can vary from country to country or from stakeholder to stakeholder. It may include influencing the design or modification of national policies and plans of action, assisting governments to align interventions to national priorities and needs, helping governments identify funding needs and priorities, and serving as a general coordination and alignment mechanism for government and FSN stakeholders at national level and beyond. The underlying concept of actions mapping concords with the Five Rome Principles for sustainable global food security and follows the core principles of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness by enabling governments determine, own, and manage their aid plans and programmes.

## II. Scope of the review

5. A step-wise process was recommended in the CFS document that includes a review of existing tools and systems related to FSN actions to draw lessons and identify information gaps, while taking advantage of and incorporating lessons learned from on-going developmental activities.
6. Existing FSN "actions-mapping" tools/systems, activities, and experiences from national, regional and global perspectives were reviewed. Information and understanding was elicited primarily from existing reviews and from remote (on-line and telephone) consultations with various stakeholders at national, regional, and global levels. The CFS Task Team provided an initial list of contacts which was used to contact focal people to discuss activities relevant to actions mapping. Existing systems were identified including who is doing what, and what are some of the key issues. This information will be used and elaborated on in the technical workshop.
7. In developing a collective understanding, the review cast a wide net to capture many global, regional, and national-level initiatives which are, in some way, related to FSN actions mapping. The scope is intentionally broad to learn from various stakeholders involved in related initiatives and at different levels. Some of the experiences come from FSN practitioners, some from the humanitarian community, and others from aid management and related initiatives. National-level activities are emphasized, but some regional and global systems and activities are also considered. As FSN issues are cross-cutting, various sectors are involved, as well as various stakeholders from humanitarian and development organizations including government, donors, UN, NGO, civil society, and the private sector.

### ***Key Questions***

8. The review was guided by a set of core questions that were developed in collaboration with the Task Team. The questions served to guide the interview process and help lead to a fuller understanding of the activities and systems that were reviewed and how they relate to FSN actions mapping.

**Over-arching question:**

Is there an activity or process of identifying and analyzing different FSN interventions and/or needs against national policies, strategies, plans, or resources? **If so...**

- What ministries, agencies, bodies are involved? At which level?
- Is there an FSN working or technical group involved? Who's in that group and at what level?
- Is the exercise routine, systematic? It is repeatedly done or updated?
- What is the general process – admin, operations, data-info, analysis, feedback, other?
- What methods, guidelines, analytical steps are followed? Analytical tools and techniques.
- Where do the data and information come from? Sources and dimensions.
- What other information systems are involved? 3W's, Aid Management, EW, DRR, etc.
- What different information layers are analyzed? Needs, resources, projects, impact, other.
- What key indicators does the activity/system identify and analyze?
- What categorization is used for FSN? Four pillars, twin-track approach, others.
- Are information technologies involved? Application software and technologies.
- What are the outputs of the activity? Reports, tables, charts, maps, etc.
- How are the outputs used? Coordination, knowledge, planning, gap-definition, other.
- Who uses the outputs? National, sub-national government and stakeholders, others.
- How well does the activity/system help inform policy, plan, and strategy development?
- Does it serve other purposes? Alignment, collaboration, feedback, knowledge, other.

### III. Findings

#### ***FSN-related Action Mapping Systems and Activities***

9. One of the key findings of this review is a scarcity of comprehensive, routine systems to map FSN actions at the national level. This is partly because actions mapping as a standard procedure is a fairly new concept within the FSN community. Stakeholders have not yet developed a common understanding about what constitutes FSN actions mapping. Although some FSN stakeholders are involved in similar exercises, these are rarely comprehensive, systematic or conducted routinely enough to be useful for an FSN strategy or to plan development. This includes exercises such as comparing interventions to needs, identifying who is doing what and where, matching donor funding to investment plans, establishing spatial or thematic intervention gaps and overlap, etc. There are no agreed methods or protocols to guide the actions mapping process.
10. An initial listing of countries that are most directly involved in mapping actions, even if in a non-systematic way, is included in the **Appendix A** as [Table 1](#). This list illustrates the range and diversity that exists across countries, in terms of ownership, involvement of other stakeholders, and the types of information layers and details of each activity or exercise. The list can be expanded as further knowledge of different countries and regions involved in FSN-related actions mapping activities is gained, from which we can collectively build a more profound understanding of actions mapping.
11. What typically exist are national-level one-off activities or exercises to review FSN interventions, policies, and plans to modify or create national plans of action. FSN-specific activities or exercises are much harder to identify and classify for two main reasons. Firstly, there are many different types of national activities which might be related to FSN. These might come from a related sector, such as agriculture, health, nutrition, poverty reduction, or from other exercises, but do not embrace FSN in a comprehensive manner. Secondly, food security or nutrition objectives can be part of broader government national plans on poverty reduction or social welfare. Also, in some countries, FSN may not be fully mainstreamed as a cross-cutting issue, nor uniquely identified as a priority in national strategies and policies (it might be replaced by agricultural production or general poverty or health-related strategies). This makes identifying specific FSN actions mapping activities or exercises difficult.
12. Nonetheless, there are important lessons to be learned from countries that have conducted similar exercises for the purpose of FSN-related national policy, strategy, or plan development. The lessons derived from this review were used to develop the following sections and identify the key issues, but these will need to be further elaborated by the workshop participants.
13. As already mentioned, the review intentionally cast a wide net to learn from other systems and activities that have been developed with a different purpose than FSN actions mapping. A listing of these systems are provided in **Appendix A** as [Table 2](#), which is not an exhaustive and can be amended as we learn more. These are loosely grouped and some details are provided along with internet links for more information for some of the systems in [Appendix B](#). These systems are included because they are fairly well established within the humanitarian or development communities, and they should stimulate discussions and provide valuable lessons. The listing includes OCHA's 3w's (who-what-where) used primarily for humanitarian coordination, aid management systems which help track and manage financial commitments, disbursements, and usage, gap-analysis used to identify if there is

over or under-targeting of beneficiaries and location gaps/overlap, projects and activity mapping which plot interventions on a map for project management or coordination purposes, global aid-flow tracking for research purposes, and thematic-mapping of projects for general public interest, to name a few. Such experiences can yield insight into how such systems are implemented and managed, as well as into potential sources of data and information.

## **IV. Moving towards Actions Mapping Systems**

14. Most countries that are conducting FSN actions mapping are doing so as a one-off exercise. As this is a collective exercise to explore the opportunity to map actions at the national level, an initial question to clarify is whether there is demand for a more systematic approach to actions mapping? The response has generally been affirmative and respondents expect actions mapping to resolve certain challenges they face to enable the following:
  - a regular update of what interventions exist, what is planned, and for what purposes
  - a method to match potential interventions to national priorities
  - improved government ownership and management
  - more dynamic action plans and less theoretical/academic
  - a more transparent and accessible planning process for government and stakeholders.
15. The benefits of a more dynamic, comprehensive, and systematic approach are clear. A clearer understanding of the changing situation will provide governments with the ability to better align programmes, interventions, and projects with government priorities. Given a strong demand to establish FSN actions mapping systems, attention can turn to clarifying what such a system might entail, as well as specific country-level requirements for its implementation.
16. Establishing a conceptual framework can help us better understand the different components and processes. A draft conceptual framework is included in the Appendix A as Figure 1. The model is general so that it can apply to different national situations. However, it is a draft concept and provided to enable discussions at the workshop. It tries to depict different information layers (lowest level) which might be used in analysis (middle level) to inform the drafting or amending of policies and plans (top level). The information layers which provide the system with data to enable comparisons and analysis are key to the model. An explanation of different information layers (lowest level) which might be at play in a particular national context is provided below the model. These can vary from country to country, however the essential information layers can be grouped as follows:
  - situation and needs analysis... or, "what is the problem"
  - policies, strategies, and plans... or, "what we say we are going to do"
  - responses, interventions, programmes... or, "what we are actually doing"
17. Perceptions of FSN from the national and global levels, as well as the multitude of contexts which are found in different countries, must be considered to better understand the requirements of FSN actions mapping systems. In some countries, FSN is understood primarily as an aspect of the agricultural sector (namely agricultural production), while in others, FSN may be more of a cross-sectoral collaborative effort including different stakeholders. Also, different FSN-related structures, information, systems, and capacities exist in different countries. This makes it difficult to establish a singular approach; there might also be multiple needs.

### **Components of Action Mapping Systems**

18. As stated in the introduction, one of the purposes of this review is to highlight key issues from existing systems. To set the stage for the workshop discussions and to better understand how to establish an action mapping system in countries as standard, routine practices, it is useful to identify and explore what might be some of its components. An initial set of components and issues is identified below. The components are similar to the key questions which were used to guide the review process as listed in paragraph 8.

19. **Institutions and Governance** - Institutional ownership, governance, and collaboration is a key component to enable actions mapping at national level. The cross-cutting nature of FSN implies that multiple partners would/should be involved to ensure that different sectors are represented. Furthermore, different government ministries can be involved for thematic and operational purposes. For example, national plans of action are often maintained by ministries of planning, even when they are related to FSN. Other key issues within this dimension include the following:

- who defines, owns, and manages the system
- what is the role of different institutions and individuals within the institutions
- what decision rights do these institutions/individuals have
- what FSN coordination mechanisms exist and how are they involved
- how are cross-cutting FSN issues realized

20. **Analytical Framework and Outputs** - Comparing different information layers to better understand FSN-related funding gaps, prioritization, location or thematic overlaps, and other concerns, lies at the core of actions mapping. Although the associations can vary from among countries depending upon the information at hand and the specific questions defined by decision makers, establishing a broad analytical framework can help guide the actions mapping process. This key component is comprised of the following issues:

- who defines, owns, manages, and runs the analytical process
- what analytical guidelines, methods, processes, tools are involved
- what outputs are expected from the system (charts, tables, maps, reports, other)
- what inputs are required to arrive at the output (tied to data/info dimension)
- how are outputs shared and improved
- how are outputs linked to usage (tied to users/usage dimension)

21. **Users and Usage** - The principal users of FSN actions mapping outputs are government decision makers involved in designing, amending, or monitoring FSN-related policies, strategies, and plans of action. Other users include national FSN stakeholders (UN, NGO's, institutes, private and public sector, others). Eventually, information outputs from FSN actions mapping can feed regional and global levels. Furthermore, usage may vary beyond the principal objective of informing the development, enhancement, or alignment of policies, strategies, and national plans of action. Other issues within this component include the following:

- who are the principal users of FSN actions mapping outputs
- who are other direct or indirect national, regional, and international users
- apart from policy, strategy, plan development and alignment, what else is actions mapping used for (are there other demands)
- how are primary and secondary users involved in the process
- what user feedback loops exist, if any



22. **Data and Information Management** - Data and information from a variety of sources are the building blocks of analysis. These information layers come from different sources and are brought together for a comparative analysis. As applies to any data or information system, these need to be (a) comprehensive, (b) relevant, (c) accurate, (d) frequent, and (e) timely (also known as CRAFT). Other important issues related to this component include the following:

- what are the core information layers required for analysis
- where do these information layers come from (how are they gathered, entered, etc.)
- what standards (CRAFT, other) are followed
- what FSN classifications are required (what indicators and coding)
- what structures, systems, and capacities are in place to build from
- what IT (hardware, networking, software) are or can be involved

23. **Operational, Resource, and Contextual Requirements** - A key dimension is the operationalization of the system within existing government structures. For actions mapping to become a routine activity, appropriate resources to maintain or enhance capacities and infrastructure, are required. Capacity and technology are fundamental to the system. As with any system, it should be enabled to function and expand as usage and demand increases. Other important issues related to this component include the following:

- what are some of the key operational elements to start-up and maintain the system (capacities and infrastructures)
- what type of resources are required at different levels, within different partners (who participates and how)
- what are some enabling factors and mechanisms; what are potential road-blocks and how can they be overcome (incentives, other)
- what are some of the key sustainability-related issues

### ***Way Forward towards Mapping FSN Actions***

24. The components and issues identified above are relevant regardless of the approach to mapping national FSN actions. Different approaches may be more appropriate for different contexts, infrastructures, resource constraints, or other government and stakeholder interests. The question about whether it benefits governments to establish a more systematic approach to actions mapping deserves revisiting, as continuing this activity as a one-off exercise may suit some, while others may benefit from the advantages of a more dynamic and systematic approach.

25. Some core characteristics to help guide the implementation or creation of action mapping systems might include the following:

- government owned and managed (including MoA, MoH, MoP, MoF, other key ministries)
- multi-stakeholders (line-ministries, donors, UN, NGO, civil society, others)
- use existing key FSN information layers (needs, resources, actions, plans, others)
- build (and document) standard analytical methods and processes
- utilize information technologies to store and share data/information
- enables the alignment of new interventions (dynamic to enable easy and frequent updates)
- others

26. The implementation or creation of action mapping systems may be facilitated by taking the following key considerations into account:

- The need to better understand the food security and nutrition landscape at the national level in order to better design and align national plans of action has been established,
- Mapping FSN actions can provide governments and national stakeholders with a better understanding of FSN actions,
- Building or enhancing national structures to map actions in a comprehensive and systematic way can assist governments to keep interventions aligned with national objectives.

27. Different country experiences continue to inform their specific national-level needs. Initial discussions with country-level FSN stakeholders, show that there is a paucity of methods, tools and systems to enable real national ownership. FSN-related actions mapping often occur as 'one-offs', not systematic exercises or 'repeatable' activities to keep interventions aligned with national policy and plans. Some key respondents have indicated the need to work at different levels, including the following:

- encouraging political ownership, will, commitment, and understanding of the process
- establishing multi-agency and multi-stakeholder involvement
- establishing standard methods and protocols for FSN actions mapping
- better documenting roles, responsibilities, and standard operating procedures
- improving usage of technologies to automate, standardize, and simplify data/info management
- determine where necessary, donor and UN support to facilitate the process
- improve national capacities of governments and stakeholders
- build systems nationally but maintain regional and global support systems

28. The purpose of this review and the subsequent workshop is to learn from different national experiences in FSN-related actions mapping as well as from lessons learned and best practices from global and regional experiences. This, together with shared learning during the May workshop, should enable proposing a way forward, and identifying opportunities for CFS 37 to consider.

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## Appendix A - Technical Appendix

**Table 1. Countries involved in actions mapping or similar exercises**

Country	Owners	Stakeholders	Layers	Details
<b>Afghanistan</b>	MoA	Government, UN, NGO	B, D, E	pilot exercise of FAO MAFS platform
<b>Sierra Leone</b>	MoA	Government, UN, NGO	B, D, E	pilot exercise of FAO MAFS platform
<b>Nigeria</b>	MoA	Government, UN, NGO	B, D, E	pilot exercise of FAO MAFS platform
<b>Brazil</b>	CONSEA	Government, UN, NGO, Civil Society	A, B, C, D, E	often one-off but various layers are reviewed during planning process via interagency working group
<b>Mozambique</b>	SETSAN	Government, UN, NGO, Civil Society	A, B, C, D, E	Matrix-based list of NGO projects compared to vulnerability assessments done in VACs.
<b>Mauritania</b>	UNICEF	Government, UN, NGOs	A, C, D, E	REACH Initiative
<b>Bangladesh</b>	FPMU	Government, UN, NGOs	A, B,D,E	FAO-supported project
<b>Somalia</b>	UN-FAO	UN, NGOs	A, C, D	analyzing beneficiary numbers against planned interventions
<b>Honduras</b>	UTSAN	Government, UN, NGO	A,B,E,D	Review of FSN interventions for policy development

**Key:**

A = needs or situation analysis  
 B = resources disbursed  
 C = nutrition

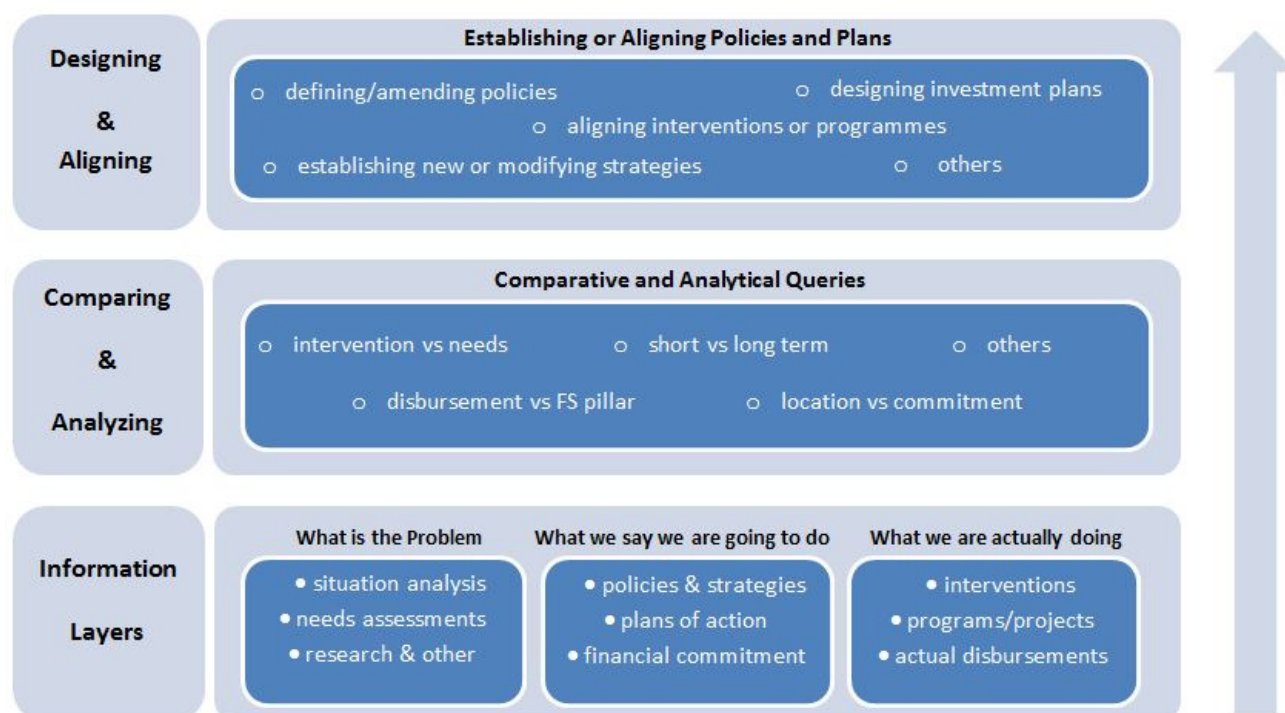
D = policy/strategy/plans  
 E = interventions/programs/projects  
 F = program impact

**Table 2. Other examples to draw lessons for FSN actions mapping**

<b>Aid Management</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Main Objectives:</b> to manage financial aspects of donor aid at national level for financial management, transparency, and accountability</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Principal Owners:</b> governments with setup and support from a third party</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Examples:</b> <a href="#">Development Gateway AMP</a>, <a href="#">Synergy DAD</a>, others</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Relevance:</b> can provide national governments and other stakeholders with intervention-finance-stakeholder and other information to feed actions mapping process</li> </ul>
<b>Humanitarian Coordination</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Main Objectives:</b> to coordinate who/what/where during humanitarian response amongst implementing agencies</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Principal Owners:</b> UN-OCHA with participation from clusters (UN, NGO, Government, others)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Examples:</b> <a href="#">OCHA 3w's (Who, What, Where) , 4W's</a>; <a href="#">RedHum</a> (La Red de Información Humanitaria), <a href="#">MIMU</a> (Myanmar Information Management Unit), <a href="#">ReliefWeb</a>, others</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Relevance:</b> can provide stakeholders with who-what-where and other information to feed actions mapping process</li> </ul>
<b>Development and Humanitarian Financial Tracking (global)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Main Objectives:</b> to track and share information about relief and development finance; for transparency, accountability, advocacy, research, marketing, and other purposes</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Principal Owners:</b> OECD, World Bank, UN, others</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Examples:</b> <a href="#">OECD-DAC</a>, <a href="#">Development Gateway AidData</a>, <a href="#">World Bank's Mapping for Results</a> and <a href="#">AidFlows</a>, <a href="#">OCHA-FTS</a>, others</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Relevance:</b> can provide a global picture to compare and triangulate with national-level findings to compare against national actions mapping outputs</li> </ul>
<b>FSN and Early Warning Situation Analysis</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Main Objectives:</b> situation and needs assessments which collect, store, analyze, and disseminate thematic data and information for decision making</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Principal Owners:</b> FSN working groups, government, UN, NGOs, and others</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Examples:</b> <a href="#">FSIC Egypt</a>, <a href="#">FPMU Bangladesh</a>, <a href="#">FSNAU Somalia</a>, <a href="#">FEWS-NET</a>, SETSAN, <a href="#">CONSEA</a>, WFP VAM, others</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Relevance:</b> can provide stakeholders with routine situation and needs assessments and other key FSN-related information to inform the actions mapping process</li> </ul>
<p><b>Monitoring and Evaluation</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Main Objectives:</b> to monitor individual programmes and project inputs, outputs, outcomes, impact</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Principal Owners:</b> agency-specific</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Examples:</b> numerous agency-specific systems (capacity, infrastructures, processes, technologies)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Relevance:</b> can provide stakeholders with more precise information on project impact to help inform the actions mapping process</li> </ul>
<p><b>Project Management</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Main Objectives:</b> to monitor operational and administrative aspects of projects</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Principal Owners:</b> agency-specific</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Examples:</b> numerous agency-specific systems (capacity, infrastructures, processes, technologies)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Relevance:</b> can provide stakeholders with information on specific project details to help feed the actions mapping process</li> </ul>
<p><b>Sector /Thematic/Agency Program Mapping</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Main Objectives:</b> to identify and plot specific sector, theme or agency's programmes and projects for transparency, coordination, advocacy, gap analysis, or general user information</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Principal Owners:</b> sectoral working groups, agencies working in relief and development</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Examples:</b> InterAction <a href="#">Haiti AidMap</a>, <a href="#">NGO AidMap</a>, <a href="#">Food Security AidMap</a>, <a href="#">APIS</a>, <a href="#">DFID Where we Work</a>, <a href="#">Disaster Risk Reduction</a>, <a href="#">World Bank Project Database</a>, FAO Somalia Gap Analysis, others</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Relevance:</b> can provide key information on themes/sectors for actions mapping processes</li> </ul>

**Figure 1: Conceptual Framework**



## Information Layers

One layer of information helps define 'what is the problem?' The information comes from different FSN-related information systems, depending upon the country or regional context, such as situation analysis, early warning systems, FSN-related assessments and surveys (routine or not), and other research and national statistics (such as were described above in the related systems). These activities, systems or research help define the particular FSN-related problem or need. Ideally, these activities 'monitor' the situation in that they are well-established by the national government or a national stakeholder to repeatedly assess the situation. The use of existing information means that new information systems will not be created. But how will information be gathered from FSN stakeholders and government ministries and brought together to compare the various required elements? This needs to be established but without it, different information layers cannot be compared or associated.

Another vital information layer is policies, strategies, and plans. This is fundamentally establishing 'what we say we are going to do'. This layer is not often captured in an information system because of the difficulty in depicting the extent and location of policies and strategies. There are not many well-known information systems for FSN-related policy, strategy, and plan management and analysis. These information layers are usually documented but rarely depicted with charts, tables, or maps.

The FAO initiative to develop a web-platform to store, manage, and present these layers includes FSN-related national level policies, strategies, and plans ([MAFS](#) - Mapping Actions of Food Security). Aid Management systems are used in many countries to maintain information about

donor commitments, disbursements, and usage. These systems typically maintain information from multiple sectors, relating to both internal and external actors. Most of these systems are maintained by Ministries of Finance, Planning, or Aid Management Units within the government. They can provide the important 'financial' information component for actions mapping in order to compare policies and plans to commitments and disbursements.

Linking FSN-related actions mapping systems and activities with Aid Management systems is being reviewed in various countries. Some of the discussions at the workshop and afterwards will cover this topic. Various issues are being addressed, such as whether FSN-related actions mapping systems can pull data from the Aid Management system, or whether re-entry of data and information is required; and the precise interaction between these two systems (on the technological and non-technological sides).

Oftentimes, the strategies, policies, and plans do not depict what actually happens. To understand this, information is required on interventions, responses, programs, and projects. These layers of information indicate what government and other stakeholders are actually doing to address FSN objectives. In the past there was less attention to channel these activities through the government. Recently, with global agreements such as the Paris Declaration in Aid Effectiveness, and the Rome Principles on sustainable food security, there is growing interest that these interventions are linked to national policies and plans. Stakeholders are also being asked to better coordinate their interventions. This implies that FSN activities should be better identified (inventoried and categorized) and eventually mapped (plotted) in order to establish spatial, thematic, or resource gaps and overlap.

Cataloging and plotting FSN-related interventions along with some key characteristics (stakeholder, location, planned beneficiaries, financial commitments, activity description, etc.) is not as easy as it might sound. FSN-related interventions can be particularly difficult to identify because of their cross-sectoral nature. Interventions in agriculture and health, as well as for many others dedicated to specific livelihoods (fishing, pastoral, forestry, etc.) are all potentially related to FSN. Knowing who is doing what and where is a vital information layer. UN OCHA typically maintains this information for humanitarian stakeholders. [OCHA's 3w's](#) is mostly used for coordination, but can also help stakeholders better identify gaps and overlap, when the information is compared to other information layers.

A logical final layer is '*how well is what we are doing addressing the problem*' --- an understanding enabled by evaluations, assessments and research. This last information layer is applicable to both interventions and to the policies. In other words, impact analysis can and should be conducted to assess individual projects, programs, and ultimately whether national plans are actually working to address the problems. Policy and plan impact is a longer term assessment and generally outside the focus of actions mapping. But it is a vital assessment which should be conducted periodically to gauge the success of government policies and plans.



## Appendix B - More detail on Example Systems

### [Aid Management Systems](#)

Aid Management systems are becoming increasingly popular because they enable countries to track financial commitments, disbursements, and usage. There are two principal actors in this field, Development Gateway and Synergy International Systems.

**Development Gateway (DG)** is a not-for-profit organization which develops and implements a system called Aid Management Programme. The programme is typically targeted to Ministries of Finance, Ministries of Planning, or Aid Management Units to improve the management and coordination of development finance. The programme is based on the principles of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI). Development Gateway's application, the Aid Management Platform (AMP), is a web-based platform which enables governments to manage aid more efficiently. AMP is currently implemented in over 20 countries and is expanding to many others.

Development Gateway is also involved in a global initiative. In collaboration with the College of William and Mary and Brigham Young University, DG has developed AidData, a web-based platform to research development finance. The online tool uses the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development's (OECD) Creditor Reporting System. It allows interested web users, practitioners, and researchers the ability to view and analyze various aid financing projects. It includes a sector classification system which identifies food security related projects. AidData can be a useful resource for a more global-level aid financing perspective, especially for FSN related activities. (Appendix C - A).

**Synergy International Systems** is a private company which develops and implements a platform for aid management called Development Assistance Database (DAD). DAD or iterations of DAD are implemented in over 35 countries worldwide. The platform enables ministries to better store, manage, and analyze financial data and information. The tool has also been customized for different government needs beyond aid finance in numerous countries. DAD is built with features allowing for tracking and aligning of projects versus the Paris Declaration.

Both AMP and DAD are nationally implemented tools which can be useful to FSN actions mapping in one of two ways: by either linking their systems to FSN systems to share data and information, or serving as the principal national system for FSN projects and allowing stakeholders access to the information. As AMP/DAD are well-established platforms in many countries, it might be more effective to link other line-ministries (Ministries of Agriculture or Health, others) to AMP/DAD platforms instead of building separate systems for other ministries. In most cases, AMP/DAD have taken years to implement and are well-established in governments. Repeating this process by installing similar systems for other ministries might require similar resources, effort, and time. If AMP/DAD platforms can be modified to include the required FSN interventions, along with the appropriate indicators and classification system required for FSN-relevant analysis, it might be a more practical to access these platforms using what AMP calls 'workspaces'. (Appendix C - A).

### [OCHA's 3W's \(who-what-where\)](#)

The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) has developed and runs a system to identify who is doing what, where (3Ws). The system is mostly used in emergencies for coordination purposes, and is typically fully managed by UN-OCHA. More emphasis of late has been on stakeholder contributions, namely in the form of cluster-lead agencies uploading specific sector-based data and information. In most implementations, little government involvement exists.

The national and online tools provide a listing of stakeholders, projects, contact listing, and a geographic representation of the projects, amongst other information. Most national 3W's are accessible via OCHA's web portal (<http://3w.unocha.org/WhoWhatWhere/>), with only a few country systems locked to outsiders. Through the web portal, stakeholders and other users can access reports, tables, charts, maps, and other information products produced by OCHA and partners.

OCHA's 3Ws exists in over 35 countries in various forms of complexity and comprehensiveness. The portal and resulting outputs are valuable information items which can feed the FSN actions mapping process in that the 3W's can provide the basic information on who-what-where. As each cluster is managing the information, the FSN 3W can be expanded to include customized project and indicator information based upon the needs and requirements of users. In this way, the FSN cluster in a particular country can customize a more comprehensive format, inclusive of the four pillars and the twin-track approach, amongst other key parameters specific for FSN actions mapping.

Again, the approach can be to link to the OCHA system instead of re-creating an information system to maintain national 3W-type information. The information is already openly shared with in-country stakeholders. More work can be done to expand the system to include humanitarian and development projects, as well as customization to ensure the appropriate FSN-related fields exist and the system is adequately covering FSN actions mapping information needs. (Appendix C - B).

### [Mapping Actions for Food Security \(MAFS\)](#)

FAO is currently piloting a user-friendly, web-based tool intended for national-level implementation called MAFS (mapping actions of food security). The system enables users to load various information layers to view and compare against each other. Some of the fields include stakeholder, project date and type, start-end date, project objectives and goals, links to strategies/policies, financial commitments, geographic location(s), and activities, to name a few. The system also allows users to add documents such as project log-frames and reports, policies and plans, and other useful project-related information.

FAO MAFS is currently being piloted in three countries: Afghanistan, Nigeria, and Sierra Leone. A technical meeting was held in March 2011 to discuss progress and ways of improving the system, including institutional mechanisms and needs and information requirements. FAO is also discussing with Development Gateway and others the possibility of harmonizing coding standards so that the two different systems can exchange data and information. (Appendix C - B)

### [Integrated Phase Classification \(IPC\)](#)

The Integrated Phase Classification system (IPC) was developed by FAO's FSNAU in Somalia. The IPC is a set of common protocols which standardizes different scales for an integrated food security and nutrition situation analysis statement. A new version (v2) is currently being developed that should enable the approach to be more applicable to non-emergency or protracted-crisis situations. The IPC links FSN needs to the various dimension of food security (eg. availability, access, stability, utilization) as well as the twin-track approach (short versus long term needs). In doing so, it provides a useful definition against which interventions can be similarly classified.

The linkage to FSN actions mapping is that the IPC can provide the important FSN needs or problems layer. Many countries and regions are already using the IPC on a routine basis. This enables the situation to be monitored through time. Similarly, if the actions mapping process is systematic and routine, it can draw on the the IPC analysis. Examples of this approach exist in Somalia where FAO and OCHA are analyzing IPC-identified 'people in need' versus Consolidated Appeal Process (CAP) intended beneficiaries. Such analytical routines enable a more profound understanding of gaps and potential overlaps, particularly in terms of location, resources, and activities. (Appendix C - C)

### [REACH](#)

REACH is an approach to scale-up interventions at the national level to address child under-nutrition. The approach is initially facilitated by the UN, in collaboration with stakeholders from UN, NGO's, and national governments. After a period of transition, the process is transferred to the national government. Currently the approach has been implemented in Mauritania, Sierra Leone, and Lao PDR. Many other countries are adopting the REACH approach to scale-up specific nutrition objectives.

The REACH approach facilitates a scale up of activities, including a re-assessment and re-alignment of national plans of action. REACH is more a 'process of engagement' in a particular country where stakeholders and governments work together with concerted efforts towards the same objectives.

One lessons from the REACH approach to help define the best approach for FSN actions mapping is the importance for relevant stakeholders to be identified in order to properly address certain nutrition objectives (reducing under-nourishment), as well as establishing a set of methods, tools, and procedures, as well as enhance capacities and institutions.

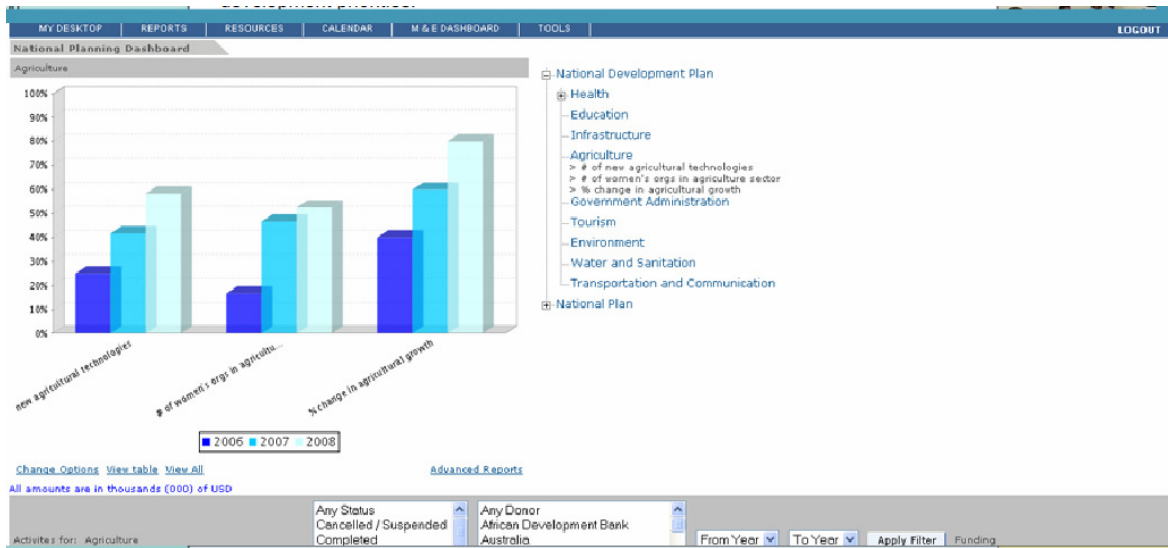
During the REACH implementation, frameworks, methodologies, and tools are developed which are customized for the country. For example, an [indicator dashboard](#) is created which identifies areas of focus, interventions, and certain indicators (mothers receiving iron supplements, children's fortified food consumption, others). A [stakeholder mapping exercise](#) is also conducted which links actors to interventions (using a chart). This provides both a coordination tool and a view of stakeholder priorities, enabling re-alignment if need be. (Appendix C - D)

## Appendix C: Related Systems

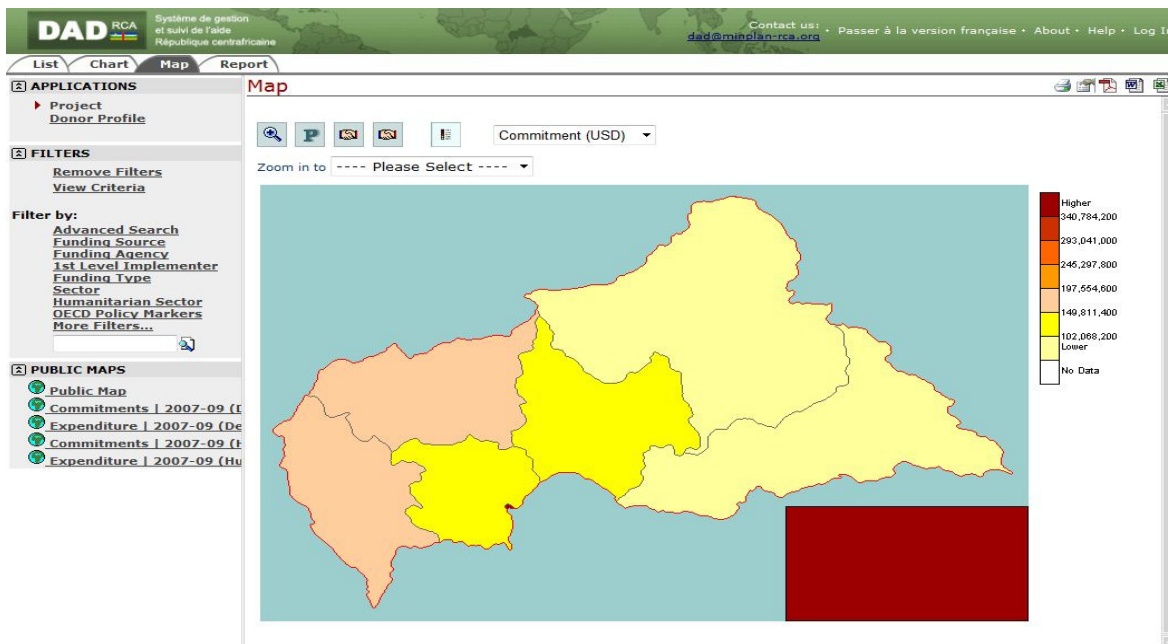
### FIGURE A: Aid Management Systems

Category	Scope	Main Purpose	Name	Principal Users	Countries	Details
Aid Management	National	Managing Donor Commitments at National level with financial/project management purpose	<a href="#">Synergy Development Assistance Database (DAD)</a>	Ministry of Finance, Donors, development partners, researchers, others	Iraq, Afghanistan, Sierra Leone, Kenya, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Zambia, Cameroon, Georgia, Honduras, Mozambique, Papua NG, Cape Verde, Guatemala, Mauritania,	systems are set up to track financial aid flows to governments from donor agencies. Some times these systems are modified and used for purposes, such as project management or other sectors (EProMis in Kenya)The systems are setup by Synergy but then owned and run by or another government partner who get occasional support from
Aid Management	National	Managing Donor Commitments at National level with financial/project management purpose	<a href="#">Development Gateway Aid Management Program</a>	Ministry of Finance, Donors, development partners, researchers, others	Senegal, Guinea Bissau, Burkina Faso, Liberia, Tanzania, DRC, Madagascar, Haiti	systems are set up to track financial aid flows to governments from donor agencies. Some times these systems are modified and used for purposes. The systems are setup by Development Gateway but then and run by MoF or another government partner who get occasional support from Synergy
WWW Mapping	National	Mapping of development and actors and their interventions for coordination purposes	<a href="#">Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) 3 W's</a>	UN, NGO, donors, governments,	most countries where OCHA exists	OCHA manages
Project Mapping	National and	Identification of who is doing what for main purpose of linking US private companies to NGOs and others	<a href="#">InterAction Haiti Aid Map &amp; NGO Aid</a>	US NGOs, Chamber of Commerce, private companies, donors, others	Haiti but building other databases for countries, NGO Aid Map, FS Aid	InterAction built the Haiti Aid Map to identify US consortium NGOs and them with private companies in the US who wanted to assist in Haiti. spatial databases are being produced for different
Thematic Project Mapping	Global	Mapping of World Bank and other partner projects in the world for viewing and other information	<a href="#">World Bank Mapping for Results</a>	World Bank, others	Global	The system has been developed in partnership with Development and universities to map WB projects in the
Thematic Project Mapping	National	Mapping of Food Security Actions for and coordination	<a href="#">MAFS</a>	UN, NGOs, governments, others	piloting in Afghanistan, Sierra Nigeria	a software which is expected to be used by FS/N actors to enter, store, share information on food security and nutrition interventions, plans, strategies. Pilot phase
Aid Management	Global	Inventory of Financial Commitments for Research and other information	<a href="#">AidData</a>	researchers and others	Global	Development Gateway, William and Mary University, Brigham Young have created a database from OECD DAC and
Gap Analysis	National	Identification of gap between needs intervention	FAO Somalia	UN, NGO, donors, governments,	Somalia	FAO Somalia is mapping gaps between IPC-identified people in need assistance versus what intervention's number targetted. Commitments are also mapped per livelihood
Response Mapping	sub-national	Inventory of Agriculture Interventions coordialion purposes	<a href="#">Agriculture Projects Information System (APIS)</a>	UN, NGO, donors, governments,	WBGS	FAO WBGS setup this system to track/manage agricultural response projects mainly for coordination purposes and also gap
Thematic Project Mapping	National	Inventory of Agriculture Interventions measuring aid effectiveness	<a href="#">Red&amp;FS</a>	WB, UN, NGO, donors, governments, others	Ethiopia	Rural Economic Development and Food Security Working Group database projects from 22 members (World Bank setup and manages this system) to inventory rural agriculture projects - phase 1 was >500k projects...phase being rolled out with hopes of collecting all projects and NGOs and
WWW Mapping	National	Inventory of Development Projects for prioritization and	WWW + Indicators	UN, Government, NGOs	Sri Lanka	This system is an extension of the OCHA 3Ws with the addition of indicators for various sectors. The FS is not yet well developed, and sectors are really just beginning this month (March), but there is
Thematic Project Mapping	National/Regional	Mapping of humanitarian emergencies in Central/South America	<a href="#">RedHum</a>	UN, Government, NGOs	Central and South America	Red Humanitaria provides various information on who/what/where for coordination, documents, and maps, and is a information provider for the humanitarian sector in latin
Project Mapping	National	Inventory of NGO	<a href="#">SETSAN</a>	UN, Government, NGOs	Mozambique	SETSAN has an inventory of NGO projects which is expected to enhanced to enable better integration with policy and planning. The only provides superficial information on NGO projects so more detail needed and also linkages with local

## Development Gateway's AMP



## Synergy International Systems DAD



**FIGURE B: OCHA 3W's and FAO's MAFS**

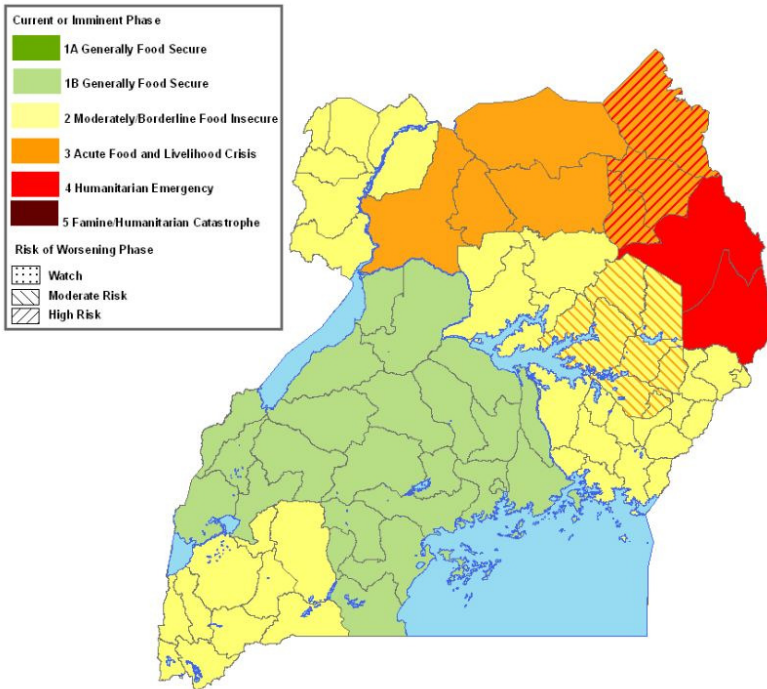
OCHA 3W's

FAO MAFS

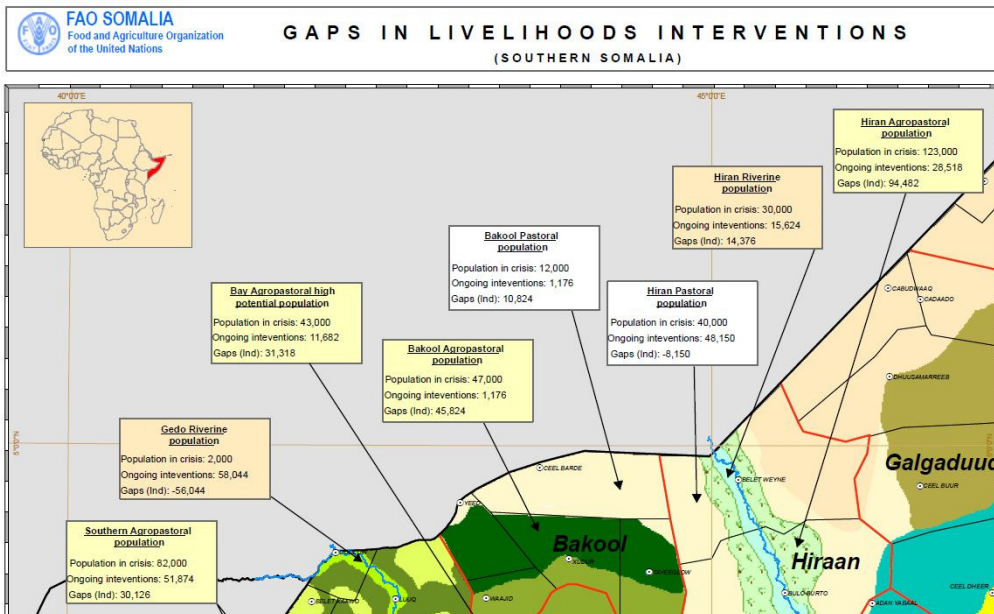
Organization name	Acronym	Organization type	Domains of activity	Number of P/P	Associated Country or Region	Active
Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock	MAIL	Government Ministry (PUBLIC)	Resource provider, Implementing agency, Coordinating body, Research, Advocacy, Technical assistance, Other,	42	Afghanistan	Active

### FIGURE C: IPC and FAO Somalia Gap Analysis

IPC Analytical Output Example: Uganda



FAO Somalia analysis to compare IPC statement to stakeholder proposed projects



**FIGURE D: REACH Toolkit**

## Stakeholder map

Example: Mauritania stakeholder map

	Treatment Interventions			Preventative Interventions							
	Suppl. feeding	Thera- peutic Feeding	Zinc	ITN IPTp	Breastfeeding Vit. A, Deworming	Breastfeeding Compl. feeding Iodine	Iodine	Fortif.: Iron, Folic Acid, Zinc	Breastfeeding Compl. feeding Iodine Iron suppl. Handwashing Iodine	Full Package	Home- stead food prod- uction
<b>Donor</b>	USAID, Italy	Own funds	Ireland, OFDA/ECHO, CERF, Them. Fund, UNICEF	None yet	Global Fund, BID, OMVS	CIDA, UNOCHA/CERF, Ireland, Humanitarian Thematic Fund, United Kingdom, MI, UNICEF Set-aside fund	None yet	None yet	World Bank	Various incl. UNICEF	Spanish consumer
<b>Catalyst</b>	Counter-part, Ital. Coop.	WFP	UNICEF	WHO	UNICEF	UNICEF	World Bank	World Bank	World Bank	UNICEF	FAO, WFP
<b>Govt implementer</b>	CSA	CSA	Ministry of Health				Min. of Commerce	Min. of Industry	Ministry of Social Affairs	INGO	Min. rural dev & CSA
<b>Field Coordinator</b>	NGO / INGO	NGO / INGO	Health System			EPS	Agents	Technicians	INGO	INGO	FAO, WFP
<b>Delivery Channel</b>	CRENAM /CAC	CRENAM	CRENI, CRENAS	Hospitals, Centres and Postes de Santé	Mass Campaigns	Mass Media	Private sector	CNC	CNC	CNC	Community-based

## Indicator dashboard

Example: Mauritania indicator dashboard at national level

1	Area	Intervention	2	Problem indicator	Status	3	Coverage indicator	Status
	Improve breastfeeding and complementary feeding	Exclusive breastfeeding	% of <6 mo.-olds excl. breastfed % 20-23 month olds still breastfed	19%	● ↗	% Mothers addressed w/ EB promo	85%–95%	● ↗
		Complementary feeding	% Children 6–11 months receiving appropriate complementary foods	12%	● n.a.	% Mothers receiving CF education	34%	●
	Increase micronutrient intake	Vitamin A supplementation	Estimated % of children 6-59 months with Vitamin A deficiency	n.a.	● n.a.	Children 6-59 months covered w/ 2 doses of VAS in last year	70%–80%	● ↗
		Iron supplementation	% P&L mothers with moderate, severe anaemia	53%	●	% Mothers receiving iron supplement.	<75%	●
		Zinc Supplementation	% < 5 w/ diarrhoea % < 5 w/ Zinc deficiency	26% n.a.	●	% of children < 5 receiving zinc supplementation with diar. treatment	0%	○
		Iron folate & zinc fortification	% < 5 w/ moderate, severe anaemia	85%	●	% Children < 5 consuming iron & Zinc fortified foods	0%	○
		Iodine fortification	% < 5 w/ iodine deficiency	n.a.	● n.a.	% of HHs consuming iodized salt	24%	● ↗
		Household water treatment	% HH using HWT methods % HH with access to improved water source	22% 52%	●	% HHs provided with equipment/education on HWT	0%/17%	○



**FIGURE E: Inter Action Haiti Aid Map and Food Security Aid Map**

Haiti Aid Map



Food Security Aid Map



## FIGURE F: Aid Data and World Bank Mapping for Results

### AidData

The screenshot shows the AidData website homepage. At the top, there is a dark blue header with the AidData logo (a white circle around the text 'AidData' with 'TRACKING DEVELOPMENT FINANCE' below it) and navigation links for 'Home', 'Blog', 'Projects', and 'Data'. Below the header is a light blue banner with the text: 'Welcome to the BETA version of the AidData portal. Tell us how we're doing! Please send your comments'. Underneath is a yellow box containing a document icon and the text: 'AidData aggregates information from multiple sources to provide a searchable database of global aid flows and projects, as described in the [User's Guide](#). The [OECD Creditor Reporting System](#) is the official source for statistics on aid from OECD Development Assistance Committee member countries.' The main content area features a map of Africa with several green square markers. A dark blue banner overlaid on the map reads 'New on The First Tranche'. Below the map, there is a text box with the title 'Donor Coordination in Kenya and Mozambique: All of the attention given to coordination problems begs the questions: how much do donors coordinate their activities, and is coordination effectively targeting needs within a country?' followed by a 'Read More >' link.

### Search AidData

Search AidData using the form below. You can limit your search by specifying one or more of the

### World Bank Mapping for Results

The screenshot shows the World Bank Mapping for Results website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the World Bank logo and the tagline 'Working for a World Free of Poverty'. The navigation bar includes links for 'ABOUT', 'DATA', 'RESEARCH', 'LEARNING', 'NEWS', 'PROJECTS & OPERATIONS', 'PUBLICATIONS', 'COUNTRIES', and 'TOPICS'. A search bar is located on the right side of the navigation bar. Below the navigation bar is a red banner with the text 'Mapping For Results'. Underneath the banner is a text box with the text: 'The Mapping for Results Platform provides detailed information about our work to reduce poverty and promote sustainable development around the world. This pilot website aims to visualize the location of our projects and to provide access to information about indicators, sectors, funding and results.' followed by a 'Read More >' link. To the right of the text box is a 'Mapping Overview >' section with a list of links: 'Context', 'Methodology', 'Data Sources', and 'Partners'. Below the text box is a 'SHARE' button. The main content area features a world map with a color scale from light yellow to dark green. Above the map, there is a text box with the text: '2,736 financed activities working in 16,520 mapped locations'. The map shows a concentration of dark green areas in South America, Africa, and Asia.