FAO
Seed Security Assessment Training

Tools for effective, efficient, and rights-based field work
(S-7b)
Session Objectives

• Understand the core seed security assessment (SSA) tools

• Be able to adapt the tools to the local situation in order to have them ready for the field work

• Be able to apply AAP principles when using the SSA tools
Rights’ based is linked to AAP; we consider:

- Our own power sources: e.g. academic, and?
- Power use in community: e.g. hierarchy, and?
- Our role as development agents for whom?
- Our attitudes and behaviour?
- Practical use of research?
Some basic concepts

- Household Resident, IDP, Returnee, Refugee

Sources of household’s income in the specific SSA location?

They may include:

- Crops (type?)
- Livestock (secondary?)
- What else?

Clues!
Assessment tools currently used in FAO SSA

- Household surveys
- Focus Group discussions
- Key informant interviews
- Local Market surveys
Key Informant Interviews (KII)

We have guide question handouts:

H4.1: Seed grower farmer /group

H4.2: Agro-Input dealer

H4.3: Seed structures (Government & NGOs), for background on farming/seed system

H4.4: Seed aid actors - to follow up with NGOs who distributed seed (any AAP concerns?)
Key Informant Interview (KII)

‘Guide’ questions means:

Revise and adapt to local needs!

You may do KII on field work Day 4 of the course.
A KII is normally done with a subject matter specialist
• e.g. Gov’t, NGO, agro-input dealer, seed grower
OR with someone with wider knowledge of the community
• e.g. church and community leaders

• The commonly used tool is a semi-structured questionnaire to collect more qualitative information
• It uses more open-ended questions of Why? How? etc.
HH and LM Surveys - questionnaires

- **Surveys** use structured questionnaires to gather large amount of data from individuals.

- **Database**: an appropriate database and data analysis method/skills are necessary.

- **Development**: when developing a questionnaire, the analysis method needs to be considered.
HH and LM Surveys – Considerations

- **Sampling**: the researcher must ensure the sample is representative of the target population.
- **Indicator**: it should be able to measure SSA parameters and/or indicators.
- Should be combined with other **Methods** such as observation, scoring, ranking, timelines, mapping, Focus Group Discussions.
HHS questionnaire structure

1. Geographic information

2. Households and livelihood characteristics
   - HH types and size
   - Entomology status
   - Food and nutrition

3. Crop/seed system profile
   - Crops, areas, seed use, rate, multiplication rates

4. Important crops and HH seed sources with respect to SSCF
   - Availability, Access, Quality & V. Suitability
Household Sampling

Objectives

- Understand sampling methods and techniques and be able to apply them to collect representative household samples in the field
Sampling Households within a village

**Considerations**

- **Types of settlement**
  - Clustered households
  - Scattered households (*systematic sampling along 4-6 radian transect*)
  - Linear settlement (*systematic sampling along the linear patterns*)

- **Categories of households e.g.**
  - Women headed, IDPs, refugees etc.

- **Sample size per village**
  - 15 – 25 household proportionally in heterogeneous population (e.g. Resident, Returnees, IDP etc. or Women headed)
Village 1: clustered households (10-20/cluster)

- Randomly sampled 4-6 household/cluster
- Each member of the team can handle one cluster
- FGD: 6-10 hh (sampled and non sampled) be invited for FGD
Village 2: scattered households

Systematic sampling along radian transect
Village 3: linear settlement e.g. along river bank

Systematic sampling along linear transects

- Sampled household
- Non-sampled household
Local Market Survey (LMS)

Objective

• Be able to identify and interview with traders sell grains as seed to farmers
• To identify varieties of crops being sold as seed
• To determine availability, access and quality of grains being used as seed.
• To understand the demand and supply of grains that are used as seed by farmers.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>LMS questionnaire - structure</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Market location</td>
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<td>• Access</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Availability</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Seed seller information</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Availability</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Seed storage</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Availability</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Quality</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Seed supply &amp; Demand</td>
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<td>• Availability,</td>
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<td>• Access,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Quality,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Varietal preference</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Grain/seed conditioning</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Quality</td>
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Local market survey

• This is also self-explanatory! As always:

• Be human! (good introductions/farewell, keep eye contact, smile, breathe!)

• Show respect! (Actively listen, make encouraging noises, replay)

• Revise & adapt to context!
Focus Group Discussion – FGD

• Qualitative, Participatory research.
• Participants jointly discuss, perceive, understand & solve questions, deepen understanding on issues or themes.
• 6-12 participants per group (not usually leaders).
• (Often) separate FDGs for males and females.
• (Often) participants are taken from all socio-economic groups OR a particular group (e.g. poorest, indigenous).
• **RESPECT** is essential – sit at the same level!
Focus Group Discussion – FGD

- Seating?
- Body language
- Participation?
- Gender?
Household Survey (HHS)

a. This tool is an important pillar of FAO and Partners’ research strategy
b. It is best used with (and often before) other tools, to inform them
c. It can invite the self-interest of families and traders, but are free from peer pressure (unlike FGD)
d. It produces a huge quantity of data; only ask for what you will analyse!
e. It has an in-built gender bias – because the vast majority of Household Heads and traders are men – how does one balance this?
Household survey – Simulation and Group Work

a. Facilitators begin

b. Take their places

c. Continue in pairs
KEEP CALM
IT'S BREAK TIME
Small group for Language/Cultures

Quantities of weight, land
Names of crops
Local Language for Guide Forms
Small group for FGD

We have 175 minutes!
We want to:

- Understand roles
- Practice FGD
- Learn and Practice 3 tools
- Amend FGD questions

We have already discussed:

- What is FGD?
- And Respectful Behaviours re:
  - Seating, Body language,
  - Participation, Gender
Focus Group Discussion – FGD

Facilitator’s role

• Introduction! (I am, we are, we do, we want, we will)

• Encourage relaxed discussion and involvement

• Build rapport, empathize; do not ‘act the expert’

• Control rhythm & timing in a smooth & not invasive way

• Listen actively & observe non-verbal communication

• Summarise, check for agreement, ‘Thanks’ and ‘Bye!’

For ‘do’s & don’ts for FGD, see Handout S7-H4
FGD Recorder’s role: Please Record:

• Logistics: date, time, place, venue, participants’ profile
• Content of the discussion, opinions
• Emotional reactions
• Group participation, interaction & dynamics
• Spontaneous relevant discussions during breaks or after the meeting

And

• Help the facilitator with seating, and with missing questions, issues or topics
After FGD: Processing & data analysis

- Facilitator and recorder **review** and **complete the notes**.
- **Evaluate** how the FDG went & which changes are necessary
- Write a **full report of the discussion**
- List the key statements, ideas, and attitudes expressed during the FDG.
- Record / Code participants’ statements
- Write comments (your first interpretation of the data).

- When you have all the data, **summarize** in a **compilation sheet** organizing the findings against each topic.
- Do **systematic analysis and comparison** between groups on all topics, using any objectives & problem analysis as a framework.
- Put the major findings for different study populations on one **sheet** and/or use **diagrams**.
- Now report the major findings of the FGDs in a narrative.
Groups of 4. Each person is a restaurant owner for 4 minutes – then rotate! - with the task of encouraging PARTICIPATION and of LISTENING to 3 clients (one is also a Recorder)!

Theme of Practice

- Owner will introduce music to his/her restaurant and asks for clients’ music tastes
- Should owner change the music type? rhythm? volume? for breakfast, lunch, dinner, night?
Focus Group Discussion – FGD

Tools that can be used in a FGD:

• Ranking
• Scoring (‘proportional piling’)
• Mapping
• Timelines
FGD Practice on Guiding Questions

a. Groups of 5 (facilitator follows each)

b. 60 minutes group work
   (supported by one facilitator; 60 minutes
    FGD role-play; 30 minutes analysis of
    outcomes and feedback to the group)

c. Keep handout S7- H4 handy (it gives you tips)

d. Tasks
   - Using handout S7 – H5 practice the FGD
   - All group members will play the 3 roles: facilitator, recorder and group discussion participant
   - Comments, feedback and suggestions (last 30 mins.)
… but we need language/cultures group to ensure they have captured the latest thinking of the other groups!