

MAINSTREAMING FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION INTO POLICIES/STRATEGIES

Dear All,

Under the FAO-Netherlands Partnership Programme (FNPP) at FAO Headquarters, support has been provided to a number of countries to **mainstream food and nutrition security in overarching policy platforms**, such as poverty reduction strategies, as well as in national sector policies. Food security is typically viewed as a major concern of the agricultural sector, with a focus on improving productivity in food production, and increasing the efficiency of food marketing. Nutrition is seen as a concern of the health sector. Much less often adequate attention is given to a twin-track approach to food security, which also emphasises food access and social protection measures (food and non-food safety nets) as important components of food security strategies. Poverty-food and nutrition security linkages are often overlooked in national policy statements. Even when a food security and nutrition policy is in place, little attention is given to harmonising relevant sector policies with the food security and nutrition policy, or to policy implementation by mainstreaming food and nutrition security in local level development plans.

We are currently attempting to **synthesise lessons learned** from the country experiences supported by FNPP (Bhutan, Cambodia, Kenya, Mozambique and Zanzibar- United Republic of Tanzania), which is coming to an end. The idea is to externalise the experiences, hopefully for the benefit of other stakeholders and other countries. Since the number of countries involved is small, we would like to **add other similar documented experiences so that certain lessons are more generalisable**. Therefore, **we would be most grateful for any indication of similar country level experiences. Specifically of interest are the following.**

- Case studies of initiatives towards mainstreaming food and nutrition security in poverty reduction strategies, development plans or national policies
- Opportunities, challenges and lessons learned in implementing such initiatives with positive outcomes
- What kind of policy assistance is available or required to overcome constraints to mainstreaming food and nutrition security at local levels (like in district or municipal plans)

The information and insights that may be provided by participants in this online community will be used to enrich the lessons learned reports. Syntheses of the lessons learned reports can be shared in this online community when they become available. The reports themselves will be made available by FAO for wide distribution.

Any insights and thoughts would most certainly be welcome, and hopefully this issue will stimulate a lively discussion.

Thanks so much again.

Best regards,

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